

Rd. w. of Gila Bend July 9+ (DKa *et al.*); this is only the 2nd occurrence of a pair during what might be construed the breeding season, unfortunately, no nest was found.

At least one Tree Swallow was observed at Horseshoe L., White Mts., June 10 (GM); this is very late for a spring migrant and might represent a new nesting locality. Another new nesting locality was confirmed when adults were seen feeding young in the Chuska Mts., July 10 (CL). A single Mt. Chickadee at Florida Saddle, Santa Rita Mts., June 14 (RH), at the same locality as one in the spring, and the subsequent report of "several" at this location later suggest that there might be a small, recently established breeding population in the Santa Rita Mts. A singing Winter Wren was reported from the W. Fork of Oak Cr., June 25 (†F&L Brandt); this species has yet to be adequately documented from this locality during summer. A single Am. Dipper was seen at an unusually low elevation along Tonto Cr. near Gisela July 24 (R. Dummer).

A pair of Swainson's Thrushes, along with a nest and eggs, was located along the Little Colorado R. near Greer June 6 (T. McCarty); although singing males have been observed in the White Mts. region in past years, this may represent the first confirmed nesting record there. More unusual was the presence of at least six individual Swainson's in the Chuska Mts., where this species was previously unrecorded during the breeding season. A pair with a nest was located June 11 (CL), and additional nests were found on subsequent visits to this remote range. A Gray Catbird at M.F.L., June 9 (TC, RK) was likely a late spring migrant. Very odd for midsummer was the report of a Brown Thrasher at Cordes Jct., July 13 (B. Taber).

### Warblers to Orioles

Single N. Parulas were reported at Betty's Kitchen, n. of Yuma, in early June (*vide* SGa) and along S. Fork, Cave Cr. Canyon June 10 (DJa). An Ovenbird in Scottsdale June 7 (A. McGowan) provided the first June record for *Maricopa*. After a phenomenal spring for N. Waterthrush (23 records), a late migrant was along the upper S.P.R. June 3 (D. Fischer). Two–four pairs of MacGillivray's Warblers n w. of Heliograph Peak, Pinaleno Mts., June 7–July 3 (RH) probably represent a new southerly breeding locale for Arizona. Another two singing males and a female along Chevlon Cr., n.e. of Payson, June 30 (DS, JC) provided only the 2nd summer record from the Mogollon Rim region, and may represent a new nesting locality. A very late Wilson's Warbler was in Portal June 13 (DJa).

For the 3rd consecutive year, **Flame-colored Tanager** was seen in Ramsey Canyon; this year's sighting was a very dull female-plum-

aged individual July 7 (†GHR, KK). Observers should be aware that there are still fewer than 10 United States records of this stray from Mexico. A ♀ **Yellow Grosbeak** at the Patagonia "roadside rest" June 18–21 (RJo, †RH, †G. McCaskie, m.ob.) provided about a 12th or 13th record. Two other single observer sightings of this species, one near Parker Canyon L., July 18 (M. Shafer, *vide* RH), and another in upper Ramsey Canyon July 27 (†D. Ecker), await review by the A.B.C. Several Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, first found in May in Cave Cr. Canyon, lingered into mid-June, including one ad. male paired with a ♀ Black-headed Grosbeak; the pair failed to produce viable young (DJa). Additional Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were found in Scottsdale June 2 (A. McGowan) and at Portal June 24 (RH, JBo).

A bit n.e. of its normal breeding range in Arizona, a Botteri's Sparrow was present below Portal throughout the period (DJa). A pair of Lincoln's Sparrow found in the Chuska Mts. in late June (CL) probably indicate a new nesting locality. A ♂ Bobolink was in Eagar June 23 (T. Meyers, B. Palmer); this is the first midsummer record from the Springerville area since this species nested there during June and July 1979. A Com. Grackle was reported from Kayenta June 10 (†TC, CL); this record awaits review by the A.B.C. For the 2nd consecutive year, **Streak-backed Orioles** nested successfully on the lower S.P.R. near Dudleyville (details will be published separately). This year a sub-ad. male was seen helping at the nest of the 2 ad. birds, and a fledgling was seen July 24 (TC, GM *et al.*). Remarkably, another pair attempted nesting twice near the P.A.P. pecan grove June 9–July 13, but both attempts ended in the nest being blown down (GHe, ph. MS).

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## New Mexico

### SARTOR O. WILLIAMS III

The summer began drier and warmer than usual, especially in the southern tier of counties, and wildfires were widespread. But June rains in the eastern plains and scattered rains elsewhere by mid-July helped to restore at least some semblance of normalcy.

Abbreviations: Bitter L. (*Bitter Lake Nat'l Wildlife Refuge*); Bosque (*Bosque del Apache Nat'l Wildlife Refuge*); E.B.L. (*Elephant Butte Lake*); L.V.N.W.R. (*Las Vegas N.W.R.*); R.G.V. (*Rio Grande Valley*); Zuni (*Zuni Indian Reservation*). Guadalupe, Skeleton, and Post Office canyons refer to those portions in Hidalgo, New Mexico.

### Grebes to Ducks

Eared Grebes made a good showing at Stinking (Burford) L., with 1200 active nests in 2 colonies June 11 (DS), and at Zuni, where there were over 200 nests at 2 locations (DC). Alert observers identified both Western and Clark's grebes summering together on several lakes, including at Morgan L., Springer L., and E.B.L. (v.o.); three Westerns were at Zuni July 9 (ph. DC), while a Western at Laguna Grande, *Eddy*, June 11 (SW) was a local first. Three Neotropical Cormorants were far north near Belen June 5 (WH); 6–8 Neotropical nests were in a newly discovered Bosque colony July 12 (DL, WH). Also discovered nesting at Bosque in July were about 50 pairs of Snowy Egrets, 10 pairs of Cattle Egrets, 2–6 pairs of Great Egrets, and 75 pairs of Black-crowned Night-Herons (DL). In the southeast, Snowies, Cattles, and Black-crowns were nesting at the Artesia colony July 4 (ML), but the traditional Laguna Grande colony was abandoned, although 15–20 pairs of Black-crowns were discovered at a previously undetected site nearby (SW). Rarer herons were one–four Little Blues in the middle R.G.V., June 26–July 17 (v.o., ph. DC) and a **Tricolored Heron** at Bitter L., June 10–13 (SB *et al.*). New Mexico's third well-documented **Reddish Egret** was seen by many at Bitter L. from July 15–August (SN *et al.*). Another surprise was the year's 2nd **White Ibis**, an adult feeding with 13 White-faced at Maxwell N.W.R., July 24 (LS). Bosque became New Mexico's 4th known White-faced Ibis breeding locale when four–six adults and 2 nests with eggs were located July 18 (DL); at Stinking L., 28 White-faced nests produced 30 young by June 28 (DS). Small numbers of Redheads

were at 3 Zuni wetlands, including 3 broods June 7–July 9 (DC); another Redhead brood was at Isleta Marsh, *Bernalillo* June 7 (DM). Five Lesser Scaup were near Angel Fire June 18 (CR), but no evidence of breeding was reported.

### Raptors to Cranes

New Mexico's 2 known Osprey nests were successful by late July—one young fledged at Heron L. and three fledged at El Vado L. (DS). Single Ospreys were at Parkview July 21 (WM), the Zuni Mts., June 16 (HS), on

the Gila R. near Cliff July 15 (RF), and at Redrock June 1 (SOW). By June, the state's 2 known Bald Eagle nests were again successful, with two young fledged in *Colfax* (SOW) and one fledged in *Sierra* (v.o.). Single Mississippi Kites were in the R.G.V. at Corrales June 12 (JEP), Los Lunas June 25 (DM), and Mesilla July 15 (*fide* CS). Apparently summering N. Harriers were singles at Springer and Fort Sumner June 2 (SOW) and Lakewood June 14 (WH), plus four near Roswell June 15 (WH); one was early at Jornada July 13 & 28 (CS). Northern Goshawks reportedly did poorly in the Gila region, where 20 monitored territories all failed (*fide* RF).

There was better news for Com. Black-Hawks in the southwest, where 35 territories were located in the San Francisco and Gila drainages (RS); of 15 nests monitored for reproduction, 87% were successful (RS). A Com. Black-Hawk nest with young on Palomas Cr., July 8 (CB) was a first for *Sierra*. Productivity of Harris' Hawks apparently "crashed" in that species' s.e. stronghold in *Eddy*, where only 2 monitored nests fledged young (D. Lynn); dry conditions there, resulting in greatly reduced prey populations, were believed responsible. A Gray Hawk was well seen in the Animas Valley July 22 (JEP, CS). Unusual for June 1 was a congregation of 47 Swainson's Hawks at Jornada, apparently feeding on cicadas (CS). A possible Merlin was at Nutria L., July 5 (WM); there are no verified summer records. A flying Sandhill Crane near Los Lunas June 5 (WH) provided one of the state's very few summer records.

### Plovers to Terns

Snowy Plovers were much in evidence at Holloman L., June–July (v.o.), with a high of 92, including at least 12 young July 16 (GE); two Snowies at Malpais Spring, White Sands Missile Range, June 3 (DH) provided a new locale.

Although only 56 Snowies were at traditional Laguna Grande areas June 11 (SW), over 200—including several young—were discovered in a previously unsurveyed area there July 9 (SW). Two–four Mt. Plovers were near Raton June 4 (KM), Farley June 8 (GF), and Grenville June 11 (KS), and an adult with one chick was near Abbott June 21 (HS), while two each were far west near Fence L., June 2 (ph. DC) and near Datil June 9 (LE); unusually early were 30 at Los Lunas July 8 (JRP). Along with the usual scattering of late/early yellowlegs were single Solitary Sandpipers at La Joya July 16 (JEP) and in *San Juan* July 29 (TR), single Willets at E.B.L., June 5 (SW) and Bosque July 9 (CS) & 16 (JEP), and a *Whimbrel* at Holloman L., June 4–5 (CB), plus a Marbled Godwit there July 7 (GE). Encouraging

were June reports of Long-billed Curlews at 12 n.e. locales from *Colfax* and *Union* south to *DeBaca* and *Roosevelt* (v.o.), including highs of 12 each at Sedan (KM) and Rosebud (WM) June 5. A remarkable number for New Mexico was 16–28 *White-rumped Sandpipers* e. of Elida at Red L., *Roosevelt* June 2–4 (CB, JEP); one–four *White-rumped*s were at Holloman L., June 4–7 (CB, GE). Also at Red L., June 4 was a *Dunlin* (JEP). A *Buff-breasted Sandpiper* put in an appearance at Bitter L., June 11–13 (SN *et al.*, ph. SW). Unusual for summer were three *Pectorals* at Laguna Grande July 9 (SW) and a *Stilt* at Bitter L., June 14 (WH) *Wilson's Phalaropes* bred at Zuni for the 2nd consecutive year, where there were six adults and a nest with 4 eggs June 17 (ph. SA) *Nonbreeding Wilson's* were unusually abundant at Holloman L., where they increased from 200 June 17 to 500 July 7 (GB). Small numbers of California Gulls were in the north at Stinking L., June 12 (WH), Heron L., July 9 (PRS), L.V.N.W.R., July 25 (WH), and Eagle Nest L., June 3 (PES), one was south at E.B.L., July 9 (BN, CS). The imm. *Glaucous-winged Gull* at E.B.L. since at least Apr. 16 was still present July 30 (JEP, ph. L. Gorbet) and provided only the 2nd well-documented New Mexico record. A single *Forster's Tern* at Bitter L., June 13 (SW) was the only June report. Four pairs of *Least Terns* (down from 7 in 1993) nested at Bitter L. in June, and at least four young fledged by mid-July (SN *et al.*).

### Doves to Hummingbirds

Band-tailed Pigeons were relatively numerous in s.w. and s.c. mountains, but few were reported in n. areas (v.o.). Having apparently established secure beachheads n. to Albuquerque and Roswell, *White-winged Doves* continued to show signs of expansion, including n. to near Fort Sumner June 2 (SOW), up into the Sacramento Mts. at High Rolls (LS), and Pinon (WH) and the Guadalupe Mts. near Queen (SW). A Com. *Ground-Dove* at Palomas Cr., Ladder Ranch July 8 (CB) furnished a new *Sierra* locality. A *Yellow-billed Cuckoo* was north near Aztec July 8 (AH), elsewhere, cuckoos were reported at 17 locales from Glenwood, Bernardo, and Fort Sumner south, with highs of nine near Cliff July 29 (SOW) and eight at Rattlesnake Springs June 8 (SW). Far from the usual range was an *Elf Owl* at Mockingbird Gap, n. San Andres Mts., e. *Socorro*, where it seemed at home in a telephone pole surrounded by Chihuahuan desert scrub (DH). Other peripheral *Elfs* were singles in *Sierra* at Animas Cr., June 4 (CS) & 24 (JEP) and *Percha* Cr., June 25 (K Copeland-Williams).

### STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION

(Act of August 12, 1970: Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code)

#### 1, 4, 7. NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY FIELD NOTES,

a quarterly plus special issue magazine with publication at 700 Broadway, New York, NY 10003.

2. Publication No. 872-200

3. Filed Oct. 18, 1994.

8. Business offices at 700 Broadway, New York, NY 10003.

9. Publisher—Peter A.A. Berle, President, National Audubon Society, Inc., 700 Broadway, New York, NY 10003.

Editor—Susan Roney Drennan, 700 Broadway, New York, NY 10003.

Managing Editor—Victoria Irwin, 700 Broadway, New York, NY 10003.

10. Owner—National Audubon Society, Inc., a nonprofit organization. Peter A.A. Berle, President, 700 Broadway, New York, NY 10003.

11. Known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding one percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities—None.

12. The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes has not changed during preceding 12 months.

15. Extent and nature of circulation

	Avg. No copies, 12 preceding months	Issue nearest filing date
A. Total number of copies printed (net press run)	10,311	8,830
B. Paid circulation		
1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors, and counter sales	208	0
2. Mail subscription	8,689	6,980
C. Total paid circulation	8,897	6,080
D. Free distribution (including samples) by mail, carrier, or other means	869	1,400
E. Total distribution (sum of C & D)	9,766	8,380
F. Copies not distributed		
1. Office use, leftover, unaccounted, spoiled after printing.	455	450
2. Returns from news agents.	90	0
G. Total (sum of E & F)	10,311	8,830

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

(signed) Susan Roney Drennan, Editor

A Long-eared Owl was at Filmore Canyon, Organ Mts., July 6 (GE). Northerly were two Lesser Nighthawks n. of Roswell June 15 (WH). A local first were several Com. Nighthawk nests in the Dona Ana Mts. (*vide* CS). At least one Black Swift nest was occupied at Jemez Falls July 9 (JEP); intriguing were two Blacks in the Manzanito Mts. near Cedros, *Bernalillo* July 29 (HS). Five Chimney Swifts at Tucumcari July 3 (JEP) were the only e. reports; undetailed were 2nd-hand reports of one—two at Las Cruces in July (*vide* PRS). Feeder watchers reported hummingbirds as unusually abundant from July on, leading to speculation that dry conditions and lack of wildflowers concentrated birds at feeders. A Broad-billed far north at Mangas July 9–13 (ph. RF) provided a local first. Up to eight Lucifers were in Post Office Canyon June–July (RS); unusual was a ♀ Lucifer in Guadalupe Canyon June 9 (SOW), where rarely reported. Also at Post Office Canyon were one—two **Costa's Hummingbirds** June 13 and late July (RS *et al.*). Anna's Hummingbirds were likewise at Post Office Canyon June–July (RS), including four there July 22 (JEP, CS), and one was singing at Skeleton Canyon July 23 (JEP, CS); another was north at Mangas July 3 (RF). The earliest Rufous was at Los Alamos June 29 (PRS), the earliest Calliope at Mangas July 3 (RF).

### Trogons to Flycatchers

The only Elegant Trogon away from the Peloncillo Mts. was a lone male in the n. Black Range, *Sierra* July 23 (P. Stacey), for the 2nd Black Range report in as many years. An ad. Belted Kingfisher was tending two juveniles in the Zuni Mts., July 16 (DC). Single pairs of Lewis' Woodpeckers were unusually south at Los Lunas June 25 (DM) and at Belen throughout June (WH). Acorn Woodpeckers near their n. limit included three near McGaffey June 11 (N&SC). Gila Woodpeckers in the Animas Valley included three at Double Adobe June 8 (SOW) and one at X-T Bottoms July 22 (CS); Gilas were notably scarce in the Cliff-Gila area (RF), where one July 29 (SOW) was the only report. Five Downy Woodpeckers were far south near Belen June 5 (WH); an ad. Downy feeding nestlings near Pinon June 14 (WH) furnished the southernmost breeding record for the Sacramento Mts. A Three-toed Woodpecker w. of Luna, *Catron*, June 13 (WM) was in an area where rarely reported. A singing Greater Pewee at Dry Blue Cr., *Catron* June 11 (WM) furnished a new, and northerly, locale. Formal surveys for Willow Flycatchers June 10–July 22 located only about 52 territories in 7 general areas (m.ob.) A Dusky Flycatcher near Reserve June 10 was late (DM). Three Gray Flycatchers near Pinon June 14 (WH) pro-

vided the first summering records for the s. Sacramento Mts. Far north was a Black Phoebe on the Animas R. at Cedar Hill July 29–30 (AH). Unprecedented were three Dusky-capped Flycatchers seen and heard unusually east on the Ladder Ranch's Animas Cr., *Sierra*, July 10 (CB). Following this spring's discovery of Brown-crested Flycatchers in the Rio Grande drainage on Animas Cr., additional work indicated they were unexpectedly numerous thereabouts, with an apparent nest near Caballo (A. Eisner),  $\leq 13$  birds elsewhere on Animas Cr., plus 2 pairs on Palomas Cr., July 10–11 (CB), and a single at Percha Dam July 9 (BN). Within their usual range w. of the Continental Divide, Brown-crested were at 8 locales from Glenwood s. to Guadalupe Canyon (v.o.). Two Thick-billed Kingbirds at Double Adobe June 8 (SOW) were the first for that Animas Valley site. Wandering Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were singles at Zuni June 4 (*vide* SA) and near Wagon Mound July 25 (*vide* PRS); highs for Scissor-tailed were 21 near Hobbs June 3 (CB) and 19 near Jal June 25 (GS).

### Swallows to Phainopeplas

Purple Martins were widely reported, including n. in June to Mt. Taylor (BW), Canjillon L. (JEP), and Gallinas (CR), and e. to the Sacramento Mts. (CR). Nesting was observed in the Zuni Mts., July 19 (HS); Tularosa Mts., June 28 (SOW); and Mogollon Mts., June 23 (SOW). An estimated 30 Cave Swallows were feeding over alfalfa fields near Mesquite June 6 (SW); the species is a recent colonizer of *Dona Ana*. American Crows continued to press east, including three each at Sedan June 5 (KM) and Variadero June 22 (CR), and one at Ute Cr., *Harding* June 3 (SOW); two crows near Pinon June 14 (WH) were at the s. edge of their distribution. An ad. Chihuahuan Raven with 3 fledglings near Rio Rancho July 31 (WH) provided further evidence of breeding in *Bernalillo*. If accurate, a report of seven Black-capped Chickadees near McGaffey June 11 (N&SC) may be a first for the Zuni Mts. Five Bridled Titmice were unusually east on the Ladder Ranch July 11 (CB). Continued northward expansion by Cactus Wrens was evidenced by two n. of Ute L., *Harding* June 3 (SOW), two near Variadero, *San Miguel* June 22 (CR), and three e. of Corona June 15 (DM). The **Carolina Wren** previously reported at Fort Sumner was still present June 4 (JEP). The Marsh Wren colony discovered in 1992 at Stinking L. continued to grow, with a record 30 nests containing eggs or young June 11 (DS). Surveys found Black-tailed Gnatcatchers in small numbers throughout the arroyos and slopes at the base of the San

Andres Mts. (MW); four Black-tailed were at San Simon Cienga July 22 (JEP) while a female at Cass Draw June 8 (SW) furnished only about the 12th *Eddy* report. A pair of W. Bluebirds in the Animas Mts. June 8 (SOW). Two **Veeries** were unusually south at Rio Pueblo, *Taos*, June 14 (J. Travis) where breeding has long been suspected. A Hermit Thrush at Goat Mt. in June (MW) was noteworthy for the San Andres Mts. Two ad. Gray Catbirds found scolding near an empty nest at San Marcial July 14 (WH) provided the most southerly breeding evidence yet in the R.G.V.; other R.G.V. catbirds included four at Corrales July 25 (TB), one at Albuquerque June 5 (DM), and five near Belen June 5 (WH).

Northern Mockingbirds experienced an excellent year, being reported as "common" to "extremely abundant" in most areas (v.o.). A Sage Thrasher was early at Jornada July 27 (CS). A Bendire's Thrasher near Corona June 18 (SOW) was at the e. limit of distribution. Phainopeplas pushed n. in the R.G.V., including singles at Tijeras July 14 (T. Bulow), La Joya July 12 (WH), seven on the Rio Salado n. of Magdalena July 6 & 8 (JRP), and a nest at Bosque which fledged three July 12 (DC, *vide* WH); easterly and at high elevations were singles at Pinon June 14 (WH) and the Guadalupe Mts., June 29 (SW).

### Vireos to Tanagers

It was a notable summer for **White-eyed Vireos**, with singles seen and heard near Aztec July 13 (AH), at Corrales June 11–13 (CB, JP), and at Roswell June 27 (SB). Several Bell's Vireos were northward in the R.G.V. to near San Marcial, plus one was n. of Socorro June 19 (CB); two Bell's nests at Rattlesnake Springs produced only cowbirds (SW). Searches for Gray Vireos in the San Andres Mts. found six singing males or pairs June–July, including one nest (MW); a singing Gray was northeast in the Ortiz Mts. in June (ph. L. Sager). **Yellow-throated Vireos** persisted in the R.G.V., with one still singing near Bernardo June 5 (WH) and another near San Acacia June 17 (CB). A Hutton's in Sawmill Canyon, Magdalena Mts., June 29 was northeast (HS). Single Red-eyes were at Boone's Draw June 4 (JEP) and Los Lunas June 25 (DM). **Blue-winged Warblers** are always a prize; this season found one near Belen June 5 (WH) and another at Trout Cr. near Luna, *Catron* June 14 (ph. WM). Two ad. Lucy's Warblers "apparently with fledglings" 5 mi n. Bernardo June 5 (WH) provided the most northerly breeding evidence yet for the R.G.V.; a Lucy's was east at Rattlesnake Springs June 3 (CB). A **Northern Parula** was near Socorro June 22 (CB); an undetailed bird was reported at Gila Cliff Dwellings June 11 (*vide* PRS) Sin-

gle Black-and-whites were at Albuquerque June 14 (CB) and the Pinos Altos Mts., July 18 (RF). Unusual was an Ovenbird singing along the Pecos R. near Artesia June 7 (ML). A **Kentucky Warbler** was at Boone's Draw June 2 (CB). A notable warbler event was the discovery of a ♂ **Hooded Warbler** singing at Gila Cliff Dwellings June 28 (WM), followed by sightings of a female there July 23–Aug. 1 (P. McConnell, RF, ph. DC) and of both male and female Aug. 4 (A. Craig, N. Moore-Craig); although no young were seen, breeding was suspected. Summer Tanagers were north with a pair at Bloomfield June 19–July 22 (TR) and one near Sabinoso June 17 (CR).

### Cardinal to Finches

Notable N. Cardinals in the Pecos drainage were one w. of Roswell June 15 (SOW) and a nest at Rattlesnake Springs June 7 (SW). Lazuli Buntings included two–three south at Zuni July 1, 8, & 20 (DC) and one near Alma June 30 (B. Rothman); an apparent Lazuli x Indigo hybrid was at High Rolls all season (ph.LS). Additional evidence of Painted Buntings occupying the R.G.V. was provided by a singing male at Socorro June 20 (CB), a pair near Hatch June 5 (SW), and a male at Jornada July 17 (*vide* CS). Dickcissels were in evidence in the east, including  $\leq$ eight at Maxwell N.W.R., June 19+ (v.o.), one near L.V.N.W.R., July 25 (WH), and three at Fort Sumner June 4 (JEP); far n.w. was one singing in an alfalfa field near La Plata June 4 (DC). Highs for Abert's Towhees were 3 pairs in the Lower Gila Box July 15–17 (WM) and six at San Simon Cienega July 22 (JEP). **Botteri's Sparrows** returned to the Animas Valley for the 4th consecutive year, with one July 1 (TB) and three–five July 22 (JEP, CS). Cassin's Sparrows did especially well in their e. strongholds, where 10 breeding bird routes averaged 155 birds each, but numbers in the dry southwest were lower than usual. In the northwest, one–three Cassin's were at Nagesi June 20 (GS), Counselor June 21 (GS), near Laguna June 18 (GF), Datil June 9 (LE), and n. of Magdalena July 6 (JRP); 20 were at Zuni July 19 (DC). Evidence of early fall migration was provided by one–two Chipping Sparrows at San Marcial July 14 (WH) and Joranda July 8 (CS), and by Lark Sparrows at Mangas by mid-July (RF). Two Brewer's Sparrows were unusually east near Farley June 8 (GF). Four Lark Buntings e. of Corona June 14 (DM) were s.w. of the usual breeding range; two at Los Lunas July 8 (JRP) were early. Grasshopper Sparrows made a good showing in the east, with one–nine at 13 locales from Maxwell, Farley, and Grenville s. to Pastura, Fort Sumner, and Hobbs (v.o.). Three–four Song Spar-

rows again summered s. in the Zuni Mts., June 16–July 21 (HS). The only Bobolink report was one at Bosque July 13 (WH). Eastern Meadowlarks at the n. fringes of their range included two near Mt. Taylor June 17 (BW), one (among 81 Westerns) in *Harding* June 3 (SOW), and seven (among 144 Westerns) near Rosebud June 5 (WM). Southerly were 25 Brewer's Blackbirds near Cloudcroft June 24 (CR).

Common Grackles unusually west included three at Aztec June 1 (TR), five near Farmington July 24 (TR), and a pair near Cliff July 29 (SOW). Three Orchard Orioles at Lakewood June 14 (WH) were at their n. limit in the Pecos Valley. The only Pine Grosbeak report was at Black Canyon near Hyde S.P., July 8 (WM). Small numbers of Cassin's Finches and Red Crossbills were in the n. highlands and the Sandia Mts. (v.o.), and at Cedar Hill, *San Juan* June 15 (TR); additional crossbills were at Mt. Taylor June 17 (BW) and Cloudcroft June 24 (CR). A ♀ Am. Goldfinch was reported nesting at Bloomfield June 19 (TR *et al.*) and a male was there in July (TR). Evening Grosbeaks south included one near Reserve June 10 (DM), 2 pairs (but no fledglings) in the Pinos Altos Mts. through mid-June (RF), and one near Cloudcroft June 24 (CR).

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# Alaska Region

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What began as an average to cool and overcast summer slowly developed into a near repeat of summer 1993, which ended up as one of the warmest and driest over two decades. Although this year was more typically cloudy and slow to warm through June, the second half of the season was dominated by several strong high pressure systems over the Mainland that managed to hold Gulf of Alaska lows well offshore. Contrary to summer 1993, early breeding of passerines did not appear to gel anywhere and the earliest departing insectivores showed little sign of earlier-than-average southbound departures. There were widespread reports of failed nesting for Gulf of Alaska/southern Bering Sea seabirds, a trend that this year included Black-legged Kittiwakes and Common Murres, species that appear to be in a long-term breeding decline, and the very sensitive Aleutian Terns. Once again reports of breeding season activities came in from little known areas of the state, with typically surprising results. This year's pioneering efforts produced numerous new local breeding or occurrence results from the isolated, little known Askinuk Mountains at the coast in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, and from several front range locales in both the Wrangell and eastern Alaska ranges.

### Loons to Raptors

Suspicious pairs of Red-throated Loons were found away from typical alpine lake nesting areas, in the e. Interior at Deeper L. on the Tetlin N.W.R., June 29 and e. of Tok on Moon L., July 19 (TJD). There are few summer and no breeding records from the lowlands of the Upper Tanana Valley. Breeding season reports of Arctic Loons from the w. Seward Pen. were few compared to the past 3 summer seasons. Noteworthy W. Grebe observations included six late spring lingerers June 19 and 24 early fall migrants July 31 (PJW), both from Sumner Strait. Extralimital Double-crested Cormorants were recorded in the Interior, with a single along Scottie Cr. at the Canada border June 9 (†TJD, HKT, RCM), and in the Bering Sea with at least two on the cliffs near Cape Romanzof June 6+ (BJM), and a single at the