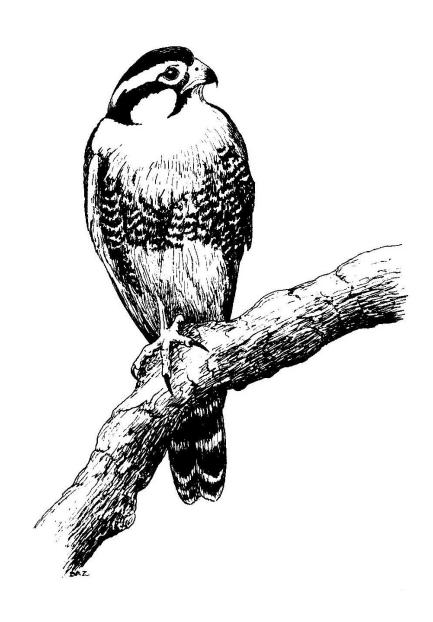
New Mexico Ornithological Society Field Notes



Volume 40, Number 3, Summer 2001

NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD NOTES

Volume 40, Number 3, Summer 2001 1 June – 31 July 2001

A quarterly publication of the New Mexico Ornithological Society

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Reporting Observations: All individuals interested in birds in New Mexico are encouraged to submit their observations to NMOS Field Notes. Especially solicited are records of uncommon species, nesting birds, and early, late, or out-of-season/range birds. Records should be submitted in taxonomic order and should include species name, date, exact location, numbers of birds, age, sex, and color morph (if applicable), and name and contact information of observer. Details are necessary for unusual records; these may be submitted on a report form (available from the address above), but any written format is acceptable. Photographic documentation is strongly encouraged.

NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY (Founded 1962)

The New Mexico Ornithological Society was organized to gather and disseminate accurate information concerning the bird life of New Mexico; to promote interest in and appreciation of the value of birds, both aesthetic and economic, to further effective conservation of the state's avifauna; to facilitate opportunity for acquaintance and fellowship among those interested in birds and nature; and to issue publications as a means of furthering these ends.

Membership and Subscriptions: Membership in the New Mexico Ornithological Society is open to anyone with an interest in birds. Memberships are for a calendar year and annual dues are payable 1 January. Dues are: Regular Membership \$10; Family \$15; Student \$5; Supporting \$35; Life \$300. Address for the New Mexico Ornithological Society: P. O. Box 3068, Albuquerque, NM 87190-3068.

Cover: Aplomado Falcon (*Falco femoralis*). A pair nested in southern New Mexico in 2001, the first such nesting by native Aplomados in New Mexico in 50 years. Art by Dale A. Zimmerman, commissioned by New Mexico Department of Game and Fish for a series on state endangered species. Used by permission.

SUMMER SEASON 2001

Summer 2001 was marked by widespread and relatively ample rainfall, especially during July. Breeding bird studies proceeded on several fronts, and a new nesting species was added to the state list.

Localities and Counties

Albuquerque, *Bernalillo* Angel Fire, *Colfax*

Animas, Mts., Valley, *Hidalgo* Bandelier NM, *Sandoval* Bernalillo, *Sandoval* Bitter Lake NWR, *Chaves* Bloomfield, *San Juan*

Bosque del Apache NWR, *Socorro* Bosque Redondo, *De Baca*

Brantley Lake, *Eddy*Carlsbad, *Eddy*

Carlsbad Caverns NP, Eddy

Cerrillos, *Santa Fe*Chama, *Rio Arriba*Cimarron, *Colfax*

Clanton Canyon, Cienega, *Hidalgo* Cliff, Cliff-Gila Valley, *Grant*

Cloudcroft, *Lincoln* Clovis, *Curry*

Cochiti, Lake, Dam, Sandoval Conchas Lake, Dam, San Miguel

Corona, *Lincoln*Councelor, *Sandoval*Coyote Creek SP, *Mora*

Cuba, Sandoval Deming, Luna

Dulce, Lake, *Rio Arriba*Eagle Nest, Lake, *Colfax*El Vado Lake, *Rio Arriba*

Eldorado, Santa Fe

Elephant Butte Lake, Dam, Sierra

Elk Mountain, San Miguel Enbom Lake, Rio Arriba Escondida, Lake, Socorro Española, Rio Arriba

Farley, Colfax

Farmington, Lake, San Juan

Florida Mts., *Luna*Floyd, *Roosevelt*Fort Sumner, *De Baca*Gallup, *McKinley*Gila Bird Area, *Grant*

NMOSFN 40:3 (Summer 2001)

Gila Cliff Dwellings, Catron

Grenville, Union

Guadalupe Canyon, Hidalgo

Guadalupe Mts., *Eddy* Heron Lake, *Rio Arriba*

Hillsboro, *Sierra* Hobbs, *Lea*

Holloman Lake, *Otero* Horse Lake, *Rio Arriba* Isleta, *Bernalillo/Valencia*

Kingston, Sierra

La Joya, WMA, Socorro Lake Roberts, Grant Lake Valley, Ranch, Sierra Las Animas Creek, Sierra Las Cruces, Doña Ana

Las Vegas, NWR, San Miguel

Los Lunas, *Valencia* Luis Lopez, *Socorro* Madrid, *Santa Fe*

Manzano, Mts., *Torrance* Maxwell, NWR, *Colfax*

Mayhill, *Otero*Miami Lake, *Colfax*Mimbres, *Grant*Mogollon, *Catron*Moriarty, *Torrance*Mundo Lake, *Rio Arriba*north *Roosevelt* trap, *Roosevelt*

Ned Houk Park, Curry
Parkview, Rio Arriba
Pastura, Guadalupe
Peloncillo Mts., Hidalgo
Petroglyph NM, Bernalillo
Pinos Altos Mts., Grant

Pleasanton, Catron

Post Office Canyon, Hidalgo

Ouarai, Torrance

Radium Springs, Doña Ana

Raton. Colfax

Rio Grande Nature Center, Bernalillo

Rodeo, Hidalgo

Roswell, Chaves
Sandia Crest, Bernalillo
Sandia Mts., Bernalillo/Sandoval
San Antonio, Socorro
San Juan Pueblo, Rio Arriba
San Luis Mts., Pass, Hidalgo
Socorro
Socorro
Springer, Lake, Colfax
Stinking lake, Rio Arriba
Stone Lake, Rio Arriba
Stubblefield Lake, Colfax
Sumner Lake, Dam, De Baca

San Mateo Mts., *Socorro*San Rafael, *Cibola*Texico, *Curry*Tucumcari, Lake, *Quay*

San Simon Cienega, *Hidalgo* Tyrone, *Grant*

Santa Fe, Ski Basin, Santa Fe
Valle Grande, Sandoval
Santa Rosa, Lake, Dam, Guadalupe
Waldrop Park, Chaves

Sevilleta NWR, Socorro
Silver City, Grant
Six-Mile Dam, Eddy
Water Canyon, Socorro
Weed, Otero
Zuni, McKinley

Skeleton Canyon, *Hidalgo* Zuni Mts, *McKinley/Cibola*

Abbreviations

AFB	Air Force Base	RGV	Rio Grande Valley
Bosque NWR	Bosque del Apache NWR	SP	State Park
BLNWR	Bitter Lake NWR	USFWS	U.S. Fish & Wildlife
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey		Service
CBC	Christmas Bird Count	WMA	Wildlife Management
CG	Camp Ground		Area
Cr.	Creek	WSMR	White Sands Missile
EBL	Elephant Butte Lake		Range
GBA	Gila Bird Area	ad(s).	adult(s)
L.	Lake	subad(s).	subadult(s)
LVNWR	Las Vegas NWR	imm(s).	immature(s)
Mt(s).	Mountain(s)	juv(s).	juvenile(s)
NM	National Monument	sp.	species
NMSU	New Mexico State Univ.	m.ob	many observers
NP	National Park	v.o.	various observers
NRT	north Roosevelt trap	+	others; et al.
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge	*	written details provided
R.	River	**	photo or tape provided
RGNC	Rio Grande Nature	***	specimen obtained
	Center		

Initialed Observers

WAC	William A. Calder	BDN	Bruce D. Neville
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WHH	William H. Howe	JT	Joyce Takamine
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PM	Patricia Mehlhop	SW	Steve West
DWM	David W. Mehlman	WFW	William F. West
RAM	Raymond A. Meyer	SOW	S. O. Williams III
GM	·	HDW	Hope D. Woodward
JBM	James B. Montgomery		G. Robert Yaksich
NM-C	Narca Moore-Craig	JEZ	James E. Zabriskie
	C		

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Common Loon—Lingering were 4 at Conchas L. 2 Jun (JRO), one at Heron L. 9 Jun (JEP, JRO), one at Springer L. 12 June (DJC), and one at Stubblefield L 14 Jun-31 Jul (DJC**).

Pied-billed Grebe—Two juvs. at Miami L. 25 Jun (DJC); 3 downy young at Bosque NWR 4 Jul (GJE).

Eared Grebe—An estimated 300 individuals nesting at Dulce L. 22 Jul (BJL). Twelve nests at Stone L. 5-6 Jul (DWS). Twelve nests at Maxwell NWR Lake 12 on 14 Jul (DJC) and 5 nests at Maxwell NWR Lake 13 on 21 Jul (DJC); 57 nests at Maxwell NWR Lake 14 on 14 Jul but these all destroyed by rapidly rising water levels by 18 Jul (DJC).

Western Grebe—17 active nests at Dulce L. 22 Jul (BJL). 31 nests under construction or being incubated at Stone L. 5-6 Jul (DWS), ads. feeding up to 8 chicks at Mundo L. 5-6 Jul (DWS), and two chicks at Enborn L. 5-6 Jul (DWS) for the first breeding at that locale; however, none at Stinking L. or Horse L. due to low water (DWS). One nest at Stubblefield L. 30 Jun (DJC).

Clark's Grebe—Two nests at Stubblefield L. 30 Jun increased to 12 nests there 17-30 Jul (DJC).

American White Pelican—Numbers increased noticeably in several areas by mid-Jun, suggesting possible breeding failures farther north; notable were 34 at Maxwell 14 Jun with 75 there by 2 Jul (DJC), and 16 at BLNWR 15 Jun with 43 there 6 Jul (GLW). Others included 2 at Heron L. 6 Jul (DWS) and 7 at Eagle Nest L. 9 Jul (JRO).

Neotropic Cormorant—At least one was north to Maxwell NWR Lake 12 on 9 Jul (vt. JRO) and Stubblefield L. 14 Jul (JEP, JRO**). Others of note were singles at BLNWR 15 Jun (GLW) and at GBA 13 Jul (RSS).

Least Bittern—Few reports, with 1-2 at Tucumcari L. 15-16 Jun (JEP) and singles at Bosque NWR 3 Jun (JRO) and 15 Jul (PRS) the only reports.

Great Blue Heron—Seven active nests in a tall pine 2 mi south of the Gila Cliff Dwellings 29 Jun (WHH), and 7 nests along Las Animas Cr. 3 Jun (WFW).

Great Egret—A high 22 at Bosque NWR 4 Jul (GJE).

<u>Reddish Egret</u>—An imm. at EBL's North Monticello Point 29 Jun (JRO**) & 1 Jul (JEP*) furnished New Mexico's 12th record overall.

White-faced Ibis—About 30 active nests at Bosque NWR 27-28 Jun (JRO, John P. Taylor); initiated by about 7 Jun, most or all fledged successfully by about 5 Aug (John P. Taylor).

<u>Black-bellied Whistling-Duck</u>—Two ads. put in a brief appearance at a pond near the Roswell airport 1 Jul (SW*).

Wood Duck—Noteworthy were a male at Miami L. 25 Jun (DJC) and a female at Springer L. 19 Jul (DJC).

"Mexican" Duck—One brood at Clanton Cienega 5 Jun (AMC, NM-C) and 2 broods there 1 Jul (AMC, NM-C); one brood at Tyrone 17-30 Jun (ERL).

Cinnamon Teal—A female with 3 downies at Sevilleta NWR 15 Jul (WHH).

Redhead—Ads. with young at Dulce L. 22 Jul (BJL).

Ring-necked Duck—Late was a male-female pair at RGNC 19 Jun (GRY); a single was at Tyrone 17 Jun (ERL).

Hooded Merganser—Nested successfully at Bosque NWR, including a female with 2 juvs. 17 Jun (JRO) plus broods of 5 juvs. 18 Jun (JRO) and 2 juvs. 5-12 Jul (JRO) at two additional locales there.

Common Merganser—Unusual for mid-summer were 3 at Isleta 1 Jul (BV).

Ruddy Duck—A pair with 6 young at Sumner L. 6 Jun (WHH).

Osprey—The breeding population in northern New Mexico increased to 9 nesting pairs this season—8 in the Heron-El Vado area and one at Cochiti; the Cochiti nest failed but the other 8 nests successfully fledged a total of 19 young (DWS).

White-tailed Kite—Continuing another remarkable colonization story, 7 pairs were monitored in southern New Mexico—3 pairs successfully fledged a total of 10 young on 16 May, 2 Jun, and 23 Jun, 2 pairs nested unsuccessfully, and the results of 2 others was unknown (RAM). A single was near Rodeo 29 Jun (JRO**)-7 Jul (JEP).

Mississippi Kite—Noteworthy were 1 circling over Madrid 20 Jun (LAS) and a kettle of 25 over Texico 23 Jun (JRO). Singles were west to the RGV at Albuquerque 16 Jul (DLH) and Los Lunas 1 Jul (BV).

Bald Eagle—An ad. and an imm. at Stubblefield L. on various dates 9-26 Jul (DJC, JEP, JRO) suggested the presence of an undiscovered nest in that area. Elsewhere in *Colfax*, the 3 known nests were successful (SOW).

Northern Harrier—Summering were singles in the southern Animas Valley 23 Jun (JNP) and at Deming 4 Jul (LKM).

Common Black-Hawk—An ad. was north in the Pecos Valley to Santa Rosa Dam 22 Jun (Bill Rowe*); another was in the Animas Valley at Clanton Cienega 8 Jun (SOW).

Ferruginous Hawk—Noteworthy for the breeding season were singles at Forrest, *Quay* 1 Jun (SOW), near Beaverhead, *Catron* 24 Jun (JRO), and near Hobbs 23 Jun (DLH).

<u>Aplomado Falcon</u>—The pioneering pair in southern New Mexico, present since Oct 2000, renested in late May but the nest and eggs were abandoned by 4 Jun (RAM).

Montezuma Quail—Female incubating 8+ eggs in Valencia Canyon south of Guadalupe Canyon 22 Jul (AMC, NM-C). Reported elsewhere in the southwest in the Peloncillo, San Luis, Animas, and Pinos Altos mts. (v.o.).

Virginia Rail—Ads. with 3-4 chicks at BLNWR 20 Jul (GLW).

American Golden-Plover—An ad. was at BLNWR 8 Jun (GLW*).

Snowy Plover—Two at Maxwell NWR 14 Jul (JEP) may have been early migrants; another was at Brantley L. 22 Jul (JRO). Numbers, including young, at BLNWR peaked with 399 on 29 Jun and 402 on 27 Jul (GLW); high at Holloman L. was only 12 on 13 Jul (GJE).

Mountain Plover—Among the few reports were 3 in the northern San Luis Valley on the *Rio Arriba-Taos* line 16 Jun (JRO) and a breeding group of 9 ads. near White Lakes, *Santa Fe*, where there were single chicks 12 & 28 Jun and 9 Jul (BJL).

American Avocet—High count at BLNWR was 531 on 27 Jul (GLW).

Greater Yellowlegs—Earliest fall migrants were 8 at BLNWR 29 Jun (GLW).

Lesser Yellowlegs—Two-three lingered at BLNWR 15-22 Jun; 11 were there 29 Jun (GLW).

Spotted Sandpiper—Unexpected in summer in *De Baca*, a pair was suspected of nesting at Sumner L. 6 Jun (WHH).

Long-billed Curlew—Prevalent in the northeastern prairies, including highs of 17 at Springer 26 Jun (DJC) and 13 at Floyd 24 Jun (SHS). In *Santa Fe*, small colonies of up to 8 ads. each were found at White Lakes and near Stanley, and chicks were noted at both sites in Jul (BJL).

Marbled Godwit—Unseasonal were one at BLNWR 15 Jun and 2 there 29 Jun (GLW).

Sanderling—One at Stubblefield L. 24 Jul (DJC).

Semipalmated Sandpiper—Singles were at Stubblefield L. 14 Jul (JEP, JRO) and BLNWR 22 Jul (JRO).

White-rumped Sandpiper—High count was 31 at BLNWR 1 Jun (GLW), where numbers dwindled to 7 on 12 Jun (WHH) and to 2 on 15 Jun (GLW).

Stilt Sandpiper—First fall migrants were 26 at BLNWR 13 Jul (GLW). High counts included 53 at Maxwell NWR 26 Jul (DJC) and 156 at BLNWR 27 Jul (GLW).

Common Snipe—One in the Valle Grande, Jemez Mts. 28 Jun (SMF) was suggestive of local breeding.

Red-necked Phalarope—Late were 2 at BLNWR 1 Jun (GLW).

<u>Red Phalarope</u>—One molting from winter to breeding plumage was at Springer L. 15 & 18 Jun (DJC**).

Franklin's Gull—Latest for Jun were 2 each at Heron L. 9 Jun (JEP, JRO) and BLNWR 10 Jun (JEP, JRO).

California Gull—Summering but not nesting were 15 at Eagle Nest L. 9 Jul (JRO) and 3-5 at EBL 6 Jun-1 Jul (WFW, JRO, JEP).

Elegant Tern—One was at Farmington 18 Jul (TR**); this, the state's 2nd record, followed the first by barely two months.

Forster's Tern—One lingered at BLNWR 8-22 Jun (GLW) and another was at La Joya 13 Jun (WFW). Early was one at Springer L. 2 Jul (DJC).

Least Tern—The breeding population at BLNWR increased to 11 pairs but only 9 young fledged (JBM).

<u>Black Skimmer</u>—An ad. at BLNWR 10-11 Jun (JBM, JRO**, JEP*, SW*, WHH**, JWM*) furnished the state's 3rd definite and 4th overall record.

Band-tailed Pigeon—One strayed far east to BLNWR 6 Jun (GLW**). Three near Madrid 5 Jul (LAS) provided a local first. A high 30 were at Quarai 30 Jun (HRS).

Eurasian Collared-Dove—Reports continued to proliferate from the RGV eastward. Pushing west were singles at Bloomfield 8 Jul (JRO**), Gallup 15 Jul (JRO**), San Rafael 15 Jul (JRO) and 2-3 at Cuba 8 Jul (JRO**). A nest at Silver City fledged 2 young by 29 Jul (RSS).

White-winged Dove—Continued to expand, with 3 at Gallup 15 Jul (JRO**), one at Madrid 17 Jun (BRF), 2 at White Oaks, *Lincoln* 6 Jun (SOW), and one at High Rolls, *Otero* 14 Jul (SW).

Common Ground-Dove—Singles were in the Cliff-Gila Valley 28 Jun (HDW*), the middle Animas Valley 2 Jul (SOW, PM), and Guadalupe Canyon 2 Jul (JRO, NM-C).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—Had a good season in New Mexico, with often multiple reports from 25 locales nearly statewide Jun-Jul, including singles north to Rinconada Cr., Acoma Pueblo, *Cibola* 18 Jun (CAC), Parkview 8 Jul (DWS), Española 29 Jul (JT), and along Tecolote Cr. at San Geronimo, *San Miguel* 12 Jul (*fide* LAS), plus 2-3 in the Maxwell area 3 Jun-16 Jul (DJC) and 2 along the Cimarron R. near Cimarron 26 Jul (DJC). In the Pecos Valley there were 2 at Sumner Dam 6 Jun (WHH), one at Fort Sumner 1 Jun (SOW), one at BLNWR 5 Jun (JWM***) plus 2-3 others there 1 Jun-20 Jul (JWM, GLW, WHH), and one at Hondo, *Lincoln* 17 Jul (Yvette Troy***). In the eastern plains were one at NRT 1-10 Jun (SOW, JEP, WHH, JRO) and one near Hobbs 23 Jun (DLH). In the RGV were 2-3 at Sevilleta NWR 8 Jun & 15 Jul (WHH), singles at Luis Lopez 13 Jun (JRO) and near San Antonio 9 Jun (NSC, SWC), and 1-2 near Radium Springs 17 Jun (MTS, JEZ). In the southwest, 5 were at Lake Valley Ranch 6 Jun (WFW), 2 pairs were along the Mimbres R., *Grant* Jun-Jul (SHS) and 4 individuals were along the Mimbres R., *Luna* 30 Jun (JRO), and singles were in Guadalupe Canyon 10 Jun

(SOW) and Clanton Cienega 1 Jul (AMC, NM-C). Two pairs were on the San Francisco R. below Pleasanton and 19 nests were noted in the Cliff-Gila Valley Jun-Jul (SHS).

Western Screech-Owl—One along the Mimbres R., northwest *Luna* 30 Jun (JRO).

Elf Owl—Peripheral were singles in *Sierra* on Las Animas Cr. 12 Jul (JRO**) and at Lake Valley Ranch south of Hillsboro 6 Jun (WFW) and in *Eddy* at Rocky Arroyo 23 Jun (SW, RW).

Short-eared Owl—Unexpected was one seen near Bueyeros, *Harding* 16 Jun (KG*). Although not known to nest in New Mexico, this was the 2nd consecutive summer in which the species has been reported in Jun in the east.

Chimney Swift—Was added to the list of New Mexico breeding species when some were discovered entering a Carlsbad chimney; the site was investigated 16 Jul, revealing egg shells and a recently-used swift nest (SW, Rick Wiedenmann, Bob Neiman).

Broad-billed Hummingbird—Six, including at least 2 fledglings, were in Valencia Canyon south of Guadalupe Canyon 22 Jul (AMC, NM-C). Singles were in Skeleton Canyon 11 Jun (WFW) and 8 Jul (JEP).

<u>White-eared Hummingbird</u>—A female was below Aspen Spring in Indian Cr. Canyon, Animas Mts. 15 Jun (AMC*, NM-C*).

Blue-throated Hummingbird—Far north was a male at Raton 3 Jul (F. Higgins) & 14 Jul (JEP*, JRO). Another male was at Six-Mile Dam 21 Jun (SW*).

Magnificent Hummingbird—One was at Sleepy Grass CG near Cloudcroft 15 Jun (WHH). Two reported at Mogollon 13 Jun (WFW) and 2 ad. females banded at L. Roberts 23 Jul (JD-M).

Lucifer Hummingbird—A female was gathering nest material in Post Office Canyon 31 Jul (JD-M, RTS); 1-2 females were in Skeleton Canyon 1 Jul (JEP, JRO).

Black-chinned Hummingbird—A banded one captured at Trout Cr. near L. Roberts in Jul was at least 10 years old (WAC).

Anna's Hummingbird—One reached Albuquerque 9 Jul (PRS*). An ad. female was banded at Post Office Canyon 25 Jul (JD-M, RTS), where it remained until 30 Jul (RTS). A male reached Las Cruces 25 Jul (GJE).

Costa's Hummingbird—An apparent subad. male visited a Deming feeder 13-14 Jul (LKM*); there are no previous *Luna* reports.

Rufous Hummingbird—Earliest was a male near Madrid 30 Jun (LAS).

<u>Allen's Hummingbird</u>—Barely a year after the first was confirmed in New Mexico, 2 others were captured and banded at Trout Cr. near L. Roberts—an ad. female 13 Jul and an ad. male 18 Jul, the latter being recaptured at the same site 4 Aug (WAC).

Lewis's Woodpecker—Maintaining their presence at Los Lunas were 3 in River Park 1 Jul (BV).

Red-headed Woodpecker—Noteworthy was an ad. at BLNWR 1 Jun (GLW).

Williamson's Sapsucker—There are few reports from the Sacramento Mts. in summer, so noteworthy was a male at Sleepy Grass CG near Cloudcroft 16 Jun (WHH).

Three-toed Woodpecker—Perhaps benefiting from recent fires, this species was much in evidence in northern New Mexico, including 3 near Los Alamos 17 Jun (JRO) and 2 at Bandelier NM 10 Jun (JT) plus singles in the San Juan Mts. at Apache Cr., *Rio Arriba* 9 Jul (JRO) and in the Sangre de Cristo Mts. at the Santa Fe Ski Basin 22 Jul (BV) and near Elk Mt. 27 Jun (BJL). A pair was feeding nestlings on Oso Ridge, Zuni Mts. 18 & 23 Jun (David P. Arsenault*).

Yellow-shafted Flicker—An apparently "pure" female was in Hillcrest Park at Clovis 23 Jun (JRO).

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet—Ads. were tending young in a nest in Guadalupe Canyon 26 Jun (LKM*).

Olive-sided Flycatcher—Now a scarce nester in the Sandia Mts., one was singing in Waterfall Canyon 16 Jun (HRS).

Greater Pewee—At the northern edge of the breeding range were one in the Tularosa Mts. about 12 miles southeast of Lower San Francisco Plaza, *Catron* 24 Jun (JRO) and 2 there 29 Jul (JRO**).

Dusky Flycatcher—For the 2nd consecutive year, Duskies summered south to the Sacramento Mts., where there were 2 pairs plus a single male south of Cloudcroft 17 Jun (WHH*). Another was singing in the Black Range north of Kingston 4 Jun (WFW).

Eastern Phoebe—In possible breeding areas were one near Grenville 14 Jun (KDS), 2 near Rociada, *San Miguel* 15 Jul (LAS), and one at Las Vegas NWR 14 Jun (audiotape SMF). Early for the southwest was one at GBA 19 Jul (RSS).

Say's Phoebe—Ads. feeding nestlings at the Sandia Ski Lodge, 8600 ft., 8 Jun (MRG *fide* HRS).

Vermilion Flycatcher—At their northern periphery were single males near Bernalillo in Jun (HAW) and near Pastura 6 Jun (WHH).

Dusky-capped Flycatcher—A vocal one was north to McMillan CG, Pinos Altos Mts. 1 Jul (WHH).

Brown-crested Flycatcher—East was one along Las Animas Cr. near Palomas, *Sierra* 3 Jun (WFW).

Thick-billed Kingbird—One strayed northeast to Double Adobe, Animas Mts. 5 Jun (AMC, NM-C). Three territories were along a 2 mile transect in Guadalupe Canyon 10-11 Jun (SOW).

Western Kingbird—Unusual at 7700 ft. was one near Bluff Springs, Sacramento Mts., *Otero* 14 Jul (SW).

Eastern Kingbird—In the upper RGV, an active nest was at Española 24 Jun (BV) and 2 ads. were tending a fledgling at Cochiti 19 Jul (HAW).

<u>White-eyed Vireo</u>—Had an impressive season, with a singing male at NRT 2 Jun (JEP*, JRO**) and another singing male near Cliff 12 & 29 Jun (HDW*). Intriguing were 2-3 at Cochiti 5 Jul (DLH*) and 3 there 10 Jul (Jeffrey F. Kelly*), which may have been a family group of 2 ads with a fledgling.

Bell's Vireo—Only one noted in Guadalupe Canyon 10 Jun (SOW) & 3 Jul (AMC, NM-C), but 10 were south of there in Valencia Canyon 22 Jul (AMC, NM-C). For the 2nd consecutive year, one was on the Mimbres R., northwest *Luna* 30 Jun (JRO). Noteworthy was a vocal one in Water Canyon 16 Jun (LKM).

Gray Vireo—Unusually well represented around the state, including detections of 1-7 on 7 BBS routes. Others of note included a pair near Madrid 2 Jun (LAS), 12 territories north of Bingham, *Socorro* 3-13 Jul (NSC), 3 territories near Ladrone Peak, *Socorro* 11 Jul (NSC), two singing south of Dunken, *Chaves* 11 Jun (WHH), and an ad. feeding a fledgling in Guadalupe Canyon 3 Jul (NM-C).

Cassin's Vireo—Late was one at Clanton Cienega 5 Jun (AMC, NM-C).

Red-eyed Vireo—One was at NRT 2 Jun (JEP*, JRO). Far west was a singing male near Mimbres 3 Jul (HDW*).

Pinyon Jay—Five were far east to Ragland, *Quay* 2 Jun (JRO). Unusual at 4:30 AM, was a flock of 100, including noisy juvs., flying across the full moon at Zuni 6 Jul (SOW).

Clark's Nutcracker—One captured and carried away a young Yellow-rumped Warbler at Elk Mt. 5 Jul (BJL). Noteworthy for summer was one at Sandia Crest 9 Jun (DAE, BDN).

American Crow—Unexpected was one at Snow L., *Catron* 13 Jun (WFW). In the Sacramento Mts. were 1-2 near Mayhill 15 & 30 Jun (SW) and a one or more near Weed 21 Jul (JRO).

Chihuahuan Raven—Further evidence of nesting in *Colfax* was provided by a nest with 2 young east of Springer 20 Jun (DJC) and another nest with 2 young at Maxwell 22 Jun (DJC).

Purple Martin—Nested north to *Colfax*, with 3-4 successful nests in cottonwoods in the Sangre de Cristo Mts. at Vermejo Ranch 6 Jul (DJC**).

Bank Swallow—About 15 pairs were nesting at San Juan Pueblo 15 Jun (JRO**).

Verdin—North in the RGV was an active nest at Sevilleta NWR 15 Jul (WHH).

House Wren—A pair in the Gallinas Mts. near Corona 15 Jun (HRS) may be a local summer first.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet—One singing in the Gallinas Mts. near Corona 15 Jun (HRS) was a local summer first.

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher—Noteworthy were 4 east of Engle, *Sierra* 4 Jul (Jennifer Atchley). In the southwest, 2 were at San Simon Cienega 7 Jul (JEP) and 4, including a fledgling, were in Valencia Canyon south of Guadalupe Canyon 22 Jul (AMC, NM-C).

Townsend's Solitaire—Rare in the isolated Gallinas Mts. near Corona was one on Gallinas Peak 15 Jun (HRS).

Veery—Singles singing at 2 Chama sites 9 Jun (JEP*, JRO*) and 8 Jul (JRO*). A migrant was heard at NRT 3 Jun (JRO*).

Swainson's Thrush—Four singing at Chama 9 Jun (JEP,JRO), with 2-3 there 8 Jul (JRO).

Wood Thrush—The one at NRT in late May lingered 1-3 Jun (JRO, JEP).

Gray Catbird—South in the RGV was one singing at Sevilleta NWR 8 Jun (WHH).

Sage Thrasher—A "migrant wave" of eight or more were near Madrid 26-29 Jul (LAS).

<u>Long-billed Thrasher</u>—One was singing at Bosque Redondo 2-3 Jun (JEP, JRO**), where one has been present since 1997.

Bendire's Thrasher—The species exists in small, local populations in the western New Mexico, including the eastern foothills of the Bear Mts., *Socorro* where there were singles at 2 locales 1-2 Jun (HRS).

Curve-billed Thrasher—Continued its population explosion at Eldorado near Santa Fe, where 25 of 41 pairs produced 2nd broods in Jun and 19 pairs had initiated 3rd nesting attempts in Jul (DWS).

American Pipit—Noteworthy for the White Mts. was one above timberline on Buck Mt., *Lincoln* 1 Jul (SW).

Cedar Waxwing—Late were 2 at Zuni 7 Jun (DJC**).

Olive Warbler—Again in evidence in the San Mateo Mts., including a nest at 9100 ft at San Mateo Spring that produced fledglings by 27 Jun (HRS); the species was unknown in *Socorro* prior to 1998.

Chestnut-sided Warbler—A singing male at Bandelier NM 3-10 Jun (SMF*, JT) and an apparent female in the Cliff-Gila Valley 25 Jun (HDW*).

Black-and-white Warbler—Singles at Cochiti 28 Jun-31 Jul (DLH), Embudito Canyon, Sandia Mts. 17 Jun (BV), and near Cliff 25 Jul (HDW*).

American Redstart—At least one at Bluff Springs south of Cloudcroft 13 Jul (GJE).

Prothonotary Warbler—A vocal ad. male was at Sevilleta NWR 8 Jun (WHH*).

Ovenbird—One singing at Cochiti 31 May (WFW) and another singing along an irrigation canal in Albuquerque's North Valley 28 Jun (DWM).

<u>Kentucky Warbler</u>—An impressive season, with one at NRT 1 Jun (JRO*), an undetailed one singing at Coyote Creek SP 22 Jun (PRS, CMR), an apparent female at Cochiti 19 Jul (HAW*) where there had been a male 16 May, and an ad. male near Escondida L. 19 Jun (JPD*).

MacGillivray's Warbler—One at NRT 6 Jun (WHH) was late for the eastern plains. Uncommon in the Zuni Mts., one was in Bluewater Canyon 20 Jun (HRS).

Hooded Warbler—Single singing males were in potential breeding habitat at Cochiti Jun-Jul (DLH), near Mimbres 29 Jun (WHH*) & 3 Jul (HDW*), and GBA on various dates 8 Jun-2 Jul (RSS); a female was near Cliff 22 Jun (Giancarlo Sadoti*).

Wilson's Warbler—At least 2 still at NRT on the late date of 10 Jun (JRO).

Painted Redstart—Unusual for summer was an imm. at GBA 22 Jun (RSS).

Summer Tanager—Peripheral were 2 in *San Miguel* about 10 mi east of Conchas L. 2 Jun (JRO), and singles at NRT 10 Jun (JRO) and Tinnie, *Lincoln* 22 Jul (JRO).

Green-tailed Towhee—Two were in the Gallinas Mts. near Corona 15 Jun (HRS), where rare in summer.

Canyon Towhee—A pair at Eldorado that nested on the ground beneath a fallen stop sign failed by 7 Jun (DWS).

Cassin's Sparrow—Conspicuous west of its core range, including 5 at Eldorado 7 Jun (DWS), 5 near Cerrillos 17 Jun (BRF), 7 near Cerro Verde, *Cibola* 30 Jun (DWM), one at Petroglyph NM 24 Jun (HRS) & 8 Jul (PRS), 51 near Escondida 22 Jun (HRS), and 5 in the San Agustin Plains, *Socorro/Catron* 4 Jul (JRO). In the southwest, 19 were near Antelope Wells, *Hidalgo* 10 Jun (SOW).

Botteri's Sparrow—Showed some recovery from last year's Animas Valley fire, with 29 territories (but only 7 in or near burned areas) plus a nest with eggs 1-3 Jul (SOW, PM, Zack Jones). One was east of the Animas Mts. on Deer Cr. 10 Jun (SOW), where present most years.

Rufous-crowned Sparrow—Noteworthy was a pair with fledglings near Madrid 18 Jun (LAS).

Chipping Sparrow—Two fall migrants had arrived at Sevilleta NWR by 15 Jul (WHH).

Brewer's Sparrow—East of known breeding range were 6 in saltbush in the Maxwell area 2 Jul (DJC), where there had been at least 3 on 14 Jun (DJC).

Vesper Sparrow—Five near Monica Cabin, San Mateo Mts. 12 Jul (HRS).

Lark Bunting—Early greenup of the northeastern prairies in *Colfax, Union, Mora, Harding,* and *San Miguel* proved irresistible, and many hundreds stayed to nest where in some years there are none; highs included 139 at Farley 3 Jun (SOW) and 203 at Grenville 14 Jun (KDS). South were one near Pastura 6 Jun (WHH) and 2 near Fort Sumner 1 Jun (SOW).

Savannah Sparrow—Seven were singing in the Valle Grande 28 Jun (SMF), where first detected summering only last year. Others in presumed breeding areas were one singing at Parkview 8 Jul (DWS), 2 singing at Eagle Nest L. 2 Jun (SOW), 18 near Angel Fire 22 Jun (CMR), and 3-5 at Maxwell NWR 15-16 Jun (KG, DJC).

Grasshopper Sparrow—Two males were singing in alfalfa fields in the Cliff-Gila Valley Jun-Jul (SHS). The *ammolegus* subspecies continued to decline in *Hidalgo*, with 44 in the south Animas Valley 9 Jun (SOW) and only 2 in the west Playas Valley 10 Jun (SOW), down from 102 and 41, respectively, in 1992.

White-crowned Sparrow—Unseasonal was a white-lored ad. in the Sandia Mts. at Capulin Spring 21 Jun (GM).

Northern Cardinal—Continuing a trend, one was north to Tucumcari L. 2 Jun (JRO).

Pyrrhuloxia—Two were on the east side of the Florida Mts., where rarely reported, 1 Jun (LKM) and one was there 20 Jul (LKM).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak—Late were single males near Radium Springs 3 Jun (MTS*, JEZ*) and the Moriarty turf farm 10 Jun (BV).

Indigo Bunting—Northerly individuals included one in *Rio Arriba* near Counselor 6 Jul (CMR), one at Petaca, *Rio Arriba* 16 Jun (JRO), and one at Sugarite SP, *Colfax* 2 Jul (DJC).

Varied Bunting—A good season, with 5 territories in Guadalupe Canyon 10-11 Jun (SOW) and 6 individuals, including a fledgling, south of there 22 Jul (AMC, NM-C), and 2 pairs in Walnut Canyon, Carlsbad Caverns NP 9 Jul (SW).

Painted Bunting—North in the Pecos Valley was a singing male at Sumner Dam 6 Jun (WHH). A pair was at La Mesa, *Doña Ana* 17 Jun-28 Jul (MTS, JEZ**).

Dickcissel—Reports from locales where the species is rarely seen were 1-2 singing at Springer L. 14 Jul (JEP, JRO) and 2 singing at LVNWR 21 Jul (SMF).

Eastern Meadowlark—Unexpected were 26 singing in the Jemez Mts. at 8500 ft in the Valle Grande 28 Jun (SMF, audio recording); 42 Western Meadowlarks were in the same area.

Brewer's Blackbird—Noteworthy were 6 ads. with 9 fledglings in the Sandia Mts. at Madera 20 Jun (MRG *fide* HRS).

Common Grackle—Continued to push westward, including to *McKinley*, with 8 (including fledglings) at Gallup 14 Jul (JRO**) plus 2 at nearby Red Rock SP (JRO) and 1 at Fort Wingate (JRO**) the same day.

Bronzed Cowbird—More evidence of northward range expansion, with 2 males (one collected) at BLNWR 2 Jun (GLW***) and another 20 miles north of there 12 Jun (WHH), plus a female at Conchas L. 2 Jun (JRO**), which provided a first for *San Miguel*.

Orchard Oriole—North of usual were a pair at Fort Sumner 3 Jun (JRO) and one there 17 Jul (WFW), a male at Ned Houk Park near Clovis 23 Jun (JRO), and another singing near Roswell 12 Jun (WHH).

Cassin's Finch—Among the very few reports was an ad. male at Capulin Spring, Sandia Mts. 21 Jun (GM) and 2 near Sandia Crest 11 Jul (PRS).

Red Crossbill—Widespread and relatively numerous in most major mountain ranges statewide, including the San Juan, Sangre de Cristo, Jemez, Sandia, Manzano, San Mateo, Sacramento, Mogollon, Pinos Altos, and Animas ranges.

<u>White-winged Crossbill</u>—Providing a treat for many were 5 or more at the Santa Fe Ski Basin; first found 15 Jul (Martin MacRoberts*), they remained through the month (WFW, JRO**, JEP*, BV*, PRS*), and singing plus apparent courtship feeding suggested that they were initiating nesting.

American Goldfinch—Two at Chama 9 Jun (JEP) provided the only report.

Evening Grosbeak—Small numbers, with the very few reports restricted to Sangre de Cristo, Jemez, and Sacramento ranges.

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Published 15 November 2004

