

White-winged Crossbills were at Sundance Ski Resort, Utah, UT, Apr. 26 (MS, TS).

**Cited Observers:** Loretta Annala, George Armburst, Joel & Katy Beyer (J&KB), Cliff & Bev Boevers (C&BB), Steve Bouricus, John Brack, Jim Bradley (JBr), Bob Brandle, Bob Brown (BBr), Richard Bunn, Cheyenne Audubon Society (CAS), Graham Chisholm, Dick Coe, Mark R. Collie, Jim Cressman, Marian Cressman, Raymond Davis, Bob Dickson, Jordan Dimmick, Stephen J. Dinsmore, Joseph DiPasquale (JDi), Sharon Dooley, Jane L. Dorn, Robert Dorn, Patty Echelmeyer, Jake Edge, Jim Eidel (JEi), Chris Elphick, Norm Erthal, Gail Evans, Warren Finch, Bill Fink, Robert Flores, Joe Fontaine, Carol Fredericks, Bob Frye (BFr), Peter Gaede, Peter Gent (PGe), Bob Goycoolea, Robert & Nancy Gustafson (R&NG), Jim Hengevald, Bill Henry, Katie Hill (KH), Ned Hill (NH), Joe Himmel (JHi), Bill Huntley (BHu), Marshall Iloff, Mark Janos, Dave Johnson, Tina Jones, Joey Kellner, Ursula Kepler, Fritz Knoff, Florence R. Knoll, Dave A. Leatherman, Tony Leukering, Rich Levad, Lindsay Lilly Jr. (LL), William P. Lisowsky, Joe Mammoser, Lisa Marchet, Ed Mark, Steve & Kathy Martin (S&KM), Richard Maxfield, John Maynard (JMy), Martin Meyers, Bill Miller, Scott Mills, Duane Nelson, Ric Olson, Brandon K. Percival, Suzi Plooster, Kim Potter, John Prather, Bill Pulliam, David Quesenberry, John J. Rawinski, Lisa Rawinski, Bert Raynes, Joe Roller, Gene Rutherford, Ron A. Ryder, Terry Sadler, Pearle Sandstrom-Smith (PSS), Rick P. Saval, Rita Schlageter, Karleen Schofield, Dick Schottler, David Silverman (DSi), Drew Smith (DSm), V. Arnold Smith (VAS), Steve Stachowiak, Mark Stackhouse, Kay Stone (KSt), Richard Stransky (RSt), Rick Steenberg (RSb), Brian Sullivan, Dan Svingen (DSv), Ila Svingen, Jane Thompson, Jeanne Tinsman (JT), Carolyn Titus, Dennis Trousdale, Susan Ward, Rosie Watts, Merrill Webb, David Wheeler, Christopher L. Wood, Ronda Woodward (RWO), Helen Yard, Vic Zerbi, Michael & Shirley Zubowicz (M&SZ).

**Van A. Truan**, 1901 Court Street, Pueblo, CO, 81003, and **Brandon K. Percival**, 835 Harmony Drive, Pueblo West, CO, 81007 (e-mail: flammowl@juno.com)



# arizona region



## GARY H. ROSENBERG and CHRIS D. BENESH

Through much of Arizona, spring temperatures were rather mild and migration subdued. Though some observers felt that breeding was late in some areas, in general, there was better breeding success than in recent years, thanks to the mild weather and an abundance of food following good winter rainfall.

**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*).

## GREBES THROUGH MERGANSERS

Very scarce in s.e. Arizona, single Horned Grebes were reported from Willcox Mar. 30 (D. Raten, G. Crandall), Patagonia L. Apr. 2-3 (M-B. Stowe, RP), and from the Avra Valley S.T.P. Apr. 5-10 (JHa et al., ph. MS). A single W. Grebe at Patagonia L. May 6-15 (MS, GHR) was late. A Clark's Grebe, rare in spring, was also present at Patagonia L. May 6-15 (MS, GHR). American White

Pelicans are regularly noted in passage in s. Arizona, but a flock of 150 circling over Sierra Vista May 24 (B. Anderson) was noteworthy. There was a scattering of March sightings of Brown Pelicans, with one at Sierra Vista S.T.P. Mar. 1 (*vide* JHa), one in Sahuarita Mar. 28 (RP), one in Canyon L. Mar. 28 (D. Enriquez), one in Nogales L. Mar. 29 (Tucson Audubon), and one in Peoria Mar. 29 (M&J Loesing). A single Brown Pelican remained at P.R.D. through the period (m.ob.). Neotropical Cormorants continued to be widely reported, primarily birds continuing from winter season; most noteworthy was the first *Yavapai* record, one at Watson L. Mar. 22 (CT). A remarkable 56 Double-crested Cormorants were present in Arizona City Mar. 16 (MS).

Three Least Bitterns were at Tres Rios, w. of Phoenix, May 13 (A. Peyton, CF); this species is considered rare in *Maricopa*. Two Great Egrets were reported in the Grand Canyon, one at RM 118 May 5, and the 2nd at River Mile 250 May 13 (CL). A Little Blue Heron was photographed in Tucson May 3 (T. Price), and another was seen flying over the Phoenix Zoo May 14 (RJ). Three **Brant** were found in Cornville Apr. 6 (ph. RR), with one remaining until Apr. 19 (ph. MS); there are 4 accepted state records. Very scarce in s.e. Arizona, four Greater Scaup

were at Willcox Mar. 11 (RP), and a very late female was at Kino Springs Apr. 25 (GHR, MS et al.). A lingering Com. Goldeneye remained at Marble Canyon through May 1 (CL), and three were at Glen Canyon through the period (CL). A tardy Red-breasted Merganser was in Page May 27 (CL).

#### KITES THROUGH TERNS

A few White-tailed Kites were reported, including a continuing bird at the P.A.P. pecan grove Apr. 17 (RP), a likely breeding pair near Salome May 1. (L. Averill-Murray, C. Wise), one at Robbins Butte, Gila R., May 16 (T. Hildebrandt, JB), and, subsequently, a nesting pair there May 23. The pair of Mississippi Kites was not found at Cascabel, San Pedro R., as in the past several springs (JWh). A nesting female N. Harrier with 5 eggs was located May 5 at Hugo Meadows, Navajo, s. of Little Colorado R. between Winslow and Joseph City, one of few records of nesting in the state (D. Mikesic). Gray Hawks had good reproductive success along the w. border of their range, with 6 pairs on the B.A.N.W.R. near Arivaca (AF). A pair found nesting in San Luis Wash, San Luis Mts., May 9 (AF) may represent the farthest west nesting in the state for this species. Also of note were a pair nesting in an Emery Oak along the Tres Bellotas Wash Apr. 21 (AF). An ad. Red-shouldered Hawk was reported from Scottsdale Apr. 14 (†JB). A well-described Broad-winged Hawk was seen in Cornville Apr. 9 (†I. Tomlinson, †TL). Unusual was a Zone-tailed Hawk in Page Springs Mar. 22 (F. Brandt). Crested Caracaras were found outside their typical range in Arizona with one near Sasabe Apr. 11 (*vide* AF), one along I-10 in Tucson Apr. 18 (CC), one 15 mi n. of Mexico in the Altar Valley Apr. 22 (AF), and one s. of Gila Bend May 3 (J. Truan).

Rare visitors to the Prescott region, two Sandhill Cranes were found in Clarkdale Mar. 18 (D. VonGausig, H. Usher). A scarce migrant here, a single Snowy Plover was at Sweetwater Wetlands in Tucson Mar. 29 (MS). Very scarce in n. Arizona, two Black-necked Stilts were at Cow Springs L. Apr. 29 (CL), and 11 were at Rimmy Jim Tank May 22 (CL). Very rare visitors, single Whimbrel were reported from Arizona City Apr. 4 (ph. S&J Levy), and Cornville Apr. 6 (RR). A W. Sandpiper found at the W. Sod Farm Mar. 8 (RH) was too early to be a migrant and may have wintered locally. Rare in spring, two Stilt Sandpipers were in Willcox Apr. 30 (RH).

Four Heermann's Gulls were reported:

two at Arivaca L. Apr. 8 (J. Hays et al.: one at the Ajo S.T.P. Apr. 20 (D. Tiller), and one at the Sierra Vista S.T.P. June 3 (SH). Rarely reported away from the L.C.R.V., single Caspian Terns were seen at Patagonia L. Apr. 2-3 (M.-B. Stowe, RP), and at Pierce Ferry, L. Mead, May 13 (CL). Accidental in spring, a Com. Tern was at Willcox May 20 (DS, JC). Increasingly reported in spring, single Least Terns were at Willcox May 3 (RH), at P.R.D. May 16 (RJ), and at Tuvasci Marsh May 26 (I. Tomlinson).

#### DOVES THROUGH PEWEES

The Ruddy Ground-Dove that wintered at the P.A.P. pecan grove remained to at least Mar. 18 (RD). A Greater Roadrunner found w. of Colorado City May 18 (*vide* TC) represented one of very few nesting records for the Arizona strip. A calling Flamulated Owl was discovered in the Mazatzal Mts., *Maricopa*, May 26 (KK et al.), where this species is considered a very rare breeder. A young N. Saw-whet Owl was found above Slate Cr. Divide in the Mazatzal Mts. May 26 (KK et al.); this species is considered very rare in *Maricopa*. Another N. Saw-whet found calling in pinyon-juniper woodland in Gardner Canyon May 30 (WR) was the observer's 3rd encounter with this species in pinyon-juniper habitat, giving rise to speculation as to the species habitat preferences in Arizona. A Buff-collared Nightjar was reported from California Gulch May 10 (TH), and as many as three were along Arivaca Cr., w. of Arivaca, June 3 (AF).

A male Broad-billed Hummingbird was at the Hassayampa R. Preserve Mar. 20 (R. Burge et al.), where considered very rare. White-eared Hummingbirds were reported from Ramsey and Miller canyons in the Huachuca Mts. through the period (m.ob.). A Berylline Hummingbird was discovered in Ramsey Canyon May 29 and remained through the period (RP, m.ob.). A Magnificent Hummingbird found at W. Fork of Oak Cr. Apr. 26 (G. Romig) was a rare visitor there. A female Lucifer Hummingbird was in Bisbee Apr. 11 (JWh). Anna's Hummingbirds (2 active nests) were found at 6300 ft. elevation in the Pinal Mts. May 23-24 (TC); this species has expanded its range dramatically in Arizona in recent years.

An Elegant Trogon was observed in a somewhat atypical lowland situation in Garden Canyon wash, near the San Pedro House, Apr. 22 and again May 27 (D. Roten, DK). The **Red-headed Woodpecker** wintering at the P.A.P. pecan grove was last reported May 5 (*vide* JHa). The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker wintering at Coon Bluff was present until at least Mar. 20 (JB), and the bird wintering at B.T.A. remained until Mar. 7 (*vide* SGa).

#### FLYCATCHERS THROUGH PIPITS

A Buff-breasted Flycatcher was reported from the upper S.P.R. near Palominas May 15 (B. Ostyn), providing only the 3rd sight record from along the river. An E. Phoebe was found at the P.A.P. pecan grove Mar. 9

**SA** Biological consultants for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) documented at least 4 distinct Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl territories in s. Arizona from late March through May 1998. The sites were on the B.A.N.W.R. in *Pima* and in an area between the Tortolita and Picacho Mts. in s. *Pinal*. The Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl was listed as endangered in Arizona by the USFWS in 1997 (62 FR 10730). This further establishes other local populations for this little understood species at the n. periphery of its range outside of Organ Pipe Cactus N.M. and the n.w. Tucson area. It also extends the current known range of this species into *Pinal*. Additional recent reports include those from the nearby Tohono O'odham Nation as noted in 1997 (AFN 51:95).

Habitat at the B.A.N.W.R. sites are more like many of the historical descriptions by pioneering naturalists from the late 1800s and early 1900s, i.e., Sonoran riparian deciduous forest, woodland, and scrub, here dominated by velvet mesquite, net leaf hackberry, velvet ash, and others. Such habitat in Arizona is now lost, degraded, or highly fragmented due to various human-related impacts. This differs from most present-day locations, including the recent *Pinal* observations. At these sites they are found in vegetation representing the Paloverde-cacti-mixed scrub series of the Arizona Upland Sonoran Desert scrub, with structurally diverse desert riparian scrub habitat along normally dry washes. Similarities between the B.A.N.W.R. and *Pinal* sites include structurally diverse habitats coupled with a species-rich prey base. It is likely that many desert scrub sites were overlooked by pioneering naturalists in Arizona because many were collectors for museums and more species could be acquired in riparian habitats than otherwise. (Submitted by, in alphabetical order: Russell B. Duncan, Aaron D. Fleisch, Paul C. Hardy, Lisa K. Harris, Michael A. Perkins, and Steven M. Speich).

(SH), but could not be relocated; this species is a rare winter visitor. Still considered casual in n. Arizona, a male Vermilion Flycatcher was present at Page Apr. 26 through at least May 27 (JS, CL).

A pair of Dusky-capped Flycatchers found in the Pinal Mts. May 23 (TC) was significant as this species has only infrequently been reported this far north and west there. Quite extraordinary was the report of a well-described Dusky-capped Flycatcher from 40 mi n.w. of Prescott May 23 (†B Pranter). Arizona's 2nd confirmed **Nutting's Flycatcher**, found at Patagonia L. in December (WR), was last seen Mar. 21. A pair of Tropical Kingbirds was again present at Kingfisher Pond, the only site along the upper S.P.R. where this rare North American breeder has nested (*fide* DK). A Thick-billed Kingbird along San Luis Wash n e of Sasabe Apr. 17 (AF) may be at the westernmost nesting site in the state. Nearby, three were found along Arivaca Cr. and one at Arivaca Cienega; this species has only been casually reported from this region.

A pair of Rose-throated Becards was again present at the Roadside Rest Area s. of Patagonia May 31 (RJ). A Cassin's Vireo found on the N.I.R. May 24 (JJ) was considered late. One of the few recent spring reports for Red-eyed Vireo was from Kino Springs May 26 (†S. Atkinson); reports of this species have steadily declined the past 2 decades. Another great find was a **Blue Jay** at the bottom of the Grand Canyon at River Mile 175 May 7 (CL et al.) by survey crews censusing this little known corridor; it would represent only a 6th state record if accepted by the A.B.C. An active nest of Am Crow was located in Pinyon-Juniper woodland n.w. of Ash Fork, *Coconino*, May 29 (PF), and an additional 2 pairs behaving territorially were seen nearby May 30 (TC), new nesting locality and habitat for this species in Arizona.

Several new nesting areas in n. Arizona for Tree Swallow were established, with a pair using a nest box in Brannigan Park near Parks, *Coconino*, June 2 (†C. Holm); a nest found in a Ponderosa Pine at Lower L. Mary June 6 (RR); and at least 2 nest boxes occupied at the Flagstaff Arboretum June 6 (RR). Nest boxes for bluebirds near Parks had been used by Tree Swallows in the past (Summer 1985), but previous Arizona nests had only been located on the Kaibab Plateau and in the White Mts. Unknown previously as a nesting species in the w. portion of the state, a Barn Swallow nest with eggs was found under a small bridge n.w. of Salome, *La Paz*, Apr. 28 (LA, CW).

Breeding was confirmed for Bridled Titmouse along the upper S.P.R. near Kingfisher Pond in May (DK), a surprisingly low elevation. After last year's bonanza of multiple pairs of **Black-capped Gnatcatchers** in s.e. Arizona, it was exciting to receive another report of a male feeding a fledgling in a canyon on the w. side of the Baboquivari Mts. May 31 (M. Bissontz; *fide* TC). Despite numerous other reports from s. Arizona, the only other acceptable record was of a male seen and taped at the Roadside Rest Area s. of Patagonia May 25 (DS, JC, †R. Taylor et al.).

The Rufous-backed Robin present at the B.T.A. during winter remained until at least Mar. 24 (D. Brown). A Sage Thrasher nest with eggs was found 15 mi w. of Valle, *Coconino*, May 31 (TC), perhaps representing the first nest of this species in w. Arizona s. of the Grand Canyon. A Brown Thrasher, casual in spring, was at Oak Flats near Superior May 7–10 (JB, CT). Two Bendire's Thrashers were located at Cornville Mar. 27 (RR), n. of this species' normal distribution in Arizona. Three-hundred Am. Pipits at the W. Sod Farm near Arizona City Apr. 30 (RH) was impressive.

#### WARBLERS THROUGH SPARROWS

A warbler described as a "Brewster's" was reported from Portal May 21 (†R. Morse); if accepted by the A.B.C., this would constitute a first sighting of this form from Arizona. A Virginia's Warbler was a late spring straggler May 30 in s.w. Phoenix (RW, S. Burge). The Chestnut-sided Warbler that wintered at Reid Park in Tucson was last seen Mar. 7 (MS). A late Yellow-rumped "Myrtle" Warbler was located 15 mi w. of Valle, *Coconino*, May 31 (TC). A Grace's Warbler was seen in the lowlands along the upper S.P.R. near Rt. 90 Apr. 25 (GHR); this constitutes only a 3rd local spring record along the river (*fide* DK). Single Black-and-white Warblers were near Aztec, *Yuma*, Apr. 21 (PF); along Spring Cr. May 7 (JC); and along the upper S.P.R. May 12–14 (*fide* DK). The only Am. Redstart report was along the upper S.P.R. May 25 (*fide* DK); this species has shown a marked decline since the late 1970s. A male Hooded Warbler was in a Scottsdale yard Mar. 16 (V. Dayhoff), suggesting local wintering. Red-faced Warblers were detected on Mt. Ord Apr. 30 (N. London et al.), and above Slate-creek Divide, Mazatzal Mts., May 23 & 26 (KK, RW, S. Burge); there have been very few recent reports from *Maricopa*, and these suggest that the Red-faced Warbler is a rare but regular summer resident in this area.

Two individuals in Brown Canyon May 8 (GM, B. Powell, M. Larson) constitute only a 2nd record for the Baboquivari Mts.

Our understanding of Hepatic Tanager distribution in n. Arizona increased with the discovery of at least 5 pairs in pinyon-juniper woodland n. of Crookton and Ash Fork, *Coconino* (PF, TC, C. Weiss); before the Breeding Bird Atlas surveys, this species was known previously as far north and west as the Hualapai Mts. Two Summer Tanagers were in Glen Canyon May 22 (CL) about 40 mi n. of nesting areas along the Colorado R. Outstanding was a male Scarlet Tanager along the Hassayampa R. near Wickenburg Apr. 26 (†E. Hough); if accepted by the A.B.C. this sighting would constitute the earliest spring record for this casual visitor. Perhaps the bird of the spring was a female **Flame-colored Tanager**, apparently paired with a male Hepatic Tanager, that built a nest in E. Whitetail Canyon May 16, remaining through the spring (†R. Taylor; ph MS); there are fewer than 10 U.S. records of this Mexican species.

#### SPARROWS THROUGH ORIOLES

Given the intensity of this past winter's El Niño, and the lushness of the grasslands that high levels of rainfall produced, it is not surprising that Cassin's Sparrows were detected n. of their regular range; singing individuals were found 10 mi n. of Florence Mar. 25 (CL), at Cornville Mar. 27 (CL), and w. of Buckeye Apr. 12 (SH). Individual Clay-colored Sparrows were reported from Wahweep Apr. 28 (†CL), from Willow Tank near Portal May 3 (†TC), and one banded in Portal May 10 (†GW). This species is considered casual at best in the state, particularly in spring, and is on the review list of the A.B.C. A Grasshopper Sparrow at Cornville Apr. 3 was n. of its normal distribution in the state, but was likely present as a result of El Niño. A Golden-crowned Sparrow, casual in spring, was in Oro Valley Apr. 17 (GM). The Harris's Sparrow that wintered at the P.A.P. pecan grove was last reported Apr. 25 (C. Drowley). Resident status of Yellow-eyed Junco in the Pinal Mts. was again documented by an adult feeding a fledgling there May 24 (TC).

The only Rose-breasted Grosbeak reported was s.w. of Gila Bend Apr. 18 (PF). A Blue Grosbeak at Red Tank Draw near Sedona May 2 was early for this part of the state; the bulk of Blue Grosbeaks don't arrive until late May or early June. Single Dickcissels were reported from Page May 24 (JS) and from s.e. of Chevelon Butte, *Coconino*, May 30 (S. Rosenstock).

The known range of E. Meadowlark was again expanded n. and w. with the discovery of individuals and pairs in 3 different Atlas blocks 10–25 mi w. of Valle, *Coconino*, May 30–31 (C. Weiss, L. Averill-Murray, TC); individuals were first detected here during last year's surveys by the Breeding Bird Atlas crews. The male Orchard Oriole that wintered in w. Tucson was last seen Mar. 13 (MS et al.). For the 2nd consecutive year, a pair of Hooded Orioles was present in Page; this species is a very rare nester anywhere in n. Arizona. A male Baltimore Oriole, still considered casual, was reported from the Bullpen Recreation Area near Sedona Apr. 29 (TL), and another was found at Kino Springs May 26–27 (G&K Williamson et al.).

**Contributors (area compilers in boldface):** Charlie Babbitt, Jack Bartley (JB), Hank Brodtkin, Nikolle Brown, Jim Burns, Josh Burns, Cliff Cathers, **John Coons** (Flagstaff), Troy Corman, Rich Ditch, Aaron Flesch, Craig Fischer, Peter Friederici, Steve Ganley (SGa), **Jay Hand** (Tucson), Stuart Healy, Rich Hoyer, **Dave Jasper** (Portal), Jill Jones, Roy Jones, Kenn Kaufman, Melody Kehl, **Dave Krueper** (Sierra Vista), Chuck LaRue, Tom Linda, Wendy McCrady, Norma Miller, Gale Monson, Narca Moore-Craig, Richard Palmer, Tim Price, **Roger Radd** (Cottonwood), Will Russell, John Spence, **John Spencer** (JSp - Globe), Dave Stejskal, Mark Stevenson, **Carl S. Tomoff** (Prescott), Christie Van Cleve, Cindy West (CWe), George West, **Jack Whetstone** (Sierra Vista), Sheri Williamson, Jay Withgott (JyWi), **Janet Witzeman** (Phoenix), Robert Witzeman, Tom Wood.

**Chris D. Benesh**, 4308 E. Poe St., Tucson, AZ 85711; **Gary H. Rosenberg**, P.O. Box 91856, Tucson, AZ 85752-1856



Place names that are frequently mentioned, but very long, may be abbreviated in a form such as "C.B.B.T." or "W.P.B.O." Such local abbreviations will be explained in a key at the beginning of the particular regional report in which they are used. Standard abbreviations that are used throughout *Field Notes* are keyed on page 295.

# new mexico region



## SARTOR O. WILLIAMS III

The moist winter gave way to increasingly dry and windy conditions as spring progressed, with April and May ranking among the driest months on record. Birding was, nevertheless, rewarding and brought documentation of several rarities, plus (pending review by the Bird Records Committee) another species new to the state.

**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 Lake*); L.V.N.W.R. (*Las Vegas N.W.R.*); N.R.T. (*north Roosevelt Co. migrant trap near Melrose*); R.S. (*Rattlesnake Springs including adjacent Washington Ranch, Eddy Co.*); R.G.V. (*Rio Grande Valley*); Zuni (*Zuni Indian Reservation*).

## LOONS TO DUCKS

Lingering from February was a **Red-throated Loon** at E.B.L. last seen Apr. 11 (JEP, JO); another was at Brantley L. May 1 (JEP, DE, BN). Single Pacific Loons were at Stubblefield L. Mar. 8 (DE, BN) and E.B.L. Mar. 3 (PS); late was a Common at Sumner L. May 8 (JEP). High count for Horned Grebes was 39 at Santa Rosa L. Mar. 1 (CR). Late were 50 Am. White Pelicans at E.B.L. May 28 (WH). Brown Pelicans included an immature, captured at Escondida Apr. 5 and

released at Bosque N.W.R., where seen Apr. 11 (JEP, JO, JH) & 19 (JO); and an adult at Caballo L. Apr. 11 (JEP, JO) and a sub-adult at Brantley L. May 13 (JEP, ph. JO). An unaged individual was at E.B.L. May 20 (C. Painter) & 23 (D. Russell). Noteworthy were 14 Double-crested Cormorants at Bear Canyon L., *Grant*, Apr. 22 (D&MZ); an aerial survey counted 98 nests at E.B.L. and 108 nests at Caballo L. May 28 (WH). Neotropical Cormorants pushed n. in both the Rio Grande and Pecos valleys; 30 Neotropical nests were in upper E.B.L. May 28 (WH).

Unusual was a Least Bittern at R.S. May 15 (JEP). Great Blue Herons increased as breeders in the R.G.V., including 26 nests at E.B.L. May 28 and smaller numbers at Caballo L. and Las Animas Cr. (WH). Peripheral Great Egrets were singles at Morgan L. May 7 (SW), Nutria L. May 9 (DC) & 16 (CR), and Jal L. May 31 (SW); high count was nine at B.L.N.W.R. Apr. 17 (GW). Some 350 Cattle Egrets were at La Union Apr. 26 (JO), where 100 nests were reported May 28 (GE). Far from water was a Green Heron in a prairie grove near Milnesand Apr. 25 (DS). Early was a White-faced Ibis in the Mimbres Valley Mar. 1 (RF).

Five Greater White-fronted Geese at Farmington Mar. 13–22 (ph. TR) provided a high count for the northwest. Noteworthy Wood Ducks included one–two at Bluewa-