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NEW MEXICO  
ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
FIELD NOTES

VOLUME 25, NO. 1

December 1, 1985 - February 28, 1986

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NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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FROM THE EDITORS:

We start the season's report on an up note, with the annual raptor count of the Southwest New Mexico Audubon Society on December 7, 1985, which yielded a total of 478 birds in 778 miles -- 0.61 per mile, or one every 1.6 miles. This is a high figure, especially as three of the usual teams were unable to participate. Extrapolating (unscientifically) to a normal 1,200 miles points to a potential amazing count of about 800. Said leader Ralph Fisher, "There were hawks all over the place. A fantastic day." Record highs were 267 Red Tails, 12 Cooper's, 7 Bald Eagles and 6 Great Horned Owls. Only notable declines were Kestrels, at 80, and Harriers, at 34. Others seen were 1 Sharp-shinned, 8 Rough-legged, 14 Ferruginous, 10 Harris', 19 Golden Eagles, and 17 Prairie Flacons.

Statewide, aerial surveys in January counted 322 Bald Eagles, vs. an eight-year average of 230. Also notable for winter were 2 or 3 Ospreys in the Southwest, at least 8 Northern Goshawks, and 15 to 20 Merlins. Owls were up, with an unusual Spotted in downtown Santa Fe.

A well-described Trumpeter Swan was the prize waterfowl, in addition to scarce or out-of-place White-fronted Geese, Greater Scaup and two forms of scoters.

Among passerines, the rare Couch's Kingbird lingered at Bosque NWR into early December, and Vermilion Flycatchers were seen in the same month in Albuquerque and the Southwest. The lowlands continued to see large numbers of Mountain Chickadees, nuthatches and Brown Creepers, plus a moderate inflow of Golden-crowned Kinglets. Also notable were 9 Northern Shrikes, and unusual winter vireos and warblers at Farmington and near Las Cruces. A Christmas-time Western Tanager at Las Cruces was unexpected, and there was a remarkable showing of longspurs in the Clayton area.

INITIALED OBSERVERS IN THIS ISSUE:

SB -- Sherry Bixler	DM -- Doris Miller
SBo -- Sarah Boles	AN -- Alan Nelson
MCh -- Mary Ann Chapman	OCBC -- Otero County Bird Club
JC -- Jim Cheek	
WC -- Wes Cook	CR -- Chris Rustay
	LHS -- Lorraine Hartshorne Schulte
RD -- Robert Dickerman	JS -- John Shipman
JDo -- Jeff Donaldson	F&RiS -- Frank & Rita Slown
BF -- Ben Feltner	PSt -- Paul Steel
RF -- Ralph Fisher	
JH -- John Hubbard	JTa -- Jackie Talley
	RT -- Ross Teuber
PI -- Pat Insley	DT -- Dave Tomasko
R&KJ -- Robert & Kay Jenness	JT -- John Trochet
HL -- H. H. Lesperance	
EL -- W. Burton Lewis	HE&RW -- Harvey & Ruth Williams
	SWi -- Sartor O. Williams III
DMac -- Don MacCarter	EW -- Eleanor Wootten
MM -- Marty Mayfield	RY -- Robbie Yaksich
AM -- D. Arch McCallum	BZ -- Barry Zimmer

NEW MEXICO CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS, 1985:

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

Albuquerque, Jan. 4, Hart Schwarz  
Bluewater L., Dec. 19, D. Arch McCallum  
Bosque del Apache NWR, Dec. 21, Charles A. Hundertmark (Bosque CC for short)  
Cuballo, Dec. 23, Barry Zimmer  
Carlsbad Caverns NP, Dec. 21, Tom Bemis (Carlsbad CC for short)

Clayton, Jan. 1, Marty Mayfield  
 Española, Dec. 29, W. Burton Lewis  
 Farmington, Dec. 21, Alan Nelson  
 \* Gila Valley, Dec. 28, Ralph Fisher  
 Lakes Avalon and McMillan, Dec. 23, Jim Cheek (L. Avalon CC for short)  
 La Luz, Jan. 4, Robert Jenness  
 Las Cruces, Dec. 21, Barry Zimmer  
 Las Vegas, Dec. 18, John Gavahan  
 Loving, Jan. 5, Steve West  
 Peloncillo Mts., Dec. 29, Robert Scholes  
 Roswell, Dec. 28, Sherry Bixler  
 Sandia Mts., Dec. 28, Kay Anderson  
 Santa Fe, Dec. 22, Roland Goodman  
 Sevilleta NWR, Dec. 19, Theodore Stans  
 \* Silver City, Dec. 21, Ralph Fisher  
 Zuni, Dec. 21, John Trochet

\* -- Independent counts, not under National Audubon Society auspices.

LOCALITIES AND THEIR COUNTIES IN THIS ISSUE:

abbreviations and symbols in text:

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

Alamogordo -- Otero	Hillsboro -- Sierra
Albuquerque -- Bernalillo	La Joya SGR -- Socorro
Bernardo -- Socorro	L. Avalon -- Eddy
Bill Evans L. -- Grant	L. McMillan -- Eddy
Bitter L. NWR (Bitter L.) -- Chaves	La Luz -- Otero
Black Range -- Grant	Las Cruces -- Doña Ana
Bluewater L. -- Cibola, McKinley	Las Vegas -- San Miguel
Bosque del Apache NWR (Bosque NWR) -- Socorro	Loving -- Eddy
	Magdalena Mts. -- Socorro
Caballo L. (Dam) -- Sierra	Manzano -- Torrance
Carlsbad -- Eddy	Manzano Mts. -- Torrance, Bernalillo
Carlsbad Caverns NP -- Eddy	Maxwell NWR -- Colfax
Clayton, Clayton L. -- Union	McAllister L. -- San Miguel
Cliff -- Grant	McGregor Range -- Otero
Cloverdale -- Hidalgo	Mesilla -- Doña Ana
Cochiti L., Pueblo -- Sandoval	Mule Creek -- Grant
Conchas L. -- San Miguel	
	Navajo Dam -- San Juan
Dry Cimmaron Valley -- Union	Peloncillo Mts. -- Hidalgo
Española -- Rio Arriba	Percha Dam SP -- Sierra
(Bill) Evans L. -- Grant	Pleasanton -- Catron
Farmington -- San Juan	Radium Springs -- Doña Ana
Folsom -- Union	Raton -- Colfax
	Redrock -- Grant
Galisteo -- Santa Fe	Riverside -- Grant
Galisteo Dam -- Santa Fe	Roswell -- Chaves
Gallina Mts. -- Torrance, Lincoln	
Gila R. -- Grant, Catron, Hidalgo	Sandia Mts. -- Bernalillo
Glenrio -- Quay	San Simon Cienega -- Hidalgo
	Santa Fe -- Santa Fe

Santa Rosa -- Guadalupe  
Sevilleta NWR -- Socorro  
Silver City -- Grant  
Socorro -- Socorro  
Stone L. -- Rio Arriba  
Storrie L. -- San Miguel  
Sunland Park -- Dona Ana

Three Rivers -- Otero  
Tucumcari -- Quay  
Tularosa -- Otero  
Valmora -- Mora  
Wetherly L. -- Union  
Zuni Reservation (Zuni for  
short) -- McKinley

#### SPECIES ACCOUNTS

RED-THROATED LOON -- unusual: 2 at Caballo L. on Caballo CC. Species is extremely rare in N.M.

COMMON LOON -- More frequent than usual, with about 8 in northwest sector of state, including 3 on Bluewater L. CC and several singles in Farmington area (AN, HL, Pritchards). One at Bitter L. 12/6-7 (KW).

HORNED GREBE -- Singles with Eared Grebes at L. McMillan 12/10 (MCh, BF) and on Caballo CC. Infrequent in the state in winter.

RED-NECKED GREBE -- unusual: A state rarity, 1 was at Blackrock Reservoir, Zuni, 2/10 (JT).

WESTERN/CLARK'S GREBES -- A Western at Cochiti L. 1/5 (PI, CR). Of 100+ on Caballo CC, 20+ were identified as Westerns and 24+ as Clark's.

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN -- Only winter reports were at Bitter L., 6 on 12/10 and 1 on 2/13 (KW).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT -- 3 adults at Caballo L. 1/28 had nuptial crests, which seemed early (JH).

OLIVACEOUS CORMORANT -- 2 at Bosque NWR 1/23 (PSt), and also there with Double-crested 2/28 (John P. Taylor). 2 adults with Double-crested at Caballo L. 1/28 (JH).

AMERICAN BITTERN -- Throughout winter at Bitter L. (KW), one of species' few regular winter locales in N.M.

GREAT EGRET -- 1 at Bosque NWR 12/26 (JS). At Bitter L. through December and January, with high of 6 (KW).

SNOWY EGRET -- Single at Bitter L. in December and January (Dean LaBounty, Nancy Harvey, KW).

CATTLE EGRET -- 1 near Tularosa 2/19 (N. & J. Hutto) was early.

GREEN-BACKED HERON -- One at Farmington 12/21 and into January (HL+) was the third winter record there. Single at Cochiti L. 2/15 (PI).

WHITE-FACED IBIS -- 6 at Bitter L. 12/10 (KW); scarce in winter.

TUNDRA SWAN -- 5 at York L. near La Cueva, Mora, on 12/9 and 5 on lower Pecos R. 1/8 (DMac).

TRUMPETER SWAN -- unusual: A single adult, probably of this species, was seen on a pond near Radium Springs 12/14-21. EW and Carol Anderson were the first of many observers, and EW and EZ provided well-detailed descriptions. A photograph by LHS was deemed nondefinitive. It is conjectured that, as this species continues its comeback, its normal habitats in the north might be becoming overcrowded, pushing out some individuals. The only fully confirmed New Mexico record is of a specimen from the Mimbres Valley in 1977.

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE -- 8 at Maxwell NWR 2/12 (JT), 2 immatures at Clayton 1/1 and 1/4 (WC, JH), and 2 on Roswell CC.

SNOW GOOSE -- Birds at less-frequent locations included 55 near Farmington 12/13 and 30 there 1/6, plus 225 at Maxwell NWR 12/9 (DMac); 75 at Maxwell NWR 2/13 (JT), 25 near Clayton 2/25 (WC), 603 near Las Vegas 12/9 (DMac), 6 to 8 at Silver City in December and January (RF), and, near Alamogordo, 20 on 12/19 and 50 on 2/26 (OCBC). In normal locales, 60,000 wintered in the Rio Grande Valley (Rod drewien), and Bitter L. had 18,000 on 12/6 (KW) and 38,000 on the Roswell CC.

ROSS' GOOSE -- Large counts were 3,000 on the Bosque CC and 6,700 on the Roswell CC. The species, with 6 on 12/21, was at Farmington for the third consecutive year. Singles were at Maxwell NWR 2/13 (JT) and Sunland Park 12/1-2/28 (BZ).

CANADA GOOSE -- Above-normal numbers near Clayton were 4,000 in early December (WC) and 1,100+ 1/1 (MM) -- plus an albinistic bird 12/29 (WC). Other sightings: 99 at Zuni 12/21 (JT), at least 3 races at Maxwell NWR 2/13 (JT), 11 to 16 near Cliff in December (RF) and 20 near Tularosa 2/4 (OCBC).

CINNAMON TEAL -- 1 at Cochiti golf course 2/23 and 27 (F&RIS), 3 early at Zuni 2/10 (JT), and 1 late near Cliff 12/7 (RF).

CANVASBACK -- Peak of 146 at Bitter L. 1/17 (KW).

GREATER SCAUP -- Above-normal reports, all of males: A hunter-killed bird at Santa Rosa 12/1 (fide Elwood Martin). 1 at Navajo Dam 2/6-7 (PSt, RT). 1 to 2 at Caballo L. 12/23 (BZ) to 2/3 (DM). All well-detailed.

SURF SCOTER -- unusual: 1 at Bluewater L. 12/19-22 (AM).

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER -- unusual: 1 at L. McMillan 12/10 (MCh, BF).

HOODED MERGANSER -- More sightings than normal, including on Clayton, Albuquerque, Roswell and L. Avalon CCs.

COMMON MERGANSER -- 5,500+ in survey at L. McMillan 1/8 (DMac).

OSPREY -- unusual in winter, single sightings near Cliff on Gila Valley CC and on 2/3 and 2/11 (SWi).

BALD EAGLE -- 322 at 7 sites in early-January aerial surveys, vs. 8-year average of 230 (Greg Schmitt+). We also tabulate sightings by ground observers:

locale	ad.	imm.	date	obs.	locale	ad.	imm.	date	obs.
Farmington	9	2	CC		McAllister L.	3	4	1/3	JH
Stone L.	1		1/5	JH	Zuni	8	2	12/9-21	JT
Maxwell NWR	5	10	Dec.-Feb.	Mobley	Bluewater L.	2		1/15	AM
Clayton L.	1-2	1	12/25-1/6	WC, MM	Bosque NWR	4	2	1/18	PI+
Wetherly L.	2		1/1-4	WC+	Bitter L.	1		12/25	Marlett
Dry Cimarron	2	2	2/12	JT	Caballo	1		CC	
Espanola	1		CC		Percha Dam	2		1/26	EW+
Valmora		1	1/1	PI	Riverside	1		1/30	JH
Cherry Valley					Bill Evans L.	1		1/30	JH
L., Mora Co.	10	11	1/1	PI+	Gila Valley	7		CC	
Cochiti L.	2	1	1/5-2/15	PI+	Peloncillo	1		CC	

NORTHERN GOSHAWK: 1 male, 1 female at Dry Cimarron 2/8, and 1 at Bitter L. 2/11 (JT) and 2/19 (KW); 1 on Roswell CC.

SWAINSON'S HAWK -- very unusual: 1 at Mortendad Canyon, Los Alamos, 2/25 (BL).

RED-TAILED HAWK -- A partial albino -- chiefly white, with dark smudges on wings and tail, and dark eyes -- at Rio Bravo exit from I-25 in Albuquerque 2/28 (JH). ....Harlan's race: 1 on Caballo CC.

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK -- unusual: Remarkably common in Doña Ana and Sierra Counties in December (BZ).

(WC),  
MERLIN -- Singles at Clayton L. 12/8/ female on Albuquerque CC (Bruce Halstead, fide HS), at Bosque NWR 1/18 (PI+), on Caballo CC, and at N.M. State University during February (BZ+). Two on Roswell CC.

PRAIRIE FALCON -- 1 to 3 on Dry Cimarron 2/12-13 (JT), where infrequently seen.

SCALED QUAIL -- 9 in Union County 2/13 (JT); 47 on Albuquerque CC; scarce at Bitter L. all winter (KW).

GAMBEL'S QUAIL -- 104 on Farmington CC, 65 on Albuquerque CC, numerous in Otero County (OCBC).

RING-NECKED PHEASANT -- 4 on Farmington CC was very low.

WILD TURKEY -- 39 along Dry Cimarron in Union County 2/12 (JT); 33 on Bosque NWR CC; 100 in Noonday canyon, Black Range, 1/19 (H&RW).

SANDHILL CRANE -- 11,000 on Bosque CC; A below-normal fall census of the lesser race hung on into December at Bitter L., with a high of 12,000 12/10; winter population reached 3,226 on 1/31 (KW). Over 100 were at Cochiti L. 1/12 (JH) and the Gila Valley-Cliff area had an above-normal 302 12/7-8 (RF).

WHOOPIING CRANE -- 29 wintered in the Rio Grande Valley area, including 1 that crossed into Mexico (Rod Drewien, RT). A single was near Santa Rosa 2/23-28 (Roy Haynes).

BLACK-NECKED STILT -- 2 at Bitter L. 2/23 (KW) were early first arrivals.

AMERICAN AVOCET -- 1 in Roswell area 12/21 (fide SB). 2 early birds at Bitter L. 2/22 (KW).

GREATER YELLOWLEGS -- 61 at Bitter L. 12/6 were high number for winter.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER -- As many as 5 wintered in the Caballo L. area 12/23-1/26 (BZ). Elsewhere, 1 at Albuquerque 1/4 (DT) and 2 near Cliff 12/28 (RF).

LONG-BILLED CURLEW -- Only winter record, 1 at Bosque NWR 12/10 (JS).

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER -- 5 on Roswell CC 12/28 were only winter sighting.

HERRING GULL -- 2 at Conchas L. 1/3 (JH); 1 or 2 at Bitter L. (KW) and 1 to 5 at Caballo L. (JH+) all season; 1 or 2 at Elephant Butte L. 1/22 (PSt) and 2/16 (Brad Jacobs), and 16 on L. Avalon CC.

RING-BILLED GULL -- 1 on Clayton CC, 50+ at Storrie L. 1/5 (JH), 800 on Caballo CC, and 749 on L. Avalon CC. Rise in numbers in mid-February demonstrated by count of 88 at Cochiti L. 2/15, vs. 2 on 1/28 (PSt), and 2,526 at Bitter L. 2/22, vs. 16 the previous week (KW).

BONAPARTE'S GULL -- 2 at Bitter L. 12/6 (KW); 1 at L. McMillan 12/18 (MCh, BF).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE -- unusual: Daily count peaked at 27 in one tree in Socorro 12/12, and 12 there on 2/12 (JS), Lesser winter numbers included 1 at Roswell

2/26 (Elmer Schooley), 10 at Truth or Consequences 12/3 (DM) and 2 or more throughout the season, 4 at Percha Dam SP 1/21 (PSt), and 3 on the La Luz CC. Dr. John Hubbard suggests that the spread of this dove as a summer resident across southern N.M., followed now by its permanent year-around status in many places, "may be related to urbanization in southern New Mexico," with the maturation of planted trees expanding nesting cover. West of the Rio Grande Valley, he points out, these doves are still present only in warmer months. (American Birds, Vol. 40, No. 2, p. 313 (1986).)

INCA DOVE -- Daily winter highs reached 8 to 12 at Alamogordo (R&KJ).

COMMON BARN OWL -- 2 at McGregor Range 1/25 (OCBC) and 1 at Alamogordo 1/26 (J. McNelty). Infrequently reported in these areas.

NORTHERN PYGMY OWL -- 3 or 4 in Magdalena Mts. 2/25 (JS).

SPOTTED OWL -- unusual: 1 in downtown Santa Fe 12/31 (PI). Details.

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL -- 1 at Roswell 12/28 (Clayton Lebeau). Details.  
1 at San Simon Cienega 1/14 (RD).

WHITE-THROATED SWIFT -- 15 near Alamogordo 2/21 (JTa). Early.

LEWIS' WOODPECKER -- 6+ near Pleasanton 12/26 and 1 near Mule Creek 1/30 (SWI) were s. of their usual range.

ACORN WOODPECKER -- 1 on Zuni CC; very local there.

LADDER-BACKED WOODPECKER -- 1 at Raton 1/1 (RY) and 2 on Bluewater CC.

DOWNY WOODPECKER -- 24 on Albuquerque CC was high; 1 on Caballo CC (few details), where it is occasional.

HAIRY WOODPECKER -- 1 on Clayton CC, where it is uncommon.

STRICKLAND'S WOODPECKER -- 1\*\*\* collected 7 miles n. and 5.5 miles w. of Cloverdale 12/30 (RD).

HAMMOND'S FLYCATCHER -- unusual: 1, almost certainly of this species, photographed and described in detail in Doña Ana County 1/21 (EZ). Also, 2 reported on Caballo CC without details.

EASTERN PHOEBE -- 1 at Bitter L. 1/18 (Dean LaBounty).

COUCH'S KINGBIRD -- The individual first located at Bosque NWR in October was still there 12/5 (KW) but not found 12/10 (JS).

VERMILION FLYCATCHER -- unusual: A male in Albuquerque 12/8\*\* (Larry Gorbet, Elaine Nicholson). Singles near Cliff 12/28 and Redrock 12/8 (RF).

HORNED LARK -- Down markedly to 17 on Clayton CC. But JT noted 2,500 near Clayton 2/16.

BARN SWALLOW -- unusual: 1 imm. at Caballo Dam 2/2 (JH) was very early.

STELLER'S JAY -- unusual: Very high 103 on Albuquerque CC, with all observed in Rio Grande Valley area. The invasion began in the fall and continued well into January (RT). Other highs: 20 on Farmington CC, 7 on Sevilleta CC, and 2 on Peloncillo CC.

BLUE JAY -- unusual: 1 at Maxwell NWR 2/13 (JT) was in a new area. The 21 on the Roswell CC was a very high count.



SCRUB JAY -- unusual: Area high counts included 229 on Santa Fe CC and 50 on Albuquerque CC.

BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE -- 88 on Santa Fe CC was a record high.

AMERICAN CROW -- Winter populations continue to increase in relatively new areas: 180 on Farmington CC and 100+ at Folsom 1/4 (JH). The 1,077 on the Bosque CC was high.

CHIHUAHAN RAVEN -- One 15 miles e. of Hillsboro 2/2 (JH).

COMMON RAVEN -- Adults\*\*\*, male and female, collected at Glenrio 12/22 (RD); 427 on Santa Fe CC was high.

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE -- 1 in Raton from 1/1 (RY); 54 on Española CC; 1 in Santa Fe 12/8-16 (JH).

MOUNTAIN CHICKADEE -- 1 on Clayton CC; 242 on Santa Fe CC was double the previous high. High numbers all winter in the Rio Grande lowlands at Socorro (JS), Bosque NWR (JS, PI+) and Percha Dam SP (EW+) -- 15 on Bosque CC and 17 on Caballo CC.

BRIDLED TITMOUSE -- 3 at Sacaton L. near Pleasanton 12/26 (JH); 13 on Caballo CC.

BUSHTIT -- New highs of 50 on Gila Valley CC and 45 on Carlsbad CC.

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH -- Singles on Clayton, Roswell and L. Avalon CCs. 1 in Roswell 2/25 (Elmer Schooley), and numerous in lower Doña Ana County, with a maximum of 10 at Mesilla Park in January (BZ).

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH -- High counts were 34 on Santa Fe CC, 30 on Albuquerque CC, and 13 on Caballo CC. Two at Clayton 12/8-1/6 (WC); 2 on Roswell CC.

PYGMY NUTHATCH -- 1 on Carlsbad CC.

BROWN CREEPER -- High numbers in lowlands (21 on Caballo CC, 5 on Roswell CC).

ROCK WREN -- 9 on Albuquerque CC was high.

CANYON WREN -- unusual: A single was first appearance on Santa Fe CC.

AMERICAN DIPPER -- unusual: 1 under bridge below Cochiti Dam 1/5 (PI, CR); seldom found along major rivers...4 on Bluewater CC was high.

EASTERN BLUEBIRD -- unusual: 24 on Clayton CC was high for an area where species is only irregularly recorded....2 on Caballo CC.

WESTERN BLUEBIRD -- Unexpectedly far from their mountainous breeding grounds, 6 at Clayton 2/20 (MM), 14 on Las Cruces CC, and 5 on Peloncillo CC.

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD -- Generally stayed in northern half of N.M.; 1 at Sevilleta was southernmost for a CC. But Elmer Schooley reported 1 at Roswell 12/14.

HERMIT THRUSH -- unusual: 1\* provided the third Farmington CC sighting, and another at Zuni 2/10 was the first local mid-winter record.

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD -- 1 on Clayton CC and 1 there 2/13 (JT); 1-2 in Santa Fe all winter (Sarah Boles, PI); a high 9 on Roswell CC.

SAGE THRASHER -- 14 on Zuni CC and 2 still there 2/10 (JT); 2 on Española CC; 1 at Galisteo 2/17 (PI, CR); 3 on Albuquerque CC; 10+ at Socorro 1/20 (JS, Phil Johnson); 1 at Bitter L. 2/9, 26 (KW); 45 in Rattlesnake Springs area 12/9 (MCh, BF).

BROWN THRASHER -- 1 at Sandia Haven 1/5-13 (Chuck & Dolores Carlson, RT+); 1 at Percha Dam SP 1/26 (EW+); 1 at La Luz Canyon all winter (Grace & Glenn Flinn); 6 on Carlsbad CC.

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER -- 1 at Tekapo, Zuni reservation, 12/18-22 was a first local record (JT); 1 on Clayton CC and 1 there 2/13 (JT); 1-2 at Santa Fe all winter (SBo+); 2 on Roswell CC.

BENDIRE'S THRASHER -- 2 on Peloncillo CC.

WATER PIPIT -- 7 on Española CC; 101 on Roswell CC; a very high 1,893 on Loving CC.

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT -- 1 near Rodeo on Peloncillo CC.

CEDAR WAXWING -- Except for 111 on the Farmington CC, numbers were low statewide.

PHAINOPEPLA -- Several at Percha Dam SP all winter (DM, EW+); 1 at Pleasanton 12/26 (JH); 8 at Three Rivers 2/15 (OCBC). On CCs, 1 at Sevilleta, 13 Gila Valley, 11 Silver City, 32 Caballo.

NORTHERN SHRIKE -- 1 in Colfax County 2/12 (JT); 1 at Bluewater L. 2/11 and 14 (JT); 1 at Santa Fe 2/17 (PI); singles, no details, at Santa Fe 12/15 and Cochiti 2/3 (F&RiS).

SOLITARY VIREO -- unusual: 1 at Mesilla Park 1/21 (EZ, JDo) was the fourth local and about the eighth N.M. winter record.

HUTTON'S VIREO -- unusual: 1 at Mesilla Park on the Las Cruces CC (good details from EZ) was the second local record and the first in winter.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER -- unusual: Adding to the growing number of winter records were 1 at Farmington from 12/10 through the period for the second winter in a row (HL, AN), 3 on the Las Cruces CC, and 1 at Mesilla Park 1/21 (EZ, JDo).

NORTHERN PARULA -- unusual: The first N.M. winter record was one with good details on the Las Cruces CC.

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER -- 14 Audubon's on Farmington CC; single Myrtles at Zuni 2/19 (JT) and La Joya 1/23 (PS+).

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT -- 1 at Old Refuge on Las Cruces CC.

WESTERN Tanager -- unusual: An extraordinary winter record was 3\* on the Las Cruces CC.

NORTHERN CARDINAL -- Silver City singles were out of range: 1 on 12/12 (Marian Zimmerman) and a first for CC.

PYRRHULOXIA -- 1 north of usual range on Sevilleta CC; 3 pairs all winter at Truth or Consequences (DM).

GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE -- unusual: First Zuni winter record, 1 on 2/9 (JT).

RUFOUS-SIDED TOWHEE -- 14 on Roswell CC; 4 near Carlsbad 12/8-9 (MCh).

BROWN TOWHEE -- Peripheral reports: 1 in Dry Cimarron Valley 1/4 (JH) and 7 near Carlsbad 12/8-10 (MCh).

FIELD SPARROW -- Very few in Silver City area.

RUFOUS-CROWNED SPARROW -- 1 on Gila Valley CC.

AMERICAN TREE SPARROW -- unusual: 10 near Clayton 1/4 (WC) and 13 there 2/13 (JT). Rare in this area....15+ at Maxwell NWR 1/5 (JH) and 75 there 2/13 (JT); 14 in Union and Colfax Counties 1/4 (JH); 1 at Bosque NWR 1/17 (F&RIS). On CCs: Zuni 1, Santa Fe 4 (new high), Bluewater 4, Albuquerque 4.

CHIPPING SPARROW -- 1 near Socorro 1/30 (JS); 1 on Bosque CC; 10 at Caballo L. 2/2 (JH), 3 near Carlsbad 12/8-9 (MCh).

BREWER'S SPARROW -- 1 at Caballo L. 2/2 (JH); 4 near Carlsbad 12/9 (MCh).

FIELD SPARROW -- 10 on Roswell CC was high.

VESPER SPARROW -- 10 near Carlsbad 12/9 (MCh).

LARK SPARROW-- 1\* at Bosque NWR 1/18 (PI).

BLACK-THROATED SPARROW -- 2 near Carlsbad 12/9 (MCh).

SAGE SPARROW -- 4 near Carlsbad 12/9 (MCh).

LARK BUNTING -- 1 on Bluewater CC was far north of usual winter range.

SAVANNAH SPARROW -- 1 on Zuni CC, well north of normal winter locale; 3+ at Bernardo SGR 1/28 (JH).

BAIRD'S SPARROW -- unusual: 8 reported on Gila Valley CC. Rare in N.M. in recent years, especially in the winter. Details provided are not completely convincing.

FOX SPARROW -- 1 at Bitter L. 1/21 (KW); no details; 1\* at La Luz Canyon 12/1, 11 (Grace Flinn); details not conclusive.

SONG SPARROW -- On CCs, Zuni 438, Albuquerque 146, Bosque 96.

LINCOLN'S SPARROW -- unusual: 2 on Zuni CC were north of expected range.... 1 on Albuquerque CC, 1\* in Socorro 2/16 (JS); 4 on Roswell CC.

SWAMP SPARROW -- 1 at Zuni 12/18 (JT); 3 on Albuquerque CC; 2 on Roswell CC; 1 on Gila Valley CC; 2 near Carlsbad 12/8 (MCh); unusually common in Las Cruces area throughout season (BZ).

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW -- Only reports, singles at La Luz Canyon (Grace Flinn) 12/15, and San Simon Cienega 1/14 (RD).

HARRIS' SPARROW -- Noted only at Santa Fe, 1 on 1/25, 27 (SBo).

DARK-EYED JUNCO -- unusual: 1\*\*\* white-winged taken near Manzano 12/26 (RD) was southernmost definite N.M. record for this race....A dozen reports of small numbers of slate-colored, plus a remarkably high 55 on Sandia CC.

MCCOWN'S LONGSPUR -- unusual: 6\*, including 2 males nearing breeding plumage, in Clayton area 2/12 (JT).

LAPLAND LONGSPUR -- unusual: 2 at Zuni, a local first, on 2/9 and 46\* near Clayton 2/12-13 (JT).

CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR -- Above-normal 25 on Roswell CC; unusually common in Las Cruces area all season (BZ).

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD -- New count high of 129 on Santa Fe CC.

MEADOWLARK sp. -- Very high count of 798 in all on Roswell CC.

WESTERN MEADOWLARK -- Record low of 3 on Farmington CC.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD -- 1 at Las Vegas 1/3 was unexpectedly far north (JH).

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD -- None on Farmington CC for only second time. 50+ at Tucumcari 1/3 were n. of usual range (JH).

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE -- Unusually to north, 5 on Zuni CC. 20 on Silver City CC and 12 there 2/4 (RF).

COMMON GRACKLE -- 4 at Socorro 12/28, north of usual winter range (JS).

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD -- Another northern wanderer, 1 at Santa Fe 1/12 (SBo).

ROSY FINCH -- About 50 near Crystal, San Juan County, 1/12 (Brad Jacobs). 20 on Sandia CC.

CASSIN'S FINCH -- Lowland reports: 8 at Clayton 1/1 (MM) and 1 at Albuquerque 1/4 (HS)....9 on Santa Fe CC, and 2 there on 2/2 (Lois Herrmann). Only 6 on Sandia CC.

PINE SISKIN -- 6 in Dry Cimarron Valley 2/13 (JH) and 20 near Clayton 1/1 (WC). Rarely reported from this part of N.M.

LESSER GOLDFINCH -- Northerly sightings: 4 on Farmington CC, 6 at Cochiti golf course 1/15 (F&RIS), 2 on Bosque CC.

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH -- New high of 55 on Santa Fe CC; 174 on Albuquerque CC; 79 on Bosque CC.

EVENING GROSEBEAK -- Fairly common in Farmington for first time in several years, with 29 on CC. 66 on Santa Fe CC, 38 on Sandia CC; 1 in La Luz Canyon 12/10 (Grace Flinn).