



FIGURE 1. Breeding ranges of *Toxostoma curvirostre* and *T. bendirei* in New Mexico. Shaded areas and dark circles show previously known breeding localities for *T. curvirostre*; dark squares, those for *T. bendirei*. New records for *T. curvirostre* are indicated by numbered circles and for *T. bendirei* by numbered squares. The Arizona record is from Phillips et al. (1964), the Oklahoma locality from Sutton (1967).

N Rosario, Santa Fe County; (3) 15 mi. NW Variadero, San Miguel County; (4) 6 mi. S, 6 mi. W Conchas Dam, San Miguel County; (5) 1 mi. E, ½ mi. N Cedar Grove, Santa Fe County; (6) 18 mi. W Santa Rosa, Guadalupe County; (7) 10 mi. N Magdalena, Socorro County; (8) 6 mi. N Claunch, Socorro County; (9) 23 mi. N, 3 mi. W Carrizozo, Lincoln County; (10) 23 mi. ESE Bingham, Lincoln County. (Numbers in parentheses correspond to numbered circles in fig. 1.)

The breeding range of *T. curvirostre* may have increased in New Mexico following the spread of cholla cactus (primarily *Opuntia imbricata*), which has been due in many cases to overgrazing of grasslands (Castetter, 1956:263, 267). I have not recorded this species in areas lacking cholla.

SECOND RECORD OF OVENBIRD IN NEVADA

M. DALE ARVEY

Department of Biological Sciences
University of the Pacific
Stockton, California 95204

In the course of a summer field program at the Foresta Institute near Carson City, Nevada, an Ovenbird, *Seiurus aurocapillus*, was found in the freezer of the laboratory building. The bird had been obtained a year previously, on 22 July 1968, near Fallon, Churchill County, Nevada, by Mrs. Margaret Wheat.

Although completely dehydrated, the specimen was salvaged and a recognizable skin prepared; it bears

T. bendirei. Contrary to previous statements, the species is widespread in New Mexico and is common in many areas in the western half of the state. It breeds in most of Arizona but is listed infrequently outside that state (Phillips et al. 1964:123). Bent (1948:383, 389) mentions reports of *T. bendirei* from western New Mexico; however, specific localities are confined to the extreme southwestern portion. I recorded *T. bendirei* from: (1) Chaco Canyon National Monument, San Juan County; (2) 10 mi. W Corrales, Sandoval County; (3) 7 mi. W Madrid, Sandoval County; (4) 20 mi. W Albuquerque, Bernalillo County; (5) 10 mi. W, 1.5 mi. S Los Lunas, Valencia County; (6) 6 mi. NW Quemado, Catron County; (7) 12 mi. WSW Magdalena, Socorro County; (8) 6 mi. N Claunch, Socorro County. (Numbers in parentheses correspond to numbered squares in fig. 1.)

T. bendirei also nests in cholla (Bent 1948:384) but more frequently utilizes juniper, principally *Juniperus monosperma* (14 of 16 nests were situated in juniper). Castetter (1956:270) states that areas occupied by scattered junipers have greatly expanded during the last 75 years as a result of overgrazing. This relatively recent development may account for the apparent range extension of *T. bendirei*. The paucity of earlier records for much of New Mexico may also be due to the wary nature of the species and the scarcity of observers.

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the field number 3652 MDA, and is in the collections of the Foresta Institute. The plumage indicates that the bird was adult, but no skull determination could be made, nor could it be sexed. The bird must be assumed, at that time of year, to have lost its way in migration since there is no suitable area around Fallon for the breeding of this species. The bird was not noticeably emaciated, nor was the plumage worn to any extent.

Records are sparse for this species in the southwestern states, and there appears to be but one earlier specimen for Nevada, even though it is logical to assume their migration through that state. The bird reported was one found 4 mi. W of Fallon by J. R. Alcorn on 12 June 1941.

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