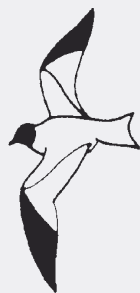


WESTERN BIRDS



Vol. 54, No. 4, 2023

Western Specialty: Yellow-billed Magpie



Photo by Ed Harper of Carmichael, California:

Yellow-billed Magpie (*Pica nuttalli*)

Ancil Hoffman Park, Sacramento, California, 14 November 2013

Numbers of the Yellow-billed Magpie fell precipitously after 2003 when the spreading West Nile virus reached California, to which the magpie is endemic. The population has dropped to <20% of its level before the virus's arrival. In recent years the rate of decline has eased, but little evidence suggests stabilization, recovery, or development of immunity. In this issue of *Western Birds*, however, Daniel A. Airola reports signs of a modest recovery from 2020 to 2023 in urban parks in Sacramento—including Ancil Hoffman Park. The extent of habitat in these parks has remained static, suggesting that other factors, possibly growing immunity, are responsible for an observed increase of about 5% per year over three years.

Volume 54, Number 4, 2023

Seventh Report of the New Mexico Bird Records Committee <i>Sartor O. Williams III and Matthew J. Baumann</i>	254
---	-----

Recent Increase in the Yellow-billed Magpie Population in Sacramento and Its Possible Causes <i>Daniel A. Airola</i>	301
---	-----

NOTES

First Record of a Siberian Rubythroat (<i>Calliope calliope</i>) in the Conterminous United States <i>Sierra L. Sowa, Yvonne Luong, Giovanni S. Quezada,</i> <i>Brigitte K. Scott, and Jessica A. Castillo Vardaro</i>	309
---	-----

Prey Size Determines Handling and Capture Tactics in the Western Grebe <i>David Dorado</i>	313
---	-----

First Report of Intentional Seed-Eating by Black Phoebe <i>Mark K. Sogge</i>	317
---	-----

In Memoriam: Thomas S. Heindel, 1936–2023	320
---	-----

Index	322
-------------	-----

Front cover photo by © Robert Walker of Los Alamos, New Mexico: Blue Mockingbird (*Melanotis caerulescens*), Rattlesnake Spring, Eddy County, New Mexico, 22 November 2021, representing a first accepted record for New Mexico and tenth accepted record for the United States of a species otherwise endemic to Mexico.

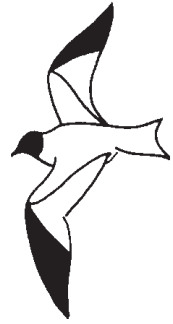
Back cover photo by © Jonathan P. Batkin of Tucson, Arizona: Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*), Hobbs, Lea County, New Mexico, representing an eighth accepted record for New Mexico.

Western Birds solicits papers that are both useful to and understandable by amateur field ornithologists and also contribute significantly to scientific literature. The journal welcomes contributions from both professionals and amateurs. Appropriate topics include distribution, migration, status, identification, geographic variation, conservation, behavior, ecology, population dynamics, habitat requirements, the effects of pollution, and techniques for censusing, sound recording, and photographing birds in the field. Papers of general interest will be considered regardless of their geographic origin, but particularly desired are reports of studies done in or bearing on North America west of the 100th meridian, including Alaska and Hawaii, northwestern Mexico, and the northeastern Pacific Ocean.

Send manuscripts to Daniel D. Gibson, P. O. Box 155, Ester, AK 99725; avesalaska@gmail.com. For matters of style consult the Suggestions to Contributors to *Western Birds* (at <https://westernfieldornithologists.org/publications/journal>).

WESTERN BIRDS

Volume 54, Number 4, 2023



SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

SARTOR O. WILLIAMS III and MATTHEW J. BAUMANN, Museum of Southwestern Biology, University of New Mexico, MSC03-2020, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87131-0001; sunbittern@earthlink.net, mbaumann22@gmail.com

ABSTRACT: During the period November 2010 through December 2022, the New Mexico Bird Records Committee reached final decisions on 1188 records involving 154 species plus three species groups, accepting 1051 records. Twenty species were added to the New Mexico state list, including one new to North America north of Mexico, the Rufous-necked Wood-Rail (*Aramides axillaris*), bringing the state list of species confirmed by specimen, photograph, or audio recording to 552 through 31 December 2022.

This seventh report of the New Mexico Bird Records Committee (NMBRC) summarizes decisions reached from 23 November 2010 through 31 December 2022, a period of about 12 years. During that time, 1322 records of 156 species plus three species groups were reviewed, with 1051 accepted and 137 not accepted. An additional 134 records were reviewed but were neither accepted nor not accepted; instead, they are to be recirculated at a later date. If not accepted on its fourth circulation, a record is considered not accepted. Hence final decisions were reached on 1188 records, with 88.5% accepted and 11.5% not accepted. Most records were from the year 2000 onward, but several were from earlier decades and included recirculations from recent and earlier years.

During the period under review, the committee added 20 species to the New Mexico list. In addition, the Mexican Duck (*Anas diazi*), a resident species, was restored to the list by a taxonomic split. The 20 added species are the Eastern Whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus vociferus*), Rufous-necked Wood-Rail (*Aramides axillaris*), Common Crane (*Grus grus*), European Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*), Black Turnstone (*Arenaria melanocephala*), Yellow-footed Gull (*Larus livens*), Sooty Tern (*Onychoprion fuscatus*), Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*), White-tailed Hawk (*Geranoaetus albicaudatus*), Eared Quetzal (*Euptilotis neoxenus*), Golden-fronted Woodpecker (*Melanerpes aurifrons*), Red-breasted Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus ruber*), Tropical Kingbird (*Tyrannus melancholicus*), Black-crested Titmouse (*Baeolophus atricristatus*), Blue Mockingbird (*Melanotis caerulescens*), Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush (*Catharus aurantiirostris*), Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*), Smith's

Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*), Rufous-winged Sparrow (*Peucaea carpalis*), and Tropical Parula (*Setophaga pitiayumi*). These bring the New Mexico list of species confirmed by specimen, photograph, or audio recording to 552 species through 31 December 2022. An updated state list is available at the New Mexico Ornithological Society (NMOS) website, www.nmbirds.org. In addition, an annotated checklist of New Mexico birds that provides an overview of their distribution and status was recently published (Williams 2022).

HISTORY

The NMBRC was organized during 1992 and 1993 and began reviewing records in 1994. Six earlier committee reports have been published (Williams 1995, 1996, 1997, 1999, 2007, and 2010); all are available at www.nmbirds.org. During the period covered by those first six reports, 840 records were evaluated and 51 species were accepted as new to the New Mexico list. During the period of the present report, the committee's productivity was greatly enhanced by initiating "circulation" of records via online file sharing.

Committee Members

The NMBRC began with six members (including a secretary) in 1994 and was expanded to seven members (including the secretary) in 1996. Six-year term limits were instituted 1 January 2012, requiring members (but not the secretary) to step down for at least one year at the end of a term. Members who voted on records included in this seventh report were Michael J. Andersen, Matthew J. Baumann, Robert H. Doster, William H. Howe, David J. Krueper, William E. Maley, Jerry R. Oldenettel, John E. Parmeter, Nicholas D. Pederson, Christopher M. Rustay, Sartor O. Williams III, Cole J. Wolf, and Barry R. Zimmer. Earlier members who retired prior to this report period were Alan M. Craig (1994–2008), Scott H. Stoleson (2000–2001), and Dale A. Zimmerman (1994–2008). A list of the current seven members is available at www.nmbirds.org.

Review List

The committee maintains a review list of bird species for which it requests documentation of all New Mexico records. In addition, it requests documentation of all New Mexico records of species not currently on the state list and, hence, potentially new to the state. Review-list species are those that are on the state list but, in general, have been recorded on average four or fewer times per year over the previous ten-year period. Also included are certain species that pose significant identification problems or are very locally distributed in New Mexico. The review list is intended to be dynamic, with species added or removed as knowledge of their status warrants. The current review list is available at www.nmbirds.org, where information on reporting birds and a report form can also be found.

Report Format

All records treated in this report are included in a single, taxonomically arranged list of species; accepted records are given first, followed by records not accepted. Accounts are organized with English and scientific names first,

followed in parentheses by the number of New Mexico records currently accepted (this report included), followed by the number of new records accepted in this report. If the total number has an asterisk (*), that indicates only a specific period is covered or that the number itself is under review. Owing to the relatively large number of records, most accounts are arranged geographically by broad regions, and localities are generally listed from north to south, with records from the same locality listed chronologically. For species with fewer entries, records are listed in what we believe is the most useful sequence. Placing the name of a species within brackets indicates that species is not on the state list.

This report distinguishes among status, abundance, and frequency when describing a species' presence in New Mexico. Categories of status (residency): permanent resident, summer resident, winter resident, transient, and vagrant. Categories of abundance (relative numbers): abundant, common, fairly common, uncommon, scarce, and rare. Categories of frequency (occurrence): regular (annual), irregular (about every other year), occasional (less than every other year but at least six or more occurrences), casual (two to five occurrences, expected to recur), and accidental (one record only, not expected to recur). Most review-list species are rare (records are of single birds) but they may occur annually (see Williams 2022).

County names are given in *italics* and in lists of records are abbreviated by standardized two-letter codes. There are 33 counties in New Mexico: Bernalillo (*BE*), Catron (*CA*), Chaves (*CH*), Cibola (*CI*), Colfax (*CO*), Curry (*CU*), De Baca (*DB*), Doña Ana (*DA*), Eddy (*ED*), Grant (*GR*), Guadalupe (*GU*), Harding (*HA*), Hidalgo (*HI*), Lea (*LE*), Lincoln (*LI*), Los Alamos (*LA*), Luna (*LU*), McKinley (*MC*), Mora (*MO*), Otero (*OT*), Quay (*QU*), Rio Arriba (*RA*), Roosevelt (*RO*), San Juan (*SJ*), San Miguel (*SM*), Sandoval (*SA*), Santa Fe (*SF*), Sierra (*SI*), Socorro (*SO*), Taos (*TA*), Torrance (*TO*), Union (*UN*), Valencia (*VA*).

All contributors are identified by three initials. Initials of the observer(s) responsible for finding and/or identifying the bird are given first, followed in some cases by observers who contributed substantially to the record's documentation. Space limitations do not allow for the listing of all observers for each record; we have avoided using "m.ob." (to indicate the often numerous observers involved in documenting many records). Names are not given for non-accepted reports. Names of all contributors are provided at the end of the species list.

Standard abbreviations used are BDA (Bosque del Apache NWR), MMT (Melrose migrant trap in Roosevelt Co. 16 km west of Melrose; see Parmeter 2007), MSB (Museum of Southwestern Biology), NM (national monument), NWR (national wildlife refuge), RGV (Rio Grande Valley), SP (state park), WTP (water-treatment plant), and WMA (wildlife management area). Others, including symbols, are † for written details, ph. for all photographic materials, ♫ for all audio materials, # for a specimen, and Mts. for mountains. Finally, readers should be aware that not all reports of review-list species received since November 2010 have yet been reviewed.

ACCEPTED AND NOT ACCEPTED RECORDS

BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING-DUCK *Dendrocygna autumnalis* (32, 6). One was at the Clovis WTP, CU, 8–15 May 2020 († JEP; ph. NDP; †, ph. WTE), and four were there 18 May 2021 (ph. RGu; † WFW). One was at Bitter Lake NWR, CH, 20–25 Sep 2001 (†, ph. GLW). One was at Roswell, CH, 27 May 2020 (ph. GAn), and two were there 27 May 2022 (†, ph. TJA; † PDC). Two were at Lake Avalon, ED, 1–12 Sep 2012 (†, ph. RSN; † PSW). These recent records, all from eastern New Mexico, likely reflect the species' reported increases in the Great Plains in recent years (Dunn and Alderfer 2017).

FULVOUS WHISTLING-DUCK *Dendrocygna bicolor* (13, 2). Two adults were at BDA, SO, 9 Jul 2006 († JEP; †, ph. MJB; † CMR; † NDP, † BDN). One was at the Lordsburg WTP, HI, 29 Jul 2007 (†, ph. CGL; ph. CRB).

BRANT *Branta bernicla* (27, 19). The 19 accepted records involve 23 individuals. All were identified as Black Brant (*B. b. nigricans*), except for one "Gray-bellied" Brant (intermediate between subspecies *nigricans* and *hrota*) that split its time between the Rio Grande Nature Center and the Ladera golf course, BE, 15 Dec 2013–5 Jan 2014 (SWi; † JEP; ph. WHH). Other records for the Albuquerque area were of one at the Rio Grande Nature Center 15 Nov 2014 († RWE; ph. MiW), one that split its time between the same two locations as the gray-bellied Brant 1–29 Nov 2020 (KAH; †, ph. JFi; † JEP), three that split time between the nature center and the Balloon Fiesta Park 4 Nov 2021–2 Mar 2022 (†, ph. MRu; †, ph. CMR; ph. HTE; ph. RGu), one in the Tingley Beach area 24–31 Jan 2021 (†, ph. JPJ), single individuals in the Valle de Oro NWR area 11–16 Feb 2015 († DLH; ph. WEM; ph. NEH) and 18 Dec 2018–22 Jan 2019 (ph. DVi; † DGB), and one at the Isleta lakes 5–10 Jan 2022 († JKi; ph. MOH). One was at BDA, SO, 25 Jan–13 Feb 2019 (ph. CSp). In eastern New Mexico, single Brant were at Cherry Valley Lake, MO, 4–5 Dec 2004 († JEP; † MJB; † NDP, † CMB), Las Vegas NWR, SM, 7–29 Jan 2011 († RCl; ph. JPB; ph. NEH; ph. CJW), Ute Lake, QU, 24 Jan–14 Feb 2004 (†, ph. DJC), and near Texico, CU, 25 Dec 2016 († GMB; †, ph. JLe). The vicinity of Clovis, CU, accounted for four records: one at Dennis Chavez Park 9–30 Dec 2011 (ph. DGW; † JEP), one at Hillcrest Park 1 Feb 2022 (ph. NEH), one at the Llano Playa 4 Jan 2020 (†, ph. GMB), and two at the Clovis WTP 22 Nov 2021 (†, ph. GMB). One was at Fort Sumner, DB, 3 Dec 2021–9 Jan 2022 (ph. MJB). Two were at Brantley Lake, ED, 18 Dec 2000 († PSW).

TRUMPETER SWAN *Cygnus buccinator* (22, 4). Five juveniles were at Bitter Lake NWR, CH, 20–21 Nov 2011 (ph. IIS). An adult was at Brantley Lake, ED, 10 Feb 2011 (ph. WWi). A juvenile was at BDA, SO, 4–10 Jan 2015 (†, ph. JHo; † CIS). Two adults were at Maxwell NWR, CO, 6 Jan–17 Mar 2018 (†, ph. WTE).

EURASIAN WIGEON *Mareca penelope* (62, 16). In eastern New Mexico, up to two were at the Clovis WTP, CU, 27 Dec 2012–19 Feb 2013 (†, ph. CLA; † GMB; † JEP; † SDC; †, ph. MDu; †, ph. JRt) and single birds were there 26 Dec 2013–20 Jan 2014 († GMB), 26 Dec 2014 († CMR), 8 Jan–5 Feb 2016 († GMB; † JEP), and 4 May 2021 († NPi; †, ph. LWa; †, ph. DTi). One each was at Stubblefield Lake, CO, 27 Oct–10 Nov 2016 († MOH; †, ph. RCl), Ute Lake, QU, 14 May 2012 (ph. WWi), and Singer Lake, CH, 23 Nov 2021 (ph. NVi). In the north, one was at Hayden Lake, RA, 10 May 2008 (ph. DWS). In the RGV, one each was at Santa Fe, SF, 10 Jan–18 Mar 2014 (ph. CSi; †, ph. JPB; †, ph. WTE; †, ph. BRf), BDA, SO, 21 Nov 2013 († CaC) and 1–13 May 2016 († MJB; † CMR; †, ph. NEH; ph. GKF), Williamsburg, SI, 24 Mar 2012 (ph. DJC), and on the Texas line at the American Dam, DA, 13–17 Apr 2022 (†, ph. OJo; ph. JAG; †, ph. DMO); a late one was in the Tularosa Basin at Holloman Lake, OT, 26 May 2009 (ph. BRZ). In the west, one was at Silver City,

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

GR, 1 Jan–11 Mar 2020 (†, ph. BRD). In New Mexico, the Eurasian Wigeon is nearly annual in occurrence as a transient and winter resident, averaging about two records per year since 1990.

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER *Melanitta deglandi* (76, 15). In western New Mexico, one was below Navajo Dam, SF, 19 Feb 2016 (ph. BRy). At Bluewater Lake, CI, there was one 31 Oct–1 Nov 2015 (†, ph. MJB; †, ph. NDP), one 11–15 Nov 2020 (†, ph. PEC), and two 19 Nov–9 Dec 2017 (†, ph. CMR). One was at Quemado Lake, CA, 22 Nov–7 Dec 2014 (ph. NDP; ph. JRO; † JEP), and one was at Lake Roberts, GR, 7–13 Nov 2021 (†, ph. KDa). In the RGV, one found debilitated at Santa Fe, SF, 29 Oct 2020 (ph. New Mexico Wildlife Center) soon died (# MSB:Bird:49894; † ABJ), two were at BDA, SO, 27 Dec 2017 (ph. CMB), and one was at Caballo Lake, SI, 7 Dec 2011 (†, ph. DJC). In the north, one was Sugarite SP, CO, 28–29 Nov 2011 (†, ph. TBG). In the east, single individuals were at Laguna Madre, CO, 26 Nov–7 Dec 2022 († BKP; †, ph. KCa), Springer Lake, CO, 24 Nov 2021 (†, ph. CLW), Clayton WTP, UN, 28–29 Nov 2011 (ph. WWi), Bitter Lake NWR, CH, 11–13 Nov 2017 (ph. PDC; †, ph. RSN; † DKe), and Brantley Lake, ED, 25 Jan 2014 († JEP; ph. JRO). NOT ACCEPTED: One was reported in a conveyance canal near Fort Craig, SO, 21 Dec 2009, but the incomplete description was not sufficient for this species. One was reported but not described at Bluewater Lake, CI, 17 Dec 2021.

BLACK SCOTER *Melanitta americana* (19, 14). In western New Mexico, one was Bluewater Lake, CI, 1 Nov 2008 († CMR; ph. JRO; † MOH; † JEP; †, ph. MJB), up to two were there 19 Nov–13 Dec 2017 (†, ph. NEH; †, ph. WTE; † DLH), and one was there 11 Nov 2020 (†, ph. NDP; †, ph. PEC). In the RGV, single Black Scoters were at Cochiti Lake, SA, 3 Nov 2006 (†, ph. MJB; † NDP), BDA, SO, 14 Apr 2019 (†, ph. AIW; †, ph. WWa; † CIS), 28 Oct 2019 (†, ph. ReL), and 31 Oct 2020 († JEP), and at Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 27 Oct 2012 (ph. DJC). In the Tularosa Basin, one was at Holloman Lake, OT, 31 Oct–1 Nov 2014 († JEP; ph. JRO). In the north, one was at Eagle Nest Lake, CO, 28 Oct 2007 (†, ph. CJW). In the east, single birds were at Storrie Lake, SM, 18–19 Nov 2016 (†, ph. WJ-W; † JSz), Sumner Lake, DB, 20–28 Nov 1993 († JEP; † CLB; †, ph. LPG), and Brantley Lake, ED, 20 Dec 2010 († PSW) and 24–26 Nov 2011 (†, ph. JRO).

LONG-TAILED DUCK *Clangula hyemalis* (98, 22). In western New Mexico, one was at Bluewater Lake, CI, 10–17 Dec 2021 († JAT; †, ph. ChC). In the RGV, one was on the Rio Grande in the Pilar/Rinconada area, TA/RA, 20–24 Jan 2022 (ph. CJW; † CDC), one was on the Rio Grande at Buckman, SF, 17–22 Dec 2017 (†, ph. LHo; †, ph. GSz), another was on the Rio Grande at Bernalillo, SA, 21–26 Apr 2019 (ph. JPa; †, ph. VDa; † CLH; †, ph. BLM), two were at Turtle Bay in Socorro, SO, 2 Nov 2020 (ph. P&PH), single birds were at BDA, SO, 9 Dec 2016–24 Feb 2017 (ph. NSt) and 17 Mar–20 Apr 2019 (†, ph. KCo; † JEP), one was on Mims Lake at Truth or Consequences, SI, 21–26 May 2020 (†, ph. DJC; ph. JAG), and one was at the Las Cruces West Mesa WTP, DA, 12 Dec 2020–11 Apr 2021 (†, ph. JAG). In the east, single birds were at Stubblefield Lake, CO, 19–20 Dec 2015 († JEP; †, ph. RCl), 27 Nov–11 Dec 2016 († SBr; †, ph. NEH; †, ph. WTE), and 16 Mar 2019 († CBC). One was at Maxwell NWR, CO, 24 Nov 2017 (24 Nov 2017 († JEP), and two were at Ruby Ranch, SM, 19 Mar 2021 († WFW). Single adult males were at Conchas Lake, SM, 7–21 Feb 2016 († CMR; ph. NEH; ph. RBW), 19 Jan 2018 († JEP), 17 Feb–4 Mar 2019 (†, ph. CMR, †, ph. NEH; †, ph. JFi; †, ph. JWe), and 10–16 Feb 2020 (†, ph. KOn). Three were at the Clovis WTP, CU, 6–7 Nov 2014 (†, ph. JRO). Single individuals were at Lake Carlsbad, ED, 19–21 Feb 2021 (†, ph. RSN; † JEP; †, ph. DKe), near Loving, ED, 18 Dec 2011 (†, ph. RSN; † PSW), and three were around Laguna Grande, ED, 23 Dec 2013 († ARB; ph. RSN; † GMB). Recently becoming annual in occurrence in New Mexico, the Long-tailed Duck averaged 2.5 records per year over the past decade.

RED-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps grisegena* (39, 14). In northern New Mexico, single individuals were at Heron Lake, RA, 11 May 2013 (†, ph. WHH) and 25 Nov 2016 († WTE). In the RGV, single birds were at the Ohkay Owingeh lakes, RA, 21 Oct–10 Nov 2012 (ph. BRF; †, ph. CLA), at BDA, SO, 23 Nov 2010 († JEP; ph. CLM), Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 7 Jan–1 Apr 2017 (ph. NDP; † MJB; ph. JRO; † JEP; ph. DJC), and Caballo Lake, SI, 19–28 Feb 2018 (ph. NDP; † JEP; ph. DJC). In the east, single Red-necked Grebes were at Springer Lake, CO, 15 Nov 2020 (†, ph. MSu), Storrie Lake, SM, 26 Nov 2010 (†, ph. NEH), Conchas Lake, SM, 29 Jan 2017 († MJB; † NDP) and 22 Feb–5 Mar 2019 (†, ph. MSh; † JEP), at Ute Lake, QU, 30 Nov 2016–1 Jan 2017 (†, ph. DEW; † MWe) and 30 Dec 2019 († MJB; † CJW), Sumner Lake, DB, 16 Apr 2014 († JCM), and at lakes Carlsbad and Avalon, ED, 31 Dec 2012–25 Feb 2013 (†, ph. RSN; ph. TJH). NOT ACCEPTED: One was reported at Cochiti Lake, SA, 6 Jan 2011, but the brief details failed to establish its identity. The species is a rare transient and winter resident in New Mexico, with some 39 records since the first in 1944.

RUDDY GROUND DOVE *Columbina talpacoti* (58, 8). In western New Mexico, up to five birds were at Iron Bridge 1.3 km northwest of Riverside, GR, 7 Dec 2020–2 Jan 2021 (†, ph. JPG; † KDa), and two were near San Simon Cienega, HI, 24–29 Apr 2021 (ph. ETh; ph. DSu). The RGV accounted for five records: of two birds at Luis Lopez, SO, 26 Oct 2020 (†, ph. SFu; †, ph. LWa) and of one each 5 km south of Radium Springs, DA, 15 Nov 2020 († MTS; ph. JEZ), at two locales in Las Cruces, DA, 27 Oct 2019 (ph. RTa) and 12 Nov 2020 (ph. MiP), and at Santa Teresa, DA, 28–29 Apr 2021 (†, ph. PRu). In the east, one was in Carlsbad Caverns NP's Slaughter Canyon, ED, 6 Sep 2010 († DLH). NOT ACCEPTED: Details for ones reported at San Andres Spring, DA, 7–8 Jun 2011 and at Las Cruces 25 Oct 2020 did not rule out other species. One was reported along Tierra Blanca Cr., SI, 27 Aug 2011, but the supporting photos were of a Mourning Dove. Since New Mexico's first Ruddy Ground Dove in 1984, there have been 58 records involving 98 individuals. The species was recorded annually 2002–2013 but not found 2014–2018. Then annual occurrences resumed in 2019.

GROOVE-BILLED ANI *Crotophaga sulcirostris* (32, 8). In eastern New Mexico, one was at the Vaughn WTP, GU, 4 May–1 Jun 2022 (†, ph. MOH; †, ph. JBP), one was at Milnesand, RO, 30 Apr 2004 († KaB), up to two were at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 25 Jun–6 Jul 2011 (†, ph. PSW; †, ph. RSN), and one was there 12–16 May 2016 (ph. CLB; † MaS). In the Tularosa Basin, one was near Oliver Lee SP, OT, 25–27 Oct 2014 (ph. RBa; †, ph. WTE; †, ph. NEH). In the RGV, one was at La Union, DA, 13 Dec 2013 (ph. JAM). In the west, single birds were at Rodeo, HI, 9–10 Nov 2014 († REW; † AMC; ph. NFS) and in Guadalupe Canyon, HI, 23 Oct 2020 (†, ph. PEC; †, ♀ KoN).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus* (18, 8). The eight accepted here were all from migrant traps in the east during the period 8 September–16 October. Four, all immature, were at the MMT, RO, 22 Sep 2007 († NDP; † MJB; † CLW; ph. JRO), 30 Sep 2011 († MJB; †, ph. NDP; † JEP; ph. JRO), 13 Sep 2014 († JEP; ph. JRO), and 8 Sep 2017 († JEP; ph. JRO; ph. CLA). Single immatures were at Boone's Draw 20 km southwest of Portales, RO, 8–9 Oct 2011 (†, ph. MJB; †, ph. NDP) and 16 Oct 2011 († MJB; † CJW; † NDP; # MSB:Bird:39830). One was at Hobbs, LE, 28 Sep 2011 († ScS), another at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 15 Sep 1989 (†, ph. JWS; † PWJ). NOT ACCEPTED: Reports of one heard only in Quay 26 May 2011 and of one at Cliff, GR, 29 Jun 2015.

EASTERN WHIP-POOR-WILL *Antrostomus vociferus* (1, 1). A male was captured, measured, feather-sampled, photographed, and released at the MMT, RO, 8 Oct 2010 (†, ph. JRO; † MJB; † NDP; Figure 1). It represents the first and, to date,



FIGURE 1. This male Eastern Whip-poor-will, captured at the Melrose migrant trap in Roosevelt Co., 8 Oct 2010, was the first of its species confirmed in New Mexico. Among other plumage characters summarized by Baumann et al. (2011), this individual had a wing chord of 149 mm, well below the range (162–179 mm) of the Mexican Whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus arizonae*) reported by Pyle 1997.

Photo by Jerry R. Oldenettel

only confirmed record of the Eastern Whip-poor-will for New Mexico (Baumann et al. 2011). The species is likely at least as a casual fall transient through the state's eastern plains.

VAUX'S SWIFT *Chaetura vauxi* (13, 1). At least two were at Albuquerque's Rio Grande Nature Center, BE, 1–2 Oct 2009 († JMB; ph. JRO; † SOW; † JEP; †, ph. CJW, †, ph. NDP). To date, this is the only New Mexico report away from Hidalgo Co. reviewed and accepted by the NMBRC. NOT ACCEPTED: Details for one reported north of Rodeo, HI, 5 Sep 2015 were incomplete, lacking mention of critical field marks. The report of four photographed at Bluewater Lake, MC, 16 Sep 2017 mentioned only straight-edged wings, but some photos show bulging in the trailing edge of the wings. Vaux's Swift is an occasional fall transient through Hidalgo Co. in extreme southwestern New Mexico and possibly casual east to the RGV, where the Chimney Swift (*C. pelagica*) is the expected species of *Chaetura* (Williams 2022).

[**AMETHYST-THROATED MOUNTAIN-GEM** *Lampornis amethystinus*] NOT ACCEPTED: A hummingbird thought possibly to be a male of this Mexican species was seen under unusual circumstances (lying in grass after hitting a window, then flying off) near Las Vegas NWR, SM, 12 May 2009. The details were suggestive but not conclusive. At the time, there were no records of *Lampornis amethystinus* for the USA.

BLUE-THROATED MOUNTAIN-GEM *Lampornis clemenciae* (77*, 1). A female was south of Grants, CI, 27 Aug–8 Sep 2005 († CMR; † MJB; † NDP). NOT ACCEPTED: The report of one photographed at Ruidoso, LI, in Dec 1995 was not accepted on its second circulation; the blurry photo appeared to be of a Rivoli's

Hummingbird (*Eugenes fulgens*). A supposed Blue-throated Mountain-Gem photographed at Corrales, SA, 28 Apr 2020 was a misidentified female Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*) with unusual white on the wing coverts. *Lampornis clemenciae* is a rare summer–fall visitor primarily to southern New Mexico mountains, with no confirmed breeding records to date (Williams 2022).

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD *Archilochus colubris* (48, 10). In eastern New Mexico, single individuals were near Sedan, UN, 26 Sep 2021 (†, ph. CMR; †, ph. NEH; † KWA), Texico, CU, 20–21 Sep 2020 († GMB), Portales, RO, 15 Sep 2021 (ph. KLi), Roswell, CH, 19 Sep 2021 (†, ph. JBu), and Carlsbad, ED, 4–6 Sep 2012 (ph. RHu; ph. PSW). At the MMT, RO, up to two were present 9–15 Oct 2011 (ph. JRO; ph. CJW; † JEP) and single Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were there 4–5 Sep 2016 (ph. JRO) and 23–26 Sep 2020 (†, ph. PEC; † JEP; †, ph. JLW). In the RGV, one was near Williamsburg, SI, 27–30 Oct 2015 (ph. MaP) and one was banded near La Mesa, DA, 12 Sep 2019 (†, ph. NBa). NOT ACCEPTED: Minimal details for one reported west to Mimbres, GR, on the early date of 3 Jul 2017 did not rule out other red-throated hummingbirds. Incomplete details for one reported at Albuquerque, BE, 8 Oct 2017 and another at Portales 5 Aug 2020 failed to establish the bird's identity. First verified from initially misidentified window-killed specimens found at Portales in fall 1974 and 1976 (Hubbard and Gennaro 1985), the Ruby-throated Hummingbird is a scarce, possibly regular, primarily fall transient through New Mexico's eastern plains, west at least casually to the RGV (Williams 2022).

COSTA'S HUMMINGBIRD *Calypte costae* (76, 4). A juvenile male was photographed at Las Cruces, DA, 9 Nov 2019 (†, ph. TJo), and an adult male was banded in the Picacho Hills west of Las Cruces 31 Mar 2022 (†, ph. DMO). An adult male was north of the Apache Box, GR, 17 Apr 2020 († JPG). A sub-adult male was well described at San Simon Cienega, HI, 11 Aug 2020 († PEC). NOT ACCEPTED: The brief description of a supposed Costa's Hummingbird in Post Office Canyon, HI, 14 May 2021 failed to establish the bird's identity.

ALLEN'S HUMMINGBIRD *Selasphorus sasin* (25, 1). A juvenile male visited a feeder in the Peloncillo Mts., HI, 31 Jul–1 Aug 2020 (†, ph. NDP; † MJB; † JLW; † JEP); multiple photos of the spread tail showed that the individual had replaced rectrix 2 (R2) with an adult feather on its right side that was narrow and lacked a notch at the distal end, confirming the identification, and hummingbird experts David Rankin and Sheri L. Williamson agreed there were no ambiguous characteristics to suggest hybridization. Almost all of New Mexico's accepted records of Allen's Hummingbird have resulted from banding work since 1990. NOT ACCEPTED: Details for a green-backed male *Selasphorus* seen near Lake Roberts, GR, 22 Jul 2007 did not describe the tail and did not rule out a green-backed Rufous Hummingbird (*S. rufus*). Neither did the report of a green-backed male *Selasphorus* near Lake Roberts 27 Jul 2006 address the tail, and the single photo showed the back was not completely green.

BERYLLINE HUMMINGBIRD *Saucerottia beryllina* (3, 1). An adult male banded near Mimbres, GR, 25 Jul 2006 (†, ph. JD-M) established New Mexico's third record of the Berylline Hummingbird and the first away from Hidalgo Co. NOT ACCEPTED: The brief details of a hummingbird seen briefly in the Sacramento Mts. near Cloudcroft, OT, 3 Jun 2013 did not confirm its identity.

RUFIOUS-NECKED WOOD-RAIL *Aramides axillaris* (1, 1). One was at BDA, SO, 7–18 Jul 2013 (†, ph. MJD; Figure 2), representing a first record for North America north of Mexico. Williams and Daw (2016) described the event and the contributions of many observers and reviewers, and detailed the species' range-wide distribution, habitat flexibility, and seasonal movements (including inland, to elevations up to 1800 m, and to offshore islands), as well as its extreme rarity in captivity (three instances, none in the U.S.).



FIGURE 2. Providing a first record for the United States, this Rufous-necked Wood-Rail was a crowd-pleaser at Bosque del Apache NWR, Socorro Co., 7–18 Jul 2013.

Photo taken 10 July 2013 by Gary K. Froehlich



FIGURE 3. This cooperative second-year European Golden-Plover at Maxwell NWR, Colfax Co., 28 Sep–26 Oct 2020, represented a first record for New Mexico and anywhere in the interior of North America.

Photo taken 11 October 2020 by Owen J. Sinkus

KING RAIL *Rallus elegans* (1, 0). NOT ACCEPTED: The report of one heard only at Six Mile Dam, *ED*, 23 and 28 June 2008 was based on calls of northern cricket frogs (*Acris crepitans*). The King Rail remains accidental in New Mexico, with but one accepted record (Williams 2022).

KING/CLAPPER RAIL *Rallus* sp. A large rail was heard calling “kek-kek-kek” at sunset from a marsh at Bitter Lake NWR, *CH*, 7 June 2012 († WHH). The observer, familiar with calls of both the King Rail and the Clapper Rail (*R. crepitans*), suspected the former species, but he and the committee came to understand that distinguishing the two by ear alone is uncertain. The record was accepted as of a “King/Clapper Rail.” There are New Mexico records of both these species (Williams 2022) but not of Ridgway’s Rail (*R. obsoletus*).

PURPLE GALLINULE *Porphyrio martinicus* (14, 6). Single adults were at Jal Lake, *LE*, 17 Jun 1988 (†, ph. PSW), at BDA, *SO*, 28 May–6 Jun 1991 († CMR; † SOW; †, ph. DJC; † BRZ), and at Bosque Redondo, *DB*, 22 May–5 Jun 2022 (†, ph. NEH). A subadult was at Albuquerque’s Alameda bridge, *BE*, 9–22 Jun 2022 (†, ph. MBr). Single juveniles were at La Union, *DA*, 31 Aug 2009 (ph. DAB) and at the Carlsbad airport, *ED*, 23 Oct 2015. The latter was found injured and taken to a rehabilitation clinic (ph. PSW), where it subsequently died (# MSB:Bird:46078). Of New Mexico’s 14 accepted records through 2022, these last two represent the only fall occurrences.

BLACK RAIL *Laterallus jamaicensis* (5, 3). One was singing along the Canadian River below Conchas Dam on the Clabber Hill Ranch, *SM*, 10 May–4 Jun 2003 († WFW; † JEP; † JRO; † BDN; † DAE). Another was singing at Bitter Lake NWR, *CH*, 9 Jun 2012 (†, ♪ MJB; †, ♪ NDP). An immature was captured at Lake Carlsbad, *ED*, 22 Oct 2016 († RSN) and taken to a rehabilitation clinic, where it was photographed (ph. Desert Willow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center). It was later released in Texas. The five accepted New Mexico records are all in the east, with four in spring and one in fall (Williams 2022). NOT ACCEPTED: Details for a reported Black Rail briefly seen on the late date of 21 Nov 2002 at Maddux Lake near Hobbs, *LE*, were not sufficient to establish the bird’s identity. The report of one at Percha Dam SP, *SI*, on the even later date of 5 Dec 2009 received no support.

COMMON CRANE *Grus grus* (4, 3). One was among Sandhill Cranes (*Antigone canadensis*) around Roswell and Bitter Lake NWR, *CH*, 30 Nov 2014–29 Jan 2015 (†, ph. JRO). Another was at BDA, *SO*, 3–8 Jan 2020 (ph. KeB; † CIS). Yet another at BDA 1 May 2021 (†, ph. AWa; †, ph. CIS) was late for the spring. These three recent occurrences represent the first, second, and third photograph-supported records for New Mexico and follow the first accepted record, of a well-described Common Crane among Sandhill Cranes at Bitter Lake NWR 10 Mar 1961 (Audubon Field Notes 15:349, AOU 1998).

EUROPEAN GOLDEN-PLOVER *Pluvialis apricaria* (1, 1). A remarkable record, representing the first occurrence of the species in interior North America. The bird was seen and documented by many at Maxwell NWR, *CO*, 28 Sep–26 Oct 2020 (ph. TBG; Figure 3). High-quality photos allowed for detailed plumage analysis, which showed that the plover was in its second calendar year of life and was undergoing a second pre-basic molt (Fine et al. 2021).

AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER *Pluvialis dominica* (91, 17). In the RGV, single individuals were at BDA, *SO*, 13 May 2017 (†, ph. GKF) and 27 Apr 2019 (†, ph. KOn; †, ph. DWe) and at Elephant Butte Lake, *SI*, 11 Oct 2016 (†, ph. DJC) and 20 Apr 2017 (†, ph. DJC). In the Tularosa Basin, two were near the Walker Ranch, *OT*, 17 Oct 2014 (†, ph. NGS) and one was at Holloman Lake *OT*, 20–21 Apr 2019 (†, ph. WTE). For eastern New Mexico, 11 records were accepted, eight of them at Bitter Lake NWR, *CH*; one 5 Jun 2012 († JBM; ph. JIS), one 16–20 Jun 2019 (†, ph. PDC),

up to two 30 Apr–6 May 2020 († PDC; † KOn; ph. NEH), two 29 Sep 2020 (†, ph. PEC), one 10–11 Oct 2020 (ph. NDP; ph. MJB; †, ph. PDC), two 8 Nov 2020 (†, ph. PDC), one 3–9 May 2021 (†, ph. WTE), and one 25–26 May 2021 († AOh; †, ph. JAG). Elsewhere, single birds were at Brantley Lake, *ED*, 12 Apr 2016 (†, ph. RSN), Portales, *RO*, 9–10 May 2020 (†, ph. MJB, †, ph. NDP), and the Clovis WTP, *CU*, 8 Oct 2020 (†, ph. GMB). NOT ACCEPTED: A report of six in desert grasslands near Brantley Lake 9 Sep 2009 received no support and may have been of another species. A reported two seen in flight at Brantley Lake 12 May 2020 were incompletely described and likewise received no support. First found in New Mexico in 1951, the American Golden-Plover is now represented by 91 records involving 108 individuals. Recently, it has been of nearly annual occurrence, averaging 2.3 records per year.

PIPING PLOVER *Charadrius melodus* (9, 2). One was at Maxwell NWR, *CO*, 2 Aug 1992 († CMR). One at Brantley Lake, *ED*, 4 May 2013 († JEP; ph. MJB; ph. NDP) had been color-banded as a chick on the Missouri River in South Dakota in June 2012. The Piping Plover is an occasional spring and fall transient, with nine records of single individuals, all but one from eastern New Mexico (Williams 2022).

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus* (128, 3). One was at Bitter Lake NWR, *CH*, 4–18 Aug 2010 († JIS; ph. N. Sivertson); there are relatively few fall records. A minimum of 150 were in one flock at Ute Lake, *QU*, 17 May 2014 (†, ph. JRO), by far the largest concentration ever reported in New Mexico. Two at Elephant Butte Lake, *SI*, 5 Mar 2016 (ph. RAl) established an early spring date for the species, which typically does not arrive in New Mexico until mid-late April. Averaging nearly six records annually (many of multiple birds), the Whimbrel was removed from the NMBRC's review list in 2016.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT *Limosa haemastica* (39, 16). In eastern New Mexico, Bitter Lake NWR, *CH*, was the most dependable locale for the species, with single individuals there 7–9 May 2011 († JEP), 5–7 May 2013 (ph. NDP; †, ph. MJB; † JEP), 20 Apr 2014 (†, ph. MJB), 29 May 2015 († JEP; ph. JRO), 10–12 May 2019 (†, ph. MJB), and 17 May 2020 (†, ph. PDC; †, ph. JLW). Three were at Fort Sumner, *DB*, 6–9 May 2020 (ph. NEH; †, ph. DTi), three were at Lake Avalon, *ED*, 17 May 2013 (†, ph. EPi), one was at Chicosa Lake, *HA*, 11 May 2014 (ph. RCl; † JEP; ph. JRO), and one was at the Clovis WTP, *CU*, 18 May 2020 (†, ph. JLW; ph. GMB). In the Tularosa Basin, one was at Holloman Lake, *OT*, 21–25 May 2016 († KDr; †, ph. LKM). In the RGV, single Hudsonian Godwits were at BDA, *SO*, 23–24 Apr 2021 (†, ph. NEH; † JEP; ph. GKF) and Elephant Butte Lake, *SI*, 29 May 2014 (†, ph. DJC). In the west, two were at Morgan Lake, *SJ*, 7 May 2013 († CLB). Summer occurrences are unusual: one in alternate plumage was at the Lordsburg WTP, *HI*, 17 Jun 2014 (†, ph. DJG), and another was at Las Vegas NWR, *SM*, 6 Jul 1990 (†, sketch CGS). NOT ACCEPTED: A report of one at Hobbs, *LE*, 16 Aug 2020 received no support, and a report of two at Lake McMillan, *ED*, 10 Sep 1967 was likewise unconvincing. To date, there are no accepted records for New Mexico during fall migration (August and later).

RUDDY TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres* (46, 14). In eastern New Mexico, two were at Sumner Lake, *DB*, 6 May 2009 (ph. BLo), and single individuals were at the Clovis WTP, *CU*, 21–26 May 2021 († JEP; †, ph. GMB), Storrie Lake, *SM*, 16 Sep 2021 († WJ-W; ph. AMi), Lake McMillan, *ED*, 4 Sep 2021 (†, ph. RSN), and Brantley Lake, *ED*, 25 Sep–8 Oct 2021 (†, ph. RSN). One was in the Tularosa Basin at Holloman Lake, *OT*, 21 May 2012 († CJG; ph. DMS). In the RGV, single Ruddy Turnstones were at Albuquerque, *BE*, 4–9 Sep 2011 (ph. RLV; † JEP), BDA, *SO*, 1 May 2010 (†, ph. MJB; ph. NDP), 12 Sep 2009 († DLH), and 10 May 2019 (†, ph. CIS), and at Elephant Butte Lake, *SI*, 3–4 Oct 2009 (ph. NDP; † MJB; † JEP; ph. JRO), 1 Sep 2016 (†, ph. DJC), and 31 Aug 2021 (†, ph. DJC). In the west, one was at Morgan Lake, *SJ*, 9 May 2013 (ph. TRe).

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

BLACK TURNSTONE *Arenaria melanocephala* (1, 1). A second-year Black Turnstone at Elephant Butte Lake, *SI*, 11–15 May 2010 (ph. DJC; † JEP; †, ph. JRO; Figure 4) was the first of its species recorded in New Mexico and one of the few for any landlocked state (Cleary and Parmeter 2010).

RED KNOT *Calidris canutus* (43, 7). In the RGV, up to four juveniles were at Elephant Butte Lake, *SI*, 1–26 Sep 2011 (ph. DJC; †, ph. NEH), two were there 28 Aug–1 Sep 2021 (†, ph. DJC; †, ph. WTE), and single individuals were there 8–9 Sep 2016 (†, ph. DJC) and 21–28 Sep 2018 (ph. DJC; †, ph. WTE). In the east, two were at Brantley Lake, *ED*, 16 Sep 2012 († JEP) and one was east of Roswell, *CH*, 24 Sep 2017 († CMR; †, ph. NEH). An adult in alternate plumage at Holloman Lake, *OT*, 23 Apr–13 May 2009 (†, ph. DJG; † MTS; ph. JEZ; ph. JRO; †, ph. MJB) provided one of New Mexico's few spring records.

RUFF *Calidris pugnax* (6, 1). Two females were at BDA, *SO*, 1–2 May 2010 († CMR; †, ph. MJB; ph. NDP; † JEP; †, ph. JRO; †, ph. NEH; ph. GKF), and together constituted New Mexico's sixth record. NOT ACCEPTED: One was reported as photographed on Albuquerque's West Mesa, *BE*, 26 Aug 2020; expert opinion on the photos was mixed, and the report received no support among the committee.

SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER *Calidris acuminata* (3, 2). The report of a juvenile at the Isleta marsh, *BE*, 27 Oct 1991 († KBO) was accepted on its second circulation, following positive comments from S. Mlodinow. One was at BDA, *SO*, 2 May 2017 (†, ph. MKr; † EKr; Figure 5). All three New Mexico records are from the middle RGV, with two in fall and one in spring (Williams 2022).

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER *Calidris subruficollis* (14, 14). These records represent all those accepted for New Mexico through 2022. The first were two at a turf farm in Los Lunas, *VA*, 7–14 Sep 1991 († JEP; † RLT; † PES; ph. SWC; ph. LPG), and another was there 5 Sep 1992 († JEP). Also in the RGV were one at BDA, *SO*,



FIGURE 4. Providing a first record for New Mexico, this second-year Black Turnstone was at Elephant Butte Lake, Sierra Co., 11–15 May 2010.

Photo taken 11 May 2010 by Jerry R. Oldenettel



FIGURE 5. New Mexico's third Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, at Bosque del Apache NWR, Socorro Co., 2 May 2017, is one of two of this species addressed in this report.

Photo by Marc Kramer

26 May 1984 († PEL; † RAE), one at Albuquerque, BE, 28–30 Sep 2001 (†, ph. JRO; † BDN; † DAE; † JEP), and one at Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 1–9 Oct 2009 (ph. DJC; † JEP; ph. JRO; ph. JEZ). In the Tularosa Basin, single birds were at Holloman Lake, OT, 20 Sep 1989 († CIS), 23 Sep 2010 (ph. DMS), and 3 Oct 2010 (ph. DMS). In the east, one each was at a Moriarty turf farm, TO, 29 Sep 2001 (†, ph. JRO), Stubble-field Lake, CO, 18–23 Sep 2007 (ph. DJC; †, ph. JPB; †, ph. MJB; ph. NDP ph. JRO), Springer Lake, CO, 14 Sep 2007 (ph. DJC), and the Clovis WTP, CU, 4 Sep 2015 († JEP; ph. JRO). At Bitter Lake NWR, CH, were an adult 11–13 Jun 1994 (†, ph. PSW) and a juvenile 31 Aug 2019 (†, ph. EFG; ph. DTi). NOT ACCEPTED: Reports of six at Bitter Lake NWR 6 Sep 1992 and one at the Tularosa WTP, OT, 7 Sep 2020.

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER *Limnodromus griseus* (66, 14). All of the following 14 records are of juveniles and in fall during the relatively narrow interval 16 August–3 October. In western New Mexico, where the species is casual, one was at Morgan Lake, SJ, 3 Oct 2013 (ph. TRE). In the RGV, single individuals appeared within a few days of each other in Santa Fe Co. at the Marty Sanchez golf course 23–24 Aug 2015 († LHo.; † GSz; ph. RCl; ph. JPB) and the Santa Fe Community College 23–29 Aug 2015 (ph. RCl). One was in the Alameda area of Albuquerque, BE, 27–29 Aug 2015 (†, ph. WEM). Two were at Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 20 Aug–5 Sep 2018 (ph. DJC; † MJB; † NDP), two were at Caballo Lake, SI, 22 Sep 2011 († WFW), and one was at the Las Cruces Dam, DA, 3–4 Sep 2014 (†, ph. NGS). In the Tularosa Basin, one was at Holloman Lake, OT, 23 Sep 2010 (ph. DMS). In the east, single birds were at Maxwell NWR, CO, 16 Aug 2020 († WTE), at Springer Lake, CO, 14 Sep 2008 († JPB) and 27 Aug 2011 († CMR; ph. RLV), at the Clovis WTP, CU, 3–4 Sep 2011 († MJB; † JEP) and 27 Aug–5 Sep 2021 († JEP), and five were at Bitter Lake NWR, CH, 11 Sep 2009 († JEP). NOT ACCEPTED: Details for two silent dowitchers at Caballo Lake on the very late date of 28 Nov 2010 did not rule out the Long-billed (*L. scolopaceus*), the dowitcher expected there in late fall and winter. Three reports of birds heard only were reviewed; the committee views these conservatively, believing that dowitchers should be seen and described in addition to being heard, and noting that other shorebirds can give similar “tu-tu-tu” calls. A Short-billed Dowitcher was reported as heard in a flock of shorebirds at Bitter Lake NWR 9 Aug 2020, but neither the bird nor its call was described. Two were reported

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

as heard calling in flight at Bitter Lake NWR 26 Apr 2020; the species is casual in New Mexico in spring, and more exhaustive details are necessary for acceptance of such an exceptional record. A report of one heard in flight at Bitter Lake NWR 22 Aug 2021 received no support; it was not clear that a dowitcher was even seen.

AMERICAN WOODCOCK *Scolopax minor* (19, 8). In eastern New Mexico, one was at the MMT, RO, 22–23 Oct 2005 († CMR; † BDN), one was at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 12 Nov 2010 († PSW), and one was at Lovington, LE, 27–28 Oct 2020 (ph. AGR). In the RGV, single woodcocks were in the Corrales bosque, SA, 12 Dec 2012 (ph. JSF), 12 Oct 2019 (†, ph. VDa; † WTE), and 20 Dec 2020–1 Feb 2021 (†, ph., OJS; † JBP; †, ph. DJK), the latter the first known to have persisted through the winter in New Mexico. In adjacent Bernalillo Co., one was at Albuquerque's Alameda bridge 24 Jan 2018 († GAO), another in northeast Albuquerque 14–17 Nov 2017 (ph. PMc). NOT ACCEPTED: The description of one 5 km northeast of Clayton, UN, 15 Dec 2010 lacked convincing details. An unlikely summer report of a bird seen briefly at the Isleta marsh, BE, 9 Jul 1982 lacked important details; it was not accepted on its third circulation.

RED PHALAROPE *Phalaropus fulicarius* (78, 14). In eastern New Mexico, one was at Ute Lake, QU, 13 Sep 2020 (†, ph. EFG; † PEC) and another was there 4 Oct 2020 († EFG; † PEC; †, ph. JLW). Single birds were at Bitter Lake NWR, CH, 6 Nov 2019 (†, ph. DDr) and 3–10 Feb 2020 (†, ph. GMB; †, ph. PDC), and one was at Brantley Lake, ED, 1 Dec 2015 (†, ph. MJB, ph. NDP). In the Tularosa Basin, two were at Holloman Lake, OT, 1–6 Nov 2010 (ph. DMS; † JEP) and one was there 7 Sep 2015 (†, ph. CCW; † LBe). In the RGV, one was at Heron Lake, RA, 2 Oct 2019 († WTE), one was at the Buffalo Thunder Casino ponds near Pojoaque, SF, 8–9 Nov 2020 (ph. RGU; † CBC), one was in Albuquerque, BE, 5 Nov 2015 (ph. BLM; † JEP), and one was at the Belen marsh, VA, 12–20 Sep 2015 († JEP; ph. MOH; †, ph. NEH). One was at Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 12–21 Dec 2020 (†, ph. JLW; †, ph. PEC; † EFG; ph. DJC) and a spring migrant, molting into alternate plumage, was there 19 May 2021 (†, ph. JAG). One was at Caballo Lake, SI, 19–26 Oct 2015 (ph. DJC; ph. JRO).

POMARINE JAEGER *Stercorarius pomarinus* (10, 2). A light-morph adult was captured near Laguna Grande east of Carlsbad, ED, 6 Jun 2012; it was taken to a rehabilitation clinic (†, ph. SRU), nursed back to health, and released 12 Jun. Another adult was at Ute Lake, QU, 24 Sep 2021 (†, ph. DRo). NOT ACCEPTED: Details for one reported at Las Vegas NWR, SM, 14 Nov 2010 and north of Carlsbad near Brantley Lake, ED, 7 Sep 2008 identified a jaeger but not the species.

PARASITIC JAEGER *Stercorarius parasiticus* (7, 3). Single dark juveniles were at Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 20 Sep 2014 († MJB; ph. NDP), Brantley Lake, ED, 23 Aug–1 Sep 2014 (ph. SDC; † JEP), and Heron Lake, RA, 26–27 Sep 2020 (†, ph. WTE; † PEC; † JLW; ph. LWa).

LONG-TAILED JAEGER *Stercorarius longicaudus* (18, 9). In eastern New Mexico, single birds were at Conchas Lake, SM, 10 May 2003 († WFW), Sumner Lake, DB, 12 Sep 2012 (ph. CLA), over the prairie near Boone's Draw, RO, 20 Aug 1993 († CMR), at Bitter Lake NWR, CH, 20 Sep 2010 (ph. JIS), and at Brantley Lake, ED, 27 Aug 2010 (ph. JRO; † JEP). One found debilitated near Laguna Grande east of Carlsbad, ED, 21 Aug 2018 was taken to a rehabilitation clinic but died shortly thereafter (# MSB:Bird:60111; †, ph. MJB). In the north, one was at Eagle Nest Lake, CO, 17–23 Sep 2021 (ph. MOH). In the RGV, one was at BDA, SO, 30 Aug 2020 (†, ph. SEM), another at Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 18 Sep 1994 († JRO). NOT ACCEPTED: Jaegers reported as the Long-tailed at the Santa Fe Canyon Preserve, SF, 26 Sep 2012 and over Tucumcari, QU, 17 Jul 2015 could not be identified to species conclusively. The Long-tailed is the jaeger most frequently encountered in New Mexico, typically in August and September.



FIGURE 6. New Mexico's second Ancient Murrelet, this hatch-year female was found grounded at Placitas, Sandoval Co., 17 Nov 2021.

Photo by Mikal Deese

JAEGER SP. (22, 6). In addition to the four mentioned above, single jaegers not identified to species were at Heron Lake, RA, 5 Sep 1987 († PES) and Storrie Lake, SM, 9 Sep 2018 (†, ph. TBG). The committee believes that tracking unidentified jaegers provides a useful statistic contributing to our overall understanding of the occurrence of jaegers in New Mexico.

ANCIENT MURRELET *Synthliboramphus antiquus* (2, 1). One found debilitated at Placitas, SA, 17 Nov 2021 was taken to a rehabilitation clinic the following day but died on 19 Nov 2021 (†, ph. MDe; Figure 6; # MSB:Bird:50983). This represents New Mexico's second record; the first was of one also found debilitated, near Santa Fe, SF, 6 Nov 1985 (# MSB:Bird:9287; Schmitt and Miller 1987).

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE *Rissa tridactyla* (31, 17). In the east, an alternate-plumaged adult at Stubblefield Lake, CO, 14–19 May 2004 (ph. DJC) provided New Mexico's first and, to date, only spring record. The remaining records we report here were of fall–early winter transients during the period 24 September–6 January. In the east, single kittiwakes were at Springer Lake, CO, 25–26 Sep 2001 (†, ph. DJC), Aragonne Mesa west of Pastura, GU, 9 Dec 2020 (†, ph. JBo), Santa Rosa Lake, GU, 6–9 Jan 2022 (†, ph. MOH; ph. TJA), the Clovis WTP, QU, 24 Sep 2010 († JEP; ph. WWi; ph. JRO), and Brantley Lake, ED, 23–27 Dec 2005 (ph. WHH; † JRO; † MJB), 20 Dec 2010 († CMR; † MOH), and 15 Dec 2013 (†, ph. RSN). In the RGV, one each was on the Rio Grande at Buckman, SF, 12 Dec 2020 (ph. ADi), at Albuquerque's Alameda bridge, BE, 29 Nov 2020 († JEP) and 22 Nov 2021 (†, ph. TBe), at the Bernardo WMA, SO, 28 Nov 2013 (†, ph. WHH), BDA, SO, 14 Nov 2009 (ph. DLB), and 12 Oct 2014 (ph. JWS), and at Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 8 Nov 2010 († DJC). In the west, single birds were at Bluewater Lake, CI, 25–27 Nov 2006 († JEP, †, ph. MOH; ph. JPB) and 6–9 Dec 2017 (†, ph. RKo).

LITTLE GULL *Hydrocoloeus minutus* (7, 6). A well-described juvenile at Lake

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

McMillan, *ED*, 4 Jan–16 Feb 1987 († WHH; † RLT) was New Mexico's first recorded Little Gull. A juvenile at Holloman Lake, *OT*, 22 Sep 1988 (†, ph. BRZ) was the first to be documented with photos. Subsequently, a juvenile was at Conchas Lake, *SM*, 18–21 Sep 2005 (†, ph. MJB; † NDP; †, ph. JRO; † JEP). An adult attaining alternate plumage at BDA, *SO*, 1 Apr 2006 was discovered by Sonia Santa Ana and Mary Lou Arthur (†, ph. JRO). A juvenile was at Sumner Lake, *DB*, 12 Sep 2012 (†, ph. CLA). A winter adult was at Brantley Lake, *ED*, 31 Dec 2021–1 Jan 2022 († JEP; ph. RSN). NOT ACCEPTED: A gull seen at great distance at Lake McMillan 12 Mar 1987 was reported as possibly the same Little Gull present there earlier that year, but the details provided did not support the identification.

LAUGHING GULL *Leucophaeus atricilla* (78, 16). In western New Mexico, where the Laughing Gull is seldom found, was one at Deming, *LU*, 17 May 2021 (†, ph. NEH; †, ph. JAG) and another at Lake Roberts, *GR*, 11 Jun 2021 (†, ph. DGB). The RGV accounted for eight records of single individuals: at Santa Fe, *SF*, 2 May 2016 (†, ph. GAF), at BDA, *SO*, 15 May 2015 (ph. GKF), at Elephant Butte Lake, *SI*, 5–6 Jul 2013 (†, ph. DJC; † JEP), 16 Jul 2013 (ph. DJC), 21–22 Jun 2020 (†, ph. DJC; †, ph. JFi), and 5 Jun 2021 († JEP), and at Caballo Lake, *SI*, 21 Jul 2008 (ph. DJC) and 1–5 Aug 2016 (†, ph. DJC). The east accounted for six records, of one at Springer Lake, *CO*, 9 Oct 2010 (†, ph. CMB) and 2 Jan 2017 (†, ph. DCu), one at Brantley Lake, *ED*, 14 Aug 2010 (†, ph. MJB; ph. NDP) and 3–30 Sep 2016 († CMR; ph. SDR; ph. JWS), and two there both 29–31 May 2018 (†, ph. RSN; ph. TJH; ph. PDC) and 2 Jun 2021 (†, ph. DKe).

HEERMANN'S GULL *Larus heermanni* (6, 1). A near adult at a rest area along I-10 west of Wilma, *GR*, 28 Mar 2006 (†, ph. JWT) provided the sixth New Mexico record and the fourth to be verified with photo or specimen. There have been no New Mexico reports since 2006.

SHORT-BILLED GULL *Larus brachyrhynchus* (84, 9). A subadult was at Elephant Butte Lake, *SI*, 12 Mar 2011 († CMR), and single adults were there 1 Jan–13 Feb 2016 († CMR; † JEP), 6 Jan 2018 (†, ph. BRZ), and 23 Jan–13 Feb 2022 (†, ph. JPB; † JEP; † NDP; †, ph. NEH). Single adults were at Albuquerque's Alameda bridge, *BE*, 28 Dec 2015–1 Jan 2016 (ph. DCu; † JEP), 12 Jan–10 Feb 2018 (ph. WEM), 23 Feb–3 Mar 2021 († HTE; ph. NDP; ph. LWa), and 12 Feb 2022 (†, ph. DGB; †, ph. LWa). One in its first cycle was in the Brantley Lake–Carlsbad area, *ED* 1 Jan–4 Feb 2022 (†, ph. CSa; ph. ASm; †, ph. RSN). NOT ACCEPTED: A supposed Short-billed Gull photographed at Stubblefield Lake, *CO*, 14–19 May 2004 proved to be an adult Black-legged Kittiwake; another photographed at the same site 16–19 Oct 2007 proved to be a Ring-billed Gull (*L. delawarensis*).

WESTERN GULL *Larus occidentalis* (5, 5). A winter adult at Caballo Lake, *SI*, 16 Dec 1990 (†, sketch BRZ) established New Mexico's first record of the Western Gull. An immature collected at Heron Lake, *RA*, 7 Nov 1991 (# MSB:Bird:7778; identity confirmed by J. R. Jehl and G. McCaskie) represents the state's first and so far only specimen. More recently, two were at Elephant Butte Lake, *SI*, one presumably in its second cycle 30 Jun–26 Sep 2000 († JEP; †, ph. JRO) and one in its first cycle 5–10 Apr 2015 (†, ph. WTE), and an adult was at Cochiti Lake, *SA*, 7–11 May 2016 (†, ph. IPr; †, ph. JPB).

YELLOW-FOOTED GULL *Larus livens* (1, 1). New Mexico's first, in its first plumage cycle, was at Sumner Lake, *DB*, for nearly three months, 10 Sep–21 Nov 2021 (†, ph. MJB; Figure 7). To date, this is the farthest east the species has been recorded in the United States. Interestingly, another Yellow-footed Gull was found in Arizona the same day, 10 Sep 2021, at Lake Havasu (<https://eBird.org>). Remnants of tropical storm Nora passed through the desert southwest just prior to the discovery of these gulls and may have contributed to the dispersal of both.

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

ICELAND GULL *Larus glaucoides* (86, 3). Three first-cycle Thayer's Gulls (*L. g. thayeri*) were accepted, at the San Juan County Landfill 18 Nov 2016 (ph. TRe), at Ute Lake, QU, 19 Jan–11 Feb 2018 († JEP), and at Albuquerque, BE, 5 May 2022 (†, ph. JKl). NOT ACCEPTED: The description of a supposed adult Iceland Gull reported at Zuni's Blackrock Lake, MC, on 5 May 1981 included contradictory details that failed to confirm the bird's identity.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL *Larus fuscus* (74, 9). In eastern New Mexico, single birds were at the Clovis WTP, CU, 13 May 2017 (†, ph. GMB; † CMR) and 11 Mar 2020 (†, ph. APa), and at Bitter Lake NWR, CH, 6 Mar 2020 (†, ph. PDC; †, ph. RSN). In the RGV, one was at BDA, SO, 29 Apr 2017 (†, ph. DLH; †, ph. MJA), another at Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 23 Sep–4 Oct 2019 (†, ph. DJC). In the northwest, one at San Juan Co., were one each at the San Juan County Landfill 6 Jan 2016 (ph. TRe), Morgan Lake 31 Oct 2020 (†, ph. AHo), and Farmington Lake 14–21 Nov 2020 (†, ph. STa). In the southwest, one was at the Columbus WTP, LU, 30 Mar 2018 (†, ph. AWe). Occurrences of the Lesser Black-backed Gull have spiked across the interior West in recent years, and New Mexico has been a part of that trend. First reported in 2001, the species has been annual in the state since the winter of 2006–07. From 2013 through 2022 it averaged nearly six records (and eight individuals) per year, so the NMBRC has now removed the Lesser Black-backed Gull from its review list.

GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL *Larus glaucescens* (3, 1). One in its first cycle was seen by many at Brantley Lake, ED, 22 Nov–22 Dec 2015 (†, ph. PSW; †, ph. RSN); reviews by P. Pyle and S. C. Heinl concurred there was no reason to consider hybridization in the identification. This represents the third New Mexico record; the first two were supported by specimens in 1990 (# MSB:Bird:8650) and 1994 (# MSB:Bird:18929).

GLAUCOUS GULL *Larus hyperboreus* (29, 5). In the RGV, single Glaucous Gulls in their first cycle were at Mesilla Dam, DA, 3–4 Nov 1990 († GJE; † EGW) and Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 10 Dec 2010 († JEP), and an adult was at Albuquerque, BE, 4–6 Jan 2014 (ph. ARB; †, ph. RBW; † JEP). In the east, one first-cycle immature was at Brantley Lake, ED, 6 Jan–4 Feb 2006 († JEP; † DJK; PSW), and another was at Ute Lake, QU, 7 Feb 2014 († JEP). NOT ACCEPTED: A reported Glaucous Gull at Sumner Lake, DB, 28 Dec 1998, seen at a distance of one mile, was inadequately described.

SOOTY TERN *Onychoprion fuscatus* (1, 1). A first for New Mexico was one found dead at Laguna Grande southeast of Carlsbad, ED, 8 Jul 2010 and preserved as a study skin (# MSB:Bird:30000). Genetic analysis suggested the bird originated from the Caribbean; it was likely pushed into New Mexico by the remnants of Hurricane Alex (Johnson et al. 2011).

ARCTIC TERN *Sterna paradisaea* (21, 8). In western New Mexico, Morgan Lake, SJ, accounted for three records, of two birds on 1–2 Jun 2010 (†, ph. CLB; †, ph. MJB; † NDP; ph. TRe; Figure 8), one on 11 Jun 2012 (†, ph. MJB), and two on 6–9 Jun 2017 (ph. CLB; ph. CFo). In the RGV, one was at Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 29–30 Jul 2006 († JEP; † JRO). In the east, two were at Stubblefield Lake, CO, 16–18 Jun 2012 (†, ph. MJB; ph. NDP; †, ph. NEH) and single individuals were at Conchas Lake, SM, 14 Sep 2014 († MJB, † NDP), Ute Lake, QU, 4 Oct 2020 (†, ph. EFG; †, ph. JLW; † PEC), and Brantley Lake, ED, 29 May 2018 (†, ph. RSN). Since the first in 1991, New Mexico has accumulated 21 records involving 29 individuals.

ROYAL TERN *Thalasseus maximus* (2, 1). An adult at Heron Lake, RA, 30 May 2021 (†, ph. TJA) provided New Mexico's second record of the Royal Tern.

ELEGANT TERN *Thalasseus elegans* (5, 3). Single adults were at BDA, SO, 2 May 2010 († WFW; †, ph. NEH; ph. GKF; †, ph. JRO), Morgan Lake, SJ, 2 Jun 2010 (†,



FIGURE 7. This first-cycle Yellow-footed Gull lingered at Sumner Lake, De Baca Co., 10 Sep–21 Nov 2021, representing the first record for New Mexico and the easternmost in the United States.

Photo taken 20 November 2021 by Chris Wood



FIGURE 8. Surprising in the Four Corners region were an Elegant Tern (one of three records addressed in this report) and an Arctic Tern (one of eight records addressed here) together at Morgan Lake, San Juan Co., 2 Jun 2010.

Photo by Timothy Reeves

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

ph. WWi; †, ph. CLB; ph., TRe; †, ph. MJB; † NDP; Figure 8), and Bitter Lake NWR, CH, 25 May 2021 (ph. AOOh). NOT ACCEPTED: The report of one at Morgan Lake 23 Sep 2013 received no support on its second circulation; there were no written details, and the three distant photos were inconclusive.

BLACK SKIMMER *Rynchops niger* (6, 1). An adult was at Heron Lake, RA, 12 May 2007 († WHH, ph. MDH). The site is at 2192 m elevation in the San Juan Mts. near the continental divide (Williams and Howe 2008).

RED-THROATED LOON *Gavia stellata* (41, 8). In eastern New Mexico, two were at Springer Lake, CO, 13–19 Nov 2010 (ph. JRO; † JEP; †, ph. NEH) and one was there 24 Nov 2017 († JEP); one each was at Lake McMillan, ED, 25 Mar 1989 († BRZ), Brantley Lake, ED, 20 Dec 2010 († CMR; † PSW), Lake Avalon, ED, 18 Jan 2015 (†, ph. SMF; † TFH), and Clayton Lake, UN, 31 Dec 2021–2 Jan 2022 (†, ph. CRu; † VWi). In the RGV, one remained at Cochiti Lake, SA, 29 Nov–29 Dec 2015 († DCu; † JRO, †, ph. RCl; †, ph. NEH). In the west, one was at Bluewater Lake, CI, 11 Nov 2019 (ph. NDP).

YELLOW-BILLED LOON *Gavia adamsii* (12, 3). One was at Ute Lake, QU, 27 Dec 1998–10 Jan 1999 (†, ph. JRO; † JEP), another at Conchas Lake, SM, 10 Jan–6 Mar 1999 (ph. JRO; † BDN; † DAE; † JEP), and a third at Clayton Lake, UN, 21–28 Dec 2021 (†, ph. PEC). NOT ACCEPTED: The identities of loons reported at Cochiti Lake, SA, 10 Jan–13 Mar 1999, Las Vegas NWR, SM, 9 Nov 2003, and Charette Lake, MO, 13 Oct 2017 were not established. The Yellow-billed is a rare transient and winter resident in New Mexico November–March, with a dozen records since the first in 1992.

WOOD STORK *Mycteria americana* (13, 2). Single juveniles were near Aragon, CA, 20 Sep 2015 (ph. DWh) and at Holloman Lake, OT, 14 Mar 2019 (ph. GKl). These two represent the first records for New Mexico since 2003.

BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY *Sula nebouxii* (2, 1). New Mexico's second recorded Blue-footed Booby was a juvenile male on the eastern plains at Chaparral Park in Lovington, LE, 11–13 Aug 2013 (ph. RHo; ph. MJB; ph. NDP; ph. JRO; Figure 9). It grew increasingly lethargic and was taken to a rehabilitation clinic 13 Aug, but it died shortly thereafter (# MSB:Bird:40479).

BROWN BOOBY *Sula leucogaster* (1, 1). New Mexico's first Brown Booby was a subadult female found at a salt pan 30 km east-southeast of Carlsbad, ED, 18 May 2018 (†, ph. SGB). The bird was captured and transferred to a Carlsbad rehabilitation clinic but ultimately died (# MSB:Bird:48800). Genetics confirmed that this individual originated from the Caribbean (Baumann et al. 2023).

ANHINGA *Anhinga anhinga* (8, 1). A juvenile on the eastern plains at the Rockwind golf course in Hobbs, LE, 17–27 Oct 2017 († CEL; ph. JPB; see this issue's outside back cover) was the second recorded there. The Anhinga is a vagrant to lakes and rivers primarily in southern New Mexico, first recorded by specimen in 1854 (Hubbard 1970).

LITTLE BLUE HERON *Egretta caerulea* (10*, 8). Single adults were at Abiquiu Lake, RA, 13 Aug 2019 († WTE), at Albuquerque's Alameda diversion flats, BE, 17 Apr 2022 (†, ph. BLM), at BDA, SO, 9–18 May 2022 (†, ph. SGr), at Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 25–30 Apr 2017 (ph. DJC), 5–12 Aug 2018 (†, ph. DJC; † JEP; †, ph. NEH), and 10–17 Jul 2020 (†, ph. DJC), and at Percha SP, SI, 3–9 May 2022 († VTr; ph. TBG; † JSc). In the east, an adult was at Bitter Lake NWR 22–29 May 2021 (†, ph. JFi; †, ph. ATT). NOT ACCEPTED: The brief details for one reported at Six Mile Dam, ED, 20 Aug 2017 were insufficient for species identification. Occurrence of the Little Blue Heron in New Mexico, where it formerly nested, has dropped sharply in recent years, and the NMBRC restored it to the review list in 2016.



FIGURE 9. New Mexico's second Blue-footed Booby visited the eastern plains at Lovington, Lea Co., 11–13 Aug 2013.

Photo taken 11 August 2013 by Nicholas D. Pederson

REDDISH EGRET *Egretta rufescens* (59, 16). Of the 16 Reddish Egrets itemized here, five were of the white morph, the only ones accepted for New Mexico to date. Far north in the Rio Grande watershed, one was at Heron Lake, RA, 26–27 Sep 2020 (†, ph. WTE); farther south in the RGV, one was at BDA, SO, 6 May 2005 († PBA), one was at Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 24 May 2013 (†, ph. DJC), two were there 13 Aug–14 Sep 2017 (†, ph. DJC; † JEP), one was at Percha Dam SP, SI, 11 Sep 2020 (†, ph. RiL), and one was at Mesilla Valley Bosque SP, DA, 8 Oct 2015 († MTS; †, ph. JEZ). In the east, one was far north at Springer Lake, CO, 28 Jun 2003 (†, ph. DJC). Others were at Ute Lake, QU, 9 Aug 2011 (ph. WWi), Bitter Lake NWR, CH, 24 Sep–6 Oct 2002 († GKF) and 22 Nov 2020 (†, ph. JFi; †, ph. ATT), and Brantley Lake, ED, 10 Sep 2013 (ph. JRO), 1–17 Aug 2013 (†, ph. RSN), and 10 Oct–19 Dec 2020 (ph. NDP; ph. MJB; †, ph. RSN). One split its time between Brantley Lake and Lake Avalon, ED, 29 Aug–4 Oct 2018 (†, ph. RSN; † PSW), and up to two split their time between the same sites 10 Jun–16 Oct 2022 (†, ph. RSN). Single Reddish Egrets were at Six Mile Dam, ED, 14 Dec 2012 († PSW) and 17 Mar–9 May 2013 (†, ph. RSN).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON *Nyctanassa violacea* (154, 4). In eastern New Mexico, single individuals were near Kenna, RO, 24 Jun 2003 (†, ph. LAS), at the Clovis WTP, QU, 27 Aug 2010 († JEP; ph. JRO), and at Bitter Lake NWR, CH, 15 Jun 2013 (†, ph. NDP). In the RGV, one was at Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 14 Aug 2010 († CMR). Found annually since 2000 and recently averaging 6.3 records (and 9.1 individuals) per year, the species is a transient and summer resident from the RGV eastward, with nesting confirmed in San Miguel and Doña Ana counties and suspected elsewhere; it was removed from the review list in 2015.

WHITE IBIS *Eudocimus albus* (22, 15). In the east, one at Bitter Lake NWR, CH, from 6 Nov 1965 to 5 Jan 1966 (†, ph. VMo) established New Mexico's first record. More recently at Bitter Lake NWR, three were present 11 May–12 Jun 2000 († JWM;

† GLW) and single birds were there 26 Apr–12 May 2006 († GLW; †, ph. CGL; † JEP; ph. JRO), 4–30 Nov 2011 (ph. RHu; ph. JIS; † JEP; ph. JRO), and 25 Jun–6 Jul 2012 (ph. JTr; † JEP; † WWi). One each was at Maxwell NWR, CO, 16–23 May 1999 (†, ph. JHi; †, ph. JRO), French Lakes, CO, 29 Aug–5 Sep 2006 (ph. DJC), Las Vegas NWR, SM, 15–17 Jul 2000 († JEP; † JRO), and Clovis, CU, 15 Sep 2013 († DLH; ph. JRO). In the RGV at BDA, SO, were one 9–31 Mar 1974 (†, ph. GRZ) and a flock of nine 12 Sep–5 Oct 1976 (†, ph. GRZ); more recently, single individuals were there 12 Apr–4 Jun 2002 (†, ph. JRO; † JEP; † BDN; † DAE), 27 Jul–14 Aug 2004 († GPa; ph. JRO; † JEP), and 24 Jul–17 Aug 2005 († CMB; ph. JRO; † JEP; †, ph. CGL). One was at Mims Lake near Truth or Consequences, SI, 12 May 2021 (†, ph. DJC; ph. JAG; †, ph. LWa). The White Ibis has been recorded in New Mexico in every month except February.

GLOSSY IBIS *Plegadis falcinellus* (97*, 6). In the eastern plains, one was at Ute Lake, QU, 13 May 2016 († JEP), another at Stanley, SF, 22 Apr 2017 (†, ph. MRJ). In the RGV, single individuals were at Valle de Oro NWR, BE, 17 Apr 2020 (ph. GKF), at BDA, SO, 15 Apr 2016 († JEP) and 24 Apr 2021 (ph. GKE, † CIS; † JEP), and at Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 6 Apr 2018 (ph. DJC). NOT ACCEPTED: One was reported at BDA 10 Apr 2021 but the brief details and the single photo did not support the identification. First found in New Mexico in 1995, the Glossy Ibis has been annual in spring since 1999.

ROSEATE SPOONBILL *Platalea ajaja* (16, 8). In the RGV, single spoonbills were near Los Alamos, LA, 4 Oct 2017 († MBr; † RBW), at Albuquerque, BE, 16 Jul–3 Aug 2012 (ph. SSt; ph. CJW), at BDA, SO, 3 Oct 2010 (ph. JMc) and 28 Jun 2012 (ph. WWa), and at Caballo Lake, SI, 29 Sep 2010 (ph. LSG) and 25–27 Aug 2012 (ph. DJC; † JEP; ph. WWi; ph. CLA). In the Tularosa Basin, one was at Holloman Lake, OT, 3–7 Jul 2012 (ph. KBa). In the east, one was at Bitter Lake NWR, CH, 8 Jul–1 Aug 2015 (ph. JMo; †, ph. WTE; †, ph. RBW; ph. RSN). The species is a rare late summer–fall transient in New Mexico, mainly in the lower Rio Grande and Pecos River valleys.

BLACK VULTURE *Coragyps atratus* (4, 3). One was at Roswell, CH, 23 Nov–4 Dec 2014 (†, ph. MRi), another at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 16 Apr 2017 (†, ph. MJT), and a third at Shady Lakes, BE, and nearby Sandia Lakes, SA, 26–31 Aug 2017 (†, ph. DGB). The only previous New Mexico record was in 1996.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE *Elanoides forficatus* (15, 7). One each was at Carlsbad, ED, 14 Aug 2004 († RSN), Santa Rosa, GU, 19–20 Sep 2009 († JEP; ph. JRO), Santa Fe, SF, 9 May 2010 († RCl; ph. CCl), north of Roswell, CH, 31 May 2010 († CMR), at Mountainair, TO, 19 Aug 2012 (ph. RPG), Texico, CU, 7 Sep 2014 († GRe), and Cannon Air Force Base, CU, 19–21 Sep 2014 († JEP; ph. JRO; ph. DGW). NOT ACCEPTED: One inadequately described at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 7 May 2021.

WHITE-TAILED HAWK *Geranoaetus albicaudatus* (1, 1). An adult on Rowe Mesa, SM, 9 Jun 2017 (†, ph. WJ-W) represents the first and, to date, only New Mexico record verified by photo or specimen and accepted by the committee; there are several unsubstantiated reports dating back to the 1960s. NOT ACCEPTED: Receiving no support were reports of one at Mesilla Valley Bosque SP, DA, 18 Dec 2018 and at Albuquerque, BE, 24 May 2020.

[VARIABLE HAWK *Geranoaetus polyosoma*]. NOT ACCEPTED: One was reported at the Manzano Mts. hawkwatch site near Capilla Peak, TO, 2 Oct 2017, and six photos were obtained as the hawk flew away from the observer. The NMBRC obtained extensive comments on the photos from raptor-identification experts and ornithologists with extensive experience in the Variable Hawk's range in South America. They were not in agreement as to the hawk's identity, dissuading committee members from accepting the record. The question of human transport could never be answered to everyone's satisfaction, but as the identity of the hawk in the photos was also questioned, the subject of its provenance was moot.

GRAY HAWK *Buteo plagiatus* (20*, 10). Multiple reports from the RGV indicate the Gray Hawk is spreading into that region: an adult was at Mesilla Valley Bosque SP, DA, 2–10 Apr 2016 (ph. BRo; ph. CJG; †, ph. WTE), an adult was at BDA, SO, 1 Apr 2017 († JEP), an adult pair was on the Ladder Ranch, SI, 20 Aug 2018 (†, ph. KSt), and a juvenile was at Bernardo WMA, SO, 13–14 Nov 2021 (†, ph. DJo). In the southwest, the species expanded into new areas in the Gila and Mimbres river valleys, including first nests for Grant and Luna counties: single adults at Redrock, GR, 17–21 Apr 2016 (†, ph. JBS) and 8 Apr 2020 (ph. BMc), an adult tending a juvenile beside a nest at Cliff, GR, 2–3 Jun 2016 (†, ph. JBS), and an adult at the Gila Bird Area, 13–16 km south of Cliff, GR, 22 Apr–31 May 2021 († KDa; † ANe). At River Ranch, LU, at least one adult 5 Jul–28 Aug 2021 (†, ph. JAG) was followed by an adult pair at a nest 14 May 2022 (†, ph. JAG); it continued at that site to 7 Oct 2022 († JAG; † SMi; ph., ♀ DBM). Williams and Krueper (2008) summarized the spread of this species into New Mexico, and predicted this continued range expansion. The NMBRC continues to review occurrences of the Gray Hawk outside of Hidalgo and Eddy counties, where breeding was first established in 2004 and 2007, respectively.

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK *Buteo lineatus* (34, 17). Of the 17 Red-shouldered Hawks detailed here, five were of the western subspecies *elegans*. In western New Mexico, an adult *elegans* at Apache Creek, CA, 12 Jul–17 Aug 2014 († CMR; †, ph. NEH; †, ph. VDe; ph. JRO) provided the state's first summer record of any subspecies of the Red-shouldered Hawk. A juvenile *elegans* was at Quemado Lake, CA, 29 Aug–9 Sep 2021 (†, ph. CMR; †, ph. NEH; † WTE). Of the nine records accepted from the RGV, three represented *elegans*: an adult in Albuquerque, BE, 4 Jul–25 Sep 2017 (†, ph. BLM), an adult at Turn, VA, 17 Feb–17 Mar 2002 († CMR; †, ph. JRO), and a juvenile at BDA, SO, 3–22 Nov 2020 (†, ph. CSh). Most or all of the remaining 12 records represented the widespread eastern *lineatus*, but several birds were not subspecifically identified. In the RGV, these comprised one in Albuquerque's South Valley 5 May 2018 († KSS), one at Turn, VA, 18 Feb 2001 († CMR), and one at Luis Lopez, SO, 28 Feb 2012 (ph. JRO), and ones at BDA, SO, 27 Dec 2013 († LRH) and 16–30 Mar 2019 (†, ph. JMu; ph. GKF). One split its time between Santa Teresa, DA, and nearby El Paso, Texas, 24–25 Mar 2020 (†, ph. JMG; † PRu). In the east, single examples of *lineatus* were at Conchas Lake, SM, 9–19 Sep 2020 (†, ph, ♀ RLV; † PEC), Texico, CU, 11 Sep 2011 († DLH; ph. SDC), Tatum WTP, LE, 27 Sep–12 Oct 2014 († JEP; ph. JRO; ph. NEH), Hobbs, LE, 20 Sep 2011 (ph. JRO), and Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 4–8 Sep 2015 (†, ph. RSN) and 25 May–26 Aug 2018 († JEP; †, ♀ RSN). NOT ACCEPTED: Five reports failed to establish the bird's identity, of one each at Mesilla Valley Bosque SP, DA, 24 Dec 2011, Gila Farms north of Cliff, GR, 11 Sep 2013, 9 km south of Radium Springs, DA, 18 Apr 2018; Washington Ranch, ED, 7 Oct 2018, and Los Alamos, LA, 27 May 2020.

SHORT-TAILED HAWK *Buteo brachyurus* (3, 2). A light-morph adult in the Mogollon Mts., CA, 24 Aug 2018 († EGW; ph. JZu) provided New Mexico's second record. It was followed by another light-morph adult near Ramah Lake, MC, 17 May 2019 († JAT), the most northerly Short-tailed Hawk yet recorded. The spread of this species north through Mexico and into the southwestern U.S., including New Mexico, has been detailed by Williams et al. (2007), Snyder et al. (2010), and Rosenberg et al. (2019). NOT ACCEPTED: The description of a supposed Short-tailed Hawk at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 24 Apr 2006 did not match that species. A photo taken in the Pinos Altos Mts., GR, 11 Dec 2010 proved to represent a soaring adult Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*). The written documentation for a hawk seen briefly in desert scrub south of Carlsbad, ED, 11 Aug 2017 did not adequately describe the Short-tailed.

EASTERN SCREECH-OWL *Megascops asio* (1, 0). NOT ACCEPTED: A report of one heard at a rest area along I-25 west of Las Vegas, SM, 29 Dec 2005 received

little support, especially as no description of the call was provided. There is but one accepted New Mexico record of the Eastern Screech-Owl, a red morph that remained in Portales, RO, Nov 2003–May 2005.

BARRED OWL *Strix varia* (2, 1). One found day-roosting in cottonwoods at Boone's Draw, RO, 8–9 Sep 2010 († CLB; † MOH) provided New Mexico's second accepted record.

ELEGANT TROGON *Trogon elegans* (42, 5). A female in the Organ Mts., DA, 13 Feb 2011 (†, ph. LJF) and a male in Guadalupe Canyon, HI, 20 Feb 2011 († CMR) provided the first winter records of the Elegant Trogon for New Mexico. A male at a ranch near Artesia, ED, 14 Jun 2016 (†, ph. KrM) was the second recorded in eastern New Mexico. A male was at Santa Teresa, DA, 15–16 Jun 2021 (ph. SWo; †, ph. JMG). A female was in Clanton Canyon, Peloncillo Mts., HI, 27 May 2022 (ph. SDR; †, ph., ♀ LWa). The species summered annually in the Peloncillo Mts. 1991–2010, but since then there have been few reports and no thorough surveys.

EARED QUETZAL *Euptilotis neoxenus* (2, 1). Two individuals were in Little Cherry Creek Canyon and nearby canyons, Pinos Altos Mts., GR, 20 Aug–25 Oct 2020 († TmC; SeB; †, ph. DLe; †, ph., ♀; Figure 10). This constitutes the first occurrence of the Eared Quetzal in New Mexico confirmed by photo or audio recording, but it follows a well-documented sight record of one in the Animas Mts., HI, 13 June 1979 (Am. Birds 33:888, AOU 1998).

GREEN KINGFISHER *Chloroceryle americana* (3, 0). NOT ACCEPTED: A report of a female along the Gila River at the Gila Bird Area, GR, 14 Jun 2007 did not satisfactorily identify this or any other kingfisher species. In New Mexico, the Green Kingfisher is a rare visitor to the Gila and lower Pecos rivers (Williams 2022).

GOLDEN-FRONTED WOODPECKER *Melanerpes aurifrons* (2, 2). A female at the Eunice golf course and adjacent Stephens Lake, LE, 16 Oct 2015 to 13 Mar 2016 (†, ph. RSN; Figure 11) provided a long-overdue first confirmed New Mexico record; a female near Milnesand, RO, 12 May 2021 (†, ph. GMB) provided the second. NOT ACCEPTED: The incomplete description of a woodpecker far from the expected range of the Golden-fronted at Hillsboro, SI, 26 Nov 2018 was not adequate for this species.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER *Melanerpes carolinus* (34, 6). In eastern New Mexico, single individuals were along Trigg Road, SM, 3 Dec 2004–24 Mar 2005 (†, ph. MDM), at Yeso, DB, 28–29 Sep 2006 (†, ph. JRO; † JEP), and at Conchas Lake, SM, 12 Oct 2006 (†, ph. MJB; † NDP). Across the north, one was at La Plata, SJ, 19 Jan 2014 (ph. LRa), one was at Costilla, TA, 28–30 May 2014 (†, ph. REF), and one was at White Rock, LA, 18 Jan–3 May 2015 (†, ph. TMi; ph. RBW; ph. SMF). The species is a rare transient and winter resident occurring almost entirely in the eastern portion of the state.

RED-BREASTED SAPSUCKER *Sphyrapicus ruber* (4, 4). An immature in the Zuni Mts. 5 km north of Ramah Lake, MC, 19 Oct–4 Nov 2012 was the first Red-breasted Sapsucker confirmed in New Mexico by photo (†, ph. RHa; Figure 12). Study of the photos by P. Pyle, K. L. Garrett, and S. M. Billerman found the bird consistent with pure *S. r. daggetti*. Photos of a sapsucker along the Gila River at the Gila Bird Area, GR, 23 Dec 2017–27 Feb 2018 (†, ph. KDa) and another along Palomas Creek on the A-Spear Ranch west of Williamsburg, SI, 3–15 Nov 2019 (ph. ADC; ph. JRA; †, ph. DJC) also appeared to represent *S. r. daggetti*, the more southerly of the Red-breasted Sapsucker's two subspecies. Details for a sapsucker described independently by two observers at the Los Alamos National Lab, LA, 5–6 Nov 2001 († JTa; † BRf) were convincing for a pure Red-breasted. Hybrids between the Red-breasted and other sapsuckers occur in New Mexico almost annually.



FIGURE 10. The Eared Quetzal was first confirmed in New Mexico by two birds, usually together, in the Pinos Altos Mts., Grant Co., 20 Aug–25 Oct 2020. This is the female, in Little Cherry Creek Canyon.

Photo taken 24 October 2020 by Joel A. Gilb



FIGURE 11. Providing a first confirmed New Mexico record, this female Golden-fronted Woodpecker was at Stephens Lake near Eunice, Lea Co., 16 Oct 2015–13 Mar 2016.

Photo taken 16 October 2015 by Nicholas D. Pederson



FIGURE 12. Representing New Mexico's first accepted record of the Red-breasted Sapsucker, and one of four addressed in this report, this immature *S. r. daggetti* was near Ramah Lake, Zuni Mts., Mc Kinley Co., 19 Oct–4 Nov 2012.

Photo taken 27 October 2012 by Jerry R. Oldenettel

CRESTED CARACARA *Caracara plancus* (20, 4). In New Mexico's southwestern corner, one was south of Animas, *HI*, 15 Jan 2017 (†, ph. SPL), one was north of Rodeo, *HI*, 14 May 2017 († CBC), and one was south of Rodeo 10 Oct–29 Nov 2020 († KKi; ph. CIS). In the RGV, one was at BDA, *SO*, 21–28 Mar 2021 (ph. GKF; †, ph. OJS; †, ph. JBP).

GREAT KISKADEE *Pitangus sulphuratus* (17, 9). Seven records were in southeastern New Mexico, three at Rattlesnake Springs, *ED*: of one that overwintered 27 Jul 2000–1 Feb 2001 († DMR; † JEP; ph. JRO), one 16 May 2004 († PSW; † CLB; † JMB), and one 17–19 May 2015 (ph. IDo; †, ph. RSN). Single birds were at Carlsbad, *ED*, 21 Oct 2020 († EPI; †, ph. RSN) and 12 Jul 2021 (ph. PMe). In adjacent Lea Co., one was at Eunice 1 Jul–21 Aug 2005 (†, ph. PWM), another at the Tatum WTP 28 Apr–10 May 2017 († JEP; ph. JRO). In the RGV, one was very far north at Valdez, *TA*, 8 Jul–15 Nov 2020 (†, ph. NPa; †, ph. REF), and one overwintered at Percha Dam SP, *SI*, 12 Nov 2020–26 Mar 2021 († MWi; †, ph. LMi; † MPE; †, ph. JAG). NOT ACCEPTED: One was reported at Clayton, *UN*, 13–14 May 1989, but the photo submitted was of a Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*).

SULPHUR-BELLIED FLYCATCHER *Myiodynastes luteiventris* (28, 6). Single individuals were in Guadalupe Canyon, *HI*, 8 July 2005 († JEP; † JRO; † PEL), 9 Jul 2008 († MJB), 24 Jul 2011 (†, ph. MJB; †, ph. NDP), and 30 May 2020 (†, ph., JLW; †, ph. PEC; †, ph. EFG; † KON). One was along Apache Creek, *CA*, 23–25 May 2021 (†, ph. ARO; † AMe), and another was at Silver City, *GR*, 10–11 Sep 2021 (†, ph. DBM; †, ph. KDa). NOT ACCEPTED: The report of one heard only (and only once) at the Heart Bar WMA, *s. CA*, 10 Aug 2006 received no support.

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

PIRATIC FLYCATCHER *Legatus leucophaeus* (4, 1). A juvenile was at Silver City, GR, 15 Sep 2019 (ph. KaM; ph. JWr; identity confirmed by J. V. Remsen). It represents New Mexico's fourth record and the first from the southwest; the previous three Piratic Flycatchers—all juveniles, all in September, and all photographed—were in the southeast in the lower Pecos Valley (Williams 2022).

TROPICAL KINGBIRD *Tyrannus melancholicus* (7, 7). Two birds were at the Santa Teresa Country Club golf course, DA, 13 Jul–3 Aug 2010 (†, ph. JNP; ♪ JEZ; ♪ NDP); although these appeared to be a mated pair, actual nesting was not documented. Up to two were at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 27 May–22 Jul 2018 (†, ph. ♪ RSN; ♪ NEH); two were present 1–7 Jul only, and although one was seen carrying a twig, there was no proof of actual nesting. Two were at Lake Carlsbad, ED, 3–7 Sep 2018 (†, ph., ♪ RSN; ph. DKe; †, ph. WTE). One was at Brantley Lake, ED, 29–30 May 2020 (†, ph., ♪ RSN). Up to three including a juvenile were at La Union, DA, 2–31 Aug 2021 (†, ph., ♪ DAB). One was at Clines Corners, TO, 22 Sep–9 Oct 2021 (ph., ♪ MOH; ♪ MJB). A pair at a nest below Sumner Dam, DB, 17 Jun–9 Jul 2022 (†, ph., ♪ MJB) confirmed the first certain nesting for New Mexico (Baumann 2023).

COUCH'S KINGBIRD *Tyrannus couchii* (10, 7). In eastern New Mexico, vocal individuals were at Conchas Lake, SM, 25 Jun 2005 († WFW) and at the MMT, RO, 31 May 2008 († JEP). At Boone's Draw, RO, one adult female was collected 21 May 2016 (†, ♪ MJB; # MSB:Bird:44033, ph.), and another was collected there the following day († ABJ; # MSB:Bird:44034, ph.). In the RGV, one was near Leasburg Dam SP, DA, 14–15 Oct 2011 († NGS; ph., ♪ DMS), one was at BDA, SO, 5–12 Nov 2016 (ph. AWr; ph. KWr; ♪ MJA), and another was vocal there 11–22 Oct 2018 († KZA; ph. JSc); BDA was the site of New Mexico's first accepted Couch's Kingbird in November and December 1985 (Hubbard and Shipman 1994).

TROPICAL/COUCH'S KINGBIRD (12, 6). Silent single birds of this difficult pair were at Zuni's Blackrock Dam, MC, 18 Jun 2007 († JAT), the Lordsburg WTP, HI, 10 May 2014 († DRJ; ph. CWi), BDA, SO, 14 Apr 2017 (ph. CHa), Caballo Lake, SI, 15 Aug 2019 (ph. MKR), Tatum, LE, 9 Sep 2011 († JEP; ph. JRO), and Lake McMillan, ED, 20 Dec 2014 († CMR). NOT ACCEPTED: One was reported at Leasburg Dam SP, DA, 7 Oct 2017, but the details provided were inadequate and the observer was unsure of the identification.

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE *Contopus virens* (31, 6). In eastern New Mexico, vocal Eastern Wood-Pewees were at the MMT, RO, 17–18 May 2014 († JEP; ph. JRO; † CMR), 8 Sep 2010 (†, ♪ CLB), and 8 Sep 2012 († JEP; † CLA), at Boone's Draw, RO, 10 Sep 2016 († MJB; † NDP), and at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 4 Sep 2016 († CMR). Farther west, one was at Galisteo, SF, 22 May 2011 († JPB; † MOH). NOT ACCEPTED: One was reported at the Mesa Rest Area, CH, 19 May 2011, but the details and photos did not rule out other species. The report of one at Rattlesnake Springs 19 Sep 2016 had no useful details.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER *Empidonax flaviventris* (14, 6). In Roosevelt Co., single birds were at the MMT 9–10 Sep 2010 (ph. CJW), 3–4 Oct 2015 († JEP, ph. JRO), and 16 Sep 2020 (ph. AHo), at Milnesand 1 Oct 2017 (†, ph. WTE), and at Boone's Draw 25 Sep 2010 († NDP; † CJW; † MJB; # MSB:Bird:29831). One was at Fort Sumner, DB, 26 Sep 2021 (†, ph. JLW; †, ph. EFG). NOT ACCEPTED: One was reported from the MMT 27 Apr 2020, but the committee believed more thorough documentation was required for acceptance a first spring record for New Mexico, especially on such an early date.

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER *Empidonax virens* (2, 1). One was at Milnesand, RO, 2–4 Sep 2006 (†, ph., ♪ JRO; ph. MOH; † MJB; †, ph. CGL; † JEP; ph. JPB). To date, New Mexico has had six credible reports of the Acadian Flycatcher, two accepted and four in review.

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

[ALDER FLYCATCHER *Empidonax alnorum*]. NOT ACCEPTED: A silent “Traill’s” Flycatcher, thought to be a hatch-year Alder, was photographed at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 26 Aug 2019, but the committee believes that audio recordings are necessary to confirm this species for the New Mexico list. The Alder Flycatcher remains on the state’s hypothetical list, with eight detailed sightings, most with convincing descriptions of the voice and three supported by photos but all lacking audio recordings.

PACIFIC-SLOPE FLYCATCHER *Empidonax difficilis* (3, 0). NOT ACCEPTED: Two reported from the eastern plains at the MMT, RO, on the early date of 8 Aug 2020 were audio-recorded, but the recordings did not match reference sonograms and were further complicated by overlapping sounds from two birds.

BUFF-BREASTED FLYCATCHER *Empidonax fulvifrons* (23*, 1). One was seen and heard calling in the Woodland Park area of the Gila Wilderness, CA, 22 Aug 2021 († JPG). NOT ACCEPTED: A report of one heard singing but seen only briefly in Clanton Canyon, Peloncillo Mts., HI, was intriguing, but lack of satisfactory visual details caused the committee to vote conservatively. Extirpated from New Mexico by 1930, the Buff-breasted Flycatcher began gradual recolonization in the mid-1990s, nesting in the Animas Mts., HI, by 2008 and expanding north to the Burro Mts., GR, nesting there by 2017 (Williams 2022).

BLACK-CAPPED VIREO *Vireo atricapilla* (9, 5). In the Guadalupe Mts., ED, an adult male was singing below the Sitting Bull Falls Picnic Area 31 May–1 Jun 2010 († CMR; † SOW) and a second-year male was vocal in upper McKittrick Canyon 16 May 2022 (†, ph., ♀ RLV). A male in the Organ Mts. at Aguirre Springs, DA, 25–27 May 2019 († MGO; †, ph. ♀ WTE; †, ♀ NEH; †, ♀ KOn) furnished New Mexico’s first record from west of the Guadalupe Mts. A male at the MMT, RO, 25 May 2018 († JEP; †, ph. JPB) was the second recorded from that prairie oasis, and a drab, presumably hatch-year female was at the same locale 1–2 Sep 2019 (†, ph. APa; †, ph. NEH), representing the first fall record for New Mexico.

WHITE-EYED VIREO *Vireo griseus* (137, 1). One at the Quarai ruins, TO, 7 May 2011 († MJO) provided a county first. Averaging over five records per year by 2015, the White-eyed Vireo has been removed from the review list. It is now a rare but regular spring and fall transient and summer resident, occurring statewide but found primarily in riparian areas from the RGV eastward. Nesting has been documented along the Rio Grande and is suspected elsewhere (Williams 2022).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO *Vireo philadelphicus* (68, 15). The MMT, RO, clearly the best locale for finding this species in New Mexico, had eight fall records of single birds: 24–25 Sep 2009 († CLB; † JMB), 15 Oct 2010 († JEP; ph. JRO), 20 Sep 2013 († JEP; ph. JRO), 18 Sep 2014 (ph. JRO), 25 Sep 2014 (ph. JRO), 3 Oct 2014 († JEP; ph. JRO), 17–19 Oct 2014 († JRO; † CMR), and 25–27 Sep 2021 († JEP; ph. ATT). Fall records elsewhere were of one at Roy, HA, 1 Oct 2021 († WTE), one at BDA, SO, 10 Oct 2012 (ph. CLA), and one at the Conoco pond near Maljamar, LE, 5 Oct 2015 (ph. JRO). Spring records, relatively rare in New Mexico, were from the MMT 1 May 1999 (†, ph. JRO) and 9 May 2010 († JRO), Turtle Bay, Socorro, SO, 23 May 2008 († MOH), and Ute Lake, QU, 23–25 May 2022 (†, ph. MOH; †, ph. RLV; †, ph. LKa). NOT ACCEPTED: Four spring reports were not accepted; all suffered from incomplete descriptions that missed important field marks and failed to eliminate the Warbling Vireo (*V. gilvus*): east of Milnesand near Bluit, RO, 10 May 2008, La Union, DA, 2 May 2011, the Conoco pond 9 May 2013, and Zuni, MC, 5 Jun 2016.

YELLOW-GREEN VIREO *Vireo flavoviridis* (7, 1). One was at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 9–17 Aug 2013 († JEP; †, ph. RSN; † JPB; † MJB; †, ph. NDP); it fit the pattern of previous New Mexico records, which indicate the species is a rare summer–early fall visitor, primarily to southern riparian areas.

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

[GREEN JAY *Cyanocorax yncas*]. NOT ACCEPTED: One photographed near the Mexico border at Santa Teresa, DA, 1 Apr 2021, but the NMBRC regards the bird's provenance as uncertain. There are two previous unaccepted records, of one photographed at Las Cruces, DA, 20–21 May 1995 and another photographed in the same yard there 2–3 Aug 2007. Weighing against all three of these is the great distance to native range, the species' sedentary habits within its native range, the belief that this colorful species is a popular cage bird in Mexico, and, for the Las Cruces reports, the improbability of two vagrants appearing in the same backyard.

[TUFTED TITMOUSE *Baeolophus bicolor*]. NOT ACCEPTED: One was reported in Piedra Lisa Canyon, Sandia Mts., BE, 8 May 2011, but the photos submitted were of a Juniper Titmouse (*B. ridgwayi*), a species resident in that area. There is no credible New Mexico record of the Tufted Titmouse.

BLACK-CRESTED TITMOUSE *Baeolophus atricristatus* (1, 1). New Mexico's first record was of one at Hillcrest Park in Clovis, CU, 16–23 Dec 2017 (†, ph. CMR; Figure 13). Pale grayish tips on the distal ends of the crest feathers suggest this individual was a female. The committee considered the possibility of a hybrid *B. atricristatus* × *bicolor*, but the amount of buff on the forehead and smooth transition of the buffy color along the crest were consistent with the subspecies of the Black-crested Titmouse from the panhandle of Texas, *B. a. sennetti* (C. M. Curry, *in litt.*), the likely source population of the New Mexico bird.



FIGURE 13. This Black-crested Titmouse at Hillcrest Park in Clovis, Curry Co., 16–23 Dec 2017 was the first recorded in New Mexico.

Photo taken 17 December 2017 by Jonathan P. Batkin

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

BLACK-CAPPED GNATCATCHER *Poliophtila nigriceps* (*, 1). One in Cottonwood Canyon in the Peloncillo Mts., HI, 30 Aug 2020 (†, ph. NEH) represents New Mexico's first accepted record away from Guadalupe Canyon, HI, 16 km to the south, where the Black-capped Gnatcatcher was discovered nesting in 2006. Since 2016 it has occurred annually in Guadalupe Canyon and is presumed resident in small numbers (Williams 2022).

PACIFIC WREN *Troglodytes pacificus* (*, 4). Two were in Nutria Canyon, MC, 16 Dec 2012 († JAT), and single birds were in Cienega Canyon, Sandia Mts., BE, 26 Dec 2012–16 Feb 2013 (ph. CJW; † JEP; † BRF), at Oliver Lee SP, OT, 2 Jan–9 Feb 2015 († CMR; † WTE; ph. JRO), and in Los Alamos Canyon, LA, 16 Jan 2016 († CMA). NOT ACCEPTED: The committee did not support four reports, of a silent wren in Los Alamos Canyon on the early date of 1 Sep 2020, another silent one in Guage Canyon, LA, 19 Nov 2020, of one very briefly described in Post Office Canyon, HI, 14 Nov 2020, and one briefly and incompletely described at San Vicente Cienega, Silver City, 7 Nov 2022. Given that the Winter Wren outnumbers the Pacific Wren in New Mexico, and owing to differences in how individual observers perceive and interpret bird vocalizations, the committee encourages observers to submit audio recordings with all reports of the Pacific Wren or, at a minimum, describe what was heard; vague statements such as “sounded like Wilson's Warbler” are of little value.

SEDGE WREN *Cistothorus stellaris* (21, 5). Single individuals were at Bernalillo, SA, 22 Oct 1981 († WHH; † VHi), 10 km south of Belen, VA, 10 Nov 1981–19 Jan 1982 († WHH; † RMa; † KMC; # MSB:Bird:8757), at BDA, SO, 22–27 Apr 2016 († CMB; ph. NDP; ♫ MJB; ph. MJA; † JEP), at the Santa Rosa golf course, GU, 7–9 Oct 2021 (†, ph. RG; † WFW; † LFa), and west of Las Cruces in Mason Draw grasslands, DA, 9 Oct 2021 (†, ph. JAG). NOT ACCEPTED: A report of one at Bluewater Village, CI, 10 Oct 2007. The Sedge Wren is a rare fall and spring transient and winter resident in New Mexico September–April, almost entirely from the RGV eastward (Williams 2022).

BLUE MOCKINGBIRD *Melanotis caerulescens* (1, 1). New Mexico's first was found at Rattlesnake Springs ED, 14 Nov 2021 and was subsequently seen by hundreds (†, ph., ♫ RSN; Figure 14); it was last seen on 5 Feb 2022. The bird showed no signs of cage wear, and the timing of its discovery and lengthy stay matched the pattern of vagrancy established in Arizona (Rosenberg et al. 2011). A previous report, of one photographed at Las Cruces, DA, 7–8 Aug 1995, was not accepted; the bird was found in the same yard where single Green Jays occurred in May 1995 and August 2007, so the NMBRC questioned its provenance.

LONG-BILLED THRASHER *Toxostoma longirostre* (3, 0). NOT ACCEPTED: Supposed Long-billed Thrashers were reported at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 2 Mar 1997 and at Alamogordo, OT, 28 Jan 2012, but in both cases the brief details neither confirmed this species nor eliminated other species. The photographs of a thrasher in worn plumage at the Maljamar Rest Area, LE, 14 Aug 2020 generated much discussion: the bird appeared intermediate between the Long-billed and Brown thrashers but the photos were not conclusive for either. The Long-billed is known as a casual vagrant to eastern New Mexico, with three accepted records since the first in 1995 (Williams 2022).

ORANGE-BILLED NIGHTINGALE-THRUSH *Catharus aurantiirostris* (1, 1). One was singing in Nutria Canyon, on the southwest slope of the Zuni Mountains, MC, 18 Jul 2015 (†, ♫ CMR; †, ♫ NEH; †, ♫ WTE; †, ph. RCL; ph., ♫ NDP; Figure 15). The bird sang almost continuously in the morning and evening hours and intermittently during mid-day but was not detected after the 18th. This constitutes the fourth accepted U.S. record of the Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush, following



FIGURE 14. This Blue Mockingbird wintered at Rattlesnake Springs, Eddy Co., 14 Nov 2021–5 Feb 2022, establishing New Mexico's first accepted record.

Photo taken 17 November 2021 by Jonathan P. Batkin



FIGURE 15. Providing a first record for New Mexico and the fourth for the United States, this Orange-billed Nightingale-Thrush was singing in Nutria Canyon, Zuni Mts., McKinley Co., 18 Jul 2015.

Photo by Nicholas D. Pederson

two spring records for south Texas and a summer record for the Black Hills in South Dakota (Howell et al. 2014).

VEERY *Catharus fuscescens* (61, 4). One seen and heard at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 17 Oct 2009 († CLB) established New Mexico's latest fall record of the Veery. A spring migrant was at the same location 15 May 2022 (†, ph. RSN), and another was singing along the Rio Chama below Abiquiu Dam, RA, 17 May 2018 († WTE). Up to two in streamside willows along the Rio Costilla near Costilla, TA, 23 Jun–1 Aug 2019 (†, ph., ♀ REF) established a new locale for the species' summering in northern New Mexico. NOT ACCEPTED: The report of one at Clayton, UN, on the exceptionally late date of 11 Nov 1984 had no useful details. The brief report of one at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, on the remarkably early dates of 21 and 22 Apr 2018 failed to eliminate similar *Catharus* thrushes. The Veery is a rarely detected spring and fall transient primarily through eastern New Mexico and a very local breeder in the mountains of northern New Mexico (Williams 2022).

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH *Catharus minimus* (9, 4). One was at Boone's Draw, RO, 13 May 2012 (†, ph. NDP; †, ph. MJB), and another was there 17 May 2012 († WFW). One was at Ned Houk Park, CU, 14 May 2012 (†, ph., ♀ CJW), and one was at Fort Sumner, DB, 20 May 2012 (†, ph. NDP; † MJB). These four records, coming within a span of eight days, almost doubled the number of accepted New Mexico records since the first, of a specimen collected 13 May 1971. NOT ACCEPTED: The report of one at Ramon, LI, 15 May 2009 did not eliminate similar, more likely species of *Catharus*.

WOOD THRUSH *Hylocichla mustelina* (74, 27). One at Los Alamos, LA, 13–18 Oct 1956 († WBL; ph. PRS) was the first recorded in New Mexico. More recently, Wood Thrushes occurred in the RGV at Galisteo, SF, 8–9 Oct 2012 († BRF; †, ph. CLA; † RCL) and 17–18 May 2015 († BRF; †, ph. JPB), at Bernalillo, SA, on the late dates of 16 Nov 2014 († CNI; † GMA) and 9–18 Nov 2020 (ph. CNI), at Albuquerque, BE, 2 Jun 2020 († NDP) and 12 May 2021 († EFG; † JLW; ph. MJA), and south of Radium Springs, DA, 3–9 Nov 2020 († MTS; ph. JEZ). In the east, single birds were at Sumner Dam, DB, 23 Sep 2011 († JEP), Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 14–15 May 2016 († GMB; † PSW; † JRO) and 25 Apr–1 May 2021 (†, ph. RSN; †, ph. LWA), Maljamar, LE, 28 Sep 2020 (†, ph. PEC), and Boone's Draw, RO, 1 Oct 2011 († CLB) and 9 Oct 2010 († MJB; † NDP; # MSB:Bird:29857). The MMT, RO, accounted for 12 records: 1 Oct 2010 († JEP; ph. JRO), 6 May 2011 († JEP; ph. JRO), 16 Sep 2011 († JEP; ph. JRO), 24 Sep 2013 (ph. AHe), 19 Oct 2014 (ph. JRO), 19 Sep 2015 († JEP), 6–9 Oct 2016 († JRO; ph. JWS), 23 Apr 2017 (†, ph. GMB), 14–16 May 2018 († TJA; ph. RDA), 17 May 2020 († JEP; † JLW), 27 Sep 2020 († JEP; †, ph. GMB; †, ph. CSp), and 10 Oct 2020 († JEP; †, ph. NEH). In the west, where the Wood Thrush is casual, one was at Zuni's Blackrock Dam, MC, 22 Sep 2019 († JAT). NOT ACCEPTED: The report of one at Bandelier NM, LA, 19 Jul 2003 lacked details sufficient for acceptance of an exceptional mid-summer record.

RUFIOUS-BACKED ROBIN *Turdus rufopalliatu*s (23, 14). On New Mexico's eastern plains, where the Rufous-backed Robin is especially notable, one was south of Cannon AFB, CU, 19–22 Nov 2010 (ph. JLo) and at the MMT, RO, 9–10 Oct 2013 (ph. SDC). In the RGV, single birds were at Bosquecito, SO, 17–19 Nov 2002 († GKE; ph. JRO), Percha Dam SP, SI, 10 Oct 2009 (ph. CJW) and 12 Jan–23 Apr 2022 († BSC; ph. TBG), Leasburg Dam SP, DA, 8–15 May 2016 (†, ph. WTE; ph. DTM), La Union, DA, 22 Jan–4 Feb 2018 (ph. DAB), and Santa Teresa, DA, 3 Nov 2020 (†, ph. PRU). Records from the southwest were of one was at the Gila Bird Area, GR, 18–26 Feb 2017 († BRi; †, ph. JBS), one north of Faywood, GR, 29 Mar 2021 († AMo), one at Dunagan's Crossing, HI, 23 Feb 2015 († DJG), one at Rodeo, HI, 14 Oct 2008 († REW), and one in Guadalupe Canyon, HI, 21 Oct 2017 (†, ♀ NEH; † CMR; †, ♀ WTE).



FIGURE 16. This female Northern Wheatear at Bosque Redondo Park near Fort Sumner, De Baca Co., 7–15 Apr 2014, furnished New Mexico's first record.

Photo taken 7 April 2014 by Coen Dexter

VARIED THRUSH *Ixoreus naevius* (60, 23). Unexpected in mid-summer, one was at Chaco Canyon, *SJ*, 23–24 Jun 2008 (†, ph. DTL). In western New Mexico, at more typical times, were one at Zuni's Blackrock Dam, *MC*, 15 Dec 2012 († ChC), one at Glenwood, *CA*, 29 Oct 2020 (†, ph. JCo; † RMo), and one at Silver City, *GR*, 19–20 Nov 2009 (†, ph. DAZ). In the north, one was in the Sangre de Cristo Mts. at Valle Escondido, *TA*, 10–14 Nov 2020 († DKi; ph. GS†; ph. KDe). In the RGV, single birds were at Santa Fe, *SF*, 30 Dec 2014–10 Jan 2015 (ph. FFr; † CGr), in upper Santa Fe Canyon, *SF*, 5–23 Dec 2017 († SPi; † RCl; ph. JPB), in Los Alamos Canyon, *LA*, 16 Jan 2013 (ph. CDH), in the Corrales bosque, *SA*, 21–26 Oct 2020 (†, ph. OJS; †, ph. JBP), at Albuquerque's Alameda bridge, *BE*, 3 Feb 2015 († DCP), in Cienega Canyon, Sandia Mts., *BE*, 8 Mar 2009 († CMB; † JEP), near Tijeras in Otero Canyon, *BE*, 24 Apr 2011 († AGo), near Sandia Park, *BE*, 17 Nov 2014 (ph. MJD), at Caballo Lake, *SI*, 16 Nov 2010 (ph. DJC), and in the San Andres Mts. at San Andres Spring, *DA*, 22–23 Apr 2014 († MEW) and 28 Oct 2014 († MEW). One was in the Gallinas Mts. 17–18 Apr 2021 (†, ph. ABJ). In the east, single Varied Thrushes were at Yeso, *DB*, 25 Apr 2022 (†, ph. TWo), at Milnesand, *RO*, 4–5 Oct 2010 (†, ph. GMB) and 18 Nov 2018 (ph. AWi), at Maljamar, *LE*, 18–19 Nov 2016 († KBO; ph. DBN), and Rattlesnake Springs, *ED*, 18 Oct 2011 (ph. JHa). **NOT ACCEPTED:** Reports of one incompletely described from Torreon, *TO*, 11 Apr 2004 and one only heard near Glorieta, *SF*, 17 Mar 2020.

NORTHERN WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe* (1, 1). A female at Fort Sumner's Bosque Redondo Park, *DB*, 7–15 Apr 2014 († BWr; †, ph. CDe; Figure 16) added a new species and family (Muscicapidae) to New Mexico's state list. The species is seldom reported anywhere in interior western North America.

PURPLE FINCH *Haemorhous purpureus* (42, 9). In eastern New Mexico, one was at Portales, *RO*, 27–28 Oct 2014 (ph. JLo), two were there 12–23 Nov 2020 (ph. TDW), one was at Milnesand, *RO*, 6 Nov 2020 (ph. GMB), and one was at Bosque

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Redondo, *DB*, 15 Nov 2020 (†, ph. MJB). In the RGV, one was at Percha Dam SP, *SI*, 27 Dec 2014 (†, ph. JMG), a male was there 29 Dec 2016–5 Mar 2017 († BKP; ph. ACo; ph. NDP; †, ph. WTE), and two birds were there 25 Dec 2020–27 Mar 2021 (†, ph. PEC; †, ph. EFG; †, ph. DTi). Single individuals were at BDA, *SO*, 21 Oct 2018 (†, ph. NDP; †, ph. WTE) and Las Cruces, *DA*, 25–27 Nov 2021 (RCC). All birds accepted in this report were photographed and were identified as the eastern subspecies *purpureus*. It is the race expected in New Mexico, where to date there are but two confirmed records of the western *californicus* (Rutt et al. 2014, Williams 2022). NOT ACCEPTED: Photos of a purported adult male Purple Finch at Portales 25 Oct 2019 showed an especially bright House Finch.

COMMON REDPOLL *Acanthis flammea* (7, 4). One was at San Marcos, *SF*, 22 Dec 2011–18 Feb 2012 (†, ph. RBO; ph. JPB; ph. BRF; ph. JRO). In northeastern New Mexico, one was in the Dry Cimarron Valley, *UN*, 24 Nov 2012 (ph. MJB; ph. NDP), and another was at Clayton, *UN*, 19–20 Jan 2018 (†, ph. MJB; †, ph. NDP; † JEP). Extremely early and far south of expected was one at a feeder in Albuquerque, *BE*, 3–5 Oct 2021 (ph. RED; †, ph. MJA) and what—on the basis of photos, proximity, and timing—was believed to be the same individual visiting feeders even farther south at BDA, *SO*, 7 Oct 2021 (†, ph. SML). NOT ACCEPTED: Receiving little support was a report of one heard in flight at Maxwell NWR, *CO*, 24 Nov 2021; the brief description of the call was insufficient to confirm such a rarity in New Mexico.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL *Loxia leucoptera* (33, 3). Up to three were at Sandia Crest, *BE*, 25–31 Oct 2014 (†, ph. DY0; ph. CMB; † DLH), one was at the Santa Fe Ski Basin, *SF*, 3 Oct 2014 († JPB), and one was in the mountains north of Red River, *TA*, 15 Jul 2017 (†, ph. REF). The species is an occasional transient and breeder in the mountains of northern New Mexico.

LAWRENCE'S GOLDFINCH *Spinus lawrencei* (*, 1). One record was reviewed and accepted: three at Granite Gap Preserve, *HI*, 17 Oct 2012 (ph. TBG). The New Mexico status of Lawrence's Goldfinch has changed greatly over the past decade: the species has increased in frequency of occurrence, numbers of records, and (especially) numbers of individuals, as well as duration of presence and geographic distribution, to the extent that it no longer meets our criteria for a review species and was removed from the review list.

SMITH'S LONGSPUR *Calcarius pictus* (2, 2). A female at a stock tank on the McGregor Range, Otero Mesa, *OT*, 6 May 2011 (†, ph. RAM; Figure 17) was New Mexico's first Smith's Longspur confirmed by photo or specimen. A report of a bright male at a turf farm at Santa Teresa, *DA*, 11 Nov 1986 († BRZ), was accepted subsequently. Meyer and Williams (2012) detailed these two records and summarized earlier questionable New Mexico reports.

SNOW BUNTING *Plectrophenax nivalis* (4, 1). One at Stubblefield Lake, *CO*, 8–30 Dec 2016 (ph. JRO; † JEP; †, ph. RC; Figure 18) provided New Mexico's fourth record. All four of these Snow Bunting records were along the east base of the Sangre de Cristo Mts. in late fall or early winter. NOT ACCEPTED: One reported in the southeast near Lingo, *RO*, 5 Apr 2013.

RUFIOUS-WINGED SPARROW *Peucaea carpalis* (*, 1). Up to three were documented in Guadalupe Canyon, *HI*, 3 Jan 2011, and the species continued there into the spring 2011 (†, ph. NDP; †, ph. JPB; Figure 19)—New Mexico's first record. Subsequently, it became apparent that the Rufous-winged Sparrow was resident and breeding in the New Mexico portion of the canyon, with birds found there annually since 2011. The committee now reviews only records from outside of Guadalupe Canyon. NOT ACCEPTED: The details for one reported in the RGV at Percha Dam SP, *SI*, 9 March 2016 did not eliminate other, more likely species.



FIGURE 17. This female Smith's Longspur on Otero Mesa, Otero Co., 6 May 2011, provided the first confirmed record for New Mexico.

Photo by Raymond A. Meyer

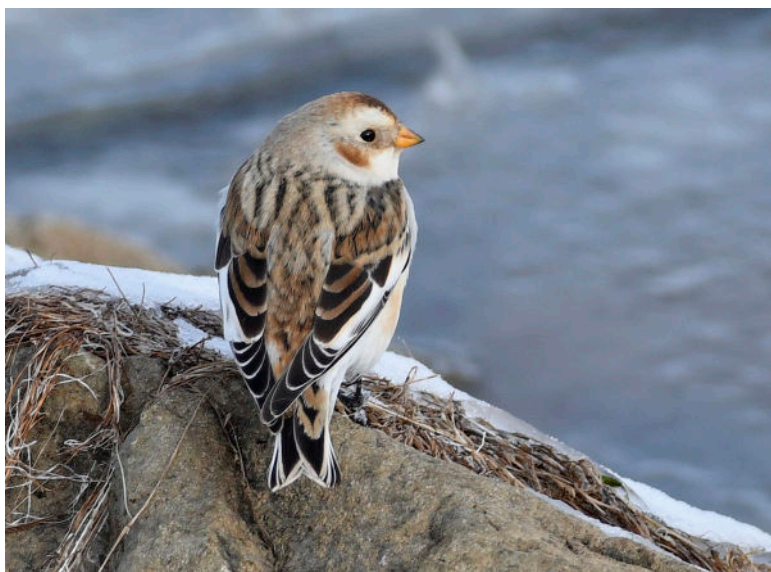


FIGURE 18. Representing New Mexico's fourth record of the Snow Bunting, this individual was at Stubblefield Lake, Colfax Co., 8–30 Dec 2016.

Photo taken 10 December 2016 by Nancy E. Hetrick



FIGURE 19. First discovered in Guadalupe Canyon, Hidalgo Co., on 3 Jan 2011, the Rufous-winged Sparrow was soon established as a breeding resident there.

Photo taken 8 January 2011 by Jerry R. Oldenettel



FIGURE 20. Providing New Mexico's second record, this Nelson's Sparrow was near Santa Rosa, Guadalupe Co., 7–9 Oct 2020; it was one of two found in the state that month.

Photo taken 8 October 2020 by Jonathan P. Batkin

LECONTE'S SPARROW *Ammospiza leconteii* (23, 5). At least six were at Big Mesa, Conchas Lake, SM, 9 Dec 1998–21 Apr 1999 († WFW; †, ph. JRO; † JEP). Single individuals were at Fred Baca Park, TA, 8 May 1991 († CMR), Clabber Hill Ranch, SM, 22 Oct 2003 († WFW; ph. JDA), Blue Hole Cienega, Santa Rosa, GU, 22–23 Oct 2011 (†, ph. NDP; † MJB), and Storrie Lake, SM, 18–24 Oct 2020 (†, ph. SEM). NOT ACCEPTED: Early fall reports of five individuals at Lake Avalon, ED, 16 Sep 1978 and one each at Hammwell Tank, Guadalupe Mts., ED, 16 Sep 2001, Mesa Rest Area, CH, 17 Sep 2015, and Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 20 Sep 2015 failed to establish the birds' identity. Neither did reports from Washington Ranch, ED, 14 Oct 1978 or Acomita Lake, CI, 8 Feb 2013 establish the birds' identity. LeConte's Sparrow is a rare transient and winter resident; earliest accepted fall arrival is 3 October.

NELSON'S SPARROW *Ammospiza nelsoni* (3, 2). One was at Santa Rosa's Tres Lagunas, GU, 7–9 Oct 2020 (†, ph. NDP; † MJB; Figure 20), another at Ute Lake, QU, 9–11 Oct 2020 (†, ph. JFi; ph. RLV). Following the first in September 2003, these represent only the second and third New Mexico records (Williams 2022).

EASTERN TOWHEE *Pipilo erythrophthalmus* (19, 7). In east, single individuals were at the MMT, RO, 4–6 May 2006 (†, ph. CGL; † JEP), 14–17 Oct 2010 (†, ph. JRO; † JEP), and 21 Nov 2011 (†, ph. LLe), and one was at the Bitter Lake NWR visitor center, CH, 9 Jan–1 Feb 2015 († RMo; ph. JRO; † JEP). In the RGV were one at Galisteo, SF, 19–20 Apr 2013 († WTE; ph. JPB; ph. BRf), one at Los Lunas, VA, 13 Jan 2019 (ph. NTA), and one at the BDA visitor center, SO, 10 Dec 2017–5 May 2018 (ph. AWa; † JEP). NOT ACCEPTED: Towhees photographed at Milnesand, RO, 5–6 Oct 2012 and at the MMT, RO, 28–30 Oct 2011 were hybrids with the Spotted Towhee (*P. maculatus*). The report of a supposed Eastern Towhee seen briefly at Mesilla Valley Bosque SP, DA, on the very early date of 17 Sep 2017 omitted some field marks and did not consider the possibility of hybridization.

BOBOLINK *Dolichonyx oryzivorus* (*, 2). A spring transient was at Las Vegas NWR, SM, 9 Jun 2016 (†, ph. WJ-W). A fall transient, identified by its distinctive "bwink" call, was at Summer Lake, DB, 13 Sep 2020 († EFG; † PEC). In northern New Mexico's Chama Valley, RA, where first found in July 1925, Bobolinks summered intermittently for many years, primarily in hay fields near Los Ojos, but were last reported breeding in 2000. The species now occurs in New Mexico only as a rare transient.

STREAK-BACKED ORIOLE *Icterus pustulatus* (5, 3). A female was 5 km south of Radium Springs, DA, 20 Dec 2003 († MTS; ph. JEZ). An adult male was at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 10 Nov 2013–3 May 2014 (†, ph. RSN), and an immature was at the same site 25 Oct–10 Nov 2015 (†, ph. RSN). New Mexico's five accepted Streak-backed Orioles were all first detected during late fall or early winter (Williams 2022).

BALTIMORE ORIOLE *Icterus galbula* (115, 24). In the RGV and environs, single Baltimore Orioles were at Ranchos de Taos, TA, 18–19 May 2010 (†, ph. SaS), near Mendanales, RA, 11 May 2019 (†, ph. ASH), at Kirtland AFB's Coyote Springs, BE, 30 Apr 2021 (†, ph. MJB), at Escondida Lake, SO, 14–15 May 2010 (†, ph. SLa), at Socorro's Turtle Bay, SO, 4 Jan–16 Mar 2020 (†, ph. SEM; †, ph. BSm; †, ph. JAG), at Luis Lopez, SO, 8 May 2015 († MJB; †, ph. SFu), and 5 km south of Radium Springs, DA, 7–8 Sep 2009 († MTS; ph. JEZ) and 28–31 Aug 2012 († MTS; ph. JEZ). In the east, one each was at Alamocita Ranch, HA, 12 May 2019 (†, ph. CMR; †, ph. NEH), south of Cannon AFB, CU, 8 Sep 2021 (†, ph. DGW), at Clovis, CU, 19–23 Sep 2020 († JEP; †, ph. JFi), at Portales, RO, 11 Sep 2020 (†, ph. KLP), at Boone's Draw, RO, 8–9 Sep 2010 (ph. CLB; † MOH) and 10 Sep 2016 († MJB; † NDP), at Milnesand, RO, 3 Oct 2016 (†, ph. GMB), at Ramon, LI, 3 Sep 2016 († CMR; ph. SDR), at the Conoco pond, LE, 3 Mar 2021 (†, ph. RSN), and at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 13 Sep 2014 (†, ph. RSN); two birds were at the last site 18–20 Sep 2020 (†, ph. RLV; †, ph.

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

RSN). The MMT, RO, accounted for five records: 13–15 Sep 2014 († JEP; ph. JRO; †, ph. NEH), 3 May 2015 († JEP), 19 Sep 2015 († JEP; † CMR), 16–17 Sep 2016 († JEP; ph. JRO), and 18 May 2018 († JEP; †, ph. WJ-W). NOT ACCEPTED: Photographs of a purported Baltimore Oriole at Elephant Butte, SI, 25 Sep–1 Oct 2009 appeared to be of a Bullock's Oriole (*I. bullockii*) or possibly of a hybrid with that species. A report from the MMT 13 May 2015 did not rule out Bullock's or a hybrid.

RUSTY BLACKBIRD *Euphagus carolinus* (131, 3). Four were near a feedlot 5 km northeast of Clayton, UN, 3 Dec 2016 († DLH). Two were at Maxwell NWR, CO, 4 Dec 2016 (†, ph. RCI). One in the Monticello Box, w. SO, 29 Dec 2016–27 Feb 2017 (ph. MKR) was a first for the San Mateo Mts.; the species is rarely found anywhere west of the RGV. Annual in New Mexico since 2005, the Rusty Blackbird increased in numbers and distribution over the past decade, averaging about 5 records (and 11 individuals) per year, and has been removed from the review list.

WORM-EATING WARBLER *Helmitheros vermivorum* (112, 9). In western New Mexico, one was at Rodeo, HI, 8 Jun 2008 († REW). In the RGV, one was at Cerrillos, SF, 7 Jul 2014 († ACF) and one was in Albuquerque's South Valley, BE, 14 May 2015 († WEM), where another was found 5 Oct 2015 († WEM). In the east, single birds were at an I-25 rest area south of Tinaja, CO, 17 April 2012 (ph. IPr; ph. WPr), at Las Vegas, SM, 17 Apr 2016 († WJ-W), at Pecos NM, SM, 16 Apr 2010 (†, ph. BCG; † KMe), at Santa Rosa, GU, 23 May 2013 († WFW), and at the MMT, RO, 9 May 2015 († JEP; ph. JRO). First found in New Mexico in 1958, the Worm-eating Warbler has averaged about 2 records per year over the past decade.

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH *Parkesia motacilla* (44, 27). One in Little Bear Canyon, Gila Wilderness, CA, 4 Dec 2001 († GJL) was the first recorded in New Mexico in early winter. One in Dog Canyon at Oliver Lee SP, OT, 22 Dec 2017–18 Feb 2018 (ph. DMS; †, ph. CMR; †, ph. NEH) became the first known to overwinter. Other occurrences were during migration. In the northwest, one was at Grants, CI, 4 Apr 2022 (†, ph. NEH). In the RGV, one each was at Galisteo, SF, 18–27 Sep 2015 († DCP; †, ph. JPB; †, ph. BRF), at Turtle Bay, Socorro, SO, 27 Mar–3 Apr 1999 († PBA; †, ph. JRO), along Las Animas Creek on the Ladder Ranch, SI, 12 May 2009 (†, ph. NEH), at Leasburg Dam SP, DA, 21–24 Apr 2021 (†, ph. CJG; †, ph. JLY), and in Soledad Canyon, Organ Mts., DA, 26 Jul 2012 (†, ph. DJG). In the east was one at a prairie grove 10 km north of San Jon, QU, 6 Aug 2012 (†, ph. WWi), at the MMT, RO, 29 Apr 2011 († SDC) and 13 Sep 2013 († JEP), at Oasis SP, RO, 6–17 Aug 2012 (†, ph. DGW; ph. JLo), at the Maljamar Rest Area, LE, 7 Apr 2018 (†, ph. PDC), Eunice, LE, 11 Aug 2011 († WWi), and Allread Tank west of Eunice, LE, 12 Aug 1991 († PSW). At the Conoco pond, LE, was one each 1–5 Sep 2015 († CLB; ph. JRO; † JEP), 26 Jul 2016 († CLB), 18–20 Aug 2019 (†, ph. RSN; †, ph. NEH), 18–20 Sep 2019 († CLB; †, ph. RSN), and 11 Aug 2021 (†, ph. JFi; †, ph. JWe; †, ph. JBP). Single individuals were at Rattlesnake Springs and adjacent Washington Ranch, ED, 9 Apr 2011 (†, ph. NEH), 8–19 Aug 2012 († CLA; †, ph. RSN), 10–11 Aug 2013 († JEP; ph., NDP), 8 Aug 2014 († JEP), 21–28 Aug 2016 (†, ph. RSN), 7–10 Sep 2019 (†, ph. DKe; †, ph. RSN), and 3–4 Apr 2021 (†, ph. RSN). NOT ACCEPTED: Incomplete details and/or an inconclusive photo failed to establish the identity of waterthrushes reported at Washington Ranch 26 Aug 2000 or at Rattlesnake Springs 13 Sep 2020. First found in New Mexico in 1980, the Louisiana Waterthrush has been recorded in 19 of the past 25 years, averaging 1.4 records per year.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora chrysoptera* (49, 21). In western New Mexico, one was at Silver City, GR, 26 Sep 2015 (†, ph. JBS). In the RGV, one was banded in upper Sandia Canyon, LA, 8 May 2014 (†, ph. CDH), another at BDA, SO, 15 May 1997 (†, ph. DLH). Others were at Glorieta, SF, 4 Jun 2020 (†, ph. ASC), Galisteo, SF, 22 May 2004 († JPB) and 23 May 2021 (†, ph. ReL), the Rio Grande

Nature Center, *BE*, 12 May 2004 († MRA; † CMB), and the University of New Mexico, *BE*, 24 May 2019 (†, ph. ABJ). In the east, single individuals were at Santa Rosa, *GU*, 26 Apr 2009 († CMR; †, ph. MOH), Spirithaven Ranch 8 km south of Santa Rosa, *GU*, 23 Sep 2008 († WFW), and Sumner Dam, *DB*, 21–22 Sep 2011 († MOH; ph. SBr). Two migrant traps in Roosevelt Co. accounted for 10 records: six at the MMT, of one each 28 Sept 2007 (ph. JRO; † JEP), 29 Sep 2012 († CLA), 16 Sep 2013 († KSS), 10 Sep 2016 († KSS), 16 Sep 2019 (†, ph. APa), and 25 Sep 2021 († JEP), and at Boone's Draw, of one each 18 Sep 2011 (ph. SDC), 1 May 2012 (†, ph. NDP; †, ph. MJB), 14 May 2012 (†, ph. JPB; ph. CJW), and 8–10 May 2020 (ph. MJB). NOT ACCEPTED: One was reported from the Nichols Canyon area along the Gila River, *GR*, on the surprising mid-summer date of 2 Jul 2013, but the details provided were incomplete and contradictory and not adequate for such an unusual record.

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER *Vermivora cyanoptera* (47, 14). In southwestern New Mexico, one was at Clanton Cienega, *HI*, 14 May 2016 († NM-C; †, ph. RAR; ph. JTS), another in Guadalupe Canyon, *HI*, 4 Sep 2016 (†, ph. WTE). In the RGV, one each was at Los Alamos, *LA*, 7–10 May 2016 (†, ph. MiS), Galisteo, *SF*, 12 May 2016 († RCL; †, ph. JPB), Leasburg Dam SP, *DA*, 16 May 2018 (†, ph. CJG), and at BDA, *SO*, where banded on the late date of 5 Jun 1997 (†, ph. DLH). In the east, single birds were at the MMT, *RO*, 24 Oct 2009 († CMR), 25 Sep 2011 († JRO), 17–19 Oct 2014 († JEP; ph. JRO; † CMR), and 17 May 2020 (†, ph. GMB; †, ph. JLW), at Boone's Draw, *RO*, 7 May 2011 († MJB, † NDP) and 14 May 2011 († DJK; † CJW), and at Rattlesnake Springs, *ED*, 4–5 May 2012 († RSN; † PSW) and 11 Aug 2013 († MJB; ph. JRO).

SWAINSON'S WARBLER *Limnethlypis swainsonii* (14, 8). In eastern New Mexico, single Swainson's Warblers were at Boone's Draw, *RO*, 27–28 May 2005 († JEP; † JRO), at the MMT, *RO*, 10–15 May 2017 († WFW; †, ph. RGu) and 26 Apr 2019 († JEP), in the Rattlesnake Springs/Washington Ranch area, *ED*, 17 May 1990 († CLB), 3 Aug 2016 († PSW), and 14–17 May 2022 († RKO; †, ph. DTi, †, ph. JFi), and at Encino, *TO*, 23 May 2020 (ph. SBr). In the RGV, one was singing at Corrales, *SA*, 24 May 2011 († DJK).

TENNESSEE WARBLER *Leiothlypis peregrina* (95*, 16). In western New Mexico were one each in Big Water Canyon, Zuni Mts., *CL*, 10 Sep 2017 († JAT), in Little Cherry Creek Canyon, Pinos Altos Mts., *GR*, 29 Sep–3 Oct 2021 (ph. NDP, MJB), and at Deming, *LU*, 6 Nov 2012 († LKM). In the RGV were one each in the Jemez Mts. near Los Alamos, *LA*, 7–8 May 2016 (†, ph. JoF), at Madrid, *SF*, 18–20 Nov 2008 (†, ph. LAS), at Galisteo, *SF*, 16 May 2020 (†, ph. EFG), in Cienega Canyon, Sandia Mts., *BE*, 4–10 May 2016 (†, ph. WEM), at three locales in Albuquerque, *BE*, 10–13 Apr 2020 (†, ph. CMR), 2 May 2020 (†, ph. DDo), and 16 May 2021 (†, ph. ATT; † FOr), at Bosquecito, *SO*, 8 May 2021 (ph. GBA), at Percha Dam SP, *SI*, 1 May 2021 († EFG; † JLW), and at La Union, *DA*, 22 May 2018 († DAB). In the east, one was at Sumner Dam, *DB*, 1 May 2021 († NDP; † MJB), a male was at Bosque Redondo, *DB*, 10 May 2020 († JEP), and a female was there 16 May 2020 (†, ph. MJB). NOT ACCEPTED: One was reported as photographed at the MMT, *RO*, 7 Oct 2016, but the photos were of an Orange-crowned Warbler. Details accompanying four other reports, of one each at Eldorado, *SF*, 10 Sep 2016, the MMT, *RO*, 9 Oct 2016 and 2 May 2020, and the Texico marsh, *CU*, 10 May 2019, did not clearly identify this species or rule out others.

MOURNING WARBLER *Geothlypis philadelphia* (22, 13). In western New Mexico, one was at Zuni's Blackrock bosque, *MC*, 28 Aug 1996 († JAT). In the RGV were one each at the Corrales bosque, *SA*, 6 Jun 2011 († TWF), Rio Grande Nature Center, *BE*, 12 May 2009 († CMR), and south of the Montaña bridge in Albuquerque, *BE*, 11 May 2009 (†, ph. JBP). One at BDA, *SO*, 12–13 May 2004 (†, ph. WYo) and

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

another at San Andres Spring, *DA*, 11 Sep 2014 (ph. MEW) were banded. In the east, single Mourning Warblers were below Sumner Dam, *DB*, 18 Sep 2010 († CLB), at Ned Houk Park, *CU*, 23 May 2014 († DCu; ph. REK), at the MMT, *RO*, 12 May 2001 († JEP; ph. JRO) and 12 May 2012 († JEP; ph. JRO; †, ph. NEH; ph. SDC), at Boone's Draw, *RO*, 27 May 2001 († JRO) and 5 Sep 2010 († MJB; †, ph. CJW, † NDP), and at Milnesand, *RO*, 14 Sep 2019 (†, ph. NDP).

KENTUCKY WARBLER *Geothlypis formosa* (111, 12). In eastern New Mexico were one each at Ned Houk Park, *CU*, 30 Apr 2016 († JEP; ph. JRO), at the MMT, *RO*, 11–14 May 2016 († JEP), at Rattlesnake Springs, *ED*, 30 Apr 2016 (†, ph. RSN), 30 Apr 2017 (†, ph. RSN), and 20 Apr 2021 (ph. RGu), at Portales, *RO*, 26 Apr 2022 (ph. TDW), at Eunice, *LE*, 7 May 2022 (ph. PWM), and at Bosque Redondo Park, *DB*, 17 May 2022 († WFW). In the RGV were one each 5 km south of Radium Springs, *DA*, 27–28 Apr 2014 († MTS; † JEZ), in the San Andres Mts. at San Andres Spring, *DA*, 17 May 2016 (†, ph. MEW), in the Sandia Mts. in Embudito Canyon, *BE*, 17–24 Apr 2021 (ph. IPS), and in the northeast heights of Albuquerque, *BE*, 7 Jun 2022 (†, ph. RBu).

CAPE MAY WARBLER *Setophaga tigrina* (19, 8). Presumed late spring migrants in northern New Mexico were a singing male at Sipapu Lodge, *TA*, 9 Jun 2006 († JEP) and a male taken unharmed from a cat near Cerrillos, *SF*, 28 Jun 2016 (†, ph. MEW). Other spring migrants were single males in the Burro Mts., *GR*, 24 May 2017 (†, ph. MBR) and Bitter Lake NWR, *CH*, 30 Apr 2019 (ph. SHe; † ADa). Fall migrants were at the MMT, *RO*, 24 Oct 2020 († JEP; ph. RLV) and in Water Canyon, Magdalena Mts., *SO*, 8–10 Nov 2007 (†, ph. CWo). New Mexico's first winter record of the Cape May Warbler was established by one in Tellbrook Park at Las Cruces, *DA*, 8–15 Jan 2020 (†, ph. TJo), the second by another at Portales, *RO*, 20 Jan–3 Mar 2022 (ph. IMa; ph. MVa; † JEP). Historically, numbers of detections in New Mexico have tracked budworm outbreaks in the species' breeding range (Williams 2013).

CERULEAN WARBLER *Setophaga cerulea* (5, 4). A female was at Rattlesnake Springs, *ED*, 19 Apr 1989 († PSW), a female or immature was at Percha SP, *SF*, 5–7 Oct 1991 († JEP; † LPG), a singing male was near Piedra Lisa Spring, Sandia Mts., *SA*, 22 May 1994 († MRa), and a male was in se. Albuquerque, *BE*, 15 May 2021 († EFG; †, ph. MJA). There are now five accepted New Mexico records; details on the first four plus analysis of published erroneous and questionable reports of the species in the state were detailed by Williams (2020).

TROPICAL PARULA *Setophaga pitiayumi* (1, 1). A second-year male singing at Washington Ranch, *ED*, 3 May–10 Jun 2022 (†, ph. ♪ WFW; Figure 21) was seen by many and the first Tropical Parula confirmed in New Mexico. An earlier (2005) single-observer sight record is now under review.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER *Setophaga magnolia* (139, 4). One at the MMT, *RO*, 18–20 Nov 2011 († JEP; ph. SDC) was the first recorded in New Mexico in November. Others there were one each 1 Jun 2012 († JEP) and 4 Oct 2014 († JEP; ph. JRO). One was at Galisteo, *SF*, 6 Oct 2014 († RCL; †, ph. JPB). Averaging over 6 records per year during the decade ending 2015, the Magnolia Warbler has been removed from the NMBRC's review list.

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER *Setophaga castanea* (37, 12). At the MMT, *RO*, four were noted in spring: 11 May 2002 († JEP; †, ph. JRO), 18 May 2002 († JEP; †, ph. JRO), 14–15 May 2005 († JEP; †, ph. JRO), and 9 May 2012 († JEP; ph. MJB; ph. CJW), two in fall: 16 Sep 2003 († DJK) and 4 Oct 2014 († JEP; ph. JRO). Also in eastern New Mexico was a late individual at Rattlesnake Springs, *ED*, 15 Nov 2015 (†, ph. RSN). One was banded at BDA, *SO*, 13–14 May 1997 (†, ph. DLH). A singing male was in Comales Canyon, Sangre de Cristo Mts., *TA*, 4–11 Jul 1992 (†



FIGURE 21. This vocal second-year Tropical Parula was at Washington Ranch, Eddy Co., for just over a month, 3 May–10 Jun 2022, and provided the first confirmed record for New Mexico.

Photo taken 4 May 2022 by Jack B. Parlapiano

RAM; † CLB). Wintering individuals were at Mountain View Cemetery, Deming, LU, 27 Dec 2013–3 Feb 2014 (†, ph. CGL) and the Alameda bridge at Albuquerque, BE, 1–29 Dec 2018 († JEP; ph. JRO). One Bay-breasted Warbler was at Commodore Tank near the Big Hatcher Mts., HI, 29 May 2021 (†, ph. MHa). NOT ACCEPTED: Details were insufficient for ones reported in Cienega Canyon, Sandia Mts., BE, 4–13 Sep 1979, at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 25–30 Sep 1979, and along Eagle Creek west of Alto, LI, 17 Jun 2020.

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER *Setophaga fusca* (49, 25). In eastern New Mexico, the MMT, RO, accounted for 12 records of single birds: 15 May 2005 († JEP; ph. JRO; † CMR), 13 Oct 2006 († JEP; † MJB), 9 Sep 2007 († MJB; † NDP; ph. JRO; † WHH; † JPB), 13–14 Sep 2007 († JEP), 19 May 2009 († MTS; ph. JEZ; †, ph. NEH), 26 Aug 2010 († AMK), 30 Sep–1 Oct 2011 († MJB; † JPB; † NEH), 9 Sep 2012 († MOH), 29 Sep 2012 († JEP; ph. JRO), 18 Oct 2013 (ph. JRO; † JEP), 13–14 Oct 2018 († JEP; † GMB; †, ph. NEH), and 23–24 Sep 2021 (ph. HTE; † JEP; † DGB). Others in the east were one each at Clayton Lake, UN, 16 May 2014 (ph. JRO), at Oasis SP, RO, 21 Aug 2012 (ph. CLA), at Boone's Draw, RO, 15 May 2011 (†, ph. MJB; ph. CJW, † NDP; # MSB:Bird:30584), and at Bitter Lake NWR, CH, 15 May 2009 († DJK). In the RGV, one each was at the Buffalo Thunder Casino, Pojoaque, SF, 24–30 Sep 2020 (†, ph. ReL), at Galisteo, SF, 22 May 2011 († ph. BRF), at White Rock, LA, 3 Oct 2017 (ph. RWa), at Albuquerque, BE, 13 Oct 2019 (†, ph. DGB), at Cedar Crest, BE, 28–30 Apr 2009 († JDL; ph. SHL), in Water Canyon, SO, 15 May 2005 (ph. RRe; ph. C. Pa; † JLi), BDA, SO, 13 May 2012 († PMB), at San Andres Spring, DA, 7 Oct 2014 (†, ph. MEW), and on Otero Mesa, OT, 27 Sep 2009 († PSW).

BLACKPOLL WARBLER *Setophaga striata* (123, 20). In the RGV, single individuals were at Fred Baca Park, TA, 19 May 2013 (ph. A&JT), at the old bridge at Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo, RA, 27 May 2013 (ph. BRF), at Santa Fe, SF, 26 Apr 2020 († LHo), at Bandelier NM's visitor center, SA, 15 May 2013 (ph. AmW), at Albu-

querque, BE, 4 June 2011 († CMR), 19–20 May 2015 (†, ph. WEM), 12 Jun 2016 († JBV), and 27 Apr 2022 (†, SHu; † LAS), at Socorro, SO, 6 May 2013 (ph. JRO), at Luis Lopez, SO, 25 Oct 2018 (†, ph. SFu), and at Mesilla Valley Bosque SP, DA, 23 Sep 2016 (†, ph. WTE). In the Tularosa Basin, one was at Oliver Lee SP, OT, 1 May 2013 (ph. RBa). In the east, one was at Cannon AFB, CU, 13 May 2016, CU, (ph. DGW), at Sumner Dam, DB, 24 Sep 2021 (†, ph. MJB), and at Boone's Draw, RO, 11 May 1995 († CLB), while the MMT, RO, produced five records, of one each 10 May 2013 († JEP; ph. JRO), 15 May 2015 († JEP), 13 May 2017 († JEP; ph. DJK), 8 Oct 2017 († JEP), and 3–5 May 2020 (†, ph. GMB). NOT ACCEPTED: The identity of ones reported at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 14 Apr 2006 and at Albuquerque 29 Apr 2017 was not established. First found in New Mexico in 1954, the Blackpoll Warbler is markedly irregular in occurrence in the state, with multiple records one year followed by no records in the next.

PALM WARBLER *Setophaga palmarum* (154, 3). Single examples of the western subspecies *D. p. palmarum* were at the MMT, RO, 24 Sep 2011 († JEP), on Otero Mesa, OT, 27 Sep 2013 (ph. PSW), and at Silver City, GR, 10 May 2014 († JCL). Annual in occurrence in New Mexico since 1998, and recently averaging nearly five records per year, the Palm Warbler was removed from the review list in 2015.

PINE WARBLER *Setophaga pinus* (44, 18). In the RGV, a bright male at Percha Dam SP, SI, 9 Sep 1992 († CLB) established New Mexico's earliest accepted date for fall arrival. One each was along Las Animas Creek, SI, 4 Dec 1998–2 Jan 1999 († JEP; † JRO; † BDN; † DAE), at Caballo Lake, SI, 19 Nov 2010 (ph. DJC), at Albuquerque, BE, 4 Dec 2014 († MOH) and 17 Nov–19 Dec 2020 (†, ph. JBP), at Embudo, RA, 28 Dec 2021–15 Jan 2022 (†, ph. SLN; ph. CBC), and at Paseo del Rio, SI, 18–25 Apr 2022 (ph. TBG). One was in the Tularosa Basin at Tularosa, OT, 31 Dec 2020–6 Jan 2021 (ph. MOs). In the east, single individuals were at the MMT, RO, 9 Oct 1999 († JEP; † JRO) and 7 Oct 2017 († JEP; ph. BRF), at Ned Houk Park, CU, 20 Oct 2002 († CMR), at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 17 Dec 2011–10 Mar 2012 (ph. RHu, ph. PSW, ph. JRO, † RSN, † JEP), at Ute Lake, QU, 30 Nov–10 Dec 2016 (†, ph. DEW; † MWe), at Clayton, UN, 19 Jan 2018 (ph. MJB; ph. NDP; † JEP), at Maljamar, LE, 6 Nov 2020 (†, ph. RSN), at Portales, RO, 18 Nov 2020 (ph. TDW), and at Santa Rosa, GU, 7–21 Jan 2022 (ph. JLa). In the west, one wintered at Deming, LU, 1–30 Jan 2016 († CMR; ph. MJB; ph. CGL). NOT ACCEPTED: Identity was not established for purported Pine Warblers at Albuquerque 4 May 1995, Rattlesnake Springs 22 Sep 2011, Paseo del Rio, SI, 21 Sep 2012, and Turtle Bay, SO, 19 Oct 2022.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER *Setophaga dominica* (66, 27). In eastern New Mexico, one each was at the Rock Lake Hatchery, GU, 16 May 2022 (ph. RGu), at Sumner Dam, DB, 1 May 2021 (ph. MJB; ph. GMB; † NDP; † JEP), at the MMT, RO, 17 Apr 2011 (ph. DZw), 17 Apr 2016 (ph. JRO; †, ph. RBW), 22 Apr 2012 († DLH), and 8 Sep 2012 († JEP; ph. JRO; ph. CLA), at Boone's Draw, RO, 1 May 2011 (ph. SDC), at Brantley Lake, ED, 13 May 2000 (†, sketch RSN), and at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 2 May 2015 († JEP; ph. JRO), 9 May 2020 († DKe), and 3 Aug 2016 († PSW). One was in the Sacramento Mts. near Alto, LI, 11 May 2011 (ph. DLT). In the RGV, single individuals were at White Rock, LA, 17 May 2012 (ph. CJC), Santa Fe, SF, 25 May 2015 († LHo; †, ph. JPB; †, ph. BRF), Galisteo, SF, 13 May 2011 († RMu), two sites in Albuquerque, BE, 10 May 2016 (†, ph. CCW) and 25 Apr 2020 (†, ph. MJA), and Elephant Butte Lake, SI, 15 Apr 2010 (ph. DJC) and 10–14 Aug 2012 (†, ph. DJC). One was in the Magdalena Mts. in Water Canyon, SO, 23 Apr 2011 († CMR). In the west, one was along the Signal Peak Road, GR, 1 May 2015 († LKM), another at Clanton Cienega in the Animas Valley, HI, 13 May 2017 (ph. NM-C). Wintering birds were one in the northwest at Farmington, SJ, 2 Oct 2017–19 Mar 2018 († APN; ph. SLN), one each at two sites in Albuquerque 25–31 Jan 2011 († JBV;

† JEP; ph. JRO) and 6–9 Jan 2014 († JEP), up to two at Alamogordo, OT, 2–23 Jan 2016 († WMT; ph. FWi), and another there 9 Nov 2017–18 Feb 2018 (†, ph. DLH).

PRAIRIE WARBLER *Setophaga discolor* (26, 17). The MMT, RO, yielded four: 23 Sep 2007 († DLH; † MOH; † JPB), 9–10 Aug 2009 (ph. NDP; † MJB; † JEP; † CMR; † JMB), 19 Sep 2009 († JEP; † CMB; † ph. NEH; ph. SDC), and 16 Aug 2015 (ph. JRO). Elsewhere in eastern New Mexico were ones at Tolar, RO, 5 Sep 2011 († DJK), at the Mesa Rest Area, CH, 2 May 2009 († CJW; † JEP; ph. JRO; † ph. MJB; ph. MOH), at Power Dam Park, Santa Rosa, GU, 26 Aug 2011 († JEP; ph. JRO), at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 21 Sep 2002 († BDN; † CMR) and 8 May 2021 (†, ph. RKO), in Slaughter Canyon, Guadalupe Mts., ED, 1 Oct 2021 (†, ph. RSN), and in the Brokeoff Mts., se. OT, 4 May 2013 († PSW). In the RGV, three were at Albuquerque, BE, 2 Jun 2006 († TWF), 4 Oct 2015 (ph. WEM), and 19 Sep 2019 (ph. CHa), two were at BDA, SO, 31 Oct–1 Nov 2007 (ph. DJC; ph. JRO) and 28 Nov 2009 (2009 (ph. JRO; ph. SMF), and one was below Caballo Dam, SI, 18–21 Dec 2012 (ph. TBG; ph. DJC; ph. CLA; † JEP).

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER *Setophaga virens* (133, 8). One each was at the Quarai ruins, TO, 23 Sep 2014 († RCL), Sumner Dam, DB, 25 Oct 2014 († JEP), Bitter Lake NWR, CH, 11 Aug 2015 (ph. PAO), and Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 19 Apr 2014 (ph. RSN). Two were at the MMT, RO, 17–19 Oct 2014 († JEP; ph. JRO) and single individuals were there 6 Nov 2014 (ph. JRO) and 25 Sep 2015 († JEP; ph. JRO). One was at Boone's Draw, RO, 6 Sep 2014 († MJB; ph. NDP). Averaging over 5 records per year for the previous decade, the Black-throated Green Warbler was removed from the NMBRC's review list in 2015.

CANADA WARBLER *Cardellina canadensis* (19, 10). Reports from eastern New Mexico were from the MMT, RO, 10 May 2012 († JEP; † JRO), 22 May 2016 († DLW; † MWe), 1 Oct 2017 (†, ph. CMR; †, ph. NEH, †, ph. WTE; ph. MJB; ph. NDP), and 13 May 2022 († JEP; ph. AMK), Ramon, LI, 21 Sep 2017 († PSW), and Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 30 May 2014 (†, ph. RSN) and 20 Sep 2015 (†, ph. RSN). In the RGV, one was at Galisteo, SF, 19–20 May 2018 (†, ph. JPB), at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, BE, 7 Sep 2021 († EFG; ph. NVi), and below Elephant Butte Dam, SI, 4 Oct 2012 (ph. DJC). NOT ACCEPTED: An unusual mid-summer report from near Gila, GR, 22 Jul 2002 did not establish the bird's identity.

SCARLET TANAGER *Piranga olivacea* (78, 23). In western New Mexico, single birds were in Milk Ranch Canyon, MC, 30 Sep 2011 († JAT), below Bluewater Dam, CI, 28 May 2013 (†, ph. KSS), and at Silver City, GR, 30 Oct 2020 (†, ph. JPG). In the RGV, two mid-summer records stand out as especially unusual: single alternate-plumaged males along Las Animas Creek on the Ladder Ranch, SI, 17 Jul 2018 (ph. KSt) and at Placitas, SA, 22 Jul 2020 (†, ph. LAu). Others in the RGV were ones in Los Alamos Canyon, LA, 9–10 May 2015 (†, ph. BET), at Santa Fe, SF, 14 May 2020 (†, ph. JAL), at Galisteo, SF, 23 May 2013 (ph. JPB), near Cedar Crest, BE, 6 May 2020 (ph. JoO), in the North Valley, Albuquerque, BE, 12 May 2021 (ph. COR), at the University of New Mexico, BE, 27 May 2021 (†, ph., ♀ CMR; †, ph. MSh), and at BDA, SO, 5 May 2021 (†JTo; †, ph. STu; †, ph. CIS). In the east, one each was at the Rock Lake fish hatchery near Santa Rosa, GU, 15 Sep 2020 (†, ph. AHo), Fort Sumner, DB, 17 May 2010 (†, ph. RGA), Storrie Lake, SM, 17 Sep 2021 (†, ph. OJS; †, ph. JBP), at the rest area south of Amistad, UN, 17 May 2013 (ph. MJB; ph. NDP; † JEP), at Ned Houk Park, CU, 12 May 2018 († KSS), and at the MMT, RO, on six occasions: 9 Oct 2010 (ph. JRO; † JEP), 18 Sep 2012 (ph. CLA), 6–8 Oct 2012 († JEP; †, ph. NEH), 8 Oct 2017 (†, ph. BRf; † JEP; ph. JRO), 3 May 2021 (†, ph. DTi; † PEC), and 10 Oct 2021 (†, ph. ATT; †, ph. JFi; † JWe). NOT ACCEPTED: Sight reports of alternate-plumaged males at Rattlesnake Springs, ED, 16 Sep 1979, Tularosa, OT, 21 Sep 1987, and at the Conchas Lake golf course, SM, 20 Sep 2005 provided incomplete details, and, given that the species' pre-basic molt occurs in summer on the breeding



FIGURE 22. This male Yellow Grosbeak near Rodeo, Hidalgo Co., 5 Jun 2010, is one of three addressed in this report.

Photo by Melvin S. Moe

grounds, red Scarlet Tanagers are not expected anywhere in mid-September. Four additional reports of variously olive-plumaged birds did not rule out other *Piranga* species: near Radium Springs, DA, 22 Apr 2012, at Rattlesnake Springs 14 Aug 2012, south of Radium Springs 4–5 Sep 2015, and at the MMT 16 Sep 2016.

YELLOW GROSBEAK *Pheucticus chrysopheplus* (5, 3). A male was 8 km north of Rodeo, HI, 5 Jun 2010 (†, ph. MSM, Figure 22). Another male at Roswell, CH, 7–9 May 2011 († RLa) was the first for eastern New Mexico. A male was in southeast Albuquerque, BE, 15–18 Jul 1999 († P&JA). These three records fall within the period from May to mid-August when the species has been observed in Arizona (Rosenberg et al. 2011, Howell et al. 2014). NOT ACCEPTED: Details for two birds reported at Las Vegas, SM, 12 Apr 2019 and one near the West Potrillo Mts., s. DA, just east of the Luna Co. line 8 Aug 2021 were inadequate for such a rare species.

CONTRIBUTORS

J. R. Absher, Collin L. Adams, T. Jay Adams, Rodney Aleshire (RAI), Jan Allen (JAI), Michael J. Andersen, Greg Anderson (GAN), Paul and June Applegate (P&JA), Larry Ausherman (LAu), Julian D. Avery, Ken Babcock (KBa), Gayle Bachert (GBa), Karin Bailey (KaB), Andrew R. Bankert, Pat Basham (PBa), Robert Barber (RBA), Ned Batchelder (NBA), Jonathan P. Batkin, Keith Bauer (KeB), Matthew J. Baumann, Grant M. Beauprez, Libby Beckman (LBe), Dan Allen Belcher, Phred M. Benham, T. Bergstrom (TBe), Shonna G. Berry, Charles L. Black, James M. Black, Justin Bosler (JBo), Sam Brayshaw (SBr), Charles R. Britt, Douglas L. Brown, Mary Brown (MBR), Celestyn M. Brozek, Sean Bruner (SeB), David G. Buckley, Ruth Burstrom (RBU), Jeremy Busby (JBu), Kara Carragher (KCa), Richard C. Castetter, Phil E. Chaon,

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Christopher B. Chappell (CCl), Roger Clark (RCI), David J. Cleary, Corry J. Clinton, Anne D. Codey, Patrick D. Collins, Steve D. Collins, Chris Conard (ChC), Jennie Conway (JCo), Andrew Core (ACo), Cameron Cox (CaC), Ken Cox (KCo), Steven W. Cox, Alan M. Craig, Dylan Cuellar (DCu), Amanda Damin (ADa), Robert D'Antonio (RD'A), Virginia Davis (VDa), Matthew J. Daw, Kenneth Dayer (KDa), Joan Day-Martin, Mikal Deese (MDe), Kathy DeLucas (KDe), Vicki Dern (VDe), Coen Dexter (CDe), Arley Dial (ADi), Ian Dolly (IDo), Brian R. Dolton, Debra Dooley (DDo), Michael J. Dreibelbis, Kyle Driggers (KDr), Steve Drilling (SDr), Diane Drobka (DDr), Saunders Drucker (SDr), Michael Dupree (MDu), Robert A. Edens, Randy Edmonds (REd), Wyatt T. Egelhoff, Douglas A. Emkalins, Gorden J. Ewing, Lois Farrington (LFa), Andrew C. Fenner, Stephen M. Fettig, Trevor W. Fetz, James S. Findley, Jodhan Fine (JFi), Joe Fitzgibbon (JoF), Lucus J. Foerster, Carly Foreback (CFo), Bernard R. Foy, Franz Freibert (FFr), Gerald A. Friedman, Robert E. Friedrichs, Gary K. Froehlich, Phillip and Patsy Hicks (P&PH), Ron Gauna (RGa), Joel A. Gilb, Lisa S. Giles, Tony B. Godfrey, Bob C. Godwin, Coleman J. Goin, Asher Gorbet (AGo), Larry P. Gorbet, John P. Gorey, Matthew Gould (MGo), Amanda Graham (AGr), David J. Griffin, Sara Griffith (SGr), Cheryl Grindle (CGr), Roger P. Grimshaw, John M. Groves, Robin Gurule (RGU), Ethan F. Gyllenhaal, Cinda Haggren (CHa), Laurens R. Halsey, Roger Hammond (RHa), Catherine Harris (CHa), Michael Harvey (MHa), Jerry Hatfield (JHa), Charles D. Hathcock, David L. Hawksworth, Charles L. Hayes, Sue Heaton (SHe), Karen A. Herzenberg, Andrew Hersey (AHe), Nancy E. Hetrick, M. Owen Hilchey, Phillip and Patsy Hicks (P&PH), Tom J. Hines, Valerie Hink (VHi), John Hirth (JHi), Terry F. Hodapp, Jack Holloway (JHo), Alec Hopping (AHo), Lonnie Howard (LHo), Marilyn D. Howe, William H. Howe, Ree Hoyl (RHo), Susan Hunter (SHu), Ron Hurd (RHu), Thomas Jackman (TJa), Will Jaremko-Wright (WJ-W), Andrew B. Johnson, David Johnson (DJo), Mark R. Johnson, Oscar Johnson (OJo), Philip W. Johnson, Tom Johnson (TJo), James P. Joseph, Douglas R. Julian, Logan Kahle (LKa), Donna Kelly (DKe), Glen Kendall (GKe), K. Kittleberger (KKi), George Kinney (GKi), Jason Kitting (JKi), Kyle Kittleberger (KKi), Dawn Kittner (DKi), Rick Koehler (RKO), Eliana Kramer (EKr), Marc Kramer (MKr), Andrew M. Kraynik, Rebecca E. Kreitingner, David J. Krueper, Shawn LaBrier (SLa), Joseph Lagarde (JLa), Robert Larsen (RoL), Richard Latuchie (RiL), Rene Laubach (ReL), Lane Leckman (LLe), Darrell T. Lee, Julian C. Lee, Paul E. Lehman, Jason Leifester (JLe), Daniel Leifheit (DLe), Scott P. Lerich, Greg J. Levandoski, Carol E. Levine, W. Burton Lewis, Judy Liddel (JLi), Kayla Liechty (KLi), J. David Ligon, Sandy H. Ligon, James Loftin (JLo), Bonnie Long (BLo), Stephen M. Long, Carl G. Lundblad, Martin D. MacRoberts, Jacob W. Malcom, William E. Maley, Ivana Mali (IMa), Karen Makakihara (KaM), Larry K. Malone, Cindy L. Marple, Craig Martin (CMa), Richard Martin (RMa), Gabriel Martinez (GMa), Kristin Mauritsen (KrM), Pat W. McCasland, Brandi McCauley (BMc), Kimble McClymonds (KMc), David B. McDonald, Peter McGrath (PMc), Tim McKimmie (TMc), Joanie McMains (JMc), Katherine Meeres (KMe), DeeAnne T. Meliopoulos, Patricia Mendes (PMe), Sonja E. Mendoza, Annie Meyer (AMe), Raymond A. Meyer, Anabella Miller (AMi), Linda Miller (LMi), Terry Miller (TMI), Susan Mittelstadt (SMi), John C. Mittermeier, Rob Modica (RMO), Melvin S. Moe, James B. Montgomery, Vester Montgomery (VMO), Jennifer A. Montoya, James Morling (JMo), Bernard L. Morris, Riley Morris (RMO), Amy Morrison (AMo), Robert Munro (RMu), Jacob Musser (JMu), Amy Neel (ANe), Alan P. Nelson, Sarah L. Nelson, Bruce D. Neville, Daniel B. Newman, Robert S. Nieman, Cathy Nishida (CNI), Patricia O'Bryon (PaO), Joyce O'Connell (JoO), Matthew J. O'Donnell, Araks Ohaynyan (AOH), Jerry R. Oldenettel, Kurt Ongman (KOn), Cristina Ortega (COr), Fernando Ortega (FOR), Marie Ostrander (MOs), K. Bruce Ostyn, Gale A. Owens. Daniel C. Paez, Gary Parker (GPa), Jack B. Parlapiano, John E. Parmeter, Cathy Pasterczyk (CPa), Alex Patia (APa), James N. Paton, Nora Patterson (NPa), Jason

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Pattin (JPa), Kayla L. Paulk, Nicholas D. Pederson, Mark Pendleton (MPe), Brandon K. Percival, Nathan Pieplow (NPi), Eric Pierce (EPi), Scot Pipkin (SPi), Missy Powell (MiP), Majie Powey (MaP), Inez Prather (IPr), William Prather (WPr), Mike Ramos (MRa), Janet Rathjen (JRt), Lisa Ray (LRa), Mary Katherine Ray, Ray Reed (RRe), Geoffery Reeves (GRe), Timothy Reeves (TRe), BarbaraAnne Rich (BRi), Michael Richardson (MRi), Alexander Robinson (ARo), Dan Robinson (DRo), Barb Rodriguez (BRo), David M. Romer, Rose Ann Rowlett, Merri Rudd (MRu), Megan B. Ruehmann, Cassidy Ruge (CRu), Patricia Russell (PRu), Christopher M. Rustay, Brad Ryan (BRy), Lawry A. Sager, Cole Sage (CSa), Jeffrey I. Sanchez, Catherine I. Sandell, Joe Schelling (JSc), Beth Schilling (BSc), Albert Schultz (ASc), C. Gregory Schmitt, Kim S. Score, Marcy T. Scott, Sandra Seth (SaS), Scott Severs (ScS), Cathy Sheeter (CSH), Ann Sherman (ASh), James T. Shiflett, John W. Shipman, Michael Shoop (MSh), Donna M. Simonetti, Owen J. Sinkus, Noel Sivertson (NSi), Charles Slocumb (CSl), Brian Small (BSm), Adrian Smith (ASm), Inna P. Smith, Mary Smith (MaS), Michael Smith (MiS), Patricia R. Snider, Noel F. Snyder, Carolyn Spindle (CSp), Dale W. Stahlecker, Paul E. Steel, Ken Stinnett (KSt), Sarah Stinnett (SSt), Nancy Stocker (NST), Gak Stonn (GST), Nancy G. Stotz, Marcel Such (MSu), Donald Sutherland (DSu), Jarrod B. Swackhamer, Jeff Szabat (JSz), Gail Szpatura (GSz), Robert Tafanelli (RTa), Joyce Takamine (JTa), Stephen Tarnowski (STa), Natalie Taylor (NTa), Hank Telfaferro (HTe), Ross L. Teuber, Andrew T. Theus, Jake Tholen (JTo), Evan Thomas (ETH), Brent E. Thompson, Michale Jon Thompson, Danny Tipton (DTi), Jerry W. Toll, Anne Ellen and James Toumay (A&JT), William M. Treers, David L. Trembly, John A. Trochet, Van Truan (VTr), Jessie Trujillo (JTr), Shelagh Tupper (STu), S.R. Uhrig, Raymond L. VanBuskirk, Mike Vandewege (MVa), J. Brad Vaughn, Dan Vickers (DVl), Nick Vinciguerra (NVl), Amanda Walker (AWa), Robert Walker (RWA), Al Wallace (AlW), Lee Wallace (LW), Kristin Warren (KWa), Gordon L. Warrick, Wayne Washam (WWa), Amy Washuta (AmW), Twila D. Watkins, Richard E. Webster, Doug Wedman (DWe), Andrew Weeks (AWe), Donald L. Weidemann, Douglas E. Weidemann, Marion Weidemann (MWe), Jacob Weinreich (JWe), Mara E. Weisenberger, Michele Weisz (MiW), Ruben Weisz (RWe), P. Steve West, William F. West, David White (DWh), Debra G. Whitecotton, Cecil Williams (CWl), Richard B. Williams, Sartor O. Williams, Jessie L. Williamson, Sondra Williamson (SWl), Vicki Wilmarth (VWi), Austin Wilson (AWl), Frank Wilson (FWl), MarciaWilson (MWl), Christopher C. Witt, William Wittman (WWl), Anna Wright (AWr), Brenda Wright (BWr), Ken Wright (KWr), James Wrightman (JWr), Carol Wolf (CWl), Cole J. Wolf, Ted Wolff (TWl), Christopher L. Wood, Sarah Wood (SWl), Eleanor G. Wooten, Judy L. Yellon, Wang Yong (WYo), David Youkerd (DYl), James E. Zaborskie, Gary R. Zahm, Kenneth Zaslow (KZa), Barry R. Zimmer, Dale A. Zimmerman, Joseph Zummach (JZu), DeAnne Zwright (DZW).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank the 405 contributors who provided details, photos, and other materials documenting their records of New Mexico birds. We are especially grateful to the more than 50 outside experts who reviewed and commented on many of these records. The manuscript was improved by comments from reviewers J. L. Dunn and G. H. Rosenberg and editors D. D. Gibson and P. Unitt.

LITERATURE CITED

- American Ornithologists' Union (AOU). 1998. Check-list of North American Birds, 7th ed. AOU, Washington, DC.
- Baumann, M. J. 2023. First Tropical Kingbird nest in New Mexico. *W. Birds* 54:83–86; doi 10.21199/WB54.1.7.

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

- Baumann, M. J., Pederson, N. D., Oldenettel, J., Graus, M. S., McNew, S. M., and Witt, C. C. 2011. Molecular and morphological evidence confirm the first record of Eastern Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus vociferus*) for New Mexico. New Mexico Ornithological Society [NMOS] Bulletin 39:1–10.
- Baumann, M. J., Brant, S. V., Bauernfeind, S. M., Gerhart, C. R. B., Williamson, J. L., Johnson, A. B., Spellman, G., Uhrig, S. R., West, S., and Witt, C. C. 2023. Fresh-water parasites as potential barriers to seabird dispersal: Evidence from vagrant booby specimens in western North America. Wilson J. Ornithol. 135: in press.
- Cleary, D. J., and Parmeter, J. E. 2010. First New Mexico record of Black Turnstone (*Arenaria melanocephala*). NMOS Bull. 38:53–59.
- Dunn, J. L. and Alderfer, J. 2017. Field Guide to the Birds of North America, 7th ed. Natl. Geogr. Soc., Washington, D.C.
- Fine, J., VanBuskirk, R. L., Parlapiano, J. B., and Baumann, M. J. 2021. First record of the European Golden Plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*) in New Mexico with notes on age, provenance, and *Pluvialis* molt. W. Birds 52:183–187; doi 10.21199/WB52.2.10.
- Howell, S. N. G., Lewington, I., and Russell, W. 2014. Rare Birds of North America. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton, NJ.
- Hubbard, J. P. 1970. Check-list of the birds of New Mexico. NMOS Publ. 3.
- Hubbard, J. P., and Gennaro, A. L. 1985. Ruby-throated Hummingbird in New Mexico. Am. Birds 39:134.
- Hubbard, J. P., and Shipman, J. W. 1994. Couch's Kingbird in New Mexico. NMOS Bull. 21:8–12.
- Johnson A. B., McNew, S. M., Graus, M. S., and Witt, C. C. 2011. Mitochondrial DNA and meteorological data suggest a Caribbean origin for New Mexico's first Sooty Tern (*Onychoprion fuscatus*). W. Birds 42:233–242.
- Meyer, R. A., and Williams, S. O. III. 2012. A Smith's Longspur on Otero Mesa: First verified New Mexico record. NMOS Bull. 40:1–4.
- Parmeter, J. E. 2007. Annotated checklist of the birds of the Melrose migrant trap, Roosevelt County, New Mexico. NMOS Bull. 35:1–40.
- Pyle, P. 1997. Identification Guide to North American Birds, part I. Slate Creek Press, Bolinas, CA.
- Rosenberg, G. H., Radamaker, K., and Stevenson, M. M. 2011. Arizona Bird Committee report, 2005–2009 records. W. Birds, 42:198–232.
- Rosenberg, G. H., Vander Pluym, D., and Halsey, L. 2019. Arizona Bird Committee report, 2015–2017 records. W. Birds 50:150–175; doi 10.21199/WB50.3.3.
- Rutt, C. M., Pyle, P., Collins, P. W., Brady, M. L., Tietz, J. R., and Dunn, J. L. 2014. The nominate subspecies of the Purple Finch in California and western North America. W. Birds 45:284–295.
- Schmitt, C. G., and Miller, A. A. 1987. A specimen record of the Ancient Murrelet from New Mexico. W. Birds 18:213–214.
- Snyder, N. F., Snyder, H. A., Moore-Craig, N., Fleisch, A. D., Wagner, R. A., Rowlett, R. A. 2010. Short-tailed Hawks nesting in the sky islands of the Southwest. W. Birds 41:202–230.
- Williams, S. O. III. 1995. New Mexico Bird Records Committee report for 1994. NMOS Bull. 23:87–96.
- Williams, S. O. III. 1996. New Mexico Bird Records Committee report for 1995. NMOS Bull. 25:59–68.
- Williams, S. O. III. 1997. New Mexico Bird Records Committee report for 1996. NMOS Bull. 25: 75–87.
- Williams, S. O. III. 1999. Fourth report of the New Mexico Bird Records Committee. NMOS Bull. 27:35–46.
- Williams, S. O. III. 2007. Fifth report of the New Mexico Bird Records Committee. NMOS Bull. 35:61–86.

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE NEW MEXICO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

- Williams, S. O. III. 2010. Sixth report of the New Mexico Bird Records Committee. NMOS Bull. 38:71–82.
- Williams, S. O. III. 2013. The Cape May Warbler in New Mexico. NMOS Bull. 41:25–29.
- Williams, S. O. III. 2020. The Cerulean Warbler in New Mexico. NMOS Bull. 48:2–6.
- Williams, S. O. III. 2022. Annotated checklist of New Mexico birds, *in* New Mexico Bird Finding Guide, 4th ed. (W. H. Howe, ed.), pp 303–365. New Mexico Ornithol. Soc., Albuquerque.
- Williams, S. O. III, and Daw, M. J. 2016. A Rufous-necked Wood-Rail (*Aramides axillaris*) in New Mexico. N. Am. Birds 69:190–197.
- Williams, S. O. III, and Howe, W. H. 2008. Black Skimmer occurrences in New Mexico, including a high elevation record. W. Birds 39:31–32.
- Williams, S. O. III, and Krueper, D. J. 2008. The changing status of the Gray Hawk in New Mexico and adjacent areas. W. Birds 39:202–208.
- Williams, S. O. III, DeLong, J. P., and Howe, W. H. 2007. Northward range expansion by the Short-tailed Hawk, with first records for New Mexico and Chihuahua. W. Birds 38:2–10.

Accepted 17 July 2023
Associate editor: Daniel D. Gibson

RECENT INCREASE IN THE YELLOW-BILLED MAGPIE POPULATION IN SACRAMENTO AND ITS POSSIBLE CAUSES

DANIEL A. AIROLA, Conservation Research and Planning, Sacramento, California 95864; d.airola@sbcglobal.net

ABSTRACT: The Yellow-billed Magpie (*Pica nuttalli*) declined substantially throughout its range after the West Nile virus arrived in California in the 2000s, and neither development of disease resistance nor population recovery have been reported. After surveying 8 occupied sites in 2020 and 22 occupied sites in 2021 for a study of the magpie's habitat use in urban Sacramento, I continued surveying 15 urban parks in 2022 and 2023 to evaluate population trends over 4 years. The Sacramento magpie population increased consistently by 3–7% per year, suggesting a localized recovery. Since the extent of foraging habitat remained stable, other factors, possibly including development of resistance to the virus (as seen in other species of birds), may be promoting a population increase. These results, however, are local and relatively short term. More work is needed to determine if resistance is developing and to understand longer-term population and disease trends in other parts of the Yellow-billed Magpie's range.

The 2003 arrival of West Nile virus (WNV) in California caused a substantial and rapid decline in the population of the California endemic Yellow-billed Magpie (*Pica nuttalli*; Airola et al. 2007, Koenig et al. 2007, Crosbie et al. 2008, Smallwood and Nakamoto 2009, Kilpatrick and Wheeler 2019). Unlike other WNV-affected species, the magpie has not been reported to have developed widespread immunity to the disease (Crosbie et al. 2008).

Christmas Bird Count data summarized through 2019 showed that the Yellow-billed Magpie population in the Central Valley declined rapidly from 2003 to 2006 and more gradually from 2007 to 2016 (Pandolfino 2013, 2017). A slight increase may have followed from 2017 to 2019 (Pandolfino 2020), but the population remained at <20% of its pre-virus level and recently has appeared to fluctuate with annual levels of WNV activity (Pandolfino 2013, 2017, 2020). Range-wide Breeding Bird Survey data showed a continuous decline through 2017 (Kilpatrick and Wheeler 2019), and eBird data show a decline through 2021 (Fink et al. 2022). The North American Bird Conservation Initiative (2022) identified the Yellow-billed Magpie as one of 70 “tipping point species” whose population in the U. S. has declined by >50% since 1980 and could lose another half or more of its population in the next 50 years.

Surveys of three roost sites around Sacramento shortly after the arrival of WNV found the magpie had been eliminated at two and had declined substantially at a third and that the decline was associated with reports of “dozens” of magpies found dead near roost sites (Crosbie et al. 2008). Dead Yellow-billed Magpies found soon after WNV's arrival had the highest rate of positivity for the virus among 50 species tested (Wheeler et al. 2009). Continuing monitoring has documented WNV's persistence in the Sacramento region (Snyder et al. 2020) and continued magpie mortality from the disease (<https://westnile.ca.gov/>; <https://maps.vectorsurv.org/arbo/>).

Surveys for the Sacramento County Breeding Bird Atlas showed a decline in rural areas since the 1980s but persistence in urbanized areas from 2016

to 2020 (Pandolfino et al. 2021). In the 1980s, magpies were documented breeding in 82 (62%) of 132 atlas blocks, but in the 2010s in only 33 (25%) of blocks. Sixteen (20%) of 82 blocks where breeding was confirmed in the early period were urbanized, while in the second period 14 (42%) of the 33 confirmed blocks were urbanized (E. Pandolfino pers. comm.). In 2020 and 2021 the sizable remnant Yellow-billed Magpie colonies in riverine parks in the Sacramento metropolitan area were reproducing successfully and the population appeared to be stable (Airola et al. 2021). Numbers in various Sacramento locales were closely associated with the amount of foraging habitat near rivers and creeks, suggesting that colony sizes there were determined by habitat availability rather than WNV.

Additional information is needed on the status of the remnant Yellow-billed Magpie population in Sacramento to ascertain whether it is declining, stabilized, or recovering (Airola et al. 2021, Koenig et al. 2022). To address this need, in 2022 and 2023 I resurveyed the urban riverine parks that Airola et al. (2021) studied in 2020 and 2021.

The incidence of WNV typically peaks in late summer and early fall and is elevated in years with above-average precipitation and following a year of below-average precipitation (Landesman et al. 2007, Soverow et al. 2009, Snyder et al. 2020). Therefore, I evaluated whether changes in Sacramento's magpie population in these four years were associated with rainfall in the same year or in the prior year.

METHODS

In 2020, I surveyed Yellow-billed Magpie nesting colonies at eight parks, semi-rural areas, vacant lands, and adjacent residential areas within the city of Sacramento and surrounding Sacramento County. In 2021, I surveyed 43 sites, including 22 that supported magpies (Airola et al. 2021). In 2022, I surveyed 13 of the previously occupied sites, including the eight 2020 sites and five of the other 2021 sites. In 2023, I added two additional occupied sites to the 13 surveyed in 2022, both of which had been surveyed in 2021, for a total of 15 occupied colony sites. I selected the 2022 and 2023 colony sites to sample various colony sizes. Thus a core group of eight sites were surveyed in four consecutive years (2020–2023), five additional sites were surveyed in three consecutive years (2021–2023), and two others were surveyed in 2021 and 2023.

As described by Airola et al. (2021), all study sites were within larger urban parks and surrounding residential neighborhoods that contained large trees suitable for nesting and extensive areas (4–20 ha) of managed turf or mowed or grazed annual grassland. All sites were within 0.5 km of rivers or creeks, which is known to be important to magpie occupancy (Airola et al. 2021).

I conducted all surveys (including those in 2020 and 2021; Airola et al. 2021) and surveyed the same areas at each site during each year. I estimated magpie populations at survey sites by counting the number of active nests and multiplying by two, which Airola et al. (2021) found to be more reliable and efficient than direct counts of birds. Active nests were easily detected because of their large size, high location, and presence usually within deciduous trees. I identified a nest as an active magpie nest (versus a remnant from the previous

year or another species' nest) if it had a stick "dome" over it or adults were attending or building it. I completed at least two nest-count surveys at each site. In 2022, the first surveys extended from 24 January to 5 February, the second from 15 February to 15 March, during nest building but prior to the leafing out of deciduous trees, which obstructs nests' visibility.

In 2023 the weather was cool and wet, which delayed leaf-out of deciduous trees and magpies' nesting. Therefore, I conducted the first surveys that year from February 26 to March 3 and second surveys (and in some cases a third survey) as late as March 26. Flooding at Discovery Park interrupted surveys after 5 March in 2023, so I rechecked nests there on 19 April after waters had receded but before trees had leafed out. I searched for dead magpies during all surveys.

I calculated annual rates of change in numbers for each site, for the total numbers at the eight sites that were surveyed over four years (2000–2023), and for the total numbers at the 13 sites that were surveyed over three years (2021–2023). Two sites, Howe/Santa Anita parks and Bellevue Park, were surveyed only in 2021 and 2023, so I estimated the annual change at these sites as the average of the change from 2021 to 2023.

I summarized annual rainfall at the Sacramento WB City station (<http://stratus.water.ca.gov/dynamicapp/QueryWY?Stations=scr&SensorNums=2&End=2022-03-14&span=7+years>). To evaluate potential connections among rainfall, WNV, and magpie populations, I compared annual population changes to the deviation in annual (October–April) rainfall from the long-term average, in both the same year and the previous year. Because of the study's limited number of years, I did not analyze the data statistically but rather assessed whether the direction and magnitude of population changes were in concordance with the amounts and changes in rainfall, and thus potentially WNV activity.

RESULTS

Population Trend

All Sacramento survey sites that supported Yellow-billed Magpie nesting colonies in 2020 and 2021 were still occupied in 2022 and 2023. Numbers at the eight sites surveyed in all four years increased by 17% over that period, equivalent to a rate of 6% per year (Table 1). Numbers at the 13 sites surveyed in 2021, 2022, and 2023 increased by 3% in 2022 and then by 7% in 2023 (Table 1). Numbers at the two sites surveyed in 2021 and 2023 increased by 13%, equivalent to an average annual rate of 6%. The average annual change in numbers at individual sites over the 3- or 4-year periods ranged from –17% to +34% (Table 1). Numbers increased at 10 of 15 sites and declined at five. At three of these five sites, however, the decline was by only two birds (i.e., one nesting pair), and the colonies at two of these sites were small (3 and 4 pairs). I found no dead magpies.

Rainfall and Population Levels

Rainfall was 60% above average during the 2019 water year prior to the 2020 survey and then varied from 42% to 135% of the long-term average in

INCREASING YELLOW-BILLED MAGPIE POPULATION IN SACRAMENTO

TABLE 1 Number of Nesting Yellow-billed Magpies and Rates of Change in Sacramento, 2020–2023

Colony site	Year				Change				Annual average
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2020–21	2021–22	2022–23	2021–23	
Discovery Park	174	172	192	198	–1%	12%	3%		5%
East Park Rd.	84	88	78	82	5%	–11%	5%		–0.5%
Howe/Santa Anita parks		68		82				20%	10%
Larchmont Park		52	50	42		–4%	–16%		–10%
Renfree Field	36	42	48	54	17%	14%	13%		14%
William B. Pond	30	30	30	40	0%	0%	33%		11%
Township Station 9		26	30	46		15%	53%		34%
Hagan Community Park		28	28	20		0%	–29%		–14%
Ancil Hoffman Park	26	24	26	30	–8%	8%	15%		5%
Oak Meadow Park	22	16	22	24		38%	9%		6%
Phoenix Park	20	26	22	28	30%	–15%	27%		14%
Bellevue Park		18		28				55%	28%
Horseman’s Club	10	14	10	14	40%	–29%	40%		17%
Ashton Park/ Estates Dr.		8	8	6		0%	–25%		–13%
Riviera East Park		6	4	4		–33%	0%		–17%
8-site total	402	412	428	470	3%	4%	10%		6%
13-site total		532	548	588		3%	7%		5%
15-site total		618		698				13%	6%

subsequent years (Table 2). If wetter than average years result in an increased mosquito population and WNV activity, which then reduced the magpie population in the subsequent year, the magpie population should have been depressed in 2020 because of above average rainfall in 2019. It then should have increased through 2022 as the previous year’s rainfall remained below average and then declined or remained stable in 2023 after precipitation fell below average in 2022. The magpie population increased from 2020 to 2022, but then continued to do so in 2023 despite average rainfall the preceding year. Therefore, the hypothesis that the previous year’s rainfall affected WNV

TABLE 2 Rainfall in Portion of Water Year (October–March) before and during the Yellow-billed Magpie’s Breeding Season, 2019–2023, and Expected Population Responses

Breeding season year	Rainfall (cm)	% of average	Effect predicted from rainfall		Observed population response
			In previous year	In current year	
2019	66.3	158%			
2020	21.4	51%	Low population	High population	
2021	20.1	48%	Increase	Increase	Increase
2022	44.2	105%	Increase	No change	Increase
2023	65.2	155%	No change	Decrease	Increase

and the magpie population was only weakly supported (i.e., consistent with predictions in two of three years).

If the rainfall from October to March prior to and during the breeding season affected WNV levels and magpie mortality rates in the same season, the population should have increased in 2021 due to low rainfall in 2020, remained the same in 2022 with average rainfall, and decreased in 2023 during a wetter year. The annual increase in the magpie population from 2020 to 2023 was consistent with these predictions in only one of three years (Table 2).

DISCUSSION

Population Status

Although localized, this study found some of the first suggestions of recovery of a Yellow-billed Magpie population since the WNV-induced decline in the 2000s. The 2020–2023 survey results document a slow but steady increase in the Sacramento's Yellow-billed Magpie population by 3–6% per year over three years and an increase at 10 of 15 sampled colony sites.

The increase of the Sacramento population is striking, contrasting with a Central Valley-wide decline of >80% from the mid-2000s to 2019 on Christmas Bird Counts (Pandolfino 2020) and a substantial decline in adjacent rural areas documented in the Sacramento Breeding Bird Atlas (Pandolfino et al. 2021). The general pattern among WNV-affected birds identified by Kilpatrick and Wheeler (2019) was steeper declines in urban areas, contrary to these results.

Surveys at Discovery Park on 19 April 2019 after flood waters receded confirmed the 5 March count of 99 nests (i.e., 198 birds). I could not, however, verify whether all nests observed on 19 April were still active or whether the temporary flooding of nearly all adjacent foraging habitat prevented establishment of additional nests or caused nest abandonment or failure.

Potential Causes for the Population Increase

On the basis of Christmas Bird Count data, Pandolfino (2020) suggested that the Central Valley magpie population experienced “small recoveries during low WNV years, followed by renewed declines in response to subsequent virus outbreaks.” The continued increase in the Sacramento urban population from 2020 to 2023 is inconsistent with the fluctuations he identified for the Central Valley population as a whole through 2019, when our studies began. This time period, however, is short and the increases were modest and localized (although in a population that reached nearly 700 individuals).

Airola et al. (2021) suggested that the strong correlation between population sizes at urban Sacramento parks near rivers and streams and the extent of low herbaceous habitat for foraging suggests that magpie numbers there were limited by available foraging habitat rather than by WNV. Yet a steady increase from 2020 to 2023, while habitat in this urban area remained largely unchanged, is inconsistent with a simple habitat-based determinant of population size.

Intensive monitoring and control of WNV to protect human health in the Sacramento region, and perhaps other similar urban areas, could be providing

incidental protection to magpie populations (Airola et al. 2021). Previously, Smallwood and Nakamoto (2009) attributed the slower decline in the magpie population within the city of Davis, Yolo County, than in nearby rural areas, to more intensive WNV-abatement efforts there. Levels of mosquito control and its effectiveness in reducing WNV incidence are difficult to quantify, but long-established control efforts in Sacramento do not appear to have intensified in recent years, in a way that might have triggered a magpie-population increase. Nor has WNV incidence in humans decreased in California, at least from 2004 to 2017 (Snyder et al. 2021).

The increase in Sacramento's Yellow-billed Magpie population from 2020 to 2023 suggests while the extent of foraging habitat determines the species' relative abundance at various sites, other factors are contributing to the overall population increase. The consistent annual increase despite rainfall varying from 42 to 160% of normal (Table 2) suggests that either rainfall variations are not tied to WNV levels, possibly because of mosquito-control efforts, or that WNV is not regulating the magpie population, perhaps because of development of resistance. The recent increase is consistent with the hypothesis that population growth may be resulting from gradual acquisition of resistance to WNV, as seen in other affected species (Kilpatrick and Wheeler 2019, Pandolfino 2020). The possibility that the population has increased only temporarily, however, cannot be dismissed.

Testing of live magpies in 2006 detected WNV antibodies in only one of 21 individuals sampled, indicating that the species had not then developed widespread resistance (Crosbie et al. 2008). The lack of recovery through 2019 in the Central Valley also suggests that widespread resistance had not developed (Pandolfino 2020). No antibody testing of live birds, however, has been reported since 2006. Testing of magpies for WNV antibodies would be useful in determining whether the Sacramento population, and perhaps other populations, are beginning to develop resistance.

Of the possible explanations for the Yellow-billed Magpie's stability in Sacramento, I am able to discount only the effect of rainfall variation as a substantial factor. The availability of foraging habitat, WNV surveillance and treatment, and possibly the development of disease resistance all could be contributing to population increases in Sacramento. Clarifying the responsible factors and verifying whether the increase continues, will require additional data.

Population Assessment and Conservation Needs

The increase in the remnant Yellow-billed Magpie population of urban Sacramento is encouraging, but available evidence through 2019 shows that the broader Central Valley population has been substantially depleted without showing any signs of recovery (Kilpatrick and Wheeler 2019, Pandolfino 2020). Neither has the status of the population in other urban areas been determined. Given the relatively ease of surveying for the species through nest counts (Airola et al. 2021), additional effort to track other urban and rural populations is warranted. The relatively healthy Yellow-billed Magpie population in Sacramento and perhaps other cities warrants habitat protection and management, and continued suppression of West Nile virus, to encourage further development of disease resistance (Kilpatrick and Wheeler

2019). Such urban areas may serve as a reservoir to repopulate areas where the species has been depleted.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thanks to Chris Swarth, Ed Pandolfino, Walter Koenig, and Philip Unitt for useful comments on various versions of the paper. Lily Douglas and Layla Airola assisted with early studies.

LITERATURE CITED

- Airola, D. A., Hampton, S., and Manolis, T. 2007. Effects of West Nile Virus on sensitive species in the lower Sacramento Valley, California: An evaluation using Christmas Bird Counts. *Central Valley Bird Club Bull.* 10:1–23.
- Airola, D. A., Douglas, L. A., and Airola, L. 2021. Yellow-billed Magpie population status and habitat characteristics in urban Sacramento, California. *W. Birds* 52:222–239; doi.org/10.21199/WB52.3.3.
- Crosbie, S. P., Koenig, W. D., Reisen, W. K., Kramer, V. L., Marcus, L. R., Carney, R., Pandolfino, E. R., Bolen, G. M., Crosbie, L. R., Bell, D. A., and Ernest, H. B. 2008. A preliminary assessment: Impact of West Nile virus on the Yellow-billed Magpie, a California endemic. *Auk* 125:542–550; doi.org/10.1525/auk.2008.07040.
- Fink, D., Aure, T., Johnston, A., Strimas-Mackey, M., Ligocki, S., Robinson, O., Hochachka, W., Jaromczyk, W., Rodewald, A., Wood, C., Davies, I., and Spencer, A. 2022. Yellow-billed Magpie (*Pica nuttalli*), in eBird status and trends, data version: 2021. Cornell Lab Ornithol., Ithaca, NY; <https://science.ebird.org/en/status-and-trends/species/yebmag/trends-map>; doi.org/10.2173/ebirdst.2021.
- Kilpatrick, A. M. and Wheeler, S. S. 2019. Impact of West Nile virus on bird populations: Limited lasting effects, evidence for recovery, and gaps in our understanding of impacts on ecosystems. *J. Medical Entomology* 56:1491–497; doi.org/10.1093/jme/tjz149.
- Koenig, W. D., Marcus, L., Scott, T. W., and Dickinson, J. L. 2007. West Nile virus and California breeding bird declines. *Ecohealth* 4:18–24; doi.org/10.1007/s10393-007-0086-4.
- Koenig, W. D., Reynolds, M. D., and Airola, D. A. 2022. Yellow-billed Magpie (*Pica nuttalli*), version 2.0, in *Birds of the World* (P. Rodewald, ed.). Cornell Lab Ornithol., Ithaca, NY; doi.org/10.2173/bow.yebmag.02.
- Landesman, W. J., Allan, B. F., Langerhans, R. B., Knight, T. M., and Chase, J. M. 2007. Inter-annual associates between precipitation and human incidence of West Nile virus in the United States. *Vector Borne Zoonotic Diseases* 7:337–343; doi.org/10.1089/vbz.2006.0590.
- North American Bird Conservation Initiative. 2022. The state of the birds, United States of America, 2022. <https://www.stateofthebirds.org/2022/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/state-of-the-birds-2022-spreads.pdf>.
- Pandolfino, E. R. 2013. Lack of recovery of the Yellow-billed Magpie from West Nile virus in California's Central Valley. *W. Birds* 44:101–109.
- Pandolfino, E. R. 2017. Continuing impacts of West Nile virus on birds of California's Central Valley. *Central Valley Birds* 20:101–109.
- Pandolfino, E. R. 2020. Continuing impacts of West Nile virus on the Loggerhead Shrike and other birds in California's Central Valley. *Central Valley Birds* 23:18–23.
- Pandolfino, E. R., Douglas, L. A., Manolis, T. D., and Conard, C. 2021. Sacramento County Breeding Birds: A Tale of Two Atlases and Three Decades of Change. *Central Valley Bird Club Spec. Publ.* 2.
- Smallwood, K. S., and Nakamoto, B. 2009. Impacts of West Nile virus epizootic on

- the Yellow-billed Magpie, American Crow, and other birds in the Sacramento Valley, California. *Condor* 111:247–254; doi.org/10.1525/cond.2009.080010.
- Snyder, R. E., Feiszli, T., Foss, L., Messenger, S., Fang, Y., Barker, C. M., Reisen, W. K., Vugia, D. J., Padgett, K. A., and Kramer, V. L. 2020. West Nile virus in California, 2003–2018: A persistent threat. *PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases* 14(11):e0008842; doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0008844.
- Snyder, R. E., Cooksey, G. S., Kramer, V., Jain, S. J., and Vugia, D. J. 2021. West Nile virus–associated hospitalizations, California, 2004–2017. *Clinical Infectious Diseases* 73:441–447; doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciaa749.
- Soverow, J.E., Wellenius, G. A., Fisman, D. N., and Mittleman, M. A. 2009. Infectious disease in a warming world: How weather influenced West Nile virus in the United States (2001–2005). *Env. Health Perspectives* 117:1049–1052; doi.org/10.1289/ehp.0800487.
- Wheeler, S. S., Barker, C. M., Fang, Y., Armijos, M. V., Carroll, B. D., Husted, S., Johnson, W. O., and Reisen, W. K. 2009. Differential impact of West Nile virus on California birds. *Condor* 111:1–20; doi.org/10.1525/cond.2009.080013.

Accepted 5 September 2023
Associate editor: Philip Unitt

NOTES

FIRST RECORD OF A SIBERIAN RUBYTHROAT (*CALLIOPE CALLIOPE*) IN THE CONTERMINOUS UNITED STATES

SIERRA L. SOWA, YVONNE LUONG, GIOVANNI S. QUEZADA, BRIGITTE K. SCOTT, and JESSICA A. CASTILLO VARDARO, Department of Biological Sciences, San José State University, One Washington Square, San Jose, California 95192-0100; Jessica.Castillo-Vardaro@sjsu.edu

ABSTRACT: The first Siberian Rubythroat (*Calliope calliope*) recorded in the conterminous United States occurred in Santa Clara County, California, on 19 November 2022. The detection was made by a motion-activated trail camera, and the bird was not recorded thereafter.

On 19 November 2022, a trail camera placed in Mountain View, Santa Clara County, California (37.426° N, 122.072° W, Figure 1), photographed a male Siberian Rubythroat (*Calliope calliope*; Figures 1 and 2). The camera, a Browning Strike Force HD Pro X, took a burst of three images at 16:02. This was the only detection of the rubythroat made by our 40 cameras placed in the vicinity between July 2022 and

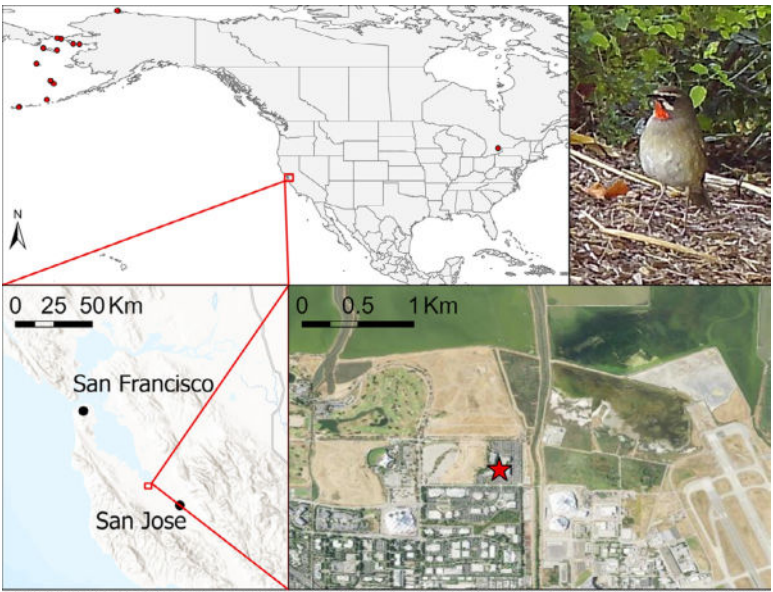


FIGURE 1. Locations of previous observations of the Siberian Rubythroat in North America (top left, observation data from eBird), inset map showing the location of the sighting within the San Francisco Bay Area (bottom left), map of the surrounding area in Mountain View, Santa Clara County (bottom right), and photo of the bird (top right).



FIGURE 2. Trail camera image of male Siberian Rubythroat at Mountain View, Santa Clara County, California, 19 November 2022.

March 2023. This record (2022-134) was accepted by the California Bird Records Committee.

The site where the rubythroat was detected is located within an industrial park approximately 250 m west of Stevens Creek, adjacent to the Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Study Area, and approximately 1 km south of San Francisco Bay (Figure 1). The trail camera was placed approximately 30 cm above the ground, attached to a steel t-post, in a landscaped area between pedestrian walkways in the industrial park (Figure 3). The immediately surrounding area is planted with a variety of native and exotic trees and shrubs that provide significant cover (Figure 3).

The Siberian Rubythroat is a small (length 14–16 cm; weight 16–29 g) passerine bird in the family Muscicapidae (Clements et al. 2022). It is light brown in color with a whitish underside and olive brown flanks. Males have an iridescent red throat bordered by black and white, while females have white throats. The Siberian Rubythroat breeds in Siberia and winters in southern and southeast Asia (del Hoyo et al. 2005).

In North America, the Siberian Rubythroat is a migrant in the western Aleutian Islands and occurs casually on Bering Sea islands (Kessel and Gibson 1978, Gibson and Withrow 2015, Lehman 2019). Additionally, it has been detected on the mainland of Alaska at Wales 30 May 1983 (Am. Birds 37:903, 1983), near Nome 13 June 2003 (N. Am. Birds 57:533, 2004) and 14 June 2014 (<https://ebird.org/checklist/S71319756>), and at Utqiagvik 3 July 2004; (N. Am. Bird 58:585, 2004) and 10 October 2021 (<https://ebird.org/ak/checklist/S96183687>; Figure 1). A single male was found dead near Hornby, Ontario, Canada, on 26 December 1983 (Brewer et al. 1983, Figure 1). The rubythroat we detected in Mountain View is the first known in the conterminous United States and was part of an unusual influx during fall 2022 of Eurasian passerines previously unrecorded in California. For instance, a Willow Warbler (*Phylloscopus trochilus*) observed at Rodeo Lagoon, Marin County, 18–24 October 2022 and a Wood Warbler (*P. sibilatrix*) observed in Long Beach, Los Angeles County, 15–24 October 2022 both represented first records of these species for the conterminous United States (<https://californiabirds.org/>).

NOTES



FIGURE 3. Area surrounding the trail camera, showing the pedestrian walkway and overall cover provided by trees and shrubbery (top), placement of the camera (bottom left), and additional plant species nearby (bottom right).

Photos by Giovanni Quezada

NOTES

We thank Advanced Conservation Strategies for financing the data collection and analysis, as well as Dan Ackerstein and Jenna Curtis for their assistance.

LITERATURE CITED

- Brewer, D., Lane, M. A. W., and Wernaart, M. L. 1983. Siberian Rubythroat: A species new to Canada. *Ontario Birds* 2:66–69.
- Clements, J. F., Schulenberg, T. S., Iliff, M. J., Fredericks, T. A., Gerbracht, J. A., Lepage, D., Billerman, S. M., Sullivan, B. L., and Wood, C. L. 2022. The eBird/Clements checklist of birds of the world, v2022; <https://www.birds.cornell.edu/clementschecklist/download/>.
- Del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A., and Christie, D. A. (eds.). 2005. *Handbook of the Birds of the World*, vol. 10. Cuckoo-shrikes to Thrushes. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona.
- Gibson, D. D., and Withrow, J. J. 2015. Inventory of the species and subspecies of Alaska birds, second edition. *W. Birds* 46:94–185.
- Kessel, B., and Gibson, D. D. 1978. Status and distribution of Alaska Birds. *Studies in Avian Biol.* 1.
- Lehman, P. E. 2019. The Birds of Gambell and St. Lawrence Island, Alaska. *Studies of Western Birds* 4. W. Field Ornithol., Camarillo, CA.

Accepted 27 July 2023
Associate editor: Daniel R. Ruthrauff

PREY SIZE DETERMINES HANDLING AND CAPTURE TACTICS IN THE WESTERN GREBE

DAVID DORADO, Department of Biology, Division of Natural Sciences, Fullerton College, 321 East Chapman Avenue, Fullerton, California 92832-2095; ddorado@fullcoll.edu

ABSTRACT: To investigate the feeding behavior of the Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*), I observed the actions of one kept in a laboratory pool and fed fish of various sizes and in varying numbers during four trials per day. The grebe consumed fish under 4 cm in length underwater but brought all fish longer than 5 cm to the surface so they could be oriented for swallowing headfirst. The Western Grebe is likely gape-limited in its choice of fish and can only ingest prey that can be swallowed easily.

Grebes and other small avian divers are opportunistic predators, feeding on a variety of prey. Small fish, however, are the preferred food of the Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) (Forbes and Sealy 1990). In both the field (O'Donnell 1982, Kloskowski 2004) and laboratory (Sanford and Harris 1967, Carter and Sealy 1987), piscivorous diving birds have been observed consuming fish above water after bringing them to the surface. Some reports, however, have implied that diving birds swallow fish while still submerged (Ratti 1977, Forbes 1985, Croll et al. 1992). Further investigations suggest that smaller prey fish are swallowed underwater (Ulenaers and Dhondt 1994), whereas larger prey fish are brought to the surface for consumption (Sanford and Harris 1967, Kloskowski 2004). Yet some birds discard fish too large to ingest (Sanford and Harris 1967, Forbes and Sealy 1990, Kloskowski 2004). To resolve the question of whether Western Grebes swallow fish underwater, and if so, under what conditions, I observed the capture and handling behavior of a captive grebe that was provided fish of different lengths and girths.

I used a netgun to capture Western Grebes wintering in the harbor at Santa Cruz, California (Dorado 2022). One was placed in an outdoor enclosure (5 × 5 m), with a saltwater tank (3 × 3 × 1.5 m deep). The enclosure was encircled with a chain-link fence 3 m-high in which dark plastic strips were woven to minimize visual disturbances. To ensure the grebe was hungry at the beginning of the experiment, I withheld food for 24 hours, a period long enough for previous foods to have been absorbed (Cooper et al. 1984, Winkler and Cooper 1986). The experiment consisted of four trials per day, spaced at roughly 4-hour intervals beginning at sunrise until sunset. Trials lasted for 21 days. During the first 6 days, I provided the grebe with juvenile Surf Smelt (*Hypomesus pretiosus*) 5–7 cm long and weighing 8–10 g. These were thawed completely before being tossed into the tank. On day 1 of feeding, the grebe was provided one smelt per toss and had to swallow it before another fish was presented. Fish were provided until the grebe stopped consuming them. On day 2, two smelt were delivered per toss, both had to be eaten before more were presented, and fish were provided until consumption ceased. On days 3 to 6, three fish were delivered per toss; otherwise, the protocol was the same as in previous trials. At the end of each trial, any smelt remaining in the pool after the bird stopped feeding were collected and the bird was left alone until the next feeding trial.

Beginning on day 7, through day 21, I substituted live goldfish (*Carassius auratus*) for the smelt. These fish were delivered in one of two combinations. One combination consisted of five large goldfish, 5–7 cm in length and about 10 g each. The other consisted of 10 small goldfish, about 3–4 cm in length and weighing about 3 g each (measurements after Onsoy et al. 2010). Combinations were offered sequentially but there was no set protocol for one preceding the other.

On day one of feeding, when a smelt landed in the water, the grebe dived, grabbed the sinking fish crosswise in its beak, and resurfaced. In all cases, the smelt was flipped in the air, rearranged in the beak, and swallowed headfirst. When the grebe no longer pursued a smelt, I assumed the bird was satiated. No fish were swallowed underwater.

On day 2 and beyond, when I provided two or three smelt per toss, the grebe dived and resurfaced with one fish, held crosswise in its beak. It rearranged the smelt in its beak above water and swallowed it headfirst. The bird immediately dived again in pursuit of the next fish, now typically at the bottom of the pool. Again, the grebe picked up the fish crosswise, surfaced, oriented the fish in the beak, and swallowed it headfirst, repeating the same behavior for all remaining fish from each toss, acquiring only one fish per dive. All smelt were swallowed above water.

When presented with five large goldfish, the grebe dived, chased one, captured it, and surfaced with one fish, crosswise in its beak. Above water, it was manipulated in the beak and swallowed headfirst. The grebe repeated this behavior until all five fish were caught and consumed. When the 10 smaller goldfish were placed into the tank, the grebe dived, chased, caught, and consumed either three or four of them while submerged. It resurfaced to breathe for a few seconds and then dived again, catching and swallowing three or four more while underwater. On its third and final dive, it captured and consumed the remaining goldfish before resurfacing. It swallowed these smaller fish underwater while it was either already in pursuit of the next fish or resurfacing.

This study revealed that the Western Grebe can capture and swallow multiple small fish whole while under water during a single dive. Larger fish, however, were brought to the surface for individual handling before swallowing. Although Western Grebes are opportunistic predators and feed on a variety of prey (Lawrence 1950, Forbes and Sealy 1990), their preference for smaller streamlined fish (Forbes and Sealy 1990) is likely due to the ease of swallowing prey of smaller girth. With the large goldfish or smelt, requiring handling and realignment, the grebe maintained better control of the larger fish when above water, and by keeping the prey above the surface, the grebe was also able to breathe (Mock and Mock 1980). Thus the size of the prey influenced not only the foraging behavior of the bird but also its physiological demands.

Piscivorous birds have been reported capturing prey but failing to consume them (O'Donnell 1982, Doornboss 1984, Kloskowski 2011) because the prey was either too deep-bodied to swallow (i.e., species of Centrarchidae and Percidae) or it had fins with sharp, protruding spines (Recher and Recher 1968, Forbes 1985, Glahn et al. 1995). At least two species of grebe, the Pied-billed (*Podilymbus podiceps*) and Horned (*Podiceps auratus*), appear to mitigate swallowing such prey by shaking them into consumable pieces (Storer 1969, Zusi and Storer 1969, Scholz and Hayes 2017). Such feeding behavior has not been reported for the Western Grebe, likely because its long and slender bill lacks the crushing force of the more robust bills of smaller grebe species (Lederer 1975, Lalas 1983). The prey of the Western Grebe and presumably other piscivorous birds with similar beaks, appear to be limited, instead, by the diameter of their mouth and hence the girth of the prey (Swennan and Duiven 1977, Ulenaers and Dhondt 1994). For example, Forbes (1985) reported Western Grebes foraging on black bullhead catfish (*Ictalurus melas*) and yellow perch (*Perca flavescens*), both of which have protruding fins and erectile spines, but only on extremely small individuals, all of which were brought up to the surface to be manipulated before being consumed headfirst (Forbes 1985). Birds attempting to swallow too large a spiny fish have died in the process (Holdom 1945, Behrstock 1981).

My observations of Western Grebes foraging in the wild further suggest their ability to consume piscivorous prey is limited by the prey's girth. On one occasion I watched a grebe pierce a bluegill (*Lepomis macrochirus*) but discard it because it

appeared too large to swallow. I also saw another Western Grebe capture black bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) and threadfin shad (*Dorosoma petenense*) that were also discarded at the surface. The three discarded shad were at least 11 cm long, the discarded bass was 10 cm long, and the discarded bluegill was 15 cm long (pers. obs.). Despite these fish being within the length of prey the Western Grebe consumes (Forbes and Sealy 1990), they were likely abandoned because of their excessive girth. The long, narrow beak of the Western Grebe likely limits its ability to crush or shred wide-bodied prey (Lalas 1983), thereby restricting consumption to smaller, slender, and manageable items.

In studies of diving birds, detailed attention should be directed toward daily foraging behaviors and tactics. Energy acquisition and physiological ecology can more accurately be determined from prey of consumable size.

I am indebted to Kelly Koerner, trustworthy research assistant, without whom this project would not have been possible. The project was supported through funding by William T. Doyle on behalf of the Department of Marine Sciences, University of California, Santa Cruz, and by a generous grant from the Dr. Earl H. Meyers and Ethel M. Meyers Oceanographic and Marine Biology Trust. All applicable ethical guidelines for the use of birds in research have been followed (Fair et al. 2010). The subject of this experiment was captured in accordance with scientific collector's permit 7077 by the California Department of Fish and Game. I thank R. Gill, C. Handel, F. E. Hayes, and P. Unitt for their constructive criticism and guidance in the development of the manuscript.

LITERATURE CITED

- Behrstock, R. A. 1981. Prey-induced mortality of a Pied-billed Grebe. *W. Birds* 12:183–184.
- Carter, H. R., and Sealy, S. G. 1987. Fish-holding behavior of Marbled Murrelets. *Wilson Bull.* 99:289–291.
- Cooper, S. D., Winkler, D. W., and Lenz, P.H. 1984. The effect of grebe predation on a brine shrimp population. *J. Animal Ecol.* 53:51–64; doi.org/10.2307/4341.
- Croll, D. A., Gatson A. J., Burger, A. E., and Konnoff, D. 1992. Foraging behavior and physiological adaptations for diving in Thick-billed Murres. *Ecology* 73:344–356; doi.org/10.2307/1938746.
- Doornboss, C. 1984. Piscivorous birds on the saline lake Grevelingen, the Netherlands: Abundance, prey selection and annual food consumption. *Neth. J. Sea Res.* 18:457–479; doi.org/10.1016/0077-7579(84)90015-2.
- Dorado, D. 2022. Netgun capture technique for the Western Grebe *Aechmophorous occidentalis*. *Waterbirds* 45:367–372; doi.org/10.1675/063.045.0316.
- Fair, J., Paul, E., and Jones, J. (eds.) 2010. Guidelines to the use of wild birds in research. Ornithological Council, Washington, D.C.
- Forbes, L. S. 1985. The feeding ecology of Western Grebes breeding at Duck Lake. M.S. thesis, Univ. Manitoba, Winnipeg.
- Forbes, L. S., and Sealy, S. G. 1990. Foraging roles of male and female Western Grebes during brood rearing. *Condor* 92:421–426; doi.org/10.2307/1368239.
- Glahn, J. F., Dixon, P. J., Littauer, G. A., and McCoy, R. B. 1995. Food habits of Double-crested Cormorants wintering in the delta region of Mississippi. *Col. Waterbirds* 18:158–167; doi.org/10.2307/1521536.
- Holdom, M. W. 1945. Strange death of a Holboell Grebe. *Murrelet* 26:28.
- Kloskowski, J. 2004. Food provisioning in Red-necked Grebes (*Podiceps grisegena*) at common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) ponds. *Hydrobiologia* 525:131–138; doi.org/10.1023/B:HYDR.0000038860.37405.d0.
- Kloskowski, J. 2011. Consequences of the size structure of fish populations for their effects on a generalist avian predator. *Oecologia* 166:517–530; doi.org/10.1007/s00442-010-1862-3.

NOTES

- Lalas, C. 1983. Comparative feeding ecology of New Zealand marine shags (Phalacrocoracidae). Ph.D. thesis, Univ. of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand.
- Lawrence, G. E. 1950. The diving and feeding activity of the Western Grebe on the breeding grounds. *Condor* 52:3–16; doi.org/10.2307/1364743.
- Lederer, R. T. 1975. Bill size, food size, and jaw forces of insectivorous birds. *Auk* 92:385–387; doi.org/10.2307/4084573.
- Mock, D. W., and Mock, K. C. 1980. Feeding behavior and ecology of the Goliath Heron. *Auk* 97:433–448; doi.org/10.1093/auk/97.3.433.
- O'Donnell, C. F. J. 1982. Food and feeding behaviour of the Southern Crested Grebe on the Ashburton Lakes. *Notornis* 29:151–156.
- Onsoy, B., Tarkan, A. S., Filiz, H., and Bilge, G. 2010. Determination of the best length measurement of fish. *North-West. J. Zool.* 7(1):178–180.
- Ratti, J. T. 1977. Reproductive separation and isolating mechanisms between sympatric dark-and light-phase Western Grebes. Ph.D. thesis, Utah State Univ., Logan; doi.org/10.1093/auk/96.3.573.
- Recher, H. F., and Recher, J. A. 1968. Comments on the escape of prey from avian predators. *Ecology* 49:560–562; doi.org/10.2307/1934125.
- Sanford, R. C., and Harris, S. W. 1967. Feeding behavior and food-consumption rates of a captive California Murre. *Condor* 69:298–302; doi.org/10.2307/1366319.
- Scholz, S., and Hayes, F. E. 2017. Pied-billed Grebe predation on a Common Yellowthroat. *W. Birds* 48:56–57; doi.org/10.21199/WB48.1.4.
- Storer, R. W. 1969. The behavior of the Horned Grebe in spring. *Condor* 71:180–205; doi.org/10.2307/1366078.
- Swennen, C., and Duiven, P. 1977. Size of food objects of three fish-eating seabird species: *Uria aalge*, *Alca torda*, and *Fratercula arctica* (Aves, Alcidae). *Neth. J. Sea Res.* 11:92–98; doi.org/10.1016/0077-7579(77)90022-9.
- Ulenaers, P., and Dhondt, A. A. 1994. Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus* chick mortality in relation to parental fishing. *Bird Study* 41:211–220; doi.org/10.1080/00063659409477221.
- Winkler, D. W., and Cooper, S. D. 1986. Ecology of migrant Black-necked Grebes *Podiceps nigricollis* at Mono Lake, California. *Ibis* 128:483–491; doi.org/10.1111/j.1474-919X.1986.tb02700.x.
- Zusi, R. L., and Storer, R. W. 1969. Osteology and myology of the head and neck of the Pied-billed Grebes (*Podilymbus*). *Misc. Publ. Mus. Zool., Univ. Mich.* 139.

Accepted 6 July 2023

Associate editor: Robert E. Gill Jr.

FIRST REPORT OF INTENTIONAL SEED-EATING BY BLACK PHOEBES

MARK K. SOGGE, 5358 Mississippi Bar Drive, Orangevale, California 95662; marksogge@hotmail.com

The Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*) occurs year-round through most of its range in California and commonly breeds from March through June. Typically, it feeds almost exclusively on insects (Wolf 1997). Beal (1912) examined the stomach contents of 333 phoebes and reported 99.39% animal matter; vegetative matter was so rare that he speculated that Black Phoebes may never take vegetable food intentionally. While this may generally be true, I describe here repeated observations of Black Phoebes intentionally consuming seeds from a backyard bird feeder near Sacramento, California (Figure 1).

The feeder hangs from a 2-m pole in my back garden, which abuts a large protected natural area dominated by scattered oak (*Quercus* spp.) and buckeye (*Aesculus californica*) woodlands. The feeder is box-shaped (approximately 13 cm × 13 cm × 20 cm), with recessed feeding ports along the bottom of each of the four sides (Figure 1). Given that design, a seed can be seen in a bird's bill clearly only if the bird is fortuitously positioned at one of the visible ports. The feeder is provisioned with a commercially purchased mix of sunflower kernels, peanuts, sunflower and safflower seeds, pistachios, hulled pumpkin seeds, and very small amounts of dried raisins and cranberries.

I first noted a Black Phoebe at my bird feeder in late April 2022, as it flew off with what appeared to be a small seed in its bill. After several similar incidents over the next two weeks, I consulted Wolf (1997) and realized that this seed-eating was previously unreported for the Black Phoebe. I then began to more closely observe and record the details of phoebe feeder visits over the next 16 months.

From May 2022 through July 2023, I saw one or more Black Phoebes visit the feeder 45 times, and definitively saw them eating or carrying away seeds on 24 of



FIGURE 1. Adult Black Phoebe selecting a seed from the feeder.



FIGURE 2. Black Phoebe behaving aggressively toward a House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) at the feeder.

those visits. These opportunistic observations occurred when I happened to be looking out at the feeder, rather than during a structured observation regime. I saw phoebes visit the feeder from February through August, though most commonly March through July. Visits were noted from 06:24 through 19:10, primarily in the morning when I was most commonly near the feeder.

During a typical feeder visit, a single adult Black Phoebe flew in and perched on the top of the feeder hook or a nearby wire, then flew to and reached into one of the feeder ports (Figure 2). During the 24 visits whose outcome I could clearly see, the phoebe selected one to six seeds and then either ate them at or near the feeder ($n = 18$), or carried them away ($n = 6$). I did not see phoebes select any of the cranberry or raisin within the mix.

After almost all visits, whether seed-carrying could be seen or not, the phoebe flew off to the east. This is relevant because, in both years, Black Phoebes nested under a neighbor's house eaves approximately 80 m east of the feeder. It may be that the phoebe was carrying away seeds to feed the nestlings. This possibility is supported by two observations on 10 May 2022, when an adult phoebe took seeds from the feeder and fed them to a recently fledged phoebe perched nearby.

Twice I saw two different adult phoebes present at and using the feeder. Once, an adult flew to the feeder immediately after another departed to the east. In the second instance, one adult flew at and chased away another that had already perched on the feeder, then took a seed. In addition to these two cases of intraspecific aggression, I saw five instances where a phoebe chased or made aggressive displays toward Lesser Goldfinches (*Spinus psaltria*) and House Finches (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) that were at the feeder (Figure 2).

Flycatchers can be opportunistic feeders with diverse diets that shift with changes in seasonal and local food abundance, or during different parts of their annual cycle.

NOTES

Skutch (1997) described fruit and berry eating among an array of flycatchers, and noted that small lizards, frogs, and snakes are eaten by some species. Andrews et al. (1996) even reported fish eating by a Black Phoebe and Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*). However, the nature and extent of seed-eating I observed has not been previously reported for the Black (Wolf 1997), Say's (*Sayornis saya*; Schukman and Wolf 2019) or Eastern (*Sayornis phoebe*; Weeks 2011) phoebes. Given the timing of most observations and the typical direction of flight away from the feeder, this repeated seed consumption may be linked to nesting and the high energy demand of the young. It is interesting to ponder how and when these particular phoebes began recognizing seeds as a food source, and whether the fledglings that were fed seeds continued feeding on seeds as adults.

I thank Gary Rosenberg, Daniel D. Gibson, and Philip Unitt for their reviews and helpful comments that improved the manuscript substantially.

LITERATURE CITED

- Andrews, B. J., Sullivan, M., and Hoerath, J. D. 1996. Vermilion Flycatcher and Black Phoebe feeding on fish. *Wilson Bull.* 108:377–378.
- Beal, F. E. L. 1912. Food of our more important flycatchers. U.S. Dept. Agric. Div. Biol. Surv. Bull. 44; doi.org/10.5962/bhl.title.62957.
- Schukman, J. M., and Wolf, B. O. 2019. Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*), in *The Birds of North America* (P. G. Rodewald, ed.), no. 374. Cornell Lab Ornithol., Ithaca, NY; doi.org/10.2173/bna.saypho.02.
- Skutch, A. F. 1997. *The Life of the Flycatcher*. Univ. Oklahoma Press, Norman.
- Weeks, H. P. Jr. 2011. Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*), in *The Birds of North America* (A. F. Poole and F. Gill, eds.), no. 94. Acad. Nat. Sci., Philadelphia; doi.org/10.2173/bow.easpho.01.
- Wolf, B. O. 1997. Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*), in *The Birds of North America* (A. Poole and F. Gill, eds.), no. 268. Acad. Nat. Sci., Philadelphia; doi.org/10.2173/bow.blkpho.01.

Accepted 15 September 2023
Associate editor: Daniel D. Gibson

IN MEMORIAM

THOMAS S. HEINDEL, 1936–2023



Thomas (Tom) Scott Heindel was born on 30 June 1936 in York, Pennsylvania, where he spent the early years of childhood. Although born into challenging circumstances with a single mother, his claim that his long walk to school was uphill both ways is most likely not true. On a doctor's advice, his mother moved the family to southern California for Tom's health, and California was his home for most of his life. After a short illness he passed away in a hospital in Reno, Nevada, on 26 July 2023.

Tom arrived in California when he was 15 and shortly thereafter met the love of his life, Jo Ann Phelps. In a love story rich with irony, they first met at church, although it is not clear if they actually left the parking lot to enter the facility. Their first date was a stroll to watch birds, which would remain

a hobby and passion they shared across the world over the next seven decades. They were married in 1954 and remained the inseparable couple until Tom's death, at which time they had been married 69 years.

From 1954 to 1958 Tom served in the U.S. Air Force as an air policeman, stationed at Strategic Air Command bases during a rather tense time in the Cold War. One of his memorable assignments was being stationed overseas in Morocco. He was fascinated with, read about, and watched YouTube videos of planes for the rest of his life.

After his service, Tom went to college thanks to the GI Bill and in 1972 moved to Big Pine, California, where he and Jo accepted teaching positions at the local school. Their love of the Owens Valley, living in the shadows of the majestic Sierra Nevada, stayed strong throughout Tom's life. After several years in Big Pine, Tom and Jo Ann satisfied an adventurous streak by taking their teaching talents to Bolivia for two years, then Ecuador for one year. Although the early weeks in Bolivia were trying, as the bird books available at the time were most unhelpful, with the help of some heavyweight ornithologists from Louisiana State University, they hit their stride and were sad to leave when the time was up. Their next move was to teach in Saudi Arabia, where they lived for over eight years. In addition to adding much to the Saudi ornithological record, they were able to travel the world, adding adventures like a few safaris in Africa and whitewater rafting in Nepal to a lengthy list of memories.

In 1989 Tom and Jo returned to Big Pine, where they decided to write a book on Inyo County birds. They proceeded rapidly, if one uses a geological timescale, and *The Birds of Inyo County, California, Including Death Valley National Park* was completed shortly before Tom's death. It is now published and available as volume 5 of WFO's series *Studies of Western Birds* at <https://westernfieldornithologists.org/product/volume-5-the-birds-of-inyo-county-california-including-death-valley-national-park/>. It will serve as a wonderful legacy, as it is their lifetime's work and served as a source of inspiration for decades.

One of the highlights of those Big Pine years was forming a bird-study group where interested birders gathered regularly to hear and discuss his prepared lessons dealing with status, distribution, and challenging identification problems. It helped improve the quality of bird data in Inyo County and provided important friendships

IN MEMORIAM: THOMAS S. HEINDEL

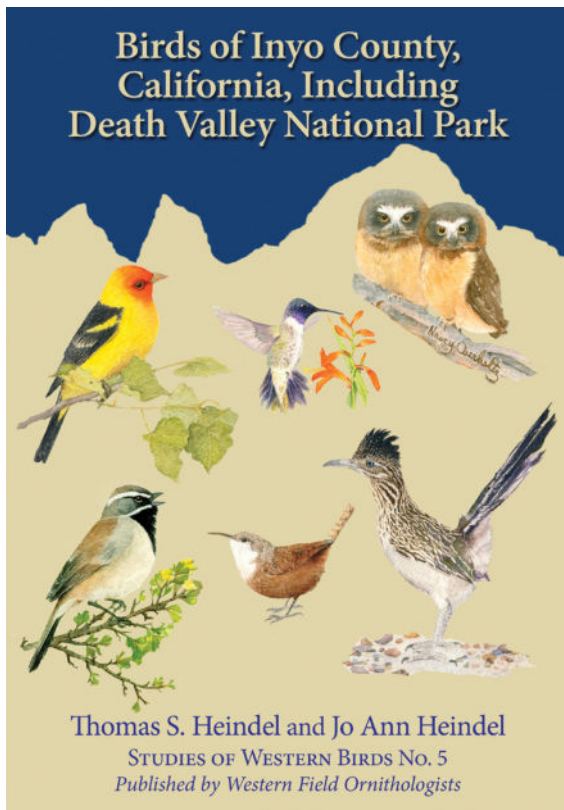
for the rest of Tom's life. Another great aspect of his later years was the steady arrival of letters and e-mails Tom would receive from former students from around the world, expressing their appreciation for the impact Tom had on them. These notes understandably provided immense joy.

Tom was a major sports fan, growing up rooting for the Dodgers, but in his last thirty years he was mostly focused on USC football and Angels baseball; basically, he was a very frustrated sports fan. There was consideration of having a burial with the Angels being the pallbearers so they could let him down one last time, but, alas, he was cremated and his ashes will be sprinkled in some of the places that were so special to him.

Tom leaves behind Jo Ann, four children, two nieces, and one grandchild. He was always a supporter of Western Field Ornithologists and was thrilled they decided to publish the *Birds of Inyo County*. And any desires to contribute anything in Tom's name should be directed to WFO.

Matthew T. Heindel

NOW AVAILABLE!



Order at westernfieldornithologists.org/product-category/studies-of-western-birds

WESTERN BIRDS, INDEX, VOLUME 54, 2023

Compiled by Daniel D. Gibson

- Acanthis flammea*, 286
Accipiter cooperii, 178
acredula, *Phylloscopus trochilus*, 104–105
Actitis macularius, 215–226
acufavidus, *Thalasseus sandvicensis*, 101–102
 Adriaens, Peter, Ayyash, Amar, and Muusse, Mars, Extensive Prealternate Molts in Peruvian Kelp Gulls, 227–247
Aechmophorus occidentalis, 313–316
Aegolius acadicus, 178
Aeronautes saxatilis, 178
Agelaius phoeniceus, 180
 tricolor, 2–18, 19–31, 181–195
 Águila, Sergio, *see* Marrón, G.
Aimophila ruficeps, 180
 Airola, Daniel A., Recent Increase in the Yellow-billed Magpie Population in Sacramento and Its Possible Causes, 301–308; and Collins, Tara L., McColl, Christopher J., Lozano, Michael R., Furnas, Brett J., and Krolick, David E., Foraging Habitat and Its Effects on the Tricolored Blackbird's Breeding Distribution and Abundance in the Sierra Nevada Foothills, California, 19–31; and *see* Castañeda, X.
altivagans, *Passerella iliaca*, 117–132
 Alvarez, Jeff A., *see* Wilcox, J. T.
Ammodramus savannarum, 196–207
Ammospiza leconteii, 109, 289
 nelsoni, 289
Amphispiza bilineata, 179
Anas diazi, 254
 platyrhynchos, 178
 Anhinga, 272
Anhinga anhinga, 272
 Ani, Groove-billed, 259
Anthus rubescens, 196–207
Antigone canadensis, 263
Antrostomus vociferus, 259–260
Aphelocoma californica, 179
Aramides axillaris, 261
Archilochus alexandri, 261
 colubris, 261
Ardea alba, 178
Ardenna pacifica, 102–103
Arenaria interpres, 264
 melanocephala, 265
Artemisiospiza belli, 180
 Arthur, Samantha, *see* Castañeda, X.
Asio flammeus, 196–207
Athene cunicularia, 196–207
Auriparus flaviceps, 179
 Ayyash, Amar, *see* Adriaens, P.
Baeolophus atricristatus, 281
 bicolor, 281
 inornatus, 179
 ridgwayi, 281
bangsi, *Tachybaptus dominicus*, 87–90
 Barton, Rainey G., *see* Bloom, P. H.
Bartramia longicauda, 196–207
Basilinna xantusii, 178
 Baumann, Matthew J., The First Tropical Kingbird Nest in New Mexico, 83–86; and *see* Williams, S. O. III
 Blackbird, Brewer's, 180
 Red-winged, 180
 Rusty, 290
 Tricolored, 2–18, 19–31, 181–195
 Bloom, Peter H., Barton, Rainey G., and Kuehn, Michael J., Swainson's Hawk Nesting Population in the Antelope Valley of the Western Mojave Desert, California, 32–43
 Bluebird, Mountain, 196–207
 Western, 179
 Bobolink, 196–207, 289
 Bobwhite, Northern, 196–207
 Bohman, N., Course Review: Great Courses' National Geographic Guide to Birding in North America, 157–158
 Booby, Blue-footed, 272
 Brown, 272
 Brant, 257
Branta bernicla, 257
brevicauda, *Passerella iliaca*, 117–132
Bubo virginianus, 178
 Bunting, Lark, 196–207
 Lazuli, 180
 Snow, 286
 Bushtit, 179
Buteo albonotatus, 178
 brachyurus, 275
 jamaicensis, 178
 lagopus, 196–207
 lineatus, 275
 plagiatus, 275
 regalis, 196–207
 rufinus, 103
 swainsoni, 32–43, 196–207

INDEX

- Butorides virescens*, 178
 Buzzard, Long-legged, 103
- Calamospiza melanocorys*, 196–207
Calcarius lapponicus, 196–207
 ornatus, 108–109, 196–207
 pictus, 286
Calidris acuminata, 265
 canutus, 265
 pugnax, 265
 subruficollis, 265–266
californicus, *Haemorhous purpureus*, 286
Calliope calliope, 309–312
Callipepla californica, 178
 squamata, 196–207
Calypte anna, 178
 costae, 178, 261
Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus, 179
canescens, *Passerella iliaca*, 117–132
 Capitolo, Phillip J., and Doe, Barbara,
 Nest-Box Use and Apparent Double
 Brooding by Red-breasted Nuthatches
 in California, 148–152
 Caracara, Crested, 278
Caracara plancus, 278
Cardellina canadensis, 295
 pusilla, 180
 Cardinal, Northern, 180
Cardinalis cardinalis, 180
 sinuata, 180
 Carmona, Roberto, *see* Marrón, G.
 Carter, Harry R., *see* Whitworth, D. L.
 Castañeda, Xerónimo, Clipperton, Neil,
 Airola, Daniel A., Arthur, Samantha,
 and Sousa, Paul, Effectiveness of
 Public-Private Efforts to Conserve
 Tricolored Blackbird Colonies on
 Agricultural Lands in the San Joaquin
 Valley, California, 2–18
castaneiceps, *Setophaga petechia*, 144–147
 Castillo Vardaro, Jessica A., *see* Sowa, S. L.
Cathartes aura, 178
Catharus aurantiirostris, 282–283
 fuscescens, 284
 guttatus, 179
 minimus, 284
Catherpes mexicanus, 179
 caurinus, *Corvus brachyrhynchos*, 104
certhiola, *Helopsaltes certhiola*, 104
Chaetura vauxi, 260
Chamaea fasciata, 179
Charadrius melodus, 264
 montanus, 196–207
 nivosus, 44–64, 100
 vociferus, 178
 Chickadee, Mountain, 179
Chloroceryle americana, 276
Chondestes grammacus, 179, 196–207
Circus hudsonius, 153–156, 178, 196–207
Cistothorus stellaris, 282
citreola, *Motacilla citreola*, 108
Clangula hyemalis, 258
 Clements, Nolan C., and Tietz, James R.,
 First Record of the Small-billed Elae-
 nia (*Elaenia parvirostris*) for Western
 North America, 208–214
 Clipperton, Neil, *see* Castañeda, X.
Coccyzus erythrophthalmus, 259
Colaptes auratus, 178
 chrysoides, 178
Colinus virginianus, 196–207
 Collins, Tara A., *see* Airola, D. A.
Columba livia, 178
Columbina passerina, 178
 talpacoti, 259
 Condor, California, 178
Contopus cooperi, 178
 sordidulus, 178
 virens, 279
Coragyps atratus, 274
Corthylio calendula, 179
Corvus brachyrhynchos, 104
 corax, 179
 cryptoleucus, 196–207
 Cowbird, Brown-headed, 144–147, 180
 Crane, Common, 263
 Hooded, 99–100
 Sandhill, 263
 Cristerna, Jorge, *see* Marrón, G.
 Crossbill, Red, 179
 White-winged, 286
Crotophaga sulcirostris, 259
 Crow, American, 104
 Cuckoo, Black-billed, 259
 Curlew, Long-billed, 196–207
Cyanocorax yncas, 281
Cygnus buccinator, 257
- daggetti*, *Sphyrapicus ruber*, 276
 DeCicco, Lucas H., *see* Gibson, D. D.
 de León-Girón, Gonzalo, *see* Ruiz-C., G.
Dendrocygna autumnalis, 257
 bicolor, 257
 Diaz, Rudy A., *see* Goodward, D. M.
 Dickcissel, 196–207
 Doe, Barbara, *see* Capitolo, P. J.
Dolichonyx oryzivorus, 196–207, 289
 Dorado, David, Prey Size Determines

INDEX

- Handling and Capture Tactics in the Western Grebe, 313–316
- Douglas, Lily A., *see* Pandolfino, E. R.
- Dove, Common Ground, 178
 - Eurasian Collared-, 178
 - Mourning, 178
 - Ruddy Ground, 259
 - White-winged, 178
- Dowitcher, Long-billed, 266
 - Short-billed, 266–267
- Dryobates nuttallii*, 178
 - scalaris*, 178
 - villosus*, 178
- Duck, Black-bellied Whistling-, 257
 - Fulvous Whistling-, 257
 - Long-tailed, 258
 - Mexican, 254
- Egger, Cheryl, *see* Ryan, T. P.
- Egret, Great, 178
 - Reddish, 273
- Egretta caerulea*, 272
 - rufescens*, 273
- Elaenia, Small-billed, 208–214
- Elaenia parvirostris*, 208–214
- Elanoides forficatus*, 274
- elegans*, *Buteo lineatus*, 275
- Empidonax alnorum*, 280
 - difficilis*, 178, 280
 - flaviventris*, 279
 - fulvifrons*, 280
 - virescens*, 279
 - wrightii*, 178
- Eremophila alpestris*, 179, 196–207
- Eudocimus albus*, 273–274
- Eugenes fulgens*, 260
- Euphagus carolinus*, 290
 - cyanocephalus*, 180
- Euptilotis neoxenus*, 276
- Falco mexicanus*, 178, 196–207
 - peregrinus*, 178
 - sparverius*, 178
- Falcon, Peregrine, 178
 - Prairie, 178, 196–207
- fedoa*, *Limosa fedoa*, 100
- Finch, Cassin's, 179
 - House, 179
 - Purple, 285–286
- Flicker, Gilded, 178
 - Northern, 178
- Flycatcher, Acadian, 279
 - Alder, 280
 - Ash-throated, 178
 - Buff-breasted, 280
 - Gray, 178
 - Olive-sided, 178
 - Pacific-slope, 280
 - Piratic, 279
 - Scissor-tailed, 196–207
 - Sulphur-bellied, 278
 - Western, 178
 - Yellow-bellied, 279
- fulva*, *Passerella iliaca*, 117–132
- Furnas, Brett J., *see* Airola, D. A.
- Gallinule, Purple, 263
- Gaona-Melo, Tonatiuh, *see* Hargrove, L., and *see* Ruiz-C., G.
- Gavia adamsii*, 272
 - stellata*, 272
- Geococcyx californianus*, 178
- Geothlypis formosa*, 292
 - philadelphia*, 291–292
- Geranoaetus albicaudatus*, 274
 - polyosoma*, 274
- Gibson, Daniel D., Heintz, Steven C., Tobish, Theodore G. Jr., Lang, Aaron J., Withrow, Jack J., DeCicco, Lucas H., Hajdukovich, Nicholas R., and Scher, Robert L., Fifth Report of the Alaska Checklist Committee, 2018–2022, 98–116
- Gnatcatcher, Black-capped, 282
 - Blue-gray, 179
 - California, 179
- Godwit, Hudsonian, 264
 - Marbled, 100
- Golden-Plover, American, 263–264
 - European, 263
- Goldfinch, Lawrence's, 179, 286
 - Lesser, 179
- Goodward, David M., and Diaz, Rudy A., Tricolored Blackbirds' Reliance on Insects from Dairies, 181–195
- Grasshopper Warbler, Pallas's, 104
- Grebe, Least, 87–90, 178
 - Red-necked, 259
 - Western, 313–316
- Griswold, Ross, *see* Ryan, T. P.
- Grosbeak, Black-headed, 180
 - Yellow, 296
- Ground Dove, Common, 178
 - Ruddy, 259
- Grouse, Sharp-tailed, 196–207
- Grus grus*, 263
 - monacha*, 99–100
- Gull, Common, 101

INDEX

- Glaucous, 270
- Glaucous-winged, 270
- Heermann's, 269
- Iceland, 270
- Kelp, 227–247
- Laughing, 269
- Lesser Black-backed, 270
- Little, 268–269
- Pallas's, 100
- Short-billed, 100–101, 269
- Thayer's, 270
- Western, 269
- Yellow-footed, 269
- Gymnogyps californianus*, 178
- Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus*, 179
- Haemorrhous cassinii*, 179
- mexicanus*, 179
- purpureus*, 285–286
- Hajdukovich, Nicholas R., *see* Gibson, D. D.
- Hargrove, Lori, Unitt, Philip, Marrón, Gerardo, Gaona-Melo, Tonatiuh, and Ruiz-Campos, Gorgonio, Breeding Status of the Gray Vireo on the Baja California Peninsula, 162–180; and *see* Ruiz-C., G.
- Harrier, Northern, 153–156, 178, 196–207
- Hawk, Cooper's, 178
- Ferruginous, 196–207
- Gray, 275
- Red-shouldered, 275
- Red-tailed, 178
- Rough-legged, 196–207
- Short-tailed, 275
- Swainson's, 32–43, 196–207
- Variable, 274
- White-tailed, 274
- Zone-tailed, 178
- Heindel, Matthew T.: In Memoriam: Thomas S. Heindel, 1936–2023, 320–321
- Heinl, Steven C., *see* Gibson, D. D.
- Helmitheros vermivorum*, 290
- Helopsaltes certhiola*, 104
- Heron, Green, 178
- Little Blue, 272
- Yellow-crowned Night-, 273
- Hippolais icterina*, 104
- Howard, James A., *see* Whitworth, D. L.
- Hummingbird, Allen's, 261
- Anna's, 178
- Berylline, 261
- Black-chinned, 261
- Costa's, 178, 261
- Rivoli's, 260
- Ruby-throated, 261
- Rufous, 178, 261
- Xantus's, 178
- Hydrobates cheimomnestes*, 133–143
- Hydrocoloeus minutus*, 268–269
- Hylocichla mustelina*, 284
- Ibis, Glossy, 274
- White, 273–274
- Ichthyaelus ichthyaelus*, 100
- Icterus bullockii*, 180
- cucullatus*, 180
- galbula*, 289–290
- parisorum*, 180
- pustulatus*, 289
- iliaca*, *Passerella iliaca*, 117–132
- Ixoreus naevius*, 285
- Jackson, Ian, *see* Wilcox, J. T.
- Jaeger, Long-tailed, 267
- Parasitic, 267
- Pomarine, 267
- (sp.), 268
- Jay, California Scrub-, 179
- Green, 281
- Pinyon, 179
- Junco, Dark-eyed, 180, 248–251
- Junco hyemalis*, 180, 248–251
- kamtschatschensis*, *Larus canus*, 101
- Kestrel, American, 178
- Killdeer, 178
- Kingbird, Couch's, 279
- Eastern, 196–207
- Tropical, 83–86, 279
- Tropical/Couch's, 279
- Western, 178, 196–207
- Kingfisher, Green, 276
- Kinglet, Ruby-crowned, 179
- Kiskadee, Great, 278
- Kite, Swallow-tailed, 274
- Kittiwake, Black-legged, 268
- Knot, Red, 265
- Krolick, David E., *see* Airola, D. A.
- Kuehn, Michael J., *see* Bloom, P. H.
- Lampornis amethystinus*, 260
- clemenciae*, 260–261
- Lang, Aaron J., *see* Gibson, D. D.
- Lanius collurio*, 103–104
- ludovicianus*, 179, 196–207
- Lark, Horned, 179, 196–207

INDEX

- Larus brachyrhynchus*, 100–101, 269
canus, 101
dominicanus, 227–247
fuscus, 270
glaucescens, 270
glaucoides, 270
heermanni, 269
hyperboreus, 270
livens, 269
occidentalis, 269
Laterallus jamaicensis, 263
Legatus leucophaius, 279
Leick, Debbie, *see* Mathers-Winn, C.
Leiothlypis celata, 180
luciae, 110
peregrina, 291
Leucophaeus atricilla, 269
Limnodromus griseus, 266–267
scolopaceus, 266
Limnolytis swainsonii, 291
Limosa fedoa, 100
haemastica, 264
lineatus, *Buteo lineatus*, 275
Longspur, Chestnut-collared, 108–109,
196–207
Lapland, 196–207
Smith's, 286
Thick-billed, 196–207
Loon, Red-throated, 272
Yellow-billed, 272
Loxia curvirostra, 179
leucoptera, 286
Lozano, Michael R., *see* Airola, D. A.
Luong, Yvonne, *see* Sowa, S. L.
Magpie, Yellow-billed, 301–308
Mallard, 178
Mareca americana, 66–71
penelope, 65–74, 257–258
Marrón, Gerardo, Carmona, Roberto, Cris-
terna, Jorge, and águila, Sergio, First
Record of the Brown-headed Cowbird
Parasitizing the Mangrove Warbler
in Baja California Sur, 144–147; *see*
Hargrove, L., and *see* Ruiz-C., G.
Martin, Purple, 179
Mathers-Winn, Cedar, Leick, Deb-
bie, and Stone, Kate, A Method for
Distinguishing Flight Calls of Several
Western Birds, 215–226
Mazurkiewicz, David M., *see* Whitworth,
D. L.
McColl, Christopher J., *see* Airola, D. A.
Meadowlark, Eastern, 196–207
Western, 180, 196–207
megarhyncha, *Passerella iliaca*, 117–132
Megascops asio, 275–276
kennicottii, 178
Melanerpes aurifrons, 276
carolinus, 276
formicivorus, 178
uropygialis, 178
Melanitta americana, 258
deglandi, 258
stejnegeri, 99
Melanotis caerulescens, 282
Melospiza lincolni, 180
Melospiza crissalis, 180
Mimus polyglottos, 179
Mniotilta varia, 180
Mockingbird, Blue, 282
Northern, 179
Molothrus ater, 144–147, 180
monoensis, *Passerella iliaca*, 117–132
Monticola saxatilis, 107–108
Motacilla citreola, 108
Mountain-Gem, Amethyst-throated, 260
Blue-throated, 260–261
Murrelet, Ancient, 268
Guadalupe, 75–82
Muusse, Mars, *see* Adriaens, P.
Mycteria americana, 272
Myers, Luc, *see* Wilcox, J. T.
Myiarchus cinerascens, 178
Myiodynastes luteiventris, 278
nataliae, *Turdus philomelos*, 106–107
Nguyen, Lana, *see* Ryan, T. P.
Night-Heron, Yellow-crowned, 273
Nightingale-Thrush, Orange-billed,
282–283
nigricans, *Branta bernicla*, 257
nivosus, *Charadrius nivosus*, 44–64, 100
Numenius americanus, 196–207
phaeopus, 264
Nuthatch, Pygmy, 179
Red-breasted, 148–152
White-breasted, 179
Nyctanassa violacea, 273
Oenanthe oenanthe, 285
olivacea, *Passerella iliaca*, 117–132
Onychoprion fuscatus, 270
Oreortyx pictus, 178
Oriole, Baltimore, 289–290
Bullock's, 180
Hooded, 180
Scott's, 180

INDEX

- Streak-backed, 289
- Owl, Barn, 178
 - Barred, 276
 - Burrowing, 196–207
 - Eastern Screech-, 275–276
 - Great Horned, 178
 - Northern Saw-whet, 178
 - Short-eared, 196–207
 - Western Screech-, 178
- Pandolfino, Edward R., Douglas, Lily A., and Pyle, Peter, Vocalizations and Bill Measurements May Resolve Some Questions about Taxonomic Relationships within the Fox Sparrow Complex, 117–132
- Parker, Michael W., *see* Whitworth, D. L.
- Parkesia motacilla*, 290
- Parula, Tropical, 292
- Passer domesticus*, 179
- Passerculus sandwichensis*, 196–207
- Passerella iliaca*, 117–132, 180
- Passerina amoena*, 180
- Petrel, Ainley's Storm-, 133–143
 - Murphy's, 111–112
- Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*, 179
- Peucaea carpalis*, 286
 - cassinii*, 196–207
- Pewee, Eastern Wood-, 279
 - Western Wood-, 178
- Phainopepla, 179
 - Phainopepla nitens*, 179
- Phalaenoptilus nuttallii*, 178
- Phalarope, Red, 267
- Phalaropus fulicarius*, 267
- Pheucticus chrysopleus*, 296
 - melanocephalus*, 180
- philomelos*, *Turdus philomelos*, 106–107
- Phoebe, Black, 178, 317–319
 - Say's, 179
- Phylloscopus trochilus*, 104–105
- Pica nuttalli*, 301–308
- Pigeon, Rock, 178
- Pipilo chlorurus*, 180
 - erythrophthalmus*, 289
 - erythrophthalmus* × *maculatus*, 289
 - maculatus*, 180
- Pipit, American, 196–207
- Piranga ludoviciana*, 180
 - olivacea*, 295–296
- Pitangus sulphuratus*, 278
- Platalea ajaja*, 274
- Plauzoles, Lucien, *see* Ryan, T. P.
- Plectrophenax nivalis*, 286
- Plegadis falcinellus*, 274
- Plover, American Golden-, 263–264
 - European Golden-, 263
 - Mountain, 196–207
 - Piping, 264
 - Snowy, 44–64, 100
- Pluvialis apricaria*, 263
 - dominica*, 263–264
- Podiceps grisegena*, 259
- Poecile gambeli*, 179
- Poliophtila caerulea*, 179
 - californica*, 179
 - nigriceps*, 282
- Poecetes gramineus*, 196–207
- Poorwill, Common, 178
- Porphyrio martinicus*, 263
- Prairie-Chicken, Greater, 196–207
- Progne subis*, 179
- Psaltiriparus minimus*, 179
- Pterodroma ultima*, 111–112
- purpureus*, *Haemorrhous purpureus*, 285–286
- Pyle, Peter, *see* Pandolfino, E. R., and *see* Sieburth, D. E.
- Pyrrhuloxia, 180
- Quail, California, 178
 - Mountain, 178
 - Scaled, 196–207
- Quetzal, Eared, 276
- Quezada, Giovanni S., *see* Sowa, S. L.
- Rail, Black, 263
 - King, 263
 - King/Clapper, 263
 - Ridgway's, 263
 - Rufous-necked Wood-, 261
- Rallus crepitans*, 263
 - elegans*, 263
 - obsoletus*, 263
 - (sp.), 263
- Raven, Chihuahuan, 196–207
 - Common, 179
- Redpoll, Common, 286
- Rhynchophanes mccownii*, 196–207
- Rissa tridactyla*, 268
- Roadrunner, Greater, 178
- Robin, American, 179
 - Rufous-backed, 284
- Rock-Thrush, Rufous-tailed, 107–108
- Rubythroat, Siberian, 309–312
- Ruff, 265
- rufinus*, *Buteo rufinus*, 103
- Ruiz-Campos, Gorgonio, de León-Girón,

INDEX

- Gonzalo, Gaona-Melo, Tonatiuh, Marrón, Gerardo, Unitt, Philip, and Hargrove, Lori, The Northernmost Record of the Least Grebe (*Tachybaptus dominicus bangsi*) in Baja California, 87–90; and *see* Hargrove, L.
- Ryan, Thomas P., Vigallon, Stacey, Griswold, Ross, Plauzoles, Lucien, Egger, Cheryl, Sheakley, Susan, Nguyen, Lana, and Schallman, Robert, Status of the Western Snowy Plover in Coastal Los Angeles and Orange Counties, California, 44–64
- Rynchops niger*, 272
- Salpinctes obsoletus*, 179
- Sandpiper, Buff-breasted, 265–266
- Sharp-tailed, 265
- Solitary, 215–226
- Spotted, 215–226
- Upland, 196–207
- Sapsucker, Red-breasted, 276
- Williamson's, 178
- Saucerottia beryllina*, 261
- Saxicola maurus*, 107
- Sayornis nigricans*, 178, 317–319
- saya*, 179
- Schallman, Robert, *see* Ryan, T. P.
- Scher, Robert L., *see* Gibson, D. D.
- schistacea*, *Passerella iliaca*, 117–132
- Scolopax minor*, 267
- Scoter, Black, 258
- Stejneger's, 99
- White-winged, 258
- Scott, Brigitte K., *see* Sowa, S. L.
- Screech-Owl, Eastern, 275–276
- Western, 178
- Scrub-Jay, California, 179
- Selasphorus rufus*, 178
- sasin*, 261
- sennetti*, *Baeolophus atricristatus*, 281
- Setophaga castanea*, 110, 292–293
- cerulea*, 292
- coronata*, 180
- discolor*, 295
- dominica*, 294–295
- fusca*, 110, 293
- magnolia*, 292
- nigrescens*, 110–111, 180
- occidentalis*, 180
- palmarum*, 294
- petechia*, 144–147, 180
- pinus*, 294
- pitiayumi*, 292
- striata*, 293–294
- tigrina*, 292
- townsendi*, 180
- virens*, 295
- Sheakley, Susan, *see* Ryan, T. P.
- Shearwater, Wedge-tailed, 102–103
- Shrike, Loggerhead, 179, 196–207
- Red-backed, 103–104
- Sialia currucoides*, 196–207
- mexicana*, 179
- Sieburth, Desmond E., Terrill, Ryan, and Pyle, Peter, The Potential Identification and Distribution of Ainley's Storm-Petrel at Sea by Timing of Molt, 133–143
- Siskin, Pine, 179
- Sitta canadensis*, 148–152
- carolinensis*, 179
- pygmaea*, 179
- Skimmer, Black, 272
- Sogge, Mark K., First Report of Intentional Seed-Eating by Black Phoebe, 317–319
- Sousa, Paul, *see* Castañeda, X.
- Sowa, Sierra L., Luong, Yvonne, Quezada, Giovanni S., Scott, Brigitte K., and Castillo Vardaro, Jessica A., First Record of a Siberian Rubythroat (*Caliope calliope*) in the Conterminous United States, 309–312
- Sparrow, Bell's, 180
- Back-chinned, 179
- Black-throated, 179
- Brewer's, 179, 215–226
- Cassin's, 196–207
- Chipping, 179
- Clay-colored, 215–226
- Fox, 117–132, 180
- Grasshopper, 196–207
- Harris's, 196–207
- House, 179
- Lark, 179, 196–207
- LeConte's, 109, 289
- Lincoln's, 180
- Nelson's, 289
- Rufous-crowned, 180
- Rufous-winged, 286
- Savannah, 196–207
- Vesper, 196–207
- White-crowned, 180, 215–226
- Sphyrapicus ruber*, 276
- thyroideus*, 178
- Spinus lawrencei*, 179, 286
- pinus*, 179
- psaltria*, 179

INDEX

- Spiza americana*, 196–207
Spizella atrogularis, 179
 breweri, 179, 215–226
 pallida, 215–226
 passerina, 179
 Spoonbill, Roseate, 274
 Starling, European, 179
stejnegeri, *Saxicola maurus*, 107
Stelgidopteryx serripennis, 179
stephensi, *Passerella iliaca*, 117–132
Stercorarius longicaudus, 267
 parasiticus, 267
 pomarinus, 267
 (sp.), 268
Sterna paradisaea, 270
Sternula antillarum, 101
 Stone, Kate, *see* Mathers-Winn, C.
 Stonechat, Asian, 107
 Stork, Wood, 272
 Storm-Petrel, Ainley's, 133–143
Streptopelia decaocto, 178
Strix varia, 276
Sturnella neglecta, 180
Sturnus vulgaris, 179
Sula leucogaster, 272
 neboxii, 272
 Swallow, Cliff, 179
 Northern Rough-winged, 179
 Violet-green, 179
 Swan, Trumpeter, 257
 Swarth, Christopher W., Book Review:
 Rogue Birder: The Making of a Modern
 Ornithologist, 91–92
swarthy, *Passerella iliaca*, 117–132
 Swift, Vaux's, 260
 White-throated, 178
Synthliboramphus antiquus, 268
 hypoleucus, 75–82

Tachybaptus dominicus, 87–90, 178
Tachycineta thalassina, 179
 Tanager, Scarlet, 295–296
 Western, 180
 Tattoni, D. Julian, An Eccentric Preforma-
 tive Molt with Incomplete Replace-
 ment of Primary Coverts in a Dark-
 eyed Junco, 248–251
 Tavernia, Brian G., Patch Area Cannot
 Predict Species Richness of Grassland
 Birds in Colorado's Front Range,
 196–207
 Tern, Arctic, 270
 Elegant, 270–272
 Least, 101
 Royal, 270
 Sandwich, 101–102
 Sooty, 270
 Terrill, Ryan, *see* Sieburth, D. E.
Thalasseus elegans, 270–272
 maximus, 270
 sandvicensis, 101–102
thayeri, *Larus glaucoideus*, 270
 Thrasher, California, 179
 Gray, 179
 Long-billed, 282
 Thrush, Gray-cheeked, 284
 Hermit, 179
 Naumann's, 106
 Orange-billed Nightingale-, 282–283
 Rufous-tailed Rock-, 107–108
 Song, 106–107
 Varied, 285
 Wood, 284
Thryomanes bewickii, 179
 Tietz, James R., *see* Clements, N. M.
 Titmouse, Black-crested, 281
 Juniper, 281
 Oak, 179
 Tufted, 281
 Tobish, Theodore G. Jr., *see* Gibson, D. D.
 Towhee, California, 180
 Eastern, 289
 Green-tailed, 180
 Spotted, 180
Toxostoma cinereum, 179
 longirostre, 282
 redivivum, 179
Tringa solitaria, 215–226
trochilus, *Phylloscopus trochilus*, 104–105
Troglodytes aedon, 179
 pacificus, 282
 Trogon, Elegant, 276
Trogon elegans, 276
Turdus migratorius, 179
 naumanni, 106
 philomelos, 106–107
 *rufopalliatu*s, 284
 Turnstone, Black, 265
 Ruddy, 264
Tympanuchus cupido, 196–207
 phasianellus, 196–207
Tyrannus couchii, 279
 forficatus, 196–207
 melancholicus, 83–86, 279
 melancholicus/couchii, 279
 tyrannus, 196–207
 verticalis, 178, 196–207
Tyto alba, 178

INDEX

- unalaschcensis*, *Passerella iliaca*, 117–132
 Unitt, Philip, *see* Hargrove, L., and *see* Ruiz-C., G.
- Veery, 284
 Verdin, 179
Vermivora chrysoptera, 290–291
cyanopectus, 291
 Vigallon, Stacey, *see* Ryan, T. P.
 Vireo, Black-capped, 280
 Cassin's, 179
 Gray, 162–180
 Hutton's, 179
 Philadelphia, 280
 Warbling, 179
 White-eyed, 280
 Yellow-green, 280
Vireo atricapilla, 280
 cassinii, 179
 flavoviridis, 280
 gilvus, 179
 griseus, 280
 huttoni, 179
 philadelphicus, 280
 vicinior, 162–180
 Vulture, Black, 274
 Turkey, 178
- Wagtail, Citrine, 108
 Warbler, Bay-breasted, 110, 292–293
 Black-and-white, 180
 Blackburnian, 110, 293
 Blackpoll, 293–294
 Black-throated Gray, 110–111, 180
 Black-throated Green, 295
 Blue-winged, 291
 Canada, 295
 Cape May, 292
 Cerulean, 292
 Golden-winged, 290–291
 Hermit, 180
 Icterine, 104
 Kentucky, 292
 Lucy's, 110
 Magnolia, 292
 Mangrove, 144–147
 Mourning, 291–292
 Orange-crowned, 180
 Pallas's Grasshopper, 104
 Palm, 294
 Pine, 294
 Prairie, 295
 Swainson's, 291
 Tennessee, 291
- Townsend's 180
 Willow, 104–105
 Wilson's, 180
 Worm-eating, 290
 Yellow, 144–147, 180
 Yellow-rumped, 180
 Yellow-throated, 294–295
 Waterthrush, Louisiana, 290
 Wheatear, Northern, 285
 Whimbrel, 264
 Whip-poor-will, Eastern, 259–260
 Whistling-Duck, Black-bellied, 257
 Fulvous, 257
 Whitworth, Darrell L., Parker, Michael
 W., Howard, James A., Mazurkiewicz,
 David M., and Carter, Harry R.,
 Breeding of the Guadalupe Murrelet in
 Southern California, 75–82
 Wigeon, American, 66–71
 Eurasian, 65–74, 257–258
 Wilcox, Jeffery T., Myers, Luc, Jackson, Ian,
 and Alvarez, Jeff A., Apparent Object
 Play in the Northern Harrier, 153–156
 Williams, Sartor O. III, and Baumann,
 Matthew J., Seventh Report of the
 New Mexico Bird Records Committee,
 254–300
 Withrow, Jack J., Eurasian Wigeon Breed
 in the Aleutian Islands, Alaska, 65–74;
 and *see* Gibson, D. D.
 Woodcock, American, 267
 Woodpecker, Acorn, 178
 Gila, 178
 Golden-fronted, 276
 Hairy, 178
 Ladder-backed, 178
 Nuttall's, 178
 Red-bellied, 276
 Wood-Pewee, Eastern, 279
 Western, 178
 Wood-Rail, Rufous-necked, 261
 Wren, Bewick's, 179
 Cactus, 179
 Canyon, 179
 House, 179
 Pacific, 282
 Rock, 179
 Sedge, 282
 Wren tit, 179
- Zenaida asiatica*, 178
 macroura, 178
Zonotrichia leucophrys, 180, 215–226
 querula, 196–207

Mark your calendar for...

Western Field Ornithologists' 47th Annual Conference
9–13 October 2024
San Diego, California
The Dana Hotel on Mission Bay

With over 525 species of birds recorded in San Diego County, you will not want to miss this event. Participants at our last conference in San Diego, in 2014, observed 285 species in San Diego County and 300 overall. Let's see if we can break that record in October 2024!

The robust program includes:

A special reception at the San Diego Natural History Museum.

Educational workshops, identification panels, and presentations of original scientific research.

Diverse field trips, including:

- Two offshore pelagic trips, offering the possibility of the Red-billed Tropicbird, Flesh-footed Shearwater, and rafts of storm-petrels.
- The Tijuana River estuary, southern California's second-largest remaining tidal wetland and home to such endangered birds as the Snowy Plover, Belding's Savannah Sparrow, and Light-footed Ridgway's Rail.
- Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, the largest park in California's state park system. In October we may see Peninsular Bighorn Sheep as well as the Black-throated Sparrow, Cactus Wren, Prairie Falcon, Greater Roadrunner, and hybrids of the California and Gambel's Quail.
- Many other destinations among San Diego's shores, estuaries, canyons, and parks, sure to yield surprises during fall migration.



Light-footed Ridgway's Rail

Photo by Thomas A. Blackman

Watch westernfieldornithologists.org/conference for details as they become available. Registration opens in May 2024.

WESTERN BIRDS

Quarterly Journal of Western Field Ornithologists

www.westernfieldornithologists.org

President: John H. Harris, 12806 Lancaster Rd., Oakdale, CA 95361; jhh.birder@gmail.com

Vice-President: Robin L. C. Leong, 336 Benson Ave., Vallejo, CA 94590; robin_leong@sonic.net

Past-President: Jon L. Dunn, 24 Idaho St., Bishop, CA 93514; cerwa@earthlink.net

Treasurer/Membership Secretary: Shaun F. Wilde, 793A East Foothill Blvd. #134, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405; treasurer@westernfieldornithologists.org

Administrator: Maci MacPherson, Missoula, MT; administrator@westernfieldornithologists.org

Recording Secretary: Liga Auzins Wurster, 12842 Safford East, Garden Grove, CA 92840; llaUZins@yahoo.com

Directors: Elisabeth Ammon, Carol Beardmore, Teresa Connell, Robert E. Gill Jr., Dan King, Robin Leong, Donald S. Marsh, Teodelina Martelli, Robert L. McKernan, Daniel R. Ruthrauff, Debbie Van Dooremolen

Editor: Philip Unitt, San Diego Natural History Museum, P. O. Box 121390, San Diego, CA 92112-1390; birds@sdnhm.org

Assistant Editor: Daniel D. Gibson, P. O. Box 155, Ester, AK 99725; avesalaska@gmail.com

Associate Editors: Kenneth P. Able, Matthew J. Baumann, Daniel S. Cooper, Douglas W. Faulkner, Kimball L. Garrett, Daniel D. Gibson, Robert E. Gill Jr., Deborah J. House, Daniel R. Ruthrauff, Christopher W. Swarth, Ryan S. Terrill

Photo Editor: Peter LaTourrette, 1019 Loma Prieta Ct., Los Altos, CA 94024; platourrette@comcast.net

Book Reviews: Catherine P. Waters, P.O. Box 3505; 25131 Alicia Dr., Dana Point, CA 92629; cpannellwaters@gmail.com

WFO Website/Publications: Timothy W. Brittain; webmaster@westernfieldornithologists.org

Membership dues, for individuals and institutions, including subscription to *Western Birds*: Life, \$800 (payable in two equal annual installments); Family \$60; Regular U.S. \$50 for one year, \$90 for two years, \$125 for three years. Dues and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Send membership dues, changes of address, correspondence regarding missing issues, and orders for back issues and special publications to the Treasurer. Make checks payable to Western Field Ornithologists.

Back issues of *Western Birds* within U.S. \$40 per volume, \$10 for single issues, including shipping and handling. Outside the U.S. \$55 per volume, \$15 for single issues, including shipping and handling.

Published 10 November 2023

ISSN 0045-3897



Photo by Mark K. Sogge of Orangevale, California:

Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*)

Orangevale, Sacramento County, California

Adaptation to the urban environment may affect birds in surprising ways. The Black Phoebe was quick to add buildings and bridges to its repertoire of nest sites. Is it now expanding its niche for feeding as well as for nesting? Even though many species of the family Tyrannidae eat fruit, the Black Phoebe was thought to be almost exclusively insectivorous. Yet in this issue of *Western Birds* Mark K. Sogge reports a pair of Black Phoebes not only taking and eating seeds from a bird-seed feeder but giving some of those seeds to their young.

