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FIELD NOTES

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SPRING 1994 HIGHLIGHTS

Drought conditions prevailed throughout early in the season. Most areas, except the southwest, had fair precipitation in May. Windy conditions added to the aridity. The birding was rewarding, with several rare waterbirds and neotropical migrant songbirds leading the way. The heronry near Loving was abandoned probably due to dry conditions and pollution (SW). Quail numbers were considered down in the Clayton area (WC). By late May no quail coveys were found on the Jornada Range (CS). Perhaps held over from the winter mystery gulls at Caballo Lake was a Thayer's Gull. An unprecedented 39 warbler species were recorded. Sadly, details were not received for three rarities and were sketchy, ambiguous, or otherwise questionable for several others (SOW).

A die-off involving hundreds of Pine Siskins plus lesser numbers of House Finches and Evening Grosbeaks became evident in Santa Fe, Los Alamos, and surrounding areas in May. The mortalities were believed to be an outbreak of salmonella, possibly transmitted through birdbaths with unclean water, producing throat lesions which lead to eventual starvation (Dr. Kathleen Ramsay of the Española Wildlife Center).

Among species reports that were not documented were Black Vulture, White-tailed Hawk, Winter Wren, Varied Thrush, Philadelphia Vireo, and Black-throated Green, Pine, and Cerulean warblers (SOW).

May 14 was the date of the County Spring Migration Counts that are held throughout the nation. Reports were received for Bernalillo, Chaves, and Grant Cos.

Note: The New Mexico Bird Records Committee was established in 1993, with Dr. Sartor O. Williams, III as Secretary. Record evaluation was begun in 1994 by a committee of five Members. Some results have been published in the NMOS Bulletins, Volume 23, No. 4, pages 87-96 and Volume 24, No. 4: pages 59-68. Other records are still under review.

Abbreviations Used:

BLM	Bureau of Land Management		
CG	Campground	Co.	County
HWI	HawkWatch International		
L.	Lake	Mt(s)	Mountain(s)
NM, NP	National Monument, National Park		
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge		
N.M.	New Mexico	R.	River
RBA	Rare Bird Alert		
RGV	Rio Grande Valley	SP	State Park
WMA	Wildlife Management Area		
v.o.	various observers	a +	stands for et al.
*	details provided	***	specimen collected
**	photo or tape recording provided		

19 '94-2 (Spring '94)

CONTRIBUTORS' INITIALS USED

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PLACE NAMES AND THEIR COUNTIES

Albuquerque	Bernalillo	Las Vegas, NWR	San Miguel
Animas Mts., Valley	Hidalgo	Logan	Quay
Belen	Valencia	Los Alamos	Los Alamos
Bernalillo	Sandoval	Los Lunas	Valencia
Bernardo	Socorro	Loving	Eddy
Bill Evans Lake	Grant	Magdalena Mts.	Socorro
Bitter Lake NWR	Chaves	Mangas Springs	Grant
Bluewater L., Creek	Cibola	Morgan Lake	San Juan
Boone's Draw	Roosevelt	Mule Creek	Grant
Bosque (del Apache)	NWR	Navajo Lake	San Juan
	Socorro	Otis	Eddy
Brantley Lake	Eddy	Peloncillo Mts.	Hidalgo
Caballo Lake	Sierra	Percha SP	Sierra
Carlsbad	Eddy	Picacho	Lincoln
Cedar Crest	Bernalillo	Pinos Altos Mts.	Grant
Chuska Mountains	San Juan	Portales	Roosevelt
Clayton	Union	Rattlesnake Springs	Eddy
Cliff	Grant	Redrock	Grant
Cochiti Lake	Sandoval	Roswell	Chaves
Conchas Lake	San Miguel	San Andres NWR	Doña Ana
Corrales	Sandoval	San Antonio	Socorro
Elephant Butte Lake	Sierra	Sandia Mts.	Bernalillo
Española	Rio Arriba	Santa Fe	Santa Fe
Farmington, Lake	San Juan	Santa Rosa, L.	Guadalupe
Fenton Lake	Sandoval	Silver City	Grant
Fort Sumner	DeBaca	Socorro	Socorro
Gila, Valley	Grant	Storrie Lake	San Miguel
Glenrio	Quay	Sumner Lake	DeBaca
Guadalupe Mountains	Eddy	Tucumcari, L.	Quay
Heron Lake	Rio Arriba	Ute Lake	Quay
Holloman Lake	Otero	Water Canyon	Socorro
Jemez Mountains	Sandoval	White Lakes	Santa Fe
Jornada Range	Doña Ana	Zuni, Mts.	McKinley
La Joya WMA	Socorro		
'94-2 (Spring '94)			20

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

COMMON LOON -- Reports in the east and north included 1 at Morgan L. 4/16 (TR), 2 at Farmington L. 4/10 (TR), 3 at Heron L. 4/16 (DS), 4 at Conchas L. 4/12 (MP), and 1 at Bitter L. NWR 4/17 (DH, JH); late singles at Sumner L. 5/7 (CR) and Brantley L. 5/10 (JP, BP).

HORNED GREBE -- Reports from Heron (CR, CS, PRS), Storrie (CR), and Conchas (MP) lakes, with a high count of 5 at the Las Vegas NWR 3/20 (BF); 2 in breeding plumage on 4/10 at Farmington L. (TR*) were the last reported.

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN -- 14 at Six-Mile Dam near Loving on 4/2 (SW).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT -- Breeding: nesting at Santa Rosa L on 5/23 (DS, NMOS Bulletin 24 (2):20);....6 on the Grant Co. Count on 5/14 (RF+).

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT -- 2 on the 5/14 Bernalillo Co. Count (TB+); 3 adults were at the La Joya WMA 5/1 (WH).

AMERICAN BITTERN -- 1 at Maddox L., Lea Co., 3/26 (CR).

GREAT BLUE HERON -- Breeding: traditional colonies were active at Glenwood and the Gila Cliff Dwellings in Catron Co., at Gila, and near Bill Evans L (RF). New colonies of 3 to 4 nests were found near Riverside, Grant Co., (RF) and at Virden, Hidalgo Co., 3/25 (EL).

Heron species -- A colony e. of Loving that had been used since 1979 by several species, including Snowy and Cattle egrets and Black-crowned Night-Herons, was abandoned (SW).

GREAT EGRET -- Singles wandered north to Farmington 5/23 (TR), Pescado L. near Zuni 5/22 (DC), Cochiti L. 5/18, the Las Vegas NWR 4/14 (BW, fide RBA), and Corrales 5/2 (CR). High count at Bosque NWR was 20 on 5/15 (PB).

LITTLE BLUE HERON -- 1 to 3 adults were at Bosque NWR from 4/17 to 5/1 (CS, CR, JP, CB, PRS, GF); 1 was at Caballo L. on 5/29 (CS, TF).

TRICOLORED HERON -- Unusual: 1 was at Caballo L. at the Animas Creek mouth on 5/29 (CS*, TF). 1 reported at Percha SP on 5/17 (LG*, NC, SC) may have been the same bird.

CATTLE EGRET -- 1 at Black Rock L. near Zuni on 5/14 (DC**).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON -- An adult was at Bosque NWR 4/3 (CS, fide RBA) and 4/9 (JP*, LG) where the species has appeared yearly since 1990 (SOW).

WHITE IBIS -- Unusual: the second recent record was an adult near Percha SP 4/23 (CS*, TF). Seen 4/24 by JR, RG, fide RBA.

WHITE-FACED IBIS -- Migrants were widespread from April to mid-May (v.o.); 16 at Lordsburg, Hidalgo Co., 3/2 were early (EL). High counts were 75 at Morgan L. 4/15 (TR), 214 at Zuni 4/30 (DC), and 50 at Bosque NWR 4/15-16 (GE).

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK -- Unusual: 2 immatures at Bosque NWR 5/14 (J. Karo*).

MUTE SWAN -- 1 near Jal, Lea Co., on 3/26 (CR), was probably an escaped or released bird.

TUNDRA SWAN -- 2 were on Tramperos Creek in Union Co. on 5/2. One had a neck band "UK56" (M. Mayfield, fide WC).

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE -- Singles were at Farmington 5/17 to 5/23 (TR) and on a farm pond at Picacho 4/17 (SW).

SNOW GOOSE -- Lingering were 2 immatures at Fenton L. on 5/18 (DS), 2 at Zuni 5/14 (DC**), 3 at the Las Vegas NWR 5/6 (CR), an adult at Bosque NWR 5/10 (SOW), 5 at Bitter L. NWR 5/14 (SMB+), and 12 at Holloman L. on 5/3 (GE).

ROSS' GOOSE -- Late was 1 at Fenton L. 5/18 (DS).

WOOD DUCK -- Widely reported, including in the RGV from Corrales south during May (v.o); 4 to 14 at Percha SP 3/29 and 4/17 to 5/29 (CS, DC); 1 male on Bluewater Creek on 5/17 (CR), 2 males and a female in an irrigated yard in Socorro on 4/27 and 5/15 (PB).

MALLARD -- Breeding: 2 females with broods of 6 and 8 young were seen near Zuni 5/22 (DC); 1 on a nest 35 feet up in a cottonwood in Albuquerque 4/10 (WH); a female with 6 young at Mangas Springs on 5/19 (RF).

MEXICAN DUCK -- This Mallard subspecies was conspicuous in irrigated fields in the Columbus area, Luna Co., on 5/30, with 7 to the east, 10 to the west of town (SOW).

EURASIAN WIGEON -- Unusual: a good showing, with single adult males at Bitter L. NWR on 3/25 (SMB), Bosque NWR 4/30 (CR*, DE) and 5/1 (PRS), and at Holloman L. 4/15 (BN*, DE).

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE -- 3 on the San Juan R. below Navajo L. in San Juan Co. on 3/6 (CS)

HOODED MERGANSER -- A female was at Bottomless L. SP on 4/15 (CR, DE, BN).

COMMON MERGANSER -- A pair was seen on the Rio Chama at El Vado Ranch, Rio Arriba Co., on 5/31 (DM, JT). A high count of 3000 was on Caballo L. on 3/4 (CS).

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER -- 1 to 6 on Morgan and Farmington lakes 3/19 to 4/23 (TR); 1 to 5 on Conchas L. 3/29 to 4/19 (MP); 1 male at Bitter L. NWR on 3/30 (DC**).

OSPREY -- Breeding: the 2 known nests in Rio Arriba Co. were occupied by 4/7 (DS);...there was a good number of reports from 3/22 to 5/17 (v.o.). 67 were counted on the Sandia Mts. Hawk Watch site from 3/26 to 5/2 (HWI).

WHITE-TAILED KITE -- The only report was of an adult in the s. Animas Valley on 5/8. (Barney Tomberlin*).

MISSISSIPPI KITE -- 1 first year bird at Sena on the Pecos R., San Miguel Co., 5/23 (CR); 1 at Bosque NWR on 5/29 (LG**, CD); 1 adult at Percha SP 5/21 (CS+, LG**).

BALD EAGLE -- Breeding: the two known nests in Colfax and Sierra counties were occupied, being incubated by 3/15 (SOW);....12 were counted on the Sandia Mts. site 2/21 to 4/8 (HWI).

NORTHERN HARRIER -- Late were single males at Columbus, in Luna Co., 5/29 (SOW) and near Rattlesnake Springs 5/27 (SW).

COOPER'S HAWK -- Breeding: a nest on May 5/18-19 near Ute L. on the Barnett Ranch may be a first local nesting record (JPH, RWD); 2 pairs nested in Albuquerque (WH).

NORTHERN GOSHAWK -- An adult was in the Jemez Mts. 5/30 (LG*, JP); an immature female was at Cedar Crest on 4/5 (PS*); 12 were counted at the Sandia Mts. site 3/24 to 4/19 (HWI); 2 were counted in Grant Co. on 5/14 (RF+).

COMMON BLACK-HAWK -- 1 adult was found shot at a nest near Lobo Canyon, Grant Co, on 5/25 (RF). 1 was soaring over the Mescalero CG in the Guadalupe Mts. NP on 5/11, about 3 miles below the N.M. line in Texas (GL).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK -- Unusual: 4 were counted at the Sandia Mts. site until 4/24, when 1 was banded (HWI).

ZONE-TAILED HAWK -- Breeding: nests were found near Cliff in May (RF); in the Capitan Mts., Lincoln Co., 4/26 (SOW); and in two canyons of the Peloncillo Mts. 5/2-3 (SOW).

MERLIN -- Late singles at Santa Fe 3/21 (LH), Cochiti L. 4/11 (BW), and s. of Melrose, Curry Co., on 3/25 (CR); 3 counted at the Sandia Mts. site 3/30 to 4/9 (HWI).

PRAIRIE FALCON -- 17 counted at the Sandia Mts. site from 2/25 to 4/17 (HWI).

PEREGRINE FALCON -- 25 counted at the Sandia Mts. site from 3/3 to 4/28 (HWI).

LESSER PRAIRIE-CHICKEN -- Numbers reportedly declined by about a third in the Mescalero Sands and adjacent areas of Chaves Co. (fide BLM), possibly due to dry conditions, although some observers reported that leks were heavily used by cattle; heard at Boone's Draw on 4/23 (JP, LG).

WILD TURKEY -- Numbers normal in the Clayton area (WC) and deemed stable in Eddy Co. (SW). 1 n. of Bernardo 5/1 (WH); a female on 5/10 at Percha SP with a dead male found (GE).

MONTEZUMA OUAILE -- 2 in the Mule Mts. s. of Mule Creek 3/29 (SOW). 3 males and 2 females on the San Andres NWR 3/12 (MW, GS+), the first report since 1966.

NORTHERN BOBWHITE -- Heard at the Barnett Ranch near Ute L. on 5/19 (JPH, RWD). 9 were at Santa Rosa on 3/4 and 4 near Fort Sumner on 5/7 (CR).

VIRGINIA RAIL -- Breeding: 4 with 4 young at Black Rock Lake near Zuni on 5/28 (DC);....2 calling at Cass Draw near Loving 5/14 (SW).

SANDHILL CRANE -- 5 roosted at a stock tank in forest at 6200 feet in the Mule Mts. so. of Mule Creek 3/29 (SOW).

SNOWY PLOVER -- First seen was 2 at Holloman L. 3/11 (LS, fide CS), where numbers peaked at 41 on 4/5 (GE). Chaves Co. counted 285 5/14 (SMB+); only 14 were in the Laguna Grande area e. of Loving 4/24 (SW); peripheral singles at Morgan L. 4/15-16 (TR) and at Conchas L. 5/5 (MP).

KILLDEER -- Breeding: 1 adult "with 10 legs" (4 chicks hiding beneath) at the Grasslands Turf Farm, Los Lunas, 5/1 (WH); a pair with 4 fledglings in Sycamore Canyon near Cliff 4/26 was early for nesting (RF).

MOUNTAIN PLOVER -- Up to 3 near White Lakes on 5/28 (CR), where unreported in recent years. 2 in the Gladstone area, Union Co., on 5/23 (CR, CB).

BLACK-NECKED STILT -- Breeding: 2 active nests at the Isleta marsh, Bernalillo Co., on 5/10 (WH).

AMERICAN AVOCET -- Once a fairly common breeder at the salt lakes e. of Loving, none recorded this spring (SW).

WILLET -- 1 at Dilia, Guadalupe Co., 4/16 (CR); with high counts of 13 at Morgan L. 4/16 (TR), 33 in the Zuni area on 5/1 (DC), and 28 at Bosque NWR 4/23 (GF, fide RBA).

WHIMBREL -- Unusual: 1 at Black Rock L. near Zuni 5/14 (DC*) was the only report.

LONG-BILLED CURLEW -- 1 was early at Wagon Mound, Mora Co, 3/24 (CR); 2 at White Lakes on 5/28 (CR); a noteworthy 200 seen in alfalfa fields from Otis to Carlsbad in Eddy Co. on 4/2 (SW).

MARbled GODWIT -- At Morgan L. 1 on 4/9, 2 on 4/21, and 3 on 4/23 (TR, CR+); a very high count of 180 at Conchas L. on 4/18 (MP); up to 4 at Bosque NWR on 4/23 (GF, fide RBA, ST+); 1 at Holloman L. on 5/3 (GE).

RUDDY TURNSTONE -- Unusual: 1 adult in breeding plumage at Bitter L. NWR 5/18 (DM).
'94-2 (Spring '94)

SANDERLING -- 7 at Morgan L. on 5/14 (TR*); 3 to 5 at Black Rock L. near Zuni 4/30 and 5/1 (DC).

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER -- At Bitter L. NWR 3 or 4 on 5/8 (JD, JP, BP).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER -- 1 reported at Bitter L. NWR on 5/17 (PS*).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER -- 1 was early at Bosque NWR 4/9 (JP, LG). On 4/30 1 at Black Rock L. near Zuni (DC) and 2 at Bosque NWR (JP, LG, CD, CB, NC, SC).

DUNLIN -- 2 on 3/26 and 1 on 4/16 at Bosque NWR (JP, LG); 7 at Bitter L. NWR 3/30 (DC) with 1 on 4/16 (CR, BN, DE).

STILT SANDPIPER -- Present at Bitter L. NWR from 5/8 to 5/18 (v.o.) with a high count of 20 on 5/8 (JP, BP).

RUFF -- Unusual: The first verified N.M. record was a female at Bosque NWR 4/30 (CR*, JP*, LG**, PB**, v.o., with extensive details).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE -- Unusually numerous from late April to early May (v.o.); high counts of 265 at Zuni 4/30 (DC) 210 at Cochiti L. 5/4-5 (BW, fide RBA), 300 at the Las Vegas NWR on 4/24 (PRS), 625 at Bosque NWR on 5/2 (CR, DE), and 259 at Laguna Grande near Loving 4/24 (SW).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE -- Also a good showing, with 22 near Morgan L. 5/14 (TR), 1 at White Lakes 5/28 (CR*), 1 at Zuni 5/14 (DC**), and 12 at Bitter L. NWR 5/14 (SMB+).

FRANKLIN'S GULL -- Moderate numbers were widespread 3/28 to 5/17 (v.o.), including west to Morgan L. (TR) and Zuni (DC) and east to Clayton (WC).

BONAPARTE'S GULL -- Late on 5/14 were singles at Morgan L. (TR) and Zuni (DC).

CALIFORNIA GULL -- An adult at Brantley L. 5/10 (JP*, BP).

HERRING GULL -- Late were 3 at Storrie L. 5/6 (CR).

THAYER'S GULL -- Unusual: 1 possible at Caballo L. on 3/12 (CS) and 3/28 (DC).

GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL -- Unusual: 1 first-year immature at Elephant Butte L. 4/16 (JP*, LG*) and 5/28 (JP*, LG**).

FORSTER'S TERN -- Late were 2 near Loving 5/29 (SW, TH).

LEAST TERN -- Away from Bitter L. NWR were singles at Pescado L. near Zuni 5/14 (DC**), Holloman L. 5/16 (CB), and Brantley L. 5/10 (JP, BP).

BLACK TERN -- A high count of 171 in Chaves Co. 5/14 (SMB).

BAND-TAILED PIGEON -- A high count of 103 in Grant Co. on 5/14 (RAF+); 2 w. of Picacho 4/15 (SW); several in the Animas Mts. 5/13-15 (SOW); 1 at Aguirre Springs, Doña Ana Co., on 4/15 (TF, fide CS).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE -- Breeding: a pair nested in Roswell from late Feb. to early March (Lee Marlatt**);....1 was calling at Logan on 5/18 (JPH*, RWD).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO -- Unusual: 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 5/24-25 (TH, SW*).

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO -- Singles were at Naschitti on US 666, San Juan Co., on 5/27 (TR) and flying at the salt lakes e. of Loving 5/30 (SW). Somewhat early was 1 at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/9-10 (JP, BP).

GREATER ROADRUNNER -- At a new locality was 1 singing at 6200 feet at Miami L. in Colfax Co., on 3/16 (SOW). Considered widespread from Albuquerque south (WH) with numbers recovering in the southwest (RF).

FLAMMULATED OWL -- Heard in Water Canyon on 4/30 (CR, DE).

WESTERN SCREECH-OWL -- 1 heard 20 miles ne. of Clayton, Union Co., 5/24 (CR, CB) near its easternmost limit.

WHISKERED SCREECH-OWL -- Surveys in the Peloncillo Mts. on 5/1-2 and 5/12 found them occupying 8 sites in four canyons. None found in the Animas Mts. 5/13-14. (SOW).

GREAT HORNED OWL -- Breeding: adults with 2 or 3 fledglings were at Percha SP 5/4-5 (PS) and 5/10 (GE).

ELF OWL -- Early was 1 in the Peloncillo Mts. 3/4 (SOW).

LONG-EARED OWL -- 1 at the Sepultura Canyon mouth in oak-juniper woodland, Sevilleta NWR, Socorro Co., on 4/9 (DM).

COMMON POORWILL -- 1 was calling in the Black Range north of Kingston, Sierra Co., on 3/23 (SOW).

CHIMNEY SWIFT -- Reported at the Baptist Church in Clayton (WC) with 3 counted in town 5/23 (CR, CB); at Roswell 5 on 5/14 (SMB) and 1 on 5/20 (PS).

Chaetura swift -- A probable Chimney Swift was on Montaña w. of Albuquerque on 5/8 (WH*).

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD -- A male in Skeleton Canyon in the Peloncillo Mts. 5/2 was n. of its usual Guadalupe Canyon range (SOW).

MAGNIFICENT HUMMINGBIRD -- 1 female at a feeder at Water Canyon in the Magdalena Mts. on 5/2 (CR, DE); 1 male near Mescalero, Otero Co., in May (B.Giesecke**). Intriguing were 3 (2 males) 1/4 mile s. of the Texas line at the Dog Canyon CG, Guadalupe Mts. NP, on 5/20-21 (DM).

LUCIFER HUMMINGBIRD -- A female in Skeleton Canyon 5/2 (SOW), s. of its usual Peloncillo Mts. stronghold in Post Office Canyon where the first 1 arrived in late March (RS)

COSTA'S HUMMINGBIRD -- The only report was a pair 5/19 and 5/21 in Post Office Canyon, Hidalgo Co. (RS).

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD -- 1 lingered in Post Office Canyon in Hidalgo Co. from 4/16 to 5/7 (RS).

ELEGANT TROGON -- Away from the Peloncillo Mts. was a male at Indian Creek in the Animas Mts. 5/13-14 (SOW).

Trogon species -- A "green-backed" trogon was on Block Mt. on the San Andres NWR 5/10 (fide MW).

LEWIS' WOODPECKER -- 4 in the Chuska Mts. 5/29 (TR).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER -- At least 15 were 20 miles ne. of Clayton and 1 on Perico Creek in the area on 5/24 (CR, CB) 1 was on the Barnett Ranch near Ute L. 5/18-19 (JPH, RWD)

GILA WOODPECKER -- Numbers continued low along the Gila River with 4 at Redrock 3/12 (CR) and 3 tallied in Grant on 5/14 (RF+).

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER -- A female at Santa Fe 3/13 (SB sketch, good details).

WILLIAMSON'S SAPSUCKER -- 1 female in junipers at Cabezon Peak, Sandoval Co., 4/17 (DM).

DOWNY WOODPECKER -- 1 at the La Joya WMA 3/19 was south of its usual range (WH+).

STRICKLAND'S WOODPECKER -- 1 in the Animas Mts. 5/14 at Indian Creek (SOW).

NORTHERN FLICKER -- Breeding: a Yellow- X Red-shafted male was paired with an apparent Red-shafted female at a nest hole near Glenrio on 5/18, perhaps the first evidence of eastern-type flickers nesting in N.M. (JPH, RWD).

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER -- Migrants reported from 4/30 through May (v.o.)

GREATER PEWEE -- Up to 6 in the Animas Mts. May 13-15 (SC)

WESTERN WOOD-PEWEE -- At least 3 were near Glenrio on 5/18 (JPH, RWD).

LEAST FLYCATCHER -- Unusual: The only report was 1 at Boone's Draw on 5/14 (JP*, BP).

GRAY FLYCATCHER -- Again found south to the Guadalupe Mts. in Eddy Co. with 1 or 2 along the Soldier Spring Trail and another nearby 4/20 (DH, JH).

BLACK PHOEBE -- Breeding: a nest at Bluewater L. on 5/17 (CR);northern records included 1 on the Chama R. at Abiquiu, Rio Arriba Co., 5/7 (PRS) and in the La Cienega area, Santa Fe Co, 4/23 to 5/16 (CR); not a usual haunt was 1 in Sawmill Canyon in the Magdalena Mts. 5/14 (HS).

EASTERN PHOEBE -- 1 ne. of Clayton 5/24 (CR, CB); 3 near Villanueva, San Miguel Co., 5/23 (CR); 1 at Corrales 4/16 (Terry Brownell, fide RBA); and 1 at Radium Springs, Doña Ana Co, on 3/28 (CR).

VERMILION FLYCATCHER -- Single males 5/7 at Bernalillo (JPH*), in the Hondo Valley near Picacho 4/17 (SW), and at the Waldrop Rest Area east of Roswell on 4/9 (BF).

GREAT KISKADEE -- Unusual: 1 on the White Sands Missile Range at Mound Springs, Lincoln Co., 5/19 (Larry Kamees, Doug Burkett**) for the third verified state record, following the second by less than a year. (SOW).

BROWN-CRESTED FLYCATCHER -- East of the usual range were up to 3 on Animas Creek near Caballo L. 5/28-29 (JP, LG** tape, CD, CS, TF). They seemed to be territorial.

CASSIN'S KINGBIRD -- None were seen in the Santa Fe area this spring, which is very unusual (JPH, EE); a high count of 72 in Grant Co. on 5/14 (RF+).

WESTERN KINGBIRD -- On 5/14 high counts of 115 in Grant Co. (RF+) and 956 in Chaves Co. (SMB+).

EASTERN KINGBIRD -- Singles at Bloomfield, San Juan Co., 5/26 (TR), near Gladstone, Union Co., 5/23 (CR, CB), at Golondrinas, Mora Co., 5/21 (C.Brozek, fide RBA), Sumner L. on 5/7 (CR+), San Antonio on 5/26 (DL), on the Chaves Co. count 5/14 (SMB+), Percha SP 5/17 (LG, NC, fide RBA), and at Rattlesnake Springs 5/21 and 5/27 (SW). 3 were ne. of Clayton on 5/24 (CR, CB); 1 at Peña Blanca, Sandoval Co., 5/18 and 2 5/25 (BW, fide RBA).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER -- Singles were near Fruitland in San Juan Co. 5/14 (TR) and at San Antonio 5/24 (DL+).

PURPLE MARTIN -- 1 male near Gallinas, San Miguel Co., on 5/6 (CR). Seen at Black Rock L. near Zuni on 5/1 (DC).

VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW -- 800 to over 1,000 over Cochiti L. on 4/28 (BW, fide RBA) and 4/29 (PS).

NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW -- Breeding: 5 at holes along the Santa Fe R. near the sewage plant 5/16 (CR).

BANK SWALLOW -- Breeding: the Calabacillas Arroyo colony in nw. Albuquerque was active in May through June with 195 holes and over 100 birds counted (WH).

CAVE SWALLOW -- The Doña Ana Co. birds returned to La Union for the third year by mid-March with 10 present on 4/8 (GE). The colony numbered 20 to 30 by 5/27 (BZ). 18 at Longview Spring in the s. Guadalupe Mts. 4/23 provided a new locality for the sizable Eddy Co. population (SW+).

BLUE JAY -- Populations in the e. cities of Clayton, Tucumcari, Fort Sumner, Portales, Roswell, and Carlsbad continued to thrive (v.o). 1 near Glenrio on 5/18 (RWD, fide JPH); 2 at Tesuque in Santa Fe Co. on 3/9 (BW); 1 in Santa Fe 3/3 to 3/30 (SB) and 4/11 (BW, fide RBA); and 1 in Los Alamos on 4/12 (Marge Cash, fide RBA).

MEXICAN JAY -- 1 carrying nest material in the Burro Mts., Grant Co, on 3/12 (CR).

PINYON JAY -- Breeding: a large flock with newly fledged young at the Wild Rivers Recreation Area, Taos Co, 5/24 (DM);....less in the Santa Fe area this spring (JPH+).

CLARK'S NUTCRACKER -- Breeding: recently fledged young at the Wild Rivers Recreation Area in Taos Co. 5/24 (DM);....2 at Water Canyon in the Magdalena Mts. 4/30 (CR, DE) where seldom reported.

BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE -- 1 s. of Albuquerque near Isleta Pueblo, Bernalillo Co., on 5/13 (TB).

AMERICAN CROW -- Breeding: found nesting in the Gila R. Valley and at Mangas Springs (RF);....a flock of 490+ near the Rio Grande Gorge, Taos Co., on 4/1 (CR).

MEXICAN CHICKADEE -- 4 in the Animas Mts. 5/13 (SOW).

BRIDLED TITMOUSE -- 1 in Water Canyon in the Magdalena Mts. 4/30 at its northern limit (CR); 3 at Animas Creek near Caballo L. 5/28 (JP, LG).

VERDIN -- 1 at the La Joya WMA 3/19 (WH).

BUSHTIT -- Breeding: 1 feeding a fledgling in Farmington on 5/25 (TR).

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH -- 1 was gathering grass clippings from a Los Alamos lawn 5/23, apparently for a nest (PRS).

BROWN CREEPER -- Breeding: a pair was building a nest in the Zuni Mts. 5/21 (DC);...2 in the Animas Mts. 5/13 (SOW).

CACTUS WREN -- Far north in the RGV were 2 in the Caja del Rio w. of Santa Fe on 5/16 with a nest structure seen (CR); 2 nest structures were found in the Logan area on 5/19 (JPH, RWD).

CAROLINA WREN -- Unusual: 1 singing at the Fort Sumner high school on 5/7 (CR*, J.Rutherford) was still there on 5/14 (JP*, BP). It has appeared in N.M. for 3 of the last 4 years (SOW).

BEWICK'S WREN -- Breeding: a pair seen feeding 2 young at Allread Tank on 5/30 (SW), may be the first Lea Co. breeding record.

AMERICAN DIPPER -- 1 in Guadalupe Canyon in the Jemez Mts., Sandoval Co., on 5/30 (DM).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER -- Breeding: a pair at a nest in the Caja del Rio w. of Santa Fe on 5/16 (CR).

BLACK-TAILED GNATCATCHER -- 2 at Redrock on 3/12 (CR*). Its status here is hazy at best (SOW).

EASTERN BLUEBIRD -- 1 nw. of Clayton on 5/24 (CR, CB); a male at Santa Rosa 3/4 (CR); none found in the Gila R. Valley (RF+); 1 at Percha SP 3/12 (CS).

SWAINSON'S THRUSH -- 12 at two Union Co. areas on 5/24 (CR, CB); singles at the Green Chaparral Turf Ranch near Moriarty, Tarrant Co., on 5/6-7 (CR*, JP+), Fort Sumner on 5/7 (CR*), at Mangas Springs 5/12-14 (RF), and at Rattlesnake Springs 5/27 (SW).

GRAY CATBIRD -- Singing RGV sightings included 1 on 5/27 near Cochiti L. (CR), 3 on 5/14 at the Rio Grande oxbow in Albuquerque (DM), and 6 between Bernardo and Belen 5/25 (WH+). 2 near San Miguel, San Miguel Co., on 5/23 (CR); 1 was w. of Melrose, Roosevelt Co., 5/14 (JP, BP); 1 at Boone's Draw on 5/14 (JP+, LG); 2 in Chaves Co. 5/14 (SMB+); 1 singing at Rattlesnake Springs 5/19 (DM).

BROWN THRASHER -- 4 in two Union Co. locations 5/24 (CR, CB); 1 was singing at the Albuquerque oxbow on 4/24 (DM**); 1 at Bill Evans L. 3/11 (CR*).

BENDIRE'S THRASHER -- 2 were far north in the Caja del Rio w. of Santa Fe 5/16 (CR*); 1 w. of Los Lunas on 4/2 (JP).

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER -- 1 to 2 (with 1 singing) at Santa Fe 3/1 to 5/30 (JPH, EE); 2 in the Caja del Rio near Santa Fe 5/16 (CR); 1 to 2 at Conchas L. 3/4 to 4/10 (MP); 1 at Boone's Draw on 4/23 (JP, LG).

SPRAGUE'S PIPIT -- 1 seen at Bitter L. NWR on 4/4 (SMB, no details); it may be underreported in the Pecos R. Valley (SOW).

CEDAR WAXWING -- Generally scarce and unreported s. of Albuquerque, with the exception of 10 at Silver City 5/2 (EL). Española counted 93 on 5/8 (BF+); moderate numbers were at Albuquerque in early May (WH, TB).

PHAINOPEPLA -- North of its range was 1 at Socorro 5/8 (John Shipman, fide RBA); 1 or 2 males e. of San Antonio 4/23 and 4/30 (ST+); 20 at Hatchet Gap in Hidalgo Co., 5/30 (SOW); 2 at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/9 (JP, BP).

NORTHERN SHRIKE -- The only report was 1 e. of Navajo L. in Rio Arriba Co. on 3/7 (CS).
'94-2 (Spring '94)

GRAY VIREO -- Early records were 2 in the Manzanita Mts., Bernalillo Co., 4/28 (HS) and 1 in Yucca Canyon in the Guadalupe Mts of Carlsbad Caverns NP, on 4/23 (SW); 3 in Slaughter Canyon of the Guadalupe Mts. on 5/9 (JP, BP).

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO -- Unusual: 1 at Bernalillo on 5/7 (JPH*); singles were singing at 2 sites n. of Bernardo 5/25 (WH*); 2 Boone's Draw 4/23 to 5/8 (JP*, LG*, CB+); 1 at Carlsbad 4/21 (DH*, JH).

HUTTON'S VIREO -- 1 north of its range at Water Canyon on 4/30 (PB). A few on the e. slopes of the Black Range, Sierra Co., 3/24 (SOW) and 5/21 (LG*).

RED-EYED VIREO -- 1 singing near the Albuquerque oxbow on 5/14 (DM); 1 at Boone's Draw on 5/8 (JP*, BP).

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER -- Unusual: An adult male on 4/29 at Rattlesnake Springs (SW*, TH).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER -- Unusual: 1 male at Boone's Draw on 4/30 (JP*, LG**, CB).

TENNESSEE WARBLER -- 1 at Boone's Draw on 5/1 (LG*, SC, NC) and 5/7 (JP, BP).

VIRGINIA'S WARBLER -- 1 at the Barnett Ranch near Ute L. on 5/7 (JPH).

NORTHERN PARULA -- A single male on 4/26 near Albuquerque (DM); reportedly a singing male at Bosque NWR on 4/23 (GF, fide RBA); a female at Boone's Draw 4/23 (JP*, LG) and a pair on 5/1 (LG*, SC, NC).

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER -- Unusual: 1 adult male at Boone's Draw 5/8 (JP*, BP); 1 male at Percha SP 5/13 (DL*, Michael Livingston).

MAGNOLIA WARBLER -- Unusual: 1 banded at the Rio Grande Nature Center in Albuquerque on 5/25 (WY); 1 singing adult male at Rattlesnake Springs 5/9 (JP, BP*).

CAPE MAY WARBLER -- Unusual: 1 singing male at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/8 (JD**), 5/9-10 (JP*, BP, GL**, taped) and on 5/12 (GL).

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER -- Unusual: Single males at the Waldrop Rest Area 40 miles e. of Roswell, Chaves Co., on 4/28 (GE*), and at Percha SP 5/28 (JP*, LG**, BZ**).

MYRTLE YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER -- 1 on 5/8 near Española (BW, fide BF); 1 in Santa Fe 3/20 to 4/15 (LH); 1 at the Las Vegas NWR 4/24 (BF); 1 at Bernalillo 5/7 (JPH, RWD); 1+ in the Albuquerque area 3/19 to 5/14 (WH, TB); 5 at Belen on 5/1 (WH); outnumbered Audubon's at Rattlesnake Springs on 4/16 (BN, DE).

AUDUBON'S YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER -- A high count of 90 at Belen on 5/1 (WH).

BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER -- 32 found singing in 2 miles of Otero Canyon in the Manzanita Mts., Bernalillo Co. on 4/17 (HS).

TOWNSEND'S WARBLER -- 1 or 2 males were notable east to Boone's Draw 4/23 and 5/7-8 (JP, BP, LG, CD).

HERMIT WARBLER -- 1 at Percha SP 4/16 (JP*, LG*, SC, NC).

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER -- Unusual: a possible male was at Boone's Draw 5/1 (LG*).

PRAIRIE WARBLER -- Unusual: a "very pale" female at Percha SP 5/15 (CS, TF). It is still unverified in the state (SOW).

PALM WARBLER -- 1 banded at the Rio Grande Nature Center in Albuquerque 5/20 (WY); an adult palmarum at Caballo L. 3/24 (Eleanor Wootten+); 1 at Percha SP on 5/8 (DL).

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER -- 1 female at Boone's Draw 5/8 (JP, BP); a female at Percha SP 5/4 (PS) and a male on 5/21 (LG, CS+); 1 at White Sands NM 4/21 (TF, fide CS); 1 at Oliver Lee SP, Otero Co., 4/22 (Tim McKimmie, fide CS); 1 singing at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/8 (JD).

AMERICAN REDSTART -- Single males at Farmington 5/17 (TR), Albuquerque on 5/22 (WH), Animas Creek near Caballo L. on 5/29 (LG, CS+); 1 female at Boone's Draw 4/30 (JP, CB, LG) and 5/1 (LG, SC, NC); 1 at Percha SP 5/7 and 5/15 (CS, TF); at Rattlesnake Springs 1 or 2 females 5/7 to 5/10 (BN, DE+, JP, BP).

SWAINSON'S WARBLER -- Unusual: 1 at Boone's Draw 5/8 (JP*, BP, LG*, SC, excellent details); 1 at the Rio Grande bosque in Corrales 5/12 (T. Brownell*). It is still unverified by specimen, photo, or recording in the state (SOW).

OVENBIRD -- 1 at Santa Fe 5/16 (CR*); 1 at Albuquerque on 5/13 (DM); 2 at Boone's Draw on 5/8 (JP, BP); 1 at Percha SP on 5/21 (LG, CS, TF+); and 1 at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/9 (JP, BP) and 5/14 (LG).

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH -- Rare but regular with 15 reports of 1 to 3 birds from 5/6 to 5/15 (v.o.).

KENTUCKY WARBLER -- Unusual: 1 male at Socorro 4/27 (PB).

MOURNING WARBLER -- Unusual: 1 male banded at Bosque NWR on 5/31 (WY).

HOODED WARBLER -- Unusual: 1 male at Percha SP on 5/13 (DL, M. Livingston).

PAINTED REDSTART -- Seen in Sawmill Canyon of the Magdalena Mts. on 5/14 (HS).

OLIVE WARBLER -- Far out of range was a possible at Corrales 5/12 (T. Brownell*).

HEPATIC Tanager -- At least 1 in the Rio Grande Gorge Wild Rivers Recreation Area, Taos Co., on 5/24 (DM).

SUMMER Tanager -- 1 at Peña Blanca, Sandoval Co., on 5/25 (BW, fide RBA); 56 in Grant Co. on 5/14 (RF+).

WESTERN Tanager -- A movement of about 50 at the Rio Grande Nature Center in Albuquerque on 5/13 (DM).

NORTHERN CARDINAL -- Wandered north with a female at Clayton L. 3/24 (CR); 1 at Santa Rosa 3/4 (CR); 1 male at Boone's Draw 4/23 (JP, LG*).

PYRRHULOXIA -- Also wandering north were a female at Santa Rosa 3/4 (CR) and 2 at Boone's Draw 4/23 and 4/30 (JP, LG).

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK -- Well represented with at least 15 at 8 localities from the RGV eastward 4/29 to 5/22 (v.o.). Further west were 2 in Grant Co. on 5/14 (RF+).

BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK -- 115 counted in Bernalillo Co. on 5/14 with another 29 at feeders (TB+).

BLUE GROSBEAK -- A severe hailstorm produced a 'fallout' on 5/12 at Queen, Eddy Co., where 50 were counted along a 3 mile stretch of highway (GL).

LAZULI BUNTING -- Early singles were at Silver City 4/21 (EL) and Percha SP 4/17 (CS, TF). 8 were at Farmington on 5/23 (TR); a high count of 26 at Española on 5/8 (BF+).

INDIGO BUNTING -- Early were 5 at Percha SP 4/17 (CS, TF) and singles at Boone's Draw 4/23 (JP, LG) and near Rattlesnake Springs 4/16 (BN). There was a very good showing with some 20 reports (v.o.). A high count of 5 was near Fort Sumner on 5/7 (CR, J.Rutherford).

PAINTED BUNTING -- 1 in Chaves Co. on 5/14 (SMB+); 1 was singing at Six-Mile Dam near Loving 5/14 (SW); 2 singing males were at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/19 (DM).

ABERT'S TOWHEE -- At least 14 were at Redrock 3/12 (CR); 2 at the San Simon Cienega, Hidalgo Co., on 3/12 (DM).

CASSIN'S SPARROW -- Because of the drought numbers were considered down on the Jornada Range north of Las Cruces (CS) and in the southwest (SOW).

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW -- 1 on the Jornada Range on 5/5 (CS).

FIELD SPARROW -- Singles were singing at the Waldrop Rest Area near Caprock in Chaves Co. 4/9 (BF) and Rattlesnake Springs on 4/12 (Terry Korolyk*, sketch).

BLACK-CHINNED SPARROW -- 3 or 4 were singing at the Sandia Mts. hawk watch site on 4/17 (WH).

SAGE SPARROW -- 2 were near Farmington on 3/19 (TR); 1 at Zuni 3/6 (DC). Very late for the southeast was 1 near Rattlesnake Springs 5/19 (PS).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW -- Singles were singing at the Maxwell NWR 5/22 (C. Brozek, fide RBA) and at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/5 (SW, TH).

FOX SPARROW -- A "very pale" 1 was at Rattlesnake Springs on 3/19 (SW, TH).

SWAMP SPARROW -- Reports included 1 at the Las Vegas NWR 4/24 (BF); 2 at the Rio Grande oxbow in Albuquerque on 4/2 (DM); 1 at Tucumcari L. 3/25 (CR); 1 at Santa Rosa 3/4 (CR); 3 at Las Palomas 3/28 (CR); 1 at Percha SP 4/17 and 4/24 (CS, TF); 1 at Fort Stanton, Lincoln Co., on 4/15 (CR); 4 at Bitter L. NWR on 4/16 (CR, DE, BN). A late 1 at Corrales on 5/2 (CR).

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW -- Lingering were 1 on 5/1 at Farmington (TR), 2 on 5/7 at Fort Sumner (CR), and 1 on 5/14 in Grant Co. (RF). 4 or 5 were in the Corrales bosque on 3/13 (WH) and 4/2 (BF).

GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW -- Unusual: an adult in alternate plumage was at the Randall Davey Audubon Center in Santa Fe on 5/1 (BF*).

HARRIS' SPARROW -- The only spring report was 1 at Bosque NWR 3/28 (CR) and 4/23 (ST+).

SLATE-COLORED (DARK-EYED) JUNCO -- Lingering from winter were 1 at Farmington on 3/1 (TR), 1 at Los Alamos 3/18 (PRS), and 1 at Silver City on 3/14-15 (EL).

YELLOW-EYED JUNCO -- A partial survey found 7 at Cistern Saddle in the Animas Mts. on 5 territories 5/15 (SOW).

EASTERN MEADOWLARK -- 2 near Nara Visa, Quay Co., 5/19 (JPH*, RWD); 1 at the Petroglyph NM near Albuquerque on 4/9 (WH); 2 heard near Estancia, Torrance Co., 4/9 (CR).

RUSTY BLACKBIRD -- Notably west were 2 at the marsh near Las Palomas at the n. end of Caballo L. on 3/28 (CR*); 1 female was at Rattlesnake Springs 3/19 (SW, TH).

COMMON GRACKLE -- Seems to be increasing and crowding the Arizona line, including 4 near Farmington 4/21 (CR) and 2 or 3 males at Zuni 4/10 to 4/13 (DC**).

BRONZED COWBIRD -- Continued to thrive in the south. A pair 5/25 to 5/31 at Silver City (EL); a male 5/18 at Socorro (PB); 1 male at Bosque NWR 5/10 (HS, SOW); 5 at Elephant Butte L. 5/5-6 (PS); 1 or 2 Post Office Canyon after 5/8 (RS); 1 male at a tank on 5/30 at Hatchet Gap, Hidalgo Co. (SOW); a male in Las Cruces 5/16 (GE); in Carlsbad 1 from late April through May (TH, fide SW); and 2 males at Rattlesnake Springs 5/9 (JP, BP).

ORCHARD ORIOLE -- 3 were north to Perico Creek, Union Co., on 5/25 (CR, CB); 1 male at Percha SP 5/15 (CS, TF). In Eddy Co. high counts of 10 at Black R. Village on 4/30 and 15 at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/5 (SW, TH).

HOODED ORIOLE -- North was a female at Zuni 4/5 (DC**). A male was on the San Andres NWR 5/31 (MW).

BALTIMORE ORIOLE -- Unusual: a male at Clayton 5/13 (WC+).

SCOTT'S ORIOLE -- 1 male at Farmington on 5/20 (TR+); 1 in the Caja del Rio w. of Santa Fe on 5/16 (CR); 1 at Zuni on 5/20 (DC); 8 in Bernalillo Co. on 5/14 (TB+).

CASSIN'S FINCH -- 3 in female plumage at Percha SP 5/17 (LG*, SC, NC).

RED CROSSBILL -- Relatively widespread and numerous in the north-central and southwestern mountains from late March to May (v.o.), but unreported elsewhere.

EVENING GROSBEEK -- Notably south in the Pinos Altos Mts. after March 31. Local nesting was suspected (RF). In normal numbers in the north-central highlands (v.o.).

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