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## SPRING 1997 HIGHLIGHTS

Rather cool, moist conditions described the state's spring weather with snowstorms occurring well into April, followed in May by an early onset of "monsoons" or summer rains. The migration was termed "slow" by some, although active birding efforts nevertheless documented several rarities and added a new species to the state list. It was an active season for loons. Some observers reported hummingbirds as scarce, but it was conjecture whether they suffered losses from a cold snap in April or were simply more widely dispersed than usual in response to abundant wild flowers.

### Abbreviations Used

AFB	Air Force Base	RGNC	Rio Grande Nature Center
CG	Campground		
Co.	County	R.	River
EBL	Elephant Butte Lake	SP	State Park
L.	Lake	WMA	Wildlife Management Area
Mt(s).	Mountain(s)		
N.M.	New Mexico	+	plus, et al.
NF	National Forest	v.o.	various observers
NM, NP	Natl. Monument, Park	*	details submitted
NWR	Natl. Wildlife Refuge	**	photo or tape given
RGV	Rio Grande Valley	***	specimen collected

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Hoffman, Dick & Jean		Oldenettel, J.	JO	Yancey, J.	JY
	DJH	Parmeter, John	JP	Zimmer, Barry	BZ
		Paton, James	JNP		

PLACE NAMES AND THEIR COUNTIES

Albuquerque	Bernalillo	Mangas Springs	Grant
Animas Mts.	Hidalgo	Melrose trap	Roosevelt
Animas Valley	Hidalgo	Morgan Lake	San Juan
Avalon Lake	Eddy	Mule Creek	Grant
Bernardo	Socorro	Navajo Lake	San Juan
Bitter Lake NWR	Chaves	Oasis SP	Roosevelt
Bluewater L.	Cibola, McKinley	Ojo Amarillo	San Juan
Boone's Draw	Roosevelt	Otero Mesa	Otero
Bosque (del Apache)	NWR	Percha Dam SP	Sierra
	Socorro	Portales	Roosevelt
Brantley Lake	Eddy	Post Office Canyon	Hidalgo
Caballo Lake	Sierra	Quarai Ruins	Torrance
Capitan	Lincoln	Rattlesnake Springs	Eddy
Carlsbad Caverns NP	Eddy	Redrock	Grant
Clovis	Curry	Roberts Lake	Grant
Cochiti Lake	Sandoval	Rodeo	Hidalgo
Columbus	Luna	Roswell	Chaves
Deming	Luna	Ruidoso	Lincoln
Elephant Butte Lake	Sierra	San Antonio	Socorro
Española	Rio Arriba	Sandia Mts.	Bernalillo
Eunice	Lea	Santa Fe	Santa Fe
Farley	Colfax	Santa Rosa	Guadalupe
Farmington, Lake	San Juan	Sevilleta NWR	Socorro
Fort Sumner	DeBaca	Socorro	Socorro
Gila	Grant	Storrie Lake SP	San Miguel
Holloman Lakes	Otero	Sumner Lake SP	DeBaca
Jal	Lea	Sunland Park	Doña Ana
La Joya WMA	Socorro	Texico	Curry
Las Cruces	Doña Ana	Tucumcari, Lake	Quay
Lordsburg	Hidalgo	Viriden	Hidalgo
Los Alamos	Los Alamos	White Sands NM	Otero
Madrid	Santa Fe	Zuni	McKinley

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

RED-THROATED LOON -- 1 in breeding plumage at Brantley L. on 4/30 (DJH\*).

PACIFIC LOON -- 1 at Cochiti L. on 4/27 (BH\*); 1 immature on Ute L., Quay Co., on 5/24 (JO\*); 2 in winter plumage at Sumner L. on 3/5 (PRS\*); 1 immature on Brantley L. on 5/5 (JO\*, JP\*).

HORNED GREBE -- 1 on Stubblefield L., Colfax Co., on 3/22 (JO, JP); 1 on Storrie L. on 3/23 (JO).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN -- 6 and 7 at Bluewater L. on 3/29 and 3/30 (DC, JO) and 1 near Zuni on 5/10 (DC).  
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BROWN PELICAN -- A sub-adult found its way to Las Cruces where it was actively plunge-diving at Burn L. from 5/26 to 5/30 (GE\*, JP\*, JNP\*\*, BZ\*\*).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT -- Found at several higher elevation lakes, including singles at Roberts L. 5/14 (RF) and Mescalero L. near Ruidoso in Otero Co. 4/2 and 4/15 (AP), plus 2 at Grindstone L. at Ruidoso 4/23 (AP).

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT -- Persisted in the Pecos R. drainage where there was 1 at Santa Rosa 5/16 to 5/31 (JO) and 2 at Avalon L. 4/19 to 5/10 (JO, JP, DJH, CR *fide* SW).

GREAT BLUE HERON -- Breeding: 5 active nests, each with 1 adult brooding, in upper EBL on 3/22 (SOW), where nesting is seldom recorded.

GREAT EGRET -- Peripherals included singles near Zuni on 4/27 and 5/31 (DC), at Ojo Caliente L., Cibola Co., 5/10 (DC), and at the Heart Bar WMA, near Gila Hot Springs, Catron Co., on 5/29 (SOW, Marshall Conway).

Hérons -- Breeding: a heronry near Anthony, Doña Ana Co., had 10 nests each of SNOWY EGRETS and BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERONS, plus 40 CATTLE EGRET nests on 4/27 (JNP).

LITTLE BLUE HERON -- Single adults near Zuni 4/26 to 5/7 (DC\*\*), Bosque NWR from 4/5 to 5/1 (BN, DE, CR, JO, JP, LG) and Avalon L. on 4/30 (DJH).

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON -- Breeding: 3 nests at Morgan L. in a Russian olive thicket on 4/8 (TR).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON -- An adult at Bosque Redondo Park near Fort Sumner 5/16 (JP\*, JO\*\*) furnished a local first. Another adult was at Bosque NWR 4/5-6 (JP\*, JO\*\*).

WHITE-FACED IBIS -- Late migrants were 13 at Fort Sumner on 5/31 (JO), 10 near Columbus on 5/25 (SOW), and 2 over Deming 5/10 (LM). High count of 230 at Bosque NWR 4/30 (GE).

FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK -- Finally verified in N.M. with the brief appearance of 2 adults at Holloman L. on 5/17 and 5/18 (GE\*, SW\*, JP\*, JO\*\*, JY). Unverified reports, mainly in spring, extend back to 1949.

TUNDRA SWAN -- Holdovers from last winter, the last 1 at Bosque NWR was seen 5/8 (JP).

TRUMPETER SWAN -- The 1 reported in winter at La Joya WMA persisted until 3/19 (PRS\*, BW+, BN\*, DE\*, v.o.).

WOOD DUCK -- Breeding: a female with 6 young on the Rio Grande at the Rio Bravo bridge, Albuquerque, 5/15 (DS).

MEXICAN MALLARD -- Breeding: adults with young were seen in the Animas Valley on 4/16 and 5/21 (AMC, NMC).

EURASIAN WIGEON -- A male at Storrie L. 5/22-23 (CR, JO).

SURF SCOTER -- 1 adult male in breeding plumage on 4/10 on Farmington L. (TR\*\*).

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE -- 1 female on the San Juan R. on 3/7 below Navajo Dam was the last seen (TR).

HOODED MERGANSER -- 1 female at the RGNC in Albuquerque on 3/27 (BV) and 4/16 (JO); 1 female on sewage ponds at Isleta Pueblo, Bernalillo Co., on 4/25 (JO); 2 females on Alto L., Lincoln Co., on 4/2 (AP).

COMMON MERGANSER -- Late were 2 males and a female 5/11 on the San Ildefonso Pueblo irrigation pond in Santa Fe Co. (JO). 1 female was at Oasis SP on 4/26 (JP, JO).

TURKEY VULTURE -- The spring's first arrival was about on schedule at Deming 3/16 (JO). A record 2531 passed the Sandia Mts. lookout 3/19 to 5/5 (HWI), which easily eclipsed the previous record of 1785.

OSPREY -- Breeding: incubation was underway at 3 nests in Rio Arriba Co. by early May (DS);...they continued to exhibit their striking comeback with often multiple reports from 23 locales statewide. From 3/23 to 5/6 a record 103 passed the Sandia Mts. lookout, up 90% from the long term average there (HWI).

WHITE-TAILED KITE -- Singles at Redrock 3/15 (JO\*) and n. of Hachita, Grant Co., on 3/16 (JO\*\*).

MISSISSIPPI KITE -- Found where seldom reported were 4 at Fort Sumner on 5/25 (JO) and 1 at Elida in Roosevelt Co. on 5/9 (BN, DE).

BALD EAGLE -- Breeding: There were 2 small chicks in the Sierra Co. nest 4/6 and 1 chick in the Colfax Co. nest on 5/2 (SOW);...22 were counted at the Sandia Mts. lookout from 2/10 to 4/16. (HWI).

NORTHERN HARRIER -- 47 over the Sandia Mts. lookout 3/9 to 5/3 (HWI); 1 female in the Animas Valley 5/25 (SOW).

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK -- A record total of 1280 passed over the Sandia Mts. lookout from 2/10 to 5/7 (HWI).

COOPER'S HAWK -- 836 were counted over the Sandia Mts. lookout from 3/1 to 5/6 (HWI).

NORTHERN GOSHAWK -- 18 were over the Sandia Mts. lookout from 3/11 to 4/27 (HWI).

COMMON BLACK-HAWK -- Breeding: 1 was on a nest on 4/30 at San Patricio, Lincoln Co. (SMB), a significant range extension; ...east in range were singles at Santa Rosa on 4/19 (DE, BN) and at Percha SP on 3/19 (GE).

GRAY HAWK -- 1 adult possible at Percha SP 4/15 (DL\*) and 4/18 (JO\*), where the situation was complicated by the presence of Broad-winged Hawks.

HARRIS'S HAWK -- 1 on 5/3 at the Santa Rita copper mine, Grant Co., at 6000 feet (JNP, BZ\*\*).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK -- Almost tripling the previous high, a record 19 migrated past the Sandia Mts. lookout 4/20 to 5/1 (HWI); elsewhere singles were at Santa Fe on 4/27 (PRS\*, CR, BF, v.o.), and near Lake Arthur in Chaves Co. on 4/27 (JP, JO). 1 or 2 at Percha SP 4/18 to 4/29 (JO\*, DH, JP, BZ\*\*).

SWAINSON'S HAWK -- A congregation of 35 was feeding on airborne insects at Animas on 5/21 (AMC).

ZONE-TAILED HAWK -- 2 over the Sandia Mts. lookout 3/28 and 1 on 4/5 (HWI). 1 adult at Rattlesnake Springs 4/29 (DJH\*).

GOLDEN EAGLE -- 352 over the Sandia Mts. lookout 2/20 until 5/6 (HWI).

MERLIN -- Continued to show an increase on the Sandia Mts. lookout where a record 24 were counted 2/15 to 5/3 (HWI).

PEREGRINE FALCON -- 91 counted at the Sandia Mts. lookout from 2/11 until 5/3 (HWI).

NORTHERN BOBWHITE -- 1 vocal bird was northwest in range to Puerto de Luna, Guadalupe Co., on 5/31 (JO).

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER -- 1 in breeding plumage near Clovis on 5/3 (JO, JP).

SNOWY PLOVER -- Breeding: 9 at Holloman L. 5/17 with 1 or 2 chicks (GE);...Peripheral reports included 1 on 4/26 and 5/10 at Morgan L. (TR); 2 at EBL on 4/25 (JP) and 5/1 (BN, DE, CR); and 1 to 4 at Brantley L. from 4/15 to 4/27 (SW, JO, JP, DJH). High count of 200 at Bitter L. NWR on 4/13 (SW).

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER -- High count of 20 at Bitter L. NWR on 5/3 (JP, JO). 2 were late near Columbus on 5/26 (SOW) as was 1 at Holloman L. on 5/18 (JO).

MOUNTAIN PLOVER -- Breeding: a nest with 3 eggs was found at a Farley prairie dog town on 5/16 (Stephen Dinsmore).

AMERICAN AVOCET -- Plentiful rains in the e. plains provided good conditions for nesting, including a colony of 20 to 30 adults at San Jon, Quay Co., on 5/3 (JO).

WILLET -- Widespread and numerous 4/21 to 5/3 from the Pecos Valley westward. The earliest were 5 at Brantley L. on 4/13 (SW), the latest were 13 at Farmington L. 5/9 (TR). High count was 50 at EBL on 4/29 (BZ).

WHIMBREL -- Singles were at Morgan L. on 5/2 (TR) and at Holloman L. on 5/17 (GE); 2 were at Bitter L. NWR on 4/27 (JP\*, JO\*\*).

LONG-BILLED CURLEW -- 1 strayed west to Zuni 4/27 (DC\*\*); 4 were in the grassy foothills of the s. Magdalena Mts., in Socorro Co., on 4/26 (HS).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT -- 1 among a flock of 100 Marbleds on 4/26 at Bosque NWR was well-described (BN\*, DE\*).

MARBLED GODWIT -- Made a strong showing almost statewide 4/20 to 5/6 (v.o.). High count was 200 at Avalon L. on 4/26 (JO, JP)

SANDERLING -- Fewer this spring; 1 at the Ojo Amarillo sewage ponds 5/2 (TR); 1 at Brantley L. 5/5 and 5/9 (JP, JO), and 1 on the Laguna Grande, Eddy Co., 5/17 (JO).

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER -- 1 at Bosque NWR 5/1 (BN\*, DE\*, CR); 1 Bitter L. NWR 5/2 (BN\*, DE\*, CR); 2 at Brantley L. 4/15 (SW\*, JY) and 4/27 (DJH\*); 1 at Maddox L. near Hobbs in Lea Co. on 5/10 (BN\*, DE\*).

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WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER -- Somewhat early was 1 on 5/8 at Lovington, Lea Co. (JP\*, JO\*\*). Others included 2 each at San Jon, Quay Co., (JO\*) and Clovis (JO\*\*) on 5/31.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER -- 1 near Clovis on 5/16-17 (JP, JO).

DUNLIN -- 1 at Bitter L. NWR on 4/13 (SW) and 4/27 (JO).

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER -- High count of about 500 on 4/27 at Bosque NWR (JO).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE -- 1 female in alternate plumage at Bosque NWR on 4/26 (BN, DE).

RED PHALAROPE -- 1 at Bosque NWR on 5/30 (Bob Williams\*\*) was a rare spring treat.

FRANKLIN'S GULL -- Evidence that their migration through N.M. is on a broad front was shown by 24 near Mule Creek on 4/22 (BM, DM), 22 near Deming on 4/21 (LM), and 2 at Capitan on 4/12 (SW).

BONAPARTE'S GULL -- 1 in the Uvas Valley in Luna Co. on 4/20 (JO), and 1 at Lordsburg on 4/13 (JO).

RING-BILLED GULL -- Noteworthy in Hidalgo Co. were 35 at Lordsburg 4/13 (JO) and 15 near Road Forks on 4/25 (DJH).

THAYER'S GULL -- A probable at EBL on 4/11 (JO).

GLAUCOUS X HERRING GULL -- A possible hybrid at Brantley L. on 4/26 (JP\*, JO\*\*).

LEAST TERN -- Breeding: at Bitter L. NWR, the only known site for nesting, only 3 pairs were present and starting to nest by late May (JM);...Wandering more widely than usual were singles north and west to Farmington on 5/11 (TR\*\*) and 5/22 (DL+), Tucumcari L. on 5/25 (JO), Bosque NWR on 5/3 (BZ\*, JNP), and Anthony, Doña Ana Co., 4/27 (JNP), plus 2 near Clovis on 5/7 (JP, JO).

EURASIAN COLLARED=DOVE -- Still bidding for a place on the N.M. list, 4 persisted at Roswell through 5/10 (SMB); first reported September, 1995, their early association with Ringed Turtle-Doves has clouded their status.

WHITE-WINGED DOVE -- Filling gaps in distribution in the RGV were 1 calling at Bernardo 3/19 (PRS+), 4 on 5/8 at Sevilleta NWR (BH, AM), and 1 at Boone's Draw 5/8 (JP). 20 in the Sacramento Mts. at Mescalero on 4/12 (SW, JY).

INCA DOVE -- Singles were north to Albuquerque 3/30 (John Arnold\*) and Boone's Draw on 5/17 (JP, JO).

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO -- Early were singles near Gila 5/10 to 5/16 (RF) and at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/10 (SW).

BARN OWL -- Breeding: a nest with 2 chicks at Bosque NWR on 5/2 was situated only 5 feet from a similarly active GREAT HORNED OWL nest (JO).

WESTERN SCREECH-OWL -- 1 that responded to a tape on 5/25 at Tucumcari L. (JO) was far east of usual; another was calling near Wall L., Catron Co., on 3/20 (SOW).

LESSER NIGHTHAWK -- The earliest was 1 near Deming 4/27 (LM) and 4 at Carlsbad, Eddy Co., on 4/28 (DJH).

WHIP-POOR-WILL -- A male of undetermined race was at the migrant trap w. of Melrose on 5/7 (JP\*, JO\*).

BLACK SWIFT -- 2 were over Otero Mesa on 5/22 (RM\*).

CHIMNEY SWIFT -- 1 west to Percha SP 4/25 (JP); in the east 1 at Tucumcari on 5/25 (JO), 3 in Portales on 5/17 (JO, JP), 1 to 4 at Roswell 5/7 to 5/28 (JM), and 1 on 5/3 at Avalon L. (JO, JP).

CHAETURA SWIFT -- 5 at Virden on 4/12 (JO, LC); time and location were good for the still unverified Vaux's Swift in the state.

MAGNIFICENT HUMMINGBIRD -- Continuing their colonization of the Sacramento Mts., 2 were at Ruidoso from 4/10 until 4/23 (AP, Diana Harris). In the southwest, Post Office Canyon had a female on 3/21 and a male 5/25 (RS), while another male was in the Animas Valley on 4/16 (AMC, NMC).

LUCIFER HUMMINGBIRD -- The first of spring reached Post Office Canyon on 3/29 (RS); but no more than 2 males and no females were seen there through the period.

COSTA'S HUMMINGBIRD -- Suggestive of local breeding were 2 males, 1 displaying, in the Gila R. Middle Box Canyon above Redrock on 4/15 (DL).

RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD -- Spring migration is mainly west of N.M.; so noteworthy was a male in the Animas Valley on 4/16 (AMC, NMC).

LEWIS'S WOODPECKER -- 1 was south in the Mimbres Valley to San Juan on 3/16 (RF), while in the RGV 1 or 2 persisted south to Percha SP through 4/20 (HS, JO, GE, DE, BN, v.o.) and Sunland Park through 4/15 (JNP). Singles were near San Antonio 3/16 (JO) and at the Quarai Ruins on 5/3 (HS).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER -- West of its range was 1 near San Ildefonso Pueblo at Pajarito Village, Santa Fe Co., 5/28 to 5/31 (PRS, SW, JY, Ellen Espinoza).

GILA WOODPECKER -- 2 were north to Buckhorn, Grant Co., on 5/11 (RF). For the second year at least 1 was east of the Animas Mts. on Deer Creek 5/26 (SOW).

DOWNY WOODPECKER -- At the s. edge of their range were 1 in the Pinos Altos Mts., Grant Co., on 5/2 (LM); 1 at Emory Pass in the Black Range, Grant Co., 5/3 (BZ, JNP); a female at Percha SP on 4/6 (BN, DE); and a female 3/1 at Santa Rosa (JO, JP, AMC, NMC).

THREE-TOED WOODPECKER -- The recent Dome fire area in the Jemez Mts. west of Los Alamos in Sandoval Co. was dependable for 2 or 3 through 5/31 (PRS, SW, JP, v.o.).

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE -- Undetailed was 1 reported banded at Bosque NWR on 5/12 (DH).

LEAST FLYCATCHER -- 1 at the migrant trap w. of Melrose on 5/7 (JP) and 1 banded on 5/8 (AMC, NMC); 1 at Boone's Draw 5/17 (JO); 1 at Rattlesnake Springs 5/9-10 (JO, JP).

GRAY FLYCATCHER -- An impressive showing in desert areas from Lordsburg to Redrock were at least 10 in 40 minutes on 5/3 (BZ, JNP). About 10 were in the Guadalupe Mts., Eddy Co., on 5/9 (JP, JO).

EASTERN PHOEBE -- 1 was at Santa Rosa on 5/16 (JO); 1 at Caballo L. on 4/8 (GE\*); late for the south was 1 on 5/4 at Rattlesnake Springs (SW).

VERMILION FLYCATCHER -- Notable were 1 at Loving in Eddy Co. on 5/10 (JY, *fide* SW) and 1 or 2 north to Bosque NWR from 4/4 to 4/27 (JP, LG, PRS+, BN, DE). High counts in the southwest included 32 in Grant Co. on 5/10 (RF+) and 10 in the Animas Valley on 3/28 (AMC, NMC).

WESTERN KINGBIRD -- Unusually early were singles in the Animas Valley on 3/12 (AMC, NMC) and at Garfield, Doña Ana Co., on 3/29 (JO). 1 was high in elevation and was weathering a snowstorm near Alto in Lincoln Co. on 4/12 (SW, JY).

EASTERN KINGBIRD -- 5 were at Española on 5/17 (BF+).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER -- 1 west to the Sevilleta NWR on 5/15 was a local first (AM\*, Ross Teuber).

PURPLE MARTIN -- Breeding: nesting near Roberts L. 5/14 (RF); ....4 near Zuni on 5/16 (DC); 1 male in the Sandia Mts. near Cedar Crest, Bernalillo Co., on 5/16 (SW, JY); 1 in the Black Range, Grant Co, on 5/1 (BN, DE).

CAVE SWALLOW -- Breeding: again nested in s. Doña Ana Co. near La Union (BZ); ....the numbers at Carlsbad Caverns NP were judged stable at 1800 to 2000 birds (SW).

BLUE JAY -- West of the usual range were 2 at Socorro through 4/27 (DH).

CLARK'S NUTCRACKER -- Conspicuous in the s. Black Range, where rare, including 20 at the Iron Creek CG., Grant Co., on 5/1 (BN, DE, CR); flocks of 30 to 40 in the Sandia Mts. and in the Manzano Mts. in Torrance Co. through 4/28 (HS, BV), where they foraged down to the pinyon-juniper zone.

AMERICAN CROW -- Continuing their southward movement were 16 near Mesilla, Doña Ana Co., on 4/1 (GE); 2 and 3 near Mayhill, Otero Co., on 4/6 and 4/20 (SW, JY).

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE -- High count of 49 on 5/17 in the Española area (BF+).

MOUNTAIN CHICKADEE -- Lingered in submontane areas through March; among the latest was 1 at Morgan L. on 4/28 (TR).

VERDIN -- Breeding: a pair feeding fledglings at Redrock 5/28 (SOW); ....1 north in the RGV to Bernardo 3/19 (PRS+).

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH -- Lingered in the lowlands; notable were singles at the Melrose trap on 5/17 (JO), at Percha SP on 5/3 (BZ), at Rattlesnake Springs 5/9-10 (SW, JY, AMC, NMC), and at Jal on 5/4 (JO). 3 at Deming on 4/27 (LM).

BROWN CREEPER -- 1 at the San Andres NWR, Doña Ana Co., on 3/20 may have been the first recorded on that refuge (Mara Weisenberger).

CACTUS WREN -- 1 north to Albuquerque in the Northeast Heights 3/23 (BV), where it was also present in 1996, and east to Alamogordo Canyon in e. Guadalupe Co. 5/26 (JO).

ROCK WREN -- 1 was at Boone's Draw on 5/4 (DE).

CANYON WREN -- 1 singing at Fort Sumner on 5/25 (JO).

BLACK-TAILED GNATCATCHER -- Southwest records included a pair in Hughes Canyon near Virden and a male at the San Simon Ciénega, Hidalgo Co., on 4/12 (JO).

MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD -- Breeding: A pair had a nest at 5500 feet, a low elevation, in Placitas, Sandoval Co. (HS). The female was feeding young on 5/24.

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE -- Late for the south was 1 on 5/7 at Spring Canyon SP in the Florida Mts. near Deming (LM), 1 to 5 at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/4 (JO, JP, Jon Dunn, SW+), and 1 at Jal on 5/17 (JO).

SWAINSON'S THRUSH -- A high count of 5 at the Melrose migrant trap on 5/9 (DE, BN).

HERMIT THRUSH -- 1 near Farmington on 3/1 (TR) may have wintered locally; an estimated 50 were part of a large fallout at the Melrose trap on 5/11 (BN, DE).

GRAY CATBIRD -- 1 at the Albuquerque oxbow on the Rio Grande 5/24 (BH); 1 to 3 near Zuni 5/17 to 5/31 (DC); 2 at Bosque NWR on 5/17 (SW, DE, JY); 1 at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/23 (SW, T. J. Hines).

LONG-BILLED THRASHER -- The well-publicized 1 near Fort Sumner at Bosque Redondo Park that was discovered 2/22 continued to perform through May (BN\*, DE\*, SOW\*, v.o.); less well studied was yet another on 3/2 reported at Rattlesnake Springs (SW\*, JY).

BROWN THRASHER -- 1 or 2 at eastern locales (including Bosque Redondo Park near Fort Sumner and at Rattlesnake Springs) during the period (JP, JO, DJH, v.o.); 1 was at Las Cruces from 3/23 to 4/25 (GE).

BENDIRE'S THRASHER -- Breeding: 3 and a nest with young was n. of Lordsburg on 5/1 and 5/3 (BZ), where nesting is poorly documented.

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER -- Breeding: a pair that wintered at Eldorado near Santa Fé was seen feeding a stub-tailed juvenal on 5/9-10 (SOW).

CRISSAL THRASHER -- Breeding: a nest with 3 eggs was at the Petroglyph NM near Albuquerque on 5/21 (HS) and a juvenile was near Madrid 5/11 (Lawry Sager;...1 that weathered the Los Alamos winter was last seen on 3/12 (R. Boicourt).

CEDAR WAXWING -- Migrants were widespread in May; late were 1 at Albuquerque 5/24 (BH), 18 near Fort Sumner on 5/25 (JO), and 50 at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/23 (SW).

WHITE-EYED VIREO -- 1 was singing in Rhodes Canyon on the White Sands Missile Range in e. Sierra Co. on 5/18 (John Puschock\*).

BELL'S VIREO -- 1 singing in Spring Canyon SP near Deming on 5/7 (LM) provided a local first.

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO -- Although rare, recently they have become almost regular in migration at Boone's Draw. This spring at least 2 were seen there 5/7 (JP\* JO\*\*, AMC, NMC), and 1 was at the migrant trap w. of Melrose on 5/20 (BW\*).

RED-EYED VIREO -- Singles were at the migrant trap w. of Melrose on 5/7 (JP\*, JO), on 5/11 (BN\*, DE\*) and 5/16 (JP); and at Percha SP on 5/31 (BZ\*).

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER -- Singles at Morgan L. on 5/10 (D. and M. Longenbauch\*, TR\*\*) and at Clayton on 5/5 (Wes Cook).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER -- 1 male was banded at Bosque NWR on 5/15 and a female banded on 5/30 (DH).

TENNESSEE WARBLER -- 1 was westerly at Redrock 4/24 (DJH).

NORTHERN PARULA -- Singles near Moriarty, Torrance Co., on 5/9 and 5/11 (BN\*, DE\*, JP\*, JO\*\*) and 5/23 (JO\*\*); at San Patricio in Lincoln Co. 4/30 (SMB); at Boone's Draw on 5/17 (JP\*); and White Sands NM 4/15 to 4/21 (John Mangimeli\*).

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER -- Singles were a male on 5/9 at Albuquerque (BV\*), a female at the Melrose trap on 5/11 (BN\*, DE\*), and a male at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/6 (JP, JO\*, AMC, NMC, Ted Eliot).

MAGNOLIA WARBLER -- A male at Boone's Draw 5/17 (JP\*, JO\*).

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER -- 1 female was at the Melrose trap on 5/16 (JP\*).

BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER -- 1 was easterly at Boone's Draw on 5/11 (BN, DE).

PRAIRIE WARBLER -- 1 well-detailed was at Boone's Draw on 5/4 (BN\*, DE\*, CR) was the state's fourth record in less than two years.

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER -- 1 female was banded at Bosque NWR on 5/15 (DH).

BLACKPOLL WARBLER -- A female was near Seneca, Union Co., on 5/24 (JO\*), a male was at the Melrose trap 5/11 (BN\*, DE\*) and a female on 5/17 (JP\*, JO\*\*).

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER -- 1 male at Socorro on 4/6 (Pat Basham); 1 male at the Melrose trap on 5/7 (JO, JP); at Boone's Draw 3 on 5/7 with 1 banded (AMC, NMC, JO, JP), 1 male on 5/8 (JO), and a female on 5/4 (BN, DE, CR); 1 female at Ramon, DeBaca Co., on 5/10 (JO, JP); and 1 on the White Sands Missile Range, Sierra Co., on 5/14 (John Puschock). 1 female was westerly at Virden 4/26 (DJH); 1 male near Rattlesnake Springs on 5/3 (BN, DE, CR); 1 male and a female at Jal on 5/4 (JP, JO); and 1 male at Eunice on 5/4 (JO, JP).

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER -- 1 in the snow at Cedar Crest in Bernalillo Co. on 5/12 (David Ligon); another singing at Rattlesnake Springs on 5/17 (DL).

OVENBIRD -- 1 at the Melrose trap 5/7 (JO), 1 at Boone's Draw on 5/4 (BN, DE, CR), and 1 at Jal on 5/4 (JP).

MOURNING WARBLER -- An apparent male was at the Melrose trap on 5/7 (JP\*, JO\*) for only the state's seventh well-documented report.

HOODED WARBLER -- Singles seen at the Melrose trap were a female on 5/7 and 5/9 (JP\*, JO\*, DE\*, BN\*) and another female s. of Vaughn, Guadalupe Co., on 5/31 (SW\*, JY).

SCARLET TANAGER -- Rare in the state was a male at the White Sands NM on 5/28 (John Mangimeli\*).

NORTHERN CARDINAL -- Considered scarce in Doña Ana Co., a singing male was at Owens Farm near Santa Teresa 5/2 (BZ\*\*). Continuing a northerly trend were a male at Santa Rosa on 3/1 (JP, JO, AMC, NMC) and 1 at Tucumcari L. on 5/25 (JO).

PYRRHULOXIA -- Northerly was 1 at the Melrose trap 3/1 (JO, JP, AMC, NMC).

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK -- Staged an impressive showing with 1 or 2 at some ten sites from the RGV eastward from 5/5 to 5/17 (v.o.). Westward, late, and likely a local first was a male at Columbus on 5/26 (SOW).

INDIGO BUNTING --1 was in Deming on 5/15 (LM).

VARIED BUNTING -- 1 male at the San Andres NWR, Doña Ana Co., 5/29 (Don Brubaker\*); 1 at Walnut Canyon, Carlsbad Caverns NP, from mid- to late May (*fide* BH) and 5/26 (SW).

GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE -- A pair was south to Capilla Peak in the Manzano Mts. on the late date of 5/18 (BH+).

CANYON TOWHEE -- At low elevation were 1 near Malaga, in Eddy Co., on 4/19 (SW) and 2 east to Allread Tank w. of Eunice in Lea Co. on 5/8 (JO, JP).

CASSIN'S SPARROW -- In spite of seemingly good habitat conditions, they were absent (or at least undetected) on late May surveys in Luna, Grant, and Hidalgo Cos. (SOW).

BREWER'S SPARROW -- Around 500 were along Deer Creek east of the Animas Mts. on 4/29 (AMC, NMC).

FIELD SPARROW -- Only 1 was at Rattlesnake Springs 3/2 (SW, JY), 1 to 3 passed through Boone's Draw from 4/20 to 5/8 (BN, DE, JO, JP, v.o.), while the last of several that wintered at the Melrose trap was seen 5/7 (JP).

SAGE SPARROW -- Away from the usual range were 2 or 3 that were singing s. of El Rito in Rio Arriba Co. on 5/30 (JP).

LARK BUNTING -- 1 female at the Placitas Open Space n. of Albuquerque, Sandoval Co., on 5/24 (HS); where they are seldom seen.

BAIRD'S SPARROW -- Intensive surveys on Otero Mesa on Fort Bliss found 1 to 6 at six sites from 3/4 to 4/14, with "peak" numbers in early April, including 3 on 4/9 at Shiloh Draw and 6 (some singing) near Mesa Horse Camp on 4/10 (RM\*). 1 on Cannon AFB near Clovis on 4/25 (R. Rasmussen\*, sketch). To the west, 3 near Cloverdale, Hidalgo Co., on 4/13 (JO\*, LC).

LINCOLN'S SPARROW -- Late was 1 at Albuquerque 5/24 (BH).

SWAMP SPARROW -- Where rarely reported were singles at the Melrose trap on 5/7 (JO) and n. of Texico on 5/3 (JO).

GOLDEN-CROWNED-SPARROW -- Left over from winter's influx were 1 at Bosque Redondo Park near Fort Sumner 3/1 (JP\*, JO\*\*, BN\*, DE\*) and 2 at Bosque NWR through mid-March (JO\*\*, v.o.), with the last seen there on 5/1 (BN, DE). Undetailed was 1 at Santa Fe on 4/27 (PRS+, CR, BF+).  
97-2 (Spring '97)



HARRIS'S SPARROW -- 1 banded at Bosque NWR on 4/28 (DH), 1 appeared at Rattlesnake Springs from 5/3 to 5/6 (JO\*\*, BN, DE, JP, v.o.).

LAPLAND LONGSPUR -- 1 was still at the Grasslands Turf Ranch at Los Lunas, Valencia Co., on 3/7 (JP).

BOBOLINK -- 1 male at the Parkview Fish Hatchery at Los Ojos, Rio Arriba Co., on 5/30, and a male and 2 females there on 5/31 (JP).

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE -- Single males on 3/30 at Los Ojos, Rio Arriba Co. (PRS) and at Overlook Park in the White Rock part of Los Alamos on 4/13 (PRS).

COMMON GRACKLE -- 4 at Farmington on 4/10 and 1 on 5/28 (TR); 1 at Zuni on 4/18 and 5/10 (DC); 10 at Los Alamos on 5/11 (JO, PRS); 10 at Socorro on 5/27 (PRS, BW); and 4 at Burn L. in Las Cruces on 5/26 (GE).

BRONZED COWBIRD -- 1 returned to Las Cruces on 4/25 (GE) and a female was at Owens Farm near Santa Teresa, Doña Ana Co., on 5/2 (BZ). In the east were single males at Eunice on 5/4 (JO, JP) and at Jal on 5/17 (JO).

ORCHARD ORIOLE -- Unusual in the southwest was a male in Guadalupe Canyon, Hidalgo Co., on 4/11 (JP\*).

BALTIMORE ORIOLE -- An adult male was at Cedar Crest on 5/11 (Ken Schneider\*), where others have been reported there in past years.

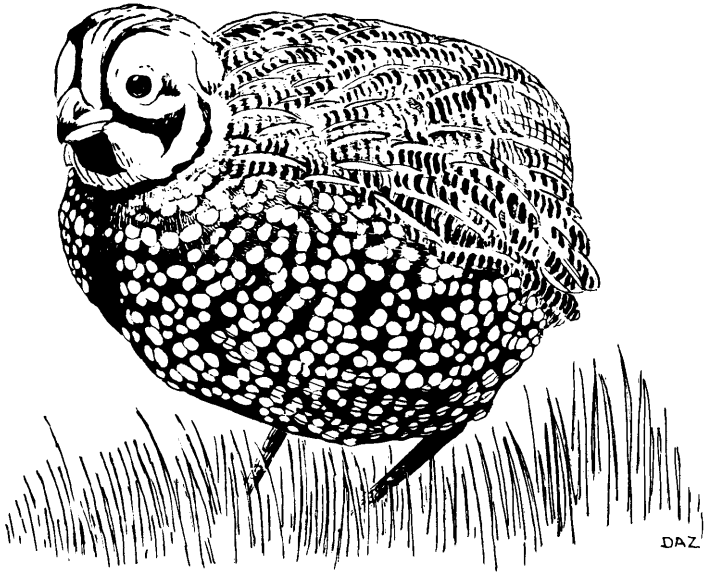
ROSY FINCHES -- A mixed flock of about 15 GRAY-CROWNED, 1 BLACK, and 20 BROWN-CAPPED was on Cumbres Pass 8 miles n. of Chama, Rio Arriba Co., 3/26 (DC\*\*). Another flock of 35 Gray-crowned, 5 Black, and 10 Brown-capped was at the Taos Ski Basin, Taos Co., on 3/29 (BH).

PURPLE FINCH -- Likely were 2 males and a female on 4/1 at Glenwood, Catron Co., (BM\*, DM).

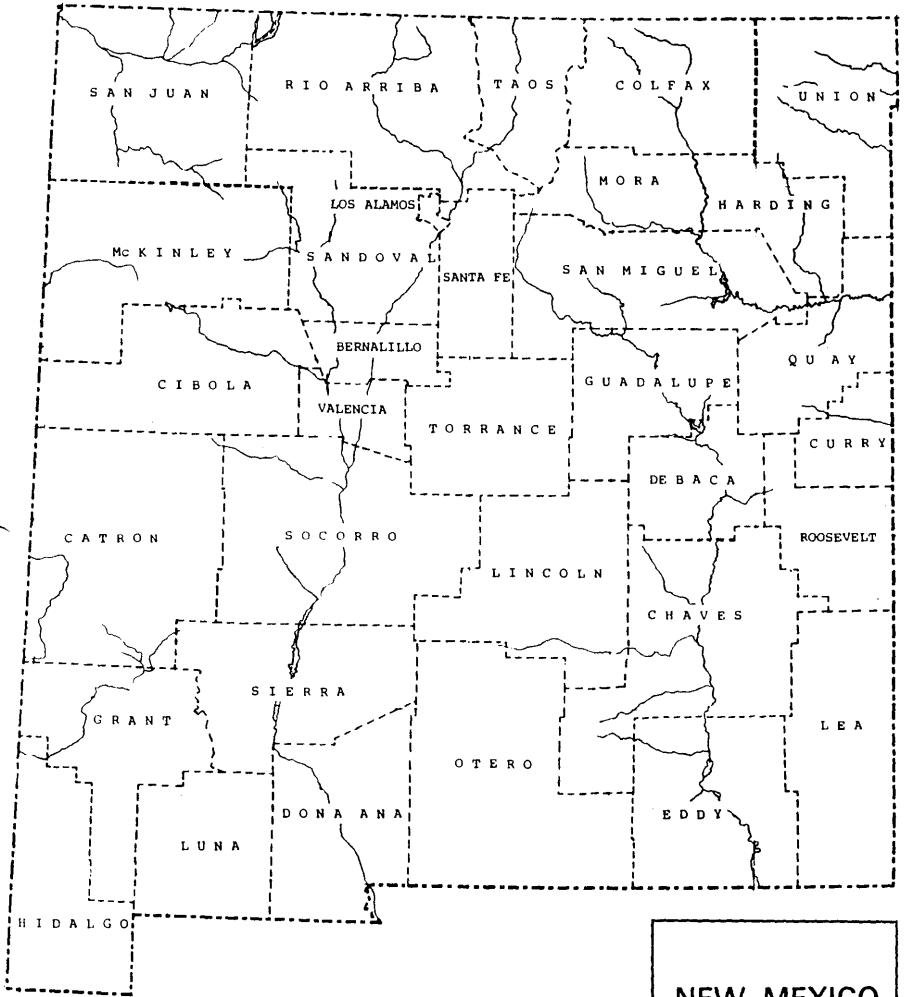
FINCHES -- The widespread, massive lowland invasion of CASSIN'S FINCHES, RED CROSSBILLS, and EVENING GROSBILLS last winter reached all corners of the state, receding gradually as spring advanced. Stragglers remained in non-breeding habitats well into May (v.o.).

LAWRENCE'S GOLDFINCH -- The last from winter's flight were single females at Caballo L. on 3/19 (GE) and 4/6 (BN\*, DE), at Mangas Springs on 3/3 (RF), and 1 or 2 at Virden on 3/15 (JO), plus an impressive 21 at Rodeo on 3/8 (NMC, Rick Taylor).

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Montezuma Quail



# NEW MEXICO

SCALE OF MILES



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