

## Sixth in the Fuertes print series

The original painting was published as the color frontispiece of *Bird-Lore*, Vol. XVII, Number One, January-February 1915. The text that accompanied it was entitled "The Migration of North American Sparrows, 32nd paper" and was compiled by W.W. Cooke, chiefly from data from the Biological Survey. Unlike earlier texts that accompanied the Fuertes paintings for *Bird-Lore*, there were no plumage descriptions. The following is an abridged version of the Cooke text, with modern nomenclature added in brackets. The print facing was reproduced directly from the original painting, which until recently was in the possession of the National Audubon Society.

The main range of the Rocky Mountains, from southern to northern Mexico, is occupied in summer by four forms of junco. The *Pink-sided* [now considered a race of the Dark-eyed Junco, *Junco hyemalis mearnsi*] is the most northern, breeding from southern Saskatchewan through central Montana to northern Wyoming and southern Idaho.

Just to the south of its range comes the *Gray-headed Junco* [still considered a full species, *Junco caniceps*], which is the commonest summer bird of the central Rocky Mountain region and is particularly abundant in the mountains of Colorado, where at 8-9000 feet, it nests in dooryards and about porches . . . It breeds from southern Wyoming to northern New Mexico and west in Utah and Nevada. [It is possible that the *J. caniceps* group may be merged as two additional subspecies of the Dark-eyed Junco, for where ranges meet, *J. caniceps* unquestionably interbreeds with *J. hyemalis thurberi* and *J. hyemalis mearnsi*; but a problem exists as to assortative mating].

The principal breeding junco of New Mexico and Arizona is the *Red-backed Junco*, [not shown] which occupies the higher slopes of the mountains of northern Arizona and most of the mountains of New Mexico, except the extreme northern part and a small section of the southwestern part of the state. [This junco is for the present considered a race of the Gray-headed Junco, with the name *J. caniceps dorsalis*].

The *Arizona Junco* is found principally in northern Mexico, but a few nest in the mountains of southern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico. [This form is currently regarded as a race of the Yellow-eyed Junco, *Junco phaeonotus palliatus*]

*Baird's Junco* is a non-migratory species, inhabiting the mountains of the southern end of Lower (Baja) California [It is now considered a race of Yellow-eyed Junco, *J. p. bairdi*].

*Guadalupe Junco*. This species is known only from Guadalupe Island, off the coast of Lower (Baja) California [It is now considered a race of Dark-eyed Junco, *J. h. insularis*].

The assistance of Eugene Eisenmann in updating the taxonomy of this group is acknowledged.

### Key to painting

- 1 Gray-headed Junco
- 2 (Arizona) Yellow-eyed Junco
- 3 (Pink-sided) Dark-eyed Junco
- 4 (Guadalupe) Dark-eyed Junco
- 5 (Baird's or Cape) Yellow-eyed Junco

