

*New Mexico
Ornithological Society
Field Notes*



Volume 53, Number 3, Summer 2014

NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD NOTES
Volume 53, Number 3, Summer 2014
1 June – 31 July 2014

A quarterly publication of the New Mexico Ornithological Society
ISSN 0898-9443

EDITORIAL STAFF

Sartor O. Williams III, *Editor*
William H. Howe, *Assistant Editor*

EDITORIAL OFFICE

Southwest Natural History Institute
1819 Meadowview Drive NW
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104-2511
(sunbittern@earthlink.net)

Reporting Observations: All individuals interested in birds in New Mexico are encouraged to submit their observations to *NMOS Field Notes*. Especially solicited are records of uncommon species, nesting birds, and early, late, or out-of-season/range birds. Records should be submitted in taxonomic order and should include species name, date, exact location, numbers of birds, age, sex, and color morph (if applicable), and name and contact information of observer. Details are necessary for unusual records; these may be submitted on a report form (available from the address above), but any written format is acceptable. Photographic documentation is strongly encouraged.

NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
(*Founded 1962*)

The New Mexico Ornithological Society was organized to gather and disseminate accurate information concerning the bird life of New Mexico; to promote interest in and appreciation of the value of birds, both aesthetic and economic, to further effective conservation of the state's avifauna; to facilitate opportunity for acquaintance and fellowship among those interested in birds and nature; and to issue publications as a means of furthering these ends.

Membership and Subscriptions: Membership in the New Mexico Ornithological Society is open to anyone with an interest in birds. Memberships are for a calendar year and annual dues are payable 1 January. Dues are: Regular Membership \$20; Family \$30; Student \$10; Supporting \$50; Life \$500. Address for the New Mexico Ornithological Society: P. O. Box 3068, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3068.

Front cover: Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) fledgling, Bosque del Apache NWR, Socorro County, New Mexico, 13 July 2014 (see page 44). Photograph by Nicholas D. Pederson.

Back cover: Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*), adult *elegans*, Apache Creek Canpground, Catron County, New Mexico, 21 July 2014 (see page 38). Photograph by Vicki Dern.

SUMMER SEASON 2014

Summer 2014 saw the prolonged drought continue into June, but be interrupted by widespread rains over much of the state in July. Important discoveries during the season including the first confirmation of nesting by Short-eared Owls, continued documentation of breeding by Carolina Wrens, additional nesting by Purple Martins along the Texas border, and continued shifting of breeding ranges—generally from south to north or east to west—by many species. Rarities included a Red-shouldered Hawk in the west, a Costa's Hummingbird at Rodeo, and a White-eyed Vireo at Chama.

Localities and Counties

Acomita Lake, *Cibola*
Alameda, *Bernalillo*
Albuquerque, *Bernalillo*
Animas, Valley, *Hidalgo*
Antelope Wells, *Hidalgo*
Apache Creek CG, *Catron*
Bitter Lake NWR, *Chaves*
Black Range, *Grant/Sierra*
Bluewater Gorge, *McKinley*
Bosque del Apache NWR, *Socorro*
Brantley Lake, *Eddy*
Carlsbad, Lake, *Eddy*
Cerrillos, *Santa Fe*
Chama, *Rio Arriba*
Cherry Creek, *Grant*
Chloride, Canyon, *Sierra*
Clanton Canyon, *Hidalgo*
Clayton, Lake, *Union*
Clovis, *Curry*
Cochiti Lake, *Sandoval*
Corona, *Lincoln*
Corrales, *Sandoval*
Deming, *Luna*
Eagle Nest Lake, *Colfax*
Elephant Butte, Lake, Dam, *Sierra*
Elk Mt., *San Miguel*
Emory Pass, *Grant/Sierra*
Engle, *Sierra*
Española, *Rio Arriba*
Farmington, *San Juan*
Fort Stanton, *Lincoln*
Glorita Baldy, *San Miguel*
Grenville, *Union*
Guadalupe Canyon, *Hidalgo*
Guadalupe Mts., *Eddy*
Heron Lake, *Rio Arriba*
Hillsboro, *Sierra*
Jemez Falls, *Sandoval*
Jornada Lake, *Sierra*
Kingston, *Sierra*
Lake Avalon, *Eddy*
Lake Roberts, *Grant*
Las Campanas, *Santa Fe*
Las Cruces, *Doña Ana*
Las Vegas, *San Miguel*
La Union, *Doña Ana*
Lordsburg, *Hidalgo*
Magdalena, Mts., *Socorro*
Maxwell NWR, *Colfax*
Mesilla Bosque SP, *Doña Ana*
Mesilla Dam, *Doña Ana*
Mills Canyon, *Mora/Harding*
Mogollon, *Catron*
Monastery Lake, *San Miguel*
Morgan Lake, *San Juan*
Mosquero, Canyon, *Harding*
Nambe, *Santa Fe*
Oasis SP, *Roosevelt*
Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, *Rio Arriba*
Otero Mesa, *Otero*
Otto, *Santa Fe*
Pecos, *San Miguel*
Peloncillo Mts., *Hidalgo*
Post Office (P.O.) Canyon, *Hidalgo*
Radium Springs, *Doña Ana*
Raton, *Colfax*
Rio Rancho, *Sandoval*
Rodeo, *Hidalgo*
Ruidoso, *Lincoln*
Sabinoso, *San Miguel*
Santa Fe, Canyon, *Santa Fe*
Serpent Lake, *Taos*
Silver City, *Grant*
Six Mile Dam, *Eddy*
Springer, *Colfax*
Stubblefield Lake, *Colfax*

Sumner Lake, *De Baca*
 Tres Piedras, *Taos*
 Tucumcari, *Quay*
 Ute Lake, *Quay*
 Valle de Oro NWR, *Bernalillo*

Villanueva, *San Miguel*
 Water Canyon, *Socorro*
 Watrous, *Mora*
 Zuni, *McKinley*
 Zuni Mts., *McKinley/Cibola*

Standard Abbreviations

AFB	Air Force Base	SP	State Park
Bosque NWR	Bosque del Apache NWR	UNM	Univ. of New Mexico
BLNWR	Bitter Lake NWR	USFWS	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey	WMA	Wildlife Management Area
CBC	Christmas Bird Count	WSMR	White Sands Missile Range
CCNP	Carlsbad Caverns NP	♂	male (represents sword & shield of Mars)
CG	Camp Ground	♀	female (represents mirror of Venus)
Cr.	Creek	ad(s).	adult(s)
EBL	Elephant Butte Lake	subad(s).	subadult(s)
GBA	Gila Bird Area	imm(s).	immature(s)
L.	Lake, Laguna	juv(s).	juvenile(s)
LVNWR	Las Vegas NWR	sp.	species
MSB	Museum of Southwestern Biology	m.ob	many observers
Mt(s).	Mountain(s)	v.o.	various observers
NM	National Monument	+	others; et al.
NMSU	New Mexico State Univ.	*	written details provided
NP	National Park	**	photo or tape provided
NRT	north <i>Roosevelt</i> trap	***	specimen obtained
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge		
R.	River		
RGNC	Rio Grande Nature Center		
RGV	Rio Grande Valley		

Initialed Observers

FA	Francisco Anaya	EM	Ed MacKerrow
JPB	Jonathan P. Batkin	MDM	Martin D. MacRoberts
MJB	Matthew J. Baumann	LKM	Larry K. Malone
GWB	Grant W. Beauprez	RAM	Raymond A. Meyer
KB	Karen Beckenbach	RN	Robert Nieman
DAB	Dan A. Belcher	JRO	Jerry R. Oldenettel
RC	Roger Clark	KBO	K. Bruce Ostyn
DJC	David J. Cleary	JEP	John E. Parmeter
SDC	Steve D. Collins	NDP	Nicholas D. Pederson
VD	Vicki Dern	CMR	Christopher M. Rustay
WTE	Wyatt T. Egelhoff	JMR	Janet M. Ruth
ACF	Andrew C. Fenner	JIS	Jeffrey I. Sanchez
BRF	Bernard R. Foy	MTS	Marcy T. Scott
CJG	Coleman J. Goin	NGS	Nancy G. Stotz
KAG	Kathy A. Granillo	JNS	James N. Stuart
DJG	David J. Griffin	JAT	John A. Trochet
CG	Cheryl Grindle	REW	Richard E. Webster
DLH	David L. Hawksworth	MEW	Mara E. Weisenberger
CLH	Charles L. Hayes	SW	Steve West
NEH	Nancy E. Hetrick	SOW	Sartor O. Williams III
WHH	William H. Howe	WFW	William F. West
DJK	David J. Krueper	RY	Rob Yaksich
JBL	Judy B. Liddell	JEZ	James E. Zabriskie
CDL	Carroll D. Littlefield	BRZ	Barry R. Zimmer
JL	James Lofton		

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Canada Goose—The breeding population at EBL numbered at least 120 adults and young 29 Jun (DJC**).

Wood Duck—Four ♂♂ were near Golondrinas 7 Jul (WTE); there are relatively few *Mora* reports.

“Mexican” Duck—Nine adults and 16 young were at the Deming treatment ponds 3 Jul (LKM).

Blue-winged Teal—Three were at the Lordsburg treatment ponds 17 & 21 Jun (DJG, SW).

Canvasback—A ♀ was at BLNWR 25 Jun (FA) & 9 Jul (B. R. Patricia**).

Redhead—Six were present at BLNWR 25 Jun (FA), the 4th consecutive summer the species has been present there.

Hooded Merganser—Two ♀♀ were at Maxwell NWR 4 Jul (JEP).

Common Merganser—One was south on the Pecos River to Villanueva 16 Jul (WFW).

Scaled Quail—Reproduction reportedly much improved in the south and east (m.ob.). More coveys of young seen in the Carlsbad area this season than seen there in the past three years (SW).

Gambel’s Quail—A single pair was herding 34 small chicks at Elephant Butte 6 Jul (DJC**).

Montezuma Quail—At the northern edge of its range, one was in the Bear Mts. 10 km north of Magdalena 6 Jul (DLH). At least 2 were at Fort Stanton 8-9 Jul (WFW), where seldom reported.

White-tailed Ptarmigan—One was seen on the Santa Barbara Ridge near Jicarita Peak, Taos 5 Jul (JEP, WTE); this locale, west of Holman, *Mora* and reached via the Serpent Lake trail, is a consistently reliable locale for the species.

Dusky Grouse—A ♀ with 2 young were on Glorieta Baldy 17 Jul (WFW).

Common Loon—Unexpected in mid-summer, 2 Common Loons were at Sumner L. 26 Jun (JL**).

Pied-billed Grebe—An ad. was tending one young at L. Avalon 27 Jul (SW).

Eared Grebe—In areas where not known to breed, a pair was displaying at Jornada L. 30 Jun (and 7 were there 3 Jul) (DJC) and 6 ads. in breeding plumage were at the Lordsburg treatment ponds 21 Jun (SW).

Aechmophorus grebes—A **Western** and a **Clark's** were together and presumably paired at Sumner L. 29 Jun (JL**).

Neotropic Cormorant—An ad. at Charette L. 19 Jul (WTE*) may be a *Mora* first. Up to 7 summered at Albuquerque's Tingley ponds area Jun-Jul (DLH), but no evidence of breeding was noted.

American White Pelican—Mid-summer counts included 34 actively foraging in a wet playa near Dilia, *Guadalupe* 20 Jun (CMR), 61 at EBL 24 Jun (DJC**), 39 at Eagle Nest L. 4 Jul (JEP), and 27 at Maxwell NWR 4 Jul (JEP).

Brown Pelican—A subad. at Sumner L. 27-30 Jun (JL**) provided the lone report.

Great Blue Heron—Seven active nests were in a pine snag at Gila Hot Springs, *Grant* 27 Jun (SOW*). At least two pairs were nesting on towers at Six Mile Dam in Jun (SW).

Great Egret—One was north to the Corrales bosque 12 Jul (DJK, JMR).

Cattle Egret—Some 124 were present but not nesting at Valle de Oro NWR 24 Jun (DLH). Two Las Cruces sites (East Foster Road and Calle de Feliz) together had about 35 nests 7 Jun (DJG).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron—An ad. was at Las Vegas 9 Jun (K. Kroesen**) and another was there 31 Jul (K. Herzenberg), and one was in a flooded pecan orchard at Las Cruces 28 Jun (R. C. Castetter**); the species has nested at both locales in recent years.



Adult Yellow-crowned Night-Heron at Las Vegas 9 June 2014.
Photograph by Kendall Kroesen.

Glossy Ibis—Unexpected in mid-summer, one was at Bosque NWR 4 Jul (NDP**).

White-tailed Kite—One was north to Bosque NWR 8 June (W. Washam).

Mississippi Kite—Continued its spread in eastern New Mexico, with 3 in Mosquero Canyon 22 Jun (RC**, WTE) and one along Ute Creek near Gallegos, *Harding* 1 Jun (MJB*). Farther north, singles were at two Clayton sites 9 & 21 Jun (CMR).

Northern Harrier—Noteworthy for summer, singles were noted at BLNWR 11 & 25 Jun (JIS**, FA) and 3 were there 9 Jul (FA).

Northern Goshawk—A pair north of Kingston 21 Jun was suspected of nesting locally (DJC*); a juv. there 28 Jul (DJC**) suggested the pair was successful.

Common Black-Hawk—Noted at two sites in the Albuquerque area Jun-Jul (DLH). At the Hart Bar WMA, *Catron* an ad. was on a nest in a dead snag surrounded by a large burned area 27 Jun (SOW).

Red-shouldered Hawk—An ad. was at the Apache Creek CG, *Catron* 12 Jul (CMR*, NEH**) & 21 Jul (VD**); it was identified as the California race *elegans* (J. Liguori, B. A. Sullivan) and it provided the state's first confirmed summer record for the species as well as the first from west of the RGV.

Gray Hawk—Far north of expected was an imm. at Zuni's Blackrock bosque 7 Jun (JAT*); farther south, the species again occupied sites in *Hidalgo* and *Eddy* (v.o.).

Zone-tailed Hawk—One was in *Sierra* 3 km east of Emory Pass 28 Jun (DJC**).

Virginia Rail—Noteworthy for *Santa Fe*, an ad. was tending 2 chicks at the Santa Fe Canyon Preserve 28 Jun (CG*).

Common Gallinule—Unusually scarce in recent years. One at Bosque NWR 21 Jun (WTE) provided the only report statewide.

American Coot—Breeding reports included ads. and 2 chicks at Apache Creek CG 21 Jul (VD), an ad. with one chick near Engle 3 Jul (DJC**), and an ad. with chicks at Jornada L. 18 Jul (DJC**).

Black-necked Stilt—At least three pairs nested successfully in the vicinity of Engle 23 Jun-21 Jul (DJC**). Stilts also nested successfully at the Deming treatment ponds, where there were 12 ads. and at least 3 chicks 3 Jul (LKM). Peak count at BLNWR was 286 stilts on 23 Jul (FA).

American Avocet—About 10 pairs nested in the vicinity of Engle, where ads. with chicks were documented 23 Jun-14 Jul (DJC**). Twenty ads. were at the Lordsburg treatment ponds 21 Jun (SW). At BLNWR, heavy rains on 23 May flooded out all avocet nesting efforts, and the species abandoned the refuge and did not return; none were found there 25 Jun (*vide* JIS).

Snowy Plover—Up to 10 attempted to summer at Brantley L., but off-road vehicles, illegal dumping, dogs, and fire pits resulted in no reproduction (SW).

Mountain Plover—The “Taos Plateau” north of Tres Piedras and east of US 285 is a dependable area for this species, where one was seen 4 Jul (JEP).

Willet—Unseasonal were singles at BLNWR 30 Jun (SDC**) and Bosque NWR 5 Jul (H. Heeklotz*).

Hudsonian Godwit—Unexpected was a bright one at the Lordsburg treatment ponds 17 Jun (DJG*).

Marbled Godwit—Lingering were singles at Engle 2 Jun (DJC**) and Brantley L. 10 Jun (SW)

Stilt Sandpiper—Early were 11 at BLNWR 9 Jul (FA); others began arriving at multiple sites 23-31 Jul (FA, DJC, DAB, MJB, ph. NEH).

Baird’s Sandpiper—Earliest were 3 at Engle 30 Jun (DJC), one at Acomita L. 5 Jul (CMR*), 10 at Engle 7 Jul (DJC), and one at Bosque NWR 9 Jul (VD).

White-rumped Sandpiper—Last of the spring migrants were 2 at Engle 2 Jun (DJC**), 2 at Morgan L. 7 Jun (MJB**), and one at Stubblefield L. 8 Jun (NDP).

Semipalmated Sandpiper—Nicely documented was one photographed west to Otto 22 Jul (RC**).

Bonaparte’s Gull—Late were 2 at Morgan L. 7 Jun (MJB**).

California Gull—Eleven were at Heron L. 6 Jun (WTE), where nesting was first confirmed in 2013; 37 were at Eagle Nest L. 11 Jul (WTE). In the RGV and vicinity, 5 were at Cochiti L. 7 Jul (WHH**), 3 were at EBL 24 Jun (DJC**), and 4 were near Engle 6 Jun (DJC**).

Least Tern—Another poor year for breeding in the lower Pecos Valley—at BLNWR, five pairs made 9 nest attempts but fledged only one young (J. B. Montgomery), while no young were produced at heavily-disturbed Brantley L. (SW). Wandering were one at EBL 1 Jun (DJC**), 2 at Morgan L. 7 Jun (MJB**), and one at Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo 13-14 Jun (C. Mangeng, BRF**).

Caspian Tern—Noteworthy for summer were 2 each at Morgan L. 7 Jun (MJB**) and EBL 29 Jun (DJC**).

Common Tern—Unusual was one at EBL 15 Jun (DJC**).

Inca Dove—Continued scarce across the south, with only singles at Deming 15 Jun (WTE) and Las Cruces 10 Jun (CJG), 2 at La Union 12-14 Jul (DAB), and up to 8 at Elephant Butte Jun-Jul (DJC**).

Common Ground-Dove—Several were noted after the Jul rains began, with up to 4 in Guadalupe Canyon 26 Jul (JEP, NEH, CMR) and singles in the Playas Valley north of Antelope Wells 28 Jul (DJG) and on the Las Cruces West Mesa 22 Jul (NGS**).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—Noteworthy for *Harding* were 3 vocal individuals at three stream crossing in Mosquero Canyon 30 Jun (RC*).

Elf Owl—Maintaining a Black Range presence, at least one was in Chloride Canyon 10 Jun (DJC).

Burrowing Owl—An impressive concentration of at least 61 individuals, including ads. and juvs., was in a large prairie-dog town east of Mosquero 22 Jun (RC, WTE). Six nests at five Santa Fe locales were all successful, fledging about 30 young, but several of those sites are threatened by industrial development (J. Walters). In the Zuni area, one was among prairie-dogs on the dry lakebed of Nutria Lake Number 3 on 5 Jun (JAT).

Spotted Owl—Two pairs were successful at a site in the Black Range, *Sierra* in Jun, with one pair producing three young and the other producing two (DJC**).



Fledgling Spotted Owls in the Black Range, Sierra County, 19 June 2014. Photograph by David J. Cleary.

Long-eared Owl—Summering birds were 2 at Blind Gap north of Grenville 21-22 Jun (CMR*), singles at Las Campanas 3 Jun (WTE) and along Tierra Blanca Road, w. *Sierra* 14 Jun (DJC**), and an apparent family group of 5 on the Cañoncito Navajo Reservation, w. *Bernalillo* 25 Jun (MJB, A. J. Bankert*).

Short-eared Owl—Breeding was confirmed in Jun with the documentation of two successful nests on Otero Mesa (RAM**), one successful nest west of Nutt, *Luna* (D. Meliopoulos**), and a family group near Floyd, *Roosevelt* (GWB**).

Mexican Whip-poor-will—Now well-established in the Sangre de Cristo Mts., this season produced 5 in Gallinas Canyon west of Gallinas, *San Miguel* 6 Jun (CMR, WTE) and one at Philmont Scout Ranch, *Colfax* 15 Jun (RN). In the Zuni Mts., one was singing in Little Water Canyon, *Cibola* 4 Jun (K. Score).

Black Swift—Again occupied the Jemez Falls site, where at least 2 were on nests 26 Jun (JEP).

Magnificent Hummingbird—Singles were in P.O. Canyon 6-12 Jun (CDL), Dark Canyon, Guadalupe Mts. 30 Jul (SW), Cherry Creek area 28 Jul (B. Dolton), two L. Roberts area sites 11 Jul (JEP), Mogollon 19 Jul (VD), and north to Water Canyon 21 Jun (WTE*).

Anna's Hummingbird—Earliest post-breeders to arrive were 2 in P.O. Canyon 19 Jul (CDL*).

Costa's Hummingbird—A ♀/imm. was a surprise at Rodeo 6 Jul (REW*).

Rufous Hummingbird—Earliest fall migrants were single ad. ♂♂ at Chama 24 Jun (RY) and P.O. Canyon 1 Jul (CDL).

Calliope Hummingbird—Earliest was a ♂ at Elephant Butte 4 Jul (DJC).

Broad-billed Hummingbird—An ad. ♂ summered at Silver City from late May to mid-Aug (KB). Up to 7 summered north in the Peloncillo Mts. to P.O. Canyon Jun-Jul, where 10, including 3 ad. ♀♀ and 2 juvs., were present 31 Jul (CDL).

Violet-crowned Hummingbird—Four, including a ♀ on a nest, were in Guadalupe Canyon 26 Jul (NEH**, JEP).



Female Violet-crowned Hummingbird on nest, Guadalupe Canyon, 26 July 2014. Photograph by Nancy E. Hetrick.

Lewis's Woodpecker—An ad. was taking food into a tree cavity at Chama 10 Jul (CG).

Red-headed Woodpecker—An ad. was west to the RGV at Angostura Dam, *Sandoval* 21 Jun (DLH*).

Ladder-backed Woodpecker—Two were northwest to Bluewater Gorge 6 Jun (JAT).

Arizona Woodpecker—Earliest independent young seen was a juv. ♂ in P.O. Canyon 7 Jul (CDL).

American Kestrel—A pair fledged 2 young from a nest box at Nambe 2 Jun (EM). A nest box near Lingo, *Roosevelt* had produced 4 fledglings by 1 Jun (SW). At La Union, 3 pairs (two in boxes and one in a natural cavity) had fledged 6 young by late Jun (DAB).

Aplomado Falcon—One was on the Las Cruces West Mesa 2 Jul (NGS**). Although the re-introduction effort in New Mexico was judged a failure and abandoned in 2012, the persistence of some released birds clouds the status of any Aplomado seen in New Mexico.

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet—Up to 3 were in Guadalupe Canyon 26 Jul (JEP, CMR).

Gray Flycatcher—Historically unknown in summer from the Black Range, one to 2 were in Chloride Canyon 25 Jun & 16 Jul, north of Kingston 21 Jun & 19 Jul, and at Kingston 16 Jul (DJC).

Black Phoebe—Noteworthy for the northeast was a pair at the Pajarito Creek bridge northwest of Tucumcari 1 Jun (CMR, NEH**). In the north, one was near Arroyo Seco, *Taos* 10 Jul (WTE).

Eastern Phoebe—One or more were at Albuquerque's Alameda bridge 1-21 Jun (DJK**, JRO, WHH, JBL**) but it was not clear if successful nesting occurred. Two were in the Mora River Valley at Watrous 7 Jun (CMR, WTE). Two were on the Pecos River at Villanueva 16 Jul (WFW). Farther east, one in Mosquero Canyon 30 Jun (RC) provided a new summer locality.

Vermilion Flycatcher—Singles were noted south of Mosquero along Trigg Road, e. *San Miguel* 5 Jun (WTE) & 6 Jul (MDM).

Dusky-capped Flycatcher—Again found north in the Black Range to Chloride Canyon, where one to 3 were at three sites during Jun (DJC**, audio), including an apparent family group.

Thick-billed Kingbird—Only one was detected in Guadalupe Canyon 26 Jul (JEP, NEH**).

Eastern Kingbird—Two were south to Cherry L., *Mora* 7 Jun (CMR, WTE) and one was south in the RGV to Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo 28 Jun (WTE).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher—One strayed far west to Silver City 20 Jul (KB**). More conspicuous in the northeast than usual, including one near Sedan, *Union* (KAG**), one east of Sabinoso 14 Jun (CMR, WTE) and one along Trigg Road, e. *San Miguel* 6 Jun (MDM), up to 5 in Mosquero Canyon 22 & 30 Jun (RC**, WTE), and 6 in *Harding* north of Ute L. 1 Jun (MJB).

White-eyed Vireo—One singing along the Chama R. at Chama 6 Jun (WTE**) furnished a *Rio Arriba* first. The species is now known from 26 of New Mexico's 33 counties, with breeding confirmed in two and suspected in others.

Bell's Vireo—Continuing from May, a pair remained active in the Corrales bosque through Jun (DJK**, CLH*, JRO, WHH*, JBL**, G. Garber), and an ad. was feeding one or more fledglings there 10 Jul (W. Maley**), confirming the northernmost nesting for the species in the RGV. The species continued to spread in the northeast, including one singing from a stock tank east of Sabinoso 14 Jun (CMR*, WTE*) and another singing from a Trigg Road stock tank, e. *San Miguel* 6 Jul (WTE*).



Adult Bell's Vireo with fledgling at Corrales 10 July 2014.
Photograph by William Maley.

Gray Vireo—Noteworthy for the northeast, 2 singing in upper Mosquero Canyon, *Harding* 30 Jun (RC*) provided a new locale for the species.

Warbling Vireo—An ad. was on a nest at Chama 10 Jul (CG).

Red-eyed Vireo—A late one was singing at Albuquerque 3 Jun (CMR*).

Gray Jay—Four, including 2 juvs., were on Elk Mt. 23 Jul (WFW).

Western Scrub-Jay—A non-breeder was lingering in the Corrales bosque 12 Jul (DJK, JMR).

Clark's Nutcracker—Three were in pinyon-juniper habitat in the Zuni Mts. in Bluewater Canyon, *Cibola* 6 Jun (JAT), an early date to be found so low.

Horned Lark—Has been declining in the Carlsbad area for several years (SW); this season, none were found on the Lakewood BBS, the first time that has occurred on that route (SW). For New Mexico as a whole, BBS data indicate a significant 4 per cent per year decline for the species statewide since the census was initiated in 1968.

Purple Martin—An ad. feeding two nestlings in a martin house at Clovis 3 Jul (GWB**) provided the first confirmed nesting for *Curry* and additional evidence of the species colonizing the state's eastern border. In the Sangre de Cristo Mts., several were along NM 555 ("York Canyon Road") west of Raton 1 Jun (RY), where the species has nested in previous years, and singles were noted near Pecos 8 Jun (CMR) and at Monastery L. 18 Jun (WFW).

Bank Swallow—There was good news for Rio Rancho area colonies, with 30 pairs at Iris Road Arroyo (with juvs. in nest holes) 21 Jun (CLH*) and 10 pairs at Montoyas Arroyo 21 Jun (CLH*) plus about 150 active nest holes at Calabacillas Arroyo 12 Jul (WHH*).

Cave Swallow—Continued to expand into lowland areas about Carlsbad, nesting in culverts, under bridges, and in and on buildings; it was judged that there were as many nesting in the lowlands as in caves in the Guadalupe Mts. (SW). Farther west, along the Rio Grande in *Doña Ana*, about 50 were at Leasburg SP 9 Jun (JEZ); in the Las Cruces area, several were nesting near Mesilla Dam 6 Jun (KBO*) and at La Llorona Park 9 Jun (KBO*).

Red-breasted Nuthatch—One was foraging in cottonwoods at Allen L. near Springer 22 Jun (NEH, CMR), a low elevation for the species. Another in P.O. Canyon 5 Jun-10 Jul (CDL) was clearly far from suitable habitat.

Carolina Wren—Recently resident in the middle RGV, a pair was feeding one to 2 begging fledglings at Bosque NWR 13 Jul (NDP**).

Cactus Wren—Maintaining a northeastern presence, 9 were in *Harding* north of Ute L. 1 Jun (MJB) and 4 were along Trigg Road, e. *San Miguel* 5-6 Jun (MDM). In the northwest quadrant, one was at Cerro Verde Ranch, *Cibola* 3 Jun (MJB).

American Dipper—A juv. was below Jemez Falls 28 Jun (JEP). An ad. was feeding a juv. on the Pecos R. near the Holy Cross CG road junction, *San Miguel* 23 Jul (WFW).

Veery—One was singing near Ojo Sarco, *Rio Arriba* 8 Jun (JRO*). None were detected in former haunts at Chama 5-6 Jun (WTE) and 10 Jul (CG).

Swainson's Thrush—One was described in the Gallinas Mts. near Corona 12 Jun (J. Hurd*), where not known to summer. One was singing in a lowland situation at Zuni's Blackrock bosque 7 Jun (JAT). One at Flechado Picnic Area, *Taos* 11 Jul (WTE) was in a known breeding area.

Gray Catbird—Unexpected in the Black Range, one was singing at the Chloride museum 12 Jun (DJC**). Another was south along the Pecos R. to Villanueva 16 Jul (WFW). In known breeding areas, an ad. was feeding a fledgling at Chama 10 Jul (CG) and one was singing at the Alameda bridge 15 Jun (WHH).

Curve-billed Thrasher—In the northwest, one was singing at the mouth of Bluewater Gorge 6 Jun (JAT).

Bendire's Thrasher—Continuing surveys for this species located one to 3 at 10 sites in *Cibola*, *Sandoval*, *Bernalillo*, *Catron*, *Socorro*, *Hidalgo*, and *Luna* Jun-Jul (MJB et al.). One was east to Variadero, e. *San Miguel* 1 Jun (CMR, NEH).

Sage Thrasher—East of historical range and suggestive of local summering were 2 at Albuquerque's Manzano Open Space 4 Jul (DLH) and one near Variadero, e. *San Miguel* 9 Jul (MJB**).

Cedar Waxwing—Summering birds included 3 at Chama 10 Jul (CG), 3 near Placitas, *Taos* 11 Jul (WTE), and, in the RGV, 3 at Española 28 Jun (JEP), 2 at Buckman, *Santa Fe* 26 Jun (JPB), and one at the Alameda bridge 3 Jul (JNS**).

Olive Warbler—At the northern edge of their regular distribution, 2 were along the Water Canyon Road, Magdalena Mts., 4 Jul (NDP**).

Worm-eating Warbler—One was in the Gallisteo R. bosque at Cerrillos 7 Jul (ACF**).

Northern Waterthrush—One was in the Black Range north of Kingston at Mud Spring 21 Jun (DJC*).

Black-and-white Warbler—One was singing at a migrant trap south of Farmington 9 Jun (MJB*).

Nashville Warbler—An early fall migrant was singing in the Santa Fe Canyon Preserve 27 Jul (BRF*).

Common Yellowthroat—Noteworthy for *Eddy*, 2 ♂♂ were singing at the Cottonwood Day Use Area on the Black R. 31 Jul (SW).

Yellow Warbler—One was singing at Cochiti L. 7 Jul and a ♀ was feeding a cowbird fledgling there 2 Aug (WHH). Two or more were singing at the Alameda bridge 1-15 Jun (DJK, JMR, CLH, WHH). Two ♂♂ were singing on territory at Hillsboro 14 Jun-5 Jul (DJC**). In a traditional breeding area, a ♀ was taking food to a nest at Chama 10 Jul (CG).

Hermit Warbler—Three early fall migrants were in Clanton Canyon, Peloncillo Mts. 26 Jul (CMR, NEH**).

Wilson's Warbler—A scarce but regular breeder at higher elevations in New Mexico's northern mountains, this season, 8 were west of Holman at Serpent L., *Taos* 5 Jul (JEP).

Red-faced Warbler—An ad. was tending two begging fledglings in Chloride Canyon 23 Jul (DJC**).

Painted Redstart—An ad. and a fledgling were in Chloride Canyon 31 Jul (DJC**).

Botteri's Sparrow—One singing from a stand of giant sacaton on the Las Cruces West Mesa 4 Jun (NGS**, audio) provided a *Doña Ana* first. In *Hidalgo*, after the rains began in Jul, 2 were singing along the Portal Road near Rodeo 25 Jul (BRZ**), at least one was in the traditional spot at the X-T Camp in the middle Animas Valley 25-26 Jul (CMR, NEH**, JEP), and one was singing in the s. Playas Valley 2.5 km north of Antelope Wells 28 Jul (DJG*).

Cassin's Sparrow—Responding to plentiful rains, the species was found singing and displaying in abundance in the s. Playas Valley north of Antelope Wells 28 Jul (DJG).

Chipping Sparrow—One to 2 pairs summered at Albuquerque's Sunset Memorial Park, where ads. were feeding fledglings 8 Jul (DLH). A juv. with heavily streaked breast in the Corrales bosque 12 Jul (DJK, JMR) may have been produced locally, as a singing ♂ had been present there earlier in the season. The earliest fall migrant reached P.O. Canyon 19 Jul (CDL).

Black-chinned Sparrow—On the northwestern fringe of their distribution, 2 were singing in Zuni's Cheama Canyon 5 Jun (JAT).

Song Sparrow—Further evidence that this species is colonizing the lower Gila R. in New Mexico was provided by 3 at three sites in the Gila Lower Box, *Hidalgo* 26 Jun (SOW).

Lincoln's Sparrow—One was late near Clayton 9 Jun (CMR).

Summer Tanager—On the fringes of their New Mexico distribution were 2 singing in Zuni's Blackrock bosque 7 Jun (JAT), a pair in Mills Canyon 8 Jun (RC), one in Mosquero Canyon 30 Jun (RC), and 5 along Trigg Road, e. *San Miguel* 6 Jul (WTE).

Western Tanager—A ♂ was early near Radium Springs 10 Jul (MTS, JEZ).

Indigo Bunting—A nest-building ♀ was being followed by a ♀ Bronzed Cowbird at La Llorona Park in Las Cruces 9 Jun (KBO*).

Varied Bunting—At least 3 ad. ♂♂ and 2 ad. ♀♀ summered on the San Andres NWR at San Andres Spring, *Doña Ana*, where 2 fledglings were banded 10 Jul (MEW**); one of the ad. ♂♂ had been banded at the site in 2011 (MEW).

Painted Bunting—Noteworthy for *Harding*, the species was found breeding in Mosquero Canyon, where 3 singing ♂♂ plus a pair—the ♀ carrying food—were found

22 Jun (RC**, WTE*). In nearby e. *San Miguel*, one was along Trigg Road 6 Jun (MDM) and three were there 6 Jul (WTE).

Dickcissel—Unexpected was one singing near El Rito, *Rio Arriba* 4 Jun (JRO).

Common Grackle—Noteworthy south to the Sacramento Mts., one was at Seeping Springs near Ruidoso 8-9 Jul (WFW).

Bronzed Cowbird—Two dark ♀♀, evidently the eastern subspecies, plus a ♂ were at Rattlesnake Springs, *Eddy* 2 Jun (SOW); both the eastern and western subspecies occur in New Mexico's Pecos Valley.

Orchard Oriole—West of usual were single ad. ♂♂ at Maxwell NWR 10 Jun (KAG) and Mesilla Bosque SP 29 Jul (CJG**).

Hooded Oriole—Very few were reported, and none were found in the southeast. A breeding pair was at Deming, where the male was carrying food 15 Jun (CMR, WTE, NEH).

Bullock's Oriole—A dead ♀ hanging from fishing line at Oasis SP 7 Jul (JL**) was apparently gathering the discarded line for nesting material.

Pine Grosbeak—Two were on Elk Mt. 23 Jul (WFW).

Red Crossbill—Among the few reports were several seen at Serpent L. 5 Jul (JEP et al.), including both Type 2 and Type 5 vocal types (R. C. Hoyer, audio).

* * *

ERRATA and ADDENDA

NMOSFN 9(2):5, June-November 1970—**Red Knot**: The one at BLNWR was seen 27 Sep & 3-4 Oct, not 3 Aug-7 Oct.

NMOSFN 17(1):3, December 1977-May 1978—**Little Blue Heron**: the records for Bosque NWR 3 Dec 1977 and near Socorro 2 Apr 1978 are errors; the observers reported Cattle Egrets at those locales on those dates, not Little Blue Herons. To date, there are no Dec records for Little Blue Heron for New Mexico.

NMOSFN 17(1):5, December 1977-May 1978—**Red Knot**: The 6 at Holloman Lake were reported 20 May, not 20 April.

NMOSFN 21(3):49, Summer 1982—**Dusky-capped Flycatcher**: The report of one in May at the Signal Peak turnoff actually referred to a Greater Pewee (Coues' Flycatcher), not Dusky-capped (Olivaceous) Flycatcher. This was reported correctly in the proper season in *NMOSFN* 21(2):28, Spring 1982.

NMOSFN 22(2):19, Spring 1983—**Swainson's Thrush**: The report of one at Alamogordo on 23 April is an error; the bird referred to by that observer was at Rattlesnake Springs, not Alamogordo, and was seen on 15 May, not 23 April (which would be a very early date for the species).

NMOSFN 27(3):29, Summer 1988—**Canvasback**: The breeding records given for Forked Lightning Ranch south of Pecos 16 June are incorrect, the observer reported Common Mergansers, not Canvasbacks. Also, the observer was Leona Mukai, not Lee Marlatt.

NMOSFN 28(4):55, Autumn 1989—**Swainson's Warbler**: No date is given for the one reported at Oasis SP that season; the date was 14 September 1989. Unfortunately, this was corrected incorrectly, to 14 May 1989, in *NMOSFN* 35(4):68, Autumn 1996.

NMOSFN 30(3):38, Summer 1991—**Blue-throated Hummingbird**: The observers reported a male Magnificent Hummingbird, not a male Blue-throated, in Mill Canyon in the Magdalena Mts., and it was seen both 29 June and 15 July.

NMOSFN 42(3):38, Summer 2003—**Red Knot**: The observer reported 2, not one, at Bosque NWR on 22 July.

NMOSFN 53(1):11, Winter 2013-14—**Curve-billed Thrasher**: The records for both Santa Fe and Eunice referred to Crissal Thrashers, not Curve-billeds.



NEW MEXICO COUNTIES

