

## JAYS THROUGH GOLDFINCHES

Only 16 Idaho Blue Jays were reported during the period, the lowest tally in years. A surprising 28,000 Bank Swallows staged at D.F.N.W.R. 21 Aug (JG, DL). Late single Barn Swallows were spotted below A.F.R. dam 14 Nov (MCR) and in *Canyon*, ID, 20 Nov (JG). A Bewick's Wren was near Boise 13–19 Sep (MC, FK); another at D.F.N.W.R. 3 Oct (JG, DL) was a refuge first. Two rare E. Bluebirds, plus fledglings, were reported in *Jefferson*, MT, in late Sep (GW). Always rare, single N. Mockingbirds were in Hamilton, MT, 22 Aug (DB), near Florence, MT, 26 Aug (WT), and in *Boundary*, ID, 18 Oct (RD).

There was a veritable invasion of rare Eastern warblers in s. Idaho. Single Tennessee Warblers stopped near Boise 12 Sep and 7 Oct (MC, FK), Pocatello 27 Sep–6 Oct (MCR, CT), *Twin Falls* 2 Oct (KF), and D.F.N.W.R. 6 Oct (JA, DT). A Chestnut-sided Warbler was at M.L.W.M.A. 19 Sep (GR). Magnolia Warblers were at D.F.N.W.R. 3 Oct (BC) and at M.L.W.M.A. 4–6 Oct (GR, m.ob.). Idaho's eighth and ninth **Black-throated Blue Warblers** were at A.F.R. 19 Sep (MCR, CT) and near Boise 1 Oct (JA, DT). A Palm Warbler was in Pocatello 27 Sep (MCR). **Blackpoll Warblers** at M.L.W.M.A. 16–19 Sep and 2 Oct (GR) and I.B.O. 23 Sep (JC) provided Idaho's sixth, seventh, and eighth records. A Black-and-White Warbler stopped in Pocatello 2–4 Oct (MCR, CT). The N. Waterthrush captured at I.B.O. 10 Aug (JC) and one in Boise 19 Sep (DT) were rare, but six netted at C.N.W.R. 14 Aug–4 Sep (CT) were less unusual. A few warblers were very late, such as the Yellow-rumped in Missoula, MT, 27–30 Nov (TT) and the Townsend's near Boise 3 Nov (MC, FK). A fem. **Summer Tanager** at D.F.N.W.R. 2 Sep (†JG, DL) furnished Idaho's third record.

Also late were two Chipping Sparrows near Boise 13–17 Oct and a Vesper Sparrow there 2 Nov (MC, FK). Reports of rare and local sparrows included two Brewer's in *Latah*, ID, 8 Aug (KD), a Swamp in Missoula 13 Sep (RN), and six pairs of nesting Lark Buntings in *Jefferson*, ID, 2 Aug (CT). Fewer rare *Zonotrichia* sparrows were reported this season. Only 11 White-throateds were tallied in Idaho and Idaho's Golden-crowneds were down by half from last year. Single Golden-crowneds were reported at I.B.O. 23 Sep (JC), in *Gem* 5–10 Oct (FZ), at D.F.N.W.R. 6 Oct (JG, DT), near Moscow 6 Oct (KD), and near Boise 7–17 Oct (MC, FK). Only one Harris's Sparrow was sighted in Idaho and three were reported in Montana.

Rare in both states, a Rusty Blackbird at C.N.W.R. 28 Nov (MCR) was Idaho's 11th. A record count of 41 sw. Idaho Great-tailed Grackles 28 Aug provided evidence of increasing numbers (JG). Others reported were one–three near A.F.R. throughout the period (MCR, CT) and one at M.L.W.M.A. 10 Oct (GR). Approximately 50 Com. Grackles staged in *Lemhi* 14 Sep (HR), probably the highest Idaho count ever. Both White-winged Crossbills and Com. Redpolls irrupted and were widely reported at locations as far s. as central and se. Idaho. A rare Hoary Redpoll accompanied Com. Redpolls in *Gallatin*, MT, 23 Nov (EA). Two Lesser Goldfinches attending fledglings in *Boise* 20 Aug confirmed breeding in Latilong 18 (MC, FK), a first for sw. Idaho.

## ADDENDUM

A belated report featured a **Clay-colored Sparrow**, Idaho's ninth, in *Boundary* 15 Jun 1999 (RD).

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# mountain west

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This fall was unusually warm and dry in most areas of the Region. Most areas of the Rockies had little or no snow. *La Niña* appears to cause dry and warm falls throughout the Region. Many birds that normally leave by late September remained well into the fall; northern species also arrived late.

**Abbreviations:** C.C. (*community college*); C.V.C.G. (*Crow Valley Campground, Weld County, CO*); E.K.W. (*Echness Kimbal Wilkens S.P., WY*); F.C.R.P. (*Fountain Creek Regional Park, El Paso County, CO*); H.B.V.P. (*Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve, Clark County, NV*); S.T.P. (*sewage treatment plant*); S.W.A. (*State Wildlife Area*); W.R.G.B. (*Wheat Ridge Greenbelt, Jefferson County, CO*).

## LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL

The summering Red-throated Loon at Wolford Mt. Rec. Area, *Grand*, CO, stayed to 12 Sep (v.o.) and one was at Jumbo Res., *Logan*, CO, 27 Nov (PS). There were reports of 25 Pacific Loons from nine counties in e.



Colorado, and a rare west slope individual at Highline Res., *Mesa*, CO, 1 Nov (DWr). In Nevada, three were at Walker L., *Mineral*, 23 Nov (PL, JLD), with one at L. Mead, *Clark*, 25 Nov (PL); also, birds were at L. DeSmet, *Buffalo*, WY, 2 Nov (DF) and one at Willard Bay, UT 23 Nov (MS). Approximately 300 Com. Loon were at Walker L. 23 Nov (PL, JLD). Red-necked Grebes were reported at Pyramid L., *Washoe*, NV, 30 Sep (TF et al.), Jumbo Res. 10 Oct (RK, BKP), Boulder Res., *Boulder*, CO, 30–31 Oct (SF, SSe, TL, m.ob.) and 7 Nov (DW), and at Pueblo Res., *Pueblo*, CO, 7–28 Nov (MJ, m.ob.). An early Horned Grebe was at Pyramid L. 6 Sep (GC, MM, TF), with a high count of eight there 30 Sep (TF et al.). Four flightless young W. Grebes, with adults, were at Pyramid L. 6 Sep (GC, MM, TF) and a high count of 4,943 was there 30

Sep (TF et al.). Also at Pyramid L. 6 Sep were four flightless young Clark's Grebes with adults (GC, MM, TF). The summering Brown Pelicans at John Martin Res., *Bent*, CO, remained to 29 Aug (v.o.). Adult Neotropic Cormorants were reported from John Martin Res. 22 Aug (CLW) and at Strauss Cabin L., *Larimer*, CO, 9 Oct (PS). A late Am. Bittern was 10 mi sw. of Casper 14 Nov (CEM). Two Least Bittern were heard at the w. end of John Martin Res. 6 Aug (CLW, JK, SS); breeding may have occurred. A high count of 25 Great Egrets were at Union Res., *Weld*, CO, 9 Sep (DAL). An imm. Little Blue Heron at Lochbuie, *Adams*, CO, 5–27 Aug (CLW, m.ob.). Two Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were reported in Colorado, one at L. Cheraw, *Otero*, 29 Aug (BKP, MJ, PH) and one at L. Henry, *Crowley*, 5 Sep (DJ).

Sixty-four Tundra Swans were at Beck L., *Cody*, WY, 6 Nov (DF). An ad. Black **Brant** was at Utah Park, Aurora, *Araphoe*, CO, 16–21 Nov (DB, m.ob.). A pair of Wood Ducks was at Torrance Ranch, n. of Beatty, *Nye*, 10 Sep (KV). Rarely reported in the intermountains of Colorado, a female Greater Scaup was on Windy Gap Res., *Grand*, 21 Oct (DF, TL, RL). A Long-tailed Duck was at Healy Res., *Buffalo*, WY, 2 Nov, (DF) and four were at Soda L., WY, 19 Nov (CEM). Rarely reported in w. Colorado, a female Surf Scoter was at Juniata Res., *Mesa*, 11 Nov (RL) and one was at Rifle Gap Res., 28–30 Nov (KPo, VZ). Also, four were at Soda L. 19–26 Nov (CEM). A White-winged Scoter was at H.B.V.P 30 Oct–7 Nov (JHe, m.ob.), a male was at Soda L. 17 Oct (CEM), and one was at L. Mead off the Las Vegas Marina 26 Nov (PL). An imm. female Black Scoter was at Big Johnson Res., *El Paso*, CO, 5–28 Nov (MJ, m.ob.), one was at Soda L. 21 Nov (CEM), and an ad. male was at Pueblo Res. 10 Nov (BKP). A Hooded Merganser was at Wolford Mt. Rec. Area, *Grand*, CO, 22 Oct (DF, TL, RL) and five were at H.B.V.P 20–26 Nov (m.ob.). A Red-breasted Merganser was at H.B.V.P 19–20 Nov (m.ob.).

#### RAPTORS THROUGH SHOREBIRDS

A **White-tailed Kite** was observed between Cortez and Mancos, *Montezuma*, CO, 5 Nov (EH). Being a single-observer sight record, it will not be accepted as the first Colorado record by the records committee. With the expansion of various bird species, oddities/rarities should be recorded, whether accepted or not by local committees, as long as documentation supports natural occurrence and the correct identification. Two

Red-shouldered Hawks were in Colorado, at Boulder 7 Sep (RT) and Ft. Collins, *Larimer*, 2 Oct (DAL). Also, in Nevada singles were n. of Beatty 15 Aug and 15 Sep (KV) and at Big Canyon, Pyramid L., 12 Sep (DS), Crystal Springs, *Lincoln*, 2 Oct (pair; SS), Las Vegas 19 Oct (CT), and Corn Creek, *Clark*, 7 Aug–23 Sep (ad. and imm.; RS). Although observed in all seasons in NV, there are still no nesting records. A Broad-winged Hawk at Grand Jct., *Mesa*, CO, 20 Sep (RL) was w. of normal. Single Merlins were reported from Lemmon Valley Marsh, NV, 23 Oct (JA, TF) and at Carson City, NV, 7 Nov (CGB). A possible Gyrfalcon was reported between Oak Creek and Steamboat Sprs., *Routt*, CO, 13 Nov (M&DM).

A late Black-bellied Plover was at Logandale, Clark, NV, 6 Nov (CT). Am. Golden-Plovers were reported from ne. Colorado at Rd. 48, *Weld*, CO, 13–21 Sep (BBH, TD, m.ob.) and Timnath Res., *Larimer*, CO, 3 Oct (SM), with seven at Jackson Res., *Morgan*, CO, 15 Oct (JR); also, one was at Hawk Springs Res., *Goshen*, WY, 20 Sep (*vide* SS). Rarely reported from Wyoming, three Piping Plovers were at Soda L. 6–13 Aug (CEM). Two Mtn. Plovers were at Carson L., NV, 11 Nov (DS), with six there 28 Nov (NH, JT, LC). Two Solitary Sandpipers were at H.B.V.P. NV, 11 Aug (MCR), one at Blue Diamond, *Clark*, NV, 12 Sep (RSc), and another at Henderson 1–4 Sep (MCR). A late Spotted Sandpiper was at Oxbow Park, NV, 7 Nov (TF). Up to 300 Marbled Godwits were near Morgan, UT, 12 Nov (KE, JRe, VAS). Entirely unexpected, a **Hudsonian Godwit** was at Soda L., WY, 3–17 Oct (CEM). In Colorado, two Ruddy Turnstones were reported, one each in *Bent* and *Weld*; one was at Carson Sink, *Churchill*, NV, 25 Aug (BH). A Red Knot was at Soda L. 8 Aug (CEM). Rare in w. Colorado, a Sanderling was at Wolford Mt. Rec. Area, *Grand*, CO, 19 Sep (TL). Three Semipalmated Sandpipers were reported from Carson L., 4 Aug (MM), 24 Aug (AC, TF), and 28 Sep (DS); also, one was at Minersville Res., *Beaver*, UT, 8 Aug (PRS). A late Least Sandpiper was at Totten Res., *Montezuma*, CO, 13 Nov (RL). Three late Pectoral Sandpipers were at Rocky Ford S.T.P., *Otero*, CO, 5 Nov (BKP, KH) and in Nevada, 8 were at Moapa, *Clark*, 2 Sep (MCR), four were at H.B.V.P 10 Oct (MCR), and three were at Logandale, *Clark*, 6 Nov (CT). A Buff-breasted Sandpiper was reported in *Weld* 7 Sep (SM). Eight Short-billed Dowitchers were reported in e. Colorado. A **Red Phalarope** molting into

basic plumage was w. of Scotty's Junction, *Nye*, 28 Sep (WW, KW); there are fewer than 10 Nevada records. Another in first-basic plumage was at Wheatland Res. No 2, *Albany*, WY, 30 Sep (*vide* SS).

#### GULLS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS

A dark juv. Pomarine Jaeger was at Standley L., *Jefferson*, CO, 30 Oct–1 Nov (NE, TL, JR, m.ob.), an intermediate juv. was at Pueblo Res. 6 Nov (CFO et al.), and a dark juv. was at Cherry Creek Res., *Araphoe*, CO, 12–28 Nov (BB, m.ob.). A dark-morph juv. Parasitic Jaeger was off Lott Freeway at Carson L. 28 Aug (DS); it was on the water and appeared to be injured or sick. Also, a light ad. Parasitic was at Windsor Res., *Weld*, CO, 18 Oct (SJD, m.ob.) and a juv. at Farmington Bay, UT, 17 Sep and 6 Oct (RJA, KJo). Most unusual was a possible first-summer Laughing ~ Ring-billed Gull hybrid at John Martin Res. 7 Aug (ph. CLW, JK, SS). Colorado had two Little Gulls this fall, a juv. at Union Res. 5–6 Oct (SJD, m.ob.) and an ad. at Pueblo Res. 27 Nov+ (TL, MJ, PG, BKP). Three Mew Gulls were reported in Colorado, a juv. at Holbrook Res., *Otero*, 17 Oct (MJ) and basic ads. at Union Res 18–20 Nov (JV, SD) and Cherry Creek Res 20–21 Nov (SD, JV, PG, m.ob.). In Nevada, Thayer's Gull were reported from Pyramid L. (GS, PL, JLD) and Walker L. (PL, JLD). Colorado had a remarkable six Lesser Black-backed Gulls; this species has to be nesting in North America more commonly than records indicate. Records were of imms. at Timnath Res. 28–31 Aug (PS, SJD, m.ob.) and at Strauss Cabin L. 30 Sep–12 Oct (SJD), adults at Holbrook Res 27 Sep–4 Oct (MJ, BKP, m.ob.), L. Cheraw, *Otero*, 17 Oct (MJ), and an Baseline Res, *Boulder*, 3 Oct (PP), and a fourth-basic and two second-basic individuals at Warren L, *Larimer*, 14–23 Nov (SJD, JF). The ad. Great Black-backed Gull at John Martin Res stayed to 13 Sep (v.o.); an imm. was at Timnath Res. 22 Aug (RD, JV), the winter ad. returned to Pueblo Res. 29 Oct+ (BKP, m.ob., ph. GWL), and an ad. was at L. Meredith, *Crowley*, CO, 31 Oct (MJ, BD, BKP). A Glaucous-winged Gull was at Pyramid L. 30 Sep (BH) and a first-basic bird was at Walker L. 23 Nov (PL, JLD). An ad. Glaucous-winged ~ Western Gull hybrid was at Sutcliffe, Pyramid L., 6 Sep (MM, TF, GC) and possibly again on 30 Sep (TF et al.). An ad. Black-legged Kittiwake was at Pueblo Res. 25 Nov (BKP). A Sabine's Gull was at Soda L., *Churchill*, NV, 17 Sep (MM). At Bear R., UT, 3 Sep there were approx 350 Forster's Terns, 25–30 Caspian Terns, and



**Surprisingly (given the dearth of records elsewhere in the West), the Great Black-backed Gull was become an annual visitor to Colorado, where this adult was photographed 8 Nov during its stay from 29 Oct 1999 through the winter at Pueblo Reservoir, Pueblo. Photograph/Greg W. Lasley**

20 to 25 Black Terns (KE, JRe, VAS). In Colorado, Caspian Terns were reported from John Martin Res., Union Res., Strauss Cabin L., and Holbrook Res. An ad. **Arctic Tern** was at Union Res., CO, 5 Oct (DE, TL).

A Eur. Collared-Dove was observed in e. Pueblo, CO, 27 Sep (MJ). Inca Doves were at Corn Creek 21–31 Aug (m.ob.) and Two Buttes Res., Baca, CO, 7 Oct (VAT). A male **Common Ground-Dove** at Jackson Res. 20 Nov (DQ, GE, DFO) provided the first confirmed Colorado record. An E. Screech-Owl was heard at Limon, Lincoln, CO, 9 Oct (DAL); Limon is surrounded by miles of plains. A migrant Burrowing Owl was observed at 11,000 ft in Gilpin, CO, 26 Sep (BBa, PM). An ad. female Blue-throated Hummingbird was at Black Forest, El Paso, CO, 29 Aug (BBH) and the female **Magnificent Hummingbird** in Boulder, CO, stayed to 10 Aug (v.o.). Possibly nesting, a female and two hatched juv. Black-chinned Hummingbirds were at Springfield, Baca, CO, 3 Aug (*fide* DSv). One stayed at a feeder in Reno, Washoe, NV, until 26 Oct (GC).

#### WOODPECKERS THROUGH PIPITS

At Devil's Tower N.M., WY, 31 Oct–1 Nov, a male Three-toed Woodpecker and three Black-backed Woodpeckers were observed (DF). Nevada had its first confirmed nesting **Pileated Woodpecker** at Chimney Beach Parking Area at L. Tahoe, Washoe, 3 Aug (GS, MM). Single Gray Flycatchers were reported from s. of Deckers, CO, 20 Aug (JLD), Ft. Lyon, Bent, CO, 19 Sep (MJ), Castlewood Canyon, Douglas, CO, 19 Sep

(H&UK), and w. of Pueblo 22 Sep (BKP). Great Crested Flycatchers were at Two Buttes Res. 21–27 Aug (BKP, TD) and 14 Sep (BKP, RK), Lamar, CO, 28 Aug (BKP, TD), and Prewitt Res., Washington, CO, 4 Sep (DFO). Two juv. Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were at Penrose, Fremont, CO, 13 Aug (JWa) and an ad. was near Crow Valley Campground, Weld, CO, 29–31 Aug (SJD, JF, m.ob.).

A White-eyed Vireo was at Chatfield Res., Jefferson, CO, Aug 26–Sep 11 (KS, m.ob.). A singing Yellow-throated Vireo was at Highlands Ranch, Jefferson, CO, 25 Aug (SS); singles were at F.C.R.P., El Paso, CO, 13 Sep (JWe), W.R.G.B. 18 Sep (TD), and Ft. Collins, Larimer, CO, 7 Oct (DAL). Single Blue-headed Vireos were at Rocky Mt. Arsenal, Adams, CO, 12 Sep (DFO), W.R.G.B. 14–16 Sep (VR, m.ob.), w. of Pueblo 15–18 Sep (BKP, MJ, m.ob.), and Ft. Collins 19 Sep (DAL). Philadelphia Vireos were at Two Buttes Res. 21 Aug (BKP) and Lamar 26 Sep (DAL). Up to three Verdin were observed numerous times 20 Aug–19 Oct at Torrance Ranch, Nye, providing the most northern occurrence in Nevada (KV, GC). An early Winter Wren was s. of Pueblo 28 Aug (BBH). A Gray Catbird was banded at Torrance Ranch 22 Sep (KV). A Curve-billed Thrasher was in Larimer, CO, 25–28 Aug (CB). Nevada's first **Sprague's Pipit** was observed on the Ft. Mojave Indian Reservation, Clark, 26 Nov (PL).

#### WARBLERS THROUGH GOLDFINCHES

A male Golden-winged Warbler was at

Chatfield Res. 24 Aug (KS) and a female was at W.R.G.B. 14–15 Sep (VR, m.ob.). N. Parulas were at Gros Ventre Campground, e. of Jackson, WY, 22 Aug (LJE) and Corn Creek 23 Sep (CT) and 11 Nov (record late date; RS, CT). A Chestnut-sided Warbler was at H.B.V.P 20–26 Nov (PMo, m.ob.). A male Magnolia Warbler was at E.K.W. 25 Sep (CEM). Male Cape May Warblers appeared w. of Pueblo 16 Sep (MJ) and in Pueblo City Park 24–25 Oct (DSi, DJ, m.ob.). A male Black-throated Blue Warbler was at Corn Creek 19 Sep (RS), a female was there 9–10 Oct (CT), one was banded at Torrance Ranch 10 Oct (KV), and a male was reported at Eagle, Eagle, CO, 24 Sep (JMe). A female Blackburnian Warbler was in Colorado City, Pueblo, CO, 18 Nov (DSi). A Grace's Warbler at Rye, Pueblo, CO, 17 Aug (DSi) may indicate nesting again in the area. A male Prairie Warbler in Bent, CO, 19 Sep (BKP, MJ, BD). Utah's eighth **Palm Warbler** was observed at Lucin, UT, 26 Sep (JRA). Colorado had two Prothonotary Warblers, at Prewitt Res. 8 Sep (TD) and at W.R.G.B. 14 Sep (GW). A Worm-eating Warbler was banded at Lykins Gulch, Boulder, CO, mid-Sep (JHa). A late Ovenbird was in Pueblo 11–12 Nov (BD, JD) and one was at Corn Creek 5–11 Sep (RS). N. Waterthrushes were at Corn Creek 24 Aug (SSh) and 11 Sep (RS); Big Canyon, Pyramid L., 6–11 Sep (GC, MM, TF, GS); Wheeler Springs, Clark, NV, 12 Sep (RSc); Bodyfelt Ranch n. of Tonapah, Nye, NV, 18 Sep (MM); and Willard Bay, UT, 13 Sep (MS). Also, two were banded at Torrance Ranch, 10 Sep and 18 Sep (KV). A Black-and-white Warbler was at Corn Creek 11 Sep (DCR). Two Am. Redstarts were at Corn Creek 5–6 Sep (RS) and one was at Wheeler Springs 12 Sep (RSc). A **Kentucky Warbler** was banded at Torrance Ranch 11 Sep, providing the first fall record for Nevada and sixth for the state (KV). Two Hooded Warblers were reported at E.K.W., a female 15 Sep and a male 12 Oct (C. Michelson).

An ad. male Summer Tanager was at Ft. Collins 21–22 Nov (BDi, SJD, JF). A male E. Towhee at Franktown, Douglas, CO, 16–17 Oct (HEK, UK) and a female was at Colorado City, CO, 19 Oct (DSi). A bird thought to be Eastern ~ Spotted Towhee hybrid was at Jackson Res., Morgan, CO, 17 Sep (BR). In Colorado, Field Sparrows were reported from Washington, Pueblo, and Baca. An ad. **Henslow's Sparrow** in Sedgwick, CO, 10 Oct (JK, BKP) would represent the third Colorado record, if accepted. An ad. **Le Conte's Sparrow** was observed (CFO)

within a few minutes in the same area. It seems that walking millet and weed fields in e. Colorado each fall can produce interesting migrant sparrows. A Harris's Sparrow and a Swamp Sparrow were at Indian Springs, Clark, NV, 25 Nov (PL). Nine White-throated Sparrows were reported from Nevada and one was banded at Cibolla Creek near Powderhorn, Gunnison, CO, 2 Oct (SBo). An imm. Golden-crowned Sparrow was observed at C.V.C.G. 1 Oct (DAL) and an imm. was at Ash Creek Res., Washington, UT, 24 Oct (PRS).

A Dickcissel was found at Corn Creek 5 Sep (RS). Eight to 12 **McCown's Longspur** and a **Lapland Longspur** were at Carson L. 23–28 Nov (JLD, PL, LN, m.ob.), providing the second known occurrence for the Lahontan Valley. Also, two Laplands were at the Ponderosa Diary in Amargosa Valley, Nye, 25 Nov (PL). A Rose-breasted Grosbeak was at Crystal Springs 2 Oct (PRS). A late Lazuli Bunting was noted at Corn Creek 27 Nov (RS). Late Bullock's Orioles included an ad. male at Brighton, Adams, CO, 29 Nov (MBI) and an imm. male in Lamar, CO, 30 Nov (DAL). Colorado had two Purple Finch reports, one from Two Buttes Res. 26 Oct (DAL) and one from Franktown, Douglas, CO, 28–30 Oct (H&UK). A pair of Com. Redpolls was s. of normal at Pueblo Res. 20–28 Nov (BKP, m.ob.). A Lawrence's Goldfinch was at Corn Creek 26 Sep (RS).

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**T**he fall season's weather in Arizona saw extremes at both ends of the spectrum. We watched the second-longest recorded monsoon early in the season change to a record-breaking dry spell from late September throughout the remainder of the period. Warm temperatures also persisted in November with several record highs. The combination of an extremely dry spring and the long rainy season led to an extended breeding season for many birds, especially passerines. Reports of birds feeding young in late September and October seemed to be the norm rather than the exception.

**Abbreviations:** A.B.C. (*Arizona Bird Committee*); B.W.D. (*Bill Williams Delta*); B.A.N.W.R. (*Buenos Aires N.W.R.*); H.R.P. (*Hassayampa R. Preserve*); L.C.R.V. (*lower Colorado R. Valley*); M.F.L. (*Many Farms L.*); N.I.R. (*Navajo Indian Reservation*); P.A.P. (*Pinal Airpark*); P.R.D. (*Painted Rock Dam*); S.P.R. (*San Pedro R.*); S.T.P. (*sewage treatment plant*); U.A. (*University of Arizona, Tucson*); W.S.F. (*Western Sod Farms, near Friendly Corners*).

## LOONS THROUGH RAPTORS

A casual transient away from the L.C.R.V., a Pacific Loon was at Willow L., Yavapai, 19–20 Nov (BT, CT). At least 60 Horned Grebes at L. Havasu 27 Nov (SGa, RMJ, PL, MSM) provided the second-highest number ever for the state; one was also on an e. *Maricopa* pond 30 Nov (MS). A single Clark's Grebe was at the new Tempe Town L. 6 Nov (S. Burge) and two were at the Avra Valley S.T.P. 14–20 Nov (MS). Although a regular transient in the L.C.R.V., high concentrations of Am. White Pelican were counted there 6 Nov, with 350 at Mittry L., Yuma (D. Taylor) and 1,500 on L. Mohave (SGo). Also, 82 were counted at P.R.D. 23 Oct (SGa, L. Norris). Elsewhere in s. Arizona, individuals or small groups were noted at Arizona City, Pinal, 3 Sep–2 Oct and around Tucson 8–18 Oct. Only two Brown Pelicans were reported, at Tucson 4 Sep (C. Van Hampton) and at B.W.D. 27–30 Nov (PL et al). The northward expansion of Neotropical Cormorants the past few years