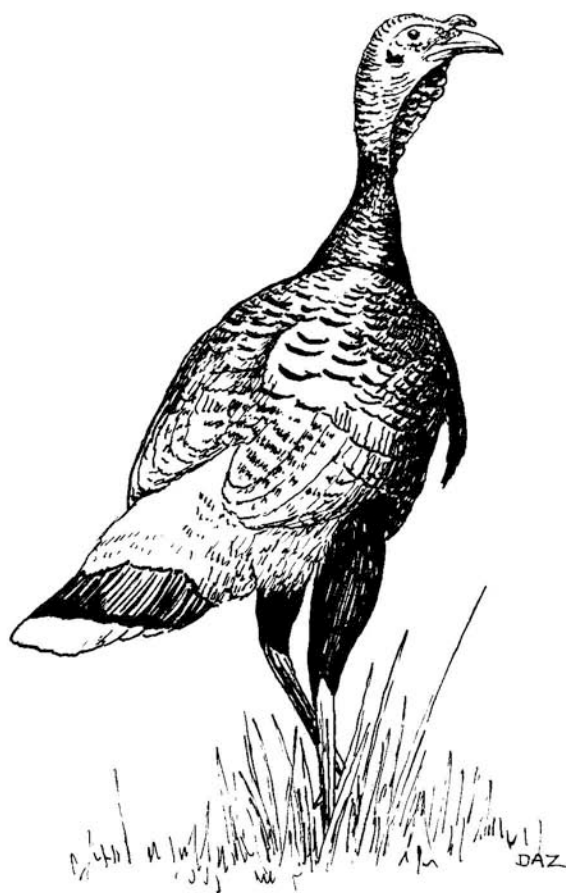


*New Mexico  
Ornithological Society  
Field Notes*



*Volume 44, Number 4, Autumn 2005*

NEW MEXICO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD NOTES  
Volume 44, Number 4, Autumn 2005  
1 August – 30 November 2005

A quarterly publication of the New Mexico Ornithological Society

EDITORIAL STAFF

Sartor O. Williams III, *Editor*

William H. Howe, *Assistant Editor*

EDITORIAL OFFICE

Southwest Natural History Institute  
1819 Meadowview Drive NW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104-2511  
([sunbittern@earthlink.net](mailto:sunbittern@earthlink.net))

*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:** "Gould's" Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo mexicana*). This subspecies, typical of Mexico's Sierra Madre, occurs naturally in the U.S. only in the Animas and Peloncillo ranges, where it favors pine-oak forested canyons. Listed as threatened by New Mexico, it is vulnerable to habitat loss from vegetation removal, fire, competition with livestock, loss of water sources, hybridization with non-native turkeys, and human killing and disturbance. Art by Dale A. Zimmerman.

## AUTUMN SEASON 2005

Early autumn 2005 brought welcome precipitation to many parts of New Mexico, contributing to a spectacular waterbird and shorebird migration through the eastern plains. By mid-season, however, the long-term drying trend resumed, and the season ended both very dry and very cold.

### Localities and Counties

Alamogordo, *Otero*  
Albuquerque, *Bernalillo*  
Angel Fire, *Colfax*  
Animas, Cr., Mts., Valley, *Hidalgo*  
Antelope Wells, *Hidalgo*  
Artesia, *Eddy*  
Belen, *Valencia*  
Bingham, *Socorro*  
Bitter Lake NWR, *Chaves*  
Boone's Draw, *Roosevelt*  
Bosque del Apache NWR, *Socorro*  
Brantley Lake, *Eddy*  
Caballo Lake, Dam, *Sierra*  
Capilla Peak, *Torrance*  
Carlsbad, Lake, *Eddy*  
Carlsbad Caverns NP, *Eddy*  
Carrizozo, *Lincoln*  
Cerrillos, *Santa Fe*  
Cimarron, Canyon, *Colfax*  
Clabber Hill Ranch, *San Miguel*  
Clanton Canyon, Cienega, *Hidalgo*  
Clayton, Lake, *Union*  
Cloverdale, *Hidalgo*  
Clovis, *Curry*  
Conchas Lake, Dam, *San Miguel*  
Datil, *Catron*  
Deming, *Luna*  
Eagle Nest, Lake, *Colfax*  
Elephant Butte Lake, Dam, *Sierra*  
Engle, *Sierra*  
Escondida, *Socorro*  
Eunice, *Lea*  
Farmington, *San Juan*  
Florida Mts., *Luna*  
Fort Sumner, *De Baca*  
Gila Hot Springs, *Grant*  
Gila Bird Area, *Grant*  
Grulla NWR, *Roosevelt*  
Guadalupe Canyon, *Hidalgo*  
Holloman Lake, *Otero*  
Jal, Lake, *Lea*  
La Joya, *Socorro*  
Lake Roberts, *Grant*  
Las Cruces, *Doña Ana*  
Las Vegas, NWR, *San Miguel*  
Lordsburg, *Hidalgo*  
Los Alamos, *Los Alamos*  
Lovington, *Lea*  
Luis Lopez, *Socorro*  
Luna, *Catron*  
Madrid, *Santa Fe*  
Manzano, Mts., *Torrance*  
Maxwell, NWR, *Colfax*  
Melrose, *Curry*  
Mesilla, Park, Dam, Valley, *Doña Ana*  
Milnesand, *Roosevelt*  
Morgan Lake, *San Juan*  
Nara Visa, *Quay*  
north *Roosevelt* trap [NRT], *Roosevelt*  
Otero Mesa, *Otero*  
Peloncillo Mts., *Hidalgo*  
Pep, *Roosevelt*  
Percha SP, *Sierra*  
Pinos Altos Mts., *Grant*  
Post Office Canyon, *Hidalgo*  
Radium Springs, *Doña Ana*  
Rattlesnake Springs, *Eddy*  
Rio Grande Nature Center, *Bernalillo*  
Road Forks, *Hidalgo*  
Rodeo, *Hidalgo*  
Sandia Crest, Park, *Bernalillo*  
Sandia Mts., *Bernalillo/Sandoval*  
San Jon, *Quay*  
Santa Fe, *Santa Fe*  
Santa Rosa, *Guadalupe*  
Seneca, *Union*  
Sevilleta NWR, *Socorro*  
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*  
 Tijeras, Canyon, *Bernalillo*  
 Ute Lake, *Quay*  
 Virden, *Hidalgo*  
 Yeso, *DeBaca*  
 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        | State Park                   |
| BBS        | Breeding Bird Survey           | UNM       | Univ. of New Mexico          |
| CBC        | Christmas Bird Count           | USFWS     | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service |
| CCNP       | Carlsbad Caverns NP            | WMA       | Wildlife Management Area     |
| CG         | Camp Ground                    | WSMR      | White Sands Missile Range    |
| 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

|      |                         |     |                       |
|------|-------------------------|-----|-----------------------|
| JPB  | Jonathan P. Batkin      | APN | Alan P. Nelson        |
| MJB  | Matt J. Baumann         | BDN | Bruce D. Neville      |
| DJB  | David J. Beatty         | GFO | G. Frank Oatman       |
| CMB  | Celestyn M. Brozek      | JRO | Jerry R. Oldenettel   |
| DJC  | David J. Cleary         | KBO | K. Bruce Ostyn        |
| AMC  | Alan M. Craig           | JEP | John E. Parmeter      |
| NSC  | Nancy S. Cox            | JNP | James N. Paton        |
| SWC  | Steven W. Cox           | NDP | Nicholas D. Pederson  |
| JD-M | Joan Day-Martin         | CMR | Christopher M. Rustay |
| RHD  | Robert H. Doster        | LAS | Lawry A. Sager        |
| LPG  | Larry P. Gorbet         | HRS | Hart R. Schwarz       |
| MJH  | M. Joan Hardie          | MTS | Marcy T. Scott        |
| DLH  | David L. Hawksworth     | JWS | John W. Shipman       |
| TJH  | Tom J. Hines            | JNS | James N. Stuart       |
| J&MH | John & Marty Hirth      | RLV | Raymond L. VanBuskirk |
| WHH  | William H. Howe         | GLW | Gordon L. Warrick     |
| HWI  | HawkWatch International | MLW | Mark L. Watson        |
| DJK  | David J. Krueper        | REW | Richard E. Webster    |
| CDL  | Carroll D. Littlefield  | SW  | Steve West            |
| CGL  | Carl G. Lundblad        | WFW | William F. West       |
| MDM  | Martin D. MacRoberts    | EMW | Elton M. Williams     |
| LKM  | Larry K. Malone         | SOW | S. O. Williams III    |
| PEM  | Paul E. McConnell       | JEZ | James E. Zabriskie    |
| PM   | Patricia Mehlhop        | DAZ | Dale A. Zimmerman     |
| RAM  | Raymond A. Meyer        | MAZ | Mirian A. Zimmerman   |

## SPECIES ACCOUNTS

**Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**—One ad. made a brief appearance at Deming 15 Aug (LKM\*, JRO\*\*). Another possibly this species was glimpsed at EBL's Monticello Point 5 Aug (JRO).

**Greater White-fronted Goose**—Noteworthy for the early date and locale were 5 at Deming 10 Sep (LKM). High counts elsewhere were up to 10 at Maxwell NWR 22-25 Oct (DJC, J&MH, JEP, JRO) and 3 at BLNWR 20 Nov (SW).

**Ross's Goose**—An ad. and 2 juv. blue morph birds were at Bosque NWR 19 Nov (JEP\*).

**Cackling Goose**—Earliest reported were 4 at RGNC 4 Nov (JEP); high count was 318 there 12 Nov (JEP).

**Bar-headed Goose**—The apparent escapee at Bosque NWR continued in evidence there 1 Aug-27 Nov (CGL, DJK).

**Egyptian Goose**—Adding to the escaped exotic list were up to 3 at Clovis's Green Acres Park 9-19 Sep (JRO).

**Tundra Swan**—Earliest were one at Waverly L., *Union* 6 Nov (JRO) and 3 at Vermejo Ranch near Cimarron 17 Nov (DJC\*\*).

**Wood Duck**—Noteworthy for the prairie was a male perched atop a cottonwood at NRT 7 Oct (JRO). Others were seldom reported were singles at Eagle Nest 27 Oct (DJC\*\*) and Carrizozo 27 Oct (JRO) and 2 at Jal L. 30 Oct (JRO).

**Eurasian Wigeon**—A male at Maxwell NWR 29 Oct (DJC\*) provided a *Colfax* first; another male was at RGNC 11 Nov (CGL\*), where regular in recent years.

**Eurasian Wigeon X American Wigeon**—An apparent hybrid was at Socorro 30 Oct into Nov (G. Szpatura\*, S. Wilson\*\*, CGL).

**Northern Pintail**—Late was a female with 2 young at Stubblefield L. 15 Aug (DJC\*\*).

**Redhead**—A high 5500 were at Stubblefield L. 10 Nov (MLW), where there was a white headed one 18 Nov (DJC\*\*).

**Greater Scaup**—Nine at LVNWR 13 Nov (CMR\*) was a large number, especially for so early.

**Long-tailed Duck**—One was at Stubblefield L. 18-24 Nov (DJC\*\*).

**Barrow's Goldeneye**—A male was east to Stubblefield L. 16 Nov (DJC\*), where a female was present 18 Nov (DJC\*\*).

**Ruddy Duck**—A brood of 4 ducklings was at Lordsburg 11 Aug (LKM).

**Red-throated Loon**—One described as a juv., seen on the water and in flight, made a brief stop at Springer L. 22 Oct (J&MH\*).

**Pacific Loon**—One was at Springer L. 22 & 24 Oct (DJC\*). Others were singles at Miami L., *Colfax* 7 Nov (JRO\*\*) and Conchas L. 22 Nov (WFW).

**Common Loon**—Continuing from summer, one to 2 were Stubblefield L. 8-29 Aug (DJC). Early was one at Sumner L. 17 Sep (JEP).

**Pied-billed Grebe**—Two were on nests at Clovis 4 Sep (CMR, BDN).

**Horned Grebe**—One reached Ute L. 9 Oct (JRO).

**Eared Grebe**—At Stubblefield L., 6 pairs were carrying chicks 8 Aug and 75 chicks were present 23 Aug (DJC\*\*). Unexpected was one on a nest at Clovis 21 Aug (WFW).

**Brown Pelican**—One flying east through Tijeras Canyon 10 Aug (D. Clayton) was presumably the same one, described as an imm., seen later that day on a pond at nearby Sandia Park (D. S. Weaver\*, F. M. Lusso\*). Another imm. was seen at Sumner L. 2 Oct (NDP\*, JPB\*).

**Neotropic Cormorant**—Far north and a *Union* first was one at Clayton L. 15-26 Sep (JRO\*\*, CMR).

**American Bittern**—One was at Bosque NWR 10 & 30 Oct (CGL\*\*). One reported at BLNWR on multiple dates 21 Sep-25 Nov (GLW, SW).

**Great Egret**—North were singles at Morgan L. 11-25 Aug (APN) and LVNWR 8 Aug (WFW) and 2 at Clovis 14 Oct (JEP); unusual was one on a metal tank in Post Office Canyon 22 Sep (R. T. Scholes *fide* CDL).

**Snowy Egret**—Late for the north was one at El Vado L., *Rio Arriba* 13 Nov (JRO).

**Little Blue Heron**—An imm. was north to Conchas L. 19 Sep (JRO\*\*); an ad. was at Bosque NWR 3 Sep (DLH).

**Reddish Egret**—An imm. was at Brantley L. 29 Sep-2 Oct (JRO\*\*, JEP\*, CMR). An imm. was actively feeding at EBL's Long Point 14-16 Oct (JEP\*, NDP\*, JRO\*\*, CGL\*).

**Green Heron**—Late was one at Deming 10 Nov (LKM).

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**—A strong showing found single imms. at Maxwell NWR 19 Oct (P. Hoban) and Milnesand 8 Aug (T. McDaniel\*\*), the latter a *Roosevelt* first. An ad. was at Tatum 27 Aug (JPB\*) where there was an imm. 12 Sep-1 Oct (JRO\*\*, JEP\*, NDP\*, SW\*, CMR\*). An ad. was at Bosque NWR 9-18 Oct (DJK\*\*, CGL\*\*, JEP\*, J&MH\*, CMR\*, JRO\*\*).

**White Ibis**—An ad. at Bosque NWR in Jul continued there 1-17 Aug (CGL\*\*, JRO\*\*).

**White-faced Ibis**—The Stubblefield L. colony continued active into Aug, with 5 nests containing nestlings 8 Aug and fledglings seen 13 Aug (DJC\*\*).

**Roseate Spoonbill**—The one at BLNWR in Jul persisted there until 6 Sep (GLW+, JRO\*\*, CGL\*\*).

**White-tailed Kite**—Continued in evidence in the Animas Valley, with 2 in the southern valley 6 Aug (WFW), 3 in the vicinity of the Gray Ranch headquarters 12 Aug (JRO), 2 in the middle valley 4 Aug (JNS) and one there 14 Oct (SOW, WHH), and one north of the Gray Ranch 14 Oct (SOW, WHH). Elsewhere, one was at Bosque NWR 4 Oct (JRO\*\*) and one was west of Hachita, *Grant* 9 Nov (SOW).

**Bald Eagle**—Early was one at L. Roberts 28 Sep (*fide* DJB).

**Gray Hawk**—An ad. pair was feeding 2 juvs. in upper Guadalupe Canyon 9 Aug (JPB\*). One was reported in the middle Animas Valley 15 Sep (DJB).

**Common Black-Hawk**—Far east was one in the Peñasco Valley east of Elk, *Chaves* 13 Sep (JRO\*). Late for the north was one at Santa Rosa 1 Oct (JEP). Stragglers were at Belen 5 Oct (N. Baczek\*) and near Radium Springs 9 Oct (MTS, JEZ\*\*).

**Harris's Hawk**—A family of 4 was south of Alamogordo 16 Nov (CGL). Singles were reported from three *Luna* locales during the period (LKM, WFW, JRO).

**Broad-winged Hawk**—At the Capilla Peak hawkwatch site in the Manzano Mts., 13 were counted 13 Sep-14 Oct (HWI). A dark morph imm. entertained many at NRT 2-11 Oct (NDP, JPB+, JRO\*\*).

**Zone-tailed Hawk**—One was on the Gallinas R. southeast of Las Vegas 8 Aug (WFW).

**Ferruginous Hawk**—One was in the Animas Valley 8 Aug (JPB), where 2 were reported in Jul.

**Merlin**—A high 48 passed the Capilla Peak site 13 Sep-28 Oct (HWI).

**Aplomado Falcon**—A good season for birds dispersing from Chihuahua brought an ad. to s. Otero Mesa 11-15 Aug (RAM\*, Bureau Land Management\*\*) and an imm. north to *Socorro* southwest of Bingham 27 Aug (D. & L. Burkett\*), an ad. to n. Otero Mesa 3 Oct (RAM\*), and one to Brantley L. 31 Oct (SW\*). At least one territorial ad. was in *Luna* all season (RAM).

**Sandhill Crane**—Earliest were 5 at Maxwell NWR 27 Sep (DJC). Numbers peaked at about 65,000 at Grulla NWR 9 & 15 Nov (J. R. Smith) and 20,000 at BLNWR 23 Nov (GLW). An albino was at Caballo L. 3 Nov (JRO\*\*), a reminder that all “white” cranes deserve critical study.

**Black-bellied Plover**—An impressive 30 were at Grulla NWR 8-11 Oct (JRO, CMR, WFW, JEP). High count elsewhere was 10 at Stubblefield L. 15 Oct (DJC\*\*).



**Snowy Plover**—Some 16 were at Grulla NWR 9 Oct (CMR). Late was one at Lordsburg playa 23-25 Nov (JRO, JEP).

**Black-necked Stilt**—Late was one at BLNWR 30 Nov (GLW).

**American Avocet**—Latest were singles at Stubblefield L. 10 Nov (DJC), LVNWR 13 Nov (CMR), and BLNWR 15 Nov (GLW).

**Willet**—Last was one at Deming 18 Oct (LKM).

**Upland Sandpiper**—High count was 6 near Lovington 2 Aug (JRO); last were 3 at Rattlesnake Springs 17 Sep (SW).

**Long-billed Curlew**—A remarkable concentration at Grulla NWR 8-14 Oct was estimated to contain up to 2000 birds (JRO, WFW, JEP).

**Marbled Godwit**—Last were 2 at Clovis 14 Oct (JEP).

**Red Knot**—One described as a juv. was at the Navajo agricultural area south of Farmington 25 Aug (J. Rees\*).

**Sanderling**—Last of a good season were 4-5 at Grulla NWR 8-9 Oct (JRO, CMR), 2 at Holloman L. 12 Oct (CGL), and one at BLNWR 19 Oct (GLW).

**Semipalmated Sandpiper**—Rare west of the plains, one was at Luis Lopez 31 Aug (JRO\*\*).

**Pectoral Sandpiper**—West and early was one at Lordsburg 11 Aug (LKM). Noteworthy were 3 at Holloman L. 21 Sep (MTS, JEZ\*\*) and one at Sunland Park 1 Oct (JNP).

**Dunlin**—Earliest was one at EBL 4 Oct (JRO\*\*). Noteworthy for *Roosevelt* was one at Grulla NWR 28 Oct (JEP, JRO). High count was 5 at BLNWR 15 Nov (GLW).

**Stilt Sandpiper**—High counts were 150 at Grulla NWR 8 Oct (JRO) and 93 at BLNWR 21 Sep (GLW).

**Ruff**—One at Stubblefield L. 5 Oct (DJC\*\*) provided the state's 2<sup>nd</sup> photo-documented record.

**Short-billed Dowitcher**—One at EBL 7 Sep (JRO\*\*) was the only report.

**American Woodcock**—One at NRT 22-23 Oct (RLV, CMR\*, BDN\*, JEP\*, JRO\*, MJB\*) provided the state's 11<sup>th</sup> overall record.

**Red-necked Phalarope**—Unusually numerous from the RGV eastward, with reports from 12 counties 3 Sep-22 Oct; high counts were 60 at Stubblefield L. 17 & 23 Sep (CMR, BDN, DJC), 48 at Maxwell NWR 27 Sep (DJC), and 30 at Holloman L. 16 & 19 Sep (CGL); last were 2 each at BLNWR 12 Oct (GLW) and EBL 18 Oct (JRO) and one at Maxwell NWR 22 Oct (JEP).

**Red Phalarope**—A winter-plumaged ad. was at Maxwell NWR 21-22 Oct (MJB\*, NDP\*, JEP\*, JRO\*\*, DJC\*\*, J&MH\*).

**Long-tailed Jaeger**—A light morph juv. was at Stubblefield L. 14-19 Sep (DJC\*\*, JRO\*\*, MJB\*, BDN\*, JEP\*, v.o.).

**Laughing Gull**—Records continued to accumulate, with one at Vermejo Ranch near Cimarron 6 & 11 Aug (DJC\*\*) and up to 3 at EBL: a first-winter bird at Monticello Point 6 Aug (JRO\*\*); a winter ad. at Monticello Point 15 Aug (JRO\*\*), 19 Aug (JEP\*), and 7 Sep (JRO\*\*); and another winter ad. at Three Sisters Point also on 7 Sep (JRO\*\*).

**Little Gull**—A first-winter bird at Conchas L. 18-20 Sep (MJB\*, NDP\*, JRO\*\*, JEP\*, JPB) provided New Mexico's 2<sup>nd</sup> verified record.

**California Gull**—Away from northern lakes were singles at EBL 8-19 Aug (JRO, JEP) and Grulla NWR 9-11 Oct (CMR, WFW).

**Thayer's Gull**—Singles were at Bluewater L., *Cibola* 12 Nov (JRO\*\*) and EBL 23 Nov (JRO\*\*).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull**—An unusual dark-mantled gull at EBL 13 Oct (WHH\*, SOW\*) was relocated and described as a possible Lesser Black-backed 14 Oct (PEM\*), but available details were not conclusive.

**Sabine's Gull**—Yet another good season produced multiple reports from 10 sites in six eastern counties 7 Sep-9 Oct, including a remarkable flock of 11 imms. at Stubblefield L. 20 Sep (DJC), where there were 2 ads. 16-17 Sep (JEP, NDP, BDN, CMR). An imm. at Grulla NWR 8-9 Oct (JRO, CMR) provided a local first.

**Caspian Tern**—An ad. was at Conchas L. 18 Sep (MJB, NDP).

**Common Tern**—Made a better than usual showing from the RGV eastward 7-28 Sep, including high counts of 5 at Springer L. 26 Sep (DJC\*\*), 8 at Sumner L. 17 Sep (JEP, JRO), and 10 at Conchas L. 18 Sep (JRO).

**Black Tern**—In evidence statewide, including notable concentrations of 110 near Cimarron 5 Aug (DJC), 45 at Maxwell NWR 21 Aug (WHH), and 50 at Clovis 21 Aug (WFW). Some 40 were over the prairie near the Mesa Rest Stop, n. *Chaves* 8 Sep (B. K. Lang), including 10 devouring fairy shrimp at a tank.

**Black Skimmer**—An imm. was found dead at Steins Pass west of Road Forks 18 Oct (D. Farbotnik\*; it was retrieved by AMC; \*\*\* to MSB). It had been banded at Salton Sea, California 19 Aug (K. Molina) and was one of 2 young skimmers banded there that day known to have wandered inland, the other to *Maricopa*, Arizona.

**Eurasian Collared-Dove**—Continued to increase in range and numbers statewide. An active nest at Deming was on a bare metal catwalk 22 Aug (LKM\*\*).

**White-winged Dove**—North were one at Kirtland, *San Juan* 3 Nov (C. Shryock *fide* APN), 3 at Los Alamos 27 Nov (BDN, CMR), and one at Maxwell 1-3 Aug (DJC\*\*). Late were up to 3 at Post Office Canyon through 28 Nov (CDL).

**Inca Dove**—Singles were northeast to Clovis 21 Aug (WFW) and Melrose 1 Oct (CMR).

**Common Ground-Dove**—A good season found singles at Rodeo 8 Oct (REW\*), Deming 12 Sep (LKM\*), and Radium Springs 7-9 Oct (MTS\*, JEZ\*\*), and 2 in the Animas Valley 6 Aug (WFW).

**Ruddy Ground-Dove**—A good season produced 3 at Rodeo 8 Oct (REW\*), 2 at Virden 25 Nov (JRO\*\*), and one at Deming 10 Nov (LKM\*).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**—Late was a vocal one at Percha SP 16 Oct (CGL\*).

**Greater Roadrunner**—One was at Maxwell NWR 16 Sep (JEP).

**Barn Owl**—Two pairs at BLNWR were found with second broods of nestlings 1 & 3 Aug (GLW\*).

**Flammulated Owl**—Far out on the prairie, migrants were conspicuous at NRT on various dates 2-22 Oct (m.ob.), including 2 on 8 Oct (JRO, CMR) and 3 on 9 Oct (JRO\*\*, CGL). Very late was one found freshly dead at BLNWR 20 Nov (SW, GLW; \*\*\* to MSB).

**Western Screech-Owl**—In the east, one responded to taped calls at Alamocito Ranch, *Harding* 1 Oct (JRO) and one presumably this species was seen in a woodlot 5 mi north of San Jon 9 Oct (JRO).

**Elf Owl**—Late were 2 vocal ones in Clanton Canyon 15 Oct (WHH, SOW).

**Short-eared Owl**—Singles were at Sargent WMA, *Rio Arriba* 13 Sep (M. Frentzel\*), Springer L. 8 Oct (EMW\*\*, DJC\*\*), and Seven Rivers WMA, *Eddy* 5 Nov (SW).

**Common Poorwill**—Late was one “seen well” at Carlsbad 29 Nov (SW).

**Whip-poor-will**—One was videotaped at Amistad 2 Oct (JRO\*\*), a *Union* first.

**Chimney Swift**—Two were late at Clovis 2 Oct (JPB).

**Broad-billed Hummingbird**—Single males were north to Farmington 2 Oct (P. O. Kaufman\*) and Sandia Park 18-20 Aug (H. & N. Frost, HRS\*\*) and east to Carlsbad 17-30 Nov (SW\*); another Broad-billed was reported elsewhere in Carlsbad mid-Nov into Dec (E. Pierce *fide* SW).

**White-eared Hummingbird**—A young bird was at Gila Hot Springs 2-8 Aug (DAZ\*) where it was banded 6 Aug (JD-M\*\*); the site is near where one was seen in Jun.

**Violet-crowned Hummingbird**—Far north was one at White Rock, *Los Alamos* 6 Aug (J. & L. Builta\*). Providing a local first at Post Office Canyon were an ad. 23-24 Sep, an apparent young of the year 3 Oct, and an ad. 6 Oct (CDL).

**Blue-throated Hummingbird**—One near Bandera Ice Cave 5 & 8 Sep (CMR, MJB\*, NDP\*) was a first for the Zuni Mts. area.

**Magnificent Hummingbird**—One was north to Angel Fire in early Aug (GFO).

**Lucifer Hummingbird**—In Post Office Canyon, young birds were at feeders by 15 Aug, and a high 12 ad. males were there 17 Aug, while last was a male there 18 Oct (CDL).

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**—An ad. male was at Carlsbad 25 Aug (TJH\*\*); an imm. was at Jal 25 Aug (JRO\*\*).

**Anna's Hummingbird**—An ad. male was north to Santa Fe 28 Aug-5 Oct (L. C. Herrmann\*, m.ob.). In Post Office Canyon, where one to 2 were present 5 Aug-18 Sep, numbers increased from 5 on 23 Sep to a high of 26 on 7 Oct, then declined to one last seen 9 Nov (CDL).

**Calliope Hummingbird**—Late were 2 in Embudito Canyon, Sandia Mts. 16 Oct (RHD).

**Allen's Hummingbird**—Two young females were banded at L. Roberts 5 & 12 Aug (JD-M). A possible ad. male was reported east to Carlsbad 14 Aug (SW\*), but details could not eliminate Rufous.

**Red-headed Woodpecker**—An ad. was west to Percha SP 14 Sep (JRO, CGL\*\*).

**Acorn Woodpecker**—North of expected were one at Cedar Springs CG, *Rio Arriba* 1 Oct (*vide* APN) and 3 near San Ignacio, *San Miguel* 19 Sep (WFW).

**Gila Woodpecker**—One was in Skeleton Canyon 4 Aug (SOW, JRO), where irregular. East was one on Deer Cr. near Antelope Wells 1 Sep (SOW, PM).

**Red-bellied Woodpecker**—One was seen and heard by observers familiar with the species near Escondida 26 Aug (DLH+).

**Williamson's Sapsucker**—One was east to Trigg Ranch, e. *San Miguel* 16 Sep & 2 were there 16-17 Nov (MDM).

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**—Imms. identified as this species were at Conchas L., NRT, Percha SP, and Rattlesnake Springs 17 Sep-5 Nov (v.o.).

**“Yellow-shafted” Flicker**—A male at NRT 30 Sep-22 Oct (JEP, JRO, NDP, BDN, CGL) was believed to be “pure.”

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**—A singing one at NRT 4-10 Sep (CMR, BDN, JEP\*, WFW, DJC, JRO\*\*) provided a rare fall record.

**Least Flycatcher**—One was west to Cerrillos 8 Sep (LAS).

**Hammond's Flycatcher**—Late were 2 in Clanton Canyon 15 Oct (WHH\*\*, SOW).

**Gray Flycatcher**—A late one at Pep 1 Oct (CMR).

**Dusky Flycatcher**—An apparent Dusky was vocal at Percha SP 30 Oct; a silent one, presumably the same, was still there 20 Nov (CGL).

**Black Phoebe**—One at Morgan L. 18 Aug (APN) provided a new *San Juan* locale; very late for the north was one at Farmington 17 Nov (APN).

**Say's Phoebe**—Late for the north was one in *Colfax* 29 Nov (DJC).

**Vermilion Flycatcher**—Continuing a trend, one was northeast to Seneca 15 Sep (JRO).

**Dusky-capped Flycatcher**—East of known range, a vocal one was at Las Cruces 7 Sep (T. McKimmie\*).

**Ash-throated Flycatcher**—Late was one at NRT 2-4 Oct (NDP, JPB, JRO).

**Great Crested Flycatcher**—Singles were at NRT 2-6 Sep (JRO\*\*, CGL, JEP\*, WFW) and again 16-17 Sep (DJC\*, JRO\*\*, JEP, JPB).

**Great Kiskadee**—The one at Eunice in Jul remained there until 21 Aug (P. McCasland\*, JRO\*\*).

**Couch's/Tropical Kingbird**—A silent representative of this pair of similar species was at Tatum 23-24 & 29 Sep (R. G. Cates\*, JEP\*, JRO\*\*, NDP\*) and again 2 Oct (PEM\*), when it reportedly gave a “qweeer” call in response to taped Couch's vocals.

**Thick-billed Kingbird**—One in Guadalupe Canyon 7 Aug (WFW) but none found 9 Aug (JPB).

**Western Kingbird**—Late was one near Artesia 2 Nov (TJH\*).

**Eastern Kingbird**—One was west to Rodeo 12 Aug (JRO\*\*).

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**—A remarkable 137 in a roost near Maljamar, *Lea* 4 Sep (BDN, CMR) was topped by 144 there 1 Oct (CMR).

**Northern Shrike**—One reached Conchas Dam 22 Nov (WFW).

**White-eyed Vireo**—One was at NRT 23 Oct (MJB\*, NDP, JRO).

**Bell's Vireo**—Five—4 of them singing—were north to La Joya 24 Aug (DLH); 25 at Rattlesnake Springs 17 Sep (SW) was a large number for the late date.

**Gray Vireo**—One in the Chalk Hills east of Engle 4 Aug (CGL) provided a new locality. One banded at RGNC 3 Sep (NSC, SWC+) furnished a rare migrant record.

**Plumbeous Vireo**—Late were singles in Clanton Canyon 15 Oct (WHH, SOW) and Radium Springs 15 Oct (MTS, JEZ), 2 at Mesilla Park 6 Nov (CGL), and one at Percha SP 23 Nov (CGL).

**Cassin's Vireo**—Latest were singles in Post Office Canyon 15 Oct (CDL), Mesilla Park 22 Oct (CGL), and Percha SP 23 Nov (CGL).

**Blue-headed Vireo**—Rare west of the plains, one was banded at RGNC 18 Sep (NSC, SWC, JEP\*). At NRT, one to 3 were reported 6 Oct-11 Nov (m.ob.; JRO\*\*, ph. of one 7-8 Oct).

**Philadelphia Vireo**—One was detailed at NRT 30 Sep (JEP\*, JRO\*).

**Red-eyed Vireo**—One near Tijeras in Jul was still singing there 1 & 7 Aug (JEP, CMB). In the east, singles reported at NRT 4 Sep (JEP\*, BDN), Boone's Draw 27 Aug (JPB), and Rattlesnake Springs 5 Sep (BDN, CMR, SW).

**Blue Jay**—South of expected were 2 at Spring Canyon SP, Florida Mts. 19 Sep (LKM). Noteworthy were 8 at Trigg Ranch, e. *San Miguel* 15 Sep (MDM).

**Violet-green Swallow**—One was east to Clovis 8 Oct (CMR).

**Cave Swallow**—Two were at Percha SP 5 Sep (WFW). At CCNP, 38 were present 13 Nov and the last were seen 14 Nov (SW).

**Barn Swallow**—Over 2000 were concentrated at EBL 13-15 Oct (SOW, WHH, CMR).

**Bushtit**—The frosty morning of 28 Nov found 92 huddled together in the Peloncillo Mts. (CDL).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch**—Staged a mini-invasion of the eastern plains, with reports from Clayton, Nara Visa, Yeso, Fort Sumner, Texico, Milnesand, and Tatum 28 Aug-1 Oct, and south through the RGV to *Socorro*, Radium Springs, and Mesilla 3-22 Oct (m.ob.).

**Cactus Wren**—Two were west of Bingham 11 Nov (JEP).

**Carolina Wren**—A singing one was in the Sandia Mts. near Doc Long Picnic Area 5-12 Sep (DLH, JEP, JRO\*\*, WFW).

**Bewick's Wren**—Scarce in *Taos*, one was at Pilar 23 Oct (CMR).

**Winter Wren**—An excellent season produced singles in Cimarron Canyon 25 Nov (audio DJC\*\*), near Cerrillos 5 Oct (JPB), Sulphur Canyon, Sandia Mts. 13 & 16 Oct (CMB, JEP), Boone's Draw 25-29 Oct (JRO), and Rattlesnake Springs 30 Oct (DLH), and at least 2 at NRT 22-29 Oct (m.ob., JRO\*\*).

**Black-tailed Gnatcatcher**—Records at new and northerly locales were 2-3 in *Lincoln* in Oscura Mts. foothills west of Carrizozo 27 Aug & 7 Oct (CGL) and, in northeastern *Sierra*, singles in the n. San Andres Mts. near Mockingbird Mt. 25 Oct, east of Fairview

Mt. 21 Oct , and east of Sheep Mt. 21 Oct (CGL). Noteworthy at 1645 m was a pair in Post Office Canyon 23 Sep-15 Nov (CDL).

**Western Bluebird**—One was east to Jal 30 Oct (JRO).

**Swainson's Thrush**—Late was one “studied closely” at Milnesand 29 Oct (JRO).

**Wood Thrush**—One was at NRT 22-23 Oct (JEP\*, JRO\*, BDN\*, MJB\*, v.o.).

**Varied Thrush**—An ad. male was at NRT 3-8 Oct (JRO\*\*, MJB\*, DJC\*\*, JEP\*, v.o.).

**Gray Catbird**—Lingering were singles in the Sandia Mts. 6 Nov (CMB), at BLNWR 9 Nov (GLW), and near Cerrillos 30 Nov (*fide* LAS).

**Northern Mockingbird**—Late for the north was one at Sugarite SP 12 Nov (DJC\*\*).

**Brown Thrasher**—One to 3 were at six eastern locales 25 Sep-14 Oct; west were singles at Ranchos de Taos, *Taos* 15 Oct (GFO) and Silver City 19-21 Nov (DAZ, MAZ).

**Curve-billed Thrasher**—One near Cimarron 30 Aug (DJC\*\*) provided additional evidence of *Colfax* colonization.

**Crissal Thrasher**—One was at BLNWR 5 Aug (JEP), where scarce.

**Sprague's Pipits**—Grassland searches were successful in several areas, and included 2-3 at Grulla NWR 9 & 14 Oct (CMR\*, JEP), 4 at Sevilleta NWR 8 Oct (DLH), up to 6 on the Jornada Plain west of Bingham 11 & 13 Nov (JEP\*, JRO, MJB\*, NDP\*), and 6 in the s. Animas Valley 26 Nov (JEP, JRO).

**Cedar Waxwing**—Noteworthy were 17 at San Juan bridge, *Rio Arriba* in Aug (MDM), where the species first nested in 1995.

**Phainopepla**—North were a female near Cerrillos 13 Aug (LAS) and a male at BLNWR 11-12 Nov (GLW).

**Olive Warbler**—One was traveling in a mixed-species flock in Post Office Canyon 31 Oct (CDL).

**Tennessee Warbler**—A bright one was at Percha SP 16 Oct (JRO\*\*, CGL\*).

**Northern Parula**—Singles were at Pecha SP 7 Sep (JRO\*, MTS\*, JEZ\*) and Holloman L. 21 Sep (MTS\*, JEZ\*\*).

**Yellow Warbler**—Very late was a female at Bosque NWR 12 Nov (WHH\*\*).

**Chestnut-sided Warbler**—An imm. was at NRT 25 Sep (JRO).

**Magnolia Warbler**—Undetailed was one at Tatum 1 Oct (CMR).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler**—A male was at Madrid 15 Nov (LAS)

**Black-throated Green Warbler**—A good season found briefly-described singles at Ute L. 7 Oct (DJC) and Six Mile Dam 23 Oct (SW) plus one at NRT 7-13 Oct (JEP\*, JRO\*\*, CMB\*, NDP) and up to 2 there 22 Oct (BDN\*, CMR, JEP\*).

**Hermit Warbler**—Up to 4 were on Signal Peak, Pinos Altos Mts. 9-10 Aug (CMB\*), 2 were there 13 Aug (JRO\*), and one was there 19 Aug (JRO). Five passed through the Post Office Canyon area 12-21 Aug, and a late one was there 24 Sep (CDL).

**Yellow-throated Warbler**—Nicely described was an ad. west to Trout Cr. north of Luna, *Catron* 2 Sep (LKM\*).

**Palm Warbler**—Singles of the western subspecies were at NRT 17 Sep (JPB\*) and 8 Oct (JEP\*, JRO\*, CMB).

**Blackpoll Warbler**—Made a strong showing, with singles in *Sandoval* south of Bernalillo 22 Sep (HAW\*\*), NRT 20 Sep (JRO\*), and 3 mi south of Radium Springs 16 Sep (MTS\*, JEZ).

**Black-and-white Warbler**—Singles reported from NRT, Boone's Draw, Tatum, Percha SP, and Rattlesnake Springs 27 Aug-18 Sep (v.o.)

**American Redstart**—One to 3 were reported from 9 sites in 8 counties from the RGV eastward 31 Aug-8 Oct (m.ob.).

**Prothonotary Warbler**—One in Cimarron Canyon at Tolby CG 10-13 Aug (EMW\*\*, DJC\*\*) provided a *Colfax* first.

**Ovenbird**—Late was one at NRT 22 Oct (CMR\*, JEP, JRO).

**Northern Waterthrush**—Noteworthy was one at 2440 m west of Datil 6-8 Aug (MJH\*\*).

**Louisiana Waterthrush**—One well-described at Socorro 10 Sep (JRO\*); another seen at Milnesand 12 Sep (JRO\*).

**Common Yellowthroat**—Lingering were singles north to RGNC 9 Nov (DLH), Bosque NWR 20 Nov (CMR), and Buckhorn, *Catron* 19 Nov (LKM).

**Painted Redstart**—One strayed to Percha SP 14 Sep (CGL).

**Hepatic Tanager**—Last were one at Percha SP 13 Oct (WHH, SOW), 3 in Clanton Canyon 14-15 Oct (WHH, SOW), and one near Post Office Canyon 17 Oct (CDL).

**Scarlet Tanager**—An impressive “flight” found an ad. male at RGNC 17 Sep (LPG+), a red male at the Conchas L. golf course 20 Sep (JPB\*), and a winter male at NRT 17 Sep (JWS\*), 29 Sep (DJC\*), and 20-23 Oct (DJC\*\*, JEP\*, JRO\*\*, BDN\*, CMR\*, MJB\*, JPB\*).

**American Tree Sparrow**—Earliest were 4 at Stubblefield L. 28 Oct (DJC).



**Field Sparrow**—One was west to Santa Fe 24 Sep (D. Lacoss\*); singles were at Grulla NWR 9 Oct (CMR) and NRT 13 Oct (MJB\*, NDP) & 22-23 Oct (BDN, JPB).

**Baird's Sparrow**—One was at Grulla NWR 9 Oct (CMR). Up to 4 were in the s. Animas Valley 26 Nov (JEP, JRO).

**Le Conte's Sparrow**—Nicley described was one at Clabber Hill Ranch below Conchas Dam 22 Nov (WFW\*).

**Fox Sparrow**—Reddish ones were at Ute L. 30 Nov (DJC\*\*), Radium Springs 21-24 Nov (MTS\*, JEZ\*\*), and Post Office Canyon 7 Nov (CDL\*), a slate [or gray] one was near Post Office Canyon 16-30 Nov (CDL\*), and an undetermined one was at GBA 11 Nov (R. S. Shook *fide* DJB).

**Harris's Sparrow**—One banded at RGNC 23 Oct (NSC, SWC) was still present 28 Oct (BDN). One was at Trigg Ranch, e. *San Miguel* 17 Nov (MDM\*).

**Lapland Longspur**—One to 2 were among other longspurs west of Bingham 7-8 Nov (JRO\*\*).

**Chestnut-collared Longspur**—Earliest were 2 at Stubblefield L. 17 Sep (BDN), where there were 8 on 20 Sep (DJC).

**Northern Cardinal**—A male in Albuquerque's South Valley since May was still there 13 Sep (DLH). Another male pushing the northern range limits was 5 mi north of San Jon 11 Sep (JRO).

**Pyrrhuloxia**—A female was north to NRT 7-29 Oct (JEP, JRO, CMR, WFW). One was 3 mi north of Clovis 2 Oct (JRO).

**Varied Bunting**—A pair with 2 fledglings was in San Andres Canyon, *Doña Ana* 15 Aug (RAM\*). A male singing in Post Office Canyon 9 Aug (NDP) followed the first there by only one year.

**Painted Bunting**—Migrants in the southwest included 4 at Cloverdale 3 & 5 Aug (D. W. Richter\*\*) and 3 at Rodeo 18 Aug (REW\*).

**Dickcissel**—Small numbers were in evidence in the east in *DeBaca*, *Roosevelt*, *Curry*, *Chaves*, *Eddy*, and *Lea*, and in the RGV in *Socorro* and *Doña Ana* 16 Aug-24 Sep (m.ob.); high count was 10 at Rattlesnake Springs 5 Sep (SW).

**Rusty Blackbird**—A male and female were at BLNWR 30 Nov (J. M. Howland\*).

**Bronzed Cowbird**—Six were at NMSU stock pens in Las Cruces 23 Nov (CGL). A "mousy-gray" female at Eunice 27 Aug (KBO\*) appeared to be the western subspecies.

**Orchard Oriole**—A ad. male was singing at BLNWR 5-6 Aug (JEP). Others north in the Pecos Valley were 3 at Santa Rosa & 4 at Fort Sumner 21 Aug (WFW). West was an imm. at Madrid 23 Aug (LAS).

**Baltimore Oriole**—A young male was at NRT 4-10 Sep (CMR, BDN, JEP\*, JRO\*\*, WFW\*). An unusual imm. oriole at Bosque NWR 8 Aug (CMB\*\*) may have been this species.

**Bullock's Oriole**—Very late was a young male at Percha SP 20 Nov (CGL).

**Scott's Oriole**—Last was one singing in Post Office Canyon 26 Oct (CDL).

**Rosy-Finch**—Returned to Sandia Crest by 22 Nov, where 65 **Blacks**, 5 **Gray-crowns**, and one **Brown-capped** were banded 27 Nov (NSC, SWC+).

**Lesser Goldfinch**—Ads. were feeding fledglings along Galisteo Cr. near Cerrillos 27 Sep (JPB) and 6 Oct (LAS).

**American Goldfinch**—Nested in the Cimarron area for the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, with ads. and fledglings at 4 locales 18 Aug-13 Sep (DJC\*).

**European Goldfinch**—A nifty ad. male in Albuquerque's Nob Hill area 30 Sep (HAW\*\*) almost certainly was an escapee.

\* \* \*

Published 8 February 2006



**NEW MEXICO COUNTIES**