



This blackbird at Santa Inés, Baja California (here 5 October 2005) associated with Brown-headed Cowbirds and a female Brewer's Blackbird. Although its overall size was not strikingly larger than expected of a male Brewer's Blackbird, its flattened head and hefty bill suggest a possible Brewer's Blackbird × Great-tailed Grackle hybrid. Photograph by Robert A. Hamilton.

Bahía Tortugas 6 Oct (RAH, RAE, SNGH).

Since 20 Nov 1968, when David DeSante collected one at Cabo San Lucas, no Bobolinks had been found in Baja California Sur s. of the Vizcaino Desert until 1–3 Oct, when up to 3 were at Estero San José del Cabo (SGM, CW, RS). Bobolinks were also found at one site in n. Baja California Sur and three sites in Baja California, including a healthy count of 20 at El Rosario 9 Oct (RAE, RAH, SNGH). A male blackbird that associated with a female Brewer's Blackbird at Santa Inés/Cataviña 5–8 Oct possessed a flattened

head and grackle-like bill, features suggesting a possible Brewer's Blackbird × Great-tailed Grackle hybrid (SNGH, ph. RAH). The first Great-tailed Grackles in Baja California Sur were found at Guerrero Negro in 1995, and while nesting has not yet been confirmed in the state, a late Jul count of 400 that included begging juvs. (AG-A) suggests that colonization of this s. outpost is probably now complete. A female Bronzed Cowbird at Chametla 7 Oct (SGM, CW, RS) may have been the same bird seen in this area 25 Jan.

Single Orchard Orioles were at Todos Santos 6 Oct (SGM, CW, RS) and Bahía Asunción 6 Oct (RAH), and 2 females were at Bahía Tortugas 7 Oct (RAE). The only Baja California Sur Bullock's Oriole was at Bahía Tortugas 7 Oct, whereas Baltimore Orioles were at Punta Banda 10 Oct, Bahía Asunción 6 Oct, and Rancho Santa Mónica 7 Oct (all RAH, RAE, SNGH).

NON-NATIVE SPECIES

High counts of Eurasian Collared-Doves included (from north to south): 100 on the Maneadero Plain 11 Nov (RAE), 40 at El Rosario 21 Oct (MS, LN), 38 at Guerrero Negro 13 Nov (AG-A), 15 at Bahía Tortugas 7 Oct (RAE, RAH, SNGH), and 20 at Bahía Asunción 6 Oct (RAE, RAH, SNGH).

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Mexico

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NORTHERN MEXICO



recorded 11, 18, & 25 Sep and 23 & 30 Oct (WB, AVJ, RLL, EC, FVP). A pair of Montezuma Quail with at least 3 chicks was at

Heron, scarce inland, accompanied a Great Blue Heron and a Great Egret at a pond 72 km e. of Monterrey, N.L. 14 Aug (MDC). Four Hook-billed Kites were seen just s. of El Ciruelo, Nay. along the Río Grande de Santiago 4 Nov (JM, AM). A Great Black-Hawk was near Arroyo de Mentidero/Cuchujaqui, Son. 4 Nov (RW). Gray Hawks seem to be established at Cañón de Fernández S.P., as suggested by ads. seen there 18 Sep and 9 Oct and a juv. 25 Sep (WB, AVJ, RLL, FVP). A kettle of ca. 150 Swainson's Hawks was at a roadside pullout near Cerro el Elefante, Sin. 28 Oct (MSM et al.). Some 1300 Swainson's were noted migrating through the mts. s. of El Ciruelo 3 Nov (JM, AM). A Golden Eagle, scarce this far s., was seen along a trail at km 207.5 of the Durango Hwy. in Sep (MR, SC). A Bat Falcon was seen just n. of Punta Mita, Nay. in Sep (MR, SC). Slightly outside of mapped ranges were a Collared Forest-Falcon 3 Nov and a Prairie Falcon (mobbed by a pair of Peregrine Falcons) 4 Nov near El Ciruelo (JM, AM).

WATERFOWL THROUGH OWLS

Wood Ducks were seen by the dozens in Cañón de Fernández S.P., Río Nazas, Dgo., reaffirming that this local population continues to reproduce well. Groups of 10–35 were

Cuarenta Casas, Chih. 2 Aug (EB, MDC, ph. JC). An ad. Least Grebe was seen in Cañón de Fernández S.P. 10 Oct, a new species for the area (WB, RLL, FVP).

A juv. Little Blue Heron and a Tricolored

A remarkable concentration of 385 Ameri-

can Oystercatchers was on the shore near El Golfo de Santa Clara during a very high tide 18 Sep (KG). Four American Avocets were seen with Black-necked Stilts in Las Etnias, an urban park in Torreón, Coah. (RLL, FVP). At least 8 Stilt Sandpipers were at Yávaros, Son. 6 Nov (RW). A group of 7 Elegant Terns at Yávaros 6 Nov were somewhat late (RW). At least 5 Eurasian Collared-Doves were in agricultural areas near Yávaros 6 Nov (RW). About 10–15 Mexican Parrotlets were near Alamos, Son. in early Nov, and two flocks totaling 200+ were above El Chalatlón park, Son. 7 Nov (RW). Several Western Screech-Owls were heard 10 km n. of Madera, Chih. 2 Aug (MDC). Eastern Screech-Owls were heard 6 & 8 Aug 17 km w. of Linares, N.L. (MDC). A Vermiculated Screech-Owl was heard near Gómez Farias, Tamps. 8 Aug (MDC). Two calling Northern Saw-whet Owls were heard 15 km n. of Madera, Chih. 2 Aug (MDC).

HUMMINGBIRDS THROUGH FINCHES

Lucifer's Hummingbirds seemed especially numerous in the deserts of Coahuila and Nuevo León in Aug, with 10+ (mostly ad. males) feeding at tree tobacco at Presa el Tulillo, Coah. 4 Aug, 20+ at flowering shrubs near Tanque de Emergencia, Coah. 5 Aug, 10+ at agaves in the lower slopes of Hwy. 31, N.L. 6 Aug, and 5+ at flowering shrubs near Los Lirios, Coah. 7 Aug (MDC). A Lucifer Hummingbird s. of El Ciruelo 3 Nov was below normal elevation at about 400 m, as were several Broad-tailed Hummingbirds s. of El Ciruelo at ca. 800 m 2 Nov (JM, AM). Anna's Hummingbirds were recorded Aug–Nov in Bosque Venustiano Carranza, a city park in Torreón, Coah. where it continues to be the most common hummingbird (WB, AVJ, RLL, EC, FVP). Over 30 Costa's Hummingbirds were feeding on roadside flowers n. of Rosa Blanca 3–4 Nov; this species has been thought rare in Nay. (JM, AM). Eared Quetzals were well reported in the state of Durango near and along the Durango Hwy. this season: a pair was at the edge of pine forest 2 km s. of El Salto; another pair was about 0.5 km s. of the cabins at Mexiquillo 31 Oct; and a pair and a juv. were at km 161.7 on the Durango Hwy. 31 Oct (MSM et al.). In early Nov, a rumor circulated via the Internet of a female Imperial Woodpecker near Divisadero; it would be wonderful, of course, if it turned out that the species were not extinct, but we have as yet received no clear documentation to suggest that the sight record is correct. The habitat in the vicinity of the sight record is not what one would expect to be appropriate for the

species, based on the literature. Subsequent searches for this bird have not proved fruitful.

Just received was a record of a Streaked Flycatcher photographed in Parque La Estanzuela, Monterrey, N.L. 22 Jun 2004 (AH). A Thick-billed Kingbird was seen by many at Sombretillo dam, Sierra de Picachos, N.L. 29 Oct (AGS, ph. IG, m.ob.). A Greenish Elaenia was on the La Petaca road off the Durango Hwy. in Sinaloa in Sep (ph. MR, SC). A Yellow-green Vireo was seen on Hwy 31 ca. 25 km w. of Linares 5 Aug (MDC). A male Phainopepla seen 4 Nov s. of El Ciruelo was slightly outside of normal range (JM, AM). Three Green Jays were found in Cañón de Fernández S.P. 11 Sep, 15 were counted there 18 Sep (WB, AVJ, RLL, FVP), with 10+ on 2 Oct (WB, EC); brief sightings of possible Green Jays in the area extend back to 2003 (WB, FVP).

A Virginia's Warbler was well studied at El Doctor, Son. 19 Sep (KG). A Prothonotary Warbler was in mangroves just n. of Puerto Vallarta, Jal. 22 Sep (MR, SC). A Yellow-throated Warbler was just e. of the Alamos cemetery 5 Nov. A male Red-legged Honeycreeper was at the n. limit of its range 45 km w. of El Naranjo in San Luis Potosí 8 Aug (MDC). Following the numerous records of Western Tanager in nw. Mexico in late Jul (see the Nesting Season report), Aug records from ne. Mexico are of single females or

Adán Oliveras de Ita and Octavio Rojas-Soto in 2004 and constitutes a rediscovery (after more than 50 years) of this enigmatic sparrow away from the Valley of Mexico near Mexico City. The residents of this area are glad to show visiting birders the sparrow; a small guide/entrance fee helps ensure its habitat is preserved. Anyone interested should contact Don Julio Castro in person at the ejido (collective cooperative that manages and oversees this area). A Vesper Sparrow was on the Pánuco road, Sin. 1 Nov (MSM et al.). A pair of Pyrrhuloxias seen 2 Nov near El Ciruelo was outside of normal range. A female Baltimore Oriole was seen in El Golfo de Santa Clara, Son. 18 Sep (KG).

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CENTRAL MEXICO



imm. at Tanque de Emergencia 5 Aug and Parrot Cliffs, N.L. 7 Aug (MDC).

Several flocks of Stripe-headed Sparrows n. of Rosa Blanca, Nay. above 1800 m were at unusually high elevations 5 Nov (JM, AM). A flock of 75–100 Striped Sparrows were at the meadow 2 km s. of El Salto, Dgo. 29 Oct, and 2 Baird's Sparrows were in fields with bunchgrass at Ejido Ojo de Agua–El Cazador, Dgo. 30 Oct (MSM et al.). If confirmed, the latter would represent a range extension and a new biome for Baird's Sparrow. Also at Ejido Ojo de Agua–El Cazador were 3 Grasshopper Sparrows 31 Oct and a single Sierra Madre Sparrows 30–31 Oct (MSM et al.); this population of Sierra Madre Sparrows was found by

In central Veracruz, numbers of migrating passerines were noted to be even lighter this season than last fall; several species that are typically uncommon fall migrants were not encountered at all.

WATERFOWL THROUGH NIGHTJARS

An imm. Snow Goose discovered 26 Nov near the Barra de Sontecomapan, Ver. was s. of its normal range (JM, AM). A female Hooded Merganser and a female Bufflehead were in L. Texcoco 22 Nov (MG). A Cinnamon Teal was at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco 12 Aug (HGdS, RW). There were at least 8 Northern Shovelers at Bosque de Aragón 13 Oct (HGdS, MPV).



This photograph taken 15 September 2005 in Nochtixtlán at last documents Golden Eagle in the state of Oaxaca. Previously, the species was only rumored to occur in the state—based on unpublished reports and on a captive individual said to have come from Oaxaca. Photograph by Manuel Grosselet and Georgita Ruiz Michel.

Interesting records from a cruise ship n. of the Revillagigedo Is. 2 Oct include a probable Herald Petrel (*Pterodroma heraldica*) near 19° 40' N, 109° W; a Juan Fernandez Petrel, a Red-tailed Tropicbird, and a Great Blue Heron at 20° 05' N, 110° 54' W; and boobies of four species feeding on flying fish that flushed ahead of the cruise ship, including at least 15 Brown, 80 Masked, 4 Nazca, and 6 Red-footed (4 dark morphs, 2 dark-tailed light morphs) around 20° 15' N, 111° 58' W (MDC). From the same ship, 2 female Great Frigatebirds were seen at 19° 54' N, 110° 19' W (MDC). A Neotropic Cormorant was at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco 12 Aug (RW, HGdS).

Another cruise ship off w. Mexico produced offshore records of Cattle Egret: groups of 4 and ca. 15 were 50–100 km nw. of Puerto Vallarta, Jal. 1 Nov; one was 200 km offshore between Puerto Vallarta and Acapulco the next day; and 10+ were about 150 km se. of Acapulco 3 Nov (RK). A Little Blue Heron at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco 12 Aug (HGdS, RW) and a Tricolored Heron there 13 Aug (HGdS, MG) had oversummered, as had 70 Great Egrets, counted 15 Aug (HGdS, RW, MPV). The Greater Flamingo that has been seen in L. Texcoco in the past seven years, surely an escapee, was seen again 6 Oct (MG). Twelve Turkey Vultures were at San Gregorio Atlapulco, D.F. 28 Oct (AMe). Three Ospreys were together at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco, D.F. 7 & 21 Oct (AMe). A female Hook-billed Kite was in the UNAM Botanical Garden, D.F. 21 Nov (ph. MG). A Harris's Hawk soared over Metro Talismán, D.F. 13 Oct (HGdS). A Peregrine Falcon was at San Gregorio Atlapulco 28 Oct (AMe), and one that appeared to be a male of the subspecies *anatum* was seen near Xola and Coyoacán in Mexico City, D.F. 23 Nov (MG). An American Kestrel was at La Cima, D.F. 7 Sep (MG, AO, EE). Two Laughing Falcons were heard at Mezcala, Gro. 11 Sep (MG).

Of potentially great interest, Alejandro Meléndez glimpsed a bird that may have been the resident subspecies of Yellow Rail at Chiconahuapan, Méx. 3 Sep. A Collared Plover was inland in the edge of the Balsas R. at Puente de Mezcala 9 Sep (MG, GR). An ad. Northern Jacana was sighted at L. Texcoco, Méx. 22 Nov (MG), as was a Sanderling the same day. Two Solitary Sandpipers were at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco 13 Aug (MG, HGdS). Several Upland Sandpipers were heard in migration above Mexico City at 2230 hours on 2 Sep (MG). A Wilson's Snipe was seen at Villa Cuauhtémoc, Méx. 26 Sep (MG, RPB). A Semipalmated Plover, 4 Sanderlings, and ca. 1300 Wilson's Phalaropes were seen at L. Texcoco along with a Gull-billed Tern, a Black Tern, and 15 Franklin's Gulls 6 Oct (MG). Shocking was a Bridled Tern that showed up far inland at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco, D.F. 10-13 Aug (RW, AMe, ph. MG, ph. HGdS); there was no tropical storm activity in the area to explain its presence



A most surprising record in central Mexico was this Bridled Tern on a restored lake at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco, southern Mexico City 10-13 (here 13) August 2005. Photograph by Héctor Gómez de Silva.

there. This represents the first record for the capital area and one of very few continental records inland, anywhere! A Least Tern and 15 Black Terns were observed at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco 31 Aug, and a smaller number of Black Terns was there the next day, but the Least could not be refound (RW). Three Caspian Terns at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco 15 Aug constituted the first record for the D.F. (RW, HGdS, MPV).

Three Mourning Doves flew alongside a ship about 60 km se. of Acapulco 3 Nov (RK), and a White-winged Dove arrived aboard the ship about 120 km s. of Acapulco and was still flying around the ship at 200 km s. of Acapulco 3 Nov (RK). Military Macaws were reportedly heard near Mezcala 11 Sep (MG). A pair of escapee Monk Parakeets was nesting at Cuemanco 28 Oct (AMe). A Barn Owl was

seen 26 Nov on Insurgentes Sur on the Universidad Intercontinental campus, Tlalpan, D.F. (OR). Five Burrowing Owls were seen at L. Texcoco 22 Nov (MG). A Western Screech-Owl was photographed roosting in the UNAM Botanical Garden 21 Nov (MG), the first recent record for the D.F. (a specimen was collected there in 1972; Wilson & Ceballos 1992). A Mexican Whip-poor-will was heard at sunrise in the UNAM Botanical Garden 15 Sep (MG, AMa). Buff-throated Nighthawks were still singing at Mezcala 10 Sep (MG).

WOODPECKERS THROUGH FINCHES

Two subad. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were at Bosque de Aragón 24 Nov (HGdS, MPV). A Ruddy Foliage-gleaner near Ruiz Cortines, Los Tuxtlas, Ver. 27 Nov was well out of range (JM, AM), although the late W. J. Schaldach, Jr., reported the species a very few times in the Los Tuxtlas region. A Buff-breasted Flycatcher at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco 15 Aug (HGdS, MPV, RW) was noteworthy, as was a White-throated Flycatcher at Mezcala 11 Sep (MG). A Tropical Kingbird was at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco 13 & 15 Aug (HGdS, MG). A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was recorded near Canal del Bordo, D.F. 24 Oct (AMe). A White-eyed Vireo at Las Minas, Ver. near the Oaxacan border was well above normal elevation 1 Oct (JM, AM). A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher heard 19 Aug at the UNAM Botanical Garden (MG) was the first reported this season.

A Rufous-backed Robin in Puebla City, Pue. 1 Oct (MG, JC, FCC) was a bit outside its range mapped in Howell & Webb (1995). A Gray Catbird at L. Texcoco 22 Nov (MG) represents one of very few sightings from that state or indeed the Mexican Plateau. An Orange-crowned Warbler and a Yellow-breasted Chat in Puebla 1 Oct (MG) were the earliest reported this season. A Yellow Warbler was seen on a cruise ship 200 km offshore between Puerto Vallarta and Acapulco 2 Nov (RK). An Audubon's Warbler heard 28 Sep at Lomas de Bezares, D.F. (MG) was the earliest reported this season. The first Wilson's Warbler of the season was one heard at Lomas de Bezares, D.F. 30 Aug. A Slate-throated Redstart and an American Redstart were at the UNAM Botanical Garden 15 Sep (MG, AMa). Hermit Warblers greatly outnumbered Townsend's Warblers this fall in the cen. Veracruz highlands, whereas the reverse is usually the case (JM, AM).

Four Lark Sparrows were at Playa Juan Angel 27 Nov (JM, AM). A Oaxaca Sparrow was mist-netted and photographed in African Safari, Pue. 1 Oct (MG), the first documented



Extremely rare in the Yucatan away from Cozumel Island, this apparent Smooth-billed Ani showed up among Groove-billed Anis at Ría Lagartos on 30 October 2005, following Hurricane Wilma. Photograph by Diego Núñez.

record of the species in that state. A group of at least 10 Red-legged Honeycreepers was at the Los Tuxtlas UNAM biological station, Ver. 26 Nov (JM, AM). A male Painted Bunting showed up in a garden near Patricio Sanz and Xola, D.F. 20 Oct (ph. JGdS). A female Orchard Oriole photographed at the UNAM Botanical Garden 18 Aug (MG) was the earliest reported this season.

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SOUTHERN MEXICO



Localities are in Oaxaca unless otherwise stated.

WATERFOWL THROUGH ORIOLES

An imm. Black-bellied Whistling-Duck and a Lesser Scaup were at Presa Emiliano Zapata 26 Nov (MG). Eight Magnificent Frigatebirds circling over the Sierra Tolistoque, n. of La Venta, 27 Oct were far from the coast (AM, JM). A Little Blue Heron was at Presa Emiliano Zapata 20 Aug (OC), and an imm. Reddish Egret, 2 Tricolored Herons, and 2 Little

Blue Herons were there 26 Nov (MG). An Osprey was at Tavinet 16 Sep (MG). A group of 20 Mississippi Kites migrated through the La Venta area 12 Oct (AM, JM). An ad. Common Black-Hawk was observed s. of El Estudiante along Hwy. 175 on 10 Nov was the first confirmed record for the cen. valleys of Oaxaca (HGdS, ph. GC, PE). An ad. White-tailed Hawk was at Etlá 15 Aug (MG). An ad. Golden Eagle photographed at

Nochixtlán, at km 163 of the Oaxaca–Tehuacán Hwy., 15 Sep (ph. GR, ph. MG) was the first satisfactorily documented from Oax. A Peregrine Falcon was seen in Oaxaca City 25 Sep (MG, AMa).

A strong migration of Upland Sandpipers was heard over Oaxaca City in the first three hours of the night 24 Sep (MG). Small groups of Whimbrel were observed 11–15 Oct feeding in cattle pasture just n. of La Venta (AM, JM). Twelve Black Terns were at Presa Emiliano Zapata 20 Aug (OCA). A pair of Lilac-crowned Parrots was at Huatulco 9 Oct (MG). A Violet-crowned Hummingbird was at Huitzo 15 Aug (MG).

Two Pileated Flycatchers were at Monte Albán 12 Nov (HGdS). A Least Flycatcher was mist-netted in the Santo Domingo Botanical Garden 28 Aug (MG). Two Happy Wrens

were heard at Puente de Hierro near Guelatao 13 Nov (HGdS). A male Aztec Thrush was at Arroyo Guacamaya 14 Nov (HGdS). A Tennessee Warbler was among Orange-crowned Warblers at the large fruiting fig tree at Monte Albán 12 Nov (HGdS). A Yellow Warbler was at Santo Domingo Botanical Garden, Oaxaca City 28 Aug, and 5 Myrtle Warblers were mist-netted in there 27 Nov, one with a completely white rump (MG). Up to 4 Fan-tailed Warblers were reported 9 Aug–3 Sep at San

Juan Yagavila (RA). A Yellow-winged Tanager feeding a fledgling in the Tehuacán-Cuicatlán Biosphere Reserve at km 87 of the Huitzo–Tehuacán road was outside of mapped range (OC). Two Summer Tanagers were at the dam just e. of Teotitlán del Valle 11 Nov (HGdS).

A White-throated Towhee in Oaxaca City was transporting nesting material 25 Sep

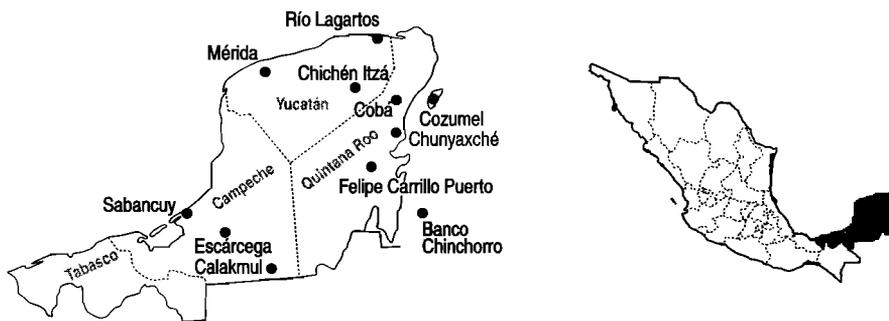


Documented for the first time in the state of Puebla, Mexico, this Oaxaca Sparrow was mist-netted at African Safari 1 October 2005. Note the black of the lores, which breaks the eye ring, and the very dark, relatively small bill. The pattern of the back also differs from those of the similar Rusty and Rufous-crowned Sparrows. Photograph by Manuel Grosselet.

(MG). A Clay-colored Sparrow was mist-netted at downtown Oaxaca City 8 Nov (MG), and 3 Chipping Sparrows were at Huitzo dam 21 Aug (OC). A singing male Yellow-faced Grassquit was at Huitzo 15 Aug (MG). A male Lazuli Bunting and a Bridled Sparrow were at Puente de Hierro 13 Nov (HGdS). There were at least 5 Cinnamon-rumped Seedeaters at Puente de Hierro 13 Nov (HGdS). A male Lazuli Bunting and a Streak-backed Oriole were at Presa Emiliano Zapata 26 Nov (MG). An oriole that may have been an imm. male Baltimore Oriole (or hybrid with Bullock's Oriole) was mist-netted at the Santo Domingo Botanical Garden 6 Nov (MG). A Spot-breasted Oriole was at Huatulco 9 Oct (MG). A male Baltimore Oriole at Arroyo Guacamaya 9 Nov was at a rather high elevation (HGdS). A belated record of a male Yellow-throated Euphonia photographed at Monte Albán 14 Feb was recently received; it would constitute the only satisfactorily documented record of the species in the main valley of Oax. (WG).

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YUCATAN PENINSULA



The big news this fall season were the multiple hurricanes that caused death and displacement of birds, the repercussions of which are still being observed into the winter months. It is feared that the Cozumel Thrasher may not have survived Hurricane *Wilma*, which stalled over the northeastern coast of Quintana Roo for two days over 21–23 October. At least 850,000 hectares of tropical forest were destroyed, and widespread flooding has kept many areas inaccessible, including the forest behind El Cuyo, Yucatan. At least two studies are underway to make pre- and post-hurricane comparisons of the avifauna in northern Quintana Roo at the private reserve of Tsil at Rancho Santa María and in the coastal region of the Ría Lagartos Biosphere Reserve, Yucatan, behind El Cuyo. Four new species were added to the bird list of the Ría Lagartos Biosphere Reserve, three of which were clearly a result of *Wilma*.

The only migration arrival noted was 1–2 October from Celestún to Progreso, including in the interior, when small, mixed flocks of warblers were observed flying in all directions along the entire route (DB). Even with the destruction of the forest, Paul Wood reported recaptures of American Redstart and Hooded Warbler banded one and two years ago at Rancho Santa María. He also noted that Great Curassows were still around but that Red-billed Pigeons had disappeared, and the first White-winged Dove to show up after the hurricane did so on 18 November. Heavy flooding in the Ría Lagartos Biosphere Reserve attracted unusual numbers of waterfowl, along with a great variety of raptors. At the village of Chunyaxché, across from the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, as many as 25 Ocellated Turkeys were reported around the homes, as well as several Great Curassows, surely as a result of the lack of food in the forest.

Abbreviations: H.S.A.C. (Hacienda San Antonio Chel, Yuc.); H.S.A.C. (Hacienda San Antonio Chablecab, Yuc.); R.L.B.R. (Ría Lagartos

Biosphere Reserve); R.S.S. (Rancho San Salvador); R.L. (Río Lagartos, Yuc.); R.S.M. (Rancho Santa María, n. Quintana Roo); S.K.B.R. (Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, Quintana Roo).

WATERFOWL THROUGH FLAMINGO

Four Greater White-fronted Geese, a vagrant in the subregion, were photographed feeding in a sisal field 23 Oct at Kabah, Yuc., 8 km from Santa Elena; they were quite probably refugees of Hurricane *Wilma* (JC). Waterfowl flocked to flooded fields created by *Wilma*, particularly in the ne. part of Yucatan. These included 11 Black-bellied and 3 Fulvous Whistling-Ducks on the road between Río Lagartos and San Felipe 27 Dec (SF, BM, DN). An American Wigeon was found in Celestún 27 Nov (HD). Approximately 900 Blue-winged Teal were observed flying w. of the pier at Progreso 2 Nov; 20 were still in the area 6 Nov (BS); and 500 were counted together on the San Felipe–Panabá road. A single Northern Shoveler was reported at Celestún 27 Nov (FC), while another was along the San Felipe–Panabá road that day (SF, BM, DN). At least 37 Lesser Scaup were feeding in the salt flats behind Las Coloradas 27 Nov (SF, BM, DN). The first Crested Guan reported at Petén Tucha in the R.L.B.R. showed up 27 Nov (MM, IN). Hurricane *Wilma* caused several Great Curassows and 25 Ocellated Turkeys to seek food and refuge in the yard of the Caamal family in Chunyaxché, in cen. Q. Roo, across from the S.K.B.R., 25 Oct–early Nov (IC).

A single ad. Masked Booby turned up at R.L. 18 Sep, no doubt blown ashore from Alacran Reef, where the species nests (ph. IN). A Brown Booby, another resident of Alacran Reef, was found dead at Las Coloradas 30 Oct as a result of *Wilma* (ph. DN). American White Pelicans continue to arrive in numbers, and a flock of 50 first-year birds was seen feeding in the coastal lagoon below Xcambo, Yuc. 18 Sep (BM). A total of 31 migrating Anhingas was reported flying high over the tourism center at Celestún 24 Sep (DB, GT). Four Least Bitterns

were found at Progreso 26 Aug (BS) and another at the lagoons 10 km e. of Celestún 27 Nov (FC). Some of the increasing reports of Black-crowned Night-Herons in the subregion include an ad. at the pond in the town of R.L. 27 Nov (MM, IN) and another ad. at Celestún the same day (FC). A possible Glossy Ibis was reported at R.S.S. 27 Nov (MM, IN; the possibility of a White-faced Ibis exists), while a pair of Jabirus were at their nest nearby 16 (IN) & 21 Oct (DN). After Hurricane *Wilma*, the pair was seen together (copulating on one occasion) and separately in the nest several times, including 27 Nov (SF, BM, DN). Although the reserve has closed off the entrance to Petén Tucha in order to reduce disturbance to the nest site, the nest can be observed at a distance from R.S.S. Greater Flamingo chicks have been banded at their nest site in the R.L.B.R. for five years now, and 2 single banded birds have been documented dispersing to Florida and to Cuba. This year, a chick banded 14 Aug in Yucatan turned up on the Texas coast 17 Sep, its band number reported by Stephen Sykes, an Aransas N.W.R. volunteer, in mid-Oct.

HAWKS THROUGH TERNS

An unusual find was a Gray-headed Kite 5 km s. of San Felipe in the R.L.B.R. 27 Nov (SF, BM, DN). A Collared Forest-Falcon was found inland 15 km from Celestún 27 Nov (AD, HD), and another was heard the same day at R.S.S. (SF, BM, DN). A single American Kestrel, a declining migrant to the subregion, was at Celestún 27 Nov (AD). A Peregrine Falcon returned to its favored site at Progreso 24 Sep, having last been seen in May (AG), and another was at Celestún 27 Nov (AD). Only one Rufous-necked Wood-Rail was observed at Celestún during the birding marathon 27 Nov (FC), not surprising in light of the destructive hurricane activity, but American Coots were plentiful on the San Felipe–Panabá road, where 80 were feeding in a pond 27 Nov (SF, BM, DN).

A Piping Plover showed up at Celestún 1 Oct (DB, GT), and a banded Piping was observed 30 Oct after *Wilma* at El Palmar Reserve just e. of Celestún (CG); it had been banded in Big Quill L., Saskatchewan, Canada 13 Jul 2005. A young Piping was found behind Las Coloradas 27 Nov (SF, BM, DN). Ten Whimbrels were at Progreso 2 Oct (DB, GT), and one was still there 27 Nov (BS); another was seen 27 Nov at the Chelm pier on the estuary (BS). Up to 12 Red Knots were passing through coastal lagoons between Progreso and Uaymitún 1 Oct (DB, GT). A total of 28 Stilt Sandpipers was noted one km e. of the Progreso–Merida hwy. 2 Nov (BS). The salt flats at Las Coloradas turned up 10 Wilson's

Phalaropes 27 Nov (SF, BM, DN). A small Laughing Gull with orange bill and legs turned up 19 Sep at R.L. and has been present since that time; this aberration has been documented on several occasions in Florida. Two Lesser Black-backed Gulls were seen 27 Nov at Progreso pier (BS), and another in Las Coloradas 27 Nov (SF, BM, DN). A Gull-billed Tern was reported e. of Uaymitún, where several are seen each year (DB, GT). A flock of 80 Forster's Tern was observed along the Progreso-Uaymitún coast 2 Oct (DB, GT), and another was at Celestún 27 Nov (AD). Normally, Least Terns are gone from the peninsula by Oct, but one was at Las Coloradas 27 Nov (MM, IN), and 15 were in same area 27 Nov (AP, WS, MT). A single Sooty Tern showed up in Laguna Muyil after a storm passed through in mid-Aug (IC). Black Tern migrates through the subregion in late summer and early fall; 27 were reported 22 Aug at Las Coloradas (WS, MM), and 3 were at Progreso 2 Oct (DB, GT).

PIGEONS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS

Following Hurricane *Wilma*, a **White-crowned Pigeon** showed up in R.L.B.R., feeding with a small flock of White-winged Doves 30 Oct; this represented a first record for the state of Yucatan. Four Red-lore Parrots were seen eating chicozapote fruit in Chuburná 28 Sep (PW), and the newspaper reported that a flock of 12 arrived in Mérida in Sep and were still in the same section of town 28 Nov. It is not known if they are wild or escaped birds. The same is true for a flock of 6 Yellow-headed Parrots reported in different parts of Mérida late Sep-early Oct (DB).

A single Black-billed Cuckoo was reported at R.S.S. 27 Nov (AP, WS, MT), and there were numerous reports of Yellow-billed Cuckoo, including some later than normal: 2 at Hda. Blanca Flor, Camp. 24 Sep (BM); 2 at Celestún 24 Sep (DB, GT); one at Tekal de Venegas 3 Nov (AE, BM); one R.S.S. 27 Nov (MM, IN); and another at Celestún on the same date (HD). A Smooth-billed Ani was photographed feeding with several Groove-billed Anis near the R.L.B.R. station 30 Oct following Hurricane *Wilma*, the first documented observation of the species in the state (DN). A very early arrival was noted this season for a **Belted Kingfisher**—2 Aug on road to Las Coloradas (MT). A single Eastern Kingbird was reported as late as 27 Nov on the San Felipe-Panabá road (AP, WS, MT). Scissor-tailed Flycatcher is more frequently reported in the subregion: one was at Akumal 29 Oct after *Wilma* (AB); another was flying around the center of Progreso 20 Nov (BS); and another was in R.L. 27 Nov. A single Fork-tailed Flycatcher was reported 27 Nov at Celestún (FC).

VIREOS THROUGH ORIOLES

White-eyed Vireos were unusually common this fall in Yucatan, with, for example, 6 found in a small area of H.S.A.C. 16 Oct (AE, BM, RM). A rare Philadelphia Vireo was at Celestún 27 Nov (AD), and a Yellow-green Vireo was seen as late as 27 Nov at R.S.S. (MM, IN). A Cliff Swallow was reported at Celestún 27 Nov, a late date for this transient (FC). A Yucatan Wren was seen with nest material at Xcambo 18 Sep, quite late for nesting activity (BM). A single Black Catbird was at H.S.A.C. 27 Nov (AP, WS, MT). An unusual find at Celestún was a European Starling 27 Nov (DB, FC)—a 2nd record for Celestún and only the 4th for the subregion.

Several Tennessee Warblers were at Celestún 1 Oct (DB, GT) and still present there on the late date of 27 Nov (HD). A transient Chestnut-sided Warbler was at Kabah, Yuc. 3 Oct (GT), and a Blackburnian Warbler was seen in Mérida on the same day (GT). Another Blackburnian was at Celestún 27 Nov (HD). Two Prothonotary Warblers were at Celestún 27 Nov (HD), while a Louisiana Waterthrush was near San Felipe 27 Nov (WS), with another at Celestún on same date (AD). A Kentucky Warbler, an uncommon migrant in the subregion, was at Celestún 27 Nov (FC). A single Botteri's Sparrow, normally found in the thorny scrub behind the coastal lagoons in the R.L.B.R., was near the baseball field at Las Coloradas 27 Nov (MM, IN). A Grasshopper Sparrow was reported 18 Nov at R.S.M. (PW). Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were common this season, and 3 were observed feeding on the fruits of Roble (*Ehretia tinifolia*) and Gumbo-limbo (*Bursera simaraba*) 16 Oct at H.S.A.C. (BM).

An imm. male Yellow-headed Blackbird was documented 23 & 28 Sep at Las Coloradas, making it a first documented record for the state of Yucatan (AA, JC, MT). The only other subregional records are of singles on Cayo Arenas, Camp. 8–18 Oct 1984 and at Xel-Ha, Q. Roo 15 Dec 2001–May 2002. Up to 25 Orchard Orioles were found at the Convention Center n. of Mérida 15 Sep (DB).

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