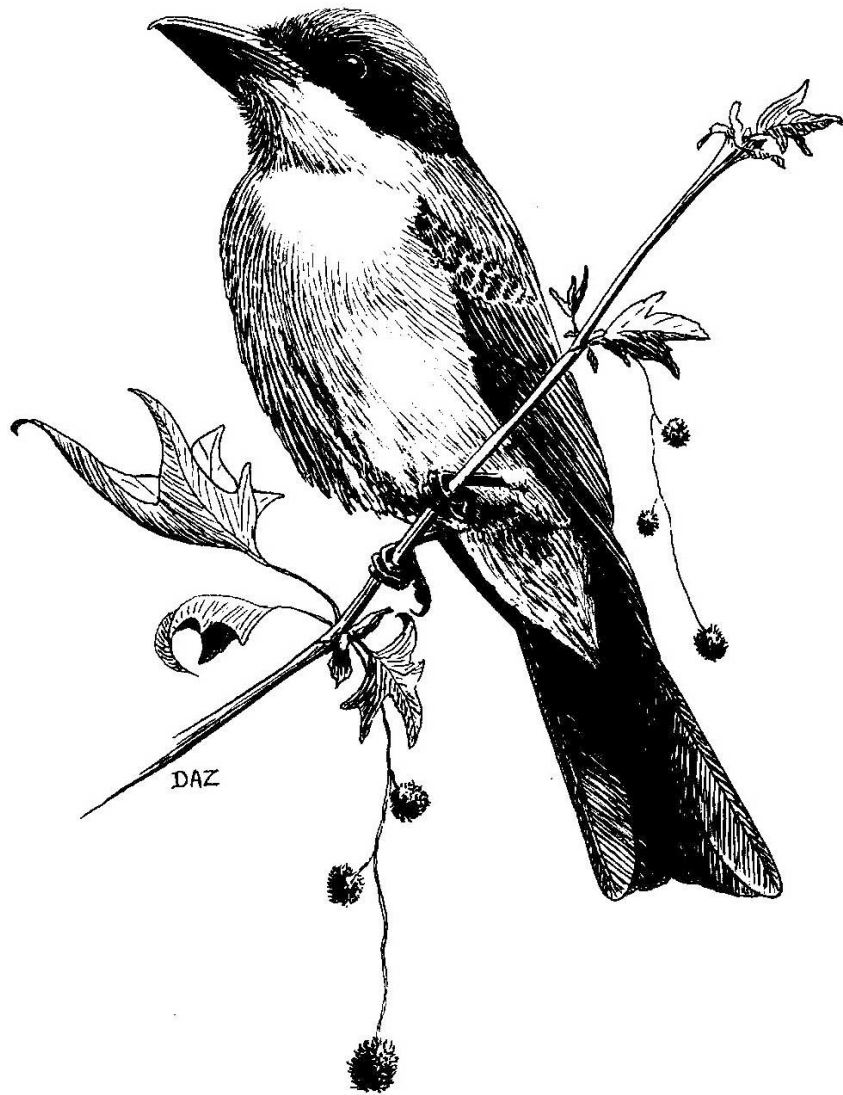


*New Mexico
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Field Notes*



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NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD NOTES

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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: Thick-billed Kingbird (*Tyrannus crassirostris*). This large Neotropical flycatcher summers regularly in New Mexico only in Guadalupe Canyon, where its survival depends on protection, from fire and other threats, of mature sycamore-cottonwood riparian habitats. Art by Dale A. Zimmerman, commissioned by New Mexico Department of Game and Fish for a series on state endangered species. Used by permission.

AUTUMN SEASON 2002

The prolonged drought moderated somewhat during Autumn 2002, with widespread and locally plentiful rains early and subsequent mountain snows later. The season produced numerous rarities and saw conspicuous incursions by several groups, notably corvids from the mountains, ground-doves from the tropics, and goldfinches from the west.

Localities and Counties

Albuquerque, *Bernalillo*
Angel Fire, *Colfax*
Animas, Cr., Mts., Valley, *Hidalgo*
Antelope Wells, *Hidalgo*
Artesia, *Eddy*
Bitter Lake NWR, *Chaves*
Boone's Draw, *Roosevelt*
Bosque del Apache NWR, *Socorro*
Bosque Redondo, *De Baca*
Brantley Lake, *Eddy*
Broadview, *Curry*
Caballo Lake, Dam, *Sierra*
Capilla Peak, *Torrance*
Carlsbad, Lake, *Eddy*
Cerrillos, *Santa Fe*
Cimarron, Canyon, *Colfax*
Clanton Canyon, Cienega, *Hidalgo*
Cliff, Cliff-Gila Valley, *Grant*
Clovis, *Curry*
Columbus, *Luna*
Conchas Lake, Dam, *San Miguel*
Cochiti Lake, Dam, *Sandoval*
Corrales, *Sandoval*
Crossroads, *Lea*
Deming, *Luna*
Dexter, *Chaves*
Eagle Nest, Lake, *Colfax*
Elida, *Roosevelt*
El Vado Lake, *Rio Arriba*
Elephant Butte Lake, Dam, *Sierra*
Florida Mts., *Luna*
Fort Sumner, *De Baca*
Gila, *Grant*
Gila Bird Area, *Grant*
Glorieta, *Santa Fe*
Guadalupe Canyon, *Hidalgo*
Hachita, *Grant*
Hermanas, *Luna*
Holloman Lake, *Otero*
Hondo Valley, *Lincoln*
Hurley, *Grant*
Isleta, *Bernalillo/Valencia*
Jemez Falls, *Sandoval*
Jicarita Peak, *Taos*
La Union, *Doña Ana*
Lake Avalon, *Eddy*
Lake Roberts, *Grant*
Lake Valley, *Sierra*
Las Animas Creek, *Sierra*
Las Cruces, *Doña Ana*
Las Vegas, NWR, *San Miguel*
Leasburg SP, *Doña Ana*
Lemitar, *Socorro*
Lingo, *Roosevelt*
Lordsburg, *Hidalgo*
Los Pinos Mts., *Socorro*
Luis Lopez, *Socorro*
Madrid, *Santa Fe*
Malaga, *Eddy*
Mangas Springs, *Grant*
Manzano, Mts., *Torrance*
Maxwell, NWR, *Colfax*
Mayhill, *Otero*
Melrose, *Curry*
Mesilla, Dam, Valley, *Doña Ana*
Miami Lake, *Colfax*
Mills Canyon, *Harding*
Mountainair, *Torrance*
Ned Houk Park, *Curry*
north *Roosevelt* trap [NRT], *Roosevelt*
Nara Visa, *Quay*
Otero Mesa, *Otero*
Palomas, *Sierra*
Peloncillo Mts., *Hidalgo*
Percha SP, *Sierra*
Portales, *Roosevelt*
Post Office Canyon, *Hidalgo*
Queen, *Eddy*
Quemado Lake, *Catron*
Radium Springs, *Doña Ana*
Ramon, *Lincoln*

Rattlesnake Springs, *Eddy*
 Redrock, *Grant*
 Rio Grande Nature Center, *Bernalillo*
 Rio Rancho, *Sandoval*
 Rodeo, *Hidalgo*
 Roy, *Harding*
 Ruby Ranch, *San Miguel*
 Sandia Crest, *Bernalillo*
 Sandia Mts., *Bernalillo/Sandoval*
 San Andres Mts., *Sierra/Doña Ana*
 San Antonio, *Socorro*
 San Marcial, *Socorro*
 Santa Fe, Baldy, *Santa Fe*
 Santa Rosa, Lake, *Guadalupe*
 Signal Peak, *Grant*
 Silver City, *Grant*
 Six-Mile Dam, *Eddy*
 Skeleton Canyon, *Hidalgo*
 Socorro, *Socorro*

Springer, Lake, *Colfax*
 Stubblefield Lake, *Colfax*
 Sugarite SP, *Colfax*
 Sumner Lake, Dam, *De Baca*
 Sunland Park, *Doña Ana*
 Tatum, *Lea*
 Texico, *Curry*
 Truchas Peak, *Mora*
 Tucumcari, Lake, *Quay*
 Tularosa, *Otero*
 Tyrone, *Grant*
 Ute Lake, *Quay*
 Valles Caldera NP, *Sandoval*
 Water Canyon, *Socorro*
 Wheeler Peak, *Taos*
 Willard, *Torrance*
 Yeso, *De Baca*
 Zuni, *McKinley*
 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 Service
BBS	Breeding Bird Survey	WMA	Wildlife Management Area
CBC	Christmas Bird Count	WSMR	White Sands Missile Range
CCNP	Carlsbad Caverns NP	ad(s).	adult(s)
CG	Camp Ground	subad(s).	subadult(s)
Cr.	Creek	imm(s).	immature(s)
EBL	Elephant Butte Lake	juv(s).	juvenile(s)
GBA	Gila Bird Area	sp.	species
L.	Lake	m.ob	many observers
LVNWR	Las Vegas NWR	v.o.	various observers
Mt(s).	Mountain(s)	+	others; et al.
NM	National Monument	*	written details provided
NMSU	New Mexico State Univ.	**	photo or tape provided
NP	National Park	***	specimen obtained
NRT	north <i>Roosevelt</i> trap		
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge		
R.	River		
RGNC	Rio Grande Nature Center		

Initialed Observers

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GJE	Gordon J. Ewing	LAS	Lawry A. Sager
MRG	M. Rebecca Gracey	LS	Lorraine Schulte
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SXG	Santiago X. Guallar	MTS	Marcy T. Scott
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J&MH	John & Marty Hirth	RSS	Roland S. Shook
WHH	William H. Howe	JAT	John A. Trochet
HWI	HawkWatch International	BV	Brad Vaughn
THJ	Terrell H. Johnson	HAW	Hira A. Walker
DJK	David J. Krueper	GLW	Gordon L. Warrick
RK	Robert Kruidenier	MLW	Mark L. Watson
CDL	Carroll D. Littlefield	REW	Richard E. Webster
BL	Billy Leonard	SW	Steve West
ERL	Eugene R. Lewis	WFW	William F. West
LKM	Larry K. Malone	SOW	S. O. Williams III
B&DM	Barbara & Daniel McKnight	JEZ	James E. Zabriskie
PM	Patricia Mehlhop	DAZ	Dale A. Zimmerman
RAM	Raymond A. Meyer	MAZ	Marian A. Zimmerman

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

Pacific Loon—Singles visited Stubblefield L. 31 Oct-2 Nov (DJC), Springer L. 4 Nov (DJC), and Cochiti L. 16 Nov (WHH*).

Common Loon—At least one of the ones that “summered” at Stubblefield L. lingered through Aug (DJC+). Earliest migrants were singles at Ute L. 4 Oct (ERL) and Sumner L. 11 Oct (JRO). Noteworthy for the southwest were up to 3 on L. Roberts 1-2 Nov (ERL, DAZ, MAZ).

Horned Grebe—Singles wandered to Elida 12 Oct (JRO**) and Quemado L. 22 Oct (LKM). High counts were 4 at Stubblefield L. 29 Oct (WFW) and 8 at Conchas L. 16 Nov (JRO).

Red-necked Grebe—A winter-plumaged individual visited Sumner L. 11-13 Oct (JRO**, JEP*, DAE*, BDN*); the species was last reported in New Mexico in 1999.

American White Pelican—Notable concentrations were 770 at Springer L. 7 Oct (MLW), 430 at EBL 10 Oct (MLW), 175 at Caballo L. 10 Oct (MLW), 122 at BLNWR 16 Oct (GLW), and 25 at Zuni 27 Sep (JAT).

Neotropic Cormorant—Scarce in the Pecos Valley, one was north to Sumner L. 19 Oct (CMR*) and 3 were at Six-Mile Dam 23 Nov (SW). High count at Bosque NWR was only 25 on 11 Nov (WHH).

Double-crested Cormorant—One wandered to Snow L., *Catron* 4 Aug (JRO).

American Bittern—Now quite rare in New Mexico, this season produced singles at Bosque NWR 22 Oct (SXG), BLNWR 9 Oct (GLW), and L. Avalon 26 Aug (SW+).

Least Bittern—An apparent fledgling was at Bosque Redondo 16 Aug (JRO**) and singles were seen and/or heard there 17 Aug (JEP) and 15 Sep (CMR*). In the RGV, one was near Radium Springs 4 Aug (JEZ).

Great Egret—Late for the north was one at Conchas L. 16 Nov (JEP, JRO). Eleven at BLNWR 12 Nov (GLW) and 9 at Bosque NWR 24 Nov (CMR) were large numbers for so late in the season.

Snowy Egret—High count was 255 at BLNWR 21 Aug (GLW). Late was one at Bosque NWR 24 Nov (JRO, CMR).

Little Blue Heron—One imm. was north to RGNC 6 Oct (BL) and another imm. was at Bosque NWR 1 Oct (SOW). Two imms. were at BLNWR 15 Aug (SW) where there was an ad. 30 Oct (GLW).

Tricolored Heron—An ad. was at BLNWR 9 Aug-11 Sep (GLW, JEP, JRO, WFW, WHH*). An imm. wandered west to Deming 28 Aug-9 Sep (LKM*, JRO**).

Reddish Egret—Yet another strong showing, with an imm. far north to Maxwell NWR 15 Sep-1 Oct (DJC**, J&MH*, JRO**, JEP*), an imm. that split its time between

Brantley L. and L. Avalon 9 Aug-8 Sep (JEP*, WFW, TJH**, SW*, CMR*, JRO**), and an imm. at BLNWR 7 Oct (WFW*). Internet reports of a “white phase” at BLNWR in Oct were undetailed and may refer to another species.

Cattle Egret—Late was one at Lordsburg 29 Nov (JEP, JRO).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron—An imm. was at Tatum 21 Sep-1 Oct (JRO**).

Roseate Spoonbill—At least one of the 2 imms. at BLNWR in Jul lingered later, with numerous reports 14 Aug-11 Sep (GLW*, JEP*, JRO**, WHH*, CMR*, DAE*, BDN*, SW*).

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck—Nicely described was an ad. at San Antonio 10 Aug (SXG*).

Fulvous Whistling-Duck—Very rare in New Mexico, an imm. at L. Avalon 8-9 Sep (JRO**, SW) furnished an *Eddy* first.

White-fronted Goose—Reports where seldom encountered were 1-2 each at Springer L. 4 Oct-30 Nov (DJC**) and Sumner L. 12 Oct (JRO, DAE, BDN) & 13 Nov (WFW).

Ross’s Goose—A flock of 20 was grounded by fog on the prairie near Yeso 3 Nov (JRO). At BLNWR, Ross’s outnumbered Snow Geese by 4 or 5 to 1 in Nov, with 3068 Ross’s on 12 Nov (GLW).

Tundra Swan—Three were at L. Maloya, Sugarite SP 28 Oct (DJC**), 2 were at Maxwell NWR 12 Nov (MLW), and 2 were at Ute L. 7 Oct (MLW).

Wood Duck—Widespread from the RGV eastward, with reports from *Sandoval, Bernalillo, Valencia, Colfax, San Miguel, De Baca, Curry, Chaves, Roosevelt,* and *Otero*. West were singles at Deming 7 & 18 Nov (LKM) and Tyrone 24 Nov (ERL).

Eurasian Wigeon—An ad. male at Stubblefield L. 21 Sep (J&MH*) provided a *Colfax* first. A male was at RGNC 19-20 Oct (JEP*), where regular in recent years.

Greater Scaup—Singles at Stubblefield L. 30 Nov (DJC*), Roy 16 Nov (JRO), and L. Roberts 6 Nov (ERL) provided the only reports.

Surf Scoter—An impressive showing, with 2 at Stubblefield L. 19 Oct (DJC*), 2 at Springer L. 30 Sep (DJC*), one at Conchas L. 16 Nov (JEP*, JRO**), 2 at Portales 13 Nov (WFW*), 3 at Quemado L. 22 Oct (Bill Wittman), and 2 at Tyrone 20-23 Oct (ERL).

White-winged Scoter—Two were at Cochiti L. 29 Sep (MLW*) and one was at Sumner L. 2 Nov (JEP*).

Long-tailed Duck—One was at Bosque NWR 16 Nov (RK).

Common Goldeneye—Earliest arrivals were 10 at Eagle Nest L. 17 Oct (DJC).

Hooded Merganser—Presumably early (but possibly summering) were 2 at Stubblefield L. 2 Sep (DJC), where one had been present 29 Jun (DJC**); the species typically arrives late Oct-early Nov.

Osprey—Passed through the state on a broad front beginning in late Aug and continuing into mid-Nov, with reports from some 30 localities in 22 counties. Found from mountaintops to prairies, including in deserts near Antelope Wells 11 Sep (RAM) and Hermanas 29 Oct (RAM). At the Manzano Mts. lookout, 32 were counted during the period 1 Sep-29 Oct (HWI).

White-tailed Kite—One was seen just north of Deming 26 Nov (Jim Joseph).

Mississippi Kite—Up to 5 were at Corrales 4 & 18 Aug (WHH), where there were 2 ads. and one juv. 21 Sep (DJK).

Bald Eagle—Unusually early were singles at Ruby Ranch north of Las Vegas 6 Oct (WFW), El Vado L. 8 Oct (MLW), and Santa Rosa L. 9 Oct (MLW). Two at Valles Caldera NP 11 Oct increased to 10 by 25 Oct (THJ).

Common Black-Hawk—Last of the Hondo Valley birds was one seen 23 Sep (Ron Troy). A migrant was seen along Animas Cr. 5 Oct (REW, AMC, NM-C).

Harris's Hawk—Continued to appear north to the middle RGV, with singles at Lemitar 1 Aug (KBO), Luis Lopez 24 Nov (JRO), and Bosque NWR on various dates 6 Oct-30 Nov (m.ob.).

Broad-winged Hawk—An unusual sight for New Mexico was a kettle of 5 Broad-wingeds over Bosque Redondo 5 Oct (JEP). Others were 2 at NRT 5 Oct (JEP, JRO**) plus a dark one there 7 Oct (WFW) and singles at Portales 1 Oct (JRO) and Tatum 30 Sep-2 Oct (JRO). Nine were counted at the Manzano Mts. lookout 9 Sep-2 Oct (HWI).

Zone-tailed Hawk—An ad. was tending a juv. near Willow Creek CG, *Catron* 4 Aug (JRO**). Others were seldom reported were singles at San Antonio 29 Aug (JRO**) and near Mayhill 25 Aug (JRO**).

Rough-legged Hawk—Earliest of the season was one at Maxwell 22 Oct (DJC).

Merlin—Earliest fall migrants were singles south to Antelope Wells 11 Sep (RAM), Radium Springs 15 Sep (MTS, JEZ), Deming 21 Sep (RAM), and Post Office Canyon 22 Sep (CDL). At the Manzano Mts. lookout, 22 were counted 12 Sep-2 Nov (HWI).

Aplomado Falcon—A resident pair in southern New Mexico was observed with its 3 fledglings 2 Aug-3 Sep (RAM), after which the young dispersed. Others were an imm. that was not part of the known family group 13 Aug (RAM) plus unconfirmed reports of singles south of Animas 7 Oct (S. Carrol) and north of Hachita 22 Nov (J. Martin).

White-tailed Ptarmigan—Encouraging reports included 11 at Wheeler Peak 5 Sep (EMR), 5 south of Jicarita Peak 10 Aug (R. Gardner) and 2 there 15 Aug (EMR), one on Truchas Peak 15 Aug (EMR), and a feather collected on Santa Fe Baldy 17 Aug (Jon T. Klingel***).

Blue Grouse—Three were at Palo Flechado Pass west of Angel Fire 12 Oct (DJC).

Montezuma Quail—Single broods were in Post Office Canyon 14 Oct & 15 Nov (CDL) and at 10, 600 ft on Buck Mt., *Lincoln* 24 Aug (SW).

Black Rail—A possible one was heard when it gave a “grrr” response to a tape along Ponil Cr. east of Cimarron 25 Sep (JAT*).

Common Moorhen—An imm. was north to RGNC 10-11 Aug (JEP).

American Coot—A “pure albino” was at L. Avalon 6 Oct (JRO**).

Sandhill Crane—Earliest arrived at Maxwell NWR 15 Sep (DJC), BLNWR 19 Sep (GLW), Luis Lopez 23 Sep (JRO), and Percha SP 25 Sep (GJE), but most arrived just ahead of the first snow in early Nov. A near-albino Sandhill was near Hermanas 29 Nov (JEP, JRO**).

[Whooping Crane]—None returned to New Mexico this season; the apparent demise over the summer of the last survivor of the experimental flock closed the book on the unsuccessful quarter-century effort to establish a Rocky Mountain flock.

Black-bellied Plover—One-three were at Stubblefield L., Springer L., EBL, BLNWR, and Holloman L. on various dates 5 Aug-17 Nov (m.ob.). Unusual was one with orange legs at EBL 19 Oct (JRO**).

American Golden-Plover—Unprecedented were 15 at BLNWR 15 Aug (SW*); there were no additional reports of this rare species.

Snowy Plover—An ad. was tending a juv. at Springer L. 8-27 Aug (DJC**).

Semipalmated Plover—Small numbers were noted at Stubblefield L., Springer L., Sumner L., and BLNWR during the period 5 Aug-16 Oct (v.o.); high count was 7 at Sumner L. 7 Sep (JRO).

Killdeer—Migrants peaked with 56 at Maxwell NWR 12 Aug (DJC) and 89 at BLNWR 10 Aug (GLW).

Black-necked Stilt—Peaked with 312 at BLNWR 10 Aug (GLW) and 125 at Holloman L. 7 Sep (GJE).

American Avocet—Lingered late in some numbers, including 200 at Sumner L. 16 Nov (JEP) and 25 at Conchas L. 16 Nov (JRO).

Solitary Sandpiper—Defying their name were “flocks” of 5 at Sumner L. 14 Sep (CMR) and 8 at Holloman L. 7 Sep (GJE). Far west was one at Tyrone 27 Aug-1 Sep (ERL, JRO).

Willet—Small numbers noted at seven sites, all east of the RGV, 10 Aug-28 Sep (m.ob.); high count was 7 at BLNWR 11 Aug (GLW).

Upland Sandpiper—The species was notably scarce, with reports restricted to the Pecos Valley in *Chaves* and *Eddy* 9-29 Aug (JEP, JRO, WFW, SW); high count was 7 at Dexter 20 Aug (WFW).

Long-billed Curlew—Notably late were 40 west of Columbus 29 Nov (JEP).

Red Knot—Singles were at EBL's Monticello Point 2 Sep (JRO**) and Brantley L. 8 Sep (JRO**).

Sanderling—Reported from *Colfax*, *San Miguel*, *McKinley*, *Bernalillo*, *De Baca*, *Chaves*, *Luna*, and *Otero* 12 Aug-14 Oct, including one at Albuquerque 15-17 Sep (BV, JRO) and highs of 7 at BLNWR 25 Sep (GLW), 9 at Ruby Ranch north of Las Vegas 27 Sep (WFW), and a remarkable 25 at Deming 21 Aug (LKM).

Semipalmated Sandpiper—One was west to Isleta marsh 25-26 Aug (CMR, JRO).

Dunlin—One at Ruby Ranch north of Las Vegas 27 Sep (WFW) provided a local first.

Stilt Sandpiper—The species had an extended fall passage through eastern New Mexico Aug-Oct; high count was 340 at BLNWR 9 Oct (GLW).

Short-billed Dowitcher—Carefully described were a juv. at Zuni 26 Sep (JAT*), a vocal juv. at Sumner L. 6-7 Sep (JEP*, JRO**) and 2 juvs. at BLNWR 6 Sep (JEP*).

American Woodcock—One seen briefly at Rattlesnake Springs 30 Nov (SW*) provided New Mexico's 10th overall.

Red-necked Phalarope—Made a fine showing, including 1-2 west to Zuni 21-28 Sep (JAT, CMR, BDN) and 3 at Deming 9 Sep (LKM); highs included 16 at Stubblefield L. 4 Oct (DJC), 15 at Portales 1 Oct (JRO), and 14 at Elida 7 Oct (WFW).

Red Phalarope—Singles were at Stubblefield L. 24-25 Sep (DJC**), Ruby Ranch north of Las Vegas 27 Sep (WFW*), and LVNWR 12-14 Oct (AMC*, WFW).

Laughing Gull—Nicely documented was a first-summer individual at Brantley L. 7 Sep (JRO**).

Franklin's Gull—Three at Maxwell NWR 5 Aug (DJC), may have lingered through the summer.

Bonaparte's Gull—Very early was a winter ad. at L. Roberts 13 Sep (J&MH*); all subsequent reports were in Nov.

California Gull—A high 62 were at Eagle Nest L. 13 Sep (DJC), where 15 were still present 13 Nov (DJC**). South were 2 at Brantley L. 24 Aug (JRO) and 2 at Sunland Park 13 Nov (JNP).

Thayer's Gull—A first-winter individual was at EBL 15 Nov (WFW*).

Sabine's Gull—A good showing found 1-3 at Stubblefield L. 21 Sep-4 Oct, one at Miami L. 28 Sep, one at LVNWR 15 Sep, and 2-3 at Sumner L. 20 Sep-6 Oct (v.o.); all

were juvs. except for single ads. at Stubblefield L. 21-25 Sep (J&MH*, DJC**) and Sumner L. 29 Sep-6 Oct (JEP, JRO, WHH**, MRG).

Caspian Tern—Two at Springer L. 21 Sep (J&MH*, DJC**) provided the only report.

Common Tern—Unusually prevalent this season, with one at Eagle Nest L. 13 Sep (DJC), up to 6 at Springer L. 12-21 Sep (DJC), 12 at Sumner L. 23 Aug (JRO) and 1-2 there 11 Sep-13 Oct (v.o.), singles at Bosque NWR 21 Sep (CMB*) & 6 Oct (DAE, BDN), 4 at EBL 21 Sep (SXG) and one at L. Avalon 15 Sep (JRO); most were only briefly described.

Arctic Tern—A winter ad. at Sumner L. 5 Oct (WHH**) furnished the 7th credible New Mexico report.

Forster's Tern—Small numbers were reported from the RGV eastward 2 Aug-5 Oct; unusual was one at Mountainair 23 Aug (JRO), high count was 13 at Maxwell NWR 21 Sep (DJC), late was one at Springer L. 30 Oct (DJC).

Least Tern—Two were at Brantley L. 9 Aug (JEP). Last at BLNWR was one on 6 Sep (JEP).

Band-tailed Pigeon—Unexpected in lowland areas, one was below EBL Dam 18 Oct (JEP).

Eurasian Collared-Dove—The species has become nearly ubiquitous in the eastern two-thirds of New Mexico, with moderate numbers west to Deming, Hurley, and Silver City. This season produced reports from 20 of the state's 33 counties.

Mourning Dove—The indefatigable pair at Albuquerque's Paradise Hills fledged one young from its 6th nest attempt of the year 20 Aug (WHH).

Inca Dove—At the northeast fringe of the range were 5 at Ute L. 10 Nov (JRO) and 10 at Texico 14 Sep (JRO). One was banded at RGNC 21 Sep (NSC, SWC).

Common Ground-Dove—Singles were at Deming 20 Oct (LKM*, JRO**), Columbus 29 Nov (JEP*, JRO), and the southern Animas Valley 5 Oct (AMC, NM-C).

Ruddy Ground-Dove—Singles appeared at four sites, first at Rodeo 8 Oct (REW*), next at Deming 19-20 Oct (LKM*, JRO**), and subsequently at Luis Lopez 20-30 Nov (JEP*, JRO**) and Albuquerque 29-30 Nov (Leslie Berwick, CMB*).

Greater Roadrunner—Surprising was one at 11,500 ft near Pecos Baldy L., *Mora* 5 Oct (Jim Hirsch).

Flammulated Owl—A 2nd season of banding migrant owls in the Manzano Mts. produced 88 captures during the period 19 Aug-16 Oct, including one that had been banded there the previous year (JPD).

Burrowing Owl—Last seen at Springer L. was one on 22 Oct (DJC). Late were 2 at Frio Draw, northwest *Curry* 30 Oct (CMR). Two at a Las Cruces cemetery adopted a burrow under a tombstone 20 Sep (B&DM).

Spotted Owl—One of the core populations rangewide for the Mexican Spotted Owl is in the Gila NF where, perhaps due to drought, the owls failed to produce young this season (*fide* DAZ, MAZ).

Short-eared Owl—Singles were at BLNWR 31 Oct (GLW) and in the southern Animas Valley 30 Nov (JEP, AMC).

Northern Saw-whet Owl—The banding project in the Manzano Mts. captured 28 during the period 30 Aug-20 Oct (JPD).

Common Poorwill—Last were singles in Post Office Canyon 17 Oct (CDL) and on Otero Mesa 26 Oct (*fide* SW).

Whip-poor-will—Very late was one in Zuni's Horsehead Canyon 20 Sep (JAT).

Black Swift—A record 8 nests, each with one nestling, at Jemez Falls 23 Aug (HRS).

Chimney Swift—Singles were at NRT 14 Sep (JEP) and Tucumcari L. 11 Sep (WFW).

Vaux's Swift—Although strongly suspected of migrating through southwestern New Mexico, the species has yet to be confirmed in the state. This season, 2 were fairly well-described in the San Simon Valley just north of Rodeo 19 Sep (REW*) and 4 were similarly described at Rodeo 28 Sep (WFW*).

Broad-billed Hummingbird—One-two strayed east to Las Cruces 27 Oct-2 Nov (LS*, GJE).

Violet-crowned Hummingbird—One at Deming 19 Aug (LKM*) provided an unexpected *Luna* first.

Blue-throated Hummingbird—A juv. male was banded near L. Roberts 10 Nov (JD-M). A female was in Post Office Canyon 5-8 Oct (CDL).

Lucifer Hummingbird—Peaked with 8 in Post Office Canyon 13 Sep (CDL); last was an ad. male there 2 Oct (CDL).

Anna's Hummingbird—Present in Post Office Canyon 16 Aug-14 Nov, with 8 there 22 Oct (CDL). Elsewhere, an ad. male was at Gila 15-20 Oct (KB), a female was near Radium Springs 6 Oct (MTS, JEZ) and a male was there 23 Oct (MTS, JEZ**), and 2 were at Las Cruces 23 Nov (JEP).

Costa's Hummingbird—A male visited a feeder 2 mi north of Silver City 28 Aug (B. Norris & D. Friedrick *fide* DAZ, MAZ).

Calliope Hummingbird—One was east to *Quay* 11 Sep (WFW). Late was one near Radium Springs 13 Nov (MTS, JEZ).

Rufous Hummingbird—Late were an ad. male banded at Rio Rancho 8 Nov (JD-M) and a female at Carlsbad 23 Nov (SW+). At a Post Office Canyon feeder, single juvs. fell prey to a crafty Sonoran whipsnake 27 Aug & 17 Sep (CDL).

Lewis's Woodpecker—The species was conspicuous in non-breeding areas, particularly in the RGV from Corrales and Albuquerque south to Bosque NWR 12 Sep-6 Nov (m.ob.). One was at Deming 16 & 29 Nov (LKM, JEP, JRO).

Williamson's Sapsucker—Two were east to Mills Canyon 4 Oct (CMR) and another was farther east to *Roosevelt* in Oct (A. L. Gennaro***). One was in saltcedar at Radium Springs 30 Sep (MTS, JEZ**).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—Far west was an imm. in the Animas Mts. 10 Oct (AMC*, REW).

Three-toed Woodpecker—In the southwest in *Catron*, one was at Willow Creek CG 4 Aug (JRO**) and a family group was west of Snow L. 4 Aug (JRO).

Olive-sided Flycatcher—Last to leave were 2 at Zuni 21 Sep (JAT), one at NRT 21 Sep (CMR) and one near Radium Springs 25 Sep (MTS).

Greater Pewee—Under review are photos of a possible one at Carlsbad 24 Aug (TJH**), which would constitute an *Eddy* first.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher—An apparent one was banded at RGNC 7 Sep (NSC, SWC).

Least Flycatcher—Drifted west to the RGV, with one banded at RGNC 25 Aug (NSC, SWC) and a probable one at Luis Lopez 22-26 Nov (JEP*, JRO**).

Pacific-slope Flycatcher—The status of this species in New Mexico is unclear; likely ones this season were one giving a single-note call at Corrales 3 Sep (DJK*), one banded at RGNC 7 Sep (NSC, SWC), and one banded at Capilla Peak 3 Sep (NSC, SWC).

Buff-breasted Flycatcher—One was singing in upper Clanton Canyon 28 Aug (WFW*), but efforts to relocate it were unsuccessful.

Black Phoebe—Last near Cimarron were a juv. 7 Aug (DJC**) and an ad. 14 Aug (DJC).

Vermilion Flycatcher—One-two were north to Santa Rosa 24 Aug-26 Oct (JEP). In the RGV, one was at Luis Lopez 2 Sep (JRO**), one was at EBL Dam 19 Oct (JRO), 2 were at Palomas 30 Oct (GJE), 8 were at Percha SP 25 Aug (MRG), and 2 were near Radium Springs 7 Aug (MTS).

Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher—Two were dodging a Cooper's Hawk in Guadalupe Canyon 27 Aug (WFW*).

Thick-billed Kingbird—Two were in Guadalupe Canyon 27 Aug (WFW) and 1 Sep (JRO).

Eastern Kingbird—One was in a roost of 100 Western Kingbirds at Albuquerque's oxbow 2 Sep (SOW, PM); another was at San Antonio 4 Sep (SXG).

Northern Shrike—South were an imm. at LVNWR 9 Nov (JEP) and an ad. at Bosque NWR 11 Nov (RK).

Bell's Vireo—One captured at San Marcial 15 Aug had been banded there as a juv. 3 years earlier (HAW).

Plumbeous Vireo—Late was one at La Union 24 Nov (JNP).

Blue-headed Vireo—Well-described were singles 30 mi south of Fort Sumner 7 Sep (JRO*), at Yeso 13 Oct (JRO*), and NRT 2 Nov (JEP*, JRO**). Undocumented were singles at Tucumcari, Clovis, and Boone's Draw 11 Sep-8 Oct.

Philadelphia Vireo—One was described at Socorro 17 Sep (PB*).

Red-eyed Vireo—One was at Maxwell NWR 28 Aug (BKP).

Steller's Jay—The species staged a massive lowland invasion that began in late Aug, increased through Sep, and reached all corners of the state by Oct-Nov, including south to pecan groves at Deming and Radium Springs and mesquite scrub at Malaga as well as east to the Texas line at Nara Visa and elsewhere. Origin of the jays was a mystery, as Steller's continued to be found in typical habitats in New Mexico's mountains.

Blue Jay—West of usual were singles at Santa Fe 14 Oct (Lois C. Herrmann), Socorro 8-11 Nov (PB), and Tularosa 27 Oct (JRO). Two ads. were tending 2 juvs. at Tucumcari 8 Aug (KBO).

Western Scrub-Jay—One-three were far east to NRT, Nara Visa, Broadview, Clovis, and Crossroads 24 Aug-17 Nov (JRO, CMR).

Pinyon Jay—Perhaps owing to dying pinyon pines, this species was also on the move, including 100 at Sumner L. 2 Nov (JRO), 80 at NRT 14 Sep (JEP, JRO), 7 in the Peloncillo Mts. 29 Sep (CDL), and 130 in the Florida Mts. 20 Sep (LKM).

Clark's Nutcracker—Unexpected near the Mexican border were 2 in the Animas Mts. 30 Nov (AMC, NM-C, JEP, JRO**).

Black-billed Magpie—One at Zuni 27 Sep (JAT) provided a local first. Singles were south to Albuquerque's South Valley 20 Oct (DAE, BDN) & 26 Oct (CMR) and east to Mills Canyon 4 Oct (CMR).

American Crow—Numbers grew rapidly in *Doña Ana*, with 1500 at Mesilla 22 Oct (GJE), 525 near Radium Springs 24 Oct (MTS, JEZ), and 500 at La Union 24 Nov (JNP).

Chihuahuan Raven—An early migrant flock of 420 was roosting on powerlines near Ramon 24 Aug (CMR).

Purple Martin—Single migrants were at Albuquerque 14 Sep (JEP) and Deming 21 Aug (LKM).

Barn Swallow—Some 1300 were at Sumner L. 20 Sep (CMR); late was one there 13 Nov (WFW).

Red-breasted Nuthatch—Conspicuous in lowland areas after late Aug; early was one at Corrales 15 Aug (DJK).

White-breasted Nuthatch—Made a good showing in lowland areas nearly statewide, including one east to NRT 6-21 Sep (JEP, JRO, CMR) and two at Tatum 21 Sep (JRO).

Cactus Wren—One was 9 mi west of Yeso 13 Sep (JRO).

Carolina Wren—One seen and heard in the GBA 5 Oct (RSS) furnished a Gila Valley first as well as New Mexico's first west of the RGV.

Winter Wren—One-two were at NRT 19-23 Oct (CMR, WFW) and singles were in Cimarron Canyon 20-23 Nov (DJC) and at Rattlesnake Springs 30 Nov (SW).

Dipper—One strayed to Bosque NWR, where it entertained many 11-30 Nov (WHH+, JEZ**, JRO**).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher—Singles lingered at RGNC 10 Nov (CMR) and Bosque Redondo 13 Nov (WFW).

Eastern Bluebird—One-ten were noted at 10 sites from the RGV eastward in *Socorro*, *Colfax*, *San Miguel*, *Quay*, *Curry*, *Roosevelt*, and *Chaves*; in the southwest, a male was in Post Office Canyon 24 Nov (CDL).

Wood Thrush—One made a brief stop at NRT 8 Oct (WFW*), the 7th recorded at that locale since 1998.

Rufous-backed Robin—One at Bosquecito north of San Antonio 17-19 Nov (Glen Kendall, JRO**) provided New Mexico's 6th record and first since 1994.

Gray Catbird—Among the numerous reports were 2 west to Mangas Springs 2 Sep (JRO) and one at Deming 18 Sep (LKM). Late singles were at Madrid 26 Nov (LAS), Sumner L. 16 Nov (JEP), Socorro 16 Nov (PB), Luis Lopez 22 Nov (JEP), and Radium Springs 30 Nov (MTS, JEZ**).

Sage Thrasher—Noteworthy were 25 in the seldom-visited Los Pinos Mts. 13 Oct (HRS).

Brown Thrasher—Up to 3 were at Bosque Redondo 15 Sep-23 Oct and singles were at five additional eastern sites 14 Sep-26 Oct (m.ob.); west were singles at Silver City 8-9 Nov (Susan Brians*) and near Radium Springs 1-7 Oct (MTS, JEZ**).

Crissal Thrasher—One was north to Embudo, *Rio Arriba* 30 Nov (CMR).

Sprague's Pipit—Migrants were noted in the east and south 17 Oct-15 Nov, including 4 at NRT 20 Oct (CMR), 5 on Otero Mesa 21 Oct (RAM) plus 6 there 15 Nov (RAM), and one north of Hachita 24 Oct (RAM).

Phainopepla—Far north and a local first were 4 near Cerrillos 5 Sep-1 Oct (LAS).

Olive Warbler—An ad. female and 3 juvs. were in a mixed species flock above Water Canyon CG 2 Aug (DJK*).

Blue-winged Warbler—One that was killed by a cat at Santa Fe 2 Oct (Kevin W. Holladay, Audrey Walker) furnished the state's 26th credible record but only the 3rd for fall and the 2nd specimen overall.

Orange-crowned Warbler—55 were banded at RGNC 17 Aug-12 Oct (NSC, SWC); 47 were banded at Capilla Peak 19 Aug-15 Oct (NSC, SWC).

Northern Parula—Singles were at Sumner L. 23 Oct (WFW), Socorro 7 Oct (JRO), Luis Lopez 19-23 Aug (JRO**) & 3 Sep (JRO), Bosque NWR 16 Oct (SXG), GBA 14 Sep (RSS), and the Animas Valley 5 Oct (AMC, NM-C, REW).

Magnolia Warbler—Undetailed was one at the I-10 rest stop west of Santa Rosa 12 Oct (DAE); there are no previous *Guadalupe* reports.

Black-throated Blue Warbler—Single males were at Madrid 23 Oct (LAS) and Socorro 5-11 Oct (JRO**, JWS).

Black-throated Gray Warbler—East were singles at NRT 24 Aug & 5 Oct (JEP, JRO) and in creosotebush at L. Avalon 21 Aug (CMR). Last to be reported was a male in Post Office Canyon 23 Oct (CDL).

Black-throated Green Warbler—Made a good showing, with singles at Yeso 13 Oct (JRO**), NRT 6-7 Oct (MRG*, WFW), near Radium Springs 25 Nov (MTS*, JEZ*), and Redrock 29 Nov (JEP*, JRO**).

Townsend's Warbler—45 were banded at Capilla Peak 19 Aug-8 Oct (NSC, SWC) but none were banded at RGNC during the same period.

Hermit Warbler—Migrants were much in evidence in the southwestern corner of the state: one at Signal Peak 3 Aug (JRO*), up to 4 in the Post Office Canyon area 8 Aug-10 Sep (CDL), one in Skeleton Canyon 8 Sep (REW), 1-2 in Clanton Canyon 27-31 Aug (WFW, JRO**), and 2 along Animas Cr. 5 Oct (REW+).

Yellow-throated Warbler—One was at Rattlesnake Springs 25 Aug (JRO**), where one had been reported in Jul.

Pine Warbler—One described as an imm. female was at Ned Houk Park north of Clovis 20 Oct (CMR*).

Prairie Warbler—One described as a possible imm. male was at Rattlesnake Springs 21 Sep (BDN*, CMR*).

Palm Warbler—One apparently of the pale western subspecies was at NRT 5 Oct (JRO*). One of the yellow eastern subspecies was in *Curry* west of Melrose 12 Oct (JRO*).

Blackpoll Warbler—One at Zuni 27 Sep (JAT) provided only the 2nd record there.

Black-and-white Warbler—One was at NRT 6-14 Sep (JEP, JRO) and one was in the Cliff-Gila Valley 29 Aug (GJE).

American Redstart—One was west to Bluewater Gorge, Zuni Mts. 24 Sep (JAT). Farther east, singles were at Glorieta 14 Oct (WFW), southern *Santa Fe* 7 Sep (LAS), NRT 14-15 Sep (JEP, JRO, CMR), and Ned Houk Park 8 Oct (WFW).

Prothonotary Warbler—Rare indeed were 2 together at Bosque NWR 28 Nov (K&LG**) where at least one remained through 30 Nov (WHH**).

Swainson's Warbler—One was seen and described as it foraged about in leaf litter at RGNC 8 Sep (E. J. Hamilton*); there are but 7 previous (one certain) reports.

Louisiana Waterthrush—One was at Rattlesnake Springs 1 Sep (CMR*).

Hooded Warbler—One was in the Sandia Mts. at Las Huertas, *Sandoval* 23 Sep (GS).

Wilson's Warbler—217 were banded at RGNC 11 Aug-12 Oct, including 107 on 14-15 Sep (NSC, SWC); 109 were banded at Capilla Peak 19 Aug-24 Sep (NSC, SWC).

Red-faced Warbler—One in a mixed species flock at Post Office Canyon 1 Sep (CDL).

Painted Redstart—Noteworthy was one near Queen 21 Sep (SW*), as was another in upper Broad Canyon, Sierra de las Uvas, *Doña Ana*, 12 Oct (MTS, JEZ**).

Summer Tanager—Two-three were north to Zuni 28 Sep (JAT, CMR, BDN).

Western Tanager—Late was one at Bosque Redondo 26 Oct (JEP).

Green-tailed Towhee—Early was one banded at RGNC 18 Aug (NSC, SWC).

Botteri's Sparrow—A new location was discovered north of Rodeo, where at least 2 were present 7 Aug (CMB) and 27-29 Aug (SOW, PM).

Black-throated Sparrow—Late was a pair feeding unfledged young at Post Office Canyon 15 Sep (CDL).

Baird's Sparrow—One was south of Artesia 5 Nov (RAM). Several were on Otero Mesa, including singles 13 & 16 Sep, 2 on 21 Oct, 5 on 31 Oct, and 7 on 15 Nov (RAM).

Fox Sparrow—High count was 3 at Post Office Canyon 27 Nov (CDL).

Harris's Sparrow—Early were 1-2 at Maxwell 19 Oct-3 Nov (DJC**). One was at Socorro 23 Nov (PB).

Golden-crowned Sparrow—One was at Bosque NWR 26-30 Nov (R. Ditch**, JRO**).

“White-winged” Junco—One was at NRT 13 Nov (WFW).

Yellow-eyed Junco—Continued scarce in the Animas Mts., with only 2 found there 30 Nov (JEP, NM-C).

Northern Cardinal—Two were north to Tucumcari L. 11 Sep (WFW).

Pyrrhuloxia—North were singles at NRT 30 Sep-7 Oct (JRO, WFW) and Lingo 26 Oct (JRO).

Yellow Grosbeak—One visited a feeder in the hills southeast of Santa Fe 18-21 Oct (D. & V. Erhart**); while photos leave no question as to identity, Catch-22 informs us that since the occurrence does not fit the “established” pattern, natural origin must be suspect.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak—Singles were at Radium Springs 2 Sep-4 Oct (MTS, JEZ**), two were at Zuni’s Blackrock Dam 23 Sep (JAT), and singles were at Ojo Caliente, *Cibola* 28 Sep (CMR) and Silver City 29 Jul-2 Aug (DAZ, MAZ).

Varied Bunting—A female was near Radium Springs 12 Sep (MTS*).

Painted Bunting—A remarkable season found 1-2 in the east from Sumner Dam, Bosque Redondo, and NRT south to BLNWR, Carlsbad, and Rattlesnake Springs 24 Aug-7 Sep, and 1-2 were scattered in the RGV from Albuquerque south to Socorro, San Antonio, Percha SP, and Radium Springs 22 Aug-14 Sep (m.ob.). In the west, 8 were at Lake Valley 8-16 Aug (J. Mayeux**) and one was at Redrock 28-29 Aug (KBO).

Dickcissel—Found at 13 sites from the RGV eastward 26 Aug-7 Oct, including at least 12 at Radium Springs 10 Sep (MTS, JEZ); west was one at Rodeo 29 Sep (REW*).

Bobolink—Two were at Sauz Cr., *Colfax* 16 Sep (DJC*), and singles were near Willard 7 Aug (KBO*) and at Rattlesnake Springs 15 Sep (SW).

Rusty Blackbird—Undetailed was one at Portales 13 Nov (WFW).

Baltimore Oriole—An ad. male was at Tucumcari L. 11 Sep (WFW).

Rosy-Finch—First at Sandia Crest arrived 13 Nov, where a mixed flock of about 50 (containing “all 3 species”) was present 19 Nov (*fide* K. C. Schneider).

Red Crossbill—Generally scarce statewide, although 24 were banded at Capilla Peak 19 Aug-21 Oct (NSC, SWC).

Lawrence’s Goldfinch—Last invaded New Mexico 6 years ago, so noteworthy were reports from 7 locales, starting with one at Silver City 8 Aug-2 Sep (DAZ, MAZ, LKM, JRO**), followed by singles near Radium Springs 27 Sep & 12 Oct (MTS, JEZ) and at Double Adobe, Animas Mts. 5 Oct (NM-C, REW), up to 4 at Post Office Canyon 11-12 Oct (CDL), a single at Lordsburg and 10-20 at Columbus 29 Nov (JEP, JRO**), and about 20 at Leasburg SP 19 Nov (LS).

American Goldfinch—The small population on Ponil Cr. east of Cimarron nested successfully in Aug, and several ads. were feeding begging fledglings 5-9 Sep (DJC**); late nesting there produced a final family group with 3-4 begging young 1 Oct (DJC).

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