

(†SGM) furnished Baja California Sur's 2nd summer record, the first coming from the Sierra de La Laguna in late Jul 2004; additionally, a Rose-breasted × Black-headed Grosbeak was at Todos Santos last Jul. Black-headed Grosbeaks were far more numerous this Jul than last. The first was noted near Miraflores 11 Jul (MJB), and a maximum of 23 was at Miraflores and Caduño 15 Jul (SGM). Despite May/Jul visits (in some cases multiple visits) to at least 35 known, suspected, or potential Tricolored Blackbird nesting areas (s. to El Rosario), the only active colony found involved up to 80 birds at the traditional Héroes de la Independencia site 15 May–18 Jun (RAE, HdC, LMLE). Young were still being fed on the last date, but no fledging was confirmed. Approximately 200 birds were found elsewhere, but none exhibited any nesting behavior. Apparently the extreme drought in the California District severely impacted the nesting success of this species and presumably

many others. A Bronzed Cowbird at Las Cuevas 16 Jul (SGM) was about the 3rd for the Cape District, with the first being found as recently as Jan 2005. Brown-headed Cowbirds are now widespread during summer from La Paz to San José del Cabo, with approximately 60 detected during mid-Jul, including juvs. at five locations (SGM). Two flocks of American Goldfinches (both with juvs.), totaling 11+ individuals, were found at two Tijuana locations 29 Jul (ph. MJB); the only prior Regional breeding record, which was Mexico's first, comes from Tijuana in Jul 2000 (*Monographs in Field Ornithology* 3: 153).

**Contributors:** Mark J. Billings, Harry R. Carter, Horacio de la Cueva, Laurel M.L. Erickson, Richard A. Erickson, Jonathan S. Feenstra, Peter A. Ginsburg, Franklin Gress, W. Terry Hunefeld, Marshall J. Iliff, Tim Manolis, Todd McGrath, Robert McNab, Steven G. Mlodinow, Eduardo Palacios, David

W. Povey, Cindy Rademaker, Kurt A. Rademaker, Mike San Miguel, Chris Smith, Joe Sweeney, Art Taylor. ☐

**Richard A. Erickson**, LSA Associates

20 Executive Park, Suite 200, Irvine, California 92614  
(richard.erickson@lsa-assoc.com)

**Steven G. Mlodinow**, Puget Sound Bird Observatory  
5501 17th Avenue NE, Seattle, Washington 98105  
(sgmlod@aol.com)

**Roberto Carmona**, Departamento de Biología Marina  
Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur  
Apartado Postal 19-B, La Paz, Baja California Sur, México  
(beauty@uabc.mx)

**Gorgonio Ruiz-Campos**, Facultad de Ciencias

Universidad Autónoma de Baja California  
Apartado Postal 1653

Ensenada, Baja California, 22800, México

U. S. mailing address:

PMB 064, P.O. Box 189003

Coronado, California 92178-9003

(gruiz@uabc.mx)

## Mexico

### Héctor Gómez de Silva

This summer season's report for Mexico was co-written with Amy McAndrews, Jorge Montejó, and Barbara MacKinnon.

### NORTHERN MEXICO

A nesting pair of Gray Hawks was discovered 9 Jun in Cañón de Fernández, Dgo. (AH, FVP). Two pairs of Mountain Plovers (at least one with eggs) were at Llanos de la India, Coah. 29 Jun (AGdL, HGdS, m.ob.). A Eurasian Collared-Dove was on the s. outskirts of Saltillo, Coah. 29 Jun (HGdS). A pair of White-naped Swifts was at Salto del Agua Llovida, Dgo. 8 Jun (HGdS, m.ob.). A pair of

Aztec Thrushes was present near Salto del Agua Llovida, Dgo. 5 & 8 Jun (HGdS, m.ob.). Up to 6 Spotted Towhees were seen in desert scrub at Rancho El Tulillo, Zac. through the first week of Jul (MPV).

**Contributors** (area compilers in boldface):

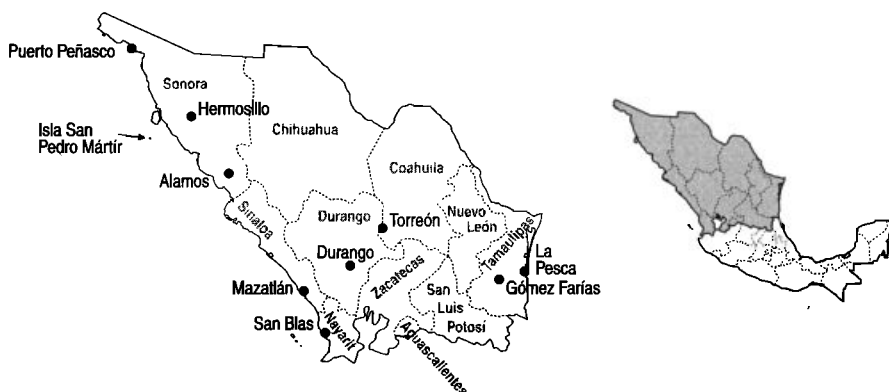
**William Beatty**, Aldegundo Garza de León, Héctor Gómez de Silva, Antonio Hidalgo, Mónica Pérez Villafañá, **Francisco Valdés Peresgasga**.

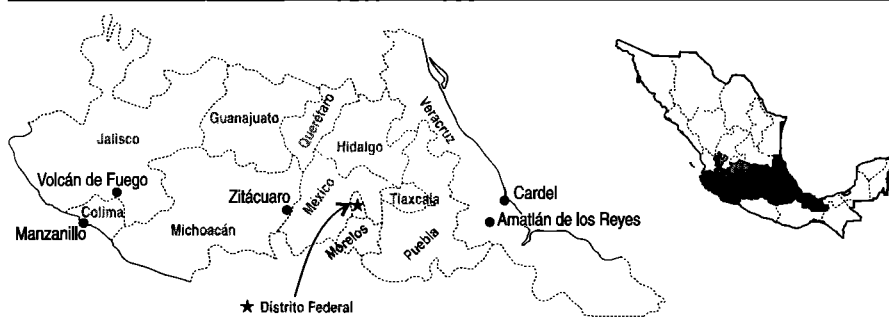
### CENTRAL MEXICO

A pair of Muscovy Ducks was observed on Río Uxpanapa near Cerro Nanchital 22 Jun, a single bird was along Río Coatzacoalcos near Peña

Blanca 10 Jul, and up to 3 were seen daily 12–13 Jul at Humedales de la Cangrejera (AM, KSH); all of these locations are in Veracruz (as are all locations here, unless noted otherwise). A male Northern Shoveler was in the artificial lake at Bosque de Aragón, D.F. 16 Jun (HGdS, MPV). An ad. Brown Pelican and up to 75 White Ibis at Río Uxpanapa near Cerro Nanchital 21 Jun were out of normal range. A total of 19 Great Egrets roosted on islands in the artificial lake at Bosque de Aragón, D.F. 16 Jun (HGdS, MPV). Two imm. White-faced Ibis were observed near Peña Blanca 11 Jul (AM, KSH, HYH), and 4 imms. were seen 12 Jul at Humedales de la Cangrejera. Approximately 90 Wood Storks were observed flying northward 13 Jul near Acayucan (AM, KSH). A Hook-billed Kite at the UNAM botanical garden, D.F. 15 Jun (HGdS, GdO) furnished only the 2nd summer record from Mexico City. An imm. Cooper's Hawk and an imm. Red-tailed Hawk flew over Volcancillo 10 Jun (LHA, AM, JM).

Many Pale-vented Pigeons were observed along Río Uxpanapa near Cerro Nanchital 21–22 Jun (AAR, LCA, AM, HYH). A Ruddy Ground-Dove heard singing 26 Jul at El Atorón was above normal elevation. Received late was a report of 5 Military Macaws, including a nesting pair, at Parque Nacional el Tepozteco, Mor. from Aug 2006; this observation represents the first documented nesting record of the species for the state of Morelos





(EAR). A total of 9 Yellow-headed Parrots was encountered 13 Jul at Humedales de la Cangujera (AM, KSH, HYH). Another first state record was that of 5 Mangrove Cuckoos discovered near Yauatepec, Mor. (ph. MG). Two Chestnut-collared Swifts foraged over the UNAM botanical garden 15 Jun (HGdS, GdO). Up to 20 White-collared Swifts were observed over a cliff face at Puerto Vallarta, Jal. 1-3 Jun (DB). An imm. male Violet Sabrewing seen 22 Jul, a Blue-throated Hummingbird 7 Jul, and single Bumblebee Hummingbirds 2 Jun and 10 Jul at Parque el Haya in Xalapa were all out of normal range (AM, JM). A Mountain Trogon was near the Contadero tollbooth on the Toluca toll highway, D.F. 17 Jun (MG). An Acorn Woodpecker was at Bosque de Tlalpan, D.F. 8 Jun (GdO).

Four Yellow-olive Flycatchers and a Bright-rumped Attila were at El Atorón 26 Jul (LHA, AM, JM). A Rufous-naped Wren was near Tlacotalpan 12 Jun (DM). A European Starling was at Ciudad Universitaria, D.F. 12 Jun (MPV). A Louisiana Waterthrush was at Mineral del Chico, Hgo. 17-19 Jul (MG, AM, JM, HGdS). A Rusty-crowned Ground-Sparrow was discovered at the UNAM botanical garden, D.F. 28 Jun (GdO). A singing imm. male Blue Grosbeak, 3 Chestnut-headed Oropendolas, 6 Montezuma Oropendolas, and 4 Lesser Goldfinches at El Atorón 26 Jul were out of normal range (LHA, AM, JM).

**Contributors** (area compilers in boldface): Alfredo Aguilar Ramírez, Ernesto Alvarado Reyes, Leonardo Contreras Allende, David Bell, Gerardo del Olmo, Héctor Gómez de Silva, Manuel Grosselet, Leonel Herrera Als-

na, Amy McAndrews, David McCauley, Jorge Montejo, Mónica Pérez Villafañá, Karlo Soto Huerta, Habacuc Ychante Huerta. Uncredited observations are by Amy McAndrews.

### SOUTHERN MEXICO

A pair of Muscovy Ducks was near Cerro del Sapo at Presa Malpaso 27 Jun (AAR, LCA, AM, HYH); this location is in Chiapas, as are all locations mentioned in this report. A Magnificent Frigatebird flying northward over Presa Malpaso 27 Jun was well out of normal range (AAR, LCA, AM, HYH). Several Brown Pelicans at Presa Malpaso near Cerro del Sapo 26-27 Jun and at Chicoasen 29-30 Jun were out of normal range (AAR, LCA, AM, HYH). Many Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, and ad. Black-crowned Night-Herons were present 26-27 Jun at Presa Malpaso (AAR, LCA, AM, HYH). A Snail Kite at Chicoasen 30 Jun was extralimital (AAR, AM). An ad. Red-tailed Hawk at Chicoasen 30 Jun was below normal elevation (AAR, AM). An imm. Peregrine Falcon at Presa Malpaso near Cerro del Sapo 26 Jun (AAR, LCA, HYH, ph. AM) and a pair of ads. in downtown Tuxtla Jun 28 (AM, HYH) were well out of season. A White-colored Gnatcatcher at Presa Malpaso near Cerro del Sapo 26 Jun was slightly out of normal range (AAR, AM).

**Contributors** (area compilers in boldface): Alfredo Aguilar Ramírez, Leonardo Contreras

Allende, Amy McAndrews, Habacuc Ychante Huerta.

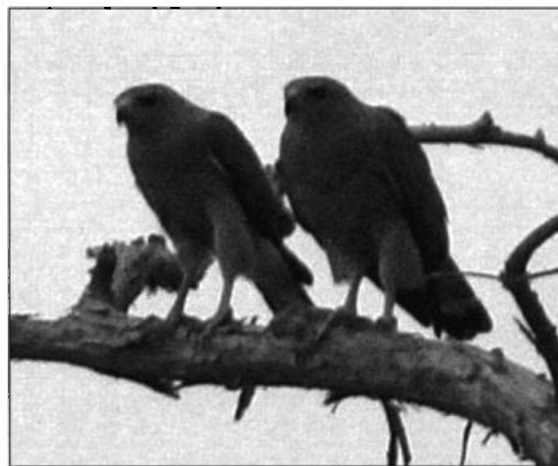
### YUCATAN PENINSULA

A pair of Flame-colored Tanagers, a new bird species for the subregion, was reported this season, although the species will remain on the Hypothetical list until photographically (or otherwise physically) documented. An excellent photograph of a Caribbean Short-eared Owl on Isla Contoy confirms the presence of this form on the Peninsula.

Abbreviations: L.C. (Lazaro Cardinas Ejido in s. Quintana Roo); Presa Malpaso (Puerto Morelos); Q.R. (Quintana Roo); V.C. (Vigia Chico).

### CURRASOW THROUGH KINGFISHERS

A single male Great Curassow was taking fruit high in a tree on the road to San Felipe Bacalar Reserve 27 Jun (BM), and numerous Black-throated Bobwhites were calling in the cattle grazing fields n. of La Ceiba, L.C. near Bacalar 26 Jun (BM). The latter species is expanding



On 9 June 2007, a pair of very vocal Gray Hawks was seen on a nest in a Montezuma Bald-cypress in Cañon de Fernandez State Park on the Nazas River, Durango, bringing further evidence of the species breeding in this part of Northern Mexico. Photograph by Francisco Valdés Perezgasca.

its distribution at the base of the peninsula, but to date no one has reported it in between Sian Ka'an Reserve and Bacalar area.

Brown Booby nests near Alacran Reef off the n. coast of Yucatan but is infrequently reported along the coast, but this season 4 were at Río Lagartos from 1 Jul-mid-Aug (IN); a juv. was feeding along the beach at Celestún 15 Jul (JF, RF, AM); and another was at the Celestún harbor 27 Jun and 20 Jul (AD). American White Pelicans have been known to summer irregularly in small numbers, as was confirmed by one seen 20 Jul on a sandbar at Celestún and 2 there 28 Jul (AD). The unusual number of 9000 American Flamingos in





the estuary at Celestún 20 Jul, means either that many did not successfully nest at their traditional sites within the Río Lagartos Reserve this year—or possibly that the size of the population has grown so much that there are more non-reproducing individuals from the colony (AD). Celestún often harbors non-breeders over the summer.

A Purple Gallinule, which may have been a resident bird rather than a migrant, was in the roadside wetland se. of Peto 24 Jun, along with at least 2 American Coots (BM); and another 10 coots were at Celestún 10 Jun (AD), which may indicate they chose to spend the summer in the subregion. Two Snowy Plovers, local residents, were on the sandbar at Celestún 25 Jun (AD), along with a single Forster's Tern, which is a very unusual date for this species here (AD). Twelve Least Terns were also at the same sandbar at Celestún 28 Jul, where it is assumed they nested (AD).

A pair of Yellow-lored Parrots accompanied a young fledgling high in the canopy at Laguna Ocom, Q.R. 13 Jun (BM, WS), and Yellow-billed Cuckoos were back nesting at San Antonio Chel near Mérida this year, although not re-

ported until Jul (AM). A report of a Caribbean Short-eared Owl, accompanied by an excellent photograph of it preying upon crabs on the rocky shore of Isla Contoy, was received 6 Jun. The exact date of the occurrence is still unknown, as is the name of the photographer, who was visiting the island as a volunteer for the reserve. However, since a few such owls show up once in a while in Florida, it may be expected as well on the Yucatan Peninsula. There are two other records of Short-eared Owl for the peninsula, but the subspecies or form has not yet been determined in each case.

Three Yucatan Poorwills were heard calling at a ranch on the V.C. road predawn 12 Jun, and one was seen the next evening in same location (MG, BM, WS). Vaux's Swift is little known in the s. part of the peninsula; one was seen flying over La Ceiba, L.C., near Bacalar 25 Jun (BM). A single Ringed Kingfisher was seen at the freshwater hole in the estuary at Celestún 20 Jul (AD). The species is known to reside in very low numbers in the n. of the peninsula, where habitat is adequate. A Belted Kingfisher was seen 28 Jul on the Gulf coast at Celestún (AD).

## FLYCATCHERS THROUGH OROPENDOLAS

Eye-ringed Flatbills appear to be late nesters, as one was just starting to build its nest over the V.C. road 12 Jun (MG, BM, WS), and a female Royal Flycatcher was one third through constructing her nest in same area on same day, with the male looking on (MG, BM, WS). A Vermilion Flycatcher was in the right habitat 10 km n. of La Ceiba, L.C., w. of Bacalar 26 Jun (BM). The distribution of the species in the s. part of the peninsula is not well documented.

Early migrants included 4 Northern Parulas at Río Lagartos 30 Jul (IN). Potentially a new species for the peninsula, a pair of Flame-colored Tanagers was reported from Central Vallarta in Q.R. 24 Jun, observed while they fed on the fruits of poisonwood (HD, LK). Actually, the first observation was of a male in Dec 2006 in the Jardín Botánico, Presa Malpaso, and on two other occasions females were seen at Central Vallarta a few km to the west (LK). Unfortunately, no photograph of the birds was taken, so it will join the list of hypotheticals for the region. A single ad. Montezuma Oropendola was still calling while guarding young in nest at the otherwise abandoned colony located on grounds of INIFAB, just n. of Bacalar 27 Jun (BM, AS).

**Collaborators:** Alex Dzib, Henry Detwiler, Jane Fitzgerald, Robert Ford, Manuel Grosset, Luís Kú, Barbara MacKinnon, Alberto Mezquita, Allan J. Mueller, Ismael Navarro, Waldamar Santamaria, Ann Snook, Greg Wathen. ☉

**Héctor Gómez de Silva**, Xola 314-E, 03100 México, D.F., (hgomez@miranda.ecologia.unam.mx)

## Central America



**H. Lee Jones  
Oliver Komar**

Summer is supposed to be the "slow" season for birds, but is it really? There are fewer observers afield because migration is at its lowest ebb. No one will dispute that summer is the season to find that occasional austral migrant wandering a little farther northward than expected. And these certainly include the wealth of seabirds that breed in the southern oceans. Perhaps early summer is also an ideal time to look for birds dispersing northward from nearby "resident"

populations in northern South America. If this summer was any indication of such phenomena, then we have truly been missing out on great opportunities! No fewer than three species new to North America and one new to Central America were found in the Region in June. Two of the four breed in the southern oceans, and the other two were from populations in nearby Colombia. Clearly, the most spectacular was the exhausted Magellanic Penguin found on a beach in El Salvador. The occurrence of the other three, though, could have been predicted. The moribund Greater Shearwater that was