

## NOTES

### FIRST DOCUMENTED RECORD OF CHUCK-WILLS'S-WIDOW IN NEW MEXICO

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In September or October 1987 I found a Chuck-will's-widow (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*) dead on the campus of Eastern New Mexico University, Portales, Roosevelt County, New Mexico. It was found lying near the base of the university's science hall approximately fifteen yards from South Avenue K. The specimen appeared to have been dead for several hours and was missing all its rectrices. The exact date was lost while the bird was stored in the university's freezer.

The bird was delivered to the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where it was prepared as a study skin (CM T-13227) by Stephen M. Rogers. The specimen was an immature male (testes  $4 \times 5$  mm) and had no fat.

The latest check-list of birds in New Mexico shows no prior record of this species in the state (Hubbard 1978). Recently Hubbard (pers. comm.) reaffirmed that no substantiated sightings of Chuck-will's-widow had previously been made in New Mexico. The only previous mention of the species in the state is the undocumented statement by McCall (1851:215) that "a few" were met with in New Mexico in June and July 1850. Hubbard (pers. comm.) indicated this is one of several species apparently misidentified by McCall in his list of New Mexico birds.

The Chuck-will's-widow's breeding range extends as far west as central Kansas, central Oklahoma, and central Texas. (Johnsgard 1979, Oberholser 1974, AOU 1983). Sutton (1967) recorded a calling Chuck-will's-widow on 2 September 1963 in Cimmaron County, extreme western Oklahoma.

Three far western specimens of the Chuck-will's-widow have been recorded in recent years. The first was found on the Desert Wildlife Range, Clark County, Nevada, under a telephone line, 12 June 1984 (Kingery 1984); the second was found 16 October 1986 at Half Moon Bay, San Mateo County, California (Bailey 1989); the third was dead on a road near Loleta, Humboldt County, California, on 4 January 1989 (Harris and Hawkins 1990).

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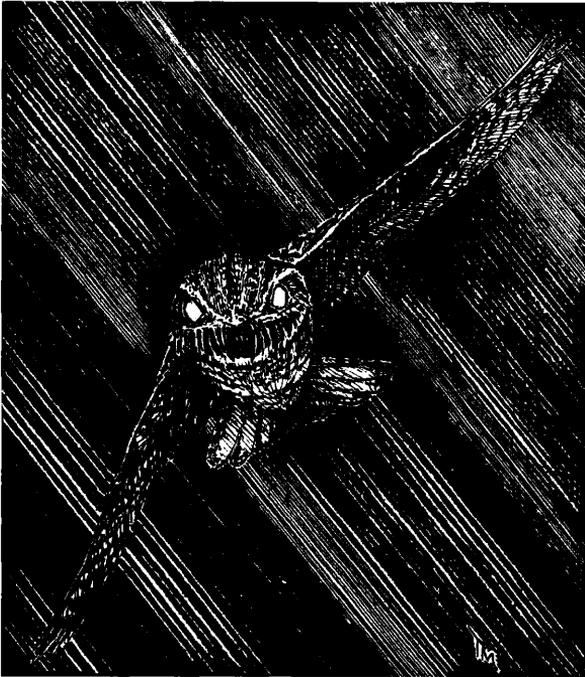
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Chuck-will's-widow

*Sketch by Tim Manolis*