

ported Sept. 3–Oct. 12; eight of these being found during the first 2 weeks of September (m.ob.). Seldom detected in migration, a juv. Baird's Sparrow was photographed in a weedy vacant lot in mid-town Tucson Oct. 12 (ph. DS). A Grasshopper Sparrow n. of Rio Verde e. of Phoenix Sept. 17 (TC) provided only the 3rd record for *Maricopa*. A Fox Sparrow discovered at Granite Reef Dam Sept. 17 (RJ) and another at Teec Nos Pos Sept. 24 (DTr) were both early. The only Golden-crowned Sparrow report was of one at the P.A.P. pecan grove Oct. 27 (DS). A Harris' Sparrow was at Willcox Nov. 15 (GM). Unusual longspurs included a single McCown's at Cow Springs L., Sept. 29 (†J. Dunn, GHR), and a single Lapland at M.F.L., Oct. 8–9 (CL, et al. ph. DE). Three Bobolinks were found in the last 2 weeks of September: at Lee's Ferry Sept. 15 (JGr), P.A.P. pecan grove Sept. 22 (WR), and the next day at Kayenta (JiB, CL). Yet another Com. Grackle, an extremely rare visitor to the state, was reported from Kayenta Nov. 7–8 (†CL). A flock of five **Gray-crowned Rosy-Finches** and >35 **Black Rosy-Finches** on Black Mesa Nov. 22 (CL) represented one of the few Arizona records of this species complex. Four Red Crossbills flying over mid-town Tucson Oct. 22 (DS, R. Roche, G. Warren) were the only ones reported in the lowlands this fall. A ♂ Lesser Goldfinch feeding dependent young at Luna L. near Alpine Oct. 4 (GM) represented a significantly late nesting for n. Arizona. Lawrence's Goldfinches put in a poor showing this fall, with only scattered individuals and small flocks being detected Oct. 1–Nov. 10 (m.ob.).

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New Mexico

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A warm and dry fall saw good waterbird and passerine migrations, and in the south grassland birds generated much excitement. Several montane species—notably woodpeckers, jays, nuthatches, and chickadees—staged lowland incursions, but finches were unusually scarce.

Abbreviations: Bitter Lake (*Bitter Lake N.W.R.*); Bosque Refuge (*Bosque del Apache N.W.R.*); E.B.L. (*Elephant Butte Lake*); L.V.N.W.R. (*Las Vegas N.W.R.*); R.G.N.C. (*Rio Grande Nature Center, Albuquerque*); R.G.V. (*Rio Grande Valley*); Zuni (*Zuni Indian Reservation*).

Loons to Ibises

A **Red-throated Loon** that "crashed" in Albuquerque Oct. 26 was released at R.G.N.C., where last seen Oct. 30 (JO, JEP, ph. LG). The only **Pacific Loon** was at Stubblefield L., Nov. 5 (JEP, JO). Common Loons were widespread after mid-October, with reports from 14 sites, and including seven at Clayton L., Nov. 19 (JO). Small numbers of Horned Grebes were in the east and in the R.G.V. after Oct. 22 (v.o.); one was early at Bosque Refuge Oct. 2 (JO) while another was far west at Farmington Nov. 30 (ph. TR). Two–three pairs of Clark's Grebes nested late at L.V.N.W.R., with small chicks Sept. 20 (PN), half-grown young Oct. 23 (SOW), and an adult still feeding young Nov. 6 (BF). A concentration of 3800 W. Grebes at E.B.L., Nov. 1 contained only three Clark's (SOW). Late for the north were

Snine Double-crested Cormorants at Morgan L., Nov. 23 (TR), as were four at Maxwell N.W.R., plus six at Clayton L., Nov. 19 (JO). Also late were an Am. Bittern at Morgan L., Nov. 22 (TR) and a Great Egret at Bitter Lake Nov. 25 (JEP, JO). Single Little Blue Herons were at Bitter Lake Aug. 13 (CR) and Caballo L., Oct. 9 (CS). The sub-ad. **Reddish Egret** present at Bitter Lake since July 15 remained there (CR, JEP, WH) and was last seen Sept. 17 (JO). Moderate numbers of White-faced Ibises occurred statewide early August–Sept. 24 (v.o.); the high was 150 at Zuni Aug. 27 (DC).

Swans to Falcons

The 17 Tundra Swans at Bosque Refuge Nov. 23–30 (J. Taylor) were the largest concentration there in recent memory. Greater White-fronted Geese were rarely reported included one at Farmington Nov. 5 (TR) and three at Ute L., Nov. 20 (JO); one in the Hondo Valley Nov. 18 may have been crippled (SW). Wood Ducks away from usual areas were singles at Maxwell N.W.R., Sept. 16 & 21 (CR, PN) and Conchas L., Nov. 19 (MP) and two at Jal L., Nov. 25 (JEP, JO). A **Eurasian Wigeon** was at Percha Oct. 18 (GE) and another was at Sunland Park Nov. 19 (JNP). The earliest Greater Scaup reports included five at Ute L. and several at Conchas L., Oct. 29 (JEP, JO). Single Oldsquaws were at Stubblefield L., Nov. 5 (JEP, JO) and Bosque Refuge Nov. 25 (W. Maynard). A **Surf Scoter** was at Farmington Oct. 15–Nov. 5 (v.o., ph. TR); single **White-winged Scoters** were at Farmington Nov. 27 (ph. TR) and Holloman L., Oct. 24 (GE). The earliest Barrow's Goldeneye was at Navajo Dam Nov. 26 (ph. TR). A Turkey Vulture was late at Conchas L., Oct. 26 (MP). Ospreys continued to demonstrate strong improvement, with a record 38 passing the Manzano Mts. lookout (H.W.I.) and one–three at 17 other



This Red-throated Loon crash-landed in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Oct. 26, 1994, and was released at the Rio Grande Nature Center. Photograph/Steven W. Cox.

locales statewide (v.o.). One was late at Clayton Nov. 6 (WC). Two **White-tailed Kites** on the Armendariz Ranch, *Sierra*, Nov. 13 (A. Henry) provided the first R.G.V. reports in over a year. Noteworthy was a juv. Mississippi Kite at Fort Sumner Sept. 4 (WH). Early Bald Eagles away from known nesting areas were single adults at L.V.N.W.R., Oct. 23 (SOW) and Conchas L., Oct. 29 (JO, JEP). A N. Harrier at San Andres N.W.R., Aug. 5 (MW) may have summered locally. Greatly reduced prey in *Eddy* may have been responsible for one–three Harris' Hawks appearing n. in the Pecos Valley to Bitter Lake Sept. 13 (PRS) and Hagerman Aug. 13 (CR). Additional out-of-range Harris' were one–four in the Tularosa Valley Oct. 31 and Nov. 21 (CB), one at Albuquerque Nov. 26 (BO), one–two in the lower R.G.V., Sept. 30–Oct. 23 (v.o.), and one at Mangas Sept. 4 (EL). An impressive seven Broad-winged Hawks passed the Manzano Mts. lookout Sept. 22–25 (H.W.I.), and singles were in *Dona Ana* Sept. 24 and Oct. 1 (JNP). Early Merlins included two at Watrous Aug. 27 (CR) and one at Mangas Sept. 13 (RF); unusually far east were pale singles at Tatum and Jal Nov. 25 (JEP, JO).

Grouse to Terns

A Blue Grouse with three mostly grown young was at Tres Ritos, *Taos*, Aug. 19 (CR). Noteworthy were 170 Sandhill Cranes near Estancia Nov. 28 (SOW), going to roost at L. del Pero. Two Whooping Cranes strayed S to Percha Nov. 17 (CS). An **American Golden-Plover** was at Holloman L., Sept. 11 (CB). One–four Semipalmated Plovers were at 8 widely scattered sites Aug. 23–Sept. 17 (v.o.). Migrant Mt. Plovers were reported Aug. 21–Sept. 30 (v.o.), with notable concentrations of 75–100 w. of Clayton (WC), 171 at Moriarty Aug. 21 (WH), and 22 at Los Lunas Sept. 5 (WH); 22 at Otis Sept. 11 (SW) were the first there in several years. Two Black-necked Stilts were late at L. Avalon Nov. 25 (JEP, JO), as was an Am. Avocet at Santa Rosa L., Nov. 15 (D. Stahlecker). Small numbers of Upland Sandpipers were in the east Aug. 7–Sept. 10 (v.o.), with highs of 18 each at Dexter Aug. 14 (CR) and Artesia Aug. 28 (JEP); in the west were one–three at 3 *Dona Ana* sites Aug. 20 (CS) and Sept. 4 (JNP). Remarkable were 440 Long-billed Curlews at Otis Oct. 16 (SW). Among the shorebirds were small numbers of Solitary Sandpipers at 9 sites Aug. 13–Sept. 11, one–six Willets at 6 sites Aug. 10–Sept. 5, ≤ 10 Marbled Godwits at 6 sites Aug. 13–Sept. 17—including one west to Farmington (TR), and one–seven Pectorals at 9 sites (v.o.). One or more possible Semipalmated Sandpipers were at Bitter Lake Aug. 13–Sept. 9 (v.o.) and at Hollo-

man L., Aug. 13–Sept. 9 (DE, BN, CS, GE). A Dunlin was in the west near Farmington Oct. 29–Nov. 6 (ph. TR). Stilt Sandpipers made a good showing in the east, including 86 at Bitter Lake Sept. 9 (CR, CS) and 30 at Otis Sept. 11 (SW); in the west Seight were near Farmington Aug. 21–Sept. 7 (ph. TR). Dowitchers believed to be Short-billed included one–three at Zuni Aug. 20 & 27 (DC), one at Bitter Lake Aug. 13 (CR), and two at Holloman L., Aug. 11 (CB). A Red-necked Phalarope at L. Grande Aug. 20 (SW) was the first there in many years. Probable **Red Phalaropes** included singles at Bosque Refuge Oct. 30 (L. Hawkins) and E.B.L., Sept. 4 (D. Russell), and two at L. Avalon Oct. 23 (SW). Immature jaegers caused much excitement at E.B.L. in late September, including a probable Long-tailed Sept. 18 (JO), a possible Parasitic Sept. 27 (LG, S&NC) and Sept. 30 (JEP), and a possible Pomarine Sept. 27 (LG, S&NC). The state's 2nd well-documented **Glaucous-winged Gull**, present at E.B.L. for over 6 months (v.o.), became a specimen Oct. 3. Rare gulls included an imm. possible **Laughing Gull** at Conchas L., Oct. 22 (JEP, ph. JO) and Oct. 25 (LG, S&NC) and a possible Mew Gull at Caballo L., Nov. 5 (TB) and Nov. 17 (CS). Single imm. Sabine's Gulls were at Morgan L., Sept. 30–Oct. 1 (ph. TR) and Caballo L., Sept. 10 (JO, LC) and one–two were at L. Avalon Sept. 27–Oct. 23 (TJR, ph. SW). Probable Com. Terns included one at Zuni Sept. 24 (DC), six at Heron L., Sept. 7–8 (PES), one–six at E.B.L., Sept. 17 (JEP), Sept. 24 (BN, DE), & Sept. 27 (ph. LG), and five–eight at Bitter Lake Sept. 4 (WH, JO). The only Caspian was at Caballo L., Sept. 5 (CR, DE).

Pigeons to Woodpeckers

Most Band-tailed Pigeons are gone from New Mexico by mid-October, so notable were 50 in the Zuni Mts., Oct. 15 (HS). A pair of White-winged Doves nested at Roswell in early August (L. Marlatt); four White-wingeds lingered at Silver City until Nov. 22 (EL), where there was also an Inca Oct. 22–23 (EL). A possible **Black-billed Cuckoo** was at Socorro Aug. 6 (PB); Yellow-billed were feeding a fledgling at Percha in August (CS). Noteworthy Greater Roadrunners were singles at Zuni Aug. 27 (DC), at Silver City Sept. 3–23 (D&MZ), and at 8400 ft in the Animas Mts. in mid-October (C. Painter). A **Groove-billed Ani** at Bosque Refuge Nov. 17–20 (m.ob., ph.) was examined and diagnosed with acute lead poisoning; successfully treated, it was "repatriated" to s. Texas in December (K. Ramsey). Unusual was a N. Pygmy-Owl at Mangas Oct. 30 (RF). A Spotted Owl was

found road-killed in the desert near Deming Nov. 20 (*vide* CS). Late Com. Nighthawks included singles at Santa Fe Sept. 20–27 (CR), Albuquerque Sept. 29 (WH), and near Las Cruces Oct. 16 (BZ); a late Lesser was at Percha Oct. 19 (JO, LC). A *Chaetura* swift was near Las Cruces Sept. 24 (JNP) and another, reported as a Chimney, was taken from a canal near Percha Oct. 15, photographed, and released (*vide* CS). Six active Black Swift nests at Jemez Falls Aug. 13 (HS) contained two–four-week-old nestlings. Two northerly **White-eared Hummingbirds** near Tijeras, *Bernalillo*, July 1–Aug. 16 (ph. JDM) were the only reports. Peripheral Magnificants included two near Tijeras through Aug. 15 (JDM) and one at Cloudcroft Aug. 13 (DE, BN). The hummer of the season was an ad. probable **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** at Boone's Draw Sept. 9 (CR, CS); the species is verified for New Mexico only by 2 fall specimens from nearby Portales in the mid-1970s. A flock of 23 Lewis Woodpeckers that flew by Sandia Peak Sept. 5 (CB) indicated movement by that species; lowland and/or s. Lewis Woodpeckers included one–two at Belen (WH), Socorro (PB), Bosque Refuge (JO), Silver City (D&MZ, EL), and Rattlesnake Springs (SB). Migrant Williamson's Sapsuckers were "all over the lowlands," with reports from 16 locales, including one–two in the R.G.V. at Albuquerque, Socorro, Bosque Refuge, and Percha Sept. 13–30 (v.o.); three at San Andres N.W.R., Sept. 28–30 (MW); and one–two e. to Conchas L., Oct. 8 (CR) and Oct. 29 (JBP, JO) and Lovington Nov. 25 (JEP, JO). Westerly was a Red-headed Woodpecker at Percha Sept. 24–Oct. 8 (JEP, ph. JO); in the east was a Hairy at Conchas L., Sept. 24 (MP). A possible **Red-breasted Sapsucker** was in the Ortiz Mts., Sept. 22 (L. Sager); the species is unverified for the state. A Three-toed Woodpecker was at San Gregorio L., Sept. 3 (JEP).



Groove-billed Ani at Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, New Mexico, Nov. 18, 1994. Photograph/John Holcombe.

Flycatchers to Magpies

Least Flycatcher reports were more frequent than usual, including one–two at Boone's Draw Aug. 26–Sept. 10 (v.o.) and singles in the west at R.G.N.C. (WY), Bitter Lake Aug. 26 (JEP, BP) and Sept. 4 (WH), and one–three at Rattlesnake Springs Aug. 27–Sept. 8 (v.o.). A possible **Acadian Flycatcher** at Boone's Draw Sept. 9 (CR, CS) could not be relocated. Single E. Phoebes were early at Santa Rosa Sept. 22 (CR) and Capitan Sept. 4 (JO); others were in the R.G.V. and lower Pecos Valley by mid-October (v.o.). It was an excellent season for Great Crested Flycatchers, with singles at Boone's Draw Aug. 26 (JEP, BP), Sept. 9 (CR, CS), and Sept. 10 (JEP, LG) and in the west at Dexter Aug. 13 (CR), Santa Teresa Sept. 4 (CR, DE) and Sept. 7 (JNP), and Rattlesnake Springs Sept. 8 & 11 (CR, CS). In the east was a Brown-crested banded at Bosque Refuge (WY). Notable were 150 Cassin's Kingbirds roosting at Rattlesnake Springs Aug. 28 (SW, TH) and a concentration of 30 Scissor-tailed Flycatchers going to roost at Tatum Sept. 23 (SOW). A Purple Martin was at Carlsbad Aug. 25 (SW), where rare. Late swallows included a Tree at Bosque Refuge Nov. 19–20 (WH) and three Barns at Percha Nov. 13 (JNP). Highs for Gray Jays were five at San Pedro Park Sept. 29 (PES) and six at nearby San Gregorio L., Sept. 3 (JEP), plus 16 at Tres Ritos Aug. 19 (CR). Both Steller's and Scrub jays staged sub-montane invasions. Steller's were at Albuquerque by mid-September (JO), Mangas (RF) and Silver City (D&MZ) by late October, and the Pecos Valley lowlands by Oct. 9 (SW), including ≤ 30 at Rattlesnake Springs by late November (JEP, JO, SW). Out-of-range Scrub Jays were much in evidence after early September, including east to Conchas L. (MP) and Broadview (CR), in the R.G.V. from Corrales southward and at Holloman L. and Rattlesnake Springs (v.o.). One–three Blue Jays strayed W to Santa Fe, Corrales, and Albuquerque Oct. 11–Nov. 8 (v.o.). The 49 Pinyon Jays near Broadview Sept. 22 were but 10 mi from the Texas line, and heading that way (CR). Black-billed Magpies at the s. fringes of their range included five at Corrales Oct. 28 (TB) and two at Galisteo Nov. 2 (SOW).

Chickadees to Thrashers

Mountain Chickadees joined in a lowland invasion, with singles e. to Conchas L., Oct. 1 (MP) and Roswell Oct. 13 (SB), small numbers in the R.G.V. from Corrales south to Percha beginning Oct. 2 (v.o.), highs of seven at Silver City (D&MZ) and 10 at Rattlesnake Springs Nov. 26 (JEP, JO, SW), and others at Holloman L. "all fall" (CB). Migrant Red-breasted Nuthatches were conspicuous in the lowlands Aug. 21–Oct. 27, including an early two at Percha Aug. 21

(DE, BN) and three at Rattlesnake Springs Sept. 3 (SW, JO). In the east singles were at Boone's Draw Sept. 9 (CR, CS) and Ramon, *Guadalupe*, Sept. 11 (CR). Pygmy Nuthatches far from their usual haunts included one at Percha Sept. 27 (LG) and six at Mesilla Nov. 26 (CS, E. Wooten). Cactus Wrens in the north included one–two at Santa Rosa S.P. and near Palomas, *Quay*, (both new locations) Sept. 22 (CR), plus six in s. *San Miguel* Nov. 6 (JO). A **Carolina Wren** singing at Rattlesnake Springs Oct. 6–7 (BO) and a Winter Wren at San Andres N.W.R., Sept. 30 (MW) were the only reports. Black-tailed Gnatcatchers were noted at several San Andres N.W.R. locales, including 16 at 3 sites Aug. 22 and a group of seven Sept. 26 (MW). Eastern Bluebirds were strictly in the east and only after early October; the farthest west was one in the Manzanito Mts., Nov. 22 (HS). A **Wood Thrush** struck a Las Cruces window Nov. 12 but subsequently revived and was last seen Nov. 17 (S. Tweit *et al.*). New Mexico s 5th **Rufous-backed Robin** was at Santa Teresa Oct. 16 (BZ, JNP), where it was seen by many until Oct. 21 (ph. BZ, JO). In the west a Gray Catbird was at Morgan L., Oct. 29 (TR). Early Sage Thrushers included four at San Andres N.W.R., Aug. 12 (MW) and one at Jornada Aug. 2 (CS). One–two Brown Thrashers were at 5 sites from the R.G.V. eastward Sept. 17–Nov. 26 (JO, JEP).



Rufous-backed Robin in Dona Ana County, New Mexico, Oct. 16, 1994. Fifth state record, all in the Rio Grande Valley and all since 1986. Photograph/Barry R. Zimmer.

Pipits to Tanagers

The discovery of up to five Sprague's Pipits at a Santa Teresa sod farm was welcome news; located Oct. 9 (DE, BN), the birds were seen by many (ph. BZ, JO, LG) until Oct. 29 (JNP). Also, one–two Sprague's were at Holloman L., Oct. 16 & 29 (CB). Cedar Waxwings made a good showing almost statewide after early September, but were most numerous in the far west (v.o.). The only N. Shrikes were single adults near Taos Nov. 4 (G. Schmitt) and Cimarron Nov. 5 (JEP) and an immature at Santa Rosa Nov. 6 (JO). Among the several races of Solitary Vireo reported (some without details) were single "easterns" at *Roosevelt* Oct.

9 (ph. JO) and Lovington Nov. 25 (JEP, JO) and single "west coast" birds at Farmington Sept. 16 (TR), Dripping Springs Sept. 15 & 24 (GE, CS), and Rattlesnake Springs Sept. 3 & 8 (JO, CR). A probable **Yellow-throated Vireo** was at Boone's Draw Sept. 4 (BF). Unexpected was an Hutton's in the east at Dog Canyon, Sacramento Mts., Oct. 17 (CB). Single Red-eyeds were at Albuquerque Sept. 5 (JO), Bosque Refuge (WY), and Clanton Canyon Oct. 1 (ph. JO). Among the well-detailed rare warblers were a **Chestnut-sided Warbler** at Durling's Farm, *Dona Ana*, Sept. 25 (DE, BN) and Oct. 16 (JNP, BZ) plus another in San Juan Oct. 9 (ph. TR); two **Black-throated Green Warblers** at Boone's Draw Oct. 9 (ph. JO); a **Palm Warbler** at Holloman L., Sept. 7 (CB); and single **Blackpoll Warblers** at Santa Rosa Sept. 22 (CR) and Percha Oct. 8 (JEP) and Oct. 12 (JO). A N. Parula was at Percha Aug. 1–Sept. 5 (v.o.); a report of an ad. pair on Animas Cr. near Caballo L., Nov. 5 (TB) was amazing. Also noteworthy were an Hermit in the east at Percha Oct. 2 (BN, DE), a Black-and-white banded at R.G.N.C. (WY) and another seen at Percha Sept. 5 (JEP), a possible Magnolia at Maxwell N.W.R., Sept. 21 (PN), and a possible Black-throated Blue at Percha Sept. 30 (TB). An Ovenbird was at Boone's Draw Sept. 17 (JO, LC) and another was found dead in *Eddy* Sept. 27 (*vide* SW). A possible **Louisiana Waterthrush** was at Socorro Sept. 4 (PB); Northerns were at 8 sites Aug. 22–Sept. 14 (v.o.). The pair of **Hooded Warblers** present at Gila Cliff Dwellings throughout the summer may have nested, as a nest structure typical of the species was collected there in November (RF). At Rattlesnake Springs, a Hooded was well seen Sept. 8 (CR). A MacGillivray's at Water Canyon Nov. 20 (M. Root) was late. Unusual was a Painted Redstart at Percha from at least Sept. 14 (CS) through Oct. 2 (BF). A Summer Tanager at Tucumcari Sept. 25 (JO) was described as the e. race; in the north were three Summers at Santa Rosa Sept. 22 (CR) and one at Fort Sumner Sept. 4 (WH), while one at Rattlesnake Springs was late Oct. 9 (SW). A probable **Scarlet Tanager** was at Percha Sept. 27 (LG *et al.*), Sept. 30 (TB), and Oct. 2 (DE, BN).

Cardinals to Finches

A N. Cardinal at Tucumcari L., Oct. 29 (JEP, JO) was the 2nd recent report from that site in the north. Single Painted Buntings were north in the R.G.V. to Albuquerque (WY) and Socorro Sept. 4 (PB), and a male was at Hondo Aug. 5 (SB). Dickcissels were conspicuous in the e. plains and lower Pecos areas; in the west were one–two at 8 R.G.V. sites and at Holloman L., Aug. 31–Oct. 2 (v.o.), plus singles at Mangas Oct.

20 (RF) and Silver City Oct. 8–11 (EL). A Green-tailed Towhee was early at San Andres N.W.R., Aug. 25 (MW). A Rufous-crowned Sparrow was at Santa Fe Sept. 7 (L. Herrmann), where rarely reported. Clay-colored Sparrows were, unusually, widely reported from the R.G.V. eastward and in the southwest, Aug. 21–Oct. 16 (v.o.). A Field Sparrow was early at R.G.N.C., Oct. 2 (LG); two were at Conchas L., Oct. 16 (JO). Early flocks of migrant Lark Buntings were at Los Lunas Aug. 5 (WH) and Bernardo Aug. 9 (SOW), at San Andres N.W.R. by mid-August (MW), and were common in s. New Mexico by Aug. 20 (BN, DE). Baird's Sparrows go unreported for years, so one—two were noteworthy at Santa Teresa Oct. 10–26 (v.o., ph. BZ, JO); another Baird's was reported at Toston L., *Lea*, Oct. 2 (SW). Single Fox Sparrows banded at Dripping Springs Oct. 8 and Nov. 5 (CS) were the only reports. A Golden-crowned Sparrow was at Kit Carson S.P., Albuquerque, Nov. 24 (JEP, JO), the 3rd record in as many winters there; another was banded at R.G.N.C. (WY). Unexpected was an early possible Lapland Longspur at E.B.L., Sept. 27 (LG *et al.*). Lingering Com. Grackles in the north included one at Morgan L., Nov. 5 & 11 (TR), two at Des Moines Nov. 19 (JO), and 12 at Conchas L., Oct. 29 (MP)—with one still there Nov. 6 (JO). Two Orchard Orioles strayed N to R.G.N.C., Aug. 20 (ph. LG). Cardueline finches were either unusually scarce or badly under-reported. The only Pine Grosbeak was one at Tres Ritos Aug. 19 (CR) and the only Cassin's Finch was at Albuquerque Oct. 19 (WH). Numbers of House Finches were down in the Santa Fe area (SOW) and were "greatly reduced" in the Silver City area (D&MZ). A bright spot, however, was a female/imm. **Purple Finch** at Conchas L., Oct. 22 (JEP, ph. JO) and a probable Purple there Oct. 25 (LG, SC). Red Crossbills were especially scarce, with reports of only three at Zuni in August (DC), a few at Los Alamos until early October (PRS), and one at Albuquerque last seen Oct. 7 (JO). Migrant Pine Siskins were evident in the lowlands but were reported dying in Los Alamos and Santa Fe (PRS). The very few Evening Grosbeaks were confined to the far north, where some were reported dying in early August at Chama (*vide* L. Schulte) and two were found dead at Los Alamos Aug. 23 (B. Lewis).

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Purple Finch at Conchas Lake State Park, New Mexico, Oct. 22, 1994. The species is a scarce visitor in the state. Photograph/ Jerry Oldenettel.

Doug Emkalins, Gordon Ewing, Ralph Fisher, Bernard Foy, Larry Gorbet, Hawk Watch Intl., Tommy Hines, William Howe, Eugene Lewis, Joan Day Martin, David Mehlman, Bruce Neville, Paul Nistico, Jerry Oldenettel, Bruce Ostyn, Benjamine Parmeter, John E. Parmeter, James N. Paton, Mary Peckinpaugh, Tim Reeves, Christopher Rustray, Catherine Sandell, Robert Scholes, Hart Schwarz, Patricia R. Snider, Paul E. Steel, Mara Weisenberger, Steve West, S.O. Williams, Wang Yong, Barry Zimmer, Dale & Marian Zimmerman.

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Alaska Region

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With a limited core group of resident observers scattered around a dozen of Alaska's communities, the Region has rarely had the coverage or results from a Fall season as were realized in 1994. "Eastern" forms dominated the season's rarity list and, for the first time in years, most of the notable reports came from the Mainland and north of Southeast. One of this season's sub-plots was the northward invasion of Red-breasted Nuthatches. Mild conditions prevailed well into mid-November, at least in the southern portions of the Region; freeze-up was protracted and late, and early season storm systems tracked out of the Aleutians and north of the Alaska Range. The Aleutian Low was parked well south (perhaps free of an El Niño influence) and generated moisture-rich, warm cyclones all season that deposited heavy snow in a regular weekly pattern across most of the Mainland and especially in the northern half of Southeast. Given this storm track, an Asiatic component was surprisingly absent from the season's highlights. Contrasting cold and clear high pressure dropped into the Region from the High Arctic by early November and, with the heavy snows, quickly ended a string of very late lingering species' reports. Although the season ended in more typical winter conditions, it was nicely punctuated with record-late finds for a host of species, and unprecedented

