



## Sartor O. Williams III

All 2006 began wet—August and September were among the wettest ever recorded in New Mexico—and widespread and generous rains continued into early October, resulting in lush vegetation and plentiful water nearly statewide, and leading to a busy but generally dispersed migration season.

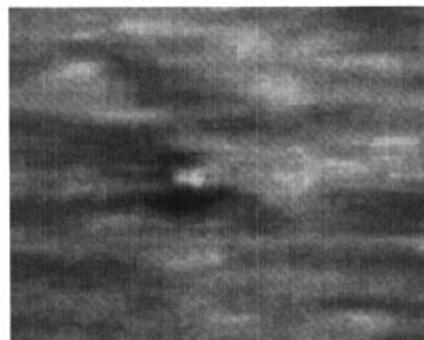
**Abbreviations:** B.L.N.W.R. (Bitter Lake N.W.R.); Bosque (Bosque del Apache N.W.R.); E.B.L. (Elephant Butte L.); G.B.A. (Gila Bird Area, riparian habitat along Gila R. below Riverside); L.V.N.W.R. (Las Vegas N.W.R.); Maxwell (Maxwell N.W.R. and vicinity); N.R.T. (n. Roosevelt migrant trap w. of Melrose); P.O. Canyon (Post Office Canyon, Peloncillo Mts.); R.G.N.C. (Rio Grande Nature Center, Albuquerque); R.G.V. (Rio Grande Valley); R.S. (Rattlesnake Springs and vicinity, Eddy).

## WATERFOWL THROUGH FALCONS

Early arriving Greater White-fronted Geese were 4 each at Bosque 24 Sep (DH) and Lordsburg Playa 25 Sep (ph. JO). Tundra Swans were rarely encountered were singles near Farmington 19 Nov (ph. JR) and Los Ojos 30 Nov (S. Lederman, *vide* CH); elsewhere, 2 were at Maxwell 9-20 Nov (DC, P. Hoban, MW), 5 were briefly at Springer L. 11 Nov (ph. DC), and one “swan” was at L.V.N.W.R. 20 Nov (MW). Two Wood Ducks in the Oscura Mts. 12 Oct (CGL) provided a first for that range. A male Eurasian Wigeon × American Wigeon hybrid visited R.G.N.C. 14-29 Oct (m.ob.). A good Surf Scoter season found singles at Springer L. 27 Oct (JEP), Bosque 25 Oct (ph. C. K. Lee), and Deming 30 Nov (ph. LM) and 4 at Bill Evans L. 13 Oct (ph. RS), where 2 lingered 10 Nov (RS). Extremely rare in New Mexico, a **Black Scoter** at

Cochiti L. 3 Nov (NP, ph. MB) provided only the 3rd certain record and the first since 1993. A Long-tailed Duck at Stubblefield L. 9-11 Nov (ph. DC, JEP, JO) furnished the lone report.

Early and w. were 6 Horned Grebes at Bill Evans L. 29 Sep (ph. RS). A probable **Red-necked Grebe** made a brief stop at Cochiti L. 28 Oct (J. Stuart, MW). Noteworthy for the e. plains were 4 Eared Grebes on nests at Clovis 28 Aug (WW). High counts for *Aechmophorus* grebes were 3300 at Morgan L. 19 Nov (MW) and 3850 in the E.B.L.–Caballo L. area 22 Nov (MW); 56 believed to be primarily Westerns were on nests at E.B.L. 24 Sep (CR). Noteworthy American Bitterns were singles in *Grant* near Riverside 7 Oct (RS, CH) and near Mesilla 19 Oct (JD) and 18 Nov (DG, LM). A Great Egret was n. to Navajo Dam 28 Oct (B. Wegener, *vide* TR) and 5 Nov (JR); other singles were n. to Santa Rosa L. 9 Sep (JEP) and near Taiban 19 Sep (WW); 40 at E.B.L. 12 Aug (JEP) furnished the high count. An imm. Tricolored Heron was n. to Clovis 28 Aug–9 Sep (WW et al., ph. JO). Single imm. **Reddish Egrets** were at Brantley L. 2-19 Aug (RD, JEP) and B.L.N.W.R. from 12 Sep (ph. JO) through 23 Oct (m.ob.). Two Cattle Egrets at N.R.T. 5 Oct (DH) provided a local first. Noteworthy n. to *Union* was a **Yellow-crowned Night-**



With only six previous reports for New Mexico, this **Black Scoter** at Cochiti Lake, Sandoval County 3 November 2006 provided the state with its third documented record and the first since 1993. Photograph by Matt J. Baumann.

Heron on Tramperos Cr. 16 Oct (WW); farther s., 2 were at Tatum 8 Sep (JEP). An ad. **White Ibis** was n. to French L. near Cimarron 29 Aug–5 Sep (ph. DC).

Last documented in New Mexico in 2000, a **Swallow-tailed Kite** was with 3 Mississippi Kites at Portales 28 Aug (GK). Two White-tailed Kites were at Cloverdale 18 Aug (ph. JO), and singles were at Rodeo 4 Aug (JEP, JO), near Hermanas 8 Nov (RM), and at Las Cruces 13 Nov (JD). An ad. Northern Goshawk was in the Burro Mts. 9 Sep (DG), where seldom reported in recent years. Wandering Common Black-Hawks were singles in

the Animas Valley 24 Sep (JO) and at R.S. 8 Oct (MB). An ad. **Red-shouldered Hawk** was at R.S. on various dates 24 Aug–1 Oct (RD, m.ob., ph. JB). One to 2 Gray Hawks were at three Animas Valley sites 11-18 Aug and 23 Sep (ph. JO); continuing from summer, one was at Rodeo 2 Aug–1 Oct (RW, WW); and 2 or more Grays were in the New Mexico portion of Guadalupe Canyon 2-8 Aug (WW, DK, NC, SC). Far w. was a Broad-winged Hawk at Rodeo 15 Oct (ph. RW); back e., 9 were counted at Capilla Peak, Manzano Mts. 23 Sep–5 Oct (HWI), and singles were seen at L.V.N.W.R. 2 Sep (CR), Portales 7 Oct (GK), and L. Avalon 7 Oct (SW). Zone-tailed Hawk reports have increased in the lower R.G.V. recently; this season, one was near Radium Springs 27-30 Aug (MS, ph. JZ). Typically scarce in *Bernalillo*, single Ferruginous Hawks were at Kirtland A.F.B. 26 Oct and 16 Nov (JEP). Some 23 Merlins were counted at Capilla Peak 16 Sep–5 Nov (HWI); one to 2 were reported at 20 additional locales nearly statewide 14 Sep–24 Nov. Eleven captive-bred Aplomado Falcons were released at the Armendaris Ranch 3 Aug (U.S.F.W.S.), the vanguard of some 1500 slated for release in s. New Mexico over the next decade; all Aplomados in New Mexico, including native birds, were reclassified as “experimental, non-essential” under the federal Endangered Species Act, effectively removing habitat and other protections for natives.

## CRANES THROUGH ROADRUNNER

Still unverified in New Mexico, 5 ad. Whooping Cranes were seen on the ground and in flight at Grulla N.W.R. 24 Oct (U.S.F.W.S.) this observation, together with another there in Dec 2004, suggests migrants may be expected to reoccur there, as the wild flock that migrates between Canada and Texas continues to recover. Surprisingly early were single Sandhill Cranes at San Antonio 3 Sep (CB) and Grulla N.W.R. 10 Sep (DH), as were 2 Black-bellied Plovers at B.L.N.W.R. 18 Aug (JEP). Late was a Semipalmated Plover at Luis Lopez 27-28 Nov (JO). A Black-necked Stilt pair with 2 chicks at Maxwell 7-12 Aug (ph. DC) established breeding for *Colfax*. Caught by a snowstorm, a late American Avocet was swimming in an ice-choked pond at MOUNTAINAIR 30 Nov (ph. WH). High count for Willet was 11 at Sumner Dam 2 Sep (JEP); late was one at Bosque 22 Oct (BN). Migrant Upland Sandpipers were detected at several e and s. locales 9 Aug–14 Sep, including one over Ute Cr., *Harding* 12 Aug (CR), 2 w. to E.B.L. 12 Aug (JEP), and highs of 21 at Fort Sumner 12 Aug (CR) and 12 sw. of Orogrande 20 Aug (RM). Very late was a Marbled Godwit



White Ibis is turning up in New Mexico with increasing frequency, with reports for six of the past eight years. This adult was north to French Lake, Colfax County 29 August through 5 (here 2) September 2006. Photograph by David J. Cleary.

at E.B.L. 5 Nov (ph. CGL). Single Ruddy Turnstones were at Morgan L. 20-21 Aug (JR, AN) and Ruby Ranch n. of Las Vegas 18 Sep (WW). Noteworthy w. of the plains, well-documented Semipalmated Sandpipers were one to 2 at Sunland Park 26-31 Aug (ph. JNP) and one at Holloman L. 24 Aug (CGL). Latest Pectoral Sandpiper was one at Bosque 29 Oct (WH, CGL). Single Dunlins reached B.L.N.W.R. 23 Oct, Deming 27 Oct (LM), and Holloman L. 26-29 Nov (SW, CGL). Rarely well documented in New Mexico, single Short-billed Dowitchers were at Clovis 12 Sep (ph. JO) and Sunland Park 26 Aug (ph. JNP). A Red Phalarope was on a desert playa w. of Santa Teresa 24 Nov (JEP, MS, JZ).

Notable fall gull concentrations included 35 Franklin's Gulls at Maxwell 22 Oct (MB, JB, DC) and 104 Bonaparte's Gulls at Stubblefield L. 9 Nov (DC); late California Gulls were 4 at Farmington 18 Nov (TR), 8 at Eagle Nest L. 21 Nov (DC), and 2 at Cochiti L. 29 Nov (NP). A respectable Sabine's Gull season produced juvs. at 10 sites in seven counties 6 Sep-17 Oct (m.ob.), including a high-elevation one at Eagle Nest L. 13 Sep (ph. EW), one flying along I-25 at San Acacia 6 Sep (MB), 2 each at Stubblefield L. 25 Sep (DC), Cochiti L. 8-9 Sep (MB, NP, ph. JB), Santa Rosa L. 8 Sep (JO), and Brantley L. 1 Oct (ph. JO), and 3 at Deming 9 Sep (ph. LM). Providing a 2nd local record was an imm. Black-legged Kittiwake at Bluewater L. 25-27 Nov (CR, JEP, ph. MH, CB, ph. JB). Late were 2 migrant Least Terns at Santa Rosa L. 8 Sep (JO). Single Caspian Terns were at Sumner L. 30 Sep (JEP) and E.B.L. 25 Sep (ph. JO). Black Terns were much in evidence nearly statewide, including in the w., where there were 50 at Morgan L. 10 Sep (BN, CR), 4 at Tyrone 5 Sep (EL), 17 near Lordsburg 4 Aug (JEP), and 12 at Deming 8 Aug (LM); some 300 were in the Maxwell-Springer area 13 Aug (JB), and the latest was one at Bosque 9 Oct (RD). Single Common Terns were at Stubblefield L. 4 Sep (CR) and

Sumner L. 26 Aug-24 Sep (JEP, CGL, JO, CB); 4 each were at E.B.L. 25 Sep (JO) and Brantley L. 29 Sep (JO). An ailing Long-tailed Jaeger at Sumner L. 25 Aug (ph. JB) was found dead 26 Aug (JB, JEP; \*Museum of Southwestern Biology).

Noteworthy at 2500 m were 20 Eurasian Collared-Doves at Eagle Nest 23 Sep (ph. DC). Three White-winged Doves were n. to Clayton 30 Sep (BN, CR); 5 were nw. to Bluewater Village 18 Aug (JT). Inca Doves n. of usual were 2 at Logan 12 Aug (CR) and singles at Santa Rosa 19 Sep (WW) and San Lorenzo 20 Aug (DB). Common Ground-Doves of note were a pair in Guadalupe Canyon 6 Aug (DK) and singles at R.S. 27 Aug (WW) and 10 Sep (SW) and Carlsbad 27 Aug (SW). A female Ruddy Ground-Dove was near Radium Springs 4-25



Historically considered irregular (at best) in New Mexico, Gray Hawk recently has staged a steady expansion into the state. This one photographed 11 August 2006 was one of several in the Animas Valley, Hildalgo County this season. Photograph by Jerry R. Oldenettel.

Nov (ph. MS, JZ). Far nw. were single Greater Roadrunners at Farmington from 30 Aug-Nov (AN), at Chaco Canyon in late Nov (B. Shattuck, *fide* AN), and at Ramah L. 9 Sep (BN, CR) and 13 Nov (JO).

## OWLS THROUGH SHRIKES

Noteworthy for the Peloncillo Mts. was a vocal Flammulated Owl in P.O. Canyon 11 Oct (CDL). An Eastern Screech-Owl was seen and heard 14 Oct at Portales (G. Bundy), where the species first appeared in 2003. Long-eared Owls where seldom reported were singles in the Burro Mts. 31 Aug (DG) and the Little Hatchet Mts. 4 Nov (LM). A Short-eared Owl in grasslands s. of Engle 10 Nov (JEP, JO) furnished the lone report. A Northern Saw-

whet Owl was vocal in Clanton Canyon 25-26 Nov (J. Black). A Broad-billed Hummingbird was e. to Carlsbad 17 Aug-28 Sep (E. Pierce, *fide* SW); 2 or more Lucifer Hummingbirds were in Cottonwood Canyon, Peloncillo Mts. 5-18 Aug (CGL, JO). Rare in New Mexico, an imm. Ruby-throated Hummingbird at N.R.T. 12-15 Sep (ph. JO, MB, NP, CGL) provided a first for that popular site. For the 2nd consecutive year, Anna's Hummingbirds staged a notable invasion of P.O. Canyon, rapidly increasing from 13 on 27 Sep to 80 by 11 Oct, then declining to 2 by 16 Nov (CDL); other Anna's were reported in Grant, Luna, and Doña Ana, while farther e. one reached Carlsbad 14 Oct (SW), where 2 were present by 30 Nov (SW), and another provided a *Lea* first at Eunice 18 Nov-4 Dec (ph. P. McCasland). Rare in the e. plains, one to 2 Calliope Hummingbirds were at N.R.T. 12 Aug (CR) and 9-13 Sep (JEP, JO).

A male Elegant Trogon was in the cen. Peloncillo Mts. s. of Skeleton Canyon 3 Aug (SOW), where first found in Jul. A Lewis's Woodpecker was e. to Clayton L. 3 Sep (CR). Up to 2 Acorn Woodpeckers persisted at Sugarite S.P. 1 Aug-22 Nov (ph. DC, C. Hundertmark), and at least one was in the Gallinas Mts. near Corona 24 Aug (HS, D. Ligon), where first discovered in Jun. Found annually in New Mexico in recent years, single Red-bellied Woodpeckers were at Conchas L. 12 Oct (NP, MB) and Yeso 28-29 Sep (ph. JO, JEP). Single Williamson's Sapsuckers were e. to Vaughn 29 Sep (JEP), Gallinas Mts. near Corona 24 Aug (HS), and B.L.N.W.R. 27 Aug (WW). An imm. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was w. to Albuquerque's Kirtland A.F.B. 4 Oct (JEP); in e. San Miguel, single imm. were at Conchas L. 12 Oct (MB, NP) and Bell Ranch 31 Oct (WW), and an ad. male was at Trigg Ranch 10 Nov (ph. MM). A Downy Woodpecker was s. to White Sands Missile Range headquarters, Doña Ana 5 Oct (CGL). Rarely documented satisfactorily in migration, a vocal Greater Pewee was e. to Radium Springs 1 Aug (MS, ph. JZ); a silent one was in Guadalupe Canyon 5 Aug (CR, MH). A probable Eastern Wood-Pewee was seen and heard at Bosque Farms, Valencia 23 Aug (T. Fetz); there is but one previous R.G.V. report. An extensively documented *Empidonax* at Milnesand 2-4 Aug (ph. JO, ph. MH, ph. CGL, ph. JB, m.ob.) has yet to be identified, but Acadian Flycatcher is considered a likely possibility. An apparent Least Flycatcher was w. to Maxwell 4 Sep (CR); in the e., one to 2 were reported 26 Aug-10 Sep at Seneca (CR), Clayton L. (CR), N.R.T. (m.ob.), Boone's Draw (JB), Elida (WW), and Pep (JEP, JO). Late singles believed to be Dusky Flycatchers

were seen and heard at Redrock 22 Oct (CGL), s. of Mesilla 4 Nov (CGL), and at Bosque 10 Nov (DH). A Black Phoebe at the Navajo agricultural area s. of Farmington 9 Sep (JR) provided a new *San Juan* locale; the species was present at three *Colfax* sites, including a pair with 2 fledglings near Cimarron 9 Aug (DC), and one was at Clayton L. 3 Sep (CR). Early for the sw. was an Eastern Phoebe at G.B.A. 25 Aug (RS); one was in P.O. Canyon 5 Oct (CDL). Noteworthy were ad. Vermilion Flycatchers with 2 fledglings at the White Sands Missile Range golf course, *Doña Ana* 11 Sep (CGL, MS, JZ).

Quite late was a vocal Dusky-capped Flycatcher in Guadalupe Canyon 26 Sep (SOW, CH). An Ash-throated Flycatcher was below E.B.L. Dam 24 Sep (CR) and 8 Oct (JO), where one wintered last year. A strong Great Crested Flycatcher season found one to 2 in the e. at six sites—Sumner Dam, N.R.T., Clovis, Boone's Draw, Pep, and R.S. 28 Aug–15 Sep (m.ob.)—plus one w. to Socorro 28 Aug–1 Sep (ph. CGL, MB, CR, ph. JO, JB). A possible Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher was "heard clearly" but not seen at the Heart Bar Ranch near Gila Cliff Dwellings, s. *Catron* 10 Aug (JP). An abundance of grasshoppers kept Cassin's Kingbirds late at Tyrone, where there were 8 on 22 Oct and 2 on 29 Oct (EL). A Thick-billed Kingbird was seen 5–6 Aug in upper Guadalupe Canyon (ph. MH, CR, DK), where scarce in recent years. Unexpected in *Torrance*, an Eastern Kingbird was at Abo 27 Aug (DH). Far w. was a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher near Mangas Springs 22 Aug (E. Wooten). A Rose-throated Becard was heard in the Arizona portion of Guadalupe Canyon about 230 m from the New Mexico line 5 Aug (MH, CR) and 6 Aug (DK); the species is unverified in New Mexico. Extended breeding by Loggerhead Shrikes was evidenced by an ad. feeding a recent fledgling at Clayton 30 Sep (CR). Earliest Northern Shrikes were 2 at Bell Ranch, e. *San Miguel* 31 Oct (WW), followed by singles at Trigg Ranch 10 Nov (MM), Maxwell 13 & 26 Nov (DC), and Pilar 17 Nov (RT).

## VIREOS THROUGH DIPPER

A White-eyed Vireo was singing below E.B.L. Dam 30 Oct–1 Nov (DC). A bright Bell's Vireo at N.R.T. 26 Aug (JB, JEP) was believed to be the e. subspecies. Confusion between Blue-headed Vireo and bright Cassin's Vireo remains a field identification problem, with few reports of the former supported by adequate details; this season, an early Blue-headed was

detailed at Pep 2–3 Sep (JO, JEP), while possible others with some details were singles at Sumner Dam 15 Oct (JB), R.G.N.C. 12 Sep (D. Paez), and Deming 30 Sep (CGL). Single Philadelphia Vireos were detailed at Ute L. 7 Sep (ph. DC) and N.R.T. 15 Oct (JB). Single Red-eyed Vireos were at Vaughn 31 Aug and 4 Sep (JO), N.R.T. 7 & 14 Sep (MB, NP, JO), Boone's Draw 2 Sep (CL), Pep 12 Sep (JO), and Tatum 7 Sep (MB, NP). Blue Jays were much in evidence in the Cimarron–Maxwell area, including one at Cimarron 30 Sep (ph. EW), 4 at Maxwell 3 Oct (ph. DC), and 7 in one tree on Ponil Cr. 11 Nov (ph. DC); w. to the R.G.V. was one at Albuquerque 24 Oct



This immature Long-tailed Jaeger in the dark morph reached Sumner Lake, DeBaca County 25 August 2006 but was found dead there the following day (specimen to Museum of Southwestern Biology); it provided New Mexico's twelfth record. Photograph by Jonathan P. Batkin.

(DH). Far s. of expected, 2 Clark's Nutcrackers were on Jack's Peak, Burro Mts. 12 Oct (DG). American Crows invaded the Mesilla Valley in Oct, where some 1500 were estimated 4 Nov (CGL) and over 4000 were reported 6 Nov (JD).

Single Purple Martins away from breeding areas were at San Juan bridge, *Rio Arriba* 30 Aug (MM) and Radium Springs 4 Aug (MS, JZ). Single Black-capped Chickadees were s. in the R.G.V. to Bernardo 9 Oct (DH) and La Joya 5 Nov (DH). Rare away from pinyon–juniper habitat, one to 2 Juniper Titmice were at Socorro 8 Oct (J. Shipman) and 3–8 Nov (*vide* HS). Cactus Wrens in the e. Albuquerque foothills were one at Embudo Canyon 27 Aug (CR) and 2 at the Copper State trailhead 6 Oct (CB). A Carolina Wren was singing at the Sulphur Canyon Picnic Area, Sandia Mts. 18–29 Aug (CB, JEP, JB). Late was a House Wren at Petroglyph N.M. 4 Nov (RD). Single Winter Wrens were in Cimarron Canyon 11 Nov–1 Dec (ph. DC) and a woodlot n. of San Jon 3 Nov (CR), and 2 were at N.R.T. 14–15 Oct (JEP, JO, JB, MH, CR). Unexpected in the lower R.G.V., an American Dipper was at Percha 21 Oct (CR, BN) through Nov (CGL, JEP, ph. JO).

## GNATCATCHERS THROUGH WARBLERS

Two Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were late in the upper R.G.V. at Orilla Verde, *Taos* 17 Nov (RT); 2 Black-tailed were banded at Bosque 18 Nov (NC, SC). The state-first Black-capped Gnatcatcher pair found in Guadalupe Canyon in Jul nested successfully, with the ads. tending up to 3 fledglings 5–8 Aug (MH, ph. CR, DK, NC, SC). Two Eastern Bluebirds strayed to Columbus 25 Nov (JO). East of usual areas were 4 Western Bluebirds at Clovis 15 Oct and one at N.R.T. 21 Oct (JEP, JO). A Varied Thrush was at Corrales 7 Nov (T Brownell, *vide* P. Snider). Brown Thrashers where seldom reported were singles near Estancia 21 Oct (DH) and Cedar Crest 24–25 Nov (DL). Curve-billed Thrasher continued to spread beyond historic range, including a pair—one carrying food—in lower Bluewater Gorge 12 Aug (JT) and a pair at French L., *Colfax* 16 Nov (ph. DC). A Crissal Thrasher was e. to B.L.N.W.R. 18 Oct (JH). Small numbers of Sprague's Pipits were in the east 5–21 Oct (DH, JEP) farther w., one to 2 were s. of Engle 28–29 Oct (JEP, CGL), up to 5 were in the w. Uvas Valley, *Luna* 21 Oct (CR, BN), and 3 were near Hermanas 24 Nov (LM). Suggestive of local nesting were 2 young Cedar Waxwings among several ads. at San Juan bridge 4 Aug (MM). A successful Phainopepla nest near Galisteo established breeding n. to *Santa Fe*, where a pair was feeding 2 nestlings 8 (LS) & 13 Aug (CR) and tending 2 fledglings 24 Aug (LS).

Olive Warblers in the Peloncillo Mts. were one in upper Clanton Canyon 5 Aug (JO) one heard at Geronimo Tank 12 Nov (CGL) and a male seen near Blackwater Hole 12 Nov (CGL). Always scarce, a Tennessee Warbler at Tatum 8 Sep (JEP) provided the lone report. Far n. was a Lucy's Warbler at Ramah L. 15 Aug (JT), apparently a first for McKinley; late were singles at Radium Springs 1 Oct (MS, JZ), Deming 7 Oct (CGL), and Percha 21 Oct (CR). Single Northern Parulas were at Santa Fe 10 Oct (ph. JB), N.R.T. 30 Sep–7 Oct (JEP, MB, NP), and Pep 8–9 Sep (JEP, ph. JO). Chestnut-sided Warblers were singles at N.R.T. 2–3 Sep (JEP, ph. JO, CGL) and 7 Oct (JEP, MM) and at Ute L. 14 Sep (DC). Single Magnolia Warblers were at Cochiti 16–17 Oct (MW, WW), Madrid 21–25 Oct (ph. LS), and Tatum 1 Oct (MB, NP). Always a treat, single male Black-throated Blue Warblers were at Cedar Hill, *San Juan* 25 Oct (J. Wells, *vide* TR) and Cochiti 1–8 Oct (MW), and a female was near San Jon 12 Oct (MB, NP); up to 2 were



With about 18 New Mexican records, Black-legged Kittiwake is a rare treat in the state. This immature was at Bluewater Lake, Cibola County 25-27 (here 27) November 2006. Photograph by Jonathan P. Batkin.

at N.R.T. 5-14 Oct (DH, JEP, MM). A Black-throated Gray Warbler strayed e. to Pep 12 Sep (JO). Hermit Warblers were relatively plentiful in the Burro Mts., including single males 10 & 11 Aug, 2 females 12 Aug, about 6 on 25 Aug, and 3 on 1 Sep (DG); in the Peloncillo Mts., 11 Hermits were counted in the P.O. Canyon area 13 Aug–22 Sep, including 3 on 16 Aug (CDL), and 2 were in Clanton Canyon 12 Aug (ph. JO), where 3 were found 26 Aug (ph. JO). Among the rarer finds were a Blackburnian Warbler at N.R.T. 13 Oct (JEP, MB, NP) and a Blackpoll Warbler there 10 Sep (MJH) and a Palm Warbler at L. Roberts 26 Oct (EL). Black-and-white Warbler reports were confined to the e., with singles at Clayton L. 3 Sep (CR), Ute L. 7 Sep (DC), and Elida 28 Aug (WW) and one or more at N.R.T. 7-23 Sep (m.ob.). American Redstarts made an impressive showing, with numerous reports from 13 sites in 11 counties from the R.G.V. eastward 26 Aug–12 Oct (m.ob.), plus a late one near Cimarron 18 Nov (ph. DC); early and w. was one at Gila Cliff Dwellings 10 Aug (JP). Single Prothonotary Warblers were at Madrid 28 Sep–7 Oct (ph. LS) and Sumner Dam 3 Sep (MB, JB). Single Ovenbirds were at N.R.T. on various dates 1 Sep–7 Oct (m.ob.). Late was a male Wilson's Warbler near Radium Springs 18 Nov (MS, JZ). With fewer than a dozen reports, Canada Warbler is one of our rarest e. strays; this season, one was at Socorro 30 Aug (ph. JO, ph. MH, ph. CR, m.ob.). A Red-faced Warbler was n. to Diener Canyon, Zuni Mts. 12 Aug (JT); another was in the Datil Mts. 8 Aug (J. Dunn, *vide* MJH).

## TANAGERS THROUGH FINCHES

Single orange-tinged female Summer Tanagers at Percha 9 Sep (CGL) and Carlsbad 8-9 Oct (SW) may have been of the nominate subspecies. A female Scarlet Tanager was at the Conchas L. golf course 3 Oct (WW). An ad. Canyon Towhee was tending begging young in P.O. Canyon 6 Nov (CDL); 4 Abert's Towhees were at San Simon Cienega 30 Nov

(JB). Botteri's Sparrows away from the Animas Valley were one singing n. of Rodeo 11 Aug (DK) and 2 singing along Stateline Road w. of Rodeo 4-5 Aug (CGL). Clay-colored Sparrow was unusually prevalent in the east, e.g., 58 at Mt. Dora plus 21 at Clayton L. 3 Sep (CR); several were w. to Rodeo 2 Sep–31 Oct, including a high 12 on 8 Oct (ph. RW). A Field Sparrow was at Clayton L. 30 Sep (CR). A Baird's Sparrow at Wimberly Ranch, Otero Mesa 20 Sep (DG) furnished the lone report. A Fox Sparrow reached Los Lunas 1 Oct (CR). Two White-throated Sparrows were w. to Bluewater Cr., Cibola 25 Nov (CR). Providing a local first was a Harris's Sparrow in P.O. Canyon 23 Nov+ (CDL). A minimum of four or five pairs of Yellow-eyed Juncos were in the Burro Mts. in Aug, and breeding was documented (DG); *dorsalis* Gray-headed Junco pairs were likewise present and breeding there (DG). Historically scarce (or overlooked?) in New Mexico, Lapland Longspurs were reported at six Colfax sites 8-30 Nov (DC, JEP), including an unprecedented 200 at Springer L. 23 Nov (ph. DC); far w. was one in n. Hidalgo 13 Nov (ph. R. F. Shantz). Early were 2 McCown's Longspurs in Union 30 Sep (BN, CR) and 2 Chestnut-collareds near Cimarron 26 Sep (DC).



Making a single-day visit to Socorro, Socorro County 30 August 2006, this Canada Warbler provided New Mexico's tenth overall (and fourth verified) record. Photograph by Jerry R. Oldenettel.

Maintaining their Santa Rosa presence were 2 Northern Cardinals at the Pecos R. bridge and one at a downstream diversion dam 19 Sep (WW). A male Rose-breasted Grosbeak was w. to Clanton Canyon 11 Aug (ph. JO); one was at Clayton L. 3 Sep (CR); and a late one was at B.L.N.W.R. 8 Oct (MB, NP). An impressive 25 Lazuli Buntings were at Rodeo 14 Aug (JO); very late was an ad. male at G.B.A. 3 Nov (RS). Painted Buntings passed through Rodeo 4-26 Aug (RW et al.), including a high 6 on 12 Aug (RW); noteworthy in the e. were singles at Mesa Rest Area, n. Chaves 19 Aug (JEP), Milnesand 7 Sep (NP), and Pep 9 Sep (JO), 2 at Bosque 3 Aug (CGL), and 3 at Percha 9 Sep (CGL). Two Rusty Blackbirds were at Ute L. 18 Nov (ph. DC),

where the species also occurred last year. Late for the n. was a male Common Grackle at Maxwell 16-30 Nov (DC); interesting were 5 w. of Datil 19 Oct (MJH). Noteworthy for the lower R.G.V. was an ad. male Orchard Oriole near Radium Springs 4 Aug (MS, JZ) and a female there 7 Sep (MS, ph. JZ). An ad. male Baltimore Oriole was at Milnesand 3 Sep (JEP, ph. JO), and another male was near Portales 12 Sep (ph. JO). Late was a Scott's Oriole in the Peloncillo Mts. 13 Nov (CDL). Five rosy-finches returned to Sandia Crest 2 Nov, where up to 90 mostly Black Rosy-Finches were present 26 Nov (NC, SC). Among the very few Cassin's Finch reports were 7 in the Burro Mts. 12 Oct (DG) and 3 there 29 Nov (JB). Few Red Crossbills were found; noteworthy were 6 in the Gallinas Mts. near Corona 24 Aug (HS) and a pair with nesting material in the Burro Mts. 12 Aug (DG). Additional evidence of American Goldfinch breeding in New Mexico was provided by 2 ads. feeding 2 begging juvs. at San Juan bridge 4 Aug (MM), ads. with dependent young at three Vermejo Ranch sites near Cimarron 28 Aug–19 Sep (DC), and apparently at Sugarite S.P., where a territorial male was present 1 & 18 Aug and a male was followed by 2 begging juvs. 16 Sep (DC).

**Corrigendum:** A Summer Tanager reported at N.R.T. 22-23 Oct 2005 (N.A.B. 60: 115) should have referred instead to a Scarlet Tanager.

**Initialed observers:** Jonathan Batkin, Matt Baumann, David Beatty, Celestyn Brozek, David Cleary, Nancy Cox, Steve Cox, Robert Doster, John Douglas, David Griffin, HawkWatch International (HWI), M. Joan Hardie, David Hawksworth, Charles Hayes, Michael Hilchey, William

Howe, Jeff Howland, Gregory Keller, David Krueper, Eugene Lewis, Carroll D. Littlefield, Carl G. Lundblad, Martin MacRoberts, Larry Malone, Raymond Meyer, Alan Nelson, Bruce Neville, Jerry Oldenettel, John E. Parmeter, James N. Paton, Nicholas Pederson, James Pike, John Rees, Tim Reeves, Christopher Rustay, Lawry Sager, Hart Schwarz, Marcy Scott, Roland Shook, Robert Templeton, John Trochet, Mark Watson, Richard Webster, Steve West, William West, Elton Williams, S. O. Williams, James Zabriskie. 🐦

**Sartor O. Williams III**  
Southwest Natural History Institute  
1819 Meadowview Drive NW  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104-2511