by Chino Canyon, but has been absent from the Santa Rita Mts. for over a decade. - A 9 Orchard Oriole, a casual visitor to s. Arizona, was well described coming to a hummingbird feeder in n.e. Phoenix June 10-13 (†CB). The pair of Streak-backed Orioles along the San Pedro R. at Dudleyville was present throughout the period at a nest, but it is unclear if they successfully fledged any young. Interesting were 2 different reports of & Lawrence's Goldfinches, one at Madera Canyon July 18 (SGo), and another at a feeder in Paradise, also in July (D. Julian); this species is normally an irregular fall or winter visitor, and it is very unusual for birds to be moving this early in the year.

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New Mexico

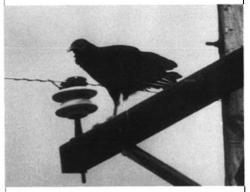
SARTOR O. WILLIAMS III

Summer 1996 was a season of contrasts, with extreme drought in June broken by abundant rains in July, resulting in reduced or delayed breeding by several species. A record 59 (of 63 possible) BBS routes were conducted, while another species was added to the official state list.

Abbreviations: B.L.N.W.R. (Bitter Lake N. W.R.); Bosque N.W.R. (Bosque del Apache N.W.R.); E.B.L. (Elephant Butte L.); R.G.V. (Rio Grande Valley); Zuni (Zuni Indian Reservation).

Grebes to Falcons

Causing considerable excitement was an ad. Red-necked Grebe at Caballo L., June 16-July 27 (v.o., ph. JO), possibly the same individual that was there earlier this year. The largest Eared Grebe colonies numbered 125 nests at Long L., Chuska Mts., July 25 (DC), 990 nests at Stinking L., July 12 (DS), and 44 nests at Maxwell N.W.R., July 27 (BN, DE). Among 40 pairs of W. Grebes at Horse L., June 17 were 6 active nests (DS). Lingering Am. White Pelicans included five at Morgan L., June 9 & 22 (D&ML), 56 at Stinking L., July 2 (DS), 15 at Maxwell N.W.R., June 4 (KG), 26 near Amistad, Union, June 26 (fide WC), three at Zuni June 26 and July 4 (DC), and 20 at La Joya June 21 (JO). A sub-ad. Brown Pelican was at E.B.L,. June 19 (TH, ph. C. Painter). Neotropic Cormorants may be increasing n. to Bosque N.W.R., where there were 75 individuals and 23 nests July 19 (CR). Great Egrets made an impressive showing, with 33 at Bosque N.W.R., July 9 (GE) and four nests July 9 & 19 (GE, CR), 10 at E.B.L., June 17-21 (TH), three n. to Tucumcari June 8 (CR), 10 at L. Avalon July 13 (SW), and one at Jal in July (ph. Associated Press). Single Little Blue Herons included adults at Albuquerque June 4 (JO) and Caballo L., June 22 (JEP, JO) and an immature at Bosque N.W.R. July 7 (B&DF). Far north was an imm. Tricolored Heron at Bandelier June 21 (M. Asaki). Only four White-faced Ibis nests were located at Stinking L., June 8 (DS), and breeding was undocumented elsewhere. A remarkable six ad. Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks were at Maxwell N.W.R., July 14 (E. Morrall) and a single adult entertained many at the Lordsburg marsh July 19-26 (SW et al., ph. JO). Unseasonal were



Black Vulture just north of Rodeo, New Mexico, July 21, 1996. First documented state record. Photograph/Jon L. Dunn.

a Greater White-fronted Goose at Maxwell N.W.R., July 13 (JEP, JO) and July 27 (CR, BN, DE), two Snow Geese at Stinking L., June 17 & 27 (DS), and five Snows plus an ad. Ross' at Lordsburg June 15–July 28 (v.o.). In the unexpected category were an Oldsquaw at Stinking L., June 5 (WW), a volant ♂-plumaged Surf Scoter on the Animas R. at Flora Vista June 5–6 (TR, ph. D&ML), and a ♂ Red-breasted Merganser near Las Cruces July 29 (LS).

Long overdue, Black Vulture was added to New Mexico's verified list when one was photographed n. of Rodeo July 21 (ph. ID). On the Osprey front, a new nesting pair was discovered at Tierra Amarilla in mid-June, but the nest was unsuccessful (fide DS); elsewhere, the El Vado L. nest fledged three in late July but the Heron L. nest failed (DS), while rumors persisted of yet another pair far to the south near Ruidoso. Mississippi Kites w. to the R.G.V. included singles near Belen June 1 (WH) and July 27 (JEP, JO) and near Las Cruces July 27 (CS). Possibly nesting N. Harriers were a pair at Morgan L., June 12 (TR, D&ML) and July 6 ((D&ML), plus singles at 2 Zuni sites June 10 and July 4 (DC) and another at Las Cruces June 11 (CS). A Com. Black-Hawk reportedly fledged in the Hondo-San Patricio area, Lincoln (fide SB), where there have been persistent-but unverifiedreports of summering birds for several years. Other Com. Black-Hawks in areas where not known to breed were an adult in the Animas Valley July 27 (JEP, JO) and a juvenile in Guadalupe Canyon June 12 (SOW). Harris' Hawks in the lower R.G.V. were singles June 12 near Leasburg (fide CS) and at Hill (LS). An ad. and a sub-ad. Gray Hawk were in the Animas Valley July 5 (AC, NMC), where the sub-adult remained through July 21 (v.o., ph. JO). A juv. Aplomado Falcon near Las Cruces July 19-20 & 25 (ph. P. Jungemann) provided additional encouragement that natural recolonization may be underway.

Quails to Terns

Far w. of usual was a N. Bobwhite near San Geronimo, San Miguel, June 9 (CR). A Com. Moorhen at Belen June 28 (WH) provided a local first. Three Snowy Plover pairs plus a nest with eggs at Malpais Spring, n. Otero, July 3 (D. Holderman) furnished a new breeding locale. Late were two Semipalmated Plovers at Maxwell N.W.R., June 1 (JEP, JO). The 15 Mt. Plovers on the Grenville BBS June 12 (K. Seyffert) were the most for that route in several years; early fall migrant Mountains at turf farms included 50 at Moriarty and 30 at Los Lunas July 21 (JO). Earliest Greater Yellowlegs were three at Lordsburg July 4 (JO); earliest Lessers were July 4 singles at Zuni (DC) and Lordsburg (JO). Notable was a Solitary Sandpiper in s. Dona Ana July 14 (CR). The only Whimbrels were six at Springer L., July 20 (J&MH). A Hudsonian Godwit with a Marbled at L. Avalon July 13 (SW) furnished one of the very few *Eddy* records; other Marbleds were singles at Springer L., July 13 (JEP, JO) and July 27 (CR, BN, DE), B.L.N.W.R., June 23 (SOW), and Lordsburg July 12 (CR). Two Semipalmataed Sandpipers were at Maxwell N.W.R., June 1 (JEP, JO, CR). Early June proved productive for White-rumped Sandpipers, including 16 at Maxwell N.W.R., June 1 (JEP, JO, CR), nine at Tucumcari June 8 (CR), two w. to Bosque N.W.R., June 8 (JEP), and two at B.L.N.W.R., June 14 (WH). Earliest Pectorals were one near Las Cruces July 29 (LS) and four at Sitting Bull Falls July 27 (SW). A Wilson's Phalarope near Vaughn July 31 had eaten so many tadpoles it was incapable of flight. Late were one-two Red-necked Phalaropes at Maxwell N.W.R. (JEP, JO, CR) and Wagon Mound (JEP, JO) June 1. Small

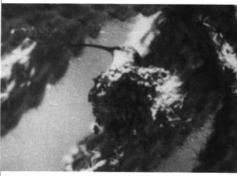


Aplomado Falcon, apparently a juvenile, near Las Cruces, New Mexico, July 20, 1996. This was the third recent state record to be photographically confirmed. No current nesting locations are known in New Mexico, but this bird could have fledged from the population in northern Chihuahua. Photograph/Peter K. Jungemann.

numbers of nonbreeding Franklin's Gulls lingered into the 3rd week of June at 10 sites, from Morgan L., Maxwell, and Tucumcari s. to Lordsburg and Holloman L. (v.o.). Late was a Bonaparte's at Stinking L., June 2 (JEP). Surprising was an ad. Com. Tern at E.B.L., June 21 (JEP, ph. JO). Single Least Terns wandered w. to Morgan L., June 9 (D&ML), Bosque N.W.R., June 29 (JEP, JO) and July 7 (B&DF), and E.B.L., June 22 (JEP, JO); at B.L.N.W.R., the state's sole breeding population numbered 7 pairs, but fledged only five chicks (J. Montgomery et al.).

Doves to Hummingbirds

The range expansion of White-winged Doves continued, including one n. to Zuni June 14 (ph. DC); two White-wingeds were near Pinon June 3 (WH), and the species was described as increasing in the Guadalupe Mts. in response to increasing urbanization of the forest there (SW). Two Com. Ground-Doves were seen at a Socorro golf course on several dates (T. Mitchusson), including June 12 & 22 (PB); elsewhere, one was at Lordsburg July 19 (SW) and another was singing in Guadalupe Canyon July 5 & 20 (JEP, ph. JO). Northerly Yellow-billed Cuckoos included one on the Rio Chama near the Monastery June 7 (CS) and four summering at San Juan Pueblo June 16+ (DS); an adult was tending two fledglings at Mangas July 31 (RF), while among the several s.e. reports were three near Carlsbad, 15 at Rattlesnake Springs, and four at Willow L., July 13 (SW). The well-documented W. Screech-Owl pair at Mesilla had young June 8 (P. Arrowwood, fide CS). Burrowing Owls were noted on at least 10 BBS routes statewide (v.o.), and were described as increasing at Carlsbad, where 5 nests were found (SW). Far n. was an apparent Whippoor-will heard at Montezuma June 9 (CR, WW). A few Chimney Swifts again summered at Clayton, but "still no nests seen" (WC). A ♀ Broad-billed Hummingbird was e. to Dripping Springs June 1-July 31 (JA et al.), the 2nd consecutive year the species has appeared there; another was in the c. Peloncillo Mts., July 23 (SOW, AC), well n. of the species' Guadalupe Canyon stronghold. Violet-crowneds had a successful season in Guadalupe Canyon, including with 2 nests July 5 & 20 (JEP, JO); local firsts were a Violet-crowned in Clanton Canyon July 5 (BF) and two n. of there July 26 (WB). Magnificents again appeared e. of the expected range, including in the Sacramento, San Andres, and Organ Mts., but most reports were undetailed or vague; welldocumented was a female at San Andres N.W.R., June 19 (ph. M. Weisenberger). Lucifer Hummingbirds continued to make



Female Lucifer Hummingbird on nest in Peloncillo Mountains, New Mexico, July 20, 1996. Second confirmed nesting for the state, although the species has been regular in summer (and presumed breeding) since at least 1980. Photograph/William H. Baltosser.

news, with a male n. to Gila June 17–30 (ph. RF); other Lucifers away from their Post Office Canyon stronghold were a female on a nest in the c. Peloncillo Mts., July 20 (ph. WB)—the 2nd consecutive year that nesting has been documented there, plus a female in a canyon n. of there June 19 (SOW) and July 6 (JEP, JO). Single nonbreeding Anna's Hummingbirds were singing in the Peloncillo Mts., July 6 (JEP, JO) and July 22 (JD) and at Carlsbad June 22–26 (D&B Estabrooks). The earliest Rufous reached Santa Fe June 29 (CR).

Kingfishers to Flycatchers

Unusually far south for summer was a Belted Kingfisher at Rattlesnake Springs June 30 (SW). Two Red-headed Woodpeckers near Mosquero June 30 (CR) provided a local first. At least one Gila Woodpecker persisted e. of the Continental Divide at Deer Cr., Hidalgo, where seen July 21 (SOW, AC). In Guadalupe Canyon, N. Beardless-Tyranulets were at 4 sites June 12-14 (SOW), and a pair was nest-building there July 13 (CR). A Greater Pewee was e. to the Black Range June 13 (PFB), where rarely reported. The status of the Dusky Flycatcher in the Sangre de Cristo Mts. is poorly understood; this season singles were singing s. of Angel Fire June 15 (CR) and near Gallinas June 9 (CR). Grays were found s.e. to near Pinon, with three there June 3 (WH), and s.w. to the Pinos Altos Mts., where an adult was tending two fledglings July 21 (CR). Late was a "Western" Flycatcher at Mesilla June 6 (R. Meyer). For the 2nd consecutive year, a probable Buff-breasted Flycatcher was in Clanton Canyon June 29-30 (DE, BN, JNP), but numerous follow-up searches were negative. Northerly Black Phoebes included one at El Rito June 16 (JO) and, in Taos, one at Arroyo Hondo June 1 (CR) and two at Ojo Caliente June 16 (JO). Noteworthy was an E. Phoebe nest at a Union rest stop 6 mi s. of Branson, Colorado, June 7 (ph. WM); late for the middle R.G.V. was an Eastern singing at Bosque bridge, Valencia, June 1 (WH). Another northeasterly Vermilion Flycatcher was near Variadero June 8 (CR). For the 3rd consecutive year, Brown-crested Flycatchers summered on Las Animas Cr., Sierra (v.o.), where adults were feeding nestlings w. of Caballo June 22 (JO, JEP). A possible Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher was briefly seen in Guadalupe Canyon July 13 (CS) but could not be relocated. Similarly, a possible Tropical Kingbird—a species unverified in New Mexico—was reported in the Animas Valley July 19 (SW), but subsequent searches were negative. Unexpected, and a local first, were two Thick-billed Kingbirds e. of the Animas Mts. on Deer Cr., July 10 (AC, NMC), as was a single on Animas Cr., July 17 (AC, NMC) & 18 (JD).

Swallows to Finches

Bank Swallows in the Albuquerque area continued to suffer from disturbance and habitat destruction from dirt bikes, off-road vehicles, and rampant development. The traditional Calabacillas Arroyo colony was abandoned this year, the swallows forced down canyon to a new site where there were 350 burrows, some with nestlings, July 6 (WH), while another site near Rio Rancho had 310 "mostly new" burrows the same day (WH); nevertheless, both sites were judged vulnerable. A Clark's Nutcracker was near Chuska Peak June 9 (JO); there are few Chuska Mts. reports. American Crows summering in peripheral areas included one at Gallegos, Harding, June 5 (SOW), three at Virden July 5 (JEP, JO), and six near Pinon June 3 (WH). Southerly Black-capped Chickadees were at 2 Albuquerque bosque sites June 23 (WH). One-three nonbreeding Mexican Chickadees were in Clanton Canyon June 28-July 22 (v.o.). Noteworthy were two Plain Titmice at Mangas June 7 (RF), where Bridleds are the rule. The northeastward advance of Cactus Wrens included one s. of Corona June 6 (SOW) and six e. of there June 16 (L. Evans), one near Ft. Sumner June 4 (SOW), three at 2 sites in Harding June 5 (SOW), and one at Floyd June 21 (D. Leal). Dry conditions reduced Marsh Wren nesting efforts by almost half at Stinking L., where there were but 75 nests and 14 clutches June 8, plus only two more clutches in July (DS); notable was a singing Marsh Wren at Springer L., July 13, (JEP). High counts for Golden-crowned Kinglets were five at Capulin Spring, Sandia Mts., July 3 (PES) and 12 near Cloudcroft June 22 (CR). Black-tailed Gnatcatchers in the southwest

were one at San Simon Cienega July 4 (JEP, IO) and a pair in Guadalupe Canyon June 12-13 (SOW), A & E. Bluebird near Cloverdale July 27 (JEP, JO) provided the only report. A Veery was singing along the Rio Chama at Parkview July 6 (M. Garcey); two at the traditional Ojo Sarco site June 19 (J. Travis) were the only others. Late for the plains was a Swainson's Thrush in n. Roosevelt June 4 (SOW). In the Jemez Mts., Hermit Thrushes became especially vociferous with the onset of rain in early July (PRS). Grav Catbirds were conspicuous w. and s. of normal, including singing singles at 2 Zuni sites June-July (ph. DC), five at 4 sites near Belen June 1 (WH), one at Bosque N.W.R., July 14 (JO), and, for a Socorro first, a nest with young July 17 that fledged three by July 29 (PB). Perhaps in response to drought, N. Mockingbirds moved higher in elevation, including into many areas where not usually found at Los Alamos and Bandelier (T. Johnson, J. Takamine), and up to 7200 ft. in the Manzano Mts. (HS). A Brown Thrasher was in Ft. Sumner's Bosque Redondo June 4 (SOW), where there had been several spring reports. Noteworthy was a Curve-billed Thrasher nest with eggs near Mills Canyon, Harding, June 25 (HS), as were two Crissals in the Guadalupe Mts. near Queen July 1 (SW). Small numbers of Cedar Waxwings lingered through June at Farmington (TR, P. Tornquist) and into July at San Juan Pueblo (DS) and Zuni (DC), but there was no evidence of nesting. Phainopeplas spread N and E in numbers, including up to seven at Zuni June 15-July 27 (ph. DC), three at Placitas June-July (HS), and up to 12 at Quarai ruins June 9-July 21, including a nest with two young on the latter date (HS), a first for Torrence and perhaps the northernmost yet for New Mexico; far e. was one at Crossroads June 5 (TH). Very few Gray Vireos were reported; noteworthy were one near Magdalena June 8 (JEP) and two at Zuni June 6 (DC), plus another there July 7 (DC). Northerly were two Hutton's Vireos at Sawmill Spring, s. Magdalena Mts., June 6 (HS), where nesting was suspected. Presumably late were single Redeyed Vireos singing near El Rito June 15 (JEP) and in Union, s. of Branson, Colorado, June 7 (WM); another was singing at Isleta July 19 (WH). Virginia's Warblers appeared to concentrate in the wetter canyons, as evidenced by 26 (3 times the usual number) in a 2-mi transect in Tajique Canyon, Manzano Mts., June 17 (HS); unusual was a Virginia's at Belen June 28 (WH), while seven at Isleta July 19 (WH) were early. Among the rarer warblers were a 3 Chestnut-sided at High Rolls June 28 (J. Lavin), a & Blackburnian Warbler banded at Albuquerque June 4 (W. Yong), and a Worm-eating at White Sands N.M., June 11 (IM). Unusual was a ♀ Townsend's in The Peloncillo Mts., July 18 (JD). A Blackand-white and an Ovenbird were at White Sands N.M., June 1 (JM); notable were a Black-and-white singing lustily at Echo Amphitheater, Rio Arriba, June 7 (CR) and a singing Ovenbird near El Rito June 15-17 (JEP, PRS, ph. JO). At least two Red-faced Warblers were near Cloudcroft June 21 (CR, CS), where summering is regular; 27 Red-faceds on the Emory Pass BBS June 13 (PFB) suggested the species was thriving in the Black Range. The dozen Yellow-breasted Chats found summering at Quarai June 9-July 28 (HS) was a notable concentration for Torrance. Northerly were three vocal Summer Tanagers on the Canadian R. near Sabinoso June 30 (CR), and another was e of Conchas L., June 8 (CR). An ad. & Scarlet Tanager provided a rare treat at Dripping Springs June 2 (ph. JA). Following an impressive spring showing, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks remained much in evidence, with males at Riley, Glenwood, Mangas, Ruidoso, near Cloudcroft, Lake Valley, and Dripping Springs June 3-22 (v.o.), and another at Albuquerque July 28 (BN, DE) Late were single & Lazuli Buntings in the Animas Mts., June 1 (CS, AC) and at Columbus June 14 (DE, BN); two Lazulis, near Reserve June 8 (JO) were s. of the usual summer range. Far north was a & Painted Bunting at Tucumcari June 8 (CR), while a pair was at La Mesa, Dona Ana, June 27 (CS et al.) for the 2nd consecutive year Fewer Dickcissels summered at Maxwell N.W.R., where only a few were present June 4 (KG) and only five-ten July 13 (JEP, JO) & 27 (CR). Botteri's Sparrows again summered in numbers in Hidalgo, with 25 territories located in 2 Animas Valley locales July 20 (SOW, AC), plus a pair e. of the Animas Mts. in giant sacaton on Deer Cr., June 12 (SOW) and July 21 (SOW, AC). Unusual was a Chipping Sparrow in the Albuquerque bosque June 23 (WH), as was a Brewer's near Los Lunas June 3 (HS); earliest fall migrant Brewer's reached Albuquerque July 15 (WH). Far south was a Vesper Sparrow near Pinon June 3 (WH), some 90 mi s. of the nearest known summering area at White Oaks. Three Savannah Sparrows were at Stinking L., June 17-18 (DS), where breeding is known, but one singing at Horse L., June 17 (DS) provided a local first; also suggestive of local breeding were 15 at Angel Fire June 15 (CR) and 10 at Maxwell N.W.R., June 4 (KG). The ammolegus race of Grasshopper Sparrow continued its 5-year decline in Hidalgo, with only 22 on an Animas Valley transect June 11 and seven on a Playas Valley transect

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June 12 (SOW), down 80% and 83%, respectively, from peak counts in 1992. Notably early—or lost—was a ♂ Chestnutsided Longspur at Stinking L., July 11 (C. Cooper). One-two Bobolinks were at Parkview June 1 (JEP, JO) & 5 (WW), but no nesting was reported. Notable for the Sacramento Mts. were three Brewer's Blackbirds near Cloudcroft June 22 (CR). Bronzed Cowbirds continued to be successful across the southwest, including seven n. to Glenwood June 17 (SOW) plus singles n. in Sierra at Ladder Ranch June 15 (GE) and Truth or Consequences June 21 (JEP). Far north was an ad. ♂ Hooded Oriole near Madrid July 10 (L. Sager). Among the very few Cassin's Finches reported were three-six at Capulin Spring June 6 & 12 (PES) and up to five at Cedar Crest June 1-19 (PES). Six Pine Grosbeaks were at Apache Cr. in the under-birded San Juan Mts., June 2 (JEP). Red Crossbills were conspicuous e. to Angel Fire, Corona, White Oaks, Cloudcroft, and Pinon in June (v.o.); four were in the Guadalupe Mts., July 1 (SW) and several were in the Peloncillo Mts. in July (v.o.), while six near Aztec June 8 (TR) and two on Albuquerque's West Mesa July 6 were in unusual habitat (WH). Single Am. Goldfinches were at Parkview June 27 (PES) and Zuni June 15 and July 8 (DC), increasing to four at Zuni by July 31 (DC). Moderate numbers of Evening Grosbeaks were widespread in the n. mountains; notable were singles at Owl Spring, Chuska Mts., June 9 (JO) and Zuni June 27 (DC), and 12 s. to Cloudcroft June 22 (CR). House Sparrows were discovered much at home in the Guadalupe Mts. at Queen (SW), where they were predicted to multiply with increased development there.

Initialed observers: Jennifer Atchley, William Baltosser, Pat Basham, Sherry Bixler, Paul F. Boucher, David Cleary, Wes Cook, Alan Craig, Jon Dunn, Douglas Emkalns, Gordon Ewing, Ralph Fisher, Bernie & Dawn Foy, Kathleen Granillo, Toby Hibbitts, John & Marty Hirth, William Howe, Dwayne & Marjorie Longenbaugh, John Mangimeli, William Maynard, Narca Moore-Craig, Bruce Neville, Jerry Oldenettel, John E. Parmeter, James N. Paton, Tim Reeves, Christopher Rustay, Catherine Sandell, Lorraine Schulte, Hart Schwarz, Patricia R. Snider, Dale Stahlecker, Paul E. Steel, Steve West, William West, S.O. Williams.

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Alaska Region

T. G. TOBISH, JR.

Except for Southcoastal Alaska, where warm, dry conditions prevailed all season, the Region experienced a mostly cool and damp summer. From initial reports, it appeared that the widespread storm-free and very warm May and early June allowed for an ideal nesting season onset, at least for early arrivals. Early fledgling dates were numerous, at least south of the Alaska Range. The cool conditions that ushered in June north of the Alaska Range brought snow into alpine areas even into July and prolonged the onset of insectivore and higher elevation nesting. As has been the case for the last few years, new data from pioneering sites came in, with exceptional reports from Cape Romzanof, the Pribilofs, the eastern Interior, and in Southeast at the standard hot spots up the Stikine River and at Hyder. With the new (and funded) interest in passerine population and status assessments producing widespread survey crews Regionwide, I have yet to see an increase in summaries of these more systematic studies. Unfortunately, many of these seasonal summaries are published as in-house reports or long term papers well after the fact. This situation is similar to the outer continental shelf studies from the late 1970s-early 1980s, when few of the highlights from Regionwide seabird surveys found theirway to this forum. As is always unfortunate, vast areas of Alaska went uncovered (or unreported), including, this year, the North Slope, most of the Interior, and the Aleutians. And as is normal, documentary evidence of rarer records was sporadic.

Abbreviations: North Gulf (North Gulf of Alaska); SE (Southeast Alaska); SW (Southwest Alaska); UCI (Upper Cook Inlet); † (details), * (specimen), and tape (tape recording) all on file at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks Museum.

Loons to Rails

The only summer Arctic Loon account came from Kotzebue with two on freshwater June 9 (BA et al.). Now that bird tours no longer take the Seward-Kodiak ferry trip, summer season Gulf of Alaska seabird highlights continue to dwindle. Noteworthy records of out-of-range geese included a single Greater White-fronted Goose at Juneau June 4-July 5 (GVV), rare for SE; and >75 Brant on the Homer Spit June 14 (GCW), probably lingering non-breeders, and another five around Juneau July 4-11 (PS, KB), where casual in summer. Although Green-winged Teal had been a suspected breeder on St. Lawrence I. (see Sealy et al., Condor Vol. 73) nesting evidence was produced for the first time this season when a female with a full brood of young was reported from Savoonga June 28 (BA). Most unusual was a ♂ Cinnamon Teal discovered at the always productive Kenny L. in the s.e. Interior June 16-July 1 (RLS, TJD, KOD), a 2nd Interior report. Because most spring Eur. Wigeon reports are concentrated in early spring (before mid-May), single drakes at Homer to June 3+ (m.ob.), Anchorage June 26-28+ (TGT), and Juneau June 6

