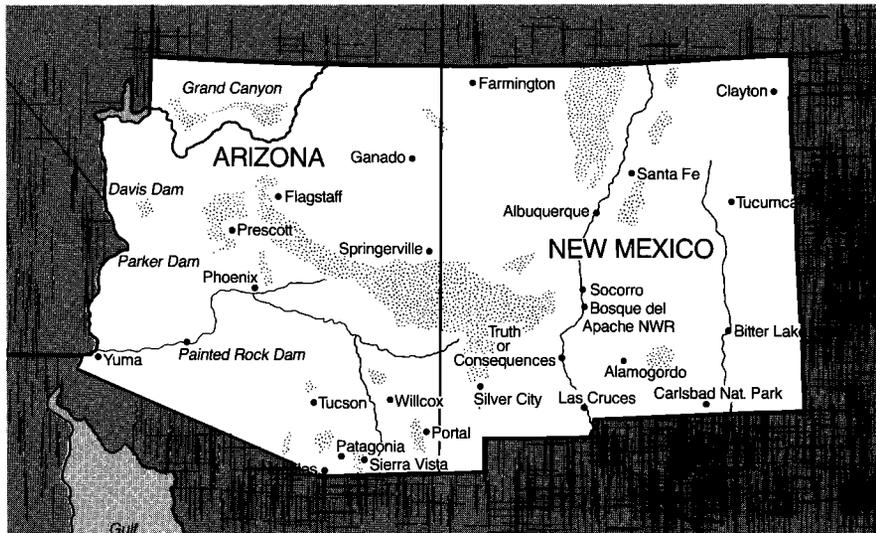


# arizona region



## CHRIS D. BENESH and GARY H. ROSENBERG

December was wetter and cooler than normal in southern Arizona, with no fewer than six storms affecting the Region. By contrast, January weather was very dry and warmer than normal with only one storm system affecting the Region. Then in February, eight El Niño driven storms resulted in the second wettest February on record for southern Arizona, and daytime temperatures about six degrees below normal.

Work by biologists in the Grand Canyon produced a number of interesting winter sightings for this stretch of the Colorado River. But the single most exciting ornithological event was the discovery of a Nutting's Flycatcher in Patagonia State Park, which was subsequently seen by hundreds of birders.

**Abbreviations:** A.B.C. (*Arizona Bird Committee*); B.A.N.W.R. (*Buenos Aires Nat'l. Wildlife Ref.*); L.C.R.V. (*Lower Colorado R. Valley*); G. F. P. (*Gila Farms Pond*); M.F.L. (*Many Farms Lake*); N.I.R. (*Navajo Indian Reservation*); P.A.P. (*Pinal Air Park*); P.R.D. (*Painted Rock Dam*); S.P.R. (*San Pedro R.*); S.T.P. (*Sewage Treatment Plant*); S.S.V. (*Sulphur Springs Valley*).

### LOONS THROUGH GOLDENEYES

A **Red-throated Loon** was observed at L. Havasu Jan 25 (†TC et al), there are fewer

than 10 records for the state. Eleven W. Grebes were reported in s.e. Arizona during the period (m.ob). A single Clark's Grebe was present at Patagonia L. Dec. 9–Feb. 3 (RP, MS et al.); this species is quite rare in winter in s.e. Arizona. As many as 12 Horned Grebes were present along the Colorado R. during the winter between L. Powell and L. Havasu (JS, TC). A well-described **Red-necked Grebe** was observed on L. Pleasant Feb. 23 (†R. Chapman); this is the same location where one was observed Mar. 21, 1996. At least one of the Brown Pelicans from the fall remained at P.R.D. Jan. 18–Feb. 23 (SGa). Neotropic Cormorants were widely reported this winter away from their usual haunts at Patagonia L., with two along Indian Bend Wash Feb. 4 (M. Ray), one–two at Reid Park in Tucson Feb. 7–21 (MS), seven at Arizona City Feb. 7 (C. Drowley) and nine there Feb. 21 (CWe), and three at Kino Springs Feb. 11 (RP).

Quite unexpected was a Least Bittern found at Quartermaster Canyon Marsh, Grand Canyon, Jan. 22 (CL, JS, ph. NB); this species is considered a casual visitor to n. Arizona. Also noteworthy was a single Least Bittern at Patagonia L. Jan. 11 (PL, P. Backstrom, ph. B. Duerker). Sparse in winter in the Prescott region, single Green Herons were located at Goldwater L. Nov. 16–Dec. 20 (CT), and in Skull Valley Jan. 1 (R. Duerkson). A Black-crowned Night-Heron was found in the Grand Canyon Feb. 27 (CT), this species is unprecedented in

winter in n. Arizona. Fifteen White-faced Ibises along the Gila R. near Estrella Mt Park Jan. 21 (LH, BD et al.) was a notable winter concentration away from the L.C.R.V.

A casual visitor to *Maricopa*, a single Tundra Swan was in Gilbert Nov. 28–Dec 24 (B. & L. Winterfield et al.). Elsewhere, two Tundra Swans were at Camp Verde Feb 5 (CVC), and 31 were in the Mohawk Valley Jan. 20 (PL), where this species wintered last year. Two swans at Soap Cr. Rapids, Grand Canyon, Jan. 12 (JS) were felt by some river biologists to be a pair of marked Trumpeter Swans which were apparently found during winter 1996–1997. Greater White-fronted Geese were reported in above-average numbers this winter, with three continuing at the Avra Valley S T P Dec. 1–Feb. 19 (m.ob.), three at Fountain Hills Dec. 10 through the period (RB), one at Peck's L. Dec. 5 (RR), one at the Sierra Vista S.T.P. Dec. 18–Feb. 17 (VL, WM et al.), two in Arizona City Feb. 12–28 (C Drowley, GW), and four at Cibola NWR Jan. 24 (TC). This was an incredible winter for Ross's Geese. Away from the L.C.R.V., two were at the Sierra Vista S.T.P. Dec 1–Feb. 17 (SH et al), five reported from the fall remained in Nogales until Feb. 25 (RP), one was at Whitewater Draw in the S.S V Dec. 6–29 with a second there on the latter date (SW), an amazing 12 were in Green Valley Dec. 27 (RP), one was in Fountain Hills Dec. 10–Jan. 14 (RB), seven were in the Avra Valley Dec. 30 (JyWi), and two were in n.w. Phoenix Feb. 4 (*vide* SGa) Snow Geese were also widely reported in the south, including a high concentration of 30 at Whitewater Draw Jan. 6 (RP). Two small "cackling" Canada Geese were reported this winter; one was in Wellton Jan 20 through the period (PL, CDB), and a 2nd was in the Grand Canyon Feb. 22 (CL)

Accidental in winter in n. Arizona, a male Cinnamon Teal was in Page Jan 19 (CG). In the south, a male Cinnamon Teal was in Prescott Dec. 4 (BP), where rare in winter, and a large winter concentration of 35 was in Tucson Jan. 21 (RH). A male Eur Wigeon was in Page Jan. 1–18 (JS), and another was in Skull Valley Dec. 6–Feb 3 (†CST). Elsewhere, Eur. Wigeons returned to traditional wintering sites in Phoenix, Scottsdale, on the Verde R., Rio Rico, Kino

Springs, and Nogales. Once again, a large concentration of Greater Scaup was reported in the north, with up to 21 seen between Glen Canyon Dam and Lee's Ferry Jan. 9–Feb. 20 (JS et al.). In addition, up to five were present in Prescott Dec. 7–Feb. 21 (CST), three were in Tempe in January (D. Sutton, SGa), one was in Nogales Jan. 6 (SH) and was joined by a 2nd bird Jan. 30 (ph RH), and one was at P.R.D. Feb. 16–28 (CBA et al.). Casual in Arizona, an Oldsquaw was seen at Davis Dam Feb. 22 (†RH, JN). Also casual in the state, a White-winged Scoter was at Lee's Ferry Jan. 25 (RR) Numbers of Barrow's Goldeneyes built up to 75 along the Colorado R. between Lee's Ferry and Glen Canyon Dam Jan 25 (RR).

### VULTURES THROUGH GULLS

Away from the Nogales/Patagonia corridor, wintering Black Vultures were found at a few locations; two–three were in Chandler Dec 14–Feb. 4 (SGa), 16 were near Red Rock Jan. 22 (DK), and up to 32 were at the P A P pecan grove Dec. 24–28 (B. Daniels). An Osprey found at Glen Canyon Feb. 9 (CL) was unexpected. There was a scattering of White-tailed Kites reported in s. Arizona, with two w. of Buckeye Dec. 30 (RD et al.), two e. of Buckeye Feb. 2 (SGa), one near Chandler Feb. 14 (SGa), one along old highway 80 Feb. 15 (RD), and one at the P A P pecan grove Feb. 16 (R&H Farrar). Four ad. Sharp-shinned Hawks were reported from the Grand Canyon during a river cruise; this species is unrecorded in winter from this location (JS). A well-described Red-shouldered Hawk was seen at Picacho Res. Dec. 29 (†A. Johnson, B. Benware), and another was discovered in Quartermaster Canyon (Grand Canyon) Feb. 26 (CL, NB, RR); this species remains a casual visitor to the state. Crested Caracaras continue to be found wandering away from their stronghold on the Tohono O' Odham Reservation; one was near Casa Grande Dec. 23 (RD), one was near Red Rock Jan. 22 (DK), five were at the P.A.P. pecan grove Dec. 25 (MS), and another there Feb. 11 (ph. B. Zimmer).

Four Com. Moorhens observed along the Colorado R. at Quartermaster Canyon Jan 22 (JS, CL) provided the first winter records for the Grand Canyon. Another was at Granite Dells near Prescott Dec. 20 (CST), where it is casual in winter. Three Sora found in the Grand Canyon Jan. 22 (CL, JS) provided the first winter records of this species for this location. Likewise, two Virginia Rails seen Jan 22 (JS, CL) were the

first for winter at this site. Away from traditional wintering sites near Arizona City and in the S.S.V., a flock of up to 19 Mt. Plover was found in the Avra Valley Jan. 2–31 (*fide* MK, MS). Unprecedented in winter were two Spotted Sandpipers in the Grand Canyon Jan. 15 (CL, JS). Rare in winter, a Lesser Yellowlegs was at Picacho Res. Jan. 31 (RH). Twenty-five Long-billed Curlews along the Gila R. near Buckeye was a sizable winter concentration for *Maricopa* Dec. 30 (B. Grossi et al.). As usual, there were a scattering of winter reports of W. Sandpiper in s. Arizona, but quite remarkable was a concentration of 21 along the Santa Cruz R. w. of Tucson Dec. 21 (WR, MS). Suggestive of the mild winter were eight tardy Least Sandpipers present in Wahweap Dec. 1 (JS). A very rare visitor to the state, a Red Phalarope was reported from Patagonia L. Dec. 9–15 (RP et al.). A Bonaparte's Gull present at P.R.D. Feb. 23 through the period (M. Billota) provided the first February record for *Maricopa*. An ad. **Mew Gull** was well-described from L. Havasu Feb. 21 (†RH, JN); this represents about the 10th record for Arizona.

### PIGEONS THROUGH FLICKERS

Three Band-tailed Pigeons overwintered in Flagstaff (F. Brandt), and another one was just s. of Prescott Jan. 21 through the period (G. Prehmus), where this species is casual in winter. Very unseasonable was a White-winged Dove found in Clarkdale Feb. 24 (D. Von Gausig). As has become expected, Ruddy Ground-Doves were again present in s. Arizona this winter; a male was reported from Patagonia Dec. 23 (R. Taylor), two were at Robbins Butte W.M.A. Dec. 30 (CWe, N. Shroul), two were near Roll in the Mohawk Valley Jan. 15 (†PL), and one to two continued at the P.A.P. pecan grove through the period (m.ob.). A casual visitor to the north, a Short-eared Owl was found in Page Feb. 8 (CL). Single overwintering Lesser Nighthawks were reported from the Harquahala Plains Dec. 27 (L. Hayes), and the Gila R. near Phoenix Dec. 30 (T. Hildebrandt, CWe).

Locally casual in winter, a Broad-billed Hummingbird frequenting a Scottsdale feeder in November remained until at least Jan. 12 (D. deAgusto). Elsewhere in s.e. Arizona, Broad-billeds were rather widely reported. A Violet-crowned Hummingbird, rare in winter, was at a Bisbee feeder Dec. 24 (SW, R&C Stevens). Accidental in winter in Arizona, an imm. male Broad-tailed Hummingbird was reported from Bisbee Dec. 24 (SW, R&C Stevens) Away from

traditional wintering areas in the south, one to two Magnificent Hummingbirds were in Kellner Canyon in the Pinal Mts. s of Globe Dec. 26–Jan. 17 (C. McKusick), and another was in Ventana Canyon n. of Tucson Dec. 28–Jan. 19 (MS). A Blue-throated Hummingbird was also present in Ventana Canyon Dec. 28–Jan. 19 (MS) Wintering Elegant Trogons away from Sycamore Canyon included one in Sawmill Canyon, Huachuca Mts., to at least Feb. 12 (SH et al.); another or the same reported at nearby Scheelite Canyon Dec. 27 (P. Hamback); and another in Florida Canyon, Santa Rita Mts., Feb. 17–28 (J. Hays et al.)

The Red-headed Woodpecker found this fall at the P.A.P. pecan grove remained there through the period. Scarce in the Prescott region, a Gila Woodpecker was at Granite Dells Dec. 20 through the period (CST) Yellow-bellied Sapsucker reports included one at Reid Park in Tucson Dec. 7 (B. Basham, D. Lee, MS), one at Coon Bluff Dec. 9 (CWe), one at B.T.A. Jan. 6–Feb. 25 (J&S Hammon et al., †JyWi), and one along the Santa Cruz R. s. of Marana Jan. 11 (†RH) Northern Flickers showing characters of Yellow-shafted were at Whitlow Dam through the period (JB), and at Kino Springs Feb. 19 (RH).

### FLYCATCHERS THROUGH SHRIKES

A Greater Pewee returned to Evergreen Cemetery, Tucson, Dec. 11–20 (J. Paton et al.); this species winters casually in s.e. Arizona. Undoubtedly due to the mild winter, Dusky Flycatchers were found farther north than usual; one was at Page Springs Dec. 5–11 (CST, VG, RR), one was found on the Salt/Verde Rivers CBC Dec. 19 (TC), one was on the Gila R. CBC Dec. 30 (TC), and two were on the Colorado R. in the Grand Canyon Feb. 18 (CL, RR). Similarly, Hammond's Flycatchers were also found farther north this winter, with one at Granite Cr., Prescott, Dec. 15–Jan. 31 (CST) providing a first local winter record; one at Lynx Cr., Prescott, Dec. 20 (W. Anderson), and one along the Colorado R. in the Grand Canyon Feb. 23 (CL, RR). A Black Phoebe at Tuba City Jan. 27–Feb. 5 (CL) represented one of the few winter records for the N.I.R.

Certainly the most exciting find of the season was the discovery of a wintering **Nutting's Flycatcher** at Patagonia Lake S.P Dec. 14 through the end of the period (†WR; ph. MS, DS, GHR, BZ, JiB; voice recording GHR, RJ, v.t. CDB). This well-documented individual represents only the 2nd non-disputed record for the United

States, the other being another winter bird collected near Roosevelt L. Jan. 8, 1952. Full details of this record will be published elsewhere. A late Cassin's Kingbird was reported from the Roger Road S.T.P., Tucson, Dec. 11 (J. Paton).

Mild temperatures most likely contributed to a number of winter swallow reports. Two Tree Swallows at Page Feb. 25 (JS) may have been very early migrants. Individual Violet-green Swallows were at the Avra Valley S.T.P. Jan. 6 (MK), at Reid Park in Tucson Jan. 14 (*fide* JHa), along the Santa Cruz R., Tucson, Jan. 21 & 31 (RH), at the P.A.P. pecan grove Feb. 13 (RP), and at the Roger Road S.T.P. Feb. 13 (RP). This species is casual in s. Arizona at this season. Barn Swallows were also seen with greater than normal frequency, with one at the Green Valley S.T.P. Dec. 11 (*fide* JHa), two along the Santa Cruz R. Dec. 13 and again Jan. 21 (*fide* JHa, RH), three at Patagonia L. Dec. 20 with one remaining there until at least Jan. 12 (RH, PL), one at Arthur Pack Golf Course, n.w. Tucson, Jan. 6 (GM) and another in w. Tucson Jan. 8 (*fide* JHa), and another along the upper S.P.R. Jan. 16 (SH). Although this was not a winter known for corvid movements in the West, a Steller's Jay was seemingly out of place at the bottom of the Grand Canyon Feb. 19 (CL, C. Lott). Also along the river in the Grand Canyon were large roaming flocks of Pinyon Jays; 70 were seen at RM 184 Jan. 18 (JS, CL) and 40 were at Granite Park (RM 209) Jan. 19 (JS, CL).

House Wrens normally vacate areas in n. Arizona during the winter, but this year singles were seen at the bottom of the Grand Canyon Jan. 18 & 20 (CL, JS); one was at Pasture Canyon near Tuba City Feb. 5 (CL), representing what was apparently the first winter record for the N.I.R.; and several were reported lingering through the winter at Prescott (CT). Winter Wrens were also reported in greater than usual numbers around the state, with no fewer than 9 reports received, including four at Hassayampa R. Preserve Dec. 27 (TP, CF).

The pair of Black-capped Gnatcatchers in Brown Canyon was still present in January (*fide* R&J Hanson). An exciting rarity to find in the state, and still an ABC review species, were two different Rufous-backed Robins, with one again at the B.T.A. Jan. 19–30 (*fide* SGa, m.ob.), and another at Patagonia L. Feb. 3–12 (m.ob.; ph. BZ). Single Varied Thrushes, casual in the state during winter, were present at Tucson Dec. 20–Jan. 20 (m.ob.; ph. MS, v.t. CDB), and at Hassayampa R. Preserve Dec. 27–Feb. 7 (TP, CF).

Five Brown Thrashers, a few more than normal, were reported, with one e. of Tucson Dec. 6 (†JHa, †MS), one at Pima Canyon Dec. 29 (MS), one at Oak Flat e. of Superior Feb. 14–15 (CST), one at Patagonia Feb. 15 (†G. McCaskie, T. Clawson), and one present throughout the period at the Hassayampa R. Preserve (TP, CF). A Bendire's Thrasher reported from Rim Rock in c. Arizona Jan. 20 (G. Romig) was away from known wintering areas in the state. Also out of place was a Curve-billed Thrasher in the Village of Oak Creek found on their CBC.

Two Phainopeplas at Jerome Dec. 13 (RR) were at an unusual high elevation for winter. The only N. Shrike report from n. Arizona was one at Lee's Ferry Jan. 1 (JS); this species is normally a rare but regular winter visitor in the northern portion of the state.

#### VIREOS THROUGH WARBLERS

A Bell's Vireo at Parker Dec. 29 (B. Daniels) provided one of the few winter records for the state. Both Cassin's and Plumbeous vireos are uncommon but regular winter residents in s. Arizona; this year four different Cassin's, and no fewer than 12 different Plumbeous Vireos were reported.

Orange-crowned Warblers are virtually unknown from the north during the winter, therefore two present at the Glen Canyon Dam headquarters Jan. 12 through February (JS, J. Alston), and no fewer than 11 individuals along the Colorado R. in the bottom of the Grand Canyon Jan. 19–22 were noteworthy. Representing one of the few reports in winter, a Nashville Warbler was seen at the Hassayampa R. Preserve Dec. 27 (BD). Similarly, a Lucy's Warbler reported from the Hassayampa R. Preserve Dec. 14 (RF) was one of the latest reports ever for the state.

Chestnut-sided Warblers have become almost annual somewhere in s. Arizona during winter; this season one was present at Reid Park, Tucson, throughout the period (m.ob., ph. MS), and another was in the town of Palo Verde Dec. 30–Jan. 20 (SGa et al.). It was an outstanding winter for rare warblers in Arizona, perhaps another indication of just how mild the weather was. It all began with a **Yellow-throated Warbler** found at Reid Park, Tucson, in November that remained until at least Dec. 7 (†C. Green, ph. GHR; m.ob.), which is only about the 20th record for the state. Additionally, two different **Pine Warblers** were located in the Tucson area, with one

present at Reid Park Dec. 26 through at least Feb. 15 (ph. †MS; m.ob.), and a very dull-plumaged female was located along the Santa Cruz R. Jan. 5 (R&N Bowers) and was seen again Jan. 25 (ph. †RH). These represent only the 5th and 6th records for the state. Even rarer was the discovery of at least two different **Prairie Warblers**; the Wahweep bird that was reported Nov. 30 was seen again Dec. 1 (J. Alston; ph. JS), and the Ventana Wash, Tucson, bird that was found Dec. 1 (ph. MS, ph. GHR; m.ob.) remained there until at least Jan. 11. Amazingly, a 3rd individual was reported from the bottom of the Grand Canyon at Spencer's Cr. Jan. 22 (JS, CL), raising the tantalizing possibility that the Wahweep bird followed the Colorado R. downstream and wintered, and was actually relocated later in the winter. There was previously only one documented, and 3 additional sight records for the state. Single Black-and-white Warblers, rare but regular in winter in s. Arizona, were at Hassayampa R. Preserve Dec. 14 through the period (RF, TP, CF), and at Dead Horse S.P. and TAPCO, both on the local CBC. Of similar status in winter is Am. Redstart, with two individuals present at Parker Dec. 29 (B. Daniels), one remaining until Jan. 24 (TC), and another along the Santa Cruz R., Tucson, Jan. 11–Feb. 19 (RH et al.). Extremely rare in winter was a male MacGillivray's Warbler found along the Santa Cruz R., Tucson, Jan. 21–Feb. 1 (†RH et al.). Another rarity in winter was a Wilson's Warbler at Patagonia L. Dec. 20 (RH). For at least the 3rd consecutive winter, a Painted Redstart was present at Camp Creek n.e. of Carefree Jan. 2 (TC). Finally, a Yellow-breasted Chat that wintered at the B.T.A. Dec. 17 through the period (CST) might well have been the same individual that wintered there a year ago.

#### TANAGERS THROUGH FINCHES

Two Hepatic Tanagers were seen along Sonoita Cr. near Patagonia Dec. 12 (J. Paton), with at least one seen sporadically into January (JN, GHR, KK). A female or imm. Black-headed Grosbeak was present at a feeder in Prescott Dec. 13 through the period (ph. D. Moll, *fide* CST), providing the first winter record for the area. The only documented report this winter of Clay-colored Sparrow was one at Patagonia Jan. 11–23 (J. Bock; v.t. CDB); several others were reported without supporting details. Brewer's Sparrow is virtually unheard of in n. Arizona during the winter, therefore a flock of 20 at Page Jan. 1 through the period (JS) was of interest. Another sparrow

seemingly absent from the Page area in winter is Black-throated Sparrow; this winter an adult was seen at Wahweep Dec. 1 (JS), another adult was at the Page Golf Course Jan. 1–Feb. 16 (JS), and two were at Shinumu Camp at the bottom of the Grand Canyon Jan. 16 (CL, K. Enos), providing the first winter records for the canyon. Two Lark Buntings at Page Feb. 11 (JS) were n. of this species normal winter range in the state. Two Grasshopper Sparrows reported from Catalina S.P. Feb. 26 (GM) were also n. of its winter range here.

Single Swamp Sparrows away from s. Arizona (where they are rare but regular in small numbers) were reported s. of Prescott Dec. 20 (M. Riegner, *vide* CST) and at Page Jan. 15 (JS). Golden-crowned Sparrow reports were as follows: one Dec. 27 at the Phoenix Zoo (RJ), one e. of Tucson Dec. 28 (*vide* J. Hand), one at Parker Dec. 29 (B. Daniels), one above Lee's Ferry Jan. 8 (JS), and one at the P.A.P. pecan grove Jan. 25 (A. Grunder, MS). Typically a rare winter visitor to the state, Harris's Sparrows were reported more frequently this year; individuals were noted from L. Montezuma Dec. 3 through the period (D. Hook, G. Romig), from Patagonia Jan. 4–24 (GHR, PL, m.ob.), from Page Jan. 15 (JS), from the P.A.P. pecan grove Jan. 21–29 (PL et al.), and from Estrella Mt. Park Feb. 4 (B. Hexter). A Yellow-eyed Junco reported from Prescott Jan. 25 (J. Hawley) provided one of the few winter reports from that area.

A Bronzed Cowbird at Patagonia L. Feb. 12 (BZ) was at an high elevation for winter, though this species has wintered there before. Outstanding were two different Orchard Orioles; one female was at the Phoenix Zoo Dec. 20–24 (†RJ, ph. RD), and an ad. male was coming to a feeder in the Avra Valley Jan. 31 through the period (H. McCrystal; ph. MS). There are only a handful of winter records for the state. An oriole seen at the bottom of the Grand Canyon Jan. 22 (JS, CL) had characteristics that led one observer to believe it was a Streak-backed Oriole, but the distance involved in the sighting precluded identification to species; any oriole wintering at that locality is of interest. Lawrence's Goldfinch did not stage a major invasion into the state as they did last winter, yet there were scattered reports of small groups and single individuals, four were at the Hassayampa R. Preserve Dec. 27 (TP, CF), one was along the Santa Cruz R. Jan. 25 (RH), and up to four were seen at the P.A.P. pecan grove Jan. 28–Feb. 26 (A. Grunder et al.)

## EXOTICS

Certainly one of the most talked about birds this past winter was the male Elegant Quail found visiting a feeder in Douglas. News of its presence first reached the birding public Dec. 5 (ph. A. Moorhouse), and it was seen by multitudes of birders until at least Mar. 1 (m.ob., ph. MS, v.t. CDB). It is doubtful that any decision will be easily reached regarding the countability of this individual owing to the popularity of raising captive quail, and the fact that there have been introductions of this species into Arizona in the past. Elegant Quail were brought to Ft. Huachuca and released in lower Garden Canyon in 1950 (up to 52 birds), but disappeared within a year. In the 1960s, a very small population was discovered just w. of Nogales. Then in 1973, one was reported from Yaqui Spring, Coronado National Memorial, by C. McMoran (all *vide* J. Pratt). Elegant Quail may occur naturally as close as 70–80 miles from the border, and while quail are generally sedentary, lone males (of the well-studied California Quail) have been known to wander moderate distances to join up with different coveys.

Another much discussed visitor was the colorful male White-collared Seedeater of the w. Mexican race *torqueola* located at Patagonia Jan. 2–16 (ph. GHR, KK et al.). This is perhaps the same individual that was found in August near Nogales (as reported in the Fall report), and although it is the "correct" subspecies if one was to occur naturally in the state, it must be re-emphasized that the nearest population to Arizona is n.c. Sinaloa, some 500 mi s. of Patagonia! Sightings of this subspecies along the border near population centers in Texas in the past suggest that this species is perhaps a popular cagebird. Another seedeater was reported well n. of its "known" range this winter on the San Carlos, Sonora, CBC (T. Brownell).

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