

ing. A Black-throated Sparrow that strayed to *Elmore* 7 Jun (KD) was a first for Latilong 18. Lark Bunting and Grasshopper Sparrow breeding was confirmed for Latilong 15 in *Clark*, ID, 18 Jul (CT). The small Great-tailed Grackle colony in *Owyhee*, ID, fledged at least four young this season (RE), and another Great-tailed was reported near Market Lake W.M.A. 7–12 Jun (CT). Reports of Idaho Com. Grackles were down from last year, with sightings in *Ada*, *Caribou*, *Fremont*, *Jefferson*, and *Lemhi*; breeding was presumed in *Ada* (MC, FK), *Caribou*, and *Fremont* (CT). The male Baltimore Oriole present since late May in Missoula lingered until 18 Jun (JM).

ADDENDUM

A belated spring report included a pair of Chestnut-sided Warblers at City of Rocks Reserve, *Cassia*, ID, 20 May (TS).

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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. In most regions, place names given in italic type are counties. Standard abbreviations that are used throughout *North American Birds* are keyed on page 358.

mountain west region

VAN A. TRUAN
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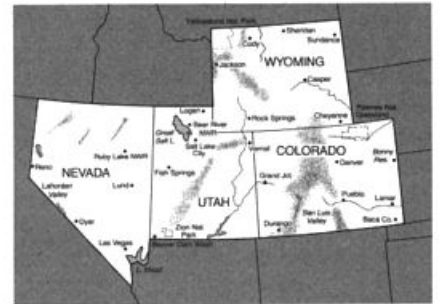
The seasonal moist air masses which move north from Mexico—the "Monsoons"—moved back and forth from west to east throughout the summer; thus precipitation in most areas of the Region was at or above normal, and temperatures were somewhat cooler. In late June through July, areas of Colorado experienced rains well above normal; by the end of July, Colorado Springs had exceeded its annual record precipitation with over 25 inches.

The Nevada Breeding Bird Atlas (NBBA) is well under way, and field observers are providing excellent distribution data on breeding birds in the state. We appreciate being provided with atlas data, which we hope will continue to be utilized in this and other media prior to publication of the final product.

Abbreviations: @ (rare bird form submitted to the Colorado Birds Records Committee); H.B.V.P. (Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve, NV); S.W.A. (State Wildlife Area).

LOONS THROUGH SANDPIPERS

An ad. **Red-throated Loon** found at Wolford Mt. Recreation Area, *Routt*, in mid-July (*fide* NE) and again 18–31 Jul and into August (NK, VZ, TL, RL, m.ob.) was the first summer record for Colorado. Also rare in summer, a Pacific Loon was at Baseline Res., *Boulder*, CO, 27–31 Jul and continuing (KH, m.ob.). Two ad. Pied-billed Grebes with three young at Corn Cr., *Clark*, NV, 4 Jun (m.ob.) provided an uncommon nesting record for this site. A count of 98/ adult and 300 juvenile Eared Grebes at Walden Res., *Jackson*, CO, 20–21 Jul (RL, TL) was high. A W. Grebe summered at Silverthorne, *Summit*, CO (SB). With the dam work completed at Antero Res., *Park*, CO, breeding Am. White Pelicans returned and produced 33 juveniles (TL, SB); 146 juveniles were also noted at MacFarlane Res., *Jackson*, CO, 21 Jul (RL, TL). At least two **Brown Pelicans** appeared in s.e. Colorado this season. An immature and an adult were in *Bent* 1–31



Jul (DN, BM, m.ob.); an adult reported at L. Meredith, *Crowley*, 17 Jul (SM) could have been one of the *Bent* birds.

A Great Egret, rare in the San Luis Valley in summer, was in *Alamosa*, CO, 30 Jun (TL, DF). Also seasonally rare, an imm. **Trumpeter Swan** summered in *Boulder* (BK). The **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck** remained at H.B.V.P. through the summer (m.ob.). A male Am. Black Duck was at John Martin Res., *Bent*, CO, 2 Jun (DN, BG, m.ob.) for one of the few summer records in the Region. A male Greater Scaup at Carson L., *Churchill*, NV, 3 Jul (DS, m.ob.) was quite unexpected. Up to 40 Bufflehead (mostly females) were at MacFarlane Res., CO, 21 Jul (TL); a female summered at H.B.V.P. (m.ob.). One to three imm. Com. Goldeneyes summered at H.B.V.P. (m.ob.), and a male was in Browns Park N.W.R., *Moffat*, CO, 7 Jun (DE, RL). Hooded Mergansers are rarely reported in Colorado in summer; reports this season included single females at Jumbo S.W.A., *Logan*, 2 Jun (NK), Antero Res., *Park*, 5 Jul (TL, SB), and Wolford Mt. Res. 26 Jul (TL, DF), and 18 females at N. Poudre Res. #3, *Larimer*, 28 Jul (NK). At Adobe Creek Res., *Bent*, one or two Com. Mergansers were observed 13–25 Jul (BKP, LS); two female Red-breasted Mergansers 22 Jul (DSi) were even rarer. A Red-breasted was also observed at Willard Bay S.P., UT, 12 Jun (K. Evans, A. Smith).

Three juv. Ospreys 17 Jul (BKP) indicated successful breeding at Pueblo Res., *Pueblo*, CO. An ad. N. Goshawk at Pueblo City Park 25 Jun (PH) was extremely late for the plains. The bird of the season, a first record for Colorado, was an ad. **Zone-tailed Hawk** at Colorado N.M., *Mesa*, 17 Jul (JD, NB, m.ob.). A pair of Peregrine Falcons nested at Frisco, *Summit*, CO (SB, AH). An ad. female Ruffed Grouse and three young were observed eating grasshoppers within the city limits of Morgan, UT, 20 Jul (VAS). Possibly due to high reservoir water levels,

only two Black Rails were reported this summer from Ft. Lyon, *Bent*, CO. A pair of Sandhill Cranes, with at least one young bird, was found near Genoa, *Douglas*, 8 May (BC, BeC), providing one of the first recent records of breeding for this species in w. Nevada. Snowy Plover counts at Stillwater N.W.R., *Churchill*, NV, 2 Jun (WH) included 52 adults and five immatures. A rare w. slope record of **White-rumped Sandpiper** came from Rio Blanco S.W.A., *Rio Blanco*, CO, 7 Jun (DF, RL); a White-rumped was also seen at Ouray N.W.R., UT, 11 Jun (RH, WINGS).

JAEGERS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

A surprising light-morph sub-ad. Pomarine Jaeger was at Stagecoach Res., *Routt*, CO, 17 Jun (DF). Laughing Gulls appear to be expanding westward: sightings in Colorado included a 2nd-year bird at Adobe Creek Res., CO, 6 Jul (BKP, SC), two immatures at John Martin Res., CO, late July (DN), and one-two adults also at John Martin Res. 24–25 Jul (MJ, BKP, VZ, m.ob.). One to four flightless juv. **Franklin's Gulls** were at Walden Res., *Jackson*, CO, 20–21 Jul (RL, TL), providing the first breeding record for Colorado. Three Bonaparte's Gulls were at Lower Latham Res., *Weld*, CO, 17 Jul (DM). A large total of 204 juv. California Gulls was at Walden Res., CO, 21 Jul (TL, RL); 74 juveniles were at MacFarlane Res., *Jackson*, CO, 21 Jul (TL, RL); and 1030 adults and 240 young were at new nesting sites on 3 separate islands at the Carson Sink, *Churchill*, NV, 9 Jul (WH). An ad. Great Black-backed Gull was at Upper Queens Res., *Kiowa*, CO, 18 Jul (SM) and—most likely the same bird—at John Martin Res. 24–31 Jul and into August (MJ, BKP, VZ, m.ob.). Caspian Tern totals included 970 adults and 445 young on 3 islands at the Carson Sink 9 Jul (WH); this is the first nesting at the Carson Sink since 1986. A Least Tern was reported from H.B.V.P. 20 Jun (J&M Cressman), and two were there 10 Jul (RS).

Two White-winged Doves were reported from Colorado: in Rye, *Pueblo*, 17–18 Jul (DSi, m.ob.) and at Hasty Campground, *Bent*, 25 Jul (DJ). Two Black-billed Cuckoos were at Julesburg, *Sedgwick*, CO, 30 Jun (BW). In Nevada, single Yellow-billed Cuckoos were at Overton W.M.A., *Clark*, 12 Jun (TF) and Moapa, *Clark*, 17–21 Jul (BL); one sat in a pine tree on Old Lake Isabel Rd., near Rye, CO, 8 Jun (BKP, SC). More N. Pygmy-Owls than usual were reported in the Region: one at McClure Pass, *Pitkin*, CO, 24 Jun (RL), one at Ft. Carson, *Fremont*, CO,

29 Jun (BM, JW), two juveniles at Drake, *Larimer*, CO, 1 Jul (SR), and one in the Spring Mts., *Clark*, NV, 15 Jun (T. Floyd); two adults fledged three juveniles on 3 Jul in Rocky Mountain N.P., *Larimer*, CO. A **Whip-poor-will** (*arizonae*) was heard w. of Pagosa Springs, *Archuleta*, CO, 18 Jun–3 Jul (WW, m.ob., tape @BKP). A **Vaux's Swift** at Pueblo 6 Jul (VAT, KT, @BKP) was compared directly to Chimney Swifts and may provide the 2nd Colorado record. A female **Magnificent Hummingbird** in Boulder 24 Jun–31 Jul and into August (S&MP) was the first in several summers in Colorado. Up to five Acorn Woodpeckers appear to have established permanent residence near Durango, *La Plata*, CO, 22 Jun–18 Jul (BKP, TD, m.ob.). A hybrid female Williamson's × Red-naped sapsucker was at Golden Gate Canyon S.P., *Jefferson*, CO, 10 Jul (RB). A male **Black-backed Woodpecker** record s. of Pine Valley Ranch, *Jefferson*, CO, 30 May–16 Jul (MB), if accepted, would be a Colorado first. Three Gilded Flickers were reported nesting in Nevada near Searchlight, *Clark*, 5 Jun (JKa et al.).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH CROSSBILLS

A late Olive-sided Flycatcher was in Las Vegas 14 Jun (TF), and three–five Least Flycatchers were singing at Chatfield/Waterton, *Jefferson*, CO, 2–21 Jun (JK, m.ob.). A singing Willow Flycatcher at Ash Springs, *Lincoln*, NV, 21 Jun (GC) appeared to be on territory and therefore may have been the endangered s.w. *extimus* form. Extremely rare in n.w. Utah, a Black Phoebe was at Minersville 5 Jun (SS, PRS) for the first *Beaver* record. Twenty was a high count for Black Phoebes seen along the San Miguel R., *Montrose*, CO, 5 Jul (CD). A Brown-crested Flycatcher was at Overton W.M.A., *Clark*, NV, 2 Jun (MM, GC). Two pairs of **Eastern Kingbirds** were located in the Ruby Valley, *Elko*, NV, 15 Jul (CN), providing the first evidence of probable breeding for the NBBA; an individual was seen at Corn Cr., NV, 4 Jun (RS). Eastern Kingbirds were also in Utah: four were at Willard Bay S.P. and three were in Plain City 12 Jun, and one was near Morgan 30 Jul (KE, JRe, VS). A pair of Scissor-tailed Flycatchers returned to n.e. Colorado Springs, *El Paso*, 14 Jun–16 Jul (MS, m.ob., @BKP). It appears that the female died on the nest and the male stayed to 16 Jul. An imm. Scissor-tailed was at the Colorado Springs S.W.A. 30 Jul (*vide* JH).

Three Gray Vireos in *Moffat*, CO, 2 Jun (DF) were n. of usual summering areas, and one was in the Wah Wah Mts. (Hwy 21),

Beaver, UT, 19 Jun (SS). A male Purple Martin at Westminster, *Adams*, CO, 17 Jun (TD) was quite unexpected, as was one at Overton W.M.A., NV, 5 Jun (MM, GC). Veerys were reported from *Park*, CO, 18 Jun (TL, SB), near Westcliffe, *Custer*, CO, 9–10 Jul (BR), and at Williams Fork Res., *Grand*, CO, 23 Jun (TL). An unexpected late migrant Brown Thrasher was in Tonopah, *Esmeralda*, NV, 3 Jun (DT). A **Bendire's Thrasher** was found n. of Del Norte, *Rio Grande*, CO, 30 Jun (JK, NE, DS, WF), although in an area where it has occasionally occurred, there are fewer than 10 accepted records of Bendire's in the state. A pair of Am. Pipits above Island L. in the Ruby Mts., *Elko*, (GC) provided the first confirmed breeding for the NBBA; a 3rd adult was also found here.

A N. Parula was reported from Beatty, *Nye*, NV, 15 Jun (TF). It appears that Chestnut-sided Warbler is becoming a regular summering species in the Colorado foothills: reports included one at Bear Cr Nature Center, Colorado Springs, 8 Jun (GK), a male in Boulder 13 Jun (JT), a male in Rocky Mountain N.P. 14 Jun (SR), a male on McClure Pass, *Pitkin*, 19 Jun (VZ), and a male in Bluebell Canyon, *Boulder*, 23 Jun (JP). An ad. Yellow-throated Warbler was observed in large sycamore trees in Pueblo City Park, CO, 12 Jun (ph. @PH). Up to six Grace's Warblers, including juveniles, were reported from Babcock Hole, *Custer*, CO, 18 Jun–31 Jul (PAG, m.ob.). A late migrant male **Blackpoll Warbler** at Corn Cr. 10 Jun (RS) provided the 3rd spring record for Nevada. Late male Black-and-white Warblers were in Castlewood Canyon S.P., *Douglas*, CO, 12 Jun (HEK) and in Boulder, CO, 13 Jun (JP), and a female was at Corn Cr., NV, 5 Jun (RS). Ovenbirds were reported in higher numbers than usual in e. Colorado foothill habitat. A singing male Kentucky Warbler was at Colorado City 29–30 Jun (@DSi, PH). A pair of Hooded Warblers returned to the Gregory Canyon area, *Boulder*, CO, 18 Jun–22 Jul (JP, m.ob.) and were observed carrying food. A singing N. Waterthrush at Kauffman Ranch, Black Rock, *Millard*, UT, 5 Jun (PRS) was probably a late migrant. Single female Am. Redstarts were reported from Nevada at Tonopah 2 Jun (MM) and at Corn Cr. 2–5 Jun (RS).

Breeding in Colorado was suggested by a young male Hepatic Tanager in *Fremont* 29 Jun (BM, JW) and by pairs of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks n. of Rye 21 Jul (SC) and in Colorado Springs in June (RAJ). Two male Rose-breasted were at Kauffman Ranch, UT, 5 Jun (PRS), and single males were in

Nevada at Lida, *Esmeralda*, 1 Jun (MM) and at Corn Cr. 12 Jun (PF). A Green-tailed × Spotted towhee hybrid was noted e. of Old Park, *Grand*, CO, 23 Jun (TL). In Nevada, singing Grasshopper Sparrows were observed in the Montana Mts., *Humboldt*, 14–20 Jun and in the Black Rock Range, *Humboldt*, 24 Jun (LN). A *leucophrys* White-crowned Sparrow was singing near Hugo, *Lincoln*, CO, 12 Jun (TL). Possibly due to an excellent grass crop this season, dozens of McCown's Longspurs were in s.e. *El Paso*, CO, 26 Jun (AV). The male Painted Bunting in Cottonwood Canyon, *Baca*, CO, stayed to 2 Jun (TL). A singing male Bobolink was seen along Franklin L. in Ruby Valley, *Elko*, NV, 11 Jun (GC), and at least three others were seen e. of Lamoille, *Elko*, NV, 9 Jul (TE, NW). A Com. Grackle was at Kauffman Ranch, UT, 5 Jun (PRS). Rarely reported from the w. slope of Colorado, a female Orchard Oriole was at Uravan, *Montrose*, 3 Jun (IS). A Scott's Oriole e. of Lamoille, NV, 9 Jul (TE, NW) was north of its normal range. Eight Black Rosy-Finches were observed at the s. limit of their breeding

range in the Tushar Mts. (Delano Peak area), *Piute/Beaver*, UT, 17 Jul (PRS, JKr, LW). Two White-winged Crossbills near Aspen, *Pitkin*, CO, 26 Jun (TL) and reports of others in adjacent regions may be early signs of an invasion year to follow. A male and female Red Crossbill were at the upper end of Six Mile Canyon, *Storey*, NV, 6 Jun (DS).

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arizona region

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It was a strange summer. It began with Arizona experiencing one of the worst droughts that anyone could remember. Our impression was that few birds bred successfully in the mountains, as suggested by large numbers of Western Tanagers and Pine Siskins remaining at lowland feeders well into July. Then the rains came! This summer's monsoon rains were perhaps the best in years, transforming the parched desert into a sea of green. Time will tell whether the rains came in time to save what was shaping up to be a disastrous breeding season. Surprisingly, Arizona added two species to its state list, both of which were perhaps long overdue. A territorial Carolina Wren spent the entire season along the lower San Pedro River, establishing a first record west of the Continental Divide (although there are now a number of reports for as far west as the Rio Grande in New Mexico). Two Short-tailed Hawks were discovered in Miller Canyon in the Huachuca Mountains, one of which was

photographed, finally documenting the occurrence of this species for the state.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Chris Benesh who has graciously shared his expertise and time in co-authoring the Arizona regional report for the past several years but has resigned due to other commitments. His valuable input will be missed.

Abbreviations: A.B.C. (*Arizona Bird Committee*); Arizona Strip (*n.w. Arizona n. of Grand Canyon and w. of Page*); 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*); H.T.L. (*Hualapai Tribal Lands, n. of Kingman*); 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*); W.S.F. (*Western Sod Farm*).

GREBES THROUGH RAPTORS

The only Eared Grebe of the season was a single bird at Green Valley S.T.P. 16 Jun–1 Jul (MS, PS); Willcox has been the only location where this species has nested in s.e.



Arizona, but the water levels there have been too high in recent years. A Clark's Grebe, casual at best in s.e. Arizona during the summer, was at Patagonia L. 5 Jun (MS). Mid-summer reports of Am. White Pelicans are few and far between; therefore of interest were one at Willow Tank 13 Jun (O. McCaffrey, *vide* DJ), a high count of 41 at Picacho Res. 13 Jun (JH), and five at Upper L. Mary near Flagstaff 3 Jul (F. Welsh). Brown Pelican, normally a fairly regular summer visitor from Mexico, put in a poor showing this season with only one report of a single bird at Patagonia L. 5–23 Jun (MS, E. Johnson). Neotropical Cormorants have certainly become more wide-