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NEW MEXICO
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FIELD NOTES

VOLUME 24, NO. 2

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NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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FROM THE EDITORS:

New Mexico spring weather was uneven. For example, Los Alamos had about three times normal precipitation, and Albuquerque about double, while the southeast was raked by many thunderstorms, many violent. But the Gila Valley was relatively dry after disastrous winter floods. At Silver City, migration patterns were out of kilter. Some species moved early, in March; the usual large-scale flow of swallows simply didn't occur, and waterfowl and shorebird numbers were down, with some species totally absent. The Rio Grande spring runoff was abnormally high, filling reservoirs and flooding riparian marshes.

But each season brings its rarities. A Black-shouldered Kite was seen at Hobbs, and we had the second record of a Crested Caracara in the southeast. Magnificent Hummingbirds in Truth and Consequences and the Guadalupe Mountains were very much out of place. Ranges were extended: Santa Rosa Reservoir had its first breeding colony of Double-crested Cormorants, and there were a new northern limit for the Common Black Hawk, plus first-ever reports of Red-faced Warbler in the Capitan Mountains and of Scott's Oriole at the WIPP site. On the negative side, habitat disturbance left the Silver City area with only one nesting attempt -- which failed -- by Northern Goshawks.

An amazing 29 species of warblers were sighted, including these rare in New Mexico: Blue-winged, Golden-winged, Chestnut-sided, Black-throated Blue, Hermit, Palm, Blackpoll, and Worm-eating.

The spring raptor migration count in the southern Sandia Mountains was led by Steve Hoffman and Jim Daley. Observations on 78 days between February 12 and May 13 recorded 2,806 raptors of 16 species (including 145 not specifically identified). The peak day, April 6, saw 245 birds of 10 species.

The tabulation by species, with season totals and peak days for each:

	--Peak--				--Peak--		
	Total	Date	No.		Total	Date	No.
Turkey Vulture	643	4/5	103	Ferruginous	11	3/25	3
N. Goshawk	22	twice	3	Golden Eagle	443	3/13	39
Sharp-shinned	474	4/6	55	Bald Eagle	30	3/13	4
Cooper's Hawk	454	4/6	57	N. Harrier	55	4/12	7
Red-tailed	283	3/23	30	Osprey	26	4/25	3
Broad-winged	1	3/10	1	Prairie Falcon	28	4/3	4
Swainson's	47	4/25	9	Peregrine	5	...	1
Zone-tailed	1	3/2	1	Amer. Kestrel	148	4/6	22

INITIALED OBSERVERS IN THIS ISSUE:

PB -- Pat Basham	RG -- Roland Goodman
JB -- Jim Bednarz	LHe -- Lois Herrmann
SB -- Sherry Bixler	GH -- Geoffrey Hill
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HS -- Hart R. Schwarz	KW -- Kathy Wood
JS -- John Shipman	EW -- Eleanor Wootten
PSt -- Paul Steel	EZ, KZ -- Barry & Kevin Zimmer
RT -- Ross Teuber	D&MZ -- Dale & Marian Zimmerman

SPRING BIRD COUNTS, 1985 (short names in parentheses):

5/4 -- Gila Valley Big Bird Bash, 128 species (Gila count)
 5/4-5 -- Otero County Bird Club Spring Census, 143 species (OCBC count)
 5/12 -- Albuquerque Spring Count, 105 species (Albuquerque count)
 5/12 -- Española Big Day Count, 89 species (Española count)

LOCALITIES AND THEIR COUNTIES IN THIS ISSUE:

abbreviations and symbols in text:

L. -- Lake	SGR -- State Game Refuge
MARGV -- Middle Rio Grande Valley	R. -- River
Mt. (Mts.) -- Mountain(s)	SP -- State Park
NM -- National Monument	
N.M. -- New Mexico	* -- details provided
NP -- National Park	** -- photograph
NWR -- National Wildlife Refuge	*** -- specimen

WIPP -- Waste Isolation Pilot Project (in Eddy County east of Carlsbad)

Abiquiu L. -- Rio Arriba	Elephant Butte L. -- Sierra
Aguirre Springs (Organ Mts.) -- Doña Ana	El Pueblo -- San Miguel
Albuquerque -- Bernalillo	Española -- Rio Arriba
Artesia -- Eddy	Estancia -- Torrance
Avalon L. -- Eddy	Farmington -- San Juan
	Gila R. -- Grant, Catron, Hidalgo

Bandelier NM -- Sandoval, Los Alamos	Heron L. -- Rio Arriba
Belen -- Valencia	Hobbs -- Lea
Bell L. -- Lea	Holloman L. -- Otero
Bernardo -- Socorro	
Bill Evans L. -- Grant	Laguna Grande -- Eddy
Bitter Lake NWR (Bitter L.) -- Chaves	La Joya SGR -- Socorro
Black Range -- Grant	L. Avalon -- Eddy
Bluewater L. -- Cibola, McKinley	L. McMillan -- Eddy
Bosque del Apache NWR (Bosque NWR) -- Socorro	Lakewood -- Eddy
Burn L., Las Cruces -- Doña Ana	La Mesa -- Doña Ana
Burro Mt. -- Grant	Las Animas Creek -- Sierra
	Las Vegas NWR -- San Miguel
	La Union -- Doña Ana
	Los Alamos -- Los Alamos

Caballo L. (Dam) -- Sierra	Madrone Ponds -- Valencia
Capitan Mts. -- Lincoln	Malaga -- Eddy
Carlsbad -- Eddy	Mangas Springs -- Grant
Carlsbad Caverns NP -- Eddy	Morgan L. -- San Juan
Cedar Crest -- Bernalillo	
Cliff -- Grant	Old Refuge, Las Cruces -- Doña Ana
Cochiti L., Dam, Pueblo -- Sandoval	Pancho Villa SP -- Luna
Copperas Creek -- Grant	Percha Dam SP -- Sierra
	Piños Altos (town, Mts.) -- Grant
	Quemado -- Catron

Deming -- Luna	Rattlesnake Springs -- Eddy
Dog Canyon -- Otero	Redrock -- Grant
Durling's Farm -- Doña Ana	

Ribera -- San Miguel	Sumner L. -- De Baca
Rio Grande Nature Center, Albuquerque	Sycamore Canyon -- Grant
-- Bernalillo	
Rodeo -- Hidalgo	Taos -- Taos
Roswell -- Chaves	Tesuque -- Santa Fe
Rutherford -- Rio Arriba	Tucumcari -- Quay
	Tularosa -- Otero
	Virden -- Hidalgo
Salt Lakes -- Eddy	
Sandia Mts., Crest -- Bernalillo	Water Canyon, Magdalena Mts. -- Socorro
Santa Rosa -- Guadalupe	Willard -- Torrance
Sena -- San Miguel	Williamsburg -- Sierra
Silver City -- Grant	Zuni Reservation (Zuni) -- McKinley
Socorro -- Socorro	

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

HORNED GREBE -- 1 at Bitter L. through first half of March (KW).

WESTERN and CLARK'S GREBES -- 300+ at Elephant Butte L. and Caballo L. 3/23-24 (JH+), with Clark's dominating at Elephant Butte, an unusual situation for N.M.

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN -- Earliest report was 15 at L. McMillan 3/8 (WH); 14 reached Bitter L. 3/16-22 (KW); high was 200 at Bosque NWR 3/18 (RFi); 25 at L. McMillan 5/3 (WH).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT -- breeding: 2 colonies totaling 250+ were located at Elephant Butte L. and Caballo L. 3/23-24 (JH+); the season saw a small colony established at Santa Rosa L. for the first time (R. Hayes); nest-building was also observed 3/25 at Abiquiu Reservoir (DD), where high water covered old sites; 20 at L. McMillan 3/7-8 also showed signs of breeding (JH) and were still there 4/26 (WH)....Other records include 7 at Bitter L. 3/16-22, with 1 as late as 5/13, and 3 at Old Refuge 4/20 (LHS+)....One with white head plumes at L. McMillan 4/20 was of the western albociliatus race (WH).

OLIVACEOUS CORMORANT -- unusual: 1 at L. McMillan (JH) and 4/26 (WH) was the second well-documented record for the lower Pecos Valley....30 at Elephant Butte L. and 3 at Caballo L. 3/23-24 (JH); 1 at Burn L. 3/23 (RH).

LEAST BITTERN -- 1 below Cochiti Dam 4/23 (JD).

LITTLE BLUE HERON -- 1 at Bitter L. 4/22 (WH).

TUNDRA SWAN -- 3 at La Joya SGR 3/13 (WH, JH).

ROSS' GOOSE -- Singles at Morgan L. 3/26, 4/2 (HL, Elva Fox).

WOOD DUCK -- 2 at Madrone Ponds 3/4 (WH); pairs at Percha Dam SP 5/7 (B&KZ) and at Mangas Springs 3/9 (RF).

EURASIAN WIGEON --unusual: A male, well described, at L. McMillan 4/26 (WH, AW). Extremely rare in N.M.

SURF SCOTER -- unusual: A rare spring sighting of a male at Bill Evans L. 3/23 (D&MZ).

RAPTORS: See tabulation in introduction. Some comments in these accounts:

TURKEY VULTURE -- 643 on spring count was high.

OSPREY -- Several others recorded in April and May by various observers along the major drainages.

BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE -- unusual: 1* at Hobbs 4/8-9 (CL+).

BALD EAGLE -- 2 adults 5/21 at Zuni (fide JT) were quite late.

COOPER'S HAWK -- breeding: Pair 5/19+ in Juan Tabo Canyon, Sandia Mts. (HS).

NORTHERN GOSHAWK -- breeding: 1 female was on a nest north of Piños Altos 5/23 (RF), but evidently abandoned the site; the 2 eggs in the nest contained dead embryos about 2 weeks old. Mining activity was going on near by. Other known Goshawk nesting sites were inactive in 1985 in Grant County. A single bird was seen in the Gila Valley 5/4, however (RF).

COMMON BLACK HAWK -- unusual: 1 photographed 4/18 at El Pueblo (WE, GS). This was about 65 miles northeast of the northernmost previous reliable report. A single* near La Mesa 4/1 (EW, Carol Anderson) was also notable.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK -- Bird on raptor count 3/9 was very early.

ZONE-TAILED HAWK -- breeding: 2 adults, 1 chick in Sycamore Canyon 3/23-6/23 (RF)...1 on 4/2 on raptor count was unusual.

RED-TAILED HAWK -- Harlan's type: 2 on US285 between Roswell and Artesia 3/10 (KW, SH); 2 immatures n. of Artesia and 1 immature in Lea County 3/7 (JH).

HAWK
FERRUGINOUS -- breeding: 1 flushed from nest e. of Artesia 4/19 (HS) and 1 on nest s. of Willard 4/18 (RT, PST).

GOLDEN EAGLE -- breeding: An active nest 5/22 n. of Quemado and 1 immature on Mills Ranch, Eddy County, on 5/19 (WH).

CRESTED CARACARA -- unusual: 1 with details along US285, two miles s. of Malaga, on 3/15 (KE, fide WH). Apparently the second reliable record for southeastern N.M.

PEREGRINE FALCON -- Several widely scattered reports of migrants, including the 5 on the raptor count.

LESSER PRAIRIE CHICKEN -- Present e. of Roswell 4/13 (SB, Shirley Brown); only spring report.

WILD TURKEY -- 22 at Bosque NWR 3/18 (RFi) indicates this introduced population is thriving. 14 in Burro Mt. area 4/5 (RF); 3 on OCBC count.

NORTHERN BOBWHITE -- Pair at Roswell 5/9 (KW); numerous in shinnery oak around the WIPP site all spring (WH).

SCALED QUAIL -- 2 at Las Vegas NWR 5/24-28 (JPe).

GAMBEL'S QUAIL -- 3 on Española count and 86 on OCBC count.

VIRGINIA RAIL -- 25 at Zuni 5/31 (JT); 2 at Las Vegas NWR 5/24-28 (JPe); at Bitter L. in April and May (KW).

SORA -- 2 at Zuni 5/31 (JT); present at Bitter L. 4/20-5/10 (KW); 2 at Mangas Springs from 3/9, with 1 still calling 5/1 (RF).

COMMON MOORHEN -- Reported only from the Rio Grande area at Bosque NWR and in the Las Cruces vicinity (PI, RH, RT, LHS).

AMERICAN COOT -- 1,900 at Bitter L. 3/1 decreased to 400 on 5/10 (KW).

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER -- At Holloman L., 1 on 5/7 (B&KZ), 2 on 5/18 (RH) and 1 on 5/24 (EW, Carol Anderson); 1 at Bitter L. in mid-May (KW).

LESSER GOLDEN PLOVER -- 1 at L. McMillan 4/8-20 (WH, JH).

SNOWY PLOVER -- 2 at Morgan L. 4/19 (HL).

MOUNTAIN PLOVER -- 1 in flight display 3 miles e. of Estancia 4/19; 1 found dead w. of Tularosa 3/19* (Robert Jenness, Joe Hutto+).

SOLITARY SANDPIPER -- 1 at L. McMillan 4/8 (WH) was earliest spring record for Pecos Valley; 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/28 (WH).

LONG-BILLED CURLEW -- 3 at Bluewater L. in April provided first record for the area (AM).

MARbled GODWIT -- 14 in April at Bluewater L., where irregular (AM); several reports for Bitter L. (KW).

RED KNOT -- 6 without details on OCBC count.

SANDERLING -- Singles at L. McMillan 4/15 and Laguna Grande 4/21 (WH); 3** at Holloman L. 5/18 (RH).

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER -- 1 at L. McMillan 4/15 (WH).

DUNLIN -- 3 on 4/30 at Bitter L. (KW).

LAUGHING GULL -- 1, probably of this species, below Cochiti Dam 4/28 (BL, JD).

HEERMANN'S GULL -- unusual: 1, with details, at Bitter L. 3/28 was the third record for the state (KW, Lee Marlatt).

HERRING GULL -- 3+ at Elephant Butte L. 3/23 (JH); 1 at L. McMillan 4/26 (WH).

THAYER'S GULL -- An immature at Elephant Butte L. 3/23-24 (JH, GS+).

BAND-TAILED PIGEON -- One 3 miles e. of Estancia 4/19 (AM).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE -- unusual: 1** at Farmington 4/2-3 at feeder with mourning doves for first San Juan County record, plus another there 4/8 (HL)....1 at Bitter L. 5/29 (RT).

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO -- 1 on 5/16 on Mobley Ranch, Eddy County, was the first spring sighting (WH).

GREATER ROADRUNNER -- breeding: A pair observed 4/2-15 at Las Cruces fledged one young (EW).

COMMON BARN OWL -- breeding: Nest with 5 owlets found 5/6 by WH on Mills Ranch in Eddy County.

GREAT HORNED OWL -- breeding: Nesting reports from these counties: Socorro (PI), Chaves (KW), Grant and Hidalgo (RF), and Eddy and Lea (WH).

NORTHERN PYGMY OWL -- breeding: With photograph, 2 adults and 3 young at Cienega Creek, Sandia Mts., on 6/27 (Wendy Aschelman, Penny Ellison). (Summer report)

BURROWING OWL -- 7 on 4/18 at Estancia (RT, PSt) were their first of the season.

LESSER NIGHTHAWK -- 1 at Mills Ranch, Eddy County, was season's first (WH).

COMMON NIGHTHAWK -- First sightings included 1 at Zuni 5/31 (JT), 1 at Santa Fe 2/27 (JH), 2 near Salt L., Catron County, 5/2 (WH), 1 at Bitter L. 4/28 (KW) and 1 at Mangas Springs 5/16 (RF).

COMMON POORWILL -- First reports: 2 at Santa Fe 5/2 (Claudia Hubbard), 3 at Mangas Springs 3/8 (RF), and 2 at Mobley Ranch, Eddy County, 4/12 (WH).

CHIMNEY SWIFT -- Only report was 4 on 5/3 and 2 on 5/11 at Carlsbad (WH).

WHITE-THROATED SWIFT -- 25 in Sandia Mts. 3/10 were early (HS).

MAGNIFICENT HUMMINGBIRD -- unusual: A pair reported in Dog Canyon, Guadalupe Mts., during April and May (Tom Smith, fide WH), and a male at Truth or Consequences 5/1 and 12 (DM) would not be expected in those locations, especially in the spring.

LEWIS' WOODPECKER -- 2 on Gila Valley count and singles at La Mesa 5/2* (EZ, JDo), at Old Refuge 4/20 (LHS+), n. of Socorro 4/27 (RT), and at Mills Ranch, Eddy County 5/25* (WH, JD). Species is occasional at lower elevations south of its breeding range.

ACORN WOODPECKER -- Singles in Sandia Mts.: 1 on 5/6 (David Ligon), and on Three Gun Springs trail 5/22 (Bruce Ostyn) and 5/24 (Tyler Huning).

GILA WOODPECKER -- A high 8 on Gila Valley count.

WILLIAMSON'S SAPSUCKER -- unusual: 1** at Mesilla Dam and 2 at Old Refuge 3/23 (RH).

HAIRY WOODPECKER -- breeding: 1 at nest at Las Animas Creek 4/21 (RH).

HAMMOND'S FLYCATCHER -- unusual: 1 singing 5/28 in Juan Tabo Canyon, Sandia Mts. (HS).

DUSKY FLYCATCHER -- unusual: 1 n. of Quemado 5/22, 1 on eastern part of WIPP site 5/14, and 1 banded and keyed out at Bell L. 5/9 (WH).

GRAY FLYCATCHER -- unusual: 1 n. of Quemado 5/21 (WH). breeding: Female with brood patch s. of Taos 5/18 (JH, RD).

BLACK PHOEBE -- Near northern extreme of their range were 1 w. of Arroyo Hondo, Taos, 5/17 (JH, RD) and singles at Zuni 5/4 (TR) and 5/31 (JT)....2 at Cochiti Dam 4/23 (JD), & 3 in El Pueblo-Sena area 4/14 (WE).

EASTERN PHOEBE -- breeding: Only 1, on nest, in the southwestern portion of San Miguel County on 5/4 (JH); species has been somewhat more numerous there in the past.

VERMILION FLYCATCHER -- breeding: Fledglings at Rattlesnake Springs 4/27 (WH) and pair with 2 nestlings at Old Refuge 5/4 (EW)....unusual: 1 at Mobley Ranch near WIPP site 4/9 (WH); first record for this area, e. of normal range.

CASSIN'S KINGBIRD -- Season's first sightings included 1 at Cochiti Dam 4/23 (JD) and 2 at Santa Fe and 5+ in Ribera-Villanueva area 5/4 (JH).

WESTERN KINGBIRD -- 15 at Bosque NWR 4/19 (WE, JS) were early.

EASTERN KINGBIRD -- 2 near Rutheron, where species occurs locally, on 5/18 (JD, JH).

PURPLE MARTIN -- unusual: Several 5/8 (RF) in Copperas Canyon, where unexpected.

TREE SWALLOW -- Among early arrivals: 25 at Bernardo 3/13 (WH), 2 at Sumner L. 3/9 (JH), 1 at Bitter L. 3/12 (KW), 300+ at L. McMillan 4/26 (WH), and 2 at L. Avalon 3/7 (JH).

NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW -- Earlies included 1 at Bernardo 3/13 (WH), 1 at Elephant Butte L. 3/23 (JH), 1 at Bitter L. 3/15 (KW), 4 at Old Refuge 3/23 (RH).

GRAY JAY -- 3 at Brazos lookout on US64 in Rio Arriba County 5/17 (JH).

STELLER'S JAY -- breeding: Nest with adult incubating about 60 feet up in ponderosa pine in Pueblo Canyon, Los Alamos, at 6,600 feet, on 5/30; later fledged 2 young (BL).

AMERICAN CROW -- 1*** 5 miles n. of Clines Corners 3/7 (JH); occasional there.

COMMON RAVEN -- breeding: A pair nested and fledged 2 young on the catwalk of a water tower in Los Alamos in May (Joyce Wolff, BL+).

MOUNTAIN CHICKADEE -- Single lingering lowland birds at Albuquerque 3/3 (PI), La Joya SGR 3/13 (WH) and Bosque NWR 3/23 (PI).

BRIDLED TITMOUSE -- 2 at Las Animas Creek 4/21 (RH, PI+).

VERDIN -- 1 at La Joya SGR 3/13 (WH, GH) was at the northern edge of the species' range in the MRGV. 1 on OCBC count; present at 7 locations around the WIPP site and 1 at Bell L. 5/9 (WH); 1 at Redrock 3/17 (PI).

BUSHTIT -- breeding: Pair raised 6 young at Mangas Springs (RF).

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH -- Lingered till 5/5 at Los Alamos (BL); 11 on Albuquerque count.

BROWN CREEPER -- breeding: 1 building nest at Los Alamos 5/10 (BL).

ROCK WREN -- 1 at Bitter L. headquarters 3/2-15, 4/20-5/17 (KW); eastern edge of range.

CANYON WREN -- unusual: 1 at L. McMillan 4/26 (WH) was south of range in Pecos Valley.

HOUSE WREN -- 1 at Bell L. 5/9 (WH, WE).

SEdge WREN -- unusual: 4* singing at L. McMillan 4/15 (WH); rare in N.M., which is far west of its usual range. Last reported here in Bosque NWR in 1982-83 (see NMOS Field Notes, Vol. 22, 1 and 2).

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET -- 3 on OCBC count.

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET -- At Santa Fe, 1 on 3/5 (PI) and 1 (late) 5/27 (JH).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER -- Numbers seemed low statewide. 1 at Zuni 5/31 (JT); present at Iron Creek campground in Black Range 5/19-20 (Keith Arnold, Jim Dixon); 1 in Guadalupe Mts. 3/10 (KW, Robert Kasuboski); 2 at Hobbs 4/9-10 (CL).

BLACK-TAILED GNATCATCHER -- 2 noted, with no details, on Gila Valley count.

EASTERN BLUEBIRD -- a male at Belen 3/4 (WH).

WESTERN BLUEBIRD -- 6* at Hobbs 3/5 (CL) were e. of accustomed range.

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD -- Singles at Bitter L. 3/9-15 (KW) and at Mills Ranch, Eddy County, 4/10 (WH) were also e. of normal range.

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE -- Singles at Rattlesnake Springs 4/28 (WH), a Las Cruces residential area 4/30 (RH) and at Durling's Farm 4/29 (BZ, KZ) were late.

GRAY CATBIRD -- 1 at Bandelier NM 5/25 (PI+); 2 on Albuquerque count.

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD -- breeding: 5 pairs nested at Mangas Springs (RF); at Bitter L. throughout the period (KW); arrived 4/13 at Truth or Consequences (DM).

SAGE THRASHER -- Present at Bitter L. 4/6-19 (KW); latest seen at the WIPP site were there 4/18 (WH); 1 east of Deming 3/16 (PI).

BROWN THRASHER -- 1 singing at Rattlesnake Springs 4/8-27 (WH) (not at WIPP site, as reported in American Birds).

BENDIRE'S THRASHER -- Several in the Estancia area 4/19 (AM); species is poorly known in this locale.

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER -- Singles at Santa Fe 3/1 (Sarah Boles) and 4/29 (LHe), and at Bitter L. through 4/23 (KW). 16 on OCBC count. More common in Lea County than immediately around the near-by WIPP site (WH).

CRISSAL THRASHER -- breeding: Nest found at Sandia Heights (HS)....1 at La Joya SGR 3/13 (GH, WH).

WATER PIPIT -- Last seen in Silver City area 4/24 (RF); 1 on OCBC count; 15 at WIPP site 5/7 and 3 at Bell L. 5/9 (WH).

CEDAR WAXWING -- Recorded statewide. 200+ at La Union in late May was a very high number (JDo, BZ). Also present in late May at Las Vegas NWR (JPe) and Bitter L. (KW).

PHAINOPEPLA -- breeding: Very early nest at Durling's Farm, found 3/23, was abandoned by 4/3 (BZ)....4 on OCBC count, 10 at Old Refugio 4/21 (WE).

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE -- breeding: Fledglings first noted 5/4 at Roswell (SB) and 4/30 at WIPP (WH).

BELL'S VIREO -- 2 singing at Bosque NWR 5/23 (WH) at the northern edge of the species' range in the Rio Grande Valley; 2 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/15 and 2 pairs there 5/5 (WH). On Gila count, 1 near Cliff (PI) and 2 pairs near Redrock (RF, RT).

GRAY VIREO -- 4 near Zuni 5/31 (JR), 1 n. of Quemado 5/20-23 (WH, Linwood Smith), 1 at Carlsbad Caverns NP 4/20 (WH, GH).

SOLITARY VIREO -- breeding: Nest at Los Alamos Canyon 5/18 (BL)....Reported statewide. 25 at Zuni 5/31 (JT); 10 on Albuquerque count; plumbeus race included 1 at Cochiti 4/26 (JD) and 3 at Rattlesnake Springs 4/20 (the first record there) (WH, GH).

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO -- unusual: 1 at Embudito Canyon in Sandias 4/24 (HS) was well described; the first for the Sandias and at least the 10th record for N.M.

WARBLING VIREO -- First reported 5/4: 1 on OCBC count, 3 on Gila count.

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER -- unusual: A well-seen female at Rattlesnake Springs 4/28 (WH, AW) was about the sixth state record.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER -- unusual: A male at Cedar Crest 5/6 provided the eighth N.M. record (GH, David Ligon). Specimen to U. of New Mexico.

TENNESSEE WARBLER -- Only report was 1 at Bitter L. in week of 5/4-10 (KW).

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER -- 2 arrived 4/20 at Rattlesnake Springs (WH, GH).

NASHVILLE WARBLER -- 1 at Percha Dam SP 4/19-20 (WE); 1 at L. McMillan 4/26 (WH, AW); 1 on 4/8 and 3 on 4/15 at Rattlesnake Springs (WH).

VIRGINIA'S WARBLER -- 30 at Cochiti 4/26 (JD) was the earliest and highest report; 1 at Bell L. 5/9 (WH).

LUCY'S WARBLER -- 4 at Las Animas Creek 4/21 (PI, RH+), 2 at Percha Dam SP 4/19-20 (WE); 3 arrived 4/20 at Mangas Springs (RF); 41 on Gila count.

NORTHERN PARULA -- A female at Rattlesnake Springs 4/8 (WH).

YELLOW WARBLER -- Widely reported and numerous. 25 at Zuni 5/31 (JT), 1 at Cochiti 4/26 (JD), 1 at Socorro 4/27 (PB), 25 on Gila count, commonest warbler at Rattlesnake Springs 5/5 (WH).

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER -- unusual: A male at Albuquerque 5/18-19 (Dave Niles, JH).

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER -- unusual: 1 male at Hobbs 5/1 (CL) was 6th N.M. spring record. Usually seen in fall.

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER -- Audubon's race common statewide, as usual; 75-85 at Cochiti 4/26 (JD). Myrtle race outnumbered Audubon's at Rattlesnake Springs 4/8-15; reverse was true 4/20 (WH).

BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER -- First report on 5/4; 8 on OCBC count, 1 on Gila count.

TOWNSEND'S WARBLER -- Usually rare in spring. 1 at Pajarito Springs, Los Alamos, 5/1 (Dorothy Crowe), another at Pancho Villa SP (H&RW) on 5/6.

HERMIT WARBLER -- unusual: Sixth N.M. spring record, a well-described female at Durling's Farm 5/2 (JDo, BZ).

PALM WARBLER -- unusual: 1 on Albuquerque count was about the eighth spring record for the state.

BLACK-POLL WARBLER -- unusual: Male well described at Albuquerque 5/18 (Wendy Sykora).

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER -- 1 at Roswell week of 5/4-10 (Elmer Schooley, fide KW), 3 on Gila count, 1 at Durling's Farm 5/4 (BZ).

WORM-EATING WARBLER -- unusual: 1 well seen at Tesuque 5/6 (JD). All but 2 of the 22 N.M. records have been in the spring.

OVERBIRD -- 1 at WIPP site 5/5 (WH) was a first local record.

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH -- 1 on Albuquerque count; 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 5/5 (WH, Anne Dooling); 1 at Durling's Farm 5/2-4 (BZ).

MacGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER -- 1 on WIPP site 5/31 was late; arrived 4/20 at Rattlesnake Springs (WH).

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT -- unusual: After a single bird was found at Bitter L. 1/5 (previous issue), several singing there 3/2-15 (KW) were extremely early. This suggests multiple local wintering. Spring migrants usually arrive in the Pecos Valley in late April (earliest known date, 4/6).

WILSON'S WARBLER -- Arrival dates: Zuni 5/31 (JT), Percha Dam SP 4/19 (WE), e. of Roswell and Bitter L. 4/13 (SB, Shirley Brown, KW), Mangas Springs 4/27 (RF), Rattlesnake Springs 4/15 (WH) and Aguirre Springs 4/20 (PI+). Numbers low at Mangas (RF) and in the southeast (WH).

RED-FACED WARBLER -- Pair and possibly another singing at Padilla Spring, Capitan Mts., 5/21-23 (JE); first record for that range.

PAINTED REDSTART -- 5 singing males along 2 miles of Copperas Creek 5/13 (RF).

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT -- 30 at Zuni 5/31; 11 on Gila count; 1 at D&MZ home, Silver City, 5/3; arrived Rattlesnake Springs 4/27 with 5 there 5/5 (WH).

OLIVE WARBLER -- unusual: Amazing was a male well described at Pancho Villa SP 5/6 (H&RW); one of very few N.M. lowland records....2 pairs at Spring Canyon 5/14 (H&RW) is the second report from that part of Black Range; present 5/19 at Iron Creek campground in same range (James Dixon, Keith Arnold).

SUMMER TANAGER -- breeding: Pair nesting at Mangas Springs 5/23 (RF).

NORTHERN CARDINAL -- unusual: A male at Truth or Consequences 5/6-19 (DM) and a female at Rattlesnake Springs 4/8-27 (WH, JH).

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK -- 1 in Water Canyon, Magdalena Mts., 5/3 (HS) and 1 at Durling's Farm 5/4 (BZ+).

BROWN TOWHEE -- 3 pairs at Mobley Ranch, Eddy County, 5/7 (WH, David Ligon).

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW -- 1 on 4/1, 6 on 4/12 and 2 on 4/29 at Owen's Farm (BZ+).

FIELD SPARROW -- 8 found 4/7-16 on Mobley and Mills Ranches, Eddy County (WH).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW -- 5 observed 4/17 at Salt Lakes (WH).

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW -- Lingered until 5/7 at Owen's Farm BZ+).

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW -- 1 at Las Cruces 3/9-26 and 4/28 (EW, Gordon Ewing).

HARRIS' SPARROW -- Singles in Santa Fe 3/24-25 and 4/12 (Judy Vance).

EASTERN MEADOWLARK -- 2 at Zuni 5/31 (JT); 1 at Bluewater L. 4/20 (AM); out-numbered Westerns 2 to 1 at Quemado 5/20-23 and abundant at WIPP site all season (WH); 1 below Water Canyon 4/27 (RT).

WESTERN MEADOWLARK -- 1 at WIPP site 4/17 was only spring sighting, though species is common in Carlsbad (WH).

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD -- Good totals statewide; 90 at Zuni 5/31 (JT).

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD -- 25 at Zuni 5/31 (JT); present around Santa Fe in late May (JH).

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE -- 21 on Española count; singles at Santa Fe 4/27-28 (JH) and 4/23 and 5/15 (LHe); 1 at Las Vegas NWR 4/27 (PI, Erika Hesse); 2 at Roberts L. 4/23 (RF); 4 on Gila count; 1 at WIPP site 5/12 was a first local record (WH).

COMMON GRACKLE -- Arrived at Santa Fe 4/15 (JH); at Bosque NWR 4/19 (PI, RG); 1 on OCBC count (no details); at Bitter L. through April (KW); paired and present at Carlsbad through May (WH); more than usual at Hobbs (CL).

BRONZED COWBIRD -- unusual: A male at Rattlesnake Springs 5/18 (KE, WH), third record there....2 at Percha Dam SP (K&BZ) on 5/7 and 1 there and at Williamsburg 5/9 (PSt); 2 at Redrock 4/5 (RF); 2 or 3 at Las Cruces 3/21 were early (R. Castetter, fide RH).

ORCHARD ORIOLE -- 2 at Lakewood 5/3, 1 at WIPP 5/2, 2 arrived 4/20 at Rattlesnake Springs (WH).

ORCHARD x HOODED ORIOLE -- A male at Rattlesnake Springs 4/15 through end of period showed characteristics of both species as well as some intermediate ones (WH)....A female HOODED was apparently paired with this hybrid.

NORTHERN (BULLOCK'S) ORIOLE -- Arrival dates: Santa Fe 4/27 (Sarah Boles), Truth or Consequences 4/12 (DM), Bitter L. 4/26 (KW), WIPP site 4/16 (WH), Mangas Springs 4/11 (RF)....68 on Gila count; 23 banded at Bell L. in two mist nets 5/9 (WH).

SCOTT'S ORIOLE -- Arrived 4/21 in Sandias, where 6 nests were located during the period (HS); 1 singing n. of Quemado 5/23 (WI); 8 encountered 4/22-5/17 in WIPP area, where unknown previously, and 1 in Lea County 10 miles ne. of WIPP on 5/27 (WH). A singing male at Las Cruces 4/3 (EW) was early.

PINE GROSBEAK -- 2 males in Sandia Mts. 4/10 (HS).

PURPLE FINCH -- unusual: 1 reported, with details on 3/3 two miles s. of I-40 and 8 miles west of community of Continental Divide, McKinley County, was a surprise (Al Schmierer).