

described **Rusty Blackbird** was seen at Corn Cr. 23 Mar (†M&JC) for a rare Regional record. Common Grackles are somewhat regular in n. Utah, but one at Cedar City 10 May was in the s. part of the state, where rare (SS). A female **Bronzed Cowbird** made its 3rd consecutive spring appearance at Red Hills G.C. 7–14 May (LT, RF, J&KB). Orchard Orioles are very rare in the Great Basin, so a female at Miller's R.A. 22–25 May was an exciting find (ph. GS, BD). Northerly **Hooded Orioles** were at Miller's R.A. 15 May (GS, DT, Jbk) and along the Truckee R., Reno 30 May (JA); a slightly northerly Hooded was in Cedar City, Iron, UT 18–24 Apr (CC). **Baltimore Orioles** are one of the scarcer regular vagrants in the Region, so 3 this spring, all females and all in Nevada, were quite nice: at Tonopah Cemetery, Nye 15 May (GS, DT, Jbk), at Warm Springs, Lincoln 16 May (JW), and Corn Cr. 22–23 May (DT, RSa). **Scott's Oriole** may be somewhat regular but is seldom found in n. Nevada; one at Lakeview in Carson City, NV 15 May was noteworthy (PF). Last but not least, **Lawrence's Goldfinch** made two appearances: one at Corn Cr. 28 Apr (MSM) and a mist-netted male along the Santa Clara R. below Gunlock Res., Washington, UT 7 May (KD, ph. CP, ph. PL). The Santa Clara R. bird furnishes Utah's 2nd documented record.

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# New Mexico



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**U**nusual weather patterns in March and April brought scattered, sometimes heavy precipitation to New Mexico, but pervasive drought conditions returned in May. Meanwhile, like Rick's Café in the film *Casablanca*, everybody comes to the "Melrose Trap," and this season that included two first state records, numerous other rarities, and many happy birders. Statewide, three species—Barred Owl, Black-capped Vireo, and Golden-crowned Warbler—were added to the list in spring 2004.

**Abbreviations:** B.L.N.W.R. (Bitter Lake N.W.R.); Bosque (Bosque del Apache N.W.R.); E.B.L. (Elephant Butte Lake); K.K. (Katfish Kove, private ponds and trees adjacent to Mimbres R., nw. Luna); Maxwell (Maxwell N.W.R. and vicinity); N.R.T. (n. Roosevelt migrant trap near Melrose); R.G.N.C. (Rio Grande Nature Center, Albuquerque); R.G.V.

(Rio Grande Valley); R.S. (Rattlesnake Springs area, Eddy).

## LOONS THROUGH FALCONS

Showing admirable staying power, 2 Red-throated Loons from the winter season remained at Ute L. into Mar (JEP, JO) and were last seen 22 Mar (DC); a Pacific remained there until 30 Mar (DC). A sad sight was a Common Loon with a fishing swivel hanging from its bill at E.B.L. 7 Mar (MS, JZ); notably late Commons were singles at Sunland Park 12 May (JNP), Clayton L. 19 May (PL, SM) and Ute L. 24 May (DC). American White Pelicans were relatively widespread, with 1000 at E.B.L. 8 Apr (WW) the high count; 4 found dead at L. Avalon 28 Mar had been shot (SW) Neotropical Cormorants continued to decline in the R.G.V., where no nesting was reported, unexpected was one in the Pecos Valley at L. Avalon 8 Mar (ph. SD). A Double-crested Cormorant wandered w. to Lordsburg 26 Mar (JEP, JO). New Great Blue Heron breeding locales included four nests at Morgan L. 30 Apr (AN) and three nests at Quemado L. 23 Apr (DS); 20 nests were active at Watrous in Apr (DS). Great Egrets continued to increase in numbers and localities, including singles n. to El Vado L. 8 May (DS) and w. to Tyrone 23 May (EL) and 2 in the Sacramento Mts. at Capitan 17 Apr (JO); high count was 30 at Bosque 24 Apr (SW). Black-crowned Night-

Heron invaded Clovis, where 40–100 were reported 14–20 May (BN, WW, PL) and seven nests were found 26 May (S. Hendershot). Single ad. **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons** were at Albuquerque 29 May (NC, SC) and at Tatum 20 May (PL, ph. JO, vt. SM). Single ad. **Glossy Ibis** were documented at Bosque 15 Apr (ph. JO) and Ute L. 23 May (ph. DC); other reports never got beyond the Internet ether. Two **White-faced Ibis** that wintered at Belen were still there 5 & 13 Mar (JO, JEP). Notably late was a flock of 5 **Snow** and 2 **Ross's Geese** at Columbus 27 May (WH). Last of the winter's **Tundra Swans** were one at E.B.L. 12–13 Mar (JEP, ph. JO) and 5 at Maxwell 19 Mar (DC). The popular **Eurasian Wigeon** that wintered at Albuquerque's **Mariposa Park** was last seen 11 Mar (W. Kuehn). Single **Surf Scoters** paused briefly at E.B.L. 10 Mar (SD) and **Springer L.** 28 Apr (ph. DC); a **Long-tailed Duck** was at Ute L. 12 Mar (JEP). A female **Barrow's Goldeneye** was e. to **Stubblefield L.** 13 Mar (DC), where one had been reported in Jan.

**Migrant Ospreys** were found statewide, including such fishless places as **El Morro** 10 Apr (CJG), near **Pie Town** 18 Apr (SOW), and the **Peloncillo Mts.** 6 Apr (CL); 16 pairs were nesting in n. New Mexico by mid-May (DS), up from zero prior to 1990. **Mississippi Kites** continued to colonize villages, woodlots, and golf courses in the east, including 4 at **Nara Visa** 21 May (JO) and one at **Kenna** 10 May (BN, DE); at least 5 were in the **Conchas Dam** area 8 May (CR), while in the middle R.G.V., one to 2 were near **Bernalillo** 21 May (RD), **Corrales** 23 May (WH), and **Peralta** 28 May (E. Nuñez). A **Gray Hawk** at **Rodeo** 25 Apr (RW, RAR) provided a local first; one to 2 were in **Guadalupe Canyon** 24 Apr+ (RB, NP, RV), where possibly now regular. Common **Black-Hawks** continued to appear e. and n. of historic range, including a pair at **Santa Rosa** 7 May (JK), one on the upper **Pecos R.** near **Sena** 21 Apr (JD), and a nest on the **Canadian R.** near **Sabinoso** 13 Apr (JA); noteworthy for the R.G.V. were 2 at **Escondida** 29 Mar (NC), while one to 2 were at **K.K.** 17 & 20 Apr (LM), where the **Mimbres R.** goes underground. Continuing a middle R.G.V. trend, a **Harris's Hawk** was n. to **Luis Lopez** 14–24 Mar (ph. JO). **Swainson's Hawks** arrived on schedule, with nearly simultaneous reports from numerous locales from **Lordsburg** to **Clayton** 26–31 Mar; impressive were about 80 in a **Bosque field** 10 Apr (JEP, JWS). One to 2 native **Aplomado Falcons** persisted in sw. New Mexico; a report of an apparent **Aplomado** in unlikely habitat—**Guadalupe Mts., Eddy**—7 May (KC) is difficult to evaluate.

## QUAIL THROUGH OWLS

A vocal **Northern Bobwhite** at **Santa Fe** 23 Mar (ph. S. McDowell) likely was an escapee. A **Common Moorhen** was n. to **Isleta** 7 & 18

May (BN, DE, JO). Two **Black-bellied Plovers** at **Maxwell** 3 May (DC) furnished the only report. An **American Golden-Plover** was at **Zuni** 26 Mar (CJG). **Snowy Plovers** away from traditional areas included 2 at **Ute L.** 17 May (DC), 4 at **Hudson L., Quay** 24 May (DC), and 2 at **Tucumcari L.** 25 May (WW). Surveys for other species found 29 **Mountain Plovers** at 14 sites in w. **Union** 27 Mar–7 Apr (S. Fellows, CR, WH); at least one chick was at **Vermejo Park, Colfax** 26 May (ph. DC), and 2 chicks were at **Santo Domingo** 18 May (JNS). **Black-necked Stilts** following the “build it and we will come” credo produced six nests on the **Sunland Park racetrack infield** 12 May (JNP), two nests at the **Lordsburg sewage ponds** 21 May (AC, NM-C), and one nest at the **Columbus sewage ponds** 29 May (SOW). **Peripheral Solitary Sandpipers** included singles at **K.K.** 23 Apr (JO) and **Tyrone** 3 May (EL); the high count was 4 at **Santa Fe** 26 Apr (JNS). Unusual were 3 **Willetts** at **Mountainair** 29 Apr (JO); high count was 84 at **Bosque** 23 Apr (JEP). An **Upland Sandpiper** near **Causey** 5 May (TM) provided a rare spring report. A good **Whimbrel** season found 3 each at **Morgan L.** 30 Apr (ph. JR) and **Springer L.** 30 May (CR), 2 at **Maxwell** 24 Apr (DC), and one at **Bosque** 17 Apr (JEP, ph. JO). Single **Hudsonian Godwits** were at **Bosque** 9 May (JEP, ph. JO) and **B.L.N.W.R.** 12 May (JEP). An impressive 81 **Marbled Godwits** were grounded by a storm at **Maxwell** 24 Apr (DC). A bright **Ruddy Turnstone** at **Maxwell** 10 May (ph.

DC) provided the state's 8th spring record. Well described were 2 **Semipalmated Sandpipers** w. to **Belen** 4 May (RB, NP). Eight **White-rumped Sandpipers** were at **B.L.N.W.R.** 15 May (JEP). **Late migrant Dunlin** were singles at **Morgan L.** 30 Apr (ph. JR) and **Holloman L.** 19 Apr (MS, ph. JZ); the high count was 6 at **B.L.N.W.R.** 9 Apr (WH, GW). Single **Red Phalaropes** were at **Stinking L.** (DS) and **Bosque** (BN, DE) 8 May.

Rare gulls included a first-year **Laughing Gull** at **Clovis** 28 May (JEP) and an ad. **Mew Gull** at **Stubblefield L.** 14–19 May (ph. DC). **Franklin's Gulls** w. of usual included 35 at **Buckhorn** 21 Apr (EL), 22 at **Tyrone** 25 Apr (EL), and 3 near **Road Forks** 17 Apr (EL). A high 18 **California Gulls** were at **Stinking L.** 8 May (DS). A scarce migrant in New Mexico, single **Caspian Terns** were at **Cochiti L.** 18 Apr (MMR) and **Clovis** 20 May (PL, ph. JO, vt.

SM). Unusually high counts for **Forster's Terns** occurred on 28 Apr, with 51 at **Springer L.** (DC) and 79 at **Cochiti L.** (M. Watson); late were one at **Stubblefield L.** (DC) and 2 at **B.L.N.W.R.** (SOW) 31 May. **Wandering Least Terns** were one at **Bosque** 15 Apr (JO) and 2 there 17 Apr (JEP), plus singles at **Kenna** 17 Apr (JO) and **Clovis** 28 May (JEP); up to 5 were at **Brantley L.** 21 May (JEP), where the species summered in 2003.

A **Band-tailed Pigeon** was a surprise at **Radium Springs** 1 May (MS, ph. JZ). **Eurasian Collared-Doves** have completed their conquest of New Mexico, with reports this season from **San Juan e. to Union** and s. to **Hidalgo and Lea**; they are now conspicuous in most every city, town, and village as well as ranches, farms, and other isolated sites (e.g., Nutt). One to 2 **White-winged Doves** were n. to **Farmington** and **Blanco** (AN), as well as to **Maxwell** 20–28 Apr (ph. DC). **Inca Doves** are now established from **Albuquerque** southward; n. was a pair at **Cerrillos** 1 Apr (LS). En-



New Mexico's first confirmed **Black-capped Vireo** was found by **Joe Sandberg** at the “**Melrose Trap**” in northern **Roosevelt County**, where it was present 1 (here) through 2 May 2004. Photograph by **E. Louis Cuellar**.

couraging were reports of one **Common Ground-Dove** near **Rincon** 9 May (MS, ph. JZ) and 3 at a **Rodeo farm** 25 Apr (RW, RAR). A **Ruddy Ground-Dove** made a brief **Deming** appearance 14 Apr (LM). **Peripheral Yellow-billed Cuckoos** were singles at **Galisteo** 29 May (JB), **Clayton L.** 31 May (CR), and **N.R.T.** 16 & 23 May (JEP). A season of surprises produced a **Groove-billed Ani** in **Milnesand** 30 Apr (K. Bailey, R. Thompson, P. Whiting), **New Mexico's** first since 1994.

The state-first **Eastern Screech-Owl**, present at **Portales** since Nov, continued to attract birders through the spring, including 30 May (BN, DE). Up to 3 **Elf Owls** were in **Dark Canyon, Eddy** 31 May, where some 30 nest-boxes were installed to assist that pioneering population (R. Dickerman). Nicely documented, and long overdue, was a state-first **Barred Owl** at **Galisteo** 29 May (ph. JB); the

apparently lone individual remained into Jun. Noteworthy was a pair of Long-eared Owls in Skull Canyon, Peloncillo Mts. 30 Mar (E. Rominger).

### NIGHTJARS THROUGH VIREOS

Considerably n. of known range, up to 4 Lesser Nighthawks were in the Conchas Dam area, where seen and heard trilling 8 & 25 May (CR, WW). Peripheral Whip-poor-wills were a vocal 2 in Cienega Canyon, Sandia Mts. 17 May (JEP) and one or more in the Manzano Mts. 19 May (JA). Broad-billed Hummingbirds n. of Guadalupe Canyon were a male in P.O. Canyon 20 Mar–31 May (CL) and 4 in Skeleton Canyon 8 May (*vide* AC). Lucifer Hummingbirds returned to P.O. Canyon 28 Mar, and up to 7 were there by 30 Apr (CL). Historically, neither Calliope nor Rufous Hummingbirds were expected in spring in New Mexico, but recently this has been changing: this season found a Calliope at Deming 11 Apr (LM) and a Rufous there 19 Apr (LM), while Rufous passed through P.O. Canyon 27 Mar–21 Apr, including 5 there 19 Apr (CL).

Belted Kingfishers suggestive of local breeding were one at Corrales 23 May (WH) and 2 at Albuquerque 30 May (JEP). Far s. was a Lewis's Woodpecker in Clanton Canyon 14 Apr (SOW); the one that wintered at Deming was last seen 30 Apr (LM). Red-headed Woodpeckers where seldom reported were 2 each below Conchas Dam 8 May (CR), near Santa Rosa 19 May (WW), and Seneca 31 May (CR). Far e. and a first for *Lea* was an Acorn Woodpecker at Tatum 20 May (PL, ph. JO, vt. SM); other Acorns of note were one at Santa Fe 27 May (MMR) and several sw. of Dulce at Cedar Springs Campground 20 May (J. Beason). Late so far s. was a Red-naped Sapsucker at Tyrone 23 May (EL). Pairs of Arizona Woodpeckers were in four canyons in the seldom-visited n. Peloncillo Mts. this season, including a nest in Brushy Canyon 13 May (CL).

A Greater Pewee made a rare—and brief—stop in the Peloncillo Mts. 10 May (CL); notably early was an undetailed one in the Pinos Altos Mts. 8 Apr (CJG). Rare in spring, a Least Flycatcher was at Boone's Draw 15 May (CB). Noteworthy was a Gray Flycatcher pair nest-building in the Guadalupe Mts. near Queen 7–8 May (KC); the species continues to expand s. and e. of historic range. Black Phoebes, only recently established n. to *San Juan* and *Colfax*, returned to Farmington 10 Mar (AN), Springer 19 Mar (DC), and near Cimarron by 17 Apr (DC). Eastern Phoebes were unusually conspicuous in w. *Union*, where there were 8 singing males and two pairs in the Folsom area 7 Apr (WH). Vermilion Flycatchers maintained their beachhead in the ne., with 8 in the Conchas Dam area 8 May (CR, WW); elsewhere in the e., singles were at Sumner Dam 20 May (MMR), Tolar 31

May (BN, DE), and Milnesand 18 Apr (CR). A Great Kiskadee made a one-day visit to R.S. 16 May (SW, CB, J. Black); there are now about five satisfactory New Mexico reports. Rare s. to Roosevelt in spring, 3 Eastern Kingbirds were at Boone's Draw 29 May (JEP), and another was at N.R.T. 20 & 23 May (SM, JEP).

An ad. Northern Shrike lingered at Maxwell 19 Mar (DC). A White-eyed Vireo strayed to B.L.N.W.R. 16 Apr (JEP), and another was at N.R.T. 30 Apr–3 May (m.ob.), where it was quickly overshadowed by the state's first confirmed Black-capped Vireo 1–2 May (J. Sandberg, ph. LC, vt. JO, m.ob., many ph.). A singing Yellow-throated Vireo was near R.G.N.C. 24–30 May (RG, JEP, sketch MR). At least one Red-eyed Vireo was at N.R.T. on various dates 14–25 May (m.ob.).

### JAYS THROUGH WARBLERS

Two Blue Jays along Gallinas Cr. at Las Vegas 20 May (WW) suggested that the species may have spread to that city. Two migrant Purple Martins were at Isleta 8 Apr (JO); maintaining their presence in the Sangre de Cristo Mts. were 9 w. of Raton 7 May (DC). Far e. was a Violet-green Swallow at N.R.T. 9 May (CR). Bushtits were nest-building in an exotic pine on Albuquerque's formerly treeless west side 30 Mar (WH). Carolina Wrens seem to be persisting in the middle R.G.V., with one singing near Los Lunas 15–30 Apr (DH). A vocal House Wren at Percha 20 Mar (JEP) likely wintered locally. Always noteworthy, single Winter Wrens were at Belen 2 Mar (WW) and R.S. 30 Mar (SW). A Marsh Wren was singing below Conchas Dam 25 May (WW). Two Black-tailed Gnatcatchers were n. to the E.B.L. area 10 Apr (JEP), where recently dependable; in the sw., one was in the Little Hatchet Mts. 7 May (LM), and a pair was at Hatchet Gap 28 May (SOW). Although not reflected in current literature, Eastern Bluebirds have quietly colonized the R.G.V., with recent breeding reports from *Santa Fe* to *Doña Ana*; this season, one was inspecting cavities at Corrales 7 Mar (WH), and a pair was there 23 May (CR), a pair was tending fledglings at R.G.N.C. 13–16 May (JNS, CMB, RD), and an adaptable pair near Radium Springs nested in an agave stalk, feeding nestlings there 1–2 May (MS, ph. JZ). With only about three satisfactory records (one confirmed), Gray-cheeked Thrush is our rarest thrush; this season, one was well described at Amistad 19 May (PL, SM), and another was at N.R.T. 17 May (M. Patten) & 23 May (CB). Unexpected and a *Torrance* first was a male Varied Thrush at Torreon 11 Apr (V. Murphy). A Gray Catbird at P.O. Canyon 7 May (CL) provided a local first. A Brown Thrasher was w. to Cerrillos 29 Mar–25 Apr (A. Fenner, LS). Crissal Thrashers beyond expected range were one n. to Tesuque 23 Mar (S. Tanner) and a pair e. to B.L.N.W.R. 16 Apr (JEP). Among the numer-

ous late lingering Cedar Waxwings were 40 at Socorro 25 May (JEP), 18 at Bernardo 28 May (RD), and 30 at Albuquerque 30 May (JEP). One to 2 Phainopeplas were ne. to B.L.N.W.R. 7–28 May (JO, GW, JEP).

An exciting warbler season produced an unprecedented 6 Golden-winged Warblers, with singles at Galisteo 22 May (JB), R.G.N.C. 12 May (sketch MR, CMB), Socorro 8 May (JWS, BN, DE, DH), N.R.T. 13 May (JEP), Clovis 19 May (WW), and R.S. 13 May (BN, DE), plus a Blue-winged Warbler at Tijeras 1–2 May (CMB, JEP, ph. JO). Single Tennessees were at Galisteo 20 May (JB) and N.R.T. 16 May (JEP, vt. JO). Noteworthy was a Lucy's Warbler at Columbus 18 Mar (B&DM); another was in the Little Hatchet Mts. 28 May (SOW). Northern Parulas included singles near Madrid 8 May (BF), San Marcial 20 May (RD), N.R.T. 25 May (JB), and R.S. 16 May (CB). Chestnut-sided Warblers made a strong showing, with singles at R.G.N.C. (K. Schneider), Socorro (BN, DE, JEP, JO), Vaughn (ph. JO), N.R.T. (JO, PL, SM), Boone's Draw (JO, PL, vt. SM), and R.S. (JEP) 7–21 May. A Magnolia Warbler was at N.R.T. 25 May (JB), where there was a Black-throated Green 23 May (CB). Single Black-throated Blues were at Mesilla 5 Apr (B&DM) and N.R.T. 19 May (PL); early was a Black-throated Gray above Kingston 27 Mar (JEP). Scarce in spring, single Hermit Warblers were in the Burro Mts. 27 Apr (JD) and Skeleton Canyon 8 May (*vide* AC). Single Palm Warblers were at Eldorado 28 Apr (G. Johnson), B.L.N.W.R. 23 Apr (GW), R.S. 16 Apr (JEP), and at Hudson L. between Logan and Tucumcari 22 Apr (DC), the latter of the *hypochrysea* race. A male Blackpoll Warbler was a surprise at R.S. 9 May (KC). From the R.G.V. eastward there were single Black-and-white Warblers at six sites 23 Apr–19 May and single American Redstarts at nine sites 1–25 May (m.ob.). Single Prothonotary Warblers were at Galisteo 22 May (JB) and Percha 26 May (GE). A good Ovenbird season found singles at Corrales, Galisteo, Madrid, Fort Sumner, Bosque Rondo, and N.R.T. 8–25 May (m.ob.). Northern Waterthrushes in obscure locales included singles at Yeso 16 May (JO) and Tyrone 1 May (EL). One or more Hooded Warblers were at N.R.T. 20–30 May (m.ob., ph. JO) and Hillsboro 30 Apr (BF). The warbler of the season was a well-documented Golden-crowned Warbler at N.R.T. 8–10 May (JEP, B. Parmeter, ph. JO, m.ob., many ph.), a New Mexico first and the first U.S. record away from s. Texas.

### TANAGERS THROUGH FINCHES

Summer Tanagers were n. to Pump Canyon near Navajo Dam 25 May (T. Reeves), Galisteo 20 May (JB), and Nara Visa 21 May (PL, SM, JO). Very rare in New Mexico, a Scarlet Tanager was near Seneca 21 May (JO, PL, SM). The only Field Sparrows were one to 3

at Oasis S.P. 30 Apr–1 May (JO, JEP). Far ne. was a Black-chinned Sparrow at Amistad 21 May (PL, vt. JO, vt. SM); another was near Madrid 8 May (BF), where unexpected. Migrant Grasshopper Sparrows were unusually conspicuous and vocal in the Broadview area, n. Curry, where over 100 were noted 12–14 Apr (TM). Single reddish Fox Sparrows were at K.K. 28 Mar (ph. JO) and R.S. 8 Mar (SD). A Harris's Sparrow that reportedly wintered at Gila was last seen 18 Apr (A. Gant). A Golden-crowned Sparrow was at Alameda 25 Apr (LC). Three Yellow-eyed Juncos had returned to the Burro Mts. by 15–16 Apr (SOW), with two territories there 27–28 Apr (JD); encouraging were a pair plus 2 singing males in the Animas Mts. 21 May (AC, NM-C). Eight Northern Cardinals were n. to the Conchas Dam area 8 May (WW, CR), and one was near Santa Rosa 19 May (WW). Rose-breasted Grosbeaks blanketed the eastern two-thirds of the state, with reports from at least 20 sites from the R.G.V. eastward 6–31 May (m.ob.); notably early was a male at Luis Lopez 5 Apr (JO), while farther w. were one at Kirtland 19–20 May (C. Shryock) and up to 6 in P.O. Canyon 7–30 May (CL). A Varied Bunting had returned to Guadalupe Canyon by 8 May (AM); in Eddy, a pair was in Slaughter Canyon 8 May (KC), and one was singing in Walnut Canyon above White's City 22 May (JEP). Astonishingly early was a male Painted Bunting at Bloomfield 1 Apr (JR); other Painteds n. of usual were a male at Santa Fe 24 May (JNS) and 3 along the Canadian R. below Conchas Dam 8 & 25 May (CR, WW); in *Doña Ana*, where now regular during the breeding season, a pair was near Rincon 17 & 24 May (MS, JZ). Early was a Dickcissel at Bosque 30 Apr (J. Hirth); other spring reports were 2 at Las Vegas N.W.R. 30 May (CR), and singles at Fort Sumner (SOW) and N.R.T. (JEP) 31 May. Eastern Meadowlarks continued to spread northward, including one to 2 singing at Philmont, Colfax 6–28 May (v.r. DC). Continuing their westward expansion, single Common Grackles were at Animas 8 May (AM) and Cotton City 31 May (*vide* AC). Bronzed Cowbirds continued to creep northward, including a male at Albuquerque 25 May (A. Armstrong) and a pair at Ned Houk Park near Clovis 19 May (WW). North of usual was an Orchard Oriole pair nest-building at Ute L. 24 May (ph. DC). An apparent Baltimore Oriole, described as a possible first-spring female, was at Maxwell 25 May (ph. DC). Typically our earliest oriole, single Scott's were in P.O. Canyon 20 Mar (CL) and Clanton Canyon 27 Mar (JEP); n. were a pair near Eldorado 4 May (MMR) and a male at Madrid 18 May (JO). Very few Cassin's Finches were reported, and the species seemed absent from most areas. Red Crossbills were similarly scarce, with 12 in the Magdalena Mts. 8 May (BN,

DE) the high count, while the few Evening Grosbeak reports were confined to the Sangre de Cristo Mts.

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