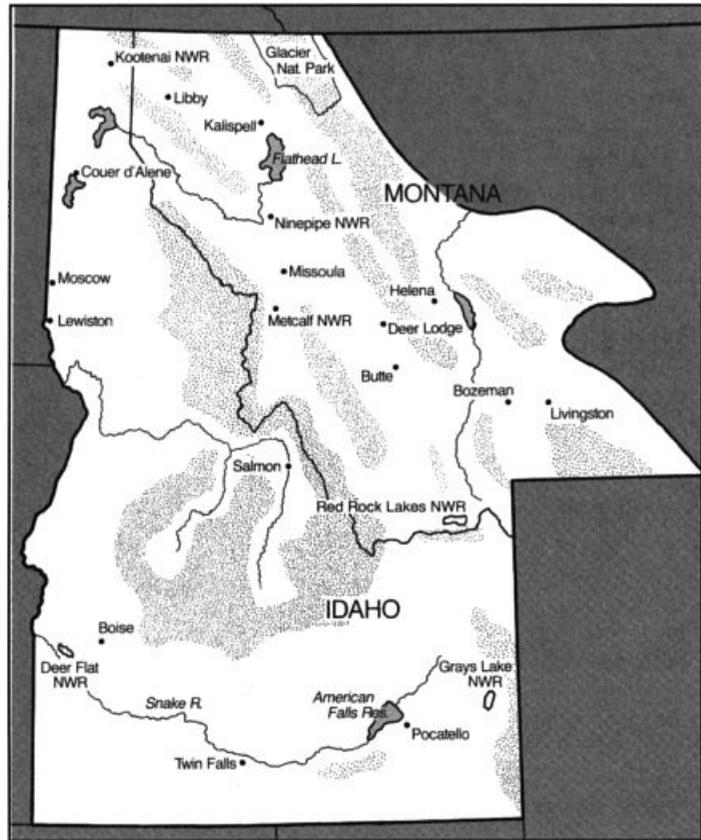


Idaho-Western Montana



mta@astro.as.utexas.edu), Vanessa Adams, Charley Amos, Adrian Andrei, John Arvin, Mike Austin, Peter Barnes, Ian & Deirdre Becker, Kym Beckwith (KBe), Bob Behrstock (BBe), Brandon Best (BrB), Charles Brower, John Brunjes, Tim Brush, Kelly Bryan (KBr), Winnie Burkett, Bill & Margie Cappel, Eric Carpenter, David Cimprich, Bill Clark, Gary & Nicholas Clark, **Mel Cooksey** (South Texas: 16 Townhouse Lane, Corpus Christi, TX 78412. email: ssi@stx.rr.com), Dan & Danny Deupree, Robert Doster, Jessie Dougherty (JDo), Marc & Maryann Eastman, Gil Eckrich, Dodge & Lorna Engelman, Jesse Fagan, Tim Fennell, Dixie Feuerbacher, Mark Flippo, Anthony Floyd, Bobby Frazier (BoF), Brush Freeman (BFr), **Bert Frenz** (East Texas: 221 Rainbow Dr., PMB 12190, Livingston, TX 77399-2021. email: bert@bafrenz.com), Matt Haftner, Curt Harwerth, David Hedges, Chuck Heil, David Heinicke, Aveline Hewetson, Petra Hockey, Eric Huebner, Donna Kelly, Steve Kennedy, Rich Kostecke, Ed Kutac, Cin-Ty Lee (CTL), Jason Leifester, Bill Lindermann, Leslie Linehan, Diane Locknane, Mark Lockwood, Ron Lockwood, Toby McBride, Brad McKinney (BMc), Derek Muschalek, Kenny Nichols, Jay Packer (JaP), Jim Paton (JPa), Royce Pendergast (RPe), Barrett Pierce, Randy Pinkston (RPi), Jennifer Reidy, Cindy Reinhart, Helen Rezbek, Van Robinson, Billy Sandifer, Georgina Schwartz, Rosemary Scott, **Willie Sekula** (Central Texas: 7060 Co. Rd. 228, Falls City, TX 78113-2627. email: wsekula@the-cia.net), **Ken Seyffert** (Northwest: 226 S. Lipscomb, Amarillo, TX 79109), Dana Simon, Mike Sims, Jim Stevenson (JSt), Don Verser, Gary Waggerman, Jim & Linda Waldie, **Ron Weeks** (UTC: 110 Indian Warrior, Lake Jackson, TX 77566. email: igarapet@brazosport.cc.tx.us), **Matt White** (MWh) (N.C. Texas: 882 Hwy 50, Campell, TX 75422. email: mkwhite@903internet.com), Sue Wiedenfeld, Jan Wobbenhorst, David Wolf, Scott Young.



David Trochlell

1931 Tallwood Lane
Boise, Idaho 83706
(dtrochlell@velocitus.net)

As is often the case, stark contrasts in climate played out across the Region in the summer of 2002. Northern locations reported unseasonably cool and wet weather throughout June and early July. Not only did these adverse conditions delay migration, but they were also implicated in nest failures in west-central Montana. On the other hand, it was unusually warm and dry in southern Idaho and southwestern Montana. Irrigation drawdowns depleted many inadequately filled streams and reservoirs, leaving water-bird nests high and dry. All locations agreed that mid-July was unusually hot, and record-high temperatures soared into the triple digits for a week or more in some areas. Late July thunderstorms brought welcome relief to northern Idaho and western Montana but

failed to reach drought-stricken areas in southern Idaho and southwestern Montana

Abbreviations: Camas (Camas N.W.R., Jefferson, ID); Latilong (area encompassed by one degree latitude and one degree longitude used in mapping bird distribution in both Idaho and Montana).

GREBES THROUGH OWLS

Out-of-range Clark's Grebes showed up in *Kootenai*, ID 2 Jun (JW) and Three Forks, MT 12 Jun (EH, RW). Uncommon but not unexpected were American White Pelicans in *Lake*, MT (DC) and *Nez Perce*, ID (TG), but a flock of 20 in Somers, *Flathead*, MT 9 Jun (DC) was very unusual. Since there are no modern-day nesting records in nw. Montana, a nonbreeding pair of Trumpeter Swans that summered near Whitefish was especially interesting (JP). Two Long-tailed Ducks reported near Lewiston, ID 8 Jul (KC) provided a rare summer record. A pair of Merlins

that successfully nested in Kalispell, MT (BK) represented a rare breeding record for the Region and latilong first. Two pairs of Sandhill Cranes summered at Weippe Prairie, Clearwater (DD), noteworthy because they have not nested in n. Idaho in over 100 years. Since they are typically rare fall migrants, single American Golden-Plovers seen in Jefferson, ID 2 Jun (GR) and Flathead, MT 24 Jun (DC) were surprising. Black-necked Stilts bred in Flathead, MT for the 2nd consecutive year (DC), but nesting was unsuccessful. The only Upland Sandpipers reported were a pair in Valley, ID 13-27 Jul (RLR, CS) and one in Jefferson, ID 27 Jul (GR); they are likely the Region's most endangered breeding bird. Coming in way ahead of schedule was a rare Whimbrel at A.F.R. 25 Jul (CT).

Several Caspian Terns reported in Broadwater, Gallatin, and Madison 16 Jun—28 Jul (EH, JP, RW) were interesting; they are rare but increasingly reported in sw. Montana. Single Band-tailed Pigeons stopped in Latah 1 Jun (TB) and Gem 7-11 Jul (FZ), two of the Gem State's most consistent locations for these rare visitors. A colony of at least 9 Eurasian Collared-Doves remained near American Falls, ID throughout the season (FB); breeding was likely but not yet confirmed. A White-winged Dove seen near Boise 13 Jul (GK) provided Idaho's 4th record. Idaho's only reported Yellow-billed Cuckoos were in Jefferson 5 Jun (GR) and Madison 23 Jun (CW), but much more unusual was one in Madison, MT 22-26 Jul (MB). Seldom reported away from conifer forests in mts., a Flammulated Owl visited the Bitterroot Valley, MT 11 Jun (WT).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH CROSSBILLS

Least Flycatchers were discovered at new locations in Idaho's Blaine, Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, and Shoshone 23 Jun—20 Jul. Are they expanding their range in the Gem State, or are we becoming more adept at finding them? Usually far less than annual, Philadelphia Vireos made their best showing ever. One found at Camas 4-6 Jun (MCr, †CT) provided Idaho's 2nd record, and singles were reported in Montana near Whitefish 16-17 Jun (DB) and Bigfork 21 Jun (BR). A Blue Jay in Shoshone 4 Jul (TG) was noteworthy, since confirmed breeding in Idaho is lacking. A rare Purple Martin discovered in Somers 10 Jun (DC) represented a first record for nw. Montana. A Winter Wren near Livingston, MT 1 Jun (m. ob.) represented a first for Latilong 39. Northern Mockingbirds were reported in Idaho's Owyhee 18 & 23 Jul (CS) and Ada 30 Jul

(RM), but one that visited Dillon, MT 8-22 Jul (JK) was much more unusual.

The Region's first Blue-winged Warbler, a singing ad. male, was in Custer, ID 14-15 Jun (CN, m. ob.). Both states reported rare Tennessee Warblers: one stopped at Camas 4 Jun (DCl) and another was in Helena, MT 1-3 Jun (HZ). A Northern Parula seen in Butte 9 Jun (†JM) provided Idaho's 6th record. Rare Chestnut-sided Warblers visited Idaho at Camas 4-5 Jun (MJ) and in Lemhi 16 Jul (DSc). Ovenbirds made a great showing, with 4 in Idaho and one in Montana 1-21 Jun. Idaho's 6th Summer Tanager stopped at Camas 12 Jun (MCr). A Field Sparrow reported near Bozeman, MT 12-13 Jul (EA) represented a first for Latilong 38 and one of only a few records in the Region. The Sage Sparrow colony discovered in May near Bannack, Beaverhead, MT remained throughout the summer, and subsequent searches turned up other colonies nearby. Away from Idaho's long-standing colony in Marsing, the only Great-tailed Grackle reported was found

in Boise 20 Jul (MC). A Purple Finch that showed up in Benewah, ID 2 Jun (JW) was significant; they are rare but increasingly reported in the Region's north. Both unusually early and far s. of typical range were 3 White-winged Crossbills in Ada, ID 21 Jul (RB, JC).

Contributors (subregional editors in bold-face): **IDAHO:** Frank Baguley, Tom Besser, Ryan Brady, Jay Carlisle, Keith Carlson, Darren Clark (DCl), Marty Collar (MCr), Mark Collie, Dan Dixon, **Kas Dumroese**, Terry Gray, Marlin Jones, Greg Kalteneker, Russ Manwaring, Chris Neri, Greg Rice, **Hadley Roberts**, R.L. Rowland, Diane Scholdt (DSc), **Shirley Sturts**, Colleen Sweeney, **Chuck Trost**, Cliff Weisse, Jane Westervelt, Fred Zeilemaker. **MONTANA:** Eric Atkinson, Mike Becker, Dave Brown, **Dan Casey**, Ed Harper, Bob Kemp, Jack Kirkley, **Jeff Marks**, **John Parker**, Bob Rost, **Don Skaar**, Wayne Tree, Robin Wolcott, Hugh Zackheim.



BIRD SLIDES

Nearly 6,000 species worldwide
Over 90,000 slides available

SLIDE SETS

Familiar Birds, Eastern Warblers, Raptors, Owls, Endangered Species
Bird Behavior, Bird Families of the World, Neotropical Migrants & more

INDIVIDUAL SLIDES

Request our free North American catalog or send a custom list
indicating age, sex, behavior, or color morph.

Catalog slides \$3.00 Custom slides \$5.00 Minimum order \$15.00
Allow 4 weeks for delivery.

*These slides are for non-profit lectures only and may not be duplicated.
For publication or other reproduction rights, please call us.*

VIREO (Visual Resources for Ornithology)

The Academy of Natural Sciences
1900 Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 299-1069
www.acnatsci.org/VIREO



©Tom Vezo/VIREO