

Northern Parulas (*) at B.R. 14 Jun (JBr) and at Springville, *Utah*, UT 15 Jun (JH et al.); a singing Chestnut-sided Warbler (*) at Yerington, *Lyon*, NV 6 Jun (CR, DH) and another at B.R. on the unusual date of 9 Jul (JBr); one or 2 Black-throated Blue Warblers (*) at B.R. 8–10 Jun (JBr, DT); a tardy Myrtle Warbler at B.C. 8 Jun (TF, TL); 2 early Audubon's Warblers at Duncan Creek, *Iron*, UT 29 Jul (SS) and 5–6 at B.C. 31 Jul (FP); an early Townsend's Warbler at Aspen Grove, *Utah*, UT 27 Jul (EH); a Black-and-white Warbler at B.R. 2 Jun (JBr et al.); American Redstarts at three Nevada locales 2–30 Jun (v. o.); a **Worm-eating Warbler** (*) at W.S.R. 1 Jul (GS); an Ovenbird (*) at B.R. 2 Jun (JBr); single Northern Waterthrushes at M.R.S. 1 Jun (JBr & DT) and at C.C. 5–7 Jun (RS); and single Hooded Warblers (*) at Dyer, *Esmeralda*, NV 3 Jun (DT et al.) and Capitol Reef N.P., *Wayne*, UT 27 Jun–3 Jul (TC); the latter bird, a male, was banded there.

TANAGERS THROUGH FINCHES

A Summer Tanager at Dyer, *Esmeralda*, NV 3 Jun (GS) and 2 at B.R. 12 Jul (JBr) were somewhat northerly, while a stray to Holladay, *Salt Lake*, UT 7 Jul (SC) was well to the n. of its normal range. Meanwhile, a good 9 individuals were tallied in M.V.W. 7 Jul (SS). An Abert's Towhee at Pueblo Park, *Clark*, NV 4 Jul was notable; the species is highly sedentary in Nevada and had never before been reported from this location (RS). A Grasshopper Sparrow (*) near Caliente, *Lincoln*, NV was seen carrying food or a fecal sac (+WW), and 2 birds were noted at A.I.C., *Davis*, UT 3 Jun (JB, KB). Lincoln's Sparrow is poorly documented as a breeder in Nevada, so the following records were of note: 4 ads. on the O.C.T. 1 Jul, including an individual seen carrying food (JD, TF); at least 6 ads. in Lamoille Canyon, *Elko* 10 Jul, including 3 seen feeding young (MP, LP).

Stray Rose-breasted Grosbeaks lingered at four Nevada locales 1 Jun–3 Jul (v. o.), but the only Utah report was an ad. male at F.S.N.W.R. 30 Jun (JBa). A male **Painted Bunting** (*) at Providence, *Cache*, UT 20–25 Jun (JL, WL), if accepted by the Utah records committee, would be the first or 2nd for the state. Indigo Buntings at five Nevada locales included 3 males in M.V.W. 7 Jul (SS); meanwhile, there were reports of single birds at three Utah locales 24 Jun–8 Jul (v. o.). Two Bobolinks were seen near Lamoille, *Elko*, NV 27 Jul (JE & SW), and one was at Goshen Canyon, *Juab*, UT 8 Jul (EH). A possible Common Grackle (*) was at Tonopah, *Nye*, 9 Jul (†JBr). Northerly Hooded Orioles were found at Reno, *Washoe*, NV 29 Jun (BG) and at Fallon, *Churchill*, NV 30 Jul (MA).

Multiple rosy-finches atop Mount Grant, *Mineral*, NV 22 Jun (LW) were interesting. Given the proximity of this site to the Sierra Nevada, it seems most likely that the rosy-finches were Gray-crowned—a species that could not be confirmed as a breeder during the *Breeding Bird Atlas* work (1997–2000). Two or 3 Pine Grosbeaks on the O.C.T. 1 Jul (JD, TF) were the only report. Red Crossbills were present in good numbers in the Carson Range, *Washoe*, NV, but the only other Nevada report was of 3 birds at Mt. Moriah, *White Pine* 28 Jul (JE & SW). A black-backed Lesser Goldfinch at Oxbow Park, *Washoe*, NV 26 Jul (JEL) was interesting; this form is occasionally reported from our Region.

Observers: Mike Amos, Jay Banta (JBa), Joel Beyer, Kathy Beyer, John Brack (JBr), Steve

Carr, K.C. Childs, Tom Clark, Jack Cochran, Ed Conrad, Carol Davis, Rob Dobbs, Jon Dunn, Jim Eidel, Joanne Ely (JEL), Ted Floyd, Rick Fridell, Jim Graham, Dana Green, Bill Grossi, Dan Harmon, Bill Henry, Jesse Huffaker, Eric Huish, Dan Johnston, Laura Johnston, Tim Lenz, John Lisonbee, Wendy Lisonbee, Karen McDonal, Neil McDonal, Martin Meyers, Colby Neuman, Fred Petersen, Mark Ports, Lois Ports, Chris Randolph, Bruce Robinson, Lynn Robinson, Ron Rovanske, Terry Sadler, Rick Saval, Greg Scyphers, Bryan Shirley, Dennis Shirley, Kei Sochi, Reed Stone (RSt), Je Anne Strott, Polly Sullivan (PSu), Priscilla Summers, Steve Summers, Dennis Trousdale, Ken Voget, Jack Walters, Walter Wehtje, Stuart White, Larry Williams.



Arizona



Gary H. Rosenberg
P.O. Box 91856
Tucson, Arizona 85752-1856
ghrosenberg@theriver.com

Roy M. Jones
2237 North Sunset Drive
Tempe, Arizona 85281
barbet@primenet.com

The summer season saw good breeding productivity, which will likely help many species recover from the drought conditions of the past several years. By July, juveniles of many passerine species were being seen in good numbers. Although the season started at an above-average level of rainfall, our typical monsoon pattern dried up early, leaving vegetation browner than normal. The period was marked with several quality birds: Harlequin

Duck, Western Gull, and Tropical Parula all made only their second appearances in the state, while Eastern Wood-Pewee and Crescent-chested Warbler, two other accidentals, were also reported.

Abbreviations: A.B.C. (Arizona Bird Committee), A.V.S.T.P. (Avra Valley Waste Water Treatment Plant); H.R.P. (Hassayampa River Preserve); S.T.P. (sewage treatment plant); W.W.D. (Whitewater Draw Wildlife Area)

GREBES THROUGH HAWKS

Although there was no sign of breeding, Eared Grebes were found in the southeast during Jul; 2 were at W.W.D. 6 Jul (PS, JM), and one was at Willcox 9 Jul (B&JS), with 3 present there 28 Jul (MMS). Western Grebes were noted away from known breeding areas in the state: one at Avra Valley S.T.P. 10 Jun (JH, JHi) and several, with one Clark's, at W.W.D. 1 Jun (SH). American White Pelicans are rarely found in the southeast, and it is even more unusual to find large concentrations there. This summer, 50–65 were counted at W.W.D. 22 Jun+ (m. ob.) Post-breeding subad. Brown Pelicans show up almost annually in the s.-cen. part of the state, especially along the lower Gila R. drainage; therefore, one found in sw. Phoenix 16 Jun (RD) was not unexpected, but another individual found at W.W.D. 6 Jul+ (PS, JM) was more unusual. The population of Neotropical Cormorants that has been present the past several years along the confluence of the Salt and Gila Rivers in e. *Maricopa* continued to flourish this summer, with as many as 40 seen 24 Jun (TC); although breeding has yet to be confirmed here, there is little doubt that it has taken place. Other reports away from Patagonia L. were of 6 at Arivaca L. 24 Jun (MMS) and an individual at Arizona City 20–23 Jul (TC et al.).

Least Bitterns were found away from previously known locations at Castle Rock in ne. Tucson 8 Jul (BN) and Safford 19 Jul (JW). From the Gulf of California, wandering imm. herons included a Tricolored at Reid Park, Tucson 8–21 Jul (SS, ph. MMS et al.), and a "calco" Little Blue at Safford 19 Jul (JW); both are still considered casual in the state. Of the many Cattle Egrets reported during the summer, reports of individuals carrying nesting material and of at least 3 "scruffy young" at a large heron rookery near Thatcher 17 & 19 Jul (BM, JW) were of particular interest and confirmed nesting at a new location in the state. Noteworthy White-faced Ibis reports included up to 6 sw. of Phoenix 23 Jun–7 Jul (TC, PM) and 3 on 6 Jul at W.W.D. (PS, JM); last year's

nesting colony along the Colorado R. remains the only breeding record for Arizona.

Casual during the summer away from known breeding areas, 3 Wood Ducks were at Kingfisher Pond 23 Jul (CDB). Gadwall breeding continued for the 2nd year at Nogales, where three family groups were reported at Palo Duro Cr. Golf Course pond 23 Jun–5 Jul (BW, MMS). Other lingering or early arriving ducks were 2 American Wigeon at Nogales 23 Jun (BW) and an individual at Reid Park 25 Jun (MMS), and 2 Northern Pintails at W.W.D. 16 Jul (SH). Ring-necked Ducks were observed at Willcox 1 Jun (SH) and at Tucson's Agua Caliente Park 9 Jun (JH, MMS), and a single Lesser Scaup was still at Phoenix 16 Jun (MC). Very exciting was Arizona's 2nd **Harlequin Duck**, which was found and remained along the Colorado R. in the Grand Canyon from 7–30 Jun+ (CL, M&HY). Interestingly enough, some observers attempted and were able to identify this bird from the rim of the canyon. Oh, what a good scope will do!

Ospreys in the s. are always of interest during the season; individuals were at Arivaca L. 16 Jun (JH, CS) and Willcox 18 Jun (GB). Very unusual and n. of known breeding sites, a single **Mississippi Kite** was observed at Flagstaff 21 Jun (TK), and a little s. and w. of there at Chino Valley, up to 4 were present, including 2 ad. and 2 imm. birds 1 Jun+ (EM, CST, RDU); both were the first local records. An extralimital Gray Hawk was away from favored habitat at Fort Bowie National Historic Site 29 Jul (SW), and the pair of Red-shouldered Hawks that nested at H.R.P. last year was once again present throughout the period. They apparently made another attempt at raising young, though to date we have received no reports as to their success (NL). A Sandhill Crane reported at Luna L. in mid-Jul (DT) was unusual.

STILTS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS

This appeared to have been a very good year for Black-necked Stilts; unusually high concentrations included 100 at Tucson 13 Jul (MMS) and 65 at the A.V.S.T.P. 17 Jul (MMS). A Semipalmated Plover at the A.V.S.T.P. 16 Jul (JH) was early. Migrant Willets are always of interest; 2 were at Willcox 1 Jun (SH) and another 2 at A.V.S.T.P. 5 Jul (MMS). The only Marbled Godwit reported was one at W.W.D. 27 Jul (MMS et al.). A rare fall transient, a single ad. Semipalmated Sandpiper was at the A.V.S.T.P. 21 Jul (CDB). Somewhat early, Stilt Sandpipers were one each at A.V.S.T.P. and Willcox, both 25 Jul (JH, GB). The only Short-billed Dowitcher of the season was at A.V.S.T.P. 13 Jul (JH). Early by about a month was the Common Snipe at Willcox 25 Jul (CDB, LB).

A casual wanderer from the Mexican coast, a Laughing Gull was at W.W.D. 26 Jul+ (RT, AC, NMC et al.). One of the best birds of the season was the state's 2nd **Western Gull** found at the Green Valley S.T.P. 4–15 Jul (ph. BS, MMS et al.). The only other state record is of an imm. bird at Parker Dam in Dec 1946. Unfortunately for many, the plant was closed and off-limits at the time, causing most birders to miss the third-year gull. As an aside, it seems probable that this bird was indeed the large dark-mantled gull seen flying over Tucson 24 Jun (DS). A casual transient, single Caspian Terns were reported sw. of Phoenix 24 Jun (TC) and in Gilbert 15 Jul (DC). Black Terns were found in average numbers, a singles at Nogales and at the Green Valley S.T.P. 16 Jul (MMS, RH, PS) and 2 present at W.W.D. 21 Jul (KK). Another larid of great interest this season was **Elegant Tern**: 2 different individuals were found, one at A.V.S.T.P. 18–29 Jul (RT, BB et al.; ph. GHR) and the other at W.W.D. 21 Jul (KK, NMC, AC, AM). The Avra Valley individual was found dead 31 Jul (MI, *Univ of Arizona). Still casual in the state, a Least Tern was discovered at W.W.D. 30 Jul (RP, BM). This is particularly interesting, as most of the state's records are from late spring or early summer.

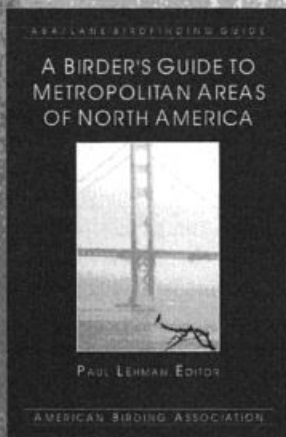
Eurasian Collared-Doves continued to be reported at previously known sites: Willcox, Sierra Vista, Palo Verde, and Cameron, with new reports coming from Thatcher (JW). A wandering Common Nighthawk was heard at Tucson 20 Jun (JB). Rare and irregular, a heard-only Buff-collared Nightjar was in Chino Canyon 16 Jul+ (DQ, J&RH). Always of interest, a White-eared Hummingbird nest with 3 young was discovered in Greenhouse Canyon in the Chiricahua Mts. 31 Jul (MS, RT), and Berylline Hummingbirds once again nested in Ramsey Canyon 28 Jun (MP, CC et al.). The summer of the season was definitely the **Plain-capped Starthroat** found in French Joe Canyon 25 Jul+ (BS, MI, MMS, JB et al.). An extralimital Elegant Trogon was found 9 Jul in the Rincon Mts., which is the n. limit of the species's breeding range (RHa).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH BLACKBIRDS

An **Eastern Wood-Pewee** was seen and heard along the San Pedro R. at Fairbank 13 Jun (JM). If accepted by the A.B.C., this would be only the 8th state record. From year to year, the breeding range and number of individual Tropical Kingbirds seems to expand and contract in the state. This year was one of expansion. Nesting was documented in *Maricopa* for only the 2nd time when a pair raised a single fledgling at H.R.P. 30 Jun (JW), and on 28 Jul, an impressive 40 pairs were estimated along a

A BIRDER'S GUIDE TO METROPOLITAN AREAS OF NORTH AMERICA

Paul E. Lehman, compiler
ABA Birdfinding Guide Series;
published 2001; 504 pages; wire-O
This is the first guide to cover North America city-by-city, visiting most of the significant habitats on the continent, among them some of the best birding sites in the U.S. and Canada. More than 400 sites include close-in urban parks and preserves as well as more-distant locations up to two hours from the downtown center.
Item #234, ABA Sales Price \$26.95



Available from

ABA SALES

800/634-7736 • Fax: 800/590-2473

Email: abasales@abasales

Web: www.americanbirding.org

15-mi section of the Santa Cruz R. between Tubac and Ruby Road (TC). This area is primarily privately owned and is known to contain the most persistent and largest breeding population in the state and country. Casual in Arizona, the *Maricopa* Scissor-tailed Flycatcher from last year seems to have returned to the Phoenix area again. This year it was found 10 Jul+ (SK, SG et al.).

Vagrant vireos were well represented this summer; a White-eyed was in Whitetail Canyon, Chiricahua Mts. 4 Jul (BB, RT); many people saw a Yellow-throated in Miller Canyon 24 Jun–5 Jul (JH, SG, audiotape CDB); a Yellow-green was found in Portal 14 Jul (DJ); and a Red-eyed was along Harshaw Cr. 20 Jul (RH, JLD, audiotape PD). All are either accidental or casual. Gray Catbirds were discovered in a couple of new *Apache* locations along Nutrioso Cr. 22 Jul and at the Wenima Wildlife Area (DR, GC).

The **Crescent-chested Warbler** first found at Bog Springs in Madera Canyon 24 May continued until at least 1 Jun (BM, MMS). This constitutes only the 5th state record. Northern Parula, a rare transient, was at Cave Cr. Canyon 24 Jun (CG). Perhaps the most exciting find of the season was the singing **Tropical Parula** that was in Miller Canyon 20 Jun–14 Jul (JB, MMS, BP, vt. GHR, audiotape CDB et al.). The bird's prominent black mask and broad white wing-bars make it likely to have been the expected w. Mexican race *nigrilora*. This was only the 2nd state record, the other record found under similar circumstances in Madera Canyon in 1984.

Other interesting warbler reports included a Yellow-throated 5 Jul in Casa Grande (NB); a Black-and-white at Rustler Park 19 Jun (BB); an American Redstart at Arivaca Cienega 6 Jul (NM, SJ et al.); and a Prothonotary in Cave Creek Canyon 15 Jul (CG). Four individual Ovenbirds were found this summer: at Canyon Creek, Mogollon Rim 3 Jun (TC), San Francisco Peaks 4 Jun (JG), French Joe Canyon 24 Jun (SC), and Tumacacori National Monument 7 Jul (one banded; WT). About normal, 2 Kentucky Warblers were reported, singles at Cave Creek Canyon 5 Jun (SW, CG) and Ash Canyon in the Huachuca Mts. 1 Jul (TC).

Three singing MacGillivray's Warblers, discovered in a previously unknown breeding location, were along Canyon Cr. on the Mogollon Rim 3 Jun (TC). A single Hooded Warbler was found at Whitetail Canyon 24 Jun (RT, CG), up to 2 were sw. of Prescott 1 Jun–7 Jul+ (CT), and another single was at Cave Springs 10 Jul (GR, TL). Red-faced Warbler was confirmed nesting for the first time in *Maricopa* at Slate Creek Divide 10 Jun (SG).

One or more Rufous-capped Warblers have been present in French Joe Canyon for several years now, and this year nesting was confirmed there when individuals were seen carrying nesting material on 14 Jun (NP, SH). The true picture of Flame-colored Tanager in Arizona is made very convoluted by the presence of so many birds that show characteristics of Western Tanager. Interesting and probable hybrid tanagers were once again the subjects of conversations in Arizona this year, with reports of such birds in Miller and Carr canyons. A bird thought to have been a pure Flame-colored Tanager was seen in Miller Canyon 11 Jul (JB, MMS et al.).

Late Green-tailed Towhees were individuals at Portal 19 Jun (NMC) and at Kingfisher Pond 14 Jun (SH). A rare transient, single Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were at Phoenix 17 Jun (BG), Oak Creek Canyon 18 Jun (DH), and at Flagstaff 15 Jul (DH). Indigo Buntings were widely reported this summer, with the highest concentration being 15 individuals along the Santa Cruz R. near Tubac 28 Jul (TC). The status of Painted Bunting has certainly changed over the last decade. Previously all reports (a couple every fall) were heavily scrutinized as possible escaped cage birds from the Nogales area. This year, as an example, we received too many reports to list. Peak movements seemed to be during the last week of Jul. Rare during the summer in the southeast, flocks of Yellow-headed Blackbirds were at A.V.S.T.P. 30 Jun (MMS) and Willcox 9 Jul (B&JS).

Contributors: Chris D. Benesh, Bill Berky, Louis Bevier, Barbara Bickel, Gavin Bieber, Jerry Bock, Ned Boyajian, Jim Burns, Cliff Cathers, Dale Clark, Troy Corman, Alan Craig, Gary Crandall, Diana Davis, Jon Dunn, Jeff Estis, Steve Ganley, Clive Green, Chet Gresham, Jodi Griffith, Bill Grossi, Robbie R Duerksen, Hannawacker, Jay Hand, Sherry Hayes, Stuart Healy, Diana Herron, John Higgins, Dottie Hook, Rich Hoyer, J. Hudson, Kelly Hutton, Marshall Iliff, Dave Jasper, S & R Johnsen, Sue Katz, Ken Kertell, Bill Massey, Matthew Matthiesen, Janine McCabe, Norma Miller, Narca Moore-Craig, Steve Moore, John Mueller, Richard Palmer, Nathan Pieplow, Brigid Pollock, Mark Pretti, Donna Roten, Peter Salomon, Mark Schalcker, Bob & Jean Scheibe, Bob Schutsky, Bill Scott, Judy Stevens, Mark M. Stevenson, Rick Taylor, Carl Tomoff, Will Turner, Dave Quady, Billy Weber, John Wilson, Richard Wilt, Joanne Woodley.

