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NEW MEXICO
ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
FIELD NOTES

VOLUME 21, NO. 1

December 1, 1981-February 28, 1982

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NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2016 Valle Rio

Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

FROM THE EDITORS:

Assessment of the weather for the period varied somewhat among observers with most judging it milder and drier than usual. Hart Schwarz found it to be a typical winter in the Sandias, while Kevin Zimmer termed it "a strange winter." Pat Basham, at Socorro, noted eastern and southern species lingering due to the unseasonably mild weather. And Alan Nelson described Farmington's temperatures as near normal, with February bringing above average precipitation. At Silver City, Ralph Fisher noted good January and February precipitation. On Christmas Counts, the winter food crop was reported from fair to excellent, with the majority of reports falling in the good to excellent range.

Many species that do not often winter in New Mexico were present in larger than usual numbers and farther north than typical. This was likely due to the very mild winter. Great Egrets were found at the Rio Grande Narrows and Cattle Egrets occurred in White Rock. Several species of shorebirds wintered farther north than usual. Yellowlegs of both species and Least Sandpipers wintered widely in the state; a Dunlin was found on the La Luz CC; and perhaps most surprisingly, 26 Long-billed Curlews were found at Otis. This species normally winters much farther south.

Reports of winter finches were scarce in lowland areas, but sparrows, particularly Brewer's and Chipping Sparrows, were abundant in southern areas. Cassin's Finches were reported as unusually common near Taos, but scarce in Santa Fe and at lower elevations in the Sandia Mountains. Evening Grosbeaks were virtually absent from the Sandias, where they were common the previous two winters.

Among invasive species, Golden-crowned Kinglets were noted in both mountain and lowland areas in exceptionally high numbers, and Ruby-crowned Kinglet numbers also appeared to be up. Bohemian Waxwings made their first appearance in the state since 1979.

Unusual species reported included a Black-legged Kittiwake, a probable Thayer's Gull and a "white-winged" gull of undetermined species. Also a tern of undetermined species was seen at Morgan Lake. Any tern in winter is unusual in New Mexico.

Reports of possible Harlan's and Krider's races of Red-tailed Hawks are becoming more frequent, especially from the middle Rio Grande Valley. Harris' Hawks are being reported in larger numbers from both the southeast and southwest quadrants of the state. Bald Eagles are also being reported in increasing numbers from the major drainages and water impoundments in the western two-thirds of the state. Burrowing Owls were reported in increasing numbers from several locations in Eddy County.

LOCALITIES AND THEIR COUNTIES IN THIS ISSUE:

abbreviations and symbols in text:

L. -- Lake	R. -- River
MRGV -- middle Rio Grande Valley	S.G.R. -- State Game Refuge
Mt. -- Mountain	S.P. -- State Park
N.M. -- National Monument	* -- details
N.P. -- National Park	** -- photograph
N.W.R. -- National Wildlife Refuge	*** -- specimen

Alameda -- Bernalillo	Alma -- Catron
Albuquerque -- Bernalillo	Animas Mts. -- Hidalgo

Aztec -- San Juan
 Bear Canyon Dam -- Grant
 Belen -- Valencia
 Bernalillo -- Sandoval
 Bernardo -- Socorro
 Bloomfield -- San Juan
 Bluewater L. -- Cibola, McKinley
 Bosque bridge, village --
 Valencia
 Bosque del Apache N.W.R. (Bosque
 NWR) -- Socorro
 Burn L. -- Dona Ana

 Caballo L. -- Sierra
 Camp Thunderbird -- Grant
 Capitan -- Lincoln
 Carlsbad -- Eddy
 Carlsbad Caverns N.P. -- Eddy
 Chicosa L. -- Harding
 Cliff - Grant
 Cochiti L., Pueblo -- Sandoval
 Corrales -- Sandoval
 Cottonwood Gulch -- McKinley

 Del Monte Ranch -- Taos
 Deming -- Luna
 Derry -- Sierra
 Elephant Butte L. -- Sierra
 Embudito -- Bernalillo
 Espanola -- Rio Arriba
 Evans L. -- Grant

 Farmington -- San Juan
 Fort Bayard -- Grant
 Galisteo -- Santa Fe
 Gila R. -- Grant, Catron
 Glenwood -- Catron
 Harroun L. -- Eddy
 Isleta -- Bernalillo, Valencia

 Jemez R. -- Sandoval
 Jornada Valley -- Dona Ana

 La Cienega -- Santa Fe
 Laguna Grande -- Eddy
 La Joya S.G.R. -- Socorro
 L. Avalon -- Eddy
 L. McMillan -- Eddy
 La Luz -- Otero

 Las Cruces -- Dona Ana
 Las Vegas -- San Miguel
 Lemitar -- Socorro
 Los Lunas -- Valencia
 Loving -- Eddy

 Madrone Ponds -- Valencia
 Malaga -- Eddy
 Mangas Springs -- Grant
 McIntosh -- Torrance
 Mesilla -- Dona Ana
 Mimbres R. -- Grant, Luna
 Montezuma -- San Miguel
 Morgan L. -- San Juan
 Moriarty -- Torrance

 Navajo Indian Irrigation Project --
 San Juan
 Organ Mts. -- Dona Ana
 Otis -- Eddy
 Pancho Villa S.P. -- Luna
 Peloncillo Mts. -- Hidalgo
 Percha Dam S.P. -- Sierra
 Pleasanton -- Catron
 Puye -- Rio Arriba

 Ramah -- Cibola
 Rattlesnake Springs -- Eddy
 Riverside -- Grant
 Roberts L. -- Grant
 Roswell -- Chaves

 San Acacia -- Socorro
 San Cristobal -- Taos
 Sandia Mts. -- Bernalillo
 San Ildefonso Pueblo -- Santa Fe
 San Simon Cienega -- Hidalgo
 Santa Fe -- Santa Fe
 Sena -- San Miguel
 Shady Lakes -- Bernalillo
 Silver City -- Grant
 Socorro -- Socorro

 Thoreau -- McKinley
 Tucumcari -- Quay
 Upper Water Canyon -- Los Alamos
 Virden -- Hidalgo
 White Rock -- Los Alamos
 Willow L. -- Eddy
 Zuni Reservation -- McKinley

NEW MEXICO CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS, 1981-82

(name of count, date, compiler; abbreviated "CC" in text)

Albuquerque, Jan. 2, James Karo
 Bosque del Apache N.W.R., Dec. 26, C.A. Hundertmark (Bosque for short)
 Carlsbad Caverns N.P., Dec. 20, Steve West
 82-1 (winter '81-82)

Espanola, Dec. 27, W. Burton Lewis
Farmington, Dec. 19, Alan Nelson

Gila R., Jan. 2, Ralph Fisher
Glenwood, Jan. 1, John P. Hubbard
Lakes Avalon and McMillan, Dec. 28, Jim Cheek (L. Avalon for short)
La Luz (Otero County), Jan. 3, Lawrence W. Murphy
Las Cruces, Dec. 19, Kevin Zimmer

Las Vegas, Dec. 19, John Gavahan
Loving, Dec. 22, Steve West
Peloncillo Mts., Dec. 30, Robert Scholes
Roswell, Dec. 19, Mary Peckinpaugh
Sandia Mts., Dec. 19, Ross L. Teuber

Santa Fe, Dec. 20, William Stone
Silver City, Dec. 19, Ralph Fisher
Thoreau-Bluewater L., Dec. 19, Arch McCallum (Thoreau for short)

INITIALED OBSERVERS IN THIS ISSUE

PB -- Pat Basham	AM -- D. Arch McCallum
AB -- Allyn Bissell	KM -- Kimble McClymonds
JC -- Jim Cheek	DM -- Doris Miller
JD -- Julie Duff	AN -- Alan Nelson
JND -- J.N. Durrie	
	GP -- Gary Parker
JE -- John Egbert	RP -- Roger Parsons
RF -- Ralph Fisher	JP -- Joanne Phillips
JG -- John Gavahan	JR -- Jan Rees
	DR -- David Renwald
WAH -- Walton A. Hawk	TR -- Fr. Terence Rhoades
EH -- Elizabeth Hayes	
BH -- Bruce Hayward	RS -- Robert Scholes
VH -- Valerie Hink	HS -- Hart Schwarz
WH -- William Howe	S&WS -- Sally & Walter Spofford
JH -- John Hubbard	WS -- William Stone
CAH -- Charles A. Hundertmark	RT -- Ross Teuber
D&SH -- Dustin & Susan Huntington	DT -- Dave Tomasko
DJ -- Dan Jones	SW -- Steve West
BL -- W. Burton Lewis	BZ -- Barry Zimmer
RM -- Richard Martin	KZ -- Kevin Zimmer

COMMON LOON--2 at L. McMillan 12/11 and 2/7 (JC), and 7 on L. Avalon CC.

ARCTIC LOON--1* at Bluewater L. 12/9 (AM).

HORNED GREBE--2 at Harroun L. 12/10 (SW).

EARED GREBE--Scattered reports, generally from the central area south, included 19 on Thoreau CC, 4 at Bosque NWR in late December (per RT), 3 on Gila Valley CC, 116 on L. Avalon CC and 4 on Loving CC.

WESTERN GREBE--Widely scattered records included 3 on Farmington CC, 5 at Bosque NWR in late December (per RT), 1 at Burn L. 12/5 (DJ), 3 on Roswell CC, and 2 on L. Avalon CC.

PIED-BILLED GREBE--Sparse resident through winter from Cochiti L. to Belen (WH); 1 at Percha Dam SP 2/25 (DM).

WHITE PELICAN--Only report was 6 at Caballo L. 12/13 (JH).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT--7 wintered at Morgan L. for second year (AN); 150+ at Elephant Butte narrows marsh 2/17 (JH); 1 at Bear Canyon Dam 1/9 (RF), and several in southeast, including 2 on L. Avalon CC and 1 at Willow L. 12/22 (SW).

OLIVACEOUS CORMORANT--2 at Elephant Butte narrows marsh 2/17 with the Double-crested (JH); 3 probables with a Double-crested at Los Lunas bridge 2/22 (WH+).

GREAT BLUE HERON--18 at Cochiti L. 2/5 and 10 at La Joya SGR on 1/14 (WH); a high of 152 on the L. Avalon CC.

GREEN HERON--Single birds at Bloomfield 1/20 (JR), Bernardo 12/19 (KM), and on the Gila River 1/2 (RF).

CATTLE EGRET--unusual: 3* at White Rock 12/3 (Monty Ferris, fide BL).

GREAT EGRET--1 at Rio Grande R. narrows 2/24 (RT) and 2 on Roswell CC.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON--A low count of 19 on Loving CC; 40 on L. Avalon CC.

WHITE-FACED IBIS--unusual: 9 reported from the Roswell CC.

WHISTLING SWAN--Widely reported, including 5 on Las Vegas CC; immature at Blackrock L., Zuni Reservation, 12/23-28 (later found dead) and another 3/9 (TR), 1 at Shady Lakes late December (JP), 1 on Bosque CC 12/26, 1 at Bosque NWR 1/9 (RT), 2 on Peloncillo CC, and 2 on Roswell CC.

SWAN sp.--12 at Chicoso L. 2/20 (M. McInnis); immature thought to be a Whistling, but possibly a Trumpeter, at Cochiti L. 2/5 (RM, JD).

CANADA GOOSE--Reports away from refuges included 10 on Espanola CC, 60 at Blackrock L., Zuni Reservation, through winter (TR), small to moderate flocks in MRGV, including 9 possible Cackling Geese (B.c. minima) at Cochiti L. 2/18 (RM+), 35 at Elephant Butte Marsh 2/17 and 100 to 200 on Caballo L. 12/13-2/18 (JH), 8 at Alma 12/29 (John & Claudia Hubbard), 8 at Cliff Slough in February (JE), heard near Virden 2/4 (JH), and 84 over San Simon Cienega heading southeast 12/28 (RF).

WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE--2 at Morgan L. 2/20 and 2/27 (AN), 6 on Las Vegas CC, 7 seen 4 mi. south of Los Lunas 1/8 (WH) and 1 at Caballo L. 2/3 (JH).

SNOW GOOSE--1 on Farmington CC; 123 (including 3 blue form) was high for Las Vegas CC, from 5 to 460 in MRGV from Bernalillo to Bosque village during December-February (WH+); 23,450 (plus 500 blue form) on Bosque CC was high; 36,000 on Roswell CC; and a crippled juvenile wintering at the Silver City golf course provided a CC first for that locale (RF+).

ROSS' GOOSE--1 on Farmington CC, 503 on Roswell CC.

MALLARD--Widespread and fairly common from Cochiti L. to La Joya SGR, with highs in February of 1,200 south of Belen 2/15 and up to 1,400 at Cochiti L. (WH).

MEXICAN DUCK--1 on Peloncillo CC.

GADWALL--Small numbers in MRGV north to Cochiti L. with a high of about 500 on Cochiti L. 2/5 (WH+); 4 on Glenwood CC.

NORTHERN PINTAIL--Rare in MRGV in December (only 1) and January (25), but increasing in February to a high of 500 south of Belen (WH+).

GREEN-WINGED TEAL--8 on Espanola CC; numbers ascended in MRGV from 1 in December to 54 in January and 1,500 in February, with a high of 1,000 at Cochiti L. 2/17 (WH+); 1 on Peloncillo CC.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL--4 at Isleta 12/14, 1 at Shady Lakes 1/28, 2 near Bernardo 2/4, 6 at Bernalillo 2/10, 1 at Isleta 2/18 and 20 (WH+); 4 on Bosque CC.

CINNAMON TEAL--Present at Cochiti L. marsh 2/27 (BL); 1 male at Isleta marsh 12/24, and 30 near Bernardo Bridge 2/1 (VH, KM); more common in MRGV thereafter (WH+); 2 on L. Avalon CC.

AMERICAN WIGEON--widespread in MRGV in small numbers, with highs of 185 at Shady Lakes 12/16 and 200 at Cochiti L. 12/15 (WH+).

NORTHERN SHOVELER--1 at Isleta 12/5 and 9 on 1/7, 2 north of Albuquerque 1/19, 4 at Bernalillo 2/10 and 50 on Cochiti L. 2/17 (WH+).

WOOD DUCK--12 near Farmington 12/18-19 (AN+); 8 at Isleta Pueblo 12/1 (largest group in MRGV), 1 at same location 1/13 and 26, 2 between Los Lunas and Belen 2/22 and 1 male at Corrales 2/23 (WH+); 4 at Elephant Butte marsh 2/17 (JH).

REDHEAD--155 on Farmington CC, 23 at Shady Lakes 1/28 and 13 from Cochiti L. to Bosque from 2/15-24 (WH+); 4 at Bear Canyon Dam and 2 at Roberts L. 1/9, 6 at Evans L. 2/21 (RF).

RING-NECKED DUCK--27 on Santa Fe CC; widespread in MRGV in small flocks with a high of 71 at Shady Lakes 1/28 (WH+); 1 on Glenwood CC; 4 at Roberts L. 1/9 (RF); 75 ± at Hunt's Slough in February (JE).

CANVASBACK--Low numbers scattered in MRGV 12/1-2/24, with 20 north of Belen 1/18 (WH+); 10 at Roberts L. 1/9 (RF); 2 on Gila River CC; 1 at Cliff Slough in February (JE); 600 on Roswell CC, and 175 on Loving CC.

GREATER SCAUP--1 on Bosque CC 12/26 (only 1 confirmed record in state) (CAH+).

LESSER SCAUP--18 on Thoreau CC; 1-2 at Shady Lakes 1/12 to 2/10 (WH+); 27 on L. Avalon CC; 16 on Carlsbad Caverns CC.

COMMON GOLDENEYE--First arrivals in MRGV were 6 at Cochiti Pueblo and 3 on Cochiti L. 12/11; widely reported in low numbers, with highs of 62 on Las Vegas CC and 234 on L. Avalon CC.

BUFFLEHEAD--6 at Cochiti L. 2/17 were the only ones seen in MRGV (WH+); 1 on Silver City CC was first for count (RF+).

RUDDY DUCK--2-6 present at Isleta 12/14 to end of period; 1 five miles south of Belen 2/22 (WH+).

HOODED MERGANSER--4 at Cochiti L. 12/15 (KM, VH, JD); 1 on Thoreau CC was a first for the area; 10 at Bosque NWR 12/6 (WS); 2 at Caballo L. 2/25 (DM); 2 on Cliff Slough 2/5 and 24 (JE); 3 on Burn L. 2/7 and 1 in Las Cruces area in late December (KZ); 5 on L. Avalon CC.

COMMON MERGANSER--Highs included 390 at Morgan L. 12/31 and 400 on 2/20 (AH); 200 at Cochiti L. in December and 750 on 2/5 (WH+), and 733 on L. Avalon CC.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER--20 on Cochiti L. 2/5 (RM, JD); 12 on L. Avalon CC.

TURKEY VULTURE--unusual: Single at Bosque NWR 2/22, presumed early migrant (RT).

GOSHAWK--Singles south of Alameda 1/19, 25 (immatures) (RM, EH); near Albuquerque 2/5 (RM); north of Bosque bridge 2/9 (KM); near Lemitar (immature) 2/4 (RT), and on Roswell CC.

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK--Numerous reports from scattered areas throughout the state.

COOPER'S HAWK--Many reports from throughout N.M.

RED-TAILED HAWK--Many reports statewide for entire period...unusual: Throughout the winter a dark phase bird, possibly harlani race, was at Isleta Pueblo, and 4 birds (1 or 2* possibly krideri race) were in the MRGV (WH). An immature at Bosque NWR 2/3 was probably harlani (JH).

SWAINSON'S HAWK--Report of 1 at Cochiti L. 2/27 (BL) considered questionable.

HARRIS' HAWK--unusual: Population increasing in southwestern N.M. (S&WS, RF); 36 on Loving CC were exceptionally many for that area; 11 found on L. Avalon CC.

BALD EAGLE--Numerous reports, mostly from major drainages and water impoundments in western two-thirds of state; 357 counted on state survey 1/2-16.

MARSH HAWK--unusual: 55 on L. Avalon CC was high.

OSPREY--1 at Elephant Butte narrows 2/25 (CAH) was presumably an early migrant.

PRAIRIE FALCON--Singles near Espanola 1/2 (BL); San Ildefonso Pueblo 2/5 and Cochiti Pueblo 12/11 (WH+); Galisteo 1/30 (WS); Bernalillo 1/19 (JND); Alameda 1/21, Isleta Pueblo 12/5 and 1/18, and Belen 1/26 and 2/9 (WH+); Albuquerque CC; Albuquerque's west mesa 2/19 (JND); between Moriarty and McIntosh 2/7 (Ross & Clara Teuber); and at Glenwood 1/1 and Derry 2/4 (JH).

MERLIN--Singles except as noted: Farmington 12/3-5 (AN); Cottonwood Gulch 2/17 (AM); Santa Fe CC (2 adults); near Tucumcari 1/10 (2 immatures) (Jim Vaught); Roswell 2/24 (SW); several reports from Grant (JE), Hidalgo (RS) and Eddy Counties (SW).

AMERICAN KESTREL--Scarce in Silver City area, 3 to 6 per day's travel (RF).

RING-NECKED PHEASANT--Several on CCs in Albuquerque, Bosque, Roswell (including 2 white-winged race), Glenwood and Gila Valley.

CHUKAR--2 on Navajo Indian Irrigation Project 2/13 (AN).

WILD TURKEY--Up to 27 seen at Del Monte Ranch during January and February (WAH); wintered for first time since 1976-77 in Thoreau (AM), with 12 on Thoreau CC.

SCALED QUAIL--Good numbers on several CCs south of Las Vegas and Albuquerque.

GAMBEL'S QUAIL--Reported on western CCs, with high of 218 at Glenwood.

MONTEZUMA QUAIL--Only report was 2 on Peloncillo Mts. CC.

VIRGINIA RAIL--Highs of 10 on Farmington CC, and 8-11 throughout winter in MRGV (WH+). Recorded on Gila Valley, Roswell and Carlsbad CCs.

SORA--At Isleta all winter (WH+), and reported on Farmington, Gila Valley, Roswell and Las Cruces CCs.

COMMON GALLINULE--3 on ice at Isleta marsh 1/17 (RM+), 3 on Bosque CC, and 2 on Loving CC.

AMERICAN COOT--Wintered statewide, with high of 6,527 on Roswell CC.

LONG-BILLED CURLEW--unusual: 26 at Otis 1/17 with one there on 1/23; also 1 south of Carlsbad 1/22 (SW).

SPOTTED SANDPIPER--1 seen on Espanola CC.

GREATER YELLOWLEGS--Reported from several areas, including Cochiti L. 2/27 (BL), Isleta Pueblo 2/20 (WH), Gila River CC, and Loving CC.

LESSER YELLOWLEGS--Seen on Bosque CC, and at Laguna Grande 2/17 (SW).

LEAST SANDPIPER--Wintered widely in the state, with reports from Morgan L. (DR+), Caballo L. (JH), and on Thoreau, Roswell, Gila River, Las Cruces, L. Avalon and Loving CCs.

DUNLIN--unusual: 1 seen on the La Luz CC (Justine Hudson).

WESTERN SANDPIPER--3 on Loving CC.

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER--2 to 3 in marsh in Bloomfield 12/20-31 (JR, AN, DR).

HERRING GULL--1 at Burn L. 1/13 (KZ); 3 on Roswell CC and 7 on L. Avalon CC.

THAYER'S GULL--unusual: A gull* probably of this species was seen at Caballo L. 2/18 (JH).

CALIFORNIA GULL--2 at Cochiti L. 2/17 (WH+); 2 at Caballo L. 12/13 with one there 2/18 (JH).

"WHITE-WINGED" GULL--unusual: A "white-winged" gull (details) of undetermined species was seen at L. McMillan 2/7 (SW).

RING-BILLED GULL--A high count of 1,000 was reported from the L. Avalon CC.

BONAPARTE'S GULL--9 on L. Avalon CC and 46 on Loving CC.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE--1** in adult winter plumage at Bosque NWR 12/5 (WS, with photo); first documented report of species in N.M.

TERN sp.--unusual: A tern was seen briefly at Morgan L. 12/17 (DR); while species could not be determined, any tern in New Mexico in winter is unusual.

BAND-TAILED PIGEON--unusual: Singles at Alameda for the week 12/15-23 (JP) and in the Silver City CC; casual to occasional in these areas in winter.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE--1 at Socorro from 2/4 into March (PB) was early for this northern limit.

MOURNING DOVE--Several southern localities reported unusually high CC totals in the range of 350-1,000+: Peloncillo Mts., Gila River, Silver City, Las Cruces, Carlsbad and Loving.

GROUND DOVE--unusual: Singles in the Silver City CC and at Socorro in the period 12/5-2/25 (PB), plus 2 on Peloncillo Mts. CC; rare in these areas.

INCA DOVE--unusual: 1 at Socorro 11/3 into March (PB) was calling in February.

BARN OWL--A road-killed bird on the Isleta Pueblo 1/21 (VH).

SCREECH OWL--1 banded at Pecos R. east of Malaga 2/9 was thought to be *O. a. cineraceus* (SW).

PYGMY OWL--1 at Cottonwood Gulch 1/30-2/2 was first record for area (AM).

BURROWING OWL--unusual: 1 at Belen 2/22 (RT)....Increasing numbers reported from several areas in Eddy County (SW).

LONG-EARED OWL--8 in Las Cruces CC.

SHORT-EARED OWL--Single at Navajo Indian Irrigation Project 12/31 was second record for that area, third for county (AN); 1 on Peloncillo Mts. CC.

SAW-WHET OWL--1 in Rio Grande Bosque, at Corrales, 1/11-15 (**DH, RT, VH); 1 south of Belen 12/2 (WH+).

POOR-WILL--2 in Walnut Canyon, Carlsbad Caverns NP, 12/10; only winter record for area (SW).

WHITE-THROATED SWIFT--Scattered records in southern N.M. from December through February (Sierra, Hidalgo, Dona Ana and Eddy Counties), with the northernmost sighting at Three Gun Spring, Sandia Mountains, 2/28 (SH).

COMMON FLICKER--1 red-shafted x yellow-shafted hybrid form n. of Santa Fe on 2/22 (AB; hybrid form verified by JH from feathers), and 1 yellow-shafted form at Corrales on 2/23 (WH+).

GILA WOODPECKER--unusual: 3 at Double Adobe Ranch (Animas Mts.) on 12/29 (BH); rare in the area....1 at Gila on 1/16 (RF).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER--unusual: 1 in Roswell CC; no details.

ACORN WOODPECKER--2 e. of Silver City on NM 90 on 2/20 and 2 at Bear Canyon Dam on 1/9 (RF); now uncommon in these areas.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER--Singles at Farmington on 12/19 (second CC record for area) and in the Sandia Mts. CC.

WILLIAMSON'S SAPSUCKER--1 on Thoreau CC.

DOWNY WOODPECKER--1 in Bosque CC and 2 near Riverside on the Gila River CC.

ARIZONA WOODPECKER--1 at Birch Spring, Animas Mts., on 12/30 (BH).

NORTHERN THREE-TOED WOODPECKER--Singles in Sandia Mts. on CC and on 1/31 (HS).

EASTERN PHOEBE--Singles at Socorro 2/22 (PB) and at Rattlesnake Springs 12/20 (SW).

BLACK PHOEBE--Reported widely in MRGV north to Isleta and across the southern part of the state (Bernalillo, Valencia, Catron, Socorro, Grant, Sierra, Dona Ana, Chaves and Eddy Counties)...3 on Silver City CC, a first for that count.

SAY'S PHOEBE--Reported on most CC's, with northernmost reports at Farmington and Espanola. At La Cienega 1/10 (WS).

DUSKY FLYCATCHER--3 at Glenwood gleaning in cottonwoods 12/29 and 1 in Cliff area 12/12 (JH).

GRAY FLYCATCHER--1* on Peloncillo Mts. CC; first winter record for state.

EMPIDONAX (sp.)--1 at Isleta 1/9, 2/27 and 3/8 may have been a Dusky (WH); 3 on Glenwood CC; 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 12/20 was believed to be a Dusky or Gray (RP, SW).

VERMILION FLYCATCHER--Singles at Bosque NWR 1/9 and 2/21 (JND) and 12/26 (CAH+). Adult male at Rattlesnake Springs 12/20 was the first winter record at Carlsbad Caverns NP in 15 years (SW); 5-6 at same location 1/9 (Harry Steed).

TREE SWALLOW--1* seen 1 mile south of Alameda Bridge 1/14 (WH, JD).

ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW--1 at Elephant Butte L. 2/17, 18 (JH); 2 at Cliff 2/14 (JE).

CAVE SWALLOW--3 at Carlsbad Caverns NP 2/10 were early arrivals (Tom Morton).

BLUE JAY--unusual: 1** at Loving 11/22-1/20 (SW).

STELLER'S JAY--unusual: 2 near Riverside on Gila River CC; rare in the area and remnants of the extensive fall invasion...46 still present on Silver City CC from same invasion.

SCRUB JAY--30 still lingering in the Las Cruces area for the CC following the fall influx; this was an unusually large number, as was 146 on the Thoreau CC.

MEXICAN JAY--unusual: 5 in the Gila Bird Habitat area on 1/16 (RF), a first record for the area, and 1 near Riverside on Gila River CC...2 at Camp Thunderbird in the Mimbres Valley on 1/9 (RF).

COMMON RAVEN--Uncommon throughout MRGV (WH+), to rare in lower Rio Grande Valley.

WHITE-NECKED RAVEN--unusual: 2 about 8 miles s. of Belen on 1/2 (WH+) and pair at Bosque NWR 2/4 (RT), n. of winter range.

COMMON CROW--unusual: 1 in Silver City CC; rare in the area.

PINYON JAY--735 still present for Silver City CC after massive fall invasion.

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE--21 on the Farmington CC; 34 on the Espanola CC; 2 on the Santa Fe CC. Records in the MRGV totaled 50 in December, 66 in January and 75 in February, suggesting a winter influx from the north (WH+).

MEXICAN CHICKADEE--1 at Birch Spring, Animas Mts., 12/30 (BH).

MOUNTAIN CHICKADEE--MRGV recorded 33 in December, 29 in January and 25 in February (WH+); none on the Silver City CC.

BLACK-CAPPED X MOUNTAIN CHICKADEE--Suspected hybrids were at Albuquerque 12/10 and at Isleta 1/9 and 2/25 (WH).

PLAIN TITMOUSE--Up to 5 at San Ildefonso all winter, the only ones in the MRGV (WH+); 8 in the Peloncillo Mts. CC.

BRIDLED TITMOUSE--12 on the Glenwood CC; 9 on the Gila Valley CC; 1 on the Silver City CC; 41 on the Peloncillo Mts. CC.

VERDIN--unusual: Northerly records were 2 at San Acacia 12/12 (RM, JD), and another possible one south of Belen 2/13 (RM)....1 on the La Luz CC.

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH--None were sighted in MRGV all winter; 28 on the Sandia Mts. CC was a high count; 1 was on the Roswell CC.

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH--1 on the Las Cruces CC was a southerly lowland record.

PYGMY NUTHATCH--unusual: 2 at Aguirre Springs, Organ Mts., 1/28 (K & BZ).

BUSHTIT--Lowland flocks included 15 at Albuquerque on 1/31 (D & SH), and 12-15 at Los Lunas all winter (WH+).

BROWN CREEPER--In the MRGV, 75 were recorded in December, 30 in January, and 30 in February (WH+).

DIPPER--5 at Montezuma 12/19 (JG+), 5 in Thoreau CC, 1 each at Glenwood and Espanola CCs.

HOUSE WREN--Scattered statewide in small numbers; 2 at L. McMillan 12/26 (JC+) and on Albuquerque CC; singles at Upper Water Canyon* 12/13 (BL) and several other locations throughout the state.

WINTER WREN--2 on Gila River CC and singles on L. Avalon and Thoreau CCs; none had details.

BEWICK'S WREN--Moderate to small numbers statewide. In MRGV, 99 in December, 72 in January and 74 in February (WH+); 23 in Peloncillo Mts. CC; 1 to 16 from other areas.

CACTUS WREN--Reports confined to usual range. 19 in Peloncillo Mts. CC, 1 in Gila Valley CC.

LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN--Many reported in MRGV: 62 in December, 82 in January, 43 in February (WH+). Few reports elsewhere; 3 at Mangas Springs 1/28 and 1 at Fort Bayard ponds 12/19 (RF).

SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN--unusual: The first N.M. collected specimen, 6 miles south of Belen 1/19 (KM)...2 in Roswell CC; no details.

CANYON WREN--16 on Thoreau CC, singles reported statewide elsewhere. 1 was 750 feet underground near the lunchroom at Carlsbad Caverns and singing, 12/20 (SW), and 1 in the Sandia Mts. was the first reported in a CC for the area.

ROCK WREN--Reported mainly from south and southwest in small numbers; 2 at San Acacia Dam 12/12 (WH) and 2 at Elephant Butte Dam 2/18 (JH).

MOCKINGBIRD--Small numbers in south and southwest, scattered elsewhere. 1 on Farmington CC, 1 on Santa Fe CC, 2 at Belen 12/14 and 1 at La Joya SGR 1/14 (WH), 5 on Roswell CC. Absent from lower Pecos Valley in January and February, the first time this has been noted (SW).

BROWN THRASHER--3 at Rattlesnake Springs 12/20 (SW); previously reported there in 1977. 1 near Los Lunas 12/16 (WH); 1 at Socorro arrived 11/21 and stayed 2 months (PB).

BENDIRE'S THRASHER--2 on Peloncillo Mts. CC, no details; reported there in 1977, 1978 and 1979.

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER--Mainly in usual areas, south and southwest, in low to moderate numbers. 1 at Embudito 2/21 (HS) was third sighting in the Sandias.

CRISSAL THRASHER--Seen chiefly in south and southwest. 4 on Albuquerque CC, 1 at Bernardo 12/19 and 2/2 (WH), and 4 on Bosque CC.

SAGE THRASHER--1 at Puye 12/27 (WS), 1 in Sandias 12/19 (RT), 2 on Albuquerque CC, 6 at Cliff 12/4. Unrecorded at Carlsbad Caverns NP, where usually one of commonest species (SW).

AMERICAN ROBIN--Numerous in north and southwest, including 2,600 in Espanola CC and 1,500 in Glenwood CC. Very low in south and southwest CCs: 1 at Carlsbad, 8 at Las Cruces, none at Loving.

HERMIT THRUSH--In MRGV, 91 in December, 96 in January and 67 in February (WH+). 18 in Las Cruces CC. The 3 in Farmington CC were the fourth winter record for area.

EASTERN BLUEBIRD--Moderate influx in MRGV: 2 at San Ildefonso 2/16, 19 at Cochiti 12/11, 4 at Bernalillo 12/3, 9 at Isleta 2/24, 11 at Bosque village 1/11 (WH+). 4 on Roswell CC.

WESTERN BLUEBIRD--Flocks at Del Monte ranch in January and February (WAH). 100 on Santa Fe CC, 100 on Sandias CC, 300 on Glenwood CC. But the least numerous bluebird in MRGV (WH+).

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD--430 on Espanola CC and 850 on Santa Fe CC. Few in south and southwest; 1 male** east of Loving 2/1 for first Eddy County documentation (SW).

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE--On northern CCs, 250 at Thoreau, 150 at Espanola, 100 at Santa Fe and 130 at Sandia Mts. Elsewhere, 2 on Las Vegas CC and 1 on Roswell CC.

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET--Numbers much higher than normal in both mountains and lowlands; 5 on Santa Fe CC; 27 on Sandia Mts. CC....unusual: 2 on Albuquerque CC, 2 on La Luz CC; 1 at Las Cruces on 12/3 and 19 (BZ), and 3 in Peloncillo Mts. CC (Arnold & Bee Moorhouse).

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET--High numbers throughout the state. Northerly records include 11 on Espanola CC; 1 on Thoreau CC; 1 on Las Vegas CC, 1 on Pecos R. near Sena 2/28 (JH). MRGV recorded 129 in December, 57 in January and 45 in February (WH+). High numbers in south were 69 on Glenwood CC and 104 on Las Cruces CC.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER--unusual: 2* near Rattlesnake Springs on 12/20 (SW, JC); 1 at Carlsbad Caverns NP on 12/31 (SW).

GNATCATCHER sp.--unusual: Singles on the Bosque (no details) and Peloncillo Mts. CCs.

WATER PIPIT--Widespread in southern half of state. Northernmost report was 6 on the Espanola CC.

BOHEMIAN WAXWING--unusual: First influx into state since 1979. 1-2 at Aztec 12/18-19 (JR); 200 at Farmington 2/20 increased to 650 by 2/25, remaining at least into March (AN+).

CEDAR WAXWING--Widespread statewide: 60 on the Farmington CC; in the MRGV, 78 were recorded in December, 75 in January and 114 in February (WH+); 80 at Silver City all winter (RF).

PHAINOPEPLA--On CCs, 1 at Glenwood, 2 in Gila Valley, 7 at Silver City, 35 at Las Cruces.

NORTHERN SHRIKE--Only reports were single adults: at Los Lunas 12/7 (RM) and at mouth of Jemez R. 12/7 (EH), without details, and with details at Bosque NWR 1/9 (RT).

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE--Moderate numbers at CCs in south and southwest: 19 at Bosque, 30 at Roswell, 23 at Silver City, 22 at L. Avalon, 42 at Loving, 25 at Las Cruces. Elsewhere, 1 to 6.

STARLING--Highs included 3,000 at Bernalillo 12/8; 30,000 at Isleta Marsh 12/14, and 2,500 south of Belen 12/21 (WH, RM).

HUTTON'S VIREO--2 on Peloncillo Mts. CC (no details).

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER--1 at Mesilla 12/12 (no details) (DJ).

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER--2 at Mesilla 12/3 (K & BZ) and 1 on 12/19 (BZ) were presumed late migrants.

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER--Reported widely on CCs, mostly the Audubon's form. Present north to San Ildefonso in the MRGV with highest numbers in Russian olive stands; 318 in December included 46 Myrtles; 369 in January included 62 Myrtles, and 237 in February included 22 Myrtles (WH+). 1 Myrtle and 14 Audubon's on the Glenwood CC and 1 Myrtle and 6 Audubon's on the Loving CC.

PINE WARBLER--1 on Carlsbad Caverns CC at Rattlesnake Springs (details) was first Eddy County record and the second state record.

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH--1*** seen 2 miles south of Isleta 1/9 and 2/15 and collected 2/27 (WH, RM). Previous winter records considered open to question.

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT--An adult male at Isleta Marsh 1/10, 1/24 and 2/7 and possibly heard in December was north of the usual range of casual winter occurrence (WH, EH, RM). Seen near Las Cruces in late December (KZ+).

EASTERN MEADOWLARK--Reports limited to the southern counties. Seen in Glenwood area in December and January (JH); 3 on Gila River CC, 5 on L. Avalon CC, 10 on Peloncillo Mts. CC, and 1 on Loving CC.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD--1 at Isleta marsh 2/20 and 2 at Bernardo 2/3 (WH, RM); 2 on Roswell CC; 3,000 south of Deming 2/13 (RF), and 54 on Las Cruces CC.

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD--200 at Zuni in mid-November with small groups present through the end of February (TR). Scarce in MRGV, with 4 in December, 11 in January and 1 in February (WH+). More widely reported further south (Grant, Chaves, Hidalgo, Dona Ana, Otero and Eddy Counties).

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE--Scattered reports in the southern counties, north in the Rio Grande Valley to Espanola, with the northernmost record on Farmington CC. Numbers increasing in lower Pecos Valley, with 500 on L. Avalon CC and 400 at Carlsbad 2/19 (SW).

COMMON GRACKLE--In Farmington area in late December (AN) and 195 on Roswell CC.

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD--The only MRGV record was of 50 at Bosque village south of Belen 1/27 (WH, RM). Widely reported on southern CCs (Socorro, Grant, Chaves, Hidalgo, Dona Ana, and Eddy Counties).

PYRRHULOXIA--unusual: 1** at Capitan, Lincoln County, 11/15-12/20 (Edward Morton)...1 on Gila Valley CC; 2 at Pancho Villa SP 12/5 (RF); high number of 27 on Las Cruces CC.

EVENING CROSSBARK--A few reports for Santa Fe (JH); apparently absent from Sandia Mts. December through February except one sighting 2/28, in contrast to previous two winters (HS). 9 reported in MRGV in December-January, none in February (WH+); 21 for Gila Valley CC.

CASSIN'S FINCH--Greater than usual numbers at San Cristobal (WAH). Reported scarce near Santa Fe (Roland Goodman). Five at Thoreau 2/22-23 (AM). HS found variable altitude preferences for the species in the Sandia Mts.: in 1979-80 winter were mostly at lower elevations in mountain mahogany; next winter they preferred the pinyon belt; this winter they were in the transition zone and

higher. Only MRGV report was 8 at San Ildefonso 2/16 (WH, RM). In lower Pecos Valley, 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 12/20 and 1 at Carlsbad Caverns NP a few days earlier (SW).

HOUSE FINCH--Scarce in MRGV riparian zone, but frequently heard overhead (WH).

PINE GROSBEAK--1 at San Cristobal (WAH) was the season's only report.

ROSY FINCH--A flock of about 30, including one Black Rosy Finch and one Gray-crowned Rosy Finch, was seen on Sandia Crest 12/19 (D & SH).

PINE SISKIN--Widespread and locally common in MRGV (WH).

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH--Widespread but decreasing in numbers through the winter in MRGV (WH).

LESSER GOLDFINCH--Occasional in winter; 32 on Gila Valley CC.

LAWRENCE'S GOLDFINCH--1* at Cliff, 2/18 (JE).

RED CROSSBILL--Occasional at middle elevations; two reports from Santa Fe in February (JH).

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL--unusual: Up to a dozen* on Sandia Crest 12/6, feeding in Engleman spruce with Red Crossbills (HS, GP).

RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEE--Widespread and abundant, with numbers fairly stable in MRGV (WH); numbers appeared down in Eddy County (SW).

BROWN TOWHEE--A few scattered reports in MRGV where the mesas encroach on the cottonwoods (WH).

ABERT'S TOWHEE--7 on Gila Valley CC.

LARK BUNTING--About 500 feeding in weeds along highway 53 between Zuni and Ramah 1/15 (TR). About 500 at Derry 2/4 (JH). Rare in lower Pecos Valley (SW).

SAVANNAH SPARROW--3 reports in MRGV in December and January, with 3 apparent migrants in February (WH).

LE CONTE'S SPARROW--unusual: 1* at Bosque NWR 2/4 (RT); well described.

LARK SPARROW--unusual: 1 (scant details) north of Las Vegas on CC...Irregular in winter in lower Pecos Valley; 2* in Walnut Canyon on Carlsbad CC (Larry Henderson) and 2 near White City, Eddy County 1/1 (SW).

RUFOUS-CROWNED SPARROW--unusual: 2*, probably this species, near Willow L. on the Loving CC (Brent Hayworth, Bob Swayze).

BLACK-THROATED SPARROW--Absent from the Sandia foothills this winter (HS)...275 on Las Cruces CC.

SAGE SPARROW--A migrant at Thoreau 2/23 (AM); present throughout winter on the west mesa of Albuquerque (JND); common on Jornada grasslands near Las Cruces all winter (KZ).

DARK-EYED JUNCO--1 slate-colored race at Silver City 2/13 (RF); 13 slate-colored race, a high number, in Walnut Canyon on Carlsbad CC.

GRAY-HEADED JUNCO--Numbers down in Eddy County (SW).

TREE SPARROW--New locale: 2 at Morgan L. 2/20 (AN+); 1 at Cottonwood Gulch 12/9 (AM); 3-4 wintered at Isleta marsh and 5 others reported for MRGV (WH).

CHIPPING SPARROW--unusual: 17 (no details) on Santa Fe CC...3 at Isleta 1/18 (VH) and 1 at Los Lunas 1/28 (WH) were only MRGV winter reports; about 10 at Pleasanton 12/30-1/1 (John & Claudia Hubbard); 245 (high number) on Silver City CC; 289 for Las Cruces CC; a high 45 at Harroun L. 12/10 (SW).

BREWER'S SPARROW--1* at Madrone Ponds near Belen 2/13 (RM, JD); heard at Elephant Butte Dam 2/17 (JH); a high 269 on Silver City CC; more common than usual on Jornada grasslands (KZ), with 287 on Las Cruces CC.

FIELD SPARROW--6 near Rattlesnake Springs on Carlsbad CC; only winter report.

BLACK-CHINNED SPARROW--1 at Pleasanton 1/1 (John & Claudia Hubbard); 1 (low count) on Carlsbad CC.

HARRIS' SPARROW--1* adult in Santa Fe 12/20 (Hilda Voetberg, fide WS); 1 immature at Bernalillo 2/17 (WH); a local first record was 1 immature* at La Cueva Park in Organ Mts. on Las Cruces CC.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW--Very common throughout MRGV (WH).

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW--1 at Juan Tabo Canyon in Sandia Mts. 1/3 (DT); 1* on La Luz CC (Grace & Glenn Flinn).

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW--Locally common in MRGV between Bernalillo and Bosque village, with 33 in December, 17 in January and 29 in February (WH+); 1 (low count) on Glenwood CC; 1 at Harroun L. 12/10 (SW).

FOX SPARROW--unusual: 1* (red subspecies) at Socorro 1/17 through 3/5 (PB)... 1, also red subspecies, plus 2 western race at Glenwood 1/1 (JH); 1* (western race) on Las Cruces CC; 1 at Rattlesnake Springs on Carlsbad CC was the only Eddy County report.

LINCOLN'S SPARROW--12 in MRGV (WH+); high totals of 50 on Gila Valley CC and 65 on Las Cruces CC.

SWAMP SPARROW--10 reports for MRGV (WH+); 35 (high) at Harroun L. 12/10 (SW).

SONG SPARROW--Fairly common in MRGV, especially in marshes and along drains, with a high of 80 at the Isleta sewage ponds 12/5 (RM); 78 (high) on Gila CC.

LAPLAND LONGSPUR--unusual: 1 seen and heard over Bernardo 2/3 (WH); gave loud "tew" whistle twice and also a dry rattle.

LONGSPUR sp.--1-2 (not Chestnut-collared) giving dry rattle heard at Bernalillo 2/21 (WH+).

CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR--Several reports throughout season for MRGV (WH); common on Jornada grasslands (KZ+).