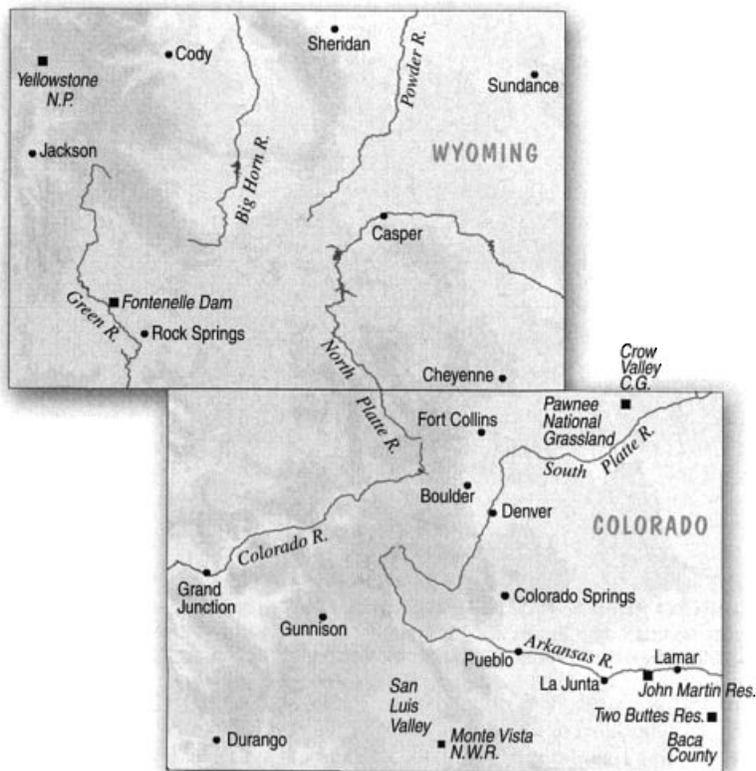


Colorado & Wyoming



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Pleasant weather graced the Region through most of the period, with near-average temperatures and average to above-normal precipitation. The welcome moisture eased drought conditions and allowed some recovery of vegetation, especially on Colorado's eastern plains. Whether or not this proves to be the beginning of the end of the drought or just a lull remains to be seen, but in any case the effects of widespread tree mortality throughout the Region will be felt for decades. For example, U.S. Forest Service and Colorado State Forest Service tree mortality surveys in Colorado have turned up over four million Pinyon Pines, one million Subalpine Firs, 650,000 Ponderosa and Lodgepole Pines, and 500,000 Engelmann Spruce trees that succumbed to insects and/or pathogens in their drought-

weakened state (*vide* DAL). On the positive side, we were treated to a surprise (albeit brief) Whooping Crane visit, a strong Bohemian Waxwing irruption, and mountain finches descending to the lowlands in unusual numbers. The mild conditions departed quickly in the last week of November, replaced by Arctic air with near-zero temperatures and plenty of snow. Birding opportunities quickly changed as water bodies froze, the ground became snow-covered, and many birds decided that winter had begun and departed for greener pastures.

Abbreviations: Chatfield (Chatfield S.P., Jefferson/Douglas); C.V.C.G. (Crow Valley Campground, Pawnee National Grasslands, Weld); E.K.W. (Edness Kimball Wilkins S.P., Natrona, WY); John Martin Res. (*Bent*); Union (Union Res./Calkin's L., *Weld*); Valmont (Valmont Res. complex, *Boulder*). "West Slope" denotes locations west of the Continental Divide. All locations are in Colorado unless otherwise specified; Wyoming locations are so indicated when first mentioned in the report.

LOONS THROUGH DUCKS

A juv. Red-throated Loon was on Pueblo Res. 20 Oct+ (BKP, MP), with others at Chatfield 24 Oct–16 Nov (JK, m.ob.), Elevenmile Res., Park 14 Nov (JK, GW et al.), Lathrop S.P. 23 Nov (a first *Huerfano* record; DS), and Union 27 Nov (TL). Among the 14 reports of Pacific Loon were 2 in Wyoming, one each at Healy Res., *Johnson*, WY 11 Sep (S. Bogart, BR) and in *Natrona*, WY 6–7 Nov (CM). Eight Colorado reports of Red-necked Grebe were highlighted by one at Grand Junction, Mesa 2–27 Nov (D. Wright, m.ob.), the 4th West Slope record.

American Bittern is a stealth migrant through the Region, one whose migration timing is poorly understood; singles detected 25 Oct at Denver (C. Thornton-Kolbe) and 12 Nov at Ft. Lyon, *Bent* (DN) added a few pieces to the puzzle. A Least Bittern was heard calling at Ft. Lyon, *Bent* 10 Aug (DN). A Great Egret at Rocky Ford, *Otero* 23 Nov

SA With the increased scrutiny given white-cheeked geese this fall—occasioned by the split of Canada Goose (*sensu lato*)—Cackling Goose was widely reported in Colorado. However, observers who have studied dark geese in prior years in the state felt that fall 2004 was atypical. Cacklings were more common and widespread than usual, with reported flock sizes into four digits, even outnumbering all other geese combined at many locations, e.g., 1500 Cacklings at Fossil Cr. Res., *Larimer* 13 Nov+ (TL, DF, m.ob.) accounting for 95% of geese present. The *parvipes* subspecies of Canada Goose (Lesser Canada Goose), which is usually the most common and widespread migrant form of the species in the state, was decidedly scarce, with no large arrival until after the reporting period. Second-hand reports had large numbers of geese still as far n. as Alberta in early Dec (*vide* RO), so perhaps the mild fall encouraged the Lessers to remain n. later into the season than is typical.

(SO, DN) was very tardy, particularly for e. Colorado. Somewhat late and out of place was a Snowy Egret in Craig, Moffat 6 Oct (FL); singles at Smith L., Larimer 13 Nov (DF et al.) and at Boulder, Sublette, WY 20 Nov (SP) were extremely late. The only Wyoming report of Green Heron, of one bird, came from Natrona 3 Sep (J. Scott). A juv. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron was found at Clark Res. 24 Aug (MP, BKP), adding a species to the Huerfano list. If juv. *Plegadis* ibis are identifiable in the field, Schmoker (ph.) and Floyd may have found a juv. Glossy Ibis at Prewitt Res., Washington 22 Aug—potentially a 2nd Colorado fall record of the species.

Among the horde of Cackling Geese at Fossil Creek Res. 13–22 Nov was a smallish dark goose that suggested a hybrid Black Brant x Cackling Goose (GL, DF, TL et al.); unfortunately, distance, and the swimming mass of Cacklings, precluded photography, even digiscoping. The highlight of the 22 scoter reports was the female/imm. Surf Scoter at North L. 20 Oct (BKP, MP)—a first *Las Animas* record of any scoter. Only five reports (of 7 individuals) of Long-tailed Duck in Colorado was low for a fall season; none were reported from Wyoming. Two Common Goldeneyes at Pueblo Res., Pueblo 3 Aug (RM) were incredibly early and may have been locally summering birds. The 178 Red-breasted Mergansers at Valmont 21 Nov (TF) may provide a new Colorado high count.

HAWKS THROUGH ALCIDS

Despite older literature to the contrary, Northern Goshawk is currently fairly rare on the e. plains of Colorado, so the ad. along the w. side of Jumbo Res., Logan 13 Nov (LS) and the juv. at Lamar, Prowers 18–19 Nov (DAL) were of interest. Broad-winged Hawks reported away from e. Colorado were singles near Rye, Pueblo 13 Aug (DS); at E.K.W. 27 Aug, 10 Sep, and 2 Oct (CM); s. of Mancos, Montezuma 23 Sep (M. Hill, D. Hill); and at Nucla, Montrose 7 Oct (CD, BW); the last two are from w. Colorado, where reports are quite scarce but where the species may not be all that rare: Utah hawk-

watches record the species in fairly substantial numbers. A Merlin at Jumbo Res., Logan 4 Sep (TL, BG) was somewhat early, but an individual on 4 Aug at Nucla, Montrose (CD, BW) was a full month earlier!

The 8 Snowy Plovers at Prewitt Res. 22 Aug (BS, TF, MB) provided for a new high count in ne. Colorado, where the species is a casual migrant; 6 were quite late at L. Chera, Otero 3 Oct (TL, JV). A Piping Plover



Mike Henwood's discovery of an Ancient Murrelet at Bear Creek Lake near Lakewood, Colorado 8 November 2004 set off a rush of birders racing the setting sun. Those who arrived before nightfall were fortunate: the bird was gone the next morning. Photograph by Bill Schmoker.

was at the Amoco Puddle, Natrona, WY 28 Aug (J&GL). A Mountain Plover was in Mesa at the Utah border 26 Aug (R. Levad), providing a rare West Slope record. Particularly for such a large number, the 60 Mountain Plovers in Baca on 20 Oct (JT) were quite late. An Upland Sandpiper was w. of normal over Pueblo West, Pueblo 17 Aug (BKP), and one each of Long-billed Curlew and Marbled Godwit among hordes of large shorebirds at L. Meredith, Crowley were nearly record late 23 Oct (MP, TL). Peterson and Burns found 3 Ruddy Turnstones, 3 Red Knots, and a Dunlin at Jumbo Res., Sedgwick 11 Sep—quite the trifecta. Another Red Knot was at Steamboat L., Natrona, WY 29 Aug (CM). The only Buff-breasted Sandpipers reported were one from Lincoln 20 Aug (MP), 2 at the Amoco Puddle 28 Aug (J&GL), and one at John Martin 23 Sep (DN). Colorado birders scored 2 Red Phalaropes, one at Jackson Res., Morgan 22–26 Sep (ph. BG, NK, B. Brown) and the other at L. Henry, Crowley 8–10 Oct (BKP,

MP ph., m.ob.).

Colorado water bodies remained at low levels this year due to over five years of drought. Though there are negative aspects to those levels, shorebirds obviously benefit from expanded mudflats, and w. Colorado birders are registering first and second county records for many species as a result. Among those this season were a Black-bellied Plover near Silt, Garfield 26–30 Sep (VZ, TM, AD); single Semipalmated Plovers at Spring Park Res., Eagle 27 Aug (VZ, FL), Ridgway Res., Ouray 4–22 Sep (CK, CD, BW), and Rio Blanco Res., Rio Blanco 5 Sep (DH); single Marbled Godwits at Ridgway Res., Ouray 4 Sep (CD, BW) and Rio Blanco Res. 5 Sep (DH); 3 Sanderlings at Spring Park Res. 16–17 Aug (VZ, TM); single Semipalmated Sandpipers at Naraguinnee Res., Montezuma 5 Aug (JBy, S. Allerton, P. Derven), Rio Blanco Res. 15 Aug (DH), Spring Park Res. 18 Aug (VZ), and Smith Res., Costilla 26 Aug (MP, JP); single Pectoral Sandpipers at L. DeWeese 21 Aug (BKP et al.), near Silt, Garfield 23–30 Sep (AD), and at Pastorius Res., La Plata 11 Oct (JBy); a Stilt Sandpiper at Spring Park Res. 18 Aug (VZ); and a Short-billed Dowitcher at L. DeWeese 21 Sep (MP, BKP).

All three species of jaeger graced the Region this fall and, oddly, Parasitic outnumbered the other two species; Pomarine is typically the most common of the three jaegers in Colorado (Leukering, T. 2003. Jaegers in Colorado: a report of the Colorado Bird Records Committee. *Colorado Birds* 37: 73–91). Juv. Pomarines bullied gulls at Pueblo Res. 13–25 Oct (BKP, m.ob.) and at Luna Res. in sw. Weld 24 Oct (MB, LE); a light-morph ad. visited Cherry Creek Res., Arapahoe 24 Oct (B. Righter, TL, NG). The Parasitic score was 4, with a light-morph ad. at Union Res. 5 Sep (S. Severs, ph. BS, ph. TL, m.ob.) arriving relatively early. On 28 Sep, singles were found at Boulder Res., Boulder (TF) and Ocean L., Fremont, WY (R. Hargis, S. Hargis). Finally, a juv. chased a Ring-billed Gull at Luna Res. 31 Oct (ph. JV, TL, NG)—far enough w. to cross into Broomfield and provide that county its first jaeger record. A light-morph juv. Long-tailed was found at Fossil Creek Res., Larimer 19 Sep (R. Halpin, RH), while an unidentified jaeger was found at Chatfield 31 Oct (R. Lentz).

Four Little Gulls were found in Colorado: a first-winter bird at Brush Hollow Res., Fremont 15 Oct (BKP, MP, SM), which provided a first county record, and another at Rocky Ford, Otero 23 Nov (SO); and single ads. at Pueblo Res. 17–24 Nov (BKP, m.ob.) and at The Pinery, Douglas 15–17 Nov (GW, ph. K. Nickell, ph. TL), the latter bird with pale wing linings being carefully studied. An ad. Mew

SA A crane hunter found an unbanded juv. **Whooping Crane** at a pool w. of Anton, Washington on the afternoon of 3 Nov (*vide* L. Budde). He is to be congratulated for not shooting the bird and for recognizing the importance of the record and contacting personnel at the Colorado Division of Wildlife, who raced out to confirm the sighting. The bird was still present the next morning (ph. P. Walker, B. Bosley, M. Stratman) but not subsequently, despite diligent searching by a number of birders. The occurrence represents just the 2nd modern record of Whooping Crane in the Region (aside from records of Whoopings raised in cross-fostering experiments, which have concluded in w. North America).

Only the sixth "wild" Whooping Crane discovered in Colorado since 1900 (and second since 1965), this juvenile was found west of Anton, Colorado 4 November 2004 by a crane hunter. The bird was seen again the following morning (here) but was not seen again. Photograph by Peter Walker.



Gull with a limp returned for its 5th or 6th winter to the Union area 24 Nov (L. Modesitt, GW). The high count for California Gull this fall, 750, came from Valmont 17 Sep (TF, BS, A. Boyce). *Natrona* was the place to find gulls this fall in Wyoming: highlights were a first-winter Mew Gull at Alcova Res. 3 Nov (BR); 2 Thayer's Gulls, an ad. 29 Oct (CM) and a juv. 3 Nov at Evansville (ph. CM); a Lesser Black-backed Gull 5 Nov at Evansville (J&GL, CM, B. South); a Glaucous-winged Gull at Goldeneye 7 Nov (BR); and 2 early Glaucous Gulls at the Amoco Puddle 30 Oct (D. Walgren). The photographs of the juv. Thayer's provided the first firm evidence of the species' occurrence in the state. Presumably, hybrid gulls were considered for the identification of the Glaucous-winged. Four Great Black-backed Gulls were found in Colorado, including the ad. that returned to Pueblo Res. for its 13th winter. The better-



Though Inca Dove has become somewhat regular in Colorado of late, with residency in two towns in the Arkansas River Valley, the sight of one in snow still seems anomalous. This bird was with Eurasian Collared-Doves in Kit Carson, Cheyenne County 21 November 2004. Photograph by Tony Leukering.

than-average showing of Sabine's Gulls—23 reports totaling at least 35 individuals—included reports from six Colorado counties w. of the Front Range and two reports from Wyoming. Colorado birders enjoyed 2 juv. Black-legged Kittiwakes, one at Lon Hagler Res., *Larimer* 13–24 Nov (NK, ph. TL, ph. BS, m.ob.), the other at Lagerman Res., *Boulder* 27–28 Nov (S. Roederer, R. Siebert, m.ob.); photographs indicated 2 different individuals.

In a season with somewhat higher-than-normal numbers of Common Tern, *Routt* scored its first when one was found near Hayden 2 Oct (FL). Three Colorado reports of Arctic Tern provided three first county records: a juv. 22 Sep at Poudre Res. #3, *Larimer* (RH) and single non-ads. at Cañon City, *Fremont* 29 Sep (ph. SM) and Lathrop S.P. 14–15 Oct (BKP, ph. MP et al.). As with all alcids found in Colorado to date, the Ancient Murrelet found at Bear Creek Lake Park, *Jefferson* 8 Nov (M. Henwood, ph. BS, m.ob.) was not seen subsequently.

DOVES THROUGH PIPITS

A White-winged Dove at Rock Springs, *Sweetwater*, WY 26 Sep–1 Oct (S. Mitchell) provided the most interesting of five regional reports. Inca Doves continue in *Otero* (SO) and *Prowers* (JT), and a single joined Eurasian Collared-Doves in the snow at Kit Carson 21 Nov (ph. TL) for a first *Cheyenne* record. A ground-dove seen briefly at John Martin 18 Oct (SO) was correctly left unidentified (we await the first record of Ruddy Ground-Dove). The only Yellow-billed Cuckoo reported out of range was s. of Jackson 20 Aug (P. Connors). A Barn Owl in the mountains at Salida 30 Sep–4 Oct (RM, S. York) provided only the 2nd *Chaffee* record. Two Lesser Nighthawks were of interest, as Colorado has only one accepted fall record: one at Springfield, *Baca* 6 Sep (NK) and the other at Durango, *La Plata* 9 Oct (LS), the latter potentially a first county record. The oddest of five Black Swift reports was that of 5 over Barr L. 27 Aug (JBn, TL), a 2nd record in well-birded *Adams*. Two Chimney Swifts over Monte Vista N.W.R., *Rio Grande* 25 Aug (MP, JP) provided only the 2nd San Luis Valley record. Quite a sight was the flock of 300+ White-throated Swifts at Eldorado Canyon, *Boulder* 4 Sep (BS, D. Stewart); though the species is quite evident in spring migration at certain sites in Colorado, it seems to vanish from the state in fall. Two Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were found in a Palisade, *Mesa* yard (D. & S. Bouricius): an imm. male 28 Aug had been banded (ph.), while a different imm. male visited briefly 9 Sep. The location is on the West Slope, which has only one previous record. Another imm. male Ruby-throated Hummingbird was at Hatchet Ranch, *Pueblo* 18 Sep (TB. Hahn). A female Calliope Hummingbird was s. of Lamar, *Prowers* 23 Aug (ph. J&JS), well se. of typical range. Six Yellow-bellied Sapsucker reports in Colorado spanned 23 Sep–29 Nov. Among the dispersing montane passerines on the e. plains of Colorado were a few Downy (*leucurus*) and a large number of Hairy (*orius*) Woodpeckers of montane races, including a *leucurus* Downy way out at Jackson Res., *Morgan* 31 Oct (NK, CW). These editors are satisfied to see more birders paying attention to subspecies.

Standout flycatchers included a singing male Vermilion Flycatcher at Pueblo 24 Aug (VAT) and a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Lamar 9–10 Sep (D. Russell). Most exceptional was a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher at Two Buttes, *Baca* 2 Sep (DN, BKP, MP); there is but one accepted sight record for the state. A Bell's Vireo at Sterling, *Logan* 11 Sep (B. Kaempfer, G. Matthews, LE, MB) furnished an unusual fall migrant record. Cassin's Vireos appeared in expected numbers (21 reports), and the seven reports of Blue-headed Vireos 2 Oct–16 Nov was also on par with

recent years. This was the first fall in recent memory that Philadelphia Vireos were not reported in the Region.

The eastward corvid push was limited but diverse. Western Scrub-Jays and Steller's Jays typically make up of the great majority of individuals during flight years, but only 5 Western Scrub-Jays and a single Steller's Jay were noted this fall away from the breeding grounds. It seems particularly unusual, then, that 4 Pinyon Jays were at Barr L. 8 Sep (BG), a Clark's Nutcracker wandered to Red Lion S.W.A., *Logan* 18 Sep (JK, RO, GW, D. Schottler), and a Gray Jay found its way down to Ft. Collins, *Larimer* 5 Oct (RH). A passage of some 200 Blue Jays s. of Lamar 3 Oct (J&JS) was spectacular for a Region in which active migration of Blue Jays is rarely noted. To further illustrate the magnitude of Blue Jay migration, consider that between 30 Sep and 17 Oct at least 8 Blue Jays were found in w. Wyoming, including 6 in *Teton*, one of which remained in Jackson until 15 Nov. A fair number of Bushtits pulsed eastward 12–17 Nov, with small flocks found in Brighton, *Adams*, along Rule Creek near John Martin, and at both Ordway and Sugar City, *Crowley*. Nuthatch migration begins by early Aug, but 10 or more Red-breasted Nuthatches at C.V.C.G. 26 Aug (N. Pieplow, GW) was a remarkable total for the plains. While fall is the best time to find Pygmy Nuthatches on the plains, they are still quite rare there; one in Lamar 6 Sep (DAL) was far out on the plains.

A Carolina Wren found at Lamar 6 Sep remained into the winter (DAL). Winter Wrens were decidedly scarce, with the only reports from Two Buttes 25 Oct (DAL) and Rule Creek 25 Nov (DN), but a Sedge Wren was detected at John Martin 17 Oct (DN, JT). For the 2nd consecutive fall, Eastern Bluebirds appeared in good numbers: at least 150 were noted along the Arkansas River Valley, with some as far w. as Cañon City. They were first noted 21 Oct at Valco Ponds, *Pueblo* (M. Ackley, BKP), and scattered individuals remained into the winter. The only Varied Thrush was found on Colorado's West Slope outside Carbondale 5 Nov (J. Biebl et al.). A Brown Thrasher near Westcliffe 21 Aug (BKP, m.ob.) provided a rare record for *Custer* and the Wet Mountain Valley. Sprague's Pipits put on their best showing in Colorado ever: singles were found at Ramah S.W.A., *El Paso* 9 Oct (MP, B. Maynard) and Pueblo Res. 25 Oct (BKP), 5 were e. of Bonny Res., *Yuma* 10 Oct (BS et al.), and 3 were at John Martin 18 Oct (DN). This increase in records is probably attributable to observers' increasing familiarity with the species' call-note, behavior, and habitat preference, but it is nevertheless amazing that Sprague's Pipits had never been reported from any of these locations or counties.

Perhaps the period's most memorable

event was the influx of Bohemian Waxwings, which was observed throughout the Region but was particularly pronounced along the e. foothills and on the West Slope, where flocks in the hundreds were encountered. We received reports totaling 2235 Bohemians, but there were unquestionably more birds involved in the flight. Thirty-five species of warblers (including Yellow-breasted Chat) were reported in the Region. Despite the relatively high number of species, warbler migration was lackluster, with few impressive movements. A remarkable exception was documented at Barr L., where hundreds of Wilson's Warblers were found 10 Sep; 199 of these were banded, thus establishing a new high count for the 18-year-old banding station (M. Johnson, TL). Overall, many warbler species were hard to find, and most of the totals (Figure 1) are lower than in recent years, but there were a few standouts. Virginia's Warblers have usually departed by late Sep; one s. of Montrose 20 Nov (CK) was perhaps the next-latest ever noted. A tardy Black-throated Green Warbler at Valco Ponds, Pueblo 11 Nov lingered into the winter (BKP). Migrant Pine Warblers were at Dixon Res. 13 Sep (CW) and near Flagler S.W.A., Kit Carson 5 Nov (MP, ph. TL, NG), while the singing Pine Warbler found in late Jul remained in Lamar until 6 Sep (DAL). A Prairie Warbler at L. DeWeese 21 Sep (BKP, MP) was the first ever found in the Wet Mountain Valley and Custer. The only Bay-breasted Warbler was rather late at Lathrop S.P. 14 Oct (BKP, MP). Casual on the West Slope, a Kentucky Warbler 26 Aug at Curecanti N.R.A. (JBn) established the first record for Gummison. A Connecticut Warbler reported from E.K.W. 27 Sep (CM) provided the first fall report from Wyoming and perhaps only the 3rd such Regional report (each a sight record). The only Canada Warbler was found at Jumbo Res. 4 Sep (ph. TL, BG).

Tanagers other than Western are quite rare on the West Slope, so it is intriguing that the only Regional sightings were of a Summer Tanager at Ouray 11 Aug (JBy) and a female Scarlet Tanager at Meeker 17-21 Nov (ph. E. Hollowed), the latter a first for Rio Blanco and 4th for the West Slope. The report of an ad. and a juv. Cassin's Sparrow at Bear Creek Lake Park 22 Aug (MH) fits into the past summer's pattern. Two Field Sparrows were found along the Front Range in Douglas; one near the Winkler Ranch 20 Aug (GW, B. Walbek) was found on a particularly odd date, whereas one at Chatfield 2 Nov (J. & K. Schmoker) was more seasonal. A Lark Sparrow at Wilson, Teton 27 Oct (S. & B. Rudd) was among the latest ever found in Wyoming. The Swamp Sparrow passage was abysmal, with only eight reports, all from e. Colorado. Totals of White-throated Sparrow (24) and Harris's Sparrow (14) were

Table 1. Unusual warbler¹ totals, Fall 2004, Colorado & Wyoming.

Species	Total
Blue-winged Warbler	1
Golden-winged Warbler	1
Tennessee Warbler	5
Nashville Warbler	17
Northern Parula	1*
Chestnut-sided Warbler	7
Magnolia Warbler	5
Black-throated Blue Warbler	3*
Black-throated Gray Warbler (plains only)	5*
Black-throated Green Warbler	2
Pine Warbler	3
Prairie Warbler	1
Palm Warbler	4
Bay-breasted Warbler	1
Blackpoll Warbler	4
Black-and-white Warbler	4*
American Redstart	30
Worm-eating Warbler	1
Ovenbird	4*
Northern Waterthrush	14
Kentucky Warbler	1
Connecticut Warbler	1*
Mourning Warbler	1*
Hooded Warbler	5
Canada Warbler	1

¹Table excludes common fall migrant species in the Region: Orange-crowned, Virginia's, Yellow, Yellow-rumped (both Myrtle and Audubon's), Townsend's, MacGillivray's, and Wilson's Warblers, Common Yellowthroat, and Yellow-breasted Chat.

Fall 2004 total relatively low () or high (#).

also low. Adding to the dozen or so reports of Golden-crowned Sparrows from the West Slope was a returning ad. at Fruitgrowers Res., Delta 1 Oct+ (D. Galinat) and an imm. at Confluence Park 5 Oct (P. Priest). A McCown's Longspur was at Pueblo Res. 25 Oct (BKP), where rare. Wyoming's only Rose-breasted Grosbeak was in Jackson 1 Oct (S. Marsh). On 12 Nov, a Rose-breasted Grosbeak was at Ouray (A. Robinsong, L. Arnold), the best-known location for late e. birds on the West Slope. Two female-plumaged Painted Buntings were found in s. Colorado, one at Lathrop S.P. 7 Sep (RM) and another at Colorado City 26 Sep (DS).

This was perhaps the best fall ever recorded for finches in the lowlands. Pine Siskins seemed to be everywhere. Pine Grosbeaks irrupted into the lowlands for the first time in several decades, with a female-plumaged Pine Grosbeak in Rocky Ford 3-5 Nov (SO) and 2 in Cheyenne Wells 13 Nov (ph. MP, LE) establishing first county records for Otero and Cheyenne, respectively. Three males and a female-type in Lamar 23-30 Nov (DAL) established only the 2nd record from Prowers. Even w. Colorado hosted a lowland Pine Grosbeak, outside of Cortez 17

Nov (A. Rilling). Unexpectedly strong showings of *Carpodacus* were noted in e. Colorado, with at least 5 Purple Finches and 7 Cassin's Finches. All were in se. Colorado, except for a single female-plumaged Purple Finch in Franktown, Douglas 13 Oct (K. Metz). Red Crossbills irrupted into e. Colorado, with nearly 50 noted 22 Sep-11 Nov. Unfortunately, little information was received on "types," and we know of no effort to obtain voice-recordings of these birds. Most were singles or pairs, but 21 (probably of Type 2) were near Flagler 5 Nov (MP, ph. TL, NG), and up to 17 were found in s. Sedgwick (H. Armknecht). This fall suggested the beginning of a good redpoll winter, with five Common Redpoll reports from five e. Colorado counties, including 10 in Lamar 16 Oct (SM). Common Redpoll has become infrequent on the West Slope, so one at a Montrose feeder 29 Nov (ph. CK) was particularly noteworthy. Beginning 2 Oct, Evening Grosbeaks were at scattered locations on the plains (Adams, Douglas, Larimer, Morgan, and Prowers), with each of the eight lowland reports consisting of only one or 2 birds and the highest totals anywhere in the Region reaching only 40 at Fall Creek Road, Teton 17 Aug (P. Vaghn) and 25 at Junction Creek, La Plata 8 Aug-11 Oct (JBy). We encourage observers to report observations of this apparently declining species.

Corrigendum: In our Nesting Season 2004 report, the American Golden-Plover at Thurston Res. was seen 29-31 Jul, not in Aug (N.A.B. 58:569).

Cited observers (subregional editors in bold-face): Art Dahl, **Jim Beatty** (JBy; sw. Colorado), Jason Beason (JBn), Maggie Boswell, Allan Burns, Art Dahl, **Coen Dexter** (w.-cen. Colorado), Lisa Edwards, Doug Faulkner, Ted Floyd, Brian Gibbons, Nancy Gobris, Mike Henwood, Dona Hilkey, Rachel Hopper, Joey Kellner, Connie Kogler, Nick Komar, **Jim and Gloria Lawrence** (J&GL) (statewide RBA - Wyoming), David A. Leatherman, Tony Leukering, **Forrest Luke** (nw. Colorado), Tom McConnell, **Terry McEneaney** (Yellowstone), **Chris Michelson** (Casper, WY), Rich Miller, SeEtta Moss, Duane Nelson, Brian Olson, Ric Olson, Stan Oswald, **Susan Patla** (Jackson, WY), **Brandon K. Percival** (se. Colorado), Jack Peterson, **Mark Peterson** (cen. Colorado), **Bert Raynes** (Jackson, WY), Betty Rickman, Bill Schmoker, **Larry Semo** (n.e. Colorado), Randy Siebert, David Silverman, Jane & John Stulp, Janeal Thompson, Van A. Truan, John Vanderpoel, **Glenn Walbek** (n.-cen. Colorado), Cole Wild, Brenda Wright, and Vic Zerbi. Many other individual observers contributed information to this report but could not be personally acknowledged here; they all have our appreciation. 🌟