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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:** Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*). Known from New Mexico since the 1850s, this waterbird reaches its northernmost limit in New Mexico, where it is a rare breeder in the middle Rio Grande Valley, and where it is threatened by loss of breeding sites, disturbance, food supply fluctuations, and persecution. 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 2003

New Mexico's drought continued into Summer 2003, including well into the so-called monsoon season, and its effects were compounded by record high temperatures. Nevertheless, efforts to better understand the state's avifauna continued on many fronts, and numerous important distributional records were obtained.

### Localities and Counties

Albuquerque, *Bernalillo*  
Angel Fire, *Colfax*  
Animas, Cr., Mts., Valley, *Hidalgo*  
Antelope Wells, *Hidalgo*  
Bitter Lake NWR, *Chaves*  
Boone's Draw, *Roosevelt*  
Bosque del Apache NWR, *Socorro*  
Bosque Redondo, *De Baca*  
Brantley Lake, *Eddy*  
Burro Mts., *Grant*  
Caprock, *Lea*  
Carlsbad, *Eddy*  
Carlsbad Caverns NP, *Eddy*  
Cimarron, Canyon, *Colfax*  
Clabber Hill Ranch, *San Miguel*  
Clanton Canyon, Cienega, *Hidalgo*  
Cliff, Cliff-Gila Valley, *Grant*  
Cloudcroft, *Otero*  
Conchas Lake, Dam, *San Miguel*  
Cooke's Canyon, *Luna*  
Corrales, *Sandoval/Bernalillo*  
Cowles, *San Miguel*  
Datil, *Catron*  
Deming, *Luna*  
Dripping Springs, *Doña Ana*  
Eagle Nest, Lake, *Colfax*  
Elephant Butte Lake, Dam, *Sierra*  
Enbom Lake, *Rio Arriba*  
Engle, *Sierra*  
Fence Lake, *Cibola*  
Fort Sumner, *De Baca*  
Gallinas Mts., *Lincoln*  
Gila, *Grant*  
Gila Bird Area, *Grant*  
Greyfeathers Lodge, *Grant*  
Guadalupe Canyon, *Hidalgo*  
Guadalupe Mts., *Eddy*  
Hillsboro, *Sierra*  
Hobbs, *Lea*  
Holloman Lake, *Otero*  
Horse Lake, *Rio Arriba*  
Hurley, *Grant*  
Isleta, *Bernalillo/Valencia*  
Jemez Falls, *Sandoval*  
Katfish Kove, *Luna*  
Kirtland AFB, *Bernalillo*  
Lake Avalon, *Eddy*  
Lake Roberts, *Grant*  
Las Cruces, *Doña Ana*  
Las Vegas, NWR, *San Miguel*  
Lingo, *Roosevelt*  
Lordsburg, *Hidalgo*  
Los Lunas, *Valencia*  
Los Ojos, *Rio Arriba*  
Lovington, *Lea*  
Luis Lopez, *Socorro*  
Luna, *Catron*  
Magdalena, Mts., *Socorro*  
Manzano, Mts., *Torrance*  
Maxwell, NWR, *Colfax*  
Melrose, *Curry*  
Milnesand, *Roosevelt*  
Mora, *Mora*  
Mundo Lake, *Rio Arriba*  
north *Roosevelt* trap [NRT], *Roosevelt*  
Pastura, *Guadalupe*  
Peloncillo Mts., *Hidalgo*  
Piñon, *Otero*  
Playas Valley, *Hidalgo*  
Pleasanton, *Catron*  
Portales, *Roosevelt*  
Post Office Canyon, *Hidalgo*  
Puerto de Luna, *Guadalupe*  
Quarai, *Torrance*  
Radium Springs, *Doña Ana*  
Raton, *Colfax*  
Rattlesnake Springs, *Eddy*  
Reserve, *Catron*  
Rodeo, *Hidalgo*  
Roswell, *Chaves*  
Roy, *Harding*

San Lorenzo, *Grant*  
 Silver City, *Grant*  
 Skeleton Canyon, *Hidalgo*  
 Socorro, *Socorro*  
 Springer, Lake, *Colfax*  
 Stone Lake, *Rio Arriba*  
 Stubblefield Lake, *Colfax*  
 Sumner Lake, Dam, *De Baca*  
 Taiban, *DeBaca*

Terrero, *San Miguel*  
 Tucumcari, Lake, *Quay*  
 Vadito, *Taos*  
 Water Canyon, *Socorro*  
 White Oaks, *Lincoln*  
 Whites City, *Eddy*  
 Zuni, *McKinley*  
 Zuni Mts, *McKinley/Cibola*

### Standard Abbreviations

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

## Initialed Observers

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GG	Gail Garber	JAT	John A. Trochet
WHH	William H. Howe	RT	Ron Troy
DJK	David J. Krueper	GLW	Gordon L. Warrick
KK	Kristin Kuyuk	MLW	Mark L. Watson
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ERL	Eugene R. Lewis	SW	Steve West
CDL	Carroll D. Littlefield	WFW	William F. West
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PM	Patricia Mehlhop	DAZ	Dale A. Zimmerman
JBM	James B. Montgomery	MAZ	Marian A. Zimmerman

## SPECIES ACCOUNTS

**Common Loon**—Late was one at Conchas L. 6 Jun (WFW)

**Eared Grebe**—An estimated 225 active nests were at Horse L. 6 Jul (DWS), but no nests were found at other *Rio Arriba* lakes, most of which had little, or no, water.

**Western Grebe**—Low lake levels resulted in few nests, with two nests each at Horse L., Mundo L., and Stone L. 6 Jul (DWS) the only ones reported.

**Clark's Grebe**—Noteworthy for *Luna* was one at Deming 27 Jun (MTS, JEZ\*\*).

**Brown Pelican**—One was reported on a Roswell Country Club lake 7 Jul (SMB).

**Least Bittern**—A vocal one was at Springer L. 4-28 Jun (audiotape DJC).

**Great Blue Heron**—A breeding colony was active north of Cliff 12 Jun (KMB).

**Great Egret**—One was north to Stubblefield L. 4 Jul (DJC\*\*).

**Little Blue Heron**—One was at Bosque NWR 1 Jun (PB).

**Tricolored Heron**—The species was found at four locales in Jul: an ad. at Cliff 26 Jul (B. Leonard\*), an imm. at Deming 30-31 Jul (LKM, MTS, JEZ\*\*), 2 imms at BLNWR 12-31 Jul (GLW+, JRO\*\*, JEZ\*\*), and 2 imms. at Brantley L. 12 Jul (JRO).

**Reddish Egret**—New Mexico's first documented white morph was north to Springer L. 28 Jun (DJC\*\*).

**Cattle Egret**—Unusual was one at Taiban 30 Jun (LAS).

**Green Heron**—An ad. with a fledgling at Katfish Kove 3 Jul (MTS, JEZ) documented successful nesting in *Luna*. A juv. at Maxwell 15 Jul (DJC\*\*) suggested local breeding there.

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**—The species is a rare visitor to New Mexico, so unprecedented was a pair found nesting in a pecan orchard at Las Cruces 28 Jun, with an ad. on the nest until 30 Jul, when the effort apparently failed (MTS+, JEZ\*\*, JRO\*\*).

**Roseate Spoonbill**—Two imms. wandered to BLNWR 12 Jul, where present through 31 Jul (JRO\*\*, MTS\*, JEZ\*\*, GLW+).

**Turkey Vulture**—Although soaring Turkey Vultures are a common summer sight, few nests are discovered, so noteworthy was a nest with large young along Deer Cr. west of Antelope Wells 10 Jul (CWP\*\*) and another nest with large young in McKinney Flats west of Antelope Wells 12 Jul (CWP).

**Mallard**—A female adopted an old raptor stick nest some 12 m up in a tree in Albuquerque's South Valley, and incubated a clutch nearly to term before corvids ate the eggs (JMG).

**Cinnamon Teal**—A pair was with 6 young at Apache Cr., *Catron* 13 Jun (JRO).

**Surf Scoter**—Lingering from May was an imm. male below Elephant Butte Dam 1-2 June (JRO, WFW). A subad. male at Holloman L. 22 Jun-30 Jul (MTS\*, JEZ\*\*) reportedly had been present since Feb.

**Bufflehead**—Unusual was a male-female pair in the Maxwell-Stubblefield area 26 Jun-2 Jul (DJC).

**Osprey**—Fifteen nesting pairs were documented, but eight were unsuccessful, possibly due to low lake levels (DWS). Seven of 13 pairs in *Rio Arriba* were successful, fledging 13 young, and the one pair in *McKinley* fledged 3 young, but the *Sandoval* pair failed (DWS).

**White-tailed Kite**—One was north of Rodeo 26 Jul (B. Schmoker\*\*).

**Mississippi Kite**—Up to 5 summered along the Canadian R. near Conchas Dam (WFW), and one on the Pecos R. at Puerto de Luna 14 Jun (WHH) provided a local first. Noteworthy for *Eddy* was a nest at Carlsbad 27 Jun (SW).

**Bald Eagle**—The 3 monitored nests in *Colfax* each fledged one young (DWS).

**Northern Harrier**—An ad. pair with at least 2 fledglings was at BLNWR's Hunter Marsh 17 Jun (GLW). Three males were seen north of BLNWR 11 Jun (WHH).

**Sharp-shinned Hawk**—A nest in Little Water Canyon 12 Jun (JAT) provided a rare Zuni Mts. breeding record.

**Cooper's Hawk**—A healthy population was documented in the Corrales bosque, where 13 nests in an 11 km reach fledged at least 26 young (GG). A single nest in Albuquerque's South Valley fledged 5 young (JMG).

**Common Black-Hawk**—A nest on the Canadian R. at Clabber Hill Ranch failed in Jun (WFW), but a nest at Isleta was successful in Jul (BHS). In the Rio Hondo area of *Lincoln*, six (of an estimated 10) territories were monitored, and three were successful (RT, DWS).

**Swainson's Hawk**—Of six nests investigated near Lingo, three contained only dead nestlings (TM); West Nile virus was suspected but not proven.

**Black Rail**—The one discovered below Conchas Dam in May was last heard the evening of 4 Jun (CB); no photos or audiotapes were obtained.

**Virginia Rail**—An ad. with 2 chicks was at Springer 17 Jun (DJC). Two ads. with 6 chicks were at Bosque NWR 1 Jun (PB).

**Black-bellied Plover**—Two had returned to Springer L. by 20 Jul (BKP).

**Snowy Plover**—At BLNWR, numbers peaked at 420 birds 2 Jul (GLW). Peripheral were one at Springer L. 7 Jun (DJC\*\*) and 3 at Brantley L. 12 Jul (JRO).

**Semipalmated Plover**—Earliest fall migrants were 3 at Stubblefield L. 25 Jul (DJC) and one at Holloman L. 30 Jul (MTS, JEZ).

**Killdeer**—High counts of 98 at Stubblefield L. (DJC) and 138 at BLNWR (GLW), both on 23 Jul.

**Mountain Plover**—Noteworthy for *Bernalillo* was an ad. with 2 pre-flight chicks on Isleta Reservation land just south of Kirtland AFB 13 Jun (RDF\*)

**Black-necked Stilt**—Noteworthy breeding records included a pair nesting at Portales 25 Jun (LAS), ads. and 2 chicks at Deming 20 Jul (MTS, JEZ), and ads. on eggs plus one chick seen at Lordsburg 16 Jun (AMC, NM-C). High count of 207 at BLNWR 23 Jul (GLW).

**Solitary Sandpiper**—No Jun reports; earliest returnees were one at Stubblefield L. 9 Jul where there were 2 on 11 Jul (DJC\*\*) and one south to L. Avalon 12 Jul (JRO).

**Willet**—Late was one at BLNWR 10 Jun (WHH). Unusual were 13 at Stubblefield L. 26 Jun (DJC\*\*).

**Upland Sandpiper**—Earliest fall migrants were singles at BLNWR 23 & 30 Jul (GLW).

**Whimbrel**—Unexpected was one at Bosque NWR 18 Jul (BKP).

**Long-billed Curlew**—Notably far south were 32 at a prairie dog town near Lovington 12 Jun (LAS). A high 14 were on the Pastura BBS 14 Jun (WHH). Far west were 2 near the town of Fence Lake 14 Jun (DJK).

**Marbled Godwit**—Several appeared suddenly in late Jun, including one at Stubblefield L. 26 Jun (DJC\*\*), 3 at Rock L. north of Roy 25 Jun (HRS), and 22 at BLNWR 25 Jun (GLW).

**Red Knot**—An ad. in breeding plumage was described at Bosque NWR 22 Jul (LEA\*).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper**—Late were 5 at Springer L. 7 Jun (DJC\*\*).

**White-rumped Sandpiper**—Last of the spring migrants were one at Bosque Redondo 6 Jun (JRO), 3 at Springer L. 7 Jun (DJC\*\*), and 8 at BLNWR 10 Jun (WHH).

**Pectoral Sandpiper**—One was west to Deming 30 Jul (LKM\*).

**Stilt Sandpiper**—Numbers gradually increased at BLNWR throughout Jul, reaching 109 by 30 Jul (GLW). West was one at Deming 25 Jul (MTS, JEZ).

**Short-billed Dowitcher**—Four vocal ones were at Springer L. 21 Jul (BKP).

**Long-billed Dowitcher**—Late were 2 at Stubblefield L. 2 Jun (DJC\*\*).



**Wilson's Snipe**—Suggestive of local breeding was one performing an elaborate display flight at Los Ojos 25 Jun (WFW), 1-2 vocalizing at Mora 15-16 Jul (DWS, NSC), and 3 vocalizing along Ponil Cr. near Cimarron 24 Jun (audiotape DJC).

**California Gull**—Up to 70 were present at Eagle Nest L. Jun-Jul (DJC\*\*), but evidence of nesting remained elusive.

**Forster's Tern**—No Jun reports. Earliest were 3 at Springer L. 5 Jul (DJC) and 12 at L. Avalon 4 Jul (SW).

**Least Tern**—An impressive 11 pairs nested at BLNWR, eventually fledging 13 young (JBM, GLW). Three were at Brantley L. 5 Jun (SW) & 12 Jul (JRO), and up to 10 were at nearby L. Avalon 12 Jul (JRO), where reportedly present all summer (*vide* SW). Wandering singles were at Bosque NWR 1 Jun (PB\*, MLW\*), Maddox L. near Hobbs 3 Jun (LAS), Sumner L. 6 Jun (JRO), and Burn L. in Las Cruces 6 Jul (MTS, JEZ).

**Black Tern**—Unusual mid-summer reports were singles at Holloman L. 22 Jun (MTS, JEZ) and Radium Springs 5 Jul (MTS).

**Band-tailed Pigeon**—Perhaps seeking water, 25 descended to Quarai 22 Jun (HRS). Others in submontaine areas included one in the GBA 24 Jun (SOW) & 12 there 16 Jul (KMB) and 16 at Hillsboro 27 Jul (WHH).

**Eurasian Collared-Dove**—Completed its colonization of the state, with multiple reports from western areas, including continued presence at Deming and Silver City plus singles at Zuni 14 Jun (JAT), Luna 14 Jun (JRO), Reserve 13 Jun (JRO), Datil 14 Jun (JRO), and Animas 4 Jul (SOW, PM), and 5 at Hurley 22 Jul (ERL). An active nest was at Engle 29 Jun (GJE).

**White-winged Dove**—Continued to increase in southeastern mountains, including 5 at White Oaks 22 Jun (SOW) and 13 near Piñon 2 Jun (WHH).

**Inca Dove**—Noteworthy for Guadalupe Canyon were 3 there 28 Jun (JEP, JRO).

**Common Ground-Dove**—Persisting from spring was one at a Rodeo farm 28 Jun (JEP\*, JRO) & 18 Jul (WFW).

**Thick-billed Parrot**—The celebrated parrot at Engle, present since 8 May, was last seen 23 Jun; during its stay, 507 birders from 34 states and 5 foreign countries signed the ranch register (T. Waddell). While identification was certain, origin remained in question; it is hoped that chemical analysis of a feather may provide some insight.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**—Up to 3 at Blackrock Dam 10-14 Jun (JAT) were the first to summer at Zuni in nearly 20 years. Two carrying food at Katfish Kove 3 Jul (MTS, JEZ) suggested local breeding there. Other noteworthy cuckoos were 4 on the Canadian R. near Conchas Dam 6 Jun (WFW), singles at Sumner Dam 10 Jun (WHH) and on the Pecos R. at Bosque Draw, *Chaves* 18 Jun (MDR\*, RDL), and several at CCNP, including 2 at Rattlesnake Springs 6 & 9 Jun (BKP) and singles in Slaughter Canyon 10 Jun (SW) and Open Hollow Gulch 13 & 26 Jun (SW). Fifteen territories were documented in the

Cliff-Gila Valley Jun-Jul (KMB) and one was on the San Francisco R. below Frisco Hot Springs, *Catron* 3 Jul (KMB).

**Barn Owl**—A nest with young on Cerrososo Cr. 16 Jun-21 Jul (DJC\*\*) was the 2<sup>nd</sup> found in *Colfax* this year.

**Elf Owl**—Apparently a first for CCNP was one in Slaughter Canyon 10 Jun (SW) and another was reported in Rattlesnake Canyon in Jul (*fide* SW).

**Burrowing Owl**—Five of 6 nests in the Deming area were successful, producing 19 young (LKM).

**Long-eared Owl**—An active nest was in Little Water Canyon, Zuni Mts. 13 Jun (JAT).

**Whip-poor-will**—The species pushed north to the Zuni Mts., with 2 singing in Little Water Canyon and 3 singing in Hausner Canyon 6-13 Jun (JAT), and a female flushed from 2 eggs in Hausner Canyon 8 Jun (JAT).

**Black Swift**—At least 4 nests were active at Jemez Falls 21 Jun (JEP, JRO).

*Chaetura* sp.—Unusual was a small swift at Radium Springs 27 Jul (MTS, JEZ).

**Broad-billed Hummingbird**—A male was north to Post Office Canyon Jun-Jul (CDL).

**Violet-crowned Hummingbird**—Two males were singing in Guadalupe Canyon 12-13 Jun (SOW). At least 6 were seen in Guadalupe Canyon 18 Jul (WFW).

**Blue-throated Hummingbird**—Singles were in Indian Cr. Canyon, Animas Mts. 2 Jul (AMC, REW), and Open Hollow Gulch, CCNP 13 Jun (SW\*).

**Magnificent Hummingbird**—Reports included 4 ad. males banded at L. Roberts 8 Jun-29 Jul (JD-M) and a female seen at nearby Greyfeathers Lodge 25-26 Jul (JRO), a young male at Gila 18 Jul (KMB\*), and an ad. and imm. in Indian Cr. Canyon, Animas Mts. 2 Jul (AMC, NM-C, REW).

**Lucifer Hummingbird**—A female was in upper Cottonwood Canyon, Peloncillo Mts. 18 Jul (WFW\*). The Post Office Canyon population amounted to 3 males and a female Jun-Jul (CDL).

**Anna's Hummingbird**—A female was in Post Office Canyon 18-21 Jul (CDL).

**Costa's Hummingbird**—An ad. male and an ad. female were banded at L. Roberts 18 Jun (JD-M).

**Calliope Hummingbird**—Earliest fall migrant was a male in Post Office Canyon 9 Jul (CDL). Singles appeared at Corrales (DJK), Luis Lopez (JRO), and Radium Springs (MTS, JEZ) 10 Jul.

**Rufous Hummingbird**—Unusual was a male in the Magdalena Mts. 14 & 21 Jun (AJR); next earliest was one banded at Greyfeathers Lodge 28 Jun (JD-M).

**Belted Kingfisher**—A fledgling at Bosque Redondo 10 Jun (WHH\*\*) confirmed breeding in *DeBaca*.

**Lewis's Woodpecker**—A pair was at a nest tree in Los Lunas 17 & 21 Jun (GG).

**Red-headed Woodpecker**—An active nest was at NRT 2 Jun (SOW), 3 ads. were at Boone's Draw 2 Jun (SOW), and a pair was feeding nestlings at Bosque Draw, *Chaves* 18 Jun (MDR, RDL).

**Acorn Woodpecker**—One at Cundiyo, northern *Santa Fe* 7 Jul (MDR) was a local first.

**Red-naped Sapsucker**—One was east to Taiban 13 Jun (LAS).

**Downy Woodpecker**—An ad. with 2 fledglings in *Otero* at Apache Point 19 Jul (MTS, JEZ) provided a rare Sacramento Mts. breeding record.

**Hairy Woodpecker**—An ad. male was at Katfish Kove 3 & 30 Jul (MTS, JEZ\*\*).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher**—A singing male was in Diener Canyon, Zuni Mts. 14 Jun (HRS). One was near Cloudcroft 30 Jun (WHH).

**Greater Pewee**—One was north to Negrito Cr., *Catron* 14 Jun (JRO). Noteworthy was one on Jack's Peak, Burro Mts. 27 Jul (SWC, DLD).

**Western Wood-Pewee**—One was singing east of Crossroads, *Lea* 13 Jun (LAS).

**Willow Flycatcher**—Up to 4 territories were along Ponil Cr., *Colfax* 14 Jun-29 Jul (DJC). One at Mora 27 Jun-16 Jul (NSC) provided a new summering locale.

**Gray Flycatcher**—Grays where not previously reported included singles in the Bear Mts., *Socorro* 3 Jun (HRS), Maverick Mt., south *Grant* 12 Jun (LKM), and Open Hollow Gulch, CCNP 13 Jun (SW).

**Dusky Flycatcher**—One-three were west of Angel Fire on numerous dates 5 Jun-24 Jul (audiotape DJC). Two were along the Crest Trail south of Cloudcroft 27 Jun (WHH), where annual in recent years.

**Black Phoebe**—A pair at a nest with 2 nestlings was along the Cimarron R. east of Cimarron 14 Jul (DJC\*\*).

**Eastern Phoebe**—Very far west was a pair nesting beneath a bridge at Zuni's Upper Nutria area 11 Jun (JAT\*). A singing male was at a Cimarron R. bridge in Springer 4 & 6 Jun (DJC\*\*).

**Vermilion Flycatcher**—Ads. were feeding begging young at Conchas Dam 6 Jun (WFW). An ad. was feeding a fledgling cowbird at Cliff 20 Jun (KMB).

**Great Crested Flycatcher**—A vocal one was at Fort Sumner 27 Jul (LEA\*).

**Brown-crested Flycatcher**—The species was unusually conspicuous in the southwest, especially in the GBA 26-27 Jul (JRO) and in Guadalupe Canyon, where there were 4

pairs 12-13 Jun (SOW). Peripheral were singles at Las Animas Cr., *Sierra* 30 Jul (MTS, JEZ), Cooke's Canyon, *Luna* 4 & 7 Jun (WFW, MTS, JEZ), Post Office Canyon 4 Jun (CDL), and 3 at Katfish Kove 3 Jul (MTS, JEZ).

**Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher**—One was at a Guadalupe Canyon site 12 Jun (SOW\*) and 17 Jun (MTS\*).

**Thick-billed Kingbird**—Numbers have declined in New Mexico's Guadalupe Canyon in recent years, where this season only one pair was nesting 11-13 Jun (SOW).

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**—One was west to LVNWR 26 Jun & 10 Jul (*fide* KK). An ad. was on a nest north of Caprock 2 Jun (SOW).

**Bell's Vireo**—Peripheral were singles at Bosque NWR 19 Jul (JRO), Katfish Kove 3 & 30 Jul (MTS, JEZ), and Rodeo 28 Jun (JEP) & 3 Jul (SOW, PM). Six territories were detected in the GBA 25-27 Jun (KMB), but none were found farther upstream in the Cliff-Gila Valley.

**Gray Vireo**—Surveys were successful at Kirtland AFB, where 53 territories were detected May-Jun (RDF\*), in the Quebradas area east of Socorro, where 17 individuals were counted 21-23 Jul (NSC+), and at CCNP and vicinity, where 88 individuals were counted a nine sites 2 Jun-17 Jul (SW+).

**Hutton's Vireo**—Singles were north to the Magdalena Mts. in Sawmill Canyon 10 Jun (HRS) and Water Canyon 19 Jul (BKP). Noteworthy were 2 in Guadalupe Canyon 12-13 Jun (SOW).

**Red-eyed Vireo**—Late was a vocal one at Boone's Draw 2 Jun (SOW).

**Pinyon Jay**—With large expanses of pinyon pines dying from bark beetles (aided by drought), Pinyon Jay populations may soon begin to suffer. Far from suitable habitat were 3 in the desert southwest of Roswell 1 Jun (SOW), and 5 there 12 Jul (JRO).

**American Crow**—An ad. was feeding a fledgling in Cimarron Canyon 3 Jul (DJC).

**Chihuahuan Raven**—Additional evidence of breeding in *Colfax* was provided by 4 nests with nestlings south of Abbott 12 Jun-5 Jul (DJC). In *Roosevelt*, dead birds from 8 nests tested positive for West Nile virus (TM).

**Purple Martin**—Nesting martins were conspicuous in the Zuni, Mogollon, Pinos Altos, and Sacramento mts. (m.ob.). In the Sangre de Cristo Mts., where only recently established, a pair was nesting west of Raton 1 Jul (DJC), a pair was near Iron Gate CG north of Cowles 8 Jun (WFW), and young were being fed in a cavity east of Terrero 21 Jul (WFW).

**Tree Swallow**—An active nest was at Los Ojos 25 Jun (WFW). At least 2 active nests were in boxes at Eagle Nest 5 Jun & 3 Jul (DJC\*\*).

**Cave Swallow**—Up to 4 were north in the RGV to Radium Springs 5-26 Jul (MTS, JEZ).

**Bushtit**—A black-eared morph was in Clanton Canyon 27 Jun (JEP).

**Carolina Wren**—One or 2 were at GBA all season (RSS), including one seen and/or heard 23 Jul (DJK) & 27 Jul (JRO\*).

**Marsh Wren**—One was at the Springer L. marsh 10 Jul (DJC\*\*); there are no *Colfax* breeding records.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**—An active nest was in Little Water Canyon, Zuni Mts. 13 Jun (JAT). Fifteen were in the Magdalena Mts. 21 Jun (AJR), where breeding was suspected.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**—Two singles were in the Animas Mts. 2 Jul (AMC, NM-C, REW).

**Black-tailed Gnatcatcher**—One was in the lower Hachita Valley, *Hidalgo* 27 Jun (JEP, JRO), where seldom reported.

**Veery**—At least one was vocal in the “Camp Summer Life” area along the Rio Pueblo east of Vadito, *Taos* 21 Jun (JEP, JRO) & 3 Jul (WFW).

**Swainson’s Thrush**—One was singing near Osha Canyon east of Vadito 3 Jul (WFW).

**Wood Thrush**—One in Frijoles Canyon, *Sandoval* 19 Jul (MMR\*) will be the state’s first Jul record if accepted.

**Gray Catbird**—Unusual for the date and location was one at Katfish Kove 3 Jul (MTS, JEZ).

**Northern Mockingbird**—Several observers noted that the species moved up into montane areas in Jun, presumably to avoid hot and dry conditions below.

**Bendire’s Thrasher**—Singles at and near Deming 7 Jun (LKM) and 27 Jul (DJK) were at the southeast fringe of the range.

**Crissal Thrasher**—Considered unusual was one at Corrales Jun-Jul (DJK).

**Cedar Waxwing**—Late singles were at Cooke’s Canyon 4 Jun (WFW) and near Piñon 2 Jun (WHH).

**Phainopepla**—A nest with 2 nestlings at Blackrock Dam 11 Jun (JAT\*) provided the 2<sup>nd</sup> Zuni breeding record.

**Olive Warbler**—Discovered breeding in the Burro Mts., where an ad. and 2 juvs. were found 27 Jul (SWC, DLD). Two were in Water Canyon, Magdalena Mts. 7 Jun (BRF) where one was seen 18 Jul (BKP).

**Yellow Warbler**—An ad. tending 2 fledglings at Katfish Kove 3 Jul (MTS, JEZ) provided a rare *Luna* breeding record.

**Townsend’s Warbler**—Unseasonal was one in Clanton Canyon 16 Jun (MTS, JEZ, JNP).

**Hermit Warbler**—Two in the Jack's Peak area of the Burro Mts. 27 Jul (SWC, DLD) were the earliest ever in fall for New Mexico.

**Bay-breasted Warbler**—A male was at NRT 4 Jun (CB\*).

**Ovenbird**—One was singing in the Cliff-Gila Valley 2 Jun (KMB\*).

**Northern Waterthrush**—Late was one at NRT 10 Jun (WHH\*).

**MacGillivray's Warbler**—An ad. pair was feeding fledglings in Tajique Canyon, Manzano Mts. 22 Jun (HRS).

**Hooded Warbler**—Single singing males were in the Isleta bosque, *Bernalillo* 23 Jun (BHS\*) and at Pleasanton 22 Jun (P. A. Tallman\*).

**Wilson's Warbler**—Intriguing was a singing male in Big Water Canyon, Zuni Mts. 13 Jun (JAT). Late was one at NRT 7 & 10 Jun (JRO, WHH).

**Red-faced Warbler**—Once again found north to the Zuni Mts., with up to 3 in Hausner Canyon 7-8 Jun (JAT).

**Painted Redstart**—A pair was feeding a fledgling and 2 other ads. were seen in Sawmill Canyon, Magdalena Mts. 10 Jun (HRS), for the first certain breeding there.

**Hepatic Tanager**—Unusual in lowland riparian situations, a pair nested in the GBA, where found feeding fledglings 23 Jul (DJK). In new locales were one singing in the Bear Mts., *Socorro* 3 Jun (HRS) and one in Cooke's Canyon, *Luna* 4 Jun (WFW).

**Summer Tanager**—One was singing north to Puerto de Luna 14 Jun (WHH). In Skeleton Canyon, Summers and Hepatics were found coexisting 29 Jun (JEP).

**Green-tailed Towhee**—Noteworthy were 4 at Lackey Point, Gallinas Mts. 17 Jun (HRS).

**Abert's Towhee**—Five pairs were in the Cliff-Gila Valley Jun- Jul, including a pair nest building 17 Jun and another pair incubating 7 Jul (KMB).

**Botteri's Sparrow**—Returned to a dry and overgrazed middle Animas Valley, where 36 territories were mapped 30 Jun-4 Jul (SOW, PM). Elsewhere, singles were at a Rodeo farm 28 Jun (JEP, JRO), 3 Jul (SOW, PM), & 18 Jul (WFW), Clanton Cienega 27 Jun (JEP, JRO), and Deer Cr. west of Antelope Wells 10-11 Jun (SOW).

**Chipping Sparrow**—First fall migrants were 1 at Luis Lopez 21 Jul (JRO) and 3 in Post Office Canyon 24 Jul (CDL).

**Brewer's Sparrow**—Breeding in *Colfax* was well-documented at Stubblefield L., including nest-building 2 Jun (DJC), ads. carrying food 9 Jun (DJC), and a nest with 3 nestlings 9 Jul (DJC\*\*).

**Vesper Sparrow**—Unusual was one singing south of Melrose 1 Jul (LAS).

**Savannah Sparrow**—Suggestive of local breeding were 2 singing males at Enbom L. 6 Jul (DWS), 3 singing males at Los Ojos 25 Jun (WFW), and 4 singing males at Mora 15-16 Jul (DWS) plus others at Maxwell NWR, Stubblefield L., Springer L. and Eagle Nest L. in Jun (DJC).

**Grasshopper Sparrow**—The *ammolegus* subspecies, confined to *Hidalgo*, continued at near-record lows, with 36 on an Animas Valley transect 10 Jun and 3 on a Playas Valley transect 11 Jun (SOW).

**White-crowned Sparrow**—Far from proper breeding habitat were dark-lored singles at Maxwell 13-15 Jun (DJC) and Radium Springs 6-7 Jul (MTS, JEZ\*\*).

**Yellow-eyed Junco**—A significant discovery was a pair with 2 fledglings, plus another ad., in the Burro Mts. 27 Jul (SWC\*, DLD\*); also present was a possible Yellow-eyed x Dark-eyed hybrid, although no Dark-eyed were seen. The site, in the Jack's Peak area, is far from the state's only known breeding population in the Animas Mts.

**Northern Cardinal**—North were one at Conchas Dam 6 Jun (WFW) and 2 singing males at Puerto de Luna 14 Jun (WHH). Two southwest of Roswell along Twin Butte Canyon 1 Jun (SOW) indicated that that *Chaves* population persists.

**Pyrrhuloxia**—A male was north to BLNWR 11 Jun (WHH), where the species is not known to breed.

**Black-headed Grosbeak**—Late was a nest with eggs in Post Office Canyon 30 Jul (CDL).

**Varied Bunting**—Made a fine showing, with 5 territories in Guadalupe Canyon 12-13 Jun (SOW), a pair at Dripping Springs 24 Jul (GJE), and 12 birds at 4 CCNP sites, including 7 in Rattlesnake Canyon 30 Jun (SW).

**Painted Bunting**—Single territorial males were north to the Canadian R. below Conchas Dam 6 Jun & 8 Jul (WFW). Likely a migrant was a female on the Mimbres R. south of San Lorenzo 27 Jul (R. A. Erickson).

**Dickcissel**—Seven singing males were in grasses in Perico Canyon, *Union* 26 Jun (HRS\*). Nine birds were noted in grasses at 5 locales along Highway 20 south of Fort Sumner 27 Jul (LEA\*).

**Bobolink**—Searches of historic sites at Los Ojos found none 25 Jun (WFW), even though formerly-favored fields were uncut at the time.

**Eastern Meadowlark**—Three were north to Zuni 10 Jun (JAT).

**Yellow-headed Blackbird**—Unusual was a male north of Rodeo 3 Jul (SOW, PM).

**Bronzed Cowbird**—Continued to thrive in the south, with reports from *Hidalgo*, *Luna*, *Sierra*, *Doña Ana*, and *Eddy* (m.ob.). North was a male at BLNWR 1-2 Jun (GLW). High count was 10 along Deer Cr. west of Antelope Wells 27 Jun (JEP, JRO).

**Brown-headed Cowbird**—A fledgling in Clanton Canyon was fed four times by a Bushtit and twice by a Plumbeous Vireo 27 Jun (JRO).

**Orchard Oriole**—Two pairs were nesting at Rattlesnake Springs 6 & 9 Jun (BKP) and one pair was nesting at Whites City 7-8 Jun (BKP). North were single males near Milnesand 18 Jun (LAS), BLNWR 11 Jun (GLW), NRT 10 Jun (WHH), and Tucumcari 8 Jul (WFW).

**Hooded Oriole**—Noteworthy was a pair nest-building in Cooke's Canyon 7 Jun (MTS, JEZ\*\*). A nest in Post Office Canyon produced Bronzed Cowbird fledglings 29 Jul (CDL).

**Pine Grosbeak**—One was in a meadow 10 mi north of Terrero 21 Jul (WFW).

**Cassin's Finch**—Unusual was one at a Silver City feeder during Jun & Jul (DAZ, MAZ).

**Red Crossbill**—Among the few reports were 6 west of Angel Fire 19 Jul (DJC), where a male was feeding an incubating female 26 Jul (DJC\*\*); audiotapes showed them to be "Type 2" or "Ponderosa" crossbills (C. W. Benkman). A flock of 8 in the Zuni Mts. 13 Jun (JAT) were believed to be Type 2s also.

**American Goldfinch**—Up to 10 were in residence on Ponil Cr. near Cimarron 24 Jun (DJC), where displaying males and females giving warning calls suggested breeding was in progress by 29 Jul (DJC).

**Evening Grosbeak**—Thirteen on the Cloudcroft BBS 30 Jun (WHH) represented a record high for that route.

\* \* \*

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**NEW MEXICO COUNTIES**