

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS FROM NEW MEXICO

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Although scientific ornithological investigation began in New Mexico in the early nineteenth century, much still remains to be learned about the status of birds in the state. Even the basic questions of occurrence and distribution of species and subspecies have not been answered satisfactorily. Since authentic specimens are the foundation of this type of knowledge, it is essential that noteworthy records be reported in the literature for the sake of factual completeness. This is a list of such specimens from the collection of the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology. I wish to express my appreciation to Dr. Robert W. Storer for his interest and help.

Erolia bairdii. Baird Sandpiper. Mora County, La Cueva Ranch, collector R. W. Shufeldt; 1 ♂ and 1 ♀ (UMMZ 137124, 137125), April 14, 1946. Spring records of this species are rare in New Mexico.

Ereunetes mauri. Western Sandpiper. Mora County, La Cueva Ranch, Shufeldt collection; 1 ♀ (UMMZ 137110), August 16, 1940. Substantiated records of this species in the state are not numerous and its status and distribution are not well documented.

Otus flammeolus flammeolus. Flammulated Owl. Catron County, Reserve; H. H. Kimball collected 3 ♀ ♀ and 6 ♂ ♂ (UMMZ 129748 to 129750, 161833 to 161835, 161838 to 161840), including 4 juveniles, in October, 1927, July, 1928, and June, July, September, and October, 1929. He also collected a ♀ (UMMZ 161841) in Saliz Canyon, Catron County, on October 1, 1927. These records indicate that this species is more common, at least in this part of the state, than was previously thought.

Micrathene whitneyi whitneyi. Elf Owl. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 125943), June 17, 1929. This appears to be the northernmost record in the state.

Strix occidentalis lucida. Spotted Owl. Catron County, Reserve; H. H. Kimball collected 11 ♂ ♂ and 10 ♀ ♀ (UMMZ 61745, 61746, 125989 to 125991, 161978, 161979, 161984 to 161994, 161996 to 161998, 161200), including 3 juveniles, in September, 1927, June, October, and November, 1928, and March, May, June, and October, 1929. In addition, he collected a ♀ (UMMZ 125988) at Alma, Catron County, on June 11, 1926. This is an astonishing number of specimens of a species which is generally considered to be rare over much of its range.

Aegolius acadicus acadicus. Saw-whet Owl. Valencia County, 6 miles northeast of the summit of Mount Taylor at 9000 feet, collector E. T. Hooper; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 97965), June 15, 1939. Ligon (New Mexico Birds, University of New Mexico Press, 1961:152) lists summer sight records of this species in the state, but few actual specimens have ever been reported from this time of year.

Caprimulgus vociferus arizonae. Whip-poor-will. Catron County, Reserve, collected by H. H. Kimball; 1 ♀ (UMMZ 126200) and 1 ♂ (UMMZ 126201) taken on June 20 and 21, 1928, respectively. These specimens were taken from near the northern limits of this species in the state.

Cypseloides niger borealis. Black Swift. Mora County, La Cueva Ranch; P. W. and R. W. Shufeldt collected 3 ♂ ♂ and 3 ♀ ♀ (UMMZ 137538 to 137543) in August, 1940, and a ♀ (UMMZ 137544) on September 3, 1941. Records of this swift from New Mexico are rare and specimens are especially so.

Selasphorus rufus. Rufous Hummingbird. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 2 ♂ ♂ (UMMZ 164624, 164625), May 16, 1927, and a ♂ (UMMZ 164626), May 18, 1927. These appear to be the first spring records of this species for the state.

Colaptes cafer x *C. auratus*. Red-shafted Flicker x Yellow-shafted Flicker. Catron County, Alma, collector H. H. Kimball; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 164798), February 22, 1927. Bernalillo County, 4 miles north of Albuquerque, collector A. E. Borell; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 126535), April 21, 1939; Colfax County, Crow Creek Ranch, collector S. W. Clarkson, Jr.; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 32771), April, 1905. Mora County, La Cueva Ranch, Shufeldt collection; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 137802), February 16, 1940; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 137797), February 9, 1935; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 137803), August 6, 1940. All closely resemble *cafer* except for the presence of a red nuchal collar and occasional other *auratus* characters. The frequency and distribution of hybrid flickers in New Mexico is not well known.

Dendrocopos pubescens leucurus. Downy Woodpecker. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 4 ♀ ♀ and 9 ♂ ♂ (UMMZ 127185 to 127190, 165179 to 165184, 165186) were collected in February, October, and November, 1926, January and September, 1927, and April and November, 1928. In addition, 2 ♀ ♀ and 1 ♂ (UMMZ 165172, 165176, 165185) were collected in Saliz Canyon, Catron County, in October, 1925, and March of 1926 and 1927. This series of specimens is from near the southern limits of this species in the Rocky Mountains. It is generally considered to be uncommon in New Mexico (Ligon, *op. cit.*).

Myiarchus crinitus boreus. Great Crested Flycatcher. Mora County, La Cueva Ranch, Shufeldt collection; an adult ♀ (UMMZ 138181), July 17, 1939. This is apparently the first specimen record for this species in New Mexico.

Contopus pertinax pallidiventris. Coues Flycatcher. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 1 ♀ (UMMZ 127869), May 18, 1929; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 127871), September 5, 1928; 1 ♀ (UMMZ 127870), September 6, 1928. There are very few authentic records of this species in the state.

Riparia riparia riparia. Bank Swallow. Mora County, La Cueva Ranch, Shufeldt collection; 2 ♂ ♂ and 1 ♀ (UMMZ 138318 to 138320), September 1, 1940. Authenticated records of this swallow are few, and it seems to be decidedly less common than *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis* in New Mexico.

Corvus brachyrhynchos brachyrhynchos. Common Crow. Mora County, La Cueva Ranch, Shufeldt collection; 1 ♀ (UMMZ 138292), February 9, 1935, Santa Fe County, Pojoaque, collector R. W. Allen; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 107834), February 24, 1940. These specimens agree with *brachyrhynchos* in size, thus supporting Johnston's (The Biosystematics of American Crows, University of Washington Press, 1961:105) contention that the crow of the Southwest is the nominate race and not the smaller *hesperis*.

Parus wollweberi phillipsi. Bridled Titmouse. Catron County, Reserve; H. H. Kimball collected 3 ♀ ♀ and 7 ♂ ♂ (UMMZ 160170 to 160175, 4 uncatalogued) in April, 1926, September, 1927, October and November, 1928, December, 1929, and January, 1930. These appear to be the northernmost specimen records for the state.

Dumetella carolinensis. Catbird. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 1 ♀ (UMMZ 161368), June 5, 1928. Note on label "♂ taken on May 28 [, 19] 28." While of regular occurrence in the northern part of the state (there are 7 UMMZ specimens from Mora and Santa Fe counties), this is apparently the first authenticated record of this species in southern New Mexico.

Turdus migratorius migratorius. Robin. Mora County, La Cueva Ranch, Shufeldt collection; 1 adult ♂ (UMMZ 138595), April 19?, 1939. This specimen is smaller (wing 136 mm., tail 99 mm.) and darker than *propinquus* as treated by Ridgway (Bull. U.S. Nat. Mus. 50, pt. IV, 1907:101) and has the 2 outer rectrices tipped with white. The nominate race has apparently not been reported in New Mexico before.

Hylocichla ustulata ustulata. Swainson Thrush. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 1 ♂ (uncatalogued), September 18, 1926; 1 ♀ (UMMZ 162025), October 8, 1928; 1 ♂ (uncatalogued), intermediate toward *swainsoni*, May 9, 1927. And *H. u. swainsoni*, Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 2 ♂ ♂ (uncatalogued), September 18, 1927. This thrush is not commonly recorded in New Mexico and specimens of either of these races, especially from the southern part of the state, are noteworthy.

Sialia sialis sialis. Eastern Bluebird. Mora County, La Cueva Ranch, Shufeldt collection; an adult ♂ (UMMZ 138650), March 11, 1943. This is apparently the first state record of this species.

Lanius excubitor invictus. Northern Shrike. Mora County, La Cueva Ranch, Shufeldt collection; 1 adult ♀ (UMMZ 138714), December 8, 1939. The occurrence of this species in New Mexico is not well documented and few specimens have been reported.

Vireo huttoni stephensi. Hutton Vireo. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 163346), November 20, 1926. This appears to be the northernmost record of this species in the state. It is seldom reported or collected in New Mexico.

Vireo bellii arizonae. Bell Vireo. Hidalgo County, 20 miles north of Rodeo, collector A. E. Borell; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 163397), May 24, 1941. Like the preceding vireo, this species is seldom reported in the state.

Vireo vicinior. Gray Vireo. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 1 ♀ (uncata-

logued), September 25, 1926. The distribution of this vireo in the state is spotty and unsatisfactorily known. This record seems to constitute the northernmost occurrence of this species in western New Mexico.

Vermivora ruficapilla ridgwayi. Nashville Warbler. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 1 ♀ (uncatalogued), July 14, 1927; 1 ♂ (uncatalogued), September 18, 1927; 1 ♂ (uncatalogued), October 1, 1928. These appear to represent the chronologically earliest records of this species in New Mexico.

Vermivora luciae. Lucy Warbler. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 1 ♂ (uncatalogued), May 10, 1929. This appears to be one of the few records of this species from north of the Gila River in western New Mexico.

Peucedramus taeniatus arizonae. Olive Warbler. Catron County, Reserve; H. H. Kimball collected 9 ♂ ♂ and 7 ♀ ♀ (all uncatalogued) in October, 1926, September, 1927, March and September, 1928, and September, 1929. He also collected a ♂ (uncatalogued) at Lost Spring, Catron County, on December 15, 1926. The verified occurrence of this species was first reported by Phillips (Condor, 49, 1947:122), a ♂ taken at Reserve on September 17, 1927. The earliest record for the state, however, is a series of two males and three females collected on October 5, 1926. The male collected in December at Lost Spring indicates that at least occasional birds winter in New Mexico, which is at the northern limits of the range of this species.

Dendroica coronata. Myrtle Warbler. Mora County, La Cueva Ranch, Shufeldt collection; 1 ? ♂ (UMMZ 138870), April 18, 1946; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 138871), April 27, 1940; 1 ♀ (UMMZ 138866), April 30, 1939; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 138865), April 17, 1938. In addition, 2 apparent *D. coronata* x *D. auduboni* hybrids are in the collection from this locality: 1 ♂ (UMMZ 138891), April 28, 1946, and 1 ♂ (UMMZ 138882), April 29, 1939. Several other specimens from Mora County show some evidence of hybridization. From this series of specimens it would appear that the Myrtle Warbler is a regular migrant in the spring in northeastern New Mexico.

Dendroica occidentalis. Hermit Warbler. Catron County, Reserve; H. H. Kimball collected an immature ♂ (uncatalogued) on September 18, 1927, and a ♀ (uncatalogued) on September 27, 1928. Phillips (*loc. cit.*) reports other specimens from southwestern New Mexico, where this species is apparently a regular fall migrant.

Setophaga picta. Painted Redstart. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 1 ? ♀ (uncatalogued), April 4, 1928; 1 ♀ (uncatalogued), April 14, 1927; 1 ♂ (uncatalogued), September 8, 1927. These records are included here merely to substantiate the occurrence of the species in this area.

Cardellina rubrifrons. Red-faced Warbler. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 4 ♀ ♀ and 9 ♂ ♂ (all uncatalogued) were collected in May, June, and September, 1927, June, 1928, and May, 1929. This species is common in parts of southwestern New Mexico, but actual specimens are not often reported.

Hesperiphona vespertina montana. Evening Grosbeak. Santa Fe County, Caja del Rio, collector R. W. Allen; 2 ♀ ♀ (UMMZ 107812, 107814), February 1, 1940. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 3 ♀ ♀ and 7 ♂ ♂ (UMMZ 165486 to 165493, 165437, 165441), in October, and November, 1928, and March, 1929. Although this race is not attributed to New Mexico in the Check-list of North American Birds (1957:557), its occurrence in the southwestern part of the state is not particularly surprising. The two females from Santa Fe County are typical of this race as exemplified by Arizona *montana* and probably represent strays from the south. They are darker above than *brooksi* from the same area and are smaller billed (bill width at base 11.3 and 12 mm. as opposed to 12 New Mexico ♀ ♀ *brooksi* with the range 12.5 to 13.2 mm.).

Spinus tristis pallidus. American Goldfinch. Bernalillo County, Albuquerque, collector W. A. Koelz; 1 ♂ and 3 ♀ ♀ (UMMZ 63117, 63118, 61042, 61043), January 10, 1928. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 1 ♂ (UMMZ 166435), November 17, 1928. Rio Arriba County, collector, R. W. Allen; 3 ♂ ♂ and 1 ? sex (UMMZ 107806 to 107809), in March, 1940. Mora County, La Cueva Ranch, Shufeldt collection; 5 ♂ ♂ and 4 ♀ ♀ (UMMZ 139924, 139925, 139927 to 139933) in May of 1938, 1939, and 1940. The Mora County specimens approach the nominate race in size.

For some unexplainable reason, records of any race of this species in New Mexico are rare, yet obviously the species occurs regularly and in some numbers.

Loxia curvirostra stricklandi. Red Crossbill. Mora County, La Cueva Ranch, Shufeldt collection; 1 ♀ (UMMZ 139939), April 2, 1938. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 11 ♀ ♀ and 12 ♂ ♂ (UMMZ 166180 to 166202), including 8 juveniles, were collected in June, 1928, and July and August, 1929. Specimen records of any of the races of this crossbill in New Mexico are scarce.

Junco hyemalis hyemalis. Slate-colored Junco. Catron County, Reserve, collector H. H. Kimball; 1 ♀ (uncatalogued), January 30, 1930; 1 ♂ (uncatalogued), March 17, 1928; 1 ♂ (uncatalogued), November 1, 1928. This form is not common in New Mexico.

Spizella pallida. Clay-colored Sparrow. Eddy County, Malaga, collector T. D. Burleigh; 1 ♀ (UMMZ 168040), October 23, 1936. Ligon (*op. cit.*:298) reports this species as a common migrant at times, but few specimens have been taken to substantiate this.

SUMMARY

A list of noteworthy bird specimens from the collections of the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology is presented. Earliest or first records of *Myiarchus crinitus*, *Turdus migratorius migratorius*, *Sialia sialis*, *Peucedramus taeniatus*, *Vermivora ruficapilla*, and *Hesperiphona vespertina montana* in New Mexico are reported. Specimens of an additional 33 forms are listed and comments on their significance are given.

Museum of Zoology, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, September 27, 1962.