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New Mexico Ornithological Society Field Notes

Volume 38, No. 3
June 1 to July 31, 1999

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SUMMER 1999 HIGHLIGHTS

The dry spring gave way to abundant summer rains that by July had spread virtually statewide, transforming the New Mexico landscape to one of verdant lushness. The luxuriant surroundings elicited such comments as "looks like Ireland" and "reminiscent of the Venezuelan llanos in the rainy season." Several eastern warblers found the Gila Valley near Cliff to their liking. Meanwhile the state edged closer to the State 500 club when number 499 was photo documented in July—the Swainson's Warbler.

Abbreviations Used

BBS - Breeding Bird Survey	RGNC - Rio Grande Nature Center
CG - Campground	RGV - Rio Grande Valley
Co. - County	R. - River
EBL - Elephant Butte Lake	UNM - University of N.M.
IR - Indian Reservation	v.o. - various observers
L. - Lake	+ - plus, et al.
Mt(s) - Mountain (s)	* - details given
NM - National Monument	** - Photo, tape submitted
NWR - Natl. Wildlife Refuge	*** - specimen collected
N.M. - New Mexico	

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PLACE NAMES AND THEIR COUNTIES

Abiquiu (Rio Arriba)	Loving (Eddy)
Albuquerque (Bernalillo)	Mangas Springs (Grant)
Animas Mts., Valley (Hidalgo)	Melrose trap (Roosevelt)
Aztec (San Juan)	Navajo Lake (San Juan)
Bernardo (Socorro)	Nutt area (Sierra)
Bitter Lake NWR. (Chaves)	Pecos (San Miguel)
Bluewater (Cibola)	Peloncillo Mts. (Hidalgo)
Bosque (del Apache) NWR (Socorro)	Pena Blanca (Sandoval)
Caprock (Lea)	Pilar (Taos)
Carlsbad (Eddy)	Pinon (Otero)
Chama (Rio Arriba)	Pinos Altos, Mts. (Grant)
Clayton (Union)	Post Office Canyon (Hidalgo)
Cliff (Grant)	Quarai Ruins (Torrance)
Conchas Lake (San Miguel)	Radium Springs (Dona Ana)
Crystal (San Juan)	Roberts Lake (Grant)
Cuba (Sandoval)	Roswell (Chaves)
Deming (Luna)	Sabinoso (San Miguel)
Elephant Butte Lake (Sierra)	Sacramento Mts. (Otero)
Escondida (Socorro)	San Marcial (Socorro)
Farmington (San Juan)	San Mateo Mts. (Socorro)
Fort Sumner (DeBaca)	Santa Fe (Santa Fe)
Gila, Valley (Grant)	Santa Rosa (Guadalupe)
Grants (Cibola)	Silver City (Grant)
Guadalupe Mts. (Eddy)	Socorro (Socorro)
Holloman Lakes (Otero)	Sumner Lake (DeBaca)
Isleta (Bernalillo)	Tijeras (Bernalillo)
Jemez Mts, Falls (Sandoval)	Tucumcari (Quay)
Lake Valley (Sierra)	Water Canyon (Socorro)
Las Cruces (Dona Ana)	Zuni Mountains (McKinley/Cibola)
Las Vegas (San Miguel)	Zuni (McKinley)

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

COMMON LOON -- Unusual in summer. This season found singles at Nutria L. near Zuni from 6/12 to 7/2 (DC, JAT) and at EBL on 7/24 to 7/30 (JP, JO).

EARED AND WESTERN GREBES -- Breeding: dry conditions at Stinking L. and Horse L. resulted in no nests. Elsewhere in Rio Arriba Co., 3 Eared Grebe pairs nested at Stone L. on 7/3 (DS). Embom,

Mundo, and Stone L. on the Jicarilla IR each had 1 to 4 Western Grebe nests 6/13 to 7/12 (DS).

CORMORANTS -- Breeding: An aerial survey found 146 nests in the EBL area on 6/10 (SOW, LW).

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT -- 2 were at Santa Rosa 6/12 (CR); 1 or 2 at Bitter L. NWR from 6/6 through 7/30 (GW, JO, BH).

GREAT BLUE HERON -- Breeding: An aerial survey indicated a record 59 nests at 5 sites in Socorro and Sierra Cos. on 6/10 (SOW, LW).

TRICOLORED HERON -- 1 north to Bitter L. NWR from 6/18 to 7/23 (GW).

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE -- 1 sub-adult was lingering at Bitter L. NWR on 6/5 (SB) to 6/10 (BH).

SNOW GOOSE -- 1 was lingering at Bitter L. NWR from 6/5 (SB) to 6/10 (BH). Another was at Bosque NWR 7/13 (JO).

WOOD DUCK -- Breeding: A female with 4 young was near Kirtland, San Juan Co., on 7/2 (TR).

CANVASBACK -- 1 male at Pescado L. near Zuni from 6/12 to 7/9 (JAT, DC).

RING-NECKED DUCK -- Not known to nest in N.M., but this season there were more lingering than usual, including 1 or 2 at 3 Zuni sites from 6/7 to 7/9 (JAT, DC).

HOODED MERGANSER -- Unusual in summer was 1 at Pescado L. near Zuni on 7/9 (DC).

OSPREY -- Breeding: 3 of the 6 known nests in Rio Arriba and Sandoval Cos. were successful, fledging 8 young in July, but the other 3 nests failed (DS); notable were 2 each at Nutria L. near Zuni on 6/23 (DC) and at Sumner L. in June (Roger Hoppe).

MISSISSIPPI KITE -- Singles west to Blanco, San Juan Co., on 6/10 (TR*), Albuquerque in late June and early July (DE), and near Belen, Valencia Co., 7/7 (Tim Mitchusson).

BALD EAGLE -- Breeding: 3 of the Colfax Co. nests fledged young (SOW).

NORTHERN HARRIER -- Wet conditions in the Pecos Valley accounted for 3 (including a pair exchanging food) at Bitter L. NWR on 6/10 (BK) and 1 carrying a small mammal e. of Artesia, Eddy Co, on 6/6 (JO).

COMMON BLACK-HAWK -- 1 was far north at Shadybrook near Taos, Taos Co., on 6/5 (Jeri McMahon); in the east 1 was on the Rio Penasco near Mayhill. Otero Co., 7/18 (Richard Kostecke*).

ZONE-TAILED HAWK -- North of their usual Jemez Mts. haunts were 2 at the Ghost Ranch near Abiquiu on 6/23 (DS).

FERRUGINOUS HAWK -- There are no breeding records for San Miguel Co., so an adult on Rowe Mesa near Pecos on 6/13 (CR) was noteworthy.

MERLIN -- Reports of 1 in July at Isaak L. ne. of Las Cruces were traced to a falconer's bird; the species does not summer in N.M.

WHITE-TAILED PTARMIGAN -- 1 on Pecos Baldy n. of Pecos, San Miguel Co., on 7/8 (Eric Rominger). This southernmost population must compete for limited alpine habitat with at least 1000 ungulates (elk, bighorn, cattle).

WILD TURKEY -- Breeding: produced numerous young in ne. Union Co. canyons (LF);....1 on Twin Buttes Creek in w. Chaves Co. on 6/2 was unusual (SOW).

VIRGINIA RAIL -- Breeding: a pair with 4 chicks on 7/17 at Acomita L. (JO) furnished a rare breeding record for Cibola Co.

COMMON MOORHEN -- Breeding: north in the RGV was a pair with 2 chicks at the Isleta Marsh on 7/24 and 7/26 (CR, JO**), for the fourth Bernalillo Co. breeding record;... 1 w. to Black Rock L. near Zuni 6/5 (JAT) was notable.

SNOWY PLOVER -- Peaked with 304 at Bitter L. NWR on 6/18 (GW); highs elsewhere included 42 on the Laguna Grande near Loving 7/16 (SW+) and 23 at Holloman L. on 7/22 (GE).

MOUNTAIN PLOVER -- Breeding: 5 adults with 3 young were at Franciscan L. in nw. McKinley Co. on 6/15 (TR**);.... Presumably early were 3 or 4 at the Moriarty turf farm, Torrance Co., on 7/15 (DC).

LESSER and GREATER YELLOWLEGS -- Lessers outnumbered the Greater in the Pecos Valley in July; their high was 278 at Bitter L. NWR on 7/23 (GW).

SOLITARY SANDPIPER -- 1 was at Bernardo on 7/25 (BV).

WILLET -- 1 near Las Vegas on 7/4 was early (BW). 1 at Bernardo 7/25 (BV), 2 at EBL 7/24 (JO), 2 at Bill Evans L., Grant Co., on 7/14 (LM), 1 at Deming on 7/17 (LM), 1 near Las Cruces on 7/12 and 7/22 (GE), 1 at Holloman L. on 7/22 (GE), 1 at Bitter L. NWR on 7/9 and 7/23 (GW), and 1 at Laguna Uno near Loving on 7/16 (SW+).

LONG-BILLED CURLEW -- Breeding: favorable conditions produced many reports from the northeast. In the north a brood was at White Lakes, s. of Santa Fe, on 6/12 (CR).

MARbled GODWIT -- 1 at Bitter L. NWR 7/9 was early (GW). The high count was 8 on 7/20 (BW).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER -- 4 at Bitter L. NWR on 6/11-12 (GW, JO) were the last of the spring migrants.

STILT SANDPIPER -- A respectable 175 were at Bitter L. NWR on 7/20 (BW).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE -- Late was 1 at Deming on 6/4 (LM).

LAUGHING GULL -- An adult seen at EBL on 7/24 (JP, JO**) extended the remarkable streak of this species' recent occurrences.

FRANKLIN'S GULL -- 2 at Bitter L. NWR on 7/2 were out of season (GW).

CALIFORNIA GULL -- Notable records were singles at Heron L., Rio Arriba Co., on 6/19 (JO) and a second summer at Lordsburg, Hidalgo Co., 6/12 (JP, JO); plus 4 at EBL on 6/13 (JO, JP). Neither this or any other gull species is known to nest in N.M.

LEAST TERN -- Breeding; 7 pairs had returned to Bitter L. NWR in June and July, but only 1 fledgling was produced (GW, WR).

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE -- 1 was at Albuquerque on 7/7 and later (BV*, Prince Pierce**). 1 was in Carlsbad on 6/6 (JO).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE -- The northward advance included 1 at Zuni on 6/1 (DC), 2 at Bluewater Village on 7/17 (JO), and 5 at Grants on 7/17 (JO).

COMMON GROUND-DOVE -- The only report was 1 near Cliff on 7/7 (SS, RS, *fide* DZ).

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO -- Breeding: 8 nests near Gila in Grant Co. (DH, *fide* DZ);...Seemed to be thriving in the Gila, Pecos, and Rio Grande Valleys. Reports included several from San Acacia, Socorro Co., to EBL (LW). 1 at Sumner L. on 6/9 (BH) and 2 at Bosque Redondo Park near Fort Sumner on 7/23 (BH); Bitter L. NWR on 7/9 (GW); and the Delaware R. in se. Eddy Co. on 7/15 (SW). Present where rarely reported were 1 north to Farmington 6/16 (TR); Pena Blanca 7/13 (EW), 1 at Conchas L. and in salt cedars on the Canadian R. w. of Tucumoari 6/12 (CR), 2 or 3 at Tucumcari 6/12 and 7/10 (CR), 2 near Floyd, Roosevelt Co., 6/27 (SS), 2 in walnut trees on the Rio Felix w. of Roswell on 6/2 (SOW), and 1 at Lake Valley on 6/24 (CR+).

WHISKERED SCREECH-OWL -- In the Peloncillo Mts. they occupied 9 territories in two canyons on 7/29-30 (SOW, PM) and outnumbered WESTERNS there by a 2:1 ratio.

ELF OWL -- Breeding: 2 adults with a juvenile in Last Chance Canyon on 7/24 (SW) further documented its recent expansion into the Guadalupe Mts. 1 calling in Water Canyon near Magdalena, Socorro Co., on 6/10 (JO).

SPOTTED OWL -- 1 immature was found dead on the Grant Co. side of Emory Pass in the Black Range on 7/28, apparently hit by a car (Carol Torrez, *** to Museum SW. Biology at UNM).

LONG-EARED OWL -- Breeding: closely "packed" were 3 pairs (1 with fledglings on 7/1) within a 2 km. stretch of the Zuni Mts. (Peter Stacey**, David Arenholt).

LESSER NIGHTHAWK -- 1 at Bitter L. NWR 6/9 (BH*) was near the n. edge of its Pecos Valley distribution.

COMMON POORWILL -- Breeding: a nest scrape with 2 young found on the Biscante Canyon rim near Roy on 7/13 (HS).

WHIP-POOR-WILL -- North were 3 calling in the Zuni Mts. on 6/8 (JAT).

BLACK SWIFT -- Single wanderers were at the Puye Cliff Dwellings near Santa Clara Pueblo, Rio Arriba Co., 6/21 (Dharm

Pellagrini*) and to the Grey Feathers Lodge near Roberts L. on 7/30 (BN, DE, JP, JO). 39 were at Navajo L. on 6/1 (TR**).

CHIMNEY SWIFT -- Although 7 were found at Clayton on 6/28 (Wes Cook, *fide* LF) and 4 at Tucumcari on 7/10 (CR), the species still remains unconfirmed as a state breeding bird.

BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD -- 1 male at Ruidoso, Lincoln Co., on 7/3 to 7/9 (Diana Harris*).

VIOLET-CROWNED HUMMINGBIRD -- 1 adult wandered east to Double Adobes in the Animas Valley on 7/29 (AC*).

BLUE-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD -- 1 female north to Roberts L. 7/30-31 (JO**, JP*, DE*, BN*). 2 males at Post Office Canyon on 7/8-9 (RTS).

MAGNIFICENT HUMMINGBIRD -- Reports were restricted to the Pinos Altos and Peloncillo Mts. (v.o.).

CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD -- The earliest returning male was seen at Fort Wingate, McKinley Co., on 7/16 (JO).

RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD -- Do not nest in N.M. or adjacent states which tends to come as a surprise to many feeder watchers. This season's earliest fall migrants were single males at Tijeras 6/27 (JDM), Zuni on 6/28 (DC), and Canjilon L., Rio Arriba Co, on 6/29 (BW).

LEWIS'S WOODPECKER -- Near their n. limit were 12 in the Chuska Mts. near Crystal, San Juan Co., 7/25 (CR, PRS). 4 were n. of Winston, Sierra Co., 6/23 (CR).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER -- 1 adult n. of Caprock 6/4 (SOW).

GILA WOODPECKER -- Unusual for madrean oak habitat were 2 in Clanton Canyon, Hidalgo Co., on 7/31 (SOW, PM).

DOWNY WOODPECKER -- Breeding: 1 was south in the RGV on 6/17 feeding a fledgling at Lemitar, Socorro Co. (CR).

GRAY FLYCATCHER -- Breeding: a nest at Salinas Pueblo NM, Torrance Co., on 7/18 (HS) was a local first;....Another banner season gave reports from 17 locales, including 15 each at Zuni 6/6 to 6/11 (JAT) and Rowe Mesa near Pecos on 6/13 (CR). Others were south to the San Mateo Mts. on 6/9 to 6/16 (DC), Black Range on 6/12 (Paul Boucher), and Pines Altos Mts. 6/7 (BZ), as

well as 3 on 6/11 at Pinon in the s. Sacramento (BH) and Guadalupe Mts. on 7/11 and 7/24 (SW).

DUSKY FLYCATCHER -- Breeding: for the second consecutive year nested s. to the Manzano Mts. near Capilla Peak, Torrance Co., where there were 4 occupied territories and fledglings present on 7/25 (BH+). A nest at Zuni's Black Rock area on 6/12 (JAT) was unusual in the habitat and low elevation.

VERMILION FLYCATCHER -- Occupied 2 territories ne. at Conchas L. on 6/12 (CR).

DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER -- Unusually far north and a Pinos Altos Mts. first was a vocal 1 at Cherry Creek CG on 6/7 (BZ**, tape, Victor Emanuel).

TROPICAL/COUCH'S KINGBIRD -- An unusual kingbird 6/10-11 at Bitter L. NWR (GW, WR) may have been a Tropical, yet to be verified in N.M., but available details could only confirm Tropical/Couch's. There are 2 earlier confirmed records of Couch's in the state.

THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD -- A vocal 1 was east in the Animas Valley to Double Adobes on 7/29 (AC, NYC).

EASTERN KINGBIRD -- 2 at the Las Vegas NWR on 7/9 (Linda Mowbray, Jo Osterhouse*); 1 at Quarai Ruins 7/10 (JO).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER -- Judged more numerous than usual in the Carlsbad area (SW). 1 at Mangas Springs on 7/5 to 7/17 was far to the west (RF).

BELL'S VIREO -- Breeding: 3 of 4 nests near San Marcial in June and July were successful, including 2 placed in Russian olives (LW);...1 singing at Sumner L. 6/9 (BH) was far north of its normal haunts.

GRAY VIREO -- 2 in the Ladron Mts., Socorro Co., 6/10-11 (NC, SC) provided a local first.

RED-EYED VIREO -- A singing 1 wandered west to the Zuni area on 6/12 (JAT).

BLUE JAY -- Breeding: 2 with 2 fledglings at Tucumcari on 7/10 (CR); 2 with 3 fledglings on 7/23 were at Bosque Redondo Park near Fort Sumner (BH).

BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE -- Maintaining its southern outpost was 1 n. of Isleta Pueblo on 6/20 (Mari Howe, *fide* BH).

PURPLE MARTIN -- Breeding: discovery of 7 pairs nesting in cottonwoods along the Canadian R. w. of Raton, Colfax Co., in June and July (James Ray, Robert Yaksich*) established the first certain breeding for ne. N.M.

BRIDLED TITMOUSE -- Now well-established n. and e. in Socorro Co. to the Magdalena and San Mateo Mts. 1 in Water Canyon 7/24 (CR), 2 in Springtime Canyon 6/9 to 6/16 (DC), and 3 at Vick's Peak 6/29 (Gregory Schmitt).

VERDIN -- North in the RGV was 1 seen at Contreras in Socorro Co. on 7/25 (BV).

CACTUS WREN -- Breeding: A pair tending 2 young at the McDonald's in Tucumcari on 7/10 (CR) furnished a local nesting first;....7 in s. Harding Co. on 6/5 (SOW) established a new high for this ne. population.

CANYON WREN -- Breeding: a pair fledged 5 young from a ceramic flower pot on a porch at the Abo Ruins, Torrance Co., on 6/8 (HS**).

CAROLINA WREN -- 1 was singing at Socorro 6/2 and 6/10, (JO) where it has been suspiciously found for over a year.

WINTER WREN -- For the third consecutive year 1 was found singing below Jemez Falls on 6/18 (JP) and 7/1 (BW).

MARSH WREN -- Breeding: a few bred at Stone and Embom L., Rio Arriba Co., with nests and eggs on 6/13-14 (DS).

AMERICAN DIPPER -- Unusual was 1 at the Monticello Box at the s. end of San Mateo Mts., Socorro Co., 6/23 (CR).

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET -- 3 on San Mateo Peak on 6/9 to 6/16 likely were local breeders (DC). A respectable 33 were near Cloudcroft, Otero Co., on 6/21 (BH).

EASTERN BLUEBIRD -- Breeding: an adult was feeding a juvenile at Socorro on 6/23 (JO).

VEERY -- 3 sang at Chama on 7/2 (JP) and another was on the Rio Pueblo near Placitas, Taos Co., on 6/23 (BW).

SWAINSON'S THRUSH -- 3 singing at Chama on 7/2 (JP); 1 in Osha Canyon, Taos Co., on 6/23 (BW). Late was 1 at the migrant trap w. of Meirose on 6/5 (JP, JO).

GRAY CATBIRD -- Breeding: up to 5 pairs in the lower RGV near Radium Springs 6/23 to 7/31 (Ray Meyer*) marked the southernmost nesting locality yet for this expanding species. 2 territories had nests with eggs and a third had nestlings;....1 near Aztec 7/10 (TR); 1 or 2 at Zuni 6/24 to 6/30 (DC); 1 San Ysidro, Sandoval Co., 7/2 (HA); 1 at Pena Blanca 7/13 (BW); and 2 at Socorro 6/2 (JO).

COMMON MOCKINGBIRD -- With nearly 2100 counted, it was the most abundant species detected on N.M. BBS routes in June. 1 at Zuni had a remarkable Mexican repertoire, including Buff-collared Nightjar, Gila Woodpecker, and Thick-billed Kingbird (JAT).

BROWN THRASHER -- Breeding: there are few documented nesting records for N.M., so a pair that nested in ne. Union Co. (but whose nestling fell victim to a cat) was notable (LF);....A pair at the Meirose trap on 6/18 may have nested locally (BH), while 1 singing e. of Wagon Mound, Mora Co., on 6/19 was a surprise (CR*).

THRASHERS -- In rapidly growing northwest Albuquerque CURVE-BILLED seem to have replaced CRISSALS (BH).

CURVE-BILLED THRASHER -- Breeding: At Eldorado near Santa Fe 1 nested successfully in a kestrel box (DS).

CEDAR WAXWING -- 1 at Sumner L. on 6/9 was late (BH). Possibly summering were 2 each n. of Aztec near the Colorado line on 7/10 (TR), at Chama on 7/2 (JP) and Orilla Verde Park near Pilar on 7/7 (CR).

PHAINOPEPLA -- Up to 12, including grown juveniles, were in the middle RGV at Escondida 6/27 (HS). East were 4 at the Quarai Ruins 6/30 (HS), 7/4 (BV) and 2 on 7/19 (JO). 1 was near Pinon on 6/11 (BH) and 1 or 2 were at 2 sites in the Guadalupe Mts. in Eddy and Otero Cos. on 7/5 and 7/9 (SW+).

OLIVE WARBLER -- Pushing north were 4 in the Magdalena Mts. in Socorro Co. above Water Canyon 6/22 (JO**, Pat Basham) and 1 on 6/29 (JO, PRS). 3 in the adjacent San Mateo Mts. near Springtime Canyon 6/11 to 6/16 (DC*).

LUCY'S WARBLER -- Consolidating their expansion into w. Sierra Co. were up to 4 on Macho Creek n. of Nutt 6/10 to 6/25 (CR, HA) and at Lake Valley from 6/8 to 6/24 (GS, HA).

NORTHERN PARULA -- 1 male singing near Gila 6/21 (DH*).

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER -- 1 male singing 7/2 and 7/20 near Gila (Amanda Favis*, SS*).

AUDUBON'S YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER -- Breeding: 1 nesting in pinyon at 7500 feet in the Manzanita Mts. south of Tijeras 6/4 (HS) was unusual in its choice of habitat and elevation.

GRACE'S WARBLER -- A pair fed a fledgling cowbird at Bandelier NM, Sandoval Co., on 7/11 (BN, DE).

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER -- 1 singing male banded on 7/3 and recaptured on 8/13 near Gila (Mike Means**, *fide* DZ) 1 immature male at the migrant trap w. of Melrose 6/18 and 7/23 (BH*).

AMERICAN REDSTART -- Single immature males were singing at Socorro on 6/9 (JO), 6/12 (John Shipman*), and 6/18 (DE, BN) and in the Manzanita Mts. near Tijeras on 7/4 (HS). 1 male near San Marcial on 7/25 (Hira Walker*).

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER -- Single males at Pena Blanca on 7/13 (BW*) and Socorro on 6/9 (JS*).

SWAINSON'S WARBLER -- Finally added to the N.M. list when 1 was photographed at Socorro 7/30-31 (JP*, JO**, NC, SC, Larry Gorbet**, BN*). There had been about five previous undocumented sightings dating back to 1983.

HOODED WARBLER -- 1 female at White Sands NM, Otero Co., on 6/26-27 (John Mangimeli**).

RED-FACED WARBLER -- Another southerner pushing north was 1 in the Zuni Mts. on 6/11 (JAT, Arch McCallum), a first for that area.

PAINTED REDSTART -- Also in the Zuni Mts. on 6/11 were 1 or 2 singing (JAT).

HEPATIC TANAGER -- Continued their presence in the northeast, including 1 near Gallinas, San Miguel Co., on 6/6 (CR), 4 on Rowe Mesa near Pecos on 6/13 (CR), and 1 near Sabinoso on 6/19 (CR).

SUMMER TANAGER -- Northerly records included singles on the Canadian R. near Sabinoso on 6/19 (CR) and on 6/12 n. of Tucumcari in San Miguel Co. (CR). Unusual singles were near Silver City 6/7 (BZ) and at Deming 6/25 (LM).

CASSIN'S SPARROW -- With over 2000 reported on N.M. BBS routes, they were a close second to mockingbirds for the most abundant species detected. They were plentiful in the verdant east, with fewer west to the RGV and in the northwest. Unreported from the dry southwest until the onset of July rains, when they were singing commonly near Nutt, at Hachita in Grant Co., Antelope Wells in Hidalgo Co., and in the Animas Valley 7/28-29 (SOW, PM).

BOTTERI'S SPARROW -- The fifth year of intensive surveys found it well established in the middle Animas Valley, with 25 occupied territories on 7/28-29 (SOW, PM).

RUFOUS-CROWNED SPARROW -- 1 to 4 were north to Orilla Verde Park near Pilar on 7/7-8 (HA).

BLACK-CHINNED SPARROW -- Breeding: 1 incubating a nest with 3 eggs in the Sandia Mountains e. of Albuquerque at 6500 feet on 6/20 (HS). It was two feet up in an Apache Plume.

LARK BUNTING -- Good grassland conditions in the northeast provided for a good season, especially in Colfax, Union, Harding, and San Miguel Cos. 1 to 4 were south to Torrance (SOW), Lincoln (J. Kelly), and Roosevelt (SS) Cos., while far west were 2 at the De-Na-Zin Wilderness, San Juan Co., on 6/9 (HA).

SAVANNAH SPARROW -- 1 was singing from uncut alfalfa at Ramah, McKinley Co., on 6/12 (JAT).

NORTHERN CARDINAL -- 4 were north to Tucumcari on 7/10 (CR), where they are now established; 2 to 3 on Macho Creek n. of Nutt on 6/25 (HA) and 7/24 (JO).

PYRRHULOXIA -- North for the season were single males near White Oaks, Lincoln Co., on 6/4 (SOW) and at Bitter L. NWR on 6/10 (BH).

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK -- 1 female was at Zuni 6/10 (JAT).

BLUE GROSBEAK -- 1 male singing at Cerro, Taos Co., on 8/7 (RW).

LAZULI BUNTING -- South were 1 to 3 singing males on 6/5 until 7/4 in Cedro Canyon near Tijeras (Nick Vaughn, HS).

INDIGO BUNTING -- Breeding: although it summers widely, few nests are reported for N.M. 1 nest with eggs was in sweet clover near Escondida on 6/19 fledged 3 by 7/7 (LW);....1 singing male at Red L. near Navajo, McKinley Co., 7/25 (CR, PRS); 1 or 2 at the Quarai Ruins on 7/4 to 7/25 (BV, JO, HS).

PAINTED BUNTING -- 1 was north to Tucumcari on 7/10 (CR) and 2 at Jal, Lea Co., on 6/5 (JO).

DICKCISSEL -- 2 singing males were west to the Las Vegas area on 7/4 (BW).

EASTERN MEADOWLARK -- Continued to be found n. of their expected range, especially in Union and Harding Cos. 3 were at Sedan, Union Co., on 6/3 (Kathy Granillo); 16 at Rosebud on 6/8 (Dan Svingen); 1 near Gallegos, Harding Co., on 6/5 (SOW). 11 at Zuni 6/11 (JAT) and 1 on Rowe Mesa near Pecos on 6/13 (CR) were noteworthy.

COMMON GRACKLE --Breeding: they continued to push west, including a male at White Rock in Los Alamos Co. on 6/6 (JO), 3 adults and a fledgling at Bluewater L. on 7/17 (JO), 2 at Grants on 7/17 (JO), and 1 at Lake Valley on 6/24 (HA, CR).

BRONZED COWBIRD -- 1 female at Lake Valley on 7/24 (JO, JP) 2 summered at Mangas Springs (RF), 1 male in Post Office Canyon from 6/28 to 7/15 (RTS), 1 at Deming 6/4 (LM), 7/17 (LM) and 7/31 (JO), 2 in Roswell in early June (SB), and a male at Carlsbad on 7/8 (SW).

ORCHARD ORIOLE -- Far north was 1 near Cuba on 6/21 (CR). Another sang at Socorro on 6/3 (JO).

CASSIN'S FINCH -- The only reports were singles in the Zuni Mts. (where breeding is unconfirmed) on 6/9 and 6/11 (JAT).

RED CROSSBILL -- Moderate numbers were widespread in most montane areas, including the Zuni Mts. where "type 2" birds favored ponderosa and "type 5" favored Douglas fir (JAT).

PINE SISKIN -- Breeding: A pair on 7/2 feeding young at 6200 feet at Zuni (DC) was noteworthy.

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH -- Lingering birds included 1 at Zuni on 6/12
(JAT) 2 at Orilla Verde Park near Pilar on 7/7 (HA).

Published on 4/1/02