

The Bewick's Wren reported last spring from the Kamiah, ID area was seen throughout summer, and may have nested (DNS). Three fledgling **American Pipits** tended by two adults at Chimney Rock in w. *Boundary*, ID July 22 (DNS, JG) provided the first confirmed breeding record for n. Idaho.

Warblers to Grackles

A surprising diversity of "good" warbler records was obtained this summer. Three territorial **Tennessee Warblers** were found near Clark Mt., *Lincoln*, MT (SK) during June. Northwest Montana is the only place where this rare and local nester is known to breed in the region.

A well-described singing N. Parula, Montana's 5th, was seen July 4 in Glacier N.P. (†PR, †AD). Idaho's 7th **Chestnut-sided Warbler** was tape recorded and photographed on Fisher Cr., s. of Stanley, ID in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area June 11 (†LB, m.ob.). Incredibly, another male showed up at City of Rocks National Preserve by Burley, ID July 1 (†WK, DSp). A singing male **Black-throated Blue Warbler** near Lincoln, MT was seen June 15 (RF). This represents Montana's first summer sighting, and 5th record overall. A Black-and-white Warbler summered by McDevitt Creek, 20 mi s.e. of Salmon, ID (HU) in the same spot where one was found last year—3 of Idaho's 14 records have come from this latilong. American Redstart is an uncommon and local breeder in s. Idaho, so a report that the species has been extirpated from a former foothold on the w. shore of Cascade Res., *Valley*, due to increased cabin developments, is doubly disturbing (MC, FK). A Yellow-breasted Chat, rare n. of the Clearwater R. drainage, was at the base of Moscow Mt., *Latab*, ID June 3 (DHk).

A male Indigo Bunting, rare throughout s. Idaho, was at Siphon Pond, n.w. of Pocatello, ID July 20–30 (BC, CT). A hybrid Indigo x Lazuli Bunting was discovered in July near Stevensville, MT (JH).

A singing Sage Sparrow was 18 mi n. of White Sulphur Springs, MT June 30 (M&MLD), the first for latilong 29. At least two Grasshopper Sparrows were on territory throughout summer at the Whitebird Battlefield by Grangeville, ID (KD, DNS). Another Grasshopper Sparrow was singing at Swan River N.W.R., *Lake*, MT July 22, suggesting new breeding in latilong 15 (JE). In summer 1994, an alarmed female White-throated Sparrow was found near Polebridge, MT, while a singing male was present in the Yaak Valley, *Lincoln*, MT (*vide* DC). This year, a singing male was found near Polebridge, along the "Inside North Fork Road" (DP). These observations suggest that the species may nest in the Region.

Idaho Bobolinks were seen in s.w. *Bonner* (LC), near St. Maries (DNS, m.ob.), and near Roseberry, ID (KD). This species' Idaho range is very disjunct. Two nesting records for Com. Grackle were obtained in Missoula (WD, T&CT), continuing the pattern of gradual expansion throughout w. Montana. The species was confirmed nesting in Idaho latilong 16 for the first time when well-developed nestlings were seen being fed near Ashton June 15 (EH, CT).

Observers cited (Subregional editors in boldface): IDAHO: Larry Barnes, Dave Burrup, Bea Calger, Earl Chapin, Luke Cole (LC), Pat Cole, Mark Collie, Gorden Comrie, **Kas Dumroese**, John Gatchet (JG), Dale Goble, Ed Harper, Winnie Hepburn, Dave Holick (DHk), **Dean Jones**, Wallace Keck, Florence Knoll, **Merlene Koliner**, Louise La Voie, Jeff Palmer, Jimmy Reynolds (JRe), Sharon Ritter, **Hadley Roberts**, Dan Simpkins (DS), Marilyn Smith, **Shirley Sturts** (SHS), DeeAnn Spencer (DSp), Dan Svingen (DNS), Dan Taylor, **Charles Trost**, Helen Ulmschneider, Carol Vande Voorde, Steve Woltmann (SWo). MONTANA: Clif Barry, Sharon Browder, **Dan Casey**, Lynn Clark (LCI), William Diebert, Mike and Merry Lynn Denny (M&MLD), Amanda Dumlin, Joseph Engler, Rob Fergus, John Grant (JGr), Dev and Liz Hill (D&LH), George Holton, Judy Hoy, Shelly Kremer, **Doug Powless**, Paul Rodewald, Jean Robocker (JRo), Terry and Chris Toppins (T&CT), **Philip Wright**, **Vita Wright**. Special thanks to Kas Dumroese and Peder Svingen for consistently providing comments on drafts of this Region's reports.

—Dan Svingen, P.O. Box 132, *Grangeville*, ID 83530.

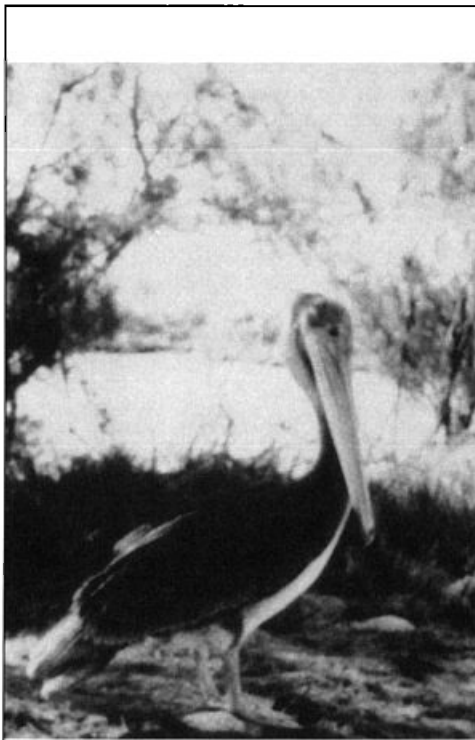
Mountain West Region

HUGH E. KINGERY

Birds found the going tough in the mountains of the West this summer. Heavy spring precipitation left the high country covered with snow into July; snow-covered habitats delayed or prevented nesting of alpine species and subalpine ground nesters and breeders. Insect cycles ran three weeks or more behind. Consequently many migrants lingered on the plains and delayed mountain nesting. Bird watchers suffered, too, constrained by mud on plains' roads and snow on mountain roads. Observers scrapped probably a third of the Breeding Bird Survey routes in Colorado and delayed another third into July when roads opened.

Through mid-June flycatchers, thrushes, vireos, warblers, and tanagers thronged migrant traps such as Fontanelle, Wyoming; Corn Creek near Las Vegas; Fort Collins, Colorado; Crow Valley (Pawnee National Grassland, Colorado); and the Arkansas Valley around Ordway and Rocky Ford, Colorado. Birds delayed nesting. Above 8000 feet in northern Utah most birds building open nests and some cavity nesters post-





Immature Brown Pelican at Sweitzer Lake, Delta, Colorado, in July 1995. About the ninth state record. Photograph/Scott Jorgensen.

poned egg-laying by two to three weeks, according to V.A. Smith. Even in mid-July the subalpine forests of Colorado's Indian Peaks hosted few robins, Hermit Thrushes, and juncos, said Dave Hallock. Some ground nesters decreased sharply—near Eagle, Colorado a stream bottom usually abundant with Lincoln's Sparrows had only one singing July 15, yet it had normal numbers of Chipping and White-crowned sparrows, according to J. Mammoser.

On the prairies, lush growth of tall grass adversely affected birds dependent on short grass. Swainson's Hawks, American Kestrels, and Great Horned Owls had poor nesting success because they had trouble detecting small mice. Badgers and coyotes, confronted with the same problem, preyed on prairie dogs and Burrowing Owl nests. At Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Colorado, badgers and prairie dogs used the road system to search out short-grass sites for food or settlement, reported M. Hetrick and Jane Griese. In contrast, the tall grass benefited Lark Buntings and Grasshopper Sparrows.

Abbreviations: D.F.O. (*Denver Field Ornithologist field trips, reported by Phil Hayes*); G.S.L. (*Great Salt Lake*); I.P.B.S.C. (*Indian Peaks Breeding Season Count, reported by Dave Hallock*); L.L.B.L. (*Longmont/Lyons/Berthoud/Loveland area, CO, using Foothills Audubon Club records by Ann Means*); R.E. (*Regional Editor*); 1st Lat (*first latilong record [a latilong is outlined by one degree each of lat-*

itude and longitude, and measures about 50 by 70 mi]); † (*written description on file with R.E.*); ‡ (*written description on file with, and subject to approval of, state or local records committee*); # (*no written description submitted to, or photograph not seen by, R.E.*).

Loons to Waterfowl

Eared Grebes achieved abundant, successful nesting at Casper—4800 counted July 20 (J&VH). High water prevented nesting in a small colony at Loveland, CO (AM). A new site in the San Luis Valley, CO, sported at least ten nesting pairs of Western and Clark's grebes (HEK). A Brown Pelican, Colorado's 9th, commuted between 2 lakes at Delta, CO July 9+ (†SJ, RL, ph.). Las Vegas had two Brown Pelicans July 6 (KW). Six observations of Am. Bitterns came from the Ft. Collins, CO area. A Great Egret visited a *Baca*, CO pond July 24–26 (BR). Fish Springs N.W.R., UT hosted successful nesting by Snowy Egrets; the species peaked at 329 July 13 (JB). *Baca* also attracted four Cattle Egrets June 19 (DWI); one fed in ranchland near Hugo, CO June 15; and 11, some in breeding plumage, stopped at Julesburg, CO, July 8 (DE, JFB, WL). Reports of six Green Herons came from Pueblo, Canon City, Denver, and Grand Jct., CO. White-faced Ibis at Fish Springs peaked at 341 July 13 (JB). Two–seven scattered ibis appeared June 4–16, and by the end of July *Baca* had two–three and Greeley had 16. At Yellowstone N.P., two Oldsquaws consorted with Barrow's Goldeneyes June 21 (‡WEH)—a remarkable summer occurrence for an Arctic nester. At Morgan, UT, five Com. Goldeneyes remained through the summer; although they included 2 pairs and one young drake, they showed no evidence of breeding (†VAS). Another Com. Goldeneye stayed in Ft. Collins until June 20 (DL). Single Buffleheads spent single days at Buffalo, WY June 22 (J&RR), Idaho Springs, CO July 18 (TL), and Fish Springs July 26 (JB). Buffalo also reported three Hooded Mergansers June 30 (HD), and singles were at Fort Collins June 3 (DL) and Evergreen, CO

June 14–15 (DP).

Mississippi Kites stayed June 1–5 at Walsh, CO, and probably nested at Las Animas and La Junta, CO (HEK) and their usual sites at Lamar and Pueblo. An imm. Broad-winged Hawk stopped at Ordway, CO June 3 (MJ). At Rocky Mt. Arsenal, CO, Swainson's Hawk nest attempts dropped from 14 to 4, and successful nests from 12 to 4 (JGr). Also at the Arsenal, although Am. Kestrels attempted nests in 28–30 nest boxes, only 10 boxes produced any young: a paltry 17 fledglings (last year 30 of 35 succeeded). Tall grass inhibited prey capture (MH).

Rails to Terns

High water did not benefit the possibly nesting Black Rails in the Arkansas Valley, CO, though observers heard single birds June 29 and July 16. A Sandhill Crane near Walden July 10 probably had wandered from nesting grounds to the west or north (BD).

The usual assortment of shorebirds plied the Region's lakeshores, despite high waters. Casper reported Willets all season, except June 6–15; however, Willets nest to the south near Walden, CO. Casper had a number of other June shorebirds June 20: one Greater Yellowlegs, three Lessers, and six Marbled Godwits.

A Black-bellied Plover arrived July 26 at Fish Springs (JB), which had 43 Snowies the same day. On the n. side of G.S.L., June 3, Smith found 37 Snowy Plovers at Promontory. In the Arkansas Valley, >30 Snowies started nesting, but only one remained June 15 (DL). In the same area 7 pairs of Piping Plovers attempted to nest; all failed and left by July 1. Six Mt. Plovers w. of San Luis, CO, included three fledglings (H&UK); the San Luis Valley hosts a small contingent of nesting plovers. In mid-July Held counted 42 immatures at Keota, Pawnee National Grasslands. On July 26, >100 Mt. Plovers had assembled in a *Baca* field, with many more probably out of view (JnIT).

Fish Springs recorded a peak of 173 Black-necked Stilts and 236 Am. Avocets



Received too late for the previous issue was this portrait of the Curlew Sandpiper that provided a first state record at Fallon, Nevada, May 5, 1995. Photograph/Jane Thompson.

July 26. By July 31 shorebird counters tallied 31 Greater Yellowlegs at Fish Springs, 100 Lessers at Casper, 59 Willets at L. Mead, NV, 168 W. Sandpipers and 42 Long-billed Dowitchers at Fish Springs, and 200 Wilson's Phalaropes at Casper and 125 at Las Vegas. In their n.e. Colorado stronghold, 17 Upland Sandpipers occupied posts 100 ft. apart between Crook and Ovid (DE, JFB, WL). Reports of Long-billed Curlews included 24 at Fish Springs July 13, one—two at Torrey, UT through June 15, 40 adults and immatures in *Baca* July 1, and 20 in *Kiowa* July 24 (DB). An early Pectoral Sandpiper stopped at La Junta, CO July 16 (BP). Call and plumage identified an early Short-billed Dowitcher at Galeton, CO June 28 (#JH). It took until June 5 for eight late Red-necked Phalaropes to stop at Casper, and until June 7 for one at Torrington, WY (J&VH); by July 20 Casper had 20 headed south (J&VH).

• A Laughing Gull stopped at L. Mead July 8 (J&MC, ph.). A Caspian Tern spent July at Casper. Northern Colorado had reports of one—two Caspians from May 21—July 1 in 4 locations; they have become regular in summer, but no one has found them breeding yet. Least Terns attempted 11 nests near Lamar, CO but fledged only five young; they did not suffer as severely from the high water woes which doomed their *Endangered* neighbor Piping Plovers.

Pigeons to Hummingbirds

The Colorado Front Range reported more Band-tailed Pigeons than in many years: Counts included 62 June 5 w. of Fort Collins, 51 June 30 at Conifer, and 26 June 7+ near Golden. On the W. Slope, Eagle had two—six June 26—July 16, and Grand Jct. had six July 13. A rare Barn Owl stopped at Las Vegas June 30 (J&MC). A W. Screech-Owl brood included four young in Ogden, UT rather late—Aug. 10—14 (MLK); E. Screech-Owls had young in Denver neighborhoods by June 5 (H&UK). Great Horned Owls had disastrous nesting in the Colorado Front Range. At Rocky Mt. Arsenal, only 3 of 10 pairs nested successfully (JGr); 11 nested last year. In s.w. Denver only 3 of 8 pairs observed even tried to nest (HEK). Twelve robins harassed a N. Pygmy-Owl at McCoy, CO June 26 (ME). At Rocky Mt. Arsenal, CO, 20 pairs of Burrowing Owls attempted nesting (compared to 23—41 pairs the previous 5 years); 9 hatched 23 chicks, of which only eight fledged. High grass and high predation (by badgers, coyotes, and even automobiles) severely affected their success (MH). An encouraging four Short-eared Owls flew about Golden Spike N.M., UT, north of GSL, June 2—18 (VAS). Casper had 3 July 25. Black Swifts returned to Rocky Mountain N.P.,

with one seen June 14 and July 29 in Moraine Park (TL). A Blue-throated Hummingbird attended a feeder briefly one day at Dinosaur, CO (†HD), the most northerly record in the Region and probably for the species anywhere. Half the usual Black-chinneds summered in Springdale, UT—only 50 in Gifford's yard. Three Black-chinneds in Linwood Canyon, WY, on the edge of Flaming Gorge Res., provided a rare record (†RS, 1st Lat). By July 1 a Calliope Hummingbird arrived at Linwood Canyon, WY, near Flaming Gorge (RS); ten or more appeared July 15+ at Loveland, Denver, Evergreen, and Dillon, and one reached Fort Garland in the San Luis Valley July 16 (AW). The I.P.B.S.C. tallied 357 Broad-tailed Hummingbirds June 10. The first Rufous Hummingbird reported in the Region arrived at *Custer*, CO June 15 (K&WJ); other June birds came to feeders in Green Mt. Falls, Evergreen, and Fort Garland, CO, and Ogden, UT.

Flycatchers

A few Olive-sided Flycatchers lingered on the plains into June: at Boulder June 10, Wellington June 12, and Ft. Collins June 19 (DL, S&KM). On June 2, at a location far below their expected montane habitat, a pair fed actively in a scrub oak-pinyon pine hillside near Ignacio, CO (H&UK). Near the Front Range, W. Wood-Pewees remained at Fort Collins to June 5 and the Crow Valley campground on the Pawnee to June 19 (DL). On the plains at Rocky Ford, CO, a Willow Flycatcher sang June 4 (MJ). At Torrey, UT, 2 apparently territorial pairs of Willow Flycatchers disappeared after June 9; Schmeirer recommends June 15 as the earliest date for determining breeding from territorial behavior. He observed 2 other pairs which persisted on territory after June 15. Four were at Panguitch, UT July 16 (SS). A Gray Flycatcher was at Casper June 22 (†J&GL). Schmeirer reported 6 Cordilleran Flycatcher nests at Torrey, again this year exclusively in diseased aspen. Observers from Tonopah e. to Beaver Dam Wash (in both Nevada and Utah) and n. to Kanarraville and *Garfield* reported Black Phoebes breeding. A pair returned June 6 to last year's breeding site at Uravan, CO (RL).

SA The Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas documented a population of *E. Phoebes* breeding in *Las Animas* and *Bent*. Jones observes that in most of their range *E. Phoebes* have forsaken natural nest sites in favor of man-made structures. Yet the *Las Animas* phoebes use natural sites—cliffs and boulders on the edges of streams. Four pairs breeding n. and e. in flat plains terrain—without natural nest sites—used bridges or buildings. This summer one Atlas block, in *Bent*

just n. of *Las Animas*, had both nest types July 4: a singing phoebe along Purgatoire River cliffs and a pair feeding young along a concrete-lined irrigation ditch (H&UK).

Two species of flycatchers strayed N of their range in June: A Vermilion Flycatcher appeared at Julesburg, CO June 20 (JRe) and Ash-throated Flycatchers fed at Crow Valley campground June 14 & 27 (WL, JHi). An E Kingbird fledged two—three young at Farmington, UT (†CW). Scissor-tailed Flycatchers strayed to *Las Animas*, Ordway, *Weld*, and Woodland Park, CO (†AV) at varying dates from June 15—July 17. The female which last year mated with a W. Kingbird and produced hybrid young did not return to Glenwood Springs; a pair of W. Kingbirds nested there this year (JM).

Martin to Pipits

Purple Martins did not return to their regular places near Cortez (LB). A late and out-of-place Tree Swallow flew around a Rocky Ford wildlife area June 4 (MJ). At Eagle, Tree Swallows delayed nesting; in Merchant's yard swallows first fledged from 3 houses July 24, 27, & 31—about the time they usually produce 2nd broods. Blue Jays traveled to the mountains at Golden, Eagle, Monte Vista, and Alamosa. Scrub Jays brought a brood into Killpack's yard in Ogden, UT July 30, extremely late; breeding usually begins in March. Mountain Chickadees did well in the Front Range: 233 on the I.P.B.S.C.; they were seen 49 of 60 days in the Golden foothills (J&DW). The I.P.B.S.C. tallied 64 Red-breasted Nuthatches June 10, while several plains locations recorded them in June. Crow Valley reported one Ruby-crowned Kinglet June 1 and Fort Collins had 5 June 2. The I.P.B.S.C. tallied 317 kinglets. South of Durango, CO, a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher pair frantically chased away a female cowbird June 26; the nest contained 2 gnatcatcher and 2 cowbird eggs (H&UK). At Rawhide, WY, the Eastern Bluebird nest with young June 8 provided a 1st Lat breeding record (J&VH). A Mt. Bluebird n. of Del Norte, CO incubated eggs in an old Cliff Swallow nest (H&UK). Veeries had a good year in Sheridan (four June 15, HD). Two sang along the Laramie R., *Larimer*, on a B.B.S. route delayed until July 14 by spring's inclemency (WL). Along 2 mi of the Michigan R. near Walden, CO, 10 sang July 10 and had young out of the nest July 27 (BD, HEK). One Veery remained on the plains June 1 at Fort Collins, and from Casper to Denver observers found Swainson's in notable numbers until June 10. On June 10 the Indian Peaks count tallied 120 Hermit Thrushes and 387 Am. Robins. Gray Catbirds straggled W, reg-

ular at Gypsum, CO (JM), three on territory at Torrey, UT June 3+, one at Kanarrville, UT July 3 (also in August 1994, SS), one at Jackson, WY June 22 (W&AH), and one at the Tonopah, NV rest stop June 24–25 (DT). They enjoyed successful breeding in n. Wyoming at Devils Tower and Sheridan.

SA Over the past 10 years the San Luis Valley has had several reports of Bendire's Thrashers, some breeding. On June 26–27 a possible Bendire's sang non-stop from a post and in 3-minute loops around the post (H&UK). An hour's study in evening light produced field marks like a Bendire's, but an hour study in better light the next morning elicited field marks which definitely pegged it as a Sage Thrasher. Observations on a June 3 C.F.O. trip to a nearby site noted many field marks of Bendire's, but the singing birds still had "fairly distinct" breast streaking (JJR), which excludes Bendire's. These observations suggest reexamination of the status of Bendire's in the San Luis Valley.

A Brown Thrasher strayed to Divide, n.w. of Pikes Peak, July 5 (†AV). With the alpine zone blanketed by snow through most of June, Am. Pipits flocks occurred in mid-June at 9000 ft. at Eagle and Dillon, CO. The I.P.B.S.C. tallied a surprising 141 pipits June 10, most apparently below timberline.

Vireos to Warblers

Las Vegas observers noted the most Bell's Vireos in many years, with many staying on territory; they found no fledglings, though (J&MC). The I.P.B.S.C. tallied 142 Warbling Vireos. The number of Red-eyed Vireos rose; at Ash Meadows N.W.R. banders caught, banded, and photographed one June 27 (#B&DS, #ph.). Wanderers came to Green R. and Fontanelle, WY June 6–16 (four at Fontanelle June 11, RS). Several June reports came from the w. edge of their normal breeding range, from Casper and Van Tassel, WY, to Ordway and Boyero, CO.

During June, migrating or lost-compass warblers continued their spring wandering. Strays included Golden-winged Warblers at Last Chance, CO June 4 (#DB); Tennessees at Colorado Springs and Ordway June 1 & 4, N Parula at Corn Cr., Las Vegas, June 9 (#RSc), and Last Chance's 3rd for the spring, a singing male June 7 (DBr); Chestnut-sideds at Wellington, CO June 7 (K&SM) and Glendo, WY June 11 (W&AH); Magnolia at Fort Collins June 6 (MN); an actively feeding Black-throated Blue at Rocky Mountain N.P., June 13 (KC); a Yellow-throated Warbler June 3 at

Chatfield, which hosted territorial birds 2–4 years ago (#D.F.O.); Palm Warblers at Last Chance June 4 (DB) and Indian Peaks June 10 (RRC); five Blackpolls from Fontanelle, WY to Rocky Ford; Am. Redstarts at Tonopah June 1–2 (two, DT), three at Crow Valley June 1 (DL), and one at Corn Cr., June 11 (J&MC); a singing N. Waterthrush at Fort Collins June 10; Hooded Warblers at Monte Vista N.W.R., June 3 (1st Lat, †JJR) and Crow Valley June 4 (#JHi); and a surprising Canada at Fort Collins June 9 (#JMa). By late July, 2 rarities appeared: a Golden-winged July 25 at Colorado Springs (#RB, BM), and a well-described Black-and-white July 22 at Huntoon Valley, 30 mi s. of Hawthorne, NV (†ES).

Trousdale reported an extraordinary 30–40 Wilson's Warblers at Tonopah June 1–2. The I.P.B.S.C. counted 122 Wilson's June 10.

A follow-up on last year's Colorado Atlas discovery of breeding N. Waterthrushes found an adult feeding a fledgling July 24 near Walden, as well as three other singing birds (BD, H&UK). North of Walden, banders caught a female with a brood patch (*vide* BD).

Tanagers to Grosbeaks

A Summer Tanager wandered to Ordway June 3 (MJ). On June 10 the I.P.B.S.C. recorded only 17 W. Tanagers—the lowest count in its 12-year history; meanwhile three sang at Ft. Collins June 3–10 and a glut of 15 W. Tanagers stormed Fontanelle June 11 (RS). Zion N.P. reported its 3rd Rose-breasted Grosbeak June 22 (SF) and Tonopah had one June 1 (DT). Killpack banded 75 young and 28 ad. Black-headed Grosbeaks over the summer; some adults have returned for 7–8 years. Indigo Bunting reports included a male June 21 at Ash Meadows and a female banded there June 28 (D&BS), one at Zion June 22 (SS), and a male at Torrey, UT July 18 (AS). A Painted Bunting maintained a territory last year in Cottonwood Canyon, *Baca*; this year one sang June 28 in the same place (DB). A pair of Painted Buntings stayed at Fort Collins June 8–10 (†MM). Dickcissel reports dropped—Colorado Atlasers did not fan out over the plains this summer—although *Bent* had 10 June 12 and 25 July 16 (BP). Similarly, Cassin's Sparrow reports dropped; probably the moisture-nourished tall grass on the prairies explains the decrease. Both Brewer's and Grasshopper sparrows increased on the Pawnee National Grasslands (DL, TL). Although Sheridan seemed to have later-arriving and fewer Lark Buntings, Jayem, WY had 150 June 8–18 and Casper reported 400 July 4 (flocking early?). At Rocky Mt. Arsenal the tall grasses and abun-

dant forbs, which hobbled raptor food collection and Cassin's Sparrow breeding, allowed increased numbers of Lark Buntings to nest (52 on the B.B.S. *cf.* 4 last year). At Torrey one–two Fox Sparrows spent the summer at the low elevation of 6900 ft. (AS). A meadowlark sp. sang the eastern song June 12–July 2 at Ft. Collins (but call notes not mentioned, #DL, WL); 2 mi away one sang July 25 (#DL). Abundant spring moisture delayed irrigation at Morgan, UT, which delayed cattail growth, which meant Yellow-headed Blackbirds lacked nesting habitat; only one pair fledged young—in mid-August (VAS). The reverse occurred in L.L.B.L., which counted 1173 Yellow-heads, *cf.* 196 last year. The L.L.B.L. also counted a record number of Com. Grackles—856 *cf.* 262 last year. Although D.F.O. bucked this trend on its trips (62 *cf.* an 11-year spread of 86–261), in Denver itself grackles seemed ubiquitous and dominant (HEK). Hosts reported for Brown-headed Cowbirds, in addition to the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher noted above, included a Dusky Flycatcher nest with young at Eagle, CO (JM), Warbling Vireo at Eagle (JM), Lark Sparrow at Cody, WY (GB), and two relentless fledglings pursuing a harried Green-tailed Towhee at Buena Vista, CO (H&UK). Like pipits, rosy-finches delayed their journey to their alpine cliffs; Buffalo, WY, had 10 Gray-crowneds June 8 (LW) and Beartooth Pass near Yellowstone had 18 at various spots June 20; only two remained July 6, so they probably moved up to nest on the higher peaks (WEH). Cassin's Finches nested in a box elder in a Morgan, UT yard (unsuccessfully)—another instance of low elevation, riparian nesting for that supposed mountain species (VAS). Red Crossbills cruised over the mountains from n. Utah to the Big Horns of Wyoming S to Colorado. With them, three White-winged Crossbills on the I.P.B.S.C., June 10 popped up not far from the site of their unsuccessful nesting attempt of last winter. A Lesser Goldfinch which remained June 5–23 at Morgan provided a rare report for that latilong (VAS). Evening Grosbeaks summered at Torrey (AS) and occurred in *Kane*, UT July 24. They brought two young to a McCoy, CO, feeder July 29, and occurred regularly at Casper and Devils Tower.

Addendum

I rarely report on observations received late from previous seasons, but three N. Parulas seen May 13 at Wellington, in the same tree, seemed worthy of mention (S&KM).

Corrigendum

For Spring 1995 I omitted Jim and Marion Cressman from the list of compilers. Also,

delete W. A. Howe as a cited observer, and add W. & A. Hines.

Compilers (with number of observers who contributed to their compilations): W. W. Brockner (15), Jim & Marion Cressman (8), Dave Hallock (19), Phil Hayes (9), Ursula Kepler (22), Jim and Gloria Lawrence (15), Tony Leukering (8), Rich Levad (5), William Lisowsky (14), Ann Means (40), Jack Merchant (5), Bert Raynes (5), Robert Rothe (5), Rick Steenberg (5), Janeal Thompson (5).

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Welcome Guests: Thanks to these visitors to the Mt. West who contributed observations: W. E. Harper, Margery Rutbell, Emilie Strauss, Paul Springer, and Carol Werner.

—Hugh E. Kingery, 869 Milwaukee St., Denver CO 80206.

Southwest Region

Arizona

GARY H. ROSENBERG AND CHRIS D. BENESH

This summer may well be remembered for the dazzling array of "Mexican" rarities that were possible to see in a short period of time. One could fly into Tucson, drive up to Dudleyville and see the nesting pair of Streak-backed Orioles, then turn around and make it to Bog Spring in Madera Canyon for the nesting Flame-colored Tanagers before it got dark. The next morning a birder could start the day in French Joe Canyon, where one of the two singing Rufous-capped Warblers might brighten up an already bright (and hot!) morning, and then make it to the Huachuca Mountains for White-eared Hummingbirds or, if one really lived a charmed life, the wandering Eared Trogon that has been seen sporadically there for a few years. Then, if not already exhausted, it would be off to Cave Creek Canyon for the elusive Berylline Hummingbird. They say it is hot in Arizona during the summer, but from a birder's perspective, this June and July the state was on fire! It would be interesting to calculate the economic impact that this fine selection of "vagrants" had on southeast Arizona.

The Arizona Game and Fish continued their fine efforts with the Atlas program for Arizona. Many new areas were surveyed this

summer, particularly in the northwest portion of the state that was poorly known, and they were kind enough to share some of their results with us. The summer was an extremely dry one, with the "monsoon" rains never materializing during June or July. We will have to wait and see how this has effected the breeding success of many of the grassland species that are highly dependent on the summer rains.

Abbreviations: A.B.C. (*Arizona Bird Committee*); L.C.R.V. (*Lower Colorado R. Valley*); G.F.P. (*Gila Farms Pond*); M.F.L. (*Many Farms L.*); N.I.R. (*Navajo Indian Reservation*); P.A.P. (*Pinal Air Park*); P.R.D. (*Painted Rock Dam*); S.P.R. (*San Pedro R.*); S.T.P. (*Sewage Treatment Plant*); S.W.R.S. (*Southwestern Research Station*); and V.O.C. (*Village of Oak Cr.*).

Grebes to Hawks

After first being found nesting in s.e. Arizona at Willcox in 1992, Eared Grebes were again present there during the summer; at least four adults were present July 16, and three juveniles were observed July 23 (MS). Larger than usual numbers of Clark's Grebes were present, along with many W. Grebes, at P.R.D., July 9 (SGa, RJ), where this species was thought to be scarce. A single Am. White Pelican at Red L. (N.I.R.), June 29 (D. Mikesic) represented one of few mid-summer records for Arizona and probably was a very early migrant. Additionally, 125 were observed at P.R.D. on the early date of July 9 (SGa, RJ), and at least 75 were still present July 15 (RP). One of the two Brown Pelicans at P.R.D., June 4 (m.ob.) may have been the one present there during the spring. Numbers increased at P.R.D. during the summer, with seven July 7 (SGa, RJ), and 15 July 23–24 (m.ob.). Elsewhere, one was at the Gilbert/ Riggs Road ponds near Chandler July 15 (C. Drowley). A Neotropic Cor-

