

ington, UT 13-15 Mar (LT). An ad. male Lark Bunting was observed 27 May near Benson, Cache, UT (BR). Utah's 10th documented Clay-colored Sparrow was photographed 8 Apr at Cottonwood Wash, San Juan (†TA et al.). Two Swamp Sparrows were observed in Nevada: 19-20 Mar at the H.B.V.P. (JBr et al.) and 3 May at Dyer, Esmeralda (ph. GS). The only White-throated Sparrow reported during the season was at Willard Bay S.P., Box Elder, UT 5 Mar (J&KB). By contrast, Harris's Sparrows made a strong spring showing, with 2 in each state. Harris's Sparrows were found in Nevada at Rye Patch Res., Pershing 3 Mar (MMa, SSn, DN) and nw. Reno, Washoe 1-4 May (FP); Utah birds were at the Jordan River Parkway, Salt Lake 19 Mar-22 Apr (PF, J&KB) and w. of the Great Salt L., Box Elder 19 May (CN, TN). Up to 9 Chestnut-collared Longspurs were observed at Horse Ravine, Lemmon Valley, Washoe, NV 26 Mar (FP). A Painted Bunting in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, UT 10 May (p.a., †HL) would be a long-over-

due state first. A male Bobolink was found at Fish Springs N.W.R., Juab, UT 21 May (CN, TN). Common Grackles were observed away from typical locations at the Dugway Proving Grounds, Tooele, UT 5 May (CZ) and Miller's R.A. 27-29 May (MMe et al.). Hooded Orioles are occasionally seen n. of their typical breeding areas, and the trend continued this season, with reports of ad. males visiting feeders in Reno, Washoe, NV 6-12 Apr (J&GA, FP).

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New Mexico



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The statewide drought deepened to historic proportions during spring 2006, while climatologists proclaimed the recent period the warmest on record; whatever the long-term consequences of these events may be for birds, the short-term impacts seemed negligible this season. Meanwhile, birds and birders were active, and numerous rarities were documented, including two

(Black Rail and Vaux's Swift) not previously verified for the state.

Abbreviations: B.L.N.W.R. (Bitter Lake N.W.R.); Bosque (Bosque del Apache N.W.R.); G.B.A. (Gila Bird Area, Grant); N.R.T. (n. Roosevelt migrant trap w. of Melrose); P.O. Canyon (Post Office Canyon, Peloncillo Mts.); R.G.V. (Rio Grande Valley); R.S. (Rattlesnake Springs area, Eddy).

WATERFOWL THROUGH FALCONS

Surprisingly late was a Greater White-fronted Goose at B.L.N.W.R. 7-10 May (JP, JO). A Tundra Swan lingered at French L., Colfax until 17 Apr (ph. DC); farther s. were an ad. at La Joya 15 Mar (DH) and 2 imm. at Socorro until 25 Mar (JO, JP). Unexpected was a pair of Wood Ducks in a tree at Boone's Draw 5 May (CGL). The popular Eurasian Wigeon at Albuquerque was last seen 12 Mar (ph. JO). Single Barrow's Goldeneyes were at French L. 2-18 Mar (ph. DC) and L. David, San Miguel 19 Mar (WW). West of usual haunts was a Horned Grebe at Acomita L., Cibola 5 Mar (BN, CR); late were 4 at Stubblefield L. 9 May (ph. EW). High counts for Eared Grebes were 950 at Stinking L. 13 May (DS) and 400 at Stubblefield L. 1 May (DC). Early for the nw. were 49 American White Pelicans at Bluewa-

ter L. 5 Mar (CR); persecution of pelicans continued in Eddy, including one found shot at L. Avalon 5 Mar (SW). Surprising were two Double-crested Cormorant nests at Clovis 27 May (CR), a Curry first; only 12 Double-crested nests and no Neotropical Cormorant nests were in the San Marcial area 2 May (RD).

Up to 3 American Bitterns were noted at B.L.N.W.R. 1 Mar-29 Apr (GW, WW, JP, CR) and provided the only reports. Early Least Bitterns were singles at Bosque 22 Apr (DH) and B.L.N.W.R. 29 Apr (JP, CR); in May, vocal Least were at those two sites plus Clabber Hill Ranch in e. San Miguel and the Fort Sumner area (m.ob.). Four Great Blue Heron nests on the Navajo R. n. of Dulce 13 May (DS) established a new breeding locale; two nests were at Mule Creek, Grant 13 May (EL), where not recently reported. Continuing their expansionist trend, Great Egrets were n. to Colfax (DC) and Quay (CR) and w. to Grant (EL, RS) and Hidalgo (fide AC). A Tricolored Heron at Bosque 2 May (GF) furnished the lone report. Annual in recent years, single Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were at Luis Lopez 30 May (ph. JO), B.L.N.W.R. 24 May (J. Montgomery, GW), and Tatum 11 May (JP). An ad. White Ibis entertained many at B.L.N.W.R. 26 Apr-11 May (GW et al., ph. CGL, ph. JO). Now an expected spring mi-

grant, Glossy Ibis reports were single ads. at Ute L. 26-27 Apr (ph. DC), Clovis 10-11 May (JP, NP), Portales 11 May (JP), Socorro 5 Apr (ph. JO), and Belen 22-25 Apr (ph. JO, PL, JP), plus an apparent hybrid at Belen 24 Apr (PL, ph. JO), and one or more ads. at Bosque 2-18 Apr (m.ob., ph. JO).

New Mexico's breeding Osprey population numbered 18 pairs by Apr, with 17 in n. Rio Arriba and one in McKinley (DS). White-tailed Kites continued at two Hidalgo locales, with 3 s. of Hachita 3 Mar (ph. CGL) and one in the s. Animas Valley 13 May (AC). Very early was a Mississippi Kite near Clovis 15 Apr (BO), and another was at Albuquerque 29 Apr (BN); May brought multiple reports from nine counties from the R.G.V. eastward, including 6 diving on phalaropes at Tucumcari L. 15 May (WW) and a high 15 at B.L.N.W.R. 6 May (CGL). A Bald Eagle pair was nesting in n. Rio Arriba 7-12 May, but the nest was abandoned by 29 May (DS). Prior to 2006, there were no unquestioned Gray Hawk reports in New Mexico away from Grant and Hidalgo, this due largely to confusion with Broad-winged Hawk, a regular migrant through cen. and e. New Mexico. This season, however, produced a well-described ad. Gray Hawk at R.S. on 24 Apr (DG) and again 8 (JP) & 28 May (SW). In the R.G.V., there was a possible Gray Hawk near San Marcial 13 May (JO), an apparent ad. on Las Animas Cr., Sierra 22 Apr (R. Ketchum), and another possible one at Mesilla Park 13 Apr (JN); in the sw., singles were at the Lower Gila Box 29 May (RF, MW) and in Guadalupe Canyon 13 May (NM-C, RAR). Common Black-Hawk returned n. to Cochiti, where singles were seen on 9 Apr (WH) and again 1 (MLW) & 13 May (WH), and a pair was along the Pecos R. at Santa Rosa 27 Apr (RF); in the e., one was on the R. Peñasco near Mayhill 29 Apr (CR), and a nest was along the R. Bonito near Lincoln 1 May (WW). Two Harris's Hawks were w. of Tularosa 29 Apr (CGL). What was described as a light-morph ad. Short-tailed Hawk was at R.S. 24 Apr (DG), and a possible one was reported there in early May; the species was first found in New Mexico in 2005. The earliest report of Swainson's Hawk came 18 Mar, near Roswell (SW). Unverified in New Mexico, an imm. possible White-tailed Hawk was near Otis 22 Apr (SW). Zone-tailed Hawks in unusual locales included singles at Mesilla 11 & 16 Mar (CGL, J. Douglas), Percha 28 May (ph. BZ), Bosque 16 Apr (ph. WH), and R.S. 8-10 May (JP, ph. JO); a pair was incubating n. to Mills Canyon 17 May (HS). Nicely documented was a Harlan's Hawk near Mesilla 4 & 7 Mar (MS, ph. JZ, CGL). An aerial survey for Golden Eagles in ne. New Mexico located



Dwarfed by surrounding Franklin's Gulls, this Little Gull at Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, Socorro County 1 April 2006 provided New Mexico's fifth record, but it followed the fourth by less than a year. Photograph by Jerry R. Oldenettel.

41 active nests plus nine additional occupied territories 13-18 Mar (DS); prompting the survey was concern for eagles because of rapidly proliferating wind farms. A Crested Caracara was e. of Hermanas 25 Mar (RM), and another was at San Marcial 15-16 Apr (JP et al., ph. JO, ph. WH); these 2, together with one at Rodeo in Dec, constitute a remarkable surge in records. Single unbanded subad. Aplomado Falcons were on Otero Mesa 12 Apr (ph. RR) and w. of Columbus 25 May (SOW).

RAILS THROUGH OWLS

A vocal Black Rail heard by many at Clabber Hill Ranch below Conchas Dam 12-26 May (m.ob., v.r. JO) may (finally) provide the state's first verified record. Black-bellied Plover made a good showing in the east 29 Apr-27 May, including 6 each at Stubblefield L. 13 May (DC) and Brantley L. 10 May (JO). Two American Golden-Plovers were at Deming 5 May (LM). Snowy Plovers peaked at 279 at B.L.N.W.R. 24 May (GW); high count at Brantley L. was 16 on 25 May (RD). Semipalmated Plovers peaked at 23 at Stubblefield L. 26 Apr (DC). Solitary Sandpipers were seldom reported were one at Carrizozo 20 Apr (JO) and 2 near Hope 12 Apr (WW). Rarely detected in spring, single Upland Sandpipers were heard at B.L.N.W.R. 26 Apr (GW) and Boone's Draw 30 Apr (JP). Single Whimbrels were at Stubblefield L. 26 Apr (DC), Vermejo Ranch 13-14 May (ph. DC), San Antonio 6 May (S. Santa Ana, M. L. Arthur), and B.L.N.W.R. 25 Apr (GW, JO). Always a treat, 2 Hudsonian Godwits were at Stubblefield L. 22 May (ph. DC), and one was at Bosque 30 Apr-2 May (m.ob., ph.). A remarkable 51 Sanderlings were at Springer L. 13 May (ph. DC); elsewhere, singles were at B.L.N.W.R. 26 Apr and 3 May (GW) and Brantley L. 30 Apr (CR). Small numbers of Semipalmated Sandpipers were in the east 20 Apr-19 May

(m.ob.); one at Bosque was westerly 24 & 29 Apr (MB, JO). White-rumped Sandpipers arrived 15 May; high counts were 8 each at Tucumcari L. 15 & 27 May (JB, WW, JP, JO) and Springer L. 19 May (DC). Noteworthy for the Jemez Mts. were 4 Stilt Sandpipers at Banderlier N.M. 15 May (SF, ph. S. King).

A Laughing Gull at Clovis 11 May (JP) was joined by another 23 (ph. JB) & 27 May (CR). An ad. Little Gull at Bosque 1 Apr (ph. JO) was the 3rd to be verified in New Mexico. A Heermann's Gull at the I-10 rest area in s. Grant 28 Mar (ph. J. Toll) provided New Mexico's 6th overall record. High count for Least Terns at the new Brantley L. colony was 20 on 24 May (RD); single Least's wandered to Bosque Redondo (JP) and Jal L. (JO) 27 May. High count for Black Terns was 80 at Sumner L. 12 May (JP). Five Band-tailed Pigeons were early at Emory Pass 31 Mar (JP). Eurasian Collared-Doves were conspicuous statewide, nests were found in saltcedar at Radium Springs (MS, JZ) and cottonwood at R.S. (DG). An Inca Dove chick at Radium Springs had fledged by 8 Mar (MS, JZ). Single Common Ground-Doves were at Bosque 17 May (JB), Clanton Cienega 19 May (AC, NM-C),



Taking a break at the eastbound I-10 rest area in southern Grant County 28 March 2006, this Heermann's Gull provided New Mexico's sixth record. Photograph by Jerry W. Toll.

and Mesilla Park 14-15 Mar (CGL); one at Las Cruces since Dec laid (but abandoned) single eggs 27 Apr and 13 May (DG). A pair of Ruddy Ground-Doves was s. of Mesilla 2-5 Mar (CGL, MS, ph. JZ, ph. JO).

Early Yellow-billed Cuckoos were singles at Cerrillos 7 May (LS) and Bosque 9 May (DH) and 2 at R.S. 15 May (SW); noteworthy were one in Canadian R. saltcedar at Mills Canyon 18 May (HS), 2 near Santa Rosa 21 May (WW), and one at Sumner Dam 26 May (JO). One to 2 Whiskered Screech-Owls were at the Indian Cr. trailhead 12-13 May (CGL, DU), the 2nd consecutive year for the species at that Animas Mts. locale; in the Peloncillo Mts., nine Whiskered territories were located in Skeleton Canyon 2-3 May (SOW, CLH)



Although reported almost annually in New Mexico, Harlan's Hawk is rarely well documented in the state. This one was near Mesilla, Doña Ana County 4 March 2006. Photograph by James E. Zabriskie.

Late was a Short-eared Owl at Vermejo Ranch 13 May (DC). Up to 3 Northern Saw-whet Owls responded to audio lures at Sugarite S.P. 13-14 Mar (CAH).

NIGHTHAWKS THROUGH SHRIKES

Several Lesser Nighthawks were n. to Clabber Hill Ranch 15 Apr (WW). Early were 2 Common Poorwills found injured on a road at Carlsbad Caverns N.P. 14-15 Mar (MLW); one was singing in P.O. Canyon by 25 Mar (CDL). Far n., a Whip-poor-will was singing w. of Dulce 13 May (DS), only 5 km s. of the Colorado line; others in the n. included singles at Bandelier N.M. 4 & 11 May (SF) and one at Doc Long Campground, Sandia Mts. 29 Apr (BV). A Chimney Swift was w. to Clines Corners 5 May (CR). Two apparent Vaux's Swifts were documented at Percha 24-25 Apr (PL, ph. JO, MS, ph. JZ, JP, MB); if photographs and other materials prove definitive, another species can be added to the state list. Broad-billed Hummingbirds n. of their Guadalupe Canyon stronghold were up to 6 in Skeleton Canyon 3 May (SOW, CLH), and singles in P.O. Canyon 13 May (CDL), Cliff 16 Apr (SW), and L. Roberts 2 May (JD-M); one that wintered at Carlsbad was still present Mar-May (SW). Other noteworthy hummers included a Blue-throated in Guadalupe Canyon 13 May (NM-C, RAR), one to 2 Magnificents at Cliff, Silver City, L. Roberts, and Cherry Creek Campground 8 Apr-29 May (m.ob.), up to 15 Lucifers in P.O. Canyon 22 & 30 May (CDL), a male Anna's at Santa Fe 7-31 May (Lois Herrmann), and a Costa's Hummingbird at Las Cruces 16 May (DG). Early Broad-taileds were a male in P.O. Canyon 1 Mar (CDL) and 2 at L. Roberts 2 Mar (JD-M). Previously unexpected anywhere in New Mexico in spring, both Calliope and Rufous Hummingbirds were much in evidence this

season, with single Calliopes at L. Roberts 14 Apr (JD-M), Silver City 12 May (fide DB), and Deming 7 May (LM), plus 2 in P.O. Canyon 15 Apr and one there 7 May (CDL); multiple Rufous (especially ad. males) passed through P.O. Canyon 2 Mar-21 Apr (CDL) and Radium Springs 16 Mar-23 Apr (MS, JZ), and singles were noted at Luis Lopez 6-7 Apr (JO), Las Cruces 2 Apr (DG), L. Roberts area 6 & 30 Mar (fide DB), with 2 at Silver City 12 Apr (fide DB).

A colony of 7 or more Lewis's Woodpeckers was in pine snags at Sugarite S.P. 16 Mar and 20-21 May (CAH). A pair of Gila Woodpeckers was in the G.B.A. 15 Apr-29 May (RS), where scarce. A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was in e. San Miguel s. of Mosquero 16 Mar (ph. MM); late was a Red-naped at N.R.T. 10-12 May (JP). An Arizona Woodpecker nest in an agave stalk at P.O. Canyon had nestlings until 10 May, when they apparently fell prey to a Sonoran Whipsnake (CDL). Very early was an Olive-sided Flycatcher at N.R.T. 20 Apr (WH). An apparent Greater Pewee was e. to R.S. 17 May (DG); within expected range,



Ruddy Ground-Dove has occurred annually in New Mexico since 2002. This pair was near Mesilla, Doña Ana County 2-5 (here 4) March 2006. Photograph by James E. Zabriskie.

singles were singing at Cherry Creek Campground 30 Apr (D&MZ) and 29 May (BZ), and 3 were in the Animas Mts. 13 May (CGL). Providing an unexpected Doña Ana first was a Buff-breasted Flycatcher at Mesilla Park 7 May (ph. JN). Early was a Black Phoebe n. to Stubblefield L. 18 & 23 Mar (DC). An Eastern Phoebe pair was nest-building at Tucumcari 16 Apr (BO); another on Pajarito Cr. near Tucumcari 6 May (CR) was suspected of breeding. The Ash-throated Flycatcher that wintered at Caballo Dam was last seen 18 Mar (JP); the earliest migrant was one at Redrock 31 Mar (JP). Unexpected in spring in the se., an Eastern Kingbird was at Cass Draw, Eddy 14 Apr (BO). Very early was a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Carlsbad 27 Mar (T. Hines); beyond normal range were singles near Sumner L. 6 May (JP), Galisteo 22 May (L. Howard),

and Rodeo 2 May (S. Kennedy). An imm. Northern Shrike at Sugarite S.P. 14 Mar (CAH) provided the lone report.

VIREOS THROUGH PIPITS

Single singing White-eyed Vireos were at N.R.T. 5-6 May (ph. CGL, JB, JP) and Aguirre Spring, Organ Mts. 21 Apr (M. Powell). Far n. was a singing Bell's Vireo at Conchas Dam 10-22 May (CR, NP, MB, JP, WW); another was on Otero Mesa near Alamo Mt. 21 Apr (DG). A probable Gray Vireo was heard in Piñon Canyon, Los Pinos Mts. 20 May (HS), a new locality for the species; up to 5 were in Helm's Valley, s. Oscura Mts. 9 May (CGL), where also present in 2005. Single Yellow-throated Vireos were at N.R.T. 30 Apr (DH) and 12-13 May (JP). A Cassin's Vireo at Mesilla Park 8 Mar (CGL) likely wintered locally; earliest migrants arrived at multiple locales 10-15 Apr (m.ob.). At least 2 Hutton's Vireos were singing at Aguirre Spring 9 Apr (DG) and 21 May (CGL). Early was a Warbling Vireo in the Peloncillo Mts. 8 Apr (CDL). Red-eyed Vireos made a good showing, with singles s. of Mosquero 12-13 May (MM), Santa Rosa 21 May (WW), N.R.T. 7 May (NP, MB, JEP), Cedar Crest 16 & 21 May (CMB, JP), San Andres Spring 18 May (MEW), and Ropes Spring, San Andres Mts. 26 May (b., ph. MEW, DG). Three Pinyon Jays were e. to Ragland Hill, Quay 28 May (CR), where possibly regular. A Black-billed Magpie was s. to Cerrillos 15 May (LS).

Migrant Purple Martins included 3 over the Pecos R. at Ribera 24 Apr (WW) and 2 over Las Cruces 30 Apr (DG). At Whites City, Cave Swallows were nesting beside Cliffs on a hotel portal 29 Apr (BF). Two Black-capped Chickadees were s. to Galisteo 30-31 May (JB). Mexican Chickadee is casual in the Peloncillo Mts., so noteworthy was one in Clanton Canyon 2 Apr (CRB). Red-breasted Nuthatches where seldom reported included 2 in the Oscura Mts. 29 Apr (CGL) and, in the San Andres Mts., one in San Nicholas Canyon 20 Apr (CGL) and 2 in San Andres Canyon 18 May (MEW). A vocal Winter Wren in Cimarron Canyon 1 Mar (DC) had wintered locally; one in the G.B.A. 17 Mar (RS) provided the only additional report. Fire, and the understory clearing resulting from threat of fire, have obviously benefited breeding Eastern Bluebirds in the middle R.G.V.; this season found nesting pairs at Albuquerque 3 May, where a male was feeding a fledgling 17 May (DH), at Los Lunas 27 Apr, where ads. were feeding 3 fledglings 2 Jun (DH), and near Abeytas 16 May, where 2 fledglings were fed 24 May (DH, J. Galloway). Seldom identified in migration, a Veery was at N.R.T. 16 May

(NP, MB). Early were single Swainson's Thrushes at Pep 29 Apr (JB), R.S. 29-30 Apr (D. Krueper), and Corrales 30 Apr (BV). A Wood Thrush at the Conchas L. golf course



Although Vaux's Swift almost certainly migrates through southwestern New Mexico, verification has proven elusive. It is hoped the multiple photographs and videotape of two seen and heard at Percha State Park, Sierra County 24 (here) and 25 April 2006 will finally prove definitive. Photograph by James E. Zabriskie.

13 May (JP, NP, CR) provided a local first; another visited N.R.T. 19 & 21 May (ph. MB, NP, JB). Scarce in the w., single Gray Catbirds were at Mangas Springs 11 Apr (fide DB) and Deming 12 May (CGL); one was in the San Andres Mts. 26 May (b., ph. MEW, DG). Late for the s. was a Sage Thrasher at Lake Valley 27 May (SOW). Brown Thrashers were seldom noted were singles at Cerrillos 29 Apr (LS) and on Otero Mesa near Hat Ranch 30 May (DG). Unusual was a Curve-billed Thrasher nest in a nest box at Rio Rancho 2 Apr (ph. M. Frentzel); far n., a Curve-billed at Aztec 25 Mar+ (W. McNall, ph. J. Rees) provided a San Juan first. Two Crissal Thrashers persisted at Tesuque through 17 Mar (S. Tanner). At least one Sprague's Pipit was still in n. Jornada del Muerto grasslands e. of San Antonio 25 Mar (JP); another was in grasslands near Hope 12 Apr (WW).

WARBLERS THROUGH TANAGERS

On the warbler front, a male Blue-winged Warbler was at Socorro 14 May (sketch by PB). Two Orange-crowned Warblers at Mesilla Park 8 Mar (CGL) probably wintered locally; earliest migrants were singles in the Peloncillo Mts. 26 Mar (CDL) and near Cliff 31 Mar (LM). Lucy's Warblers returned to recently colonized R.S., where up to 5 were singing 24 Apr (DG), and others were noted through May. A good Northern Parula season found one to 2 at seven sites from the R.G.V. eastward 15 Apr–25 May (m.ob.), including one at Three Rivers Canyon, Lincoln 28 Apr (CR);

w. was one at Deming 26 Apr (LM). Other noteworthy warblers were a Yellow singing at Percha by 18 Mar (JP), a male Chestnut-sided at R.S. 7 May (DR), single Black-throated Blues at Sumner L. 30 Apr (J. Osterhouse), Albuquerque 3 May (DH), and N.R.T. 15 May (JB, WW), and a Black-throated Gray e. to N.R.T. 20 Apr (WH). A male Hermit Warbler was e. to Percha 22 Apr (CGL), and 4 were in the Animas Mts. 13 May (CGL). Among the rarities were a Blackburnian Warbler at N.R.T. 23-25 May (NP, GF, JB), single Yellow-throated Warblers at Katfish Kove, Luna 15 Apr (DB et al.) and N.R.T. 15 May (JB, WW), a male Bay-breasted Warbler at Farmington 16 May (fide A. Nelson), and single Blackpoll Warblers at R.S. 14 Apr (SW) and N.R.T. 2 May (BF). The Pine Warbler that wintered at Socorro was last seen 14 Mar (J. Dunn, fide JO). One to 2 Black-and-white Warblers were at nine sites from the R.G.V. eastward 16 Apr–28 May; w. was one in the Animas Mts. 13 May (DU). Single American Redstarts were at Quarai 13 May (fide HS), Socorro 10-13 May (GF, BN), and Percha 26 May (CGL), and 2 were at Galisteo 29 May (JB); at N.R.T., one or more were present 3-28 May (m.ob.). A Worm-eating Warbler was at R.S. 6 May (DR, GF); undetailed was another at N.R.T. 17 May (L. Gorbet). Single Ovenbirds were at N.R.T. 19, 21, & 25 May (NP, JB) and Boone's Draw 29 Apr (JB) and 4-5 May (ph. CGL). An apparent Louisiana Waterthrush was described at R.S. 7 May (CRB). Single Kentucky Warblers were at N.R.T. 7 May (NP, JP) and Angel Fire 10-16 May (ph. EW, ph. P. Monk, DC). Single Hooded Warblers were at Albuquerque's Kirtland A.F.B. 5 May (JP), Socorro 12-13 May (BN, ph. JO), Bosque 28-30 Apr (NP, MB, ph. JO, MS, JZ), and Roswell 3 May (window-killed; GW); another was w. to the Animas Mts. 13 May (DU), the 2nd consecutive year at that locale. Summer Tanagers were n. to the Canadian R. basin, including 3 at Mills Canyon 18 May (HS) and 10 s. of Mosquero 12-13 May (MM). Single Scarlet Tanagers were at Socorro 10 May (GF) and Luis Lopez 22 May (JO).

SPARROWS THROUGH FINCHES

A female Eastern Towhee was at N.R.T. 4-6 May (ph. CGL, JP, JB). Two Field Sparrows were near Milnesand 9 Apr (CR), where the species is likely regular in winter; another was at R.S. 6 May (GF). Black-throated Sparrows invaded the Caja del Rio area w. of Santa Fe, where 11 were singing 6 May (MR), and 3 were singing at the base of Tetilla Peak 13 May (WH). Surprising were up to 5 Grasshopper Sparrows singing in alfalfa near Cliff 23 May (MF). A Baird's Sparrow was in Bullis

Canyon grasslands sw. of Hope 12 Apr (WW). Single reddish Fox Sparrows were at Santa Fe 1 Apr (D. LaCoss) and Albuquerque 26 Mar (BV); a slate-colored one was at G.B.A. 24 & 31 Mar (RS). Late for the s. were 4 Lincoln's Sparrows at Clanton Cienega 19 May (AC, NM-C); 2 lingered at N.R.T. 28 May (CR). Also late were single White-throated Sparrows at Conchas L. 13 May (JP, NP, CR) and Tucumcari 15 May (WW). The wintering Harris's Sparrow at Luis Lopez was last seen 30 Apr (JO), while the wintering one at Bosque attained breeding plumage and was singing 1-2 May (GF); another bright ad was at Albuquerque 30 Apr–3 May (BN). Very early was a dark-lored White-crowned Sparrow at Silver City 3 Mar (ph. DZ). Single Golden-crowned Sparrows were at Escondida 26 Apr (DH), near Gila Cliff Dwellings 4 May (fide DB), n. of Cliff 30 Apr and 10 May (MF, DZ), and at Silver City 22 Apr (ph. DZ). Eight Lapland Longspurs were at Ruby Ranch n. of Las Vegas 19 Mar (WW), where there were 400 Chestnut-collareds the same day; late were 6 Chestnut-collareds at Milnesand 9 Apr (CR).

Northern Cardinals continued to appear n. of historic range, including single males at Silver City 7 May (ph. DZ), Albuquerque's South Valley 4 May (DH), and Corrales 7 May (CR); singles were at Tucumcari 17 Apr (BO) and 28 May (CR), and 2 were on Pajarito Cr



One of two reported in New Mexico this season, this Crested Caracara frequented a field at San Acacia, Socorro County 15-16 (here 16) April 2006. There are now about a dozen credible reports for the state. Photograph by William H. Howe.

near Tucumcari 6 May (CR). Single Pyrrhuloxias were n. to N.R.T. 11 Apr (SOW) and Milnesand 9 Apr (CR); in the R.G.V., a pair was at Los Lunas 12-14 Mar (T. Hill), and one to 3 were at Bosque Mar–May. The crowd-pleasing Yellow Grosbeak continued in Albuquerque's University area (m.ob.), where it was heard singing 26 Mar and 23 Apr (JP) and was last seen 1 May. A fine showing by Rose-breasted Grosbeak produced reports from 12 sites in 10 counties from the R.G.V. eastward 25 Apr–24 May, plus singles in Grant 8 & 13 May and 2 or more in Hidalgo 7-20 May (m.ob.). Most unusual was a fe-

male-plumaged Black-headed Grosbeak in the Peloncillo Mts. 3 Mar, where the first migrants did not arrive until 21 Apr (CDL). Single Varied Buntings in Slaughter Canyon 7 May (CGL) and Walnut Canyon 17 May (DG) were the only reports. Noteworthy was a male Painted Bunting at Alamogordo 7-8 May (H. Reiser); a female was w. to Guadalupe Canyon 13 May (RAR). Dickcissels in obscure locales were singles e. of Coyote, Rio Arriba 23 Apr (J. Wright) and in w. Catron 22 May (W. Thurber).

Single Bobolinks were at Ghost Ranch 13 May (W. Picaro), near N.R.T. 15 May (A. Fenner), and at B.L.N.W.R. 17 May (GW). North and at a high elevation was a singing Eastern Meadowlark near Black L., Colfax 20 May (v.r. DC). Apparently persisting from winter, 4 Rusty Blackbirds were at Ute L. 15 Mar, and at least one was there 25 Mar (ph. DC); another was s. of Mesilla 3 Mar (ph. CGL). Bronzed Cowbirds continued to increase in range and numbers, including n. in the Tularosa Valley to Carrizozo (ph. JO) and Three

Rivers (CR); n. in the e. plains were one near Tucumcari 15 May (WW), 3 at Ned Houk Park near Clovis 10 May (JP), and one at Boone's Draw 10 May (JP, NP). Unseasonal was a male Bullock's Oriole found dead at Carlsbad 6 Mar (SW). A male Baltimore Oriole was at B.L.N.W.R. 6-7 May (ph. CGL, GF), and a young female was in Guadalupe Canyon 13 May (NM-C). Last of the world-famous Sandia Crest rosy-finches was a small three-species flock 13 Apr, plus a lone Black 19-20 Apr (fide K. Schneider); at the close of the 2005-2006 banding season 25 Mar, 221 Blacks, 44 Brown-cappeds, and 33 Gray-crowned had been banded (N. Cox et al.). Notable were 3 Cassin's Finches near Alamo Spring, Otero Mesa 29 Apr (DG). Late Pine Siskins included 2 at N.R.T. 28 May (CR), one at R.S. 28 May (SW), one banded in the San Andres Mts. 26 May (MEW, DG), and 5 at Katfish Kove 31 May (LM).

Initialed observers: Pat Basham, Jonathan Batkin, Matt Baumann, David Beatty, Charles

R. Britt, Celestyn M. Brozek, David Cleary, Alan Craig, Joan Day-Martin, Robert Doster, Stephen Fettig, Randy Floyd, Bernard Foy, Gary Froehlich, Make Fugagli, David Griffin, David Hawksworth, Charles L. Hayes, William Howe, Charles A. Hundertmark, Paul Lehman, Eugene Lewis, Carroll D. Littlefield, Carl G. Lundblad, Martin MacRoberts, Larry Malone, Ray Meyer, Narca Moore-Craig, Josh Nemeth, Bruce Neville, Jerry Oldenettel, Bruce Ostyn, John Parmeter, Nicholas Pederson, Ross Rasmussen, Mary Ristow, David Roemer, Rose Ann Rowlett, Christopher Rustay, Lawry Sager, Hart Schwarz, Marcy Scott, Roland Shook, Dale Stahlecker, David Utterback, Brad Vaughn, Gordon Warrick, Mark L. Watson, Mara E. Weisenberger, Steve West, William West, Elton Williams, S. O. Williams, James Zabriskie, Barry Zimmer, Dale & Marian Zimmerman. ☐

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Arizona



Mark M. Stevenson (Non-Passerines)
Gary H. Rosenberg (Passerines)

Drought conditions worsened throughout the state, ranging in status from "moderate drought" in the north and west to "exceptional drought" across much of southeastern Arizona. As a result of the dry conditions, migrants were concentrated into irrigated and riparian areas. Several Glossy

Ibis were reported, and Black-capped Gnatcatchers continued to spread. A few individual migrants of a wide variety of species appeared on both early and late dates.

Abbreviations: A.B.C. (Arizona Bird Committee), A.V.S.T.P. (Avra Valley STP), B.T.A. (Boyce-Thompson Arboretum), C.S.L. (Cow Springs L.), G.W.R. (Gilbert Water Ranch), H.R.P. (Hassayampa R. Preserve), L.C.R.V. (lower Colorado R. valley), N.I.R. (Navajo Indian Reservation), P.L.S.P. (Patagonia Lake S.P.), S.P.R. (San Pedro R.), Sweetwater (Sweetwater Wetlands, Tucson), Whitewater (Whitewater Draw W.A.).

WATERFOWL THROUGH CRANE

The wintering Fulvous Whistling-Duck in Scottsdale was last reported on 31 Mar. A Greater White-fronted Goose at C.S.L. 23 Apr (CL) was a first for spring on the N.I.R. Canada Geese with goslings at G.W.R. 6 May (C. Ross) and near Tempe Town L. 13 May (D. Stuart) represented 6th and 7th *Maricopa* nesting records. Mexican Ducks were reported n. to *Maricopa* again, with one in Arlington 25 Apr (TC) and a pair with juvs. at Rio Salado 28 May (TG). At P.L.S.P., a Common Merganser stayed on into summer (SH). A late

migrant Red-breasted Merganser was on Fountain Hills L. 4 May (ph. KR).

Tucson's 2 Least Grebes were present throughout the season (m.ob.); none were reported elsewhere. Late were 4 Western Grebes at Willcox 6 May (DS), one there 21 May (DS), and one that stayed into summer at P.L.S.P. (J. Yerger). At Roosevelt L. and San Carlos L., a die-off of *Aechmophorus* grebes noted in Apr (J. Estis) had apparently ended by May. Clark's Grebes were seen singly at A.V.S.T.P. 6 Mar (J. Bock), Willcox 27 Apr (KK), and Saguaro L. 13 May (TC). "Quite a few" were on Alamo L. 4 May (TC), where they are not known to nest. American White Pelicans at Willcox 1 Apr (P. Santinello) were early migrants. Accidental in spring, single Brown Pelicans were at P.L.S.P. 28 Apr-2 May (SH) and Tucson 23 May (DS). Neotropical Cormorants continue to be numerous in greater Phoenix. Numbers reported at P.L.S.P. peaked at 6 (SH), and one strayed n. to Dead Horse Ranch S.P. 15-21 Apr (P. Rhoads, P. Norton). At Greer, up to 100 Double-crested Cormorants and 30 nests were seen on 19 Apr (TC); cormorant nesting is a recent phenomenon in the White Mt. region. No fewer than 40 Double-crested Cormorants were at Willow Creek Res. 17 May (TC); the species had