

Héctor Gómez de Silva

## NORTHERN MEXICO



### WATERFOWL THROUGH PARAKEETS

On 23 Apr, a wastewater pond between the urban areas of Gómez Palacio, Dgo. and Torreón, Coah. produced the simultaneous views of several **Fulvous Whistling-Ducks** and **Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks**. Seven other species of ducks were recorded there at the time, including Ruddy Duck, another rare visitor to the subregion (RLL, WB, EC, FVP). Eight **Mexican Ducks** were at the Terrenate, Son. wet crossing 12 Mar, 2 were n. of Yávaros, Son. 14 Mar, several were n. of Navojoa, Son. 16 Mar, and 5 *Anas* at the Nogales, Son. border crossing included 2 drake Mallards and probably several Mexican Ducks (RW et al.). At least 9 ad. and 18 imm. **Mexican Ducks** were at El Playón, Angostura, Sin. 30 May (MAGB). Throughout the period, Wood Ducks continued to be registered in good numbers on the Nazas R., Dgo. (FVP et al.). Five Wild Turkeys were near Salto de Agua Llovida, Dgo. 9 May (HGdS).

At least 6 **Northern Fulmars** (2 dark morphs, 2 gray morphs, and a very white individual) and a *Cookilaria* petrel were seen at a seawatch from El Golfo de Santa Clara, Son. in the early morning 22 May, during a period of strong southerly onshore winds (KLG). Boobies at Farallón de San Ignacio, Sin. 16 May included an imm. Masked/Nazca as well as an apparent Masked Booby × Brown Booby hybrid that was raising a chick with a female Brown Booby (ph. MAGB). A Neotropic Cormorant was in the Cañón de Fernández S.P. on the Nazas R., Dgo. 26 Mar (RLL, FVP). A Great Egret at Ejido San Isidro, Durango 8 May was late or overwintering (HGdS).

The season continued to be a good one for Red-shouldered Hawks in ne. Durango, as one was seen 5 Mar and another 14 May in Cañón de Fernández S.P.; this rare raptor had not been seen in that area since 2001, but sight-

ings have been common since winter here (WB, FC, RLL, FVP). On 2 Apr, Bosque Venustiano Carranza in Torreón, Coah. produced an imm. Swainson's Hawk (RLL, WB, FVP). The imm. **Solitary Eagle** that was found 21 Feb during the El Cielo Nature Festival was seen again between Gómez Farías and Alta Cima, Tamps. 5 Mar (RJ). A flock of 1200 Surf-birds was seen at Barra de Piaxtla, Sin. 28 Mar (HB, AOI). A Wilson's Phalarope was recorded 23 Apr at a wastewater pond be-



This Palm Warbler was present at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco in Mexico City 18 (here) through 27 April 2006 and was the first record for the Distrito Federal, where the bird list tops 340 species. Photograph by Gerardo del Olmo.

tween Gómez Palacio and Torreón, and several were seen 1 May in the Cañón del Realito on the Aguanaval R., Coah. (RLL, WB, EC, FA, FVP). Ten **Eurasian Collared-Doves** were seen between Alamos and Yávaros, Son. 14 Mar (RW et al.), 2 were in Monterrey, NL near the exit to the airport 27 Mar (HGdS), 30 were around a farm on Camino a Bachoco, in the outskirts of Culiacán, Sin. 28 Mar (MAGB, HB, AOI, XV), one was at the toll booth in Chorro, Coah. 29 Mar (HGdS), 2 were at San Rafael and 3 at Hediondilla, both NL, 29 Mar (HGdS), and up to 3 were at Quinta Graciela, Coah. through Apr (AD). Common Ground-Doves were recorded in good numbers along the Nazas R. throughout the period (FVP et

al.). Two pairs of Military Macaws returned to Salto de Agua Llovida (a breeding site) 10 May, and a few more were present by Jun (MAM). Four (introduced) Lilac-crowned Parrots roosted in the trees next to the gas station at Santiago, NL 28 Mar, and flocks of Green Parakeets and small groups of *Amazona* flew low over San Pedro Garza García, NL 29 Mar (HGdS).

### OWLS THROUGH FINCHES

A Mottled Owl was seen at Rancho San José 7 Mar (ph. MW, BW). Twelve White-throated Swifts were seen in Cañón del Realito 16 Apr, and more than 20 were there 1 May (AVJ, FVP, RLL, FA). This general area s. of Torreón continues to be a consistent source of records for this species; it is not mapped in this area by Howell and Webb (1995), but the species is widespread in the Mexican Plateau, as there are additional records from unmapped parts of Coah., SLP, and Chih. (Gómez de Silva, H. 2002. New distributional and temporal records of Mexican birds. *Cotinga* 18: 89-92). A Green Kingfisher was seen 1 May in the Cañón del Realito (RLL, FA, FVP); there is just one previous record in the area since 2000. A female Red-naped Sapsucker was at the Parrot High-rise, NL 28 Mar (HGdS). A pair of Pale-billed Woodpeckers, apparently now rare in Son., were seen 7 Mar at Rancho San José at the s. end of Sierra de Alamos (ph. MW, BW).

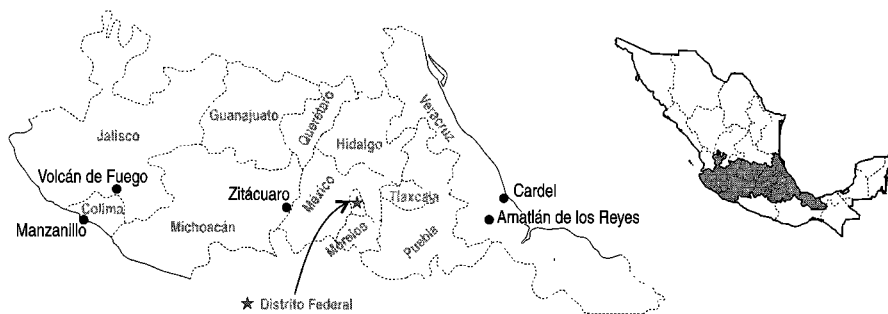
Two Western Scrub-Jays in oak grassland at Santa Bárbara, Dgo. 10 May (ph. HGdS) were in an area marked by a question mark in Howell and Webb's (1995) range map. In Son., Sinaloa Crows were reported to be numerous from Ciudad Obregón to Alamos 12 Mar, between Alamos and Yávaros 14 Mar, and above El Chalotón 14 Mar; 81 were at Ciudad Obregón 12 Mar, 25 between Arroyo Mentidero and Cuchujaqui 14 Mar, and there was regularly a flock of ca. 50 at Rancho Acosta in mid-Mar (RW et al.). A **Brown Thrasher** was reported at Yávaros 14 Mar (RW et al.). Lucy's Warbler was very common in many parts of Son. in mid-Mar, even outnumbering Orange-crowned at most sites; a large fallout of Lucy's, numbering in the hundreds, was documented at Terrenate wet crossing 12 Mar (RW et al.). An American Redstart and a Northern Waterthrush were in the Cañón del Realito 1 May (RLL, FA, FVP), and an Ovenbird was in Bosque Venustiano Carranza 7 May (FVP). A pair of **Blue-gray Tanagers** was seen 13 May in downtown Hualahuises, near Linares, NL 13 May (MG, AM, NS). An early Summer Tanager was recorded in Cañón de Fernández S.P. 26 Mar; the previous earliest record was 6 Apr 2003 (RLL, FVP). A male Western Tanager near Tres

Lagunas, Dgo. 9 May was rather late (HGdS).

On 1 Mar, a Black-chinned Sparrow was seen in Cañón de las Canoas, near Dinamita, Gómez Palacio, Dgo. in a mixed flock of sparrows including Chipping, Lark, Clay-colored, and Brewer's (RLL, FVP). All three records of Black-chinned Sparrow for the subregion come from the same site. A Five-striped Sparrow was reported between Río Mentidero and Cuchujaqui 14 Mar (RW et al.). Five Sierra Madre Sparrows were seen 3 Apr at Ejido Ojo de Agua del Cazador, Dgo., where the species was rediscovered two years ago (AOI, MAGB, HB, XV). Fifteen Song Sparrows were reported at the Terrenate wet crossing 12 Mar (RW et al.). A colony of **Montezuma Oropendolas** with 30 nests was seen in Aquismón municipality, SLP 28 May (ORR, SA).

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## CENTRAL MEXICO



All localities mentioned are in Veracruz unless otherwise noted.

## TINAMOUS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS

Several Little Tinamous heard 6 Apr on the Pue. side of the Río Tonto were outside of known range (AM, JM). Three Muscovy Ducks were seen 19-20 May near Peña Blanca, and a pair was on the Río Uxpanapa near Cerro Nanchital 30 May (AM, JM). A pair of Long-tailed Wood-Partridge was seen on the fire tower road at La Cima, D.F. 9 Mar (HGdS) and 29 Apr (MC). A pair of ad. Bearded Wood-Partridges with 3 tawny-buff



This booby at Farallón de San Ignacio, Sinaloa, Mexico (here 16 May 2006) tended a chick with a female Brown Booby. Its features are consistent with Masked Booby x Brown Booby hybrid, a combination that has been reported previously. Photograph by Marco Antonio González Bernal.

chicks was seen just below the museum near the hill summit in Parque Ecologico Macuiltepetl, Xalapa 5 May (SA, SJ, BM). A Least Grebe was at the lake at Almoloya del Río, Mex. 28 Apr (MC), and 2 were at Puerto del Aire 11 Mar (HGdS). Two Clark's Grebes were at Lago Nabor Carrillo (L. Texcoco), Méx. 1 Apr, as was the escaped American Flamingo that has been there for seven years (HGdS, MG, MPV, RF). Three ad. Brown Pelicans were following the Río Coatzacoalcos near Peña Blanca 23 May (AM, JM). A total of 900 Cattle Egrets was counted departing their roost in Santiago Tuxtla 8 May (SJ, BM). Twelve Black-crowned Night-Herons were roosting in eucalyptus trees at Bosque de Aragón, D.F. 1 Mar (HGdS, MPV). Five White Ibis near Peña Blanca 20 May were far inland, where unexpected (AM, JM). Many Wood Storks were discovered nesting

21 May near Peña Blanca (AM, JM). Five Turkey Vultures soared over downtown Toluca, Mex. 7 Mar (HGdS).

An ad. male Hook-billed Kite was at the UNAM botanical garden, D.F. 30 Apr (MC). A late migrating Swallow-tailed Kite was seen along the Ver. side of the Río Tonto 6 Apr (AM). A Barred Forest-Falcon heard 25 Apr on the Pacific side slightly below the highest point in the Sierra de Atoyac rd., less than 10 km from Filo de Caballo, was at high elevation at 2490 m (MC). A pair of Aplomado Falcons hunting on both the Pue. and Ver. sides of the Río Tonto 6-7 Apr was outside of known range (AM, JM). A juv.

Peregrine Falcon hunting along the Río Coatzacoalcos near Peña Blanca 22 May was a late migrant or possibly summering (AM). A second-winter Laughing Gull was at Almoloya del Río 28 Apr (MC). More than 30 Franklin's and 30 Ring-billed Gulls were at Lago Recreativo (L. Texcoco) 1 Apr, as were 2-3 Gull-billed Terns (HGdS, MG, MPV, RF). A Franklin's Gull was at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco, D.F. 4 May (AM, RW).

At least 45 Pale-vented Pigeons seen along the Río Uxpanapa near Cerro Nanchital 30-31 May were outside of known range (AM, JM). Two Eurasian Collared-Doves were observed 29 May at a farm near Tamarindo; presumably the same pair has maintained the same territory since mid-Sep 2004 (AM, JM). A pair of White-fronted Parrots was near the Río Zapopan rd. crossing at the outskirts of Santiago Tuxtla 9 May (SJ, BM); this species has been extending its range northward into cen. Ver. Fourteen Yellow-headed Parrots were encountered 19-20 May near Peña Blanca (AM, JM). Only 3 Burrowing Owls were at L. Texcoco 1 Apr (HGdS, MG, MPV, RF). Five Lesser Nighthawks were seen foraging around street lampposts in Tepepan 4 Apr (AOI, HGdS). On 30 Apr, a Chestnut-collared and 2 White-collared Swifts were flying low over the UNAM botanical garden (MC), where a Violet-crowned Hummingbird had been seen 7 Mar (HGdS). A male White-eared Hummingbird visited a feeder at a house near Bosque de Aragón 29 Apr (MGPV). A female Mexican Sheartail was near Colonia Francisco Barrios 11 Mar (HGdS). A male Broad-tailed Hummingbird was on the lower slopes of the Cofre de Perote at or near the e. edge of its range 4 May (SJ, BM).

## KINGFISHERS THROUGH FINCHES

A Belted Kingfisher was late at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco 4 May (AM, RW). The 30+ Gray-breasted Woodpeckers in the botanical garden of Zapotitlán de las Salinas, Pue. 12 Mar was a high count (HGdS). A Strickland's Woodpecker was heard at Puerto del Aire 11 Mar (HGdS). Single Ladder-backed Woodpeckers were heard in an urbanized area of Mexico City between Insurgentes and Metro Etiopía, D.F. 12, 22, & 29 May (HGdS). A Northern Flicker was heard on the lower slopes of the Cofre de Perote at or near the e. edge of its range 4 May (SJ, BM). A Tufted Flycatcher was in Chapultepec, D.F. 8 Mar (ER, GdO). An Ash-throated Flycatcher was photographed at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco 27 Apr (GdO). A pair of Fork-tailed Flycatchers on the Pue. side of the Río Tonto 6 Apr was outside of



Two Apomado Falcons spent more than four months on the beach at Tierra Colorada, Guerrero, Mexico from 3 January (here) through at least early May 2006; they apparently represent the first documented record of the species for the state. Photograph by Miguel Angel Angeles Monroy.

known range (AM, JM). An escaped White-throated Magpie-Jay was in Xola and Avenida Coyoacán, D.F. 25 May (HGdS). On 4 May, a Mexican Chickadee, several Bushtits, and a Brown-throated Wren were in the pine-fir zone, 3 Pygmy Nuthatches were in the pine zone, and a Brown Creeper, a Golden-crowned Kinglet, and an American Robin (with an active nest) were in firs on the lower slopes of the Cofre de Perote, at or near the e. edge of their ranges (SJ, BM). A White-throated Robin was at Desierto de Los Leones, D.F. 31 May (MG). A few Curve-billed Thrashers and a Canyon Towhee were noted in clearings and cultivation on the lower slopes of Cofre de Perote 4 May (SJ, BM). The 20+ Phainopeplas in the Zapotitlán de las Salinas botanical garden 12 Mar seemed more than usual (HGdS). Two European Starlings were near Almoloya del Río, a flock of 15 was at the turn-off to San Diego near Zinacantepec, Méx. 5 Mar, and 7 were along the hwy. near San Martín Texmelucan, Pue. 12 Mar (HGdS); while driving between Mexico City and Oaxaca City 13 Apr, 2 were just past San Martín Texmelucan, 7 were on the w. edge of Puebla, Pue., and 2 were at the Tehuacán toll booth, Pue. (HGdS, MG).

Single Crescent-chested and Red Warblers were in the pine-fir zone, and at least 3 Olive Warblers in the pine zone, on the lower slopes of Cofre de Perote 4 May (SJ, BM). Two Yellow Warblers, one singing, were in the lush vegetation in the zócalo of Perote 4 May (SJ, BM). A Hermit Warbler was in Chapultepec, D.F. 8 Mar (ER, GdO). A Palm Warbler found 18 Apr at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco (ED, GdO, ph.) was still there 27 Apr (RW). A late

female Black-and-white Warbler was at the UNAM botanical garden 30 Apr (MC), and a male American Redstart was there 25 Apr (MG). At Parque Ecológico Xochimilco, an American Redstart was seen 4 May (AM, RW) and a Louisiana Waterthrush 27 Apr (RW). One or 2 Canada Warblers were at Paseo de los Lagos, Xalapa 6 May (SJ, BM).

A Collared Towhee was on Cofre de Perote 4 May (SJ, BM). Two Western Tanagers were on the road to Micro-ondas Las Trincheras 10 Mar (HGdS). A Cinnamon-bellied Flower-piercer was singing near Xola and Patricio Sanz, D.F. 14 May (HGdS). Striped Sparrows and Yellow-eyed Juncos were seen both at the summit and on the lower slopes of Cofre de Perote 4 May (SJ, BM). A Northern Cardinal was at the Parque Ecológico Cuicuilco 16 Mar (HGdS), and one was at the UNAM botanical garden 11 Apr (MG). Two Orchard Orioles were at Parque Ecológico Xochimilco 27 Apr (RW). A male Giant Cowbird was slightly n. of mapped range near Colonia Francisco Barrios 11 Mar (HGdS). Two Pine Siskins were in the fir zone on the lower slopes of Cofre de Perote 4 May (SJ, BM).

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## SOUTHERN MEXICO



Michael Carmody reports that in El Triunfo, Chiapas, hard hit by Hurricane Stan in early October, insectivorous birds were present in good numbers but frugivorous and nectar-feeding birds were tough to locate in March (except Horned Guan and Resplendent Quetzal). After a wet winter, the Valley of Oaxaca and adjacent areas were very dry in

March, and Rick Taylor noted no flowers and almost no hummingbirds at La Cumbre. Likewise, Carmody noted all the hummingbird species normally present in Oaxaca and Chiapas in late May but only in very low numbers. Localities are in the state of Oaxaca unless otherwise stated.

## WATERFOWL THROUGH SPOONBILL

A female Wood Duck was still in Piedra Azul Dam 24 Mar (RH), continuing from the winter season when two males and one female there were the first recorded in Oax. A male Cinnamon Teal was rather far south 6 Mar at La Ventosa Lagoon among hundreds of Blue-winged Teal, 20 American Wigeons, and 3 Fulvous Whistling-Ducks (MG). A female Ring-necked Duck discovered 29 Mar near La Venta was well south of normal wintering range (AM, JM, photo). Two pairs of Crested Guan were seen 7 & 8 May at km 28 on the road to Calakmul and within the Calakmul ruins (AM, JM). A single male and a pair of Great Curassow were seen 7 & 8 May around kms 27 & 42 on the road to Calakmul (AM, JM). Dozens of Ocellated Turkey were seen between km 21 and 60 on the road to Calakmul 7 & 8 May (AM, JM). A Spotted Wood-Quail was heard in the last 2 km to Palenque ruins 9 May (AM, JM). A male and 2 female *graysoni* Northern Bobwhites were seen at 1140 m below Taxco, Gro. on the road to Iguala 27 Apr (MC).

A family group of 5 Least Grebes were at a pond at 2250 m on the road to Arroyo Guacamaya 6 & 21 May (MG, MC). A pelagic trip 9 May produced a Wedge-rumped Storm-Petrel, 150 Least Storm-Petrels, and a Christmas Shearwater 16 km off Huatulco (MG), while a 24 May trip 7-10 km offshore of Puerto Angel had 2 dark-morph Wedge-tailed and 8 Audubon's Shearwaters, 4 Black and 6 Wedge-rumped Storm-Petrels, and 4

ad. Masked Boobies, an ad. Nazca Booby, and 2 dark-morph ad. Red-footed Boobies (MC). Five Red-billed Tropicbirds were seen from the beach near the Acapulco, Gro. airport 18 Apr (M&BP). A Magnificent Frigatebird was high at 800 m above Arriaga, Chis. 27 May (MC). Two Neotropic Cormorants were high at 2100 m at San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chis.

28-29 May (MC); one flew over the Chan Kah Hotel, Palenque 24 May (M&BP). Single imm. Brown Pelicans were seen at Puerto Santa María, Huatulco, and at La Ventanilla 9 May (MG); this species, although normally abundant in winter, seems to be fairly rare or uncommon in late spring and summer. Several small groups of **Magnificent Frigatebirds** were observed near La Venta migrating northward past the Sierra Tolistoque 24-26 Apr (AM, JM). A Bare-throated Tiger-Heron was at the Chan Kah Hotel 24 May (M&BP). Twelve Tricolored Herons at Presa Tuxpan, Iguala, Gro. 27 Apr was a high number (MC). Two Boat-billed Herons were seen in the wetlands n. of La Libertad, Chis. 27 May (M&BP). A Roseate Spoonbill near Donaji, Oax. 26 Apr was outside of normal range (AM, JM).

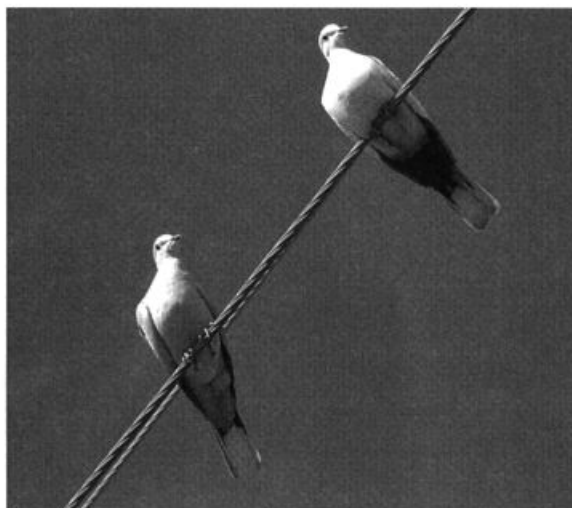
## VULTURES THROUGH DOVES

Two ad. Lesser Yellow-headed Vultures were at the turn-off to El Carrizal near Coyuca, Gro. 24 Apr (MC). Single Ospreys were at Huatulco 22 May and Puerto Arista, Chis. 27 May (MC). A Double-toothed Kite and 2 Black Hawk-Eagles were above Paraiso in the Sierra de Atoyac, Gro. 15 Apr (M&BP). An ad. **White-tailed Hawk** was seen along Hwy. 95 near Tecuicuilco, Gro., about 14 km e. of the Río Mezcala 19 Apr (MC); a juv. was near Tuxtepec 17 May, outside of normal range (AM). An estimated 15,000 Swainson's Hawks, a species usually considered an uncommon migrant in Oax., flew over the mts. above Teotitlán del Valle at 11 a.m. on 23 Mar; it was estimated that 2% were dark morphs, and there were a few Broad-winged Hawks among them (JS, RK, RH). Two ad. Solitary Eagles flew over El Triunfo base camp, Chis. 13 Mar (MC). A Short-tailed Hawk and a Black Hawk-Eagle were at Palenque ruins, Chis. 1 May, and an Ornate Hawk-Eagle was at Yaxchilán, Chis. 4 May (JM, AM). A Black Hawk-Eagle was seen 30 Mar between 1200-1500 m elevation on Hwy. 175-N, and a **Black-and-white Hawk Eagle** was near Puerto Eligio later that afternoon (RT). An Ornate Hawk-Eagle was eating a Horned Guan it had presumably killed close to the El Triunfo base camp 13 Mar; the guan was too big to fly away with, so the hawk-eagle remained in view at very close range on a tree downslope of the trail for several minutes (MC). An ad. Black Hawk-eagle was soaring



This Limpkin was present at Tierra Colorada, Guerrero 1 through 4 March (here) 2006 and appears to be the first documented record for the state. Photograph by Miguel Angel Angeles Monroy.

above Pluma Hidalgo 23 May (MC), furnishing apparently the first record for the Sierra Madre del Sur of Oax. An ad. Barred Forest-Falcon was high at at 2350 m elevation se. of San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chis. 28-29 May (MC). Two **Aplomado Falcons** frequented beach habitat at Tierra Colorada, Gro. Jan-early May (MAAM)—one of the first records for the state and beautifully documented. A pair of Aplomado Falcons was seen near Tuxtepec 17-18 May (AM, JM).



These were some of the 30 or so Eurasian Collared-Doves on the outskirts of Culiacán, Sinaloa around the silos in a chicken farm on Camino a Bachoco 28 March 2006. Photograph by Humberto Berlanga.

A **Limpkin** was seen 150 m inland close to Tierra Colorada, Gro. 1-4 Mar (MAAM), a first for the state of Guerrero, and 2 were near Palenque ruins 26 May (M&BP). Six **Collared Plovers** were in the Tepecoacuilco, Gro. res., and another was at Presa Tuxpan in Iguala, Gro. 27 Apr (MC). Two Pectoral Sandpipers were present at La Ventosa Lagoon 1 Apr (RT). A **Hudsonian Godwit** was discovered

feeding in a flooded field near La Ventosa 27 Apr (AM, JM). A Red-necked Phalarope, 20 Common and 7 Sooty Terns, and 2 **South Polar Skuas** were seen on a pelagic trip 7-10 km off Puerto Angel 24 May (MC); the skuas furnished just the 2nd record for the state of Oaxaca, the first being in 2002. An ad. Laughing Gull was at the Tepecoacuilco res. 27 Apr (MC). A breeding-plumaged **Sandwich Tern** was at Colonia Hidalgo, Chis. 26 May (MC). A Blue Ground-Dove was at Mazin Chico near Tuxtepec 29 Mar (RT), and 4 were on the road to Colonia Lacanjá Tzeltal, Chis. 27 May (M&BP). Omar Rocha noted a large cage full of Eurasian Collared-Doves in a ranch at San José de Ixtapa, Gro. and

was told by the owners that an occasional dove has escaped.

## MACAWS THROUGH HUMMINGBIRDS

Two pairs of Scarlet Macaws flew over Yaxchilán 4 May, and a pair was seen feeding in a *Ficus* along the road to Bonampak the day before (AM, JM). Out of mapped range was the belated report of 5-6 **Scarlet Macaws** around 16° 46.6' N, 94° 17.65' W in the Chimalapas region in Apr or May 2005 (RF). Two Mealy Parrots were on the road to Colonia Lacanjá Tzeltal, Chis. 27 May (M&BP). A Yellow-billed Cuckoo was seen along Hwy. 175-N 7 May, an uncommon but regular spring migrant in the central valley of Oax (MG); singles at the Chan Kah Hotel 22 May and 5 near Palenque ruins 24 May (M&BP) were more expected. Pheasant Cuckoo sang throughout Mar and Apr at Rancho Dion above Huatulco (JC). A Mangrove Cuckoo was at La Ventanilla Lagoon 7 Mar (MG).

A Flammulated Owl was banded at Llano Grande, Oax. 10 Mar (MG, JW SW); the species has been recorded regularly in the state since 1999, but this is the first to be banded. A Guatemalan Screech-Owl along the Tuxtla Gutiérrez-Malpaso Hwy., Chis. 31 May responded to playback during daylight; it was dark gray/brown with rusty "eyebrows," an unusual combination of the typical gray and rufous morphs (MC). A Great Horned Owl was at Teotitlán del Valle 18 May (EAM, RA). Two Barred Owls responded to playback 21 May at La Cumbre (MC), where the species has been reported Dec 2005-Feb 2006, here near the s. terminus

of its range. An Elf Owl was seen and 2 more were heard between Hwy. 95 and Xochipala, Gro. 17 Apr, in habitat that appeared to be adequate for breeding (M&BP). Two separate Guatemalan Pygmy-Owls, both gray-brown morphs, were seen within an hour of first light se. of San Cristóbal de las Casas 29 May (MC).

Single Northern Potoos were heard near Palenque 25 & 26 May (M&BP). An Eared Poorwill was seen along the roadway just before dawn 18 km above Nuevo Dehli, Gro. on the Atoyac Rd. 22 Apr (MC). A Buff-collared Nightjar sang mid-morning at Monte Albán 21 Mar (RH), and another responded to playback mid-morning 20 May at Yagul (MC). Two Spot-tailed Nightjars were heard 27 May on the dirt road to Ojo de Agua just s. of La Libertad (M&BP). Spot-tailed Nightjars numbered 15+ on the Uxpanapa road 31 May (MC). Six Great Swallow-tailed Swifts were seen at 800 m on the hill above Arriaga 27 May (MC). Five Scaly-breasted Hummingbirds were along the airstrip at Yaxchilán 4 May (AM, JM), and one was on the road to Colonia Lacanjá Tzeltal, Chis. 27 May (M&BP). Blue-capped Hummingbird was reported from the trail to El Vigía and Rancho Lobas, around 1100 m, in Apr, at La Soledad 8 & 23 Mar (MG) and 2 Apr (RT), and at the lowest coffee plantation on Hwy. 175-S 2 Apr (RT). A Black-crested Coquette was seen just above Valle Nacional at the jct. with the Nueva Esperanza rd. 30 Mar (RT); another was in the first half of the trail to Bonampak ruins, Chis. 3 May (AM, JM); and yet another was at Yaxchilán 4 May (JM, AM). A male Short-crested Coquette was just s. of La Siberia, between Paraiso and San Vicente de Benítez, 15 Apr (M&BP), and 2 males and a female were above Paraiso 21 Apr (MC). A female White-eared Hummingbird was in unusual habitat in Sumidero Canyon N.P. (about half-way up the road) 27 May (MC). Amethyst-throated Hummingbird was the most common hummingbird at the summit of the Sierra de Atoyac 24 Apr, with 100+ birds seen, followed by Magnificent (40+), Garnet-throated and White-eared Hummingbirds, Green Violet-ear (20+ each), and Bumblebee, Broad-tailed, and Sparkling-tailed Hummingbirds (<5 each) (MC).

### MOTMOTS THROUGH MANAKINS

A Tody Motmot was at Bonampak ruins 3 May (AM, JM), and 2 called above Valle Nacional 3 May, along with a Rufous-tailed Jacamar (MG). Two Rufous-tailed Jacamars



At least 3 Mangrove Vireos were found 8 April 2006 near the research station at Pantanos de Centla biosphere reserve, Tabasco (about 15 km south of Frontera). Photograph by Humberto Berlanga.

were seen along the Templo Olvidado trail at Palenque ruins 23 & 25 May (M&BP). A Keel-billed Toucan at Puerto Eligio above 1200 m 28 Mar was high (RH). An Emerald Toucanet was at Palenque 23 & 25 May (M&BP), and a probable female Mountain Trogon was at Monte Albán 6 May (MG). In Chiapas, a Ruddy Woodcreeper was was across the road from the Palenque museum 1 May (JM, AM), and one was at Bonampak 27 May (M&BP). Two Tawny-winged Woodcreepers and 5 Northern Barred-Woodcreepers were at or near Palenque ruins 23-25 May (M&BP). A pair of Rufous-breasted Spinetails at a nest along the Tuxtla Gutiérrez-Malpaso Hwy. was high at 880 m elevation (MC). A Scaly-throated Leaf-tosser was at Bonampak 27 May (M&BP). Two Buff-throated Foliage-gleaners were at Nueva Esperanza 30 Mar (RT). A Great Antshrike was heard just before Palenque ruins 9 May (AM, JM).

A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was heard at the bridge over Río Valle Nacional 30 Mar (RT), near the nw. edge of its range; another was near Palenque 24 May (M&BP). A White-throated Flycatcher was in humid pine-oak forest above Carrizal de los Bravo, Gro. 16 Apr (M&BP). Three Pileated Flycatchers were at Monte Albán 5 May (MG). A Greenish Elaenia was caught in the Santo Domingo Botanical Gardens, Oaxaca City 23 Apr (MG), a first for the city. Rare spring records of Sulphur-rumped Flycatcher came from the Palenque archaeological museum 1 May (JM, AM), near the Palenque museum 24 May, and at Bonampak 27 May (M&BP). Up to 2 Northern Royal-Flycatchers were near Palenque ruins 23-26 May (M&BP). A Stub-tailed Spadebill was near Palenque ruins 23 May (M&BP); another was rather high at 1850 m along the Palo Gordo trail of El Triunfo 14 Mar (MC). An Ochre-bellied Flycatcher was between Jaltenango

and Finca Prusia, Chis. 13 Mar (MC). Western Wood-Pewees were seen at Monte Albán and along Hwy. 175-N 5-6 May (MG). Single late Great Crested Flycatchers were seen at Palenque 1, 9, 22, & 24 May (AM, JM, M&BP) and at Bonampak 3 May (AM, JM). Piratic Flycatcher was very numerous in mid-Mar above Valle Nacional, where it was unrecorded in early Mar (MG). An ad. Fork-tailed Flycatcher was high at San Cristóbal de las Casas 29 May (MC). A Speckled Mourner was at La Cascada trail at Lacanjá, Chis. 2 May (JM, AM). A second-year male White-collared Manakin was at Palenque ruins 23 May (M&BP).

### VIRES THROUGH WEAVER FINCHES

At least 3 Mangrove Vireos were around the Pantanos de Centla Biosphere Reserve research station around 15 km s. of Frontera, Tab. 8 Apr (ph. HB, PM). An ad. White-eyed Vireo was on the Pacific coastal plain w. of Tapachula, Chis. 18 Mar (MC). A Yellow-green Vireo mist-netted in Santo Domingo Botanical Gardens 23 Apr was a surprise (MG). A Golden Vireo was a first for the grounds of the well-birded Hotel Misión de los Ángeles, Oaxaca City 21 Mar (RT). Three Slaty Vireos were at Monte Albán 5 May (MG), and one was in a mixed flock of vireos and warblers at Rancho Dion, along the trail to El Vigía, at 1600 m above Huatulco 26 Apr (†JC). Two Plumbeous Vireos were singing near San Pablo Huitzó res. 15 Apr (MG, HGdS).

Barn Swallows continue to nest in San Cristóbal de las Casas; an active nest was found 28 May, and 30+ were flying over the zócalo 29 May (MC). A Gray-breasted Martin s. of Miahuatlán 23 May was entering a pipe, suggestive of nesting, but it appeared to be alone (MC). A female Purple Martin was at Presa Tuxpan 26 Apr (MC). A Happy Wren was found near Guelatao 28 Mar (RT). A Golden-crowned Kinglet was seen at La Cumbre 28 Feb (MG); the species has been recorded here on four or five previous occasions, all in winter. A Ruby-crowned Kinglet, very rare s. of Oax., was with a mixed feeding flock around El Triunfo base camp 12-14 Mar (MR, EM, MC). Veery and Swainson's Thrushes gorged themselves on fruit at Río Lacanjá 2 May (JM, AM). A Gray-cheeked Thrush was near Palenque ruins 24 May (M&BP). A Swainson's Thrush was caught in Santo Domingo Botanical Gardens 23 Apr, the first record for Oaxaca City; the bander had been broadcasting flight calls of Swainson's Thrush that night and morning,

0230-0800 (MG). A Black Robin was observed on Cerro San Felipe 28 Mar (RT). Several Rufous-backed Robins were heard at Huitzó 15 Apr (MG, HGdS), and 3, plus a Clay-colored Robin, were near San Pablo Huitzó res. 15 Apr (MG, HGdS). Three Aztec Thrushes were at San José del Pacífico 16 Apr (DRF). Several singing and territorial Northern Mockingbirds were photographed e. of their known breeding range 27 Apr just s. of La Ventosa (AM, JM). A Tropical Mockingbird was near the Palenque museum 26 May (M&BP).

In Apr at Santo Domingo Botanical Gardens, 25 Nashville Warblers were mist-netted; this abundant species is usually not captured as late as Apr, but these results follow the winter's all-time high counts: Feb had more than twice the maximum number of captures of this species at this locality, which has been monitored for four years (MG). A Virginia's Warbler and a Yellow Warbler were near San Pablo Huitzó res. 15 Apr (MG, HGdS). A female Black-throated Blue Warbler seen in the Sierra Madre del Sur 10 Mar (MG, SW) provided one of very few records for Oax. A female American Redstart was at Palenque 23 May (M&BP). An ad. male Hooded Warbler was on the Pacific coastal plain near Arriaga (MR, MC). A female Mourning Warbler, first located by its call, was in humid oak forest s. of San Vicente de Benítez 14 Apr (M&BP). A Louisiana Waterthrush was high at 2550 m at La Cumbre 28 Mar (RT).

A flock of Red-headed Tanagers was heard at the alder-lined stream on the road to Arroyo Guacamaya 14 Apr (HGdS, MG), and another was seen below El Estudiante 25 Apr (RT). Three Cinnamon-rumped Seedeaters and a Yellow-faced Grassquit were near San Pablo Huitzó res. 15 Apr (MG, HGdS). A Thick-billed Seed-Finch was on the pulloff to San Manuel road near Palenque 9 May (AM, JM). A pair of Blue Seedeaters was feeding in the bamboo thickets along the airstrip at Yaxchilán 4 May (AM, JM). A Botteri's Sparrow was in open oak scrub near La Lagunita on the n. slope of the Sierra de Atoyac 17 Apr (M&BP). Two Cinnamon-tailed Sparrows were seen at Coralito between Tehuantepec and Santiago Astata 19 Mar (MG, RB). Single Botteri's Sparrows were near Teotitlán del Valle 24 Mar (RT), El Tequio near Oaxaca airport 8 Mar, and at several places in San Agustín Etlá during Apr (MG). Six Oaxaca Sparrows were near Piedra Azul Dam 24 Mar (RT). Dickcissels were present in flocks in the Tapanatepec region at the beginning of Mar and absent there by mid-Mar (MG).

Two Lazuli Buntings were above Carrizal de los Bravo 16 Apr (M&BP). A male Bronzed Cowbird was at Bonampak 27 May (M&BP). A Baltimore Oriole and a male Black-backed Oriole were in Santo Domingo Botanical Gardens 21 Mar (RT), but the latter could not be found there 25-26 Mar (MG); this represents the first record of this subspecies from this site. A Baltimore Oriole was at Huitzó 15 Apr (HGdS, MG). A male Hooded Oriole was near Ejutla 23 May (MC). The first fledgling House Sparrow in Oaxaca City this season was noted 26 Mar (MG).

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## YUCATAN PENINSULA



Ornithologists and birders visiting Cozumel Island in January noted the complete lack of certain species, but a research team led by Robert Curry in mid-April found healthy populations of the under-canopy species, with the notable exception of Cozumel Thrasher—the species they sought in particular. However, there was a possible sighting of the species by Ismael Navarro on the Cozumel Golf Course, where the species was previously reported by Rafael Chacón; another unconfirmed report was made in May by a local worker who supposedly saw the bird in the very same spot. The species is clearly near extinction. What birders did not find in April or May were species of the upper canopy. Only one Western Spindalis was seen in April, and no Rose-throated Tanagers were reported. A lack of early rains meant that American Flamingos in Ria Lagartos, currently number-

ing around 44,000, were unable to ply the hardened mud to form nests and abandoned the effort.

**Abbreviations:** Coz. (Cozumel I.); C.C.C (Cozumel Country Club); H.S.A.C. (Hacienda San Antonio Chel, Yuc.); R.L.B.R. (Ria Lagartos Biosphere Reserve); R.S.S. (Rancho San Salvador); R.L. (Río Lagartos).

## WATERFOWL THROUGH TERNS

Thirty years ago, a report of 6 female and 2 male Northern Shovelers would not be news in Yucatan, but, sadly, it is now; these were in a restored coastal lagoon at San Crisanto, Yuc 6 Mar (BM). Red-breasted Merganser appears to be on the increase in the subregion, with 6 reported 14 Mar in front of Hotel Nuevo Yucatán, Telchac Puerto, Yuc. (MT) and a female at Uaymitún (15 km to the west) 10 Apr (RW). Black-throated Bobwhite may be more widespread due to deforestation, with 2 seen 5 May at Chicanná Ecovillage Resort at km 144 on Chetumal-Escárcega Hwy., farther s. than previously reported (MC).

About 180 Reddish Egrets (including one white morph) were counted in 50 minutes at

a large coastal lagoon system 4 km w. of Chuburná, Yuc. 28 Mar, most of these flying in an easterly direction (DB, BM); this is an extraordinarily high count. A Least Bittern in a small cattail marsh s. of San Felipe, Yuc. 8 May might have been a resident rather than a migrant (JB, MC, RH). There were many reports this spring on the growth of the 3 young Jabirus that hatched in Feb. They were photographed at the nest at Peten Tucha, R.L. 16 Mar (BS, MS), and 2 nearly fledged young were still in nest with 2 ads. 8 May (JB, MC, RH). On 6-7 May, a juv. Jabiru showed up in the Celestún, Yuc. estuary near bird island (FC). Another Jabiru was noted 18 Mar near the Usumacinta toll booth, Camp. (LT) Calakmul, Camp. is a good place to see King Vulture, and 5 were seen there 21 Apr (DB).

Three migrating Swallow-tailed Kites were seen 20 May flying northward over the estu-





This Yellow-green Vireo mist-netted in the Santo Domingo botanical garden in downtown Oaxaca City 23 April 2006 was completely unexpected in the central valleys of Oaxaca. Photograph by Manuel Grosselet.

ary at Celestún (DB), and the 3rd local record for a Mississippi Kite was provided by one at Chelem, Yuc. 13 May (AM, JM). A White Hawk was near the toll booth at Usumacinta 18 Mar (LT). An Ornate Hawk-Eagle was at Calakmul 23 Apr (DB). A wintering female Merlin was still at the harbor of Chuburná 27 Mar (DB, BM). Two Ruddy Crakes and a Sora were in the mangrove canals at San Crisanto 9 Mar (BM), and around 180 American Coots were at Celestún 30 Apr (FC, BM).

Near the beach at Celestún, an American Golden-Plover was seen 1 May and 4 on 17 May (DB). A migrating flock of 86 Wilson's Plovers was on a sandbar behind Churburná harbor 28 Mar (DB, BM). Two Piping Plovers were among hundreds of other plovers at km 56.4 e. of Chabihau, Yuc. 13 Apr (RW). Some 85 American Avocets, half in breeding plumage, were on salt flats at San Crisanto 30 Mar and 6 Apr, with 17 there 24 Apr (BM). An active nest of Northern Jaçana found 12 Apr at C.G.C. produced 4 chicks the next morning (RC, BC, BM, RM, IN). A Solitary Sandpiper was still on Coz. 1 May (JB, MC, RH). A Long-billed Curlew and 5 Whimbrels were feeding in Churburná harbor 22 Mar (BM, IN), and 6 Whimbrels were there 28 Mar (DB, BM). A rare Hudsonian Godwit showed up 20 Apr near bird island in the Celestún estuary, and 5 were seen at the beach near the Celestún harbor 18-19 May (DB, GT). Two Marbled Godwits and 60 Least Sandpipers were at Churburná harbor 22 Mar; 25 Marbleds were at Chicxulub 23 Mar (BM, IN). A Semipalmated Sandpiper was reported on Coz. 1 May (JB, MC, RH). Four White-rumped Sandpipers were near Celestún 1 May (DB); 4 others were seen the same day on Coz. (JB, MC, RH), and 150 were observed 16-22 May, with numbers decreasing each day, at Celestún (DB). A Pectoral Sandpiper was on Coz. 11 Apr (BM, RC), and 10 were seen 16 May at Celestún, with one left 23 May (DB). A Stilt Sandpiper was at Chuburná 7 Mar

(BM); another was seen 16 & 30 Mar and 24 Apr at San Crisanto (BM). Around 400 Wilson's Phalaropes were in a pond near the Celestún pier 23 May (DB).

A Pomarine Jaeger was seen from boat 1.5 km w. of Chuburná 28 Mar (DB, BM). A Franklin's Gull was seen 15 km se. of El Aguacatal, Camp., out of normal range (AM, JM); another was seen 15-22 May at Celestún (DB). Chuburná, on the n. coast of Yuc., is a good place for uncommon gulls: a Ring-billed Gull was there 28 Mar (DB, BM); Herring Gulls were reported there 6 (7 birds; AD, BM), 22 (one; BM, IN), & 27 Mar (one; DB, BM) and 12 May (several; AM, JM); and a Lesser Black-backed Gull was there 22 Mar, with 2 at Chicxulub the next day (BM, IN), one of which was still there 27 Mar (DB, BM). A Gull-billed Tern was found 22 Mar at Churburná harbor (BM, IN), where 7 Forster's Terns were seen 7 Mar (AD, BM) and one 22 Mar, plus 300 Black Skimmers (BM, IN). Three early Least Terns were present 27 Mar at Chuburná harbor 28 Mar (DB, BM).

### PIGEONS THROUGH CATBIRDS

On Coz., 11 White-crowned Pigeons were seen at the C.G.C. 12 Apr (RC, BM). Some 32 Zenaida Doves were at Chuburná harbor 22 Mar (IN, BM). Mourning Dove has become a rare winter migrant on the Yuc. peninsula; 2 were at Celestún 1 May (DB), and another was at H.S.A.C. 7 May (DB, EG, BM, AM). Twelve Yellow-headed Parrots were along the Jonutá-Palizada rd. 6 May (AM, JM), and a pair was seen in s. Q. Roo 11 km w. of Francisco Villa 15 Mar, far outside the normal range (LY, PY). Four Yellow-billed Cuckoos were on territory at H.S.A.C. 28 May (BM, AM); the species is a very local nester in the n. of the peninsula. Two Chimney Swifts were reported at Rio Lagartos 8 May (JB, MC, RH), and a late Ruby-throated Hummingbird was at H.S.A.C. 7 May (DB, EG, BM). A Keel-billed Toucan was at Kabah 10 Apr, seen by the caretaker (*vide* DB); another was reported at Kiuc 20 May (DB).

Evidence of Eastern Wood-Pewee passage in early May included 2 seen 3-4 May on the Vigía Chico rd., Q. Roo; 2-5 at Calakmul 4-6 May (JB, MC, RH); 3 at H.S.A.C. 7 May (DB, EG); and 6 on 18 May at Celestún (DB). Two Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were seen 5-6 May at Calakmul (JB, MC, RH), and single Acadian Flycatchers were seen 3 May on the Vigía Chico Rd. and 6 May at Calakmul (JB, MC, RH). Single Least Flycatchers were noted 3 May on the Vigía Chico Rd. and 4 May at Calakmul; and 2 were at R.L. 8 May (JB, MC, RH). A Couch's Kingbird was heard and photographed 2 May at C.G.C. (ph. MC; JB, RH).

A Gray Kingbird was at Pok-Ta-Pok G.C., Cancún, Q. Roo 11 Apr (KK); one was at the C.G.C. 12 Apr (RC, BC, BM, IN); and 3 were at El Cedral, Coz. 1 May (JB, MC, RH). Scissor-tailed Flycatcher is reported more frequently than in the past, with one observed 7 Mar at Chuburná (BM) and 2 at Chicxulub, Yuc. 25 Mar (JM), and one there 28 Mar (BS, ph. MS). A Fork-tailed Flycatcher was at Chicxulub 28 Mar (BS, MS).

Two ad. Cozumel Vireos were feeding a fledgling out of nest on Coz. 10 Apr (BM), and a single Warbling Vireo was at Chichen Itzá 9 Mar (DB). A Red-eyed Vireo was seen 3-4 May on the Vigía Chico Rd., and up to 3 were at Calakmul 5-6 May (JB, MC, RH). The first Yellow-green Vireo was at H.S.A.C. 28 May (BM). A Black-whiskered Vireo was at El Cedral, Coz. 1 May (JB, MC, RH). Two Northern Rough-winged Swallows were on Coz. 12 Apr (RC, BC, BM, RM, IN), and 6 Bank Swallows were seen there 2 May; 10 Banks were seen 8 May at R.L. (JB, MC, RH). Barn Swallow dates were normal; 500 were at San Crisanto 20 Mar, foraging intensely, perhaps prior to passing toward Cuba (BM). White-lored Gnatcatcher was seen at inland sites such as the forest 8 km in from Chuburná 22 Mar (IN, BM); at H.S.A.C., a male was seen 7 May (DB, EG). A Veery was seen 3 May on the Vigía Chico Rd. (JB, MC, RH); the species is rarely reported during its spring migration. A Gray-cheeked Thrush was recorded 1 May on Coz. and another 8 May at R.L. (JB, MC, RH). A Swainson's Thrush was on Coz. 11 Apr (RC). In recent years, Black Catbird has been observed nesting inland; about 30 pairs were noted building nests at two sites within H.S.A.C. 28 May (BM, AM).

### WARBLERS THROUGH COWBIRDS

Six Tennessee Warblers on Coz. 11 Apr was normal (RC, BM), but one at R.L. 8 May was late (JB, MC, RH). Two Chestnut-sided Warblers were at Calakmul 5 May (JB, MC, RH). Fifteen Magnolia Warblers were seen 3 May on the Vigía Chico Rd., 5 there 4 May; 2 were at Calakmul 4 May, and 5 there 5-6 May; and 10 were at R.L. 8 May (JB, MC, RH). A Black-throated Blue Warbler, more usual on the e. coast, was at San Crisanto 24 Apr (BM). A Black-throated Green Warbler was along the Vigía Chico Rd. 3 May (JB, MC, RH). One male Blackburnian Warbler was near San Gervasio, Coz. 11 Apr (BC); 2 were seen 5-6 May at Calakmul; and one was at R.L. 8 May (JB, MC, RH). Single Bay-breasted Warblers were on Coz. 10 Apr (BC) and 1 May (JB, MC, RH); 3 were along Vigía Chico Rd. 3 May (JB, MC, RH). A Blackpoll Warbler on Coz. 11 Apr was early (BC). Two Hooded Warblers at

km 27 on the road to Calakmul 7 May were late migrants (AM, JM), as was one seen 8 May at R.L. (JB, MC, RH).

Three male Scarlet Tanagers were at San Crisanto 24 Apr, feeding on gumbo-limbo fruits (BM); others were seen 1 May on Coz., 3 May along the Vigía Chico Rd. (2; JB, MC, RH), and the same day at Uxmal (DB). A single Western Spindalis was detected on Coz. 10-13 Apr (RC, BC, BM). A Blue-gray Tanager was near San Crisanto 20 Mar (BM); this species is commonly found nesting in Mérida as well as in the coastal villages to the n., though it is not mapped here by Howell and

Webb (1995). Two Savannah Sparrows were noted at Churburná harbor 23 Mar (BM, IN); the species has become scarce in the subregion. Two Dickcissels, a late transient, were at Calakmul 6 May (JB, MC, RH), and 7 Bobolinks were seen on Coz. 2 May (JB, MC, RH). An Eastern Meadowlark was seen in a pasture at Hopelchén, Camp. 24 Apr, outside its known distribution (DB). Once more, Shiny Cowbird has shown up at Sian Ka'an, Q. Roo, where 3 males were observed at in a mangrove tree one km n. of Boca Paila 15 Mar (WS). Two Eurasian/African Collared-Doves were reported courting 23 May at Celestún (DB).

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## Central America



H. Lee Jones | Oliver Komar

With this spring report, we welcome Jeffrey McCrary as our Nicaraguan records coordinator. For the first time, we have a country coordinator for Nicaragua, and for the first time national compilers have contributed from all of the Central American countries. Of special interest this period were expeditions to two poorly known areas. Kevin Easley led an expedition to Cocos Island, finding four rare pelagic species and several unexpected migrants. Knut Eisermann carried out an inventory at an isolated patch of lowland humid rain forest in southwestern Honduras, in the Río Amarillo valley near the Copán ruins, producing 19 new records for the department of Copán and a number of interesting range extensions.

This spring was notably different from spring 2004 in one respect. There were no reports of Cedar Waxwing. Thousands were reported a year ago. This was not really surprising, as no Cedar Waxwings were reported during the winter season, in strong contrast to the previous winter. Two country "firsts" surfaced this spring: a well-documented Rud-

dy Crane in Panama and a Hermit Thrush in Honduras. Other Regional rarities included Panama's second Nashville Warbler, Honduras' third White-vented Euphonia, El Salvador's third Roseate Tern and third Spotted Woodcreeper, Costa Rica's second, third, and fourth Swallow-tailed Gulls, and that country's third American Pipit. There are now several records of Swallow-tailed Gull from both Costa Rica and Panama, but until now no photographic evidence or specimen evidence has been published, and the species has not yet been added to the A.O.U. Check-list for North American birds.

### TINAMOUS THROUGH VULTURES

On Cerro Pirre above Cana in e. Darién, a rarely encountered Choco Tinamou was heard 5 Apr (FT). At Indian Creek Village, Toledo, a male Ring-necked Duck was seen 8 Mar (BF). This species is rare in Belize away from Crooked Tree W.S. Since the open ocean between mainland Costa Rica and Cocos I. is rarely visited by birders, almost any pelagic species seen in these waters is worth noting. Two Pink-footed Shearwaters were seen on the trip out 30 Apr, and one was seen on the return trip 5 May (KEa et al.). This species surely passes through Costa Rican waters regularly during migration but probably in small numbers, as indicated here. Single Leach's Storm-Petrels seen on two occasions between the island and mainland 5 May (KEa et al.) are also worth noting. An ad. Red-footed Booby at Isla Uvita off Puerto Limón 15 Mar (LS, GF) was on the Caribbean coast of Costa Rica, where the species had not previously been reported.

American Bittern is rare anywhere in Cen-

tral America, so one seen in Nicaragua flying low over L. Moyuá, *Matagalpa* 9 May (LL, JM, WA, DK) was noteworthy. Not previously reported from Summit Ponds, Panama Canal Area, was a juv. Agami Heron seen 1 Apr (FT). Two reports of Green Ibis come from Panama. One was seen at the bridge over the R. Frijoles on Pipeline Road in Soberanía N.P. 6 Apr (CB), and 2 were near Chiriquí Grande, *Bocas del Toro* 19 Apr (RM, DM, KK). There are very few verified reports for the Canal Area, and it is very uncommon at the latter locality. An ad. and imm. King Vulture were seen 6 Mar (KE, CA, JLL) on the Pacific slope of Guatemala at Los Tarrales Reserve, *Succhitepéquez*, where the species is rare.

### RAPTORS

Pearl Kite, still expanding its range in Costa Rica, reached new elevational heights when one was observed at 2100 m at Savegre Lodge, San Gerardo de Dota, on the Pacific slope of Cerro de la Muerte 14 Feb (MAM). Another was seen a few km n. of Puerto Armuelles in Panama 11 May (KA), possibly only the 2nd recorded in Chiriquí. A Crane Hawk seen in mangroves on the Bayano R. in e. Panamá 26 Apr (RM) was the first reported from that locality. A rarely seen Solitary Eagle was observed in flight at Cerro Azul e. of Panama City 28 Apr (OK, RoC, CA, DD, NQ). On the Caribbean coast of Honduras, Cooper's, Swainson's, and Broad-winged Hawks were observed migrating over Capiro Calentura N.P. outside Trujillo, *Colón*, in the first week of Apr (MW, GCo). The latter two species migrate principally w. of the Continental Divide.

In Costa Rica, an ad. light-morph Crested Eagle was seen perched and in flight at Tor-