

# Southwest Region

## Arizona

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This fall in Arizona was an exciting one, with numerous visitors invading the Region from parts north, south, and west. In fact, it was one of the best falls for irruptive species in many years. A number of montane species came from the north, while Lawrence's Goldfinches came in force from the west. But perhaps most baffling and delightful was the influx of Aztec Thrushes into southern Arizona. In addition, Arizona recorded its first Northern Wheatear. On a sadder note, this season marked the passing of Lauritz Muehlbach, a long-time contributor to Field Notes. He will be missed.

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 Lake*); 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.S.V. (*Sulphur Springs Valley*).

### Loons to Caracara

A Red-throated Loon picked up in Wickenberg Nov. 13 was brought to a small lake along the Hassayampa R., where it

remained until Nov. 20 (*vide* JW; ph. MS); this represented only the 12th Arizona record and a 3rd for *Maricopa*. A Pacific Loon was at Picacho Res., Nov. 5 (GM); this species is still a casual transient away from the L.C.R.V. Single Horned Grebes were reported in w. Tucson Oct. 23–Nov. 24 (S. Levy, GM), at Lee's Ferry Oct. 27 (CL), and at Page Nov. 30 (CL, TC), but extraordinary was the report of eight together in Flagstaff Nov. 22 (D. Herron, *vide* JC). Individual Clark's Grebes were at Gilbert Sept. 15 (SGa *et al.*) and Tuba City Oct. 31 (CL), both records being away from known breeding areas in the state.

Both Blue-footed Booby and Brown Booby were found in s. Arizona. It began with an unidentified booby seen at Canyon L., Sept. 14–17. When this bird was looked for Sept. 19, a Blue-footed Booby was found flying around the marina; this individual was seen again Sept. 20 (ph. SGa). A 2nd booby was seen sitting on a cliff Sept. 29–Oct. 20 (*vide* SGa, ph.) which turned out to be a Brown Booby. Coincidentally, when the Blue-footed disappeared from Canyon L., a 2nd individual (or possibly the same?) showed up at a small golf course pond in s. Phoenix Sept. 25–Oct. 19 (m.ob., ph. TC, GHR), where it dazzled dozens of birders (as well as golfers) by plunge-diving for fish. A 2nd Brown Booby was picked up in w. Phoenix Sept. 7 (*vide* SGa) and brought to a rehab center. There have been <10 previous records for each species in Arizona. The Neotropic Cormorant found in Tempe during the summer remained until at least Aug. 11 (PM, ph. SGa). Two Neotropics were seen again at the Granite Reef Picnic Area on the Salt R., Sept. 8 (SGa), and another was at Kino Springs near Nogales Sept. 28 (RP). An unusually high concen-



To the delight of birders, this Blue-footed Booby (photographed September 27, 1996) spent almost a month at a golf course at Laveen, Arizona. Photograph/Troy Corman.

tration of 68 Great Egrets was at Picacho Res., Nov. 5 (GM), and two were at Cow Springs L., Oct. 18–21 (CL), where this species is a casual visitor. A Little Blue Heron was along Riggs Road in Gilbert Aug. 5–19 (RJ, JJ, SGa). An imm. Tricolored Heron was along the San Pedro R., Aug. 7 (DKr) and was subsequently reported from a variety of locations in that general area until Sept. 12 (m.ob.). A Reddish Egret found at Snyder Hill S.T.P. w. of Tucson Aug. 7–18 (m.ob., ph. MS *et al.*) provided the first documented record of this species for s.e. Arizona, and only a 7th record overall for the state. Cattle Egrets seemed in greater abundance statewide this fall, with high concentrations reported from several localities; 300 were in s.w. Phoenix Sept. 29 (RD), and n. Arizona records included 26 at Mormon L., Aug. 29 (CL), and an immature at Rainbow L. near Pinetop Nov. 26 (GM).

A very large concentration of >3000 White-faced Ibis was at Mormon L. during late August. Twelve at Cow Springs L., Nov. 1 (B. Melberg, C. Goetze) were late for n. Arizona. An imm. Roseate Spoonbill was present at the w. end of Roosevelt L., Sept. 19–24 (B. Stocku *et al.*; ph. SGa), providing only the 3rd Arizona record of this species during the past 20 years, and amazingly, the 2nd this year! Seldom reported from n. Arizona, a Greater White-fronted Goose was at Mormon L., Sept. 27 (P. Wang). Also unusual for the n. portion of the state, two Snow Geese were at M.F.L., Nov. 18 (CL). A blue-morph Snow Goose was at Willcox Nov. 15 (GM). Nine Ross' Geese, one of the largest concentrations ever reported from n. Arizona, were at M.F.L., Nov. 18 (CL). Wood Ducks were generally more widely reported this fall. A ♀ Eur. Wigeon



was reported from Indian Bend Wash in Scottsdale Oct. 29 (SGa). The Canvasback that summered at Willcox was still present there Sept. 8 (MS). Returning for its 5th consecutive winter, the ♂ **Tufted Duck** was located on the now-famous pond in Mesa Nov. 20 (*fide* SGa). Individual Greater Scaups, casual in s. Arizona away from the L.C.R.V., were at Fountain Hills Nov. 4 (C. West) and in Nogales Nov. 30 (v.t. CDB *et al.*). Two White-winged Scoters were at the Wahweep S.T.P. on L. Powell Oct. 24 (C. Pinnock, B. Russell), and another was at Lee's Ferry Nov. 21+ (CL, S. Davidson); this species is a rare transient and winter visitor along the Colorado R. drainage in n. Arizona. The only Surf Scoter reported was an immature at P.R.D., Nov. 3 (MS, SGa, RJ). A ♂ Barrow's Goldeneye was at Kayenta Nov. 17+ (CL); this species is still a very casual transient anywhere in Arizona away from the Colorado R. Three Com. Mergansers at Willcox Oct. 14 (MS) were early for s.e. Arizona. Red-breasted Mergansers are somewhat scarce as transients in s.e. Arizona, therefore one at Snyder Hill S.T.P., Nov. 2 (MS) and another at P.R.D., Nov. 3 (MS) were of interest. Two Red-breasteds at Lee's Ferry Nov. 29–30 (CL) were very late for n. Arizona.

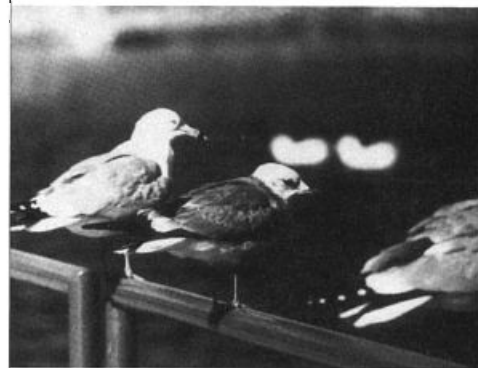
White-tailed Kites were only reported from a few areas, suggesting either that numbers are fluctuating in the state, or that observers are complacent about reporting this species. Harris Hawk successfully bred below Portal near Rodeo, New Mexico, providing a new nesting locality for that part of the state. Individual Red-shouldered Hawks were reported from along Queen Cr., w. of the B.T.A., Sept. 28–29 (†CT, SGa, RJ), and at Beaver Dam Wash Oct. 20 (S. Summers), where this species may be regular. Two different Broad-winged Hawks, still casual transients in the state, were seen at the B.T.A., Sept. 27 (†CT); one was a dark-morph adult and the other a light-morph juvenile. A Swainson's Hawk at the B.T.A., Sept. 26 (CT) provided only the 3rd record for this heavily birded arboretum. The imm. Zone-tailed Hawk from the nest along the s. rim of the Grand Canyon was still present Sept. 16 (CL), and late singles were present in Nogales Nov. 8 (CL) and at Picacho Res., Nov. 10 (J. Bock, L. Bryan). Away from its normal range in s. Arizona, an imm. Crested Caracara was seen at the Nogales S.T.P., Nov. 30 (v.t. CDB *et al.*), and another was reported from Patagonia in late November (*fide* CW).

### Plovers to Woodpeckers

Black-bellied Plover is still a casual migrant in n. Arizona; therefore, ≤three at

Mormon L., Sept. 21–25 (J. Grahame, CL *et al.*) were noteworthy. A Snowy Plover at Willcox Oct. 21 (MS) was late. Three Mt. Plovers near Marana Nov. 14 (G. West) were away from their usual wintering areas in s. Arizona. A very large concentration of 125 Black-necked Stilts was at Mormon L., Sept. 4 (CL), where this species is at best a sparse migrant. Three stilts were seen at Sierra Vista on the late date of Nov. 26 (RP). A high concentration of 310 Am. Avocets, an excellent number for n. Arizona, was at Mormon L., Sept. 21 (JC *et al.*), while a single late individual was present at Cow Springs L., Nov. 14 (CL). Similarly, a very late Greater Yellowlegs was present at Cow Springs L., Nov. 28 (B. Melberg). A late Willet was in s.w. Phoenix Oct. 12 (TC). Five Sanderlings at Snyder Hill S.T.P., Oct. 28 (MS *et al.*) was a nice number for one locality in s. Arizona, whereas one at Cow Springs L., Sept. 10 (CL) was of note as this species is a casual transient anywhere in the n. portion of the state. Only four Semipalmated Sandpipers were reported between Aug. 11–Sept. 10. Unusually high numbers of Baird's Sandpipers were present at Mormon L. this September, with a high of 45 Sept. 4 (CL). A somewhat late Stilt Sandpiper was in s.w. Phoenix Oct. 19 (TC). Similarly, a late Short-billed Dowitcher was in s.w. Phoenix Oct. 12 (TC). Early was a Com. Snipe in Tucson Aug. 24 (MS). The only Red Phalarope was one found Nov. 30 at Nogales (S. Edwards, v.t. CDB, J. Gottlieb, ph. B. Machover).

Exciting was the discovery of two different **Long-tailed Jaegers**: a juvenile picked up alive along the highway near Ash Fork Aug. 28 (J. Petr; ph. P. Wang), which was later transferred to Sea World in San Diego for potential rehabilitation, and an adult at Mormon L., Sept. 21–23 (†MS, †JC). There were only 7 previous records for the state. Another excellent find was a 2nd-winter **Mew Gull** at Wahweep Marina on L. Powell Nov. 30 (CL; ph. †TC); there were only about 7 previous records for Arizona. Herring Gull is a sparse migrant away from the L.C.R.V.; this fall there were scattered individuals seen at Nogales Oct. 30–Nov. 1 (L. VanderWerf), at Sierra Vista Nov. 4 (S. Healy), at Pasture Canyon near Tuba City Nov. 15 (CL), and at Wahweep Marina on L. Powell Nov. 30 (CL, TC). The only report of Sabine's Gull was one at Mormon L., Sept. 4 (CL *et al.*). Caspian Tern can still be considered a rare transient away from the L.C.R.V. and P.R.D., therefore two at Gilbert Sept. 15 (SGa *et al.*) and two at El Mirage ponds in s.w. Phoenix Sept. 15 (CBa) were of note. More interesting was



**Mew Gull in second-winter plumage [center — with Ring-billed Gulls] at Wahweep Marina, Lake Powell, Arizona, November 30, 1996. Photograph/Troy Corman.**

the report of eight Caspians on Upper L. Mary Sept. 23 (P. Wang, J. Hildebrand); there are very few reports in n. Arizona. At least six different Com. Terns were found around the state away from the L.C.R.V. between Aug. 27–Oct. 8.

Flammulated Owls are rarely seen as transients away from coniferous forest; this fall 2 different reports were received, one Oct. 6 at the Desert Botanical Gardens in Phoenix (P. Schmidt), and another in a Phoenix yard Oct. 11 (C. Kangas). Interestingly, a few more were reported from the Rincon Mts. in early October, perhaps representing migrating individuals, as opposed to "summer" residents. The remains of a W. Screech-Owl were found at M.F.L., Nov. 9 (B. Melberg); there are only scattered reports of this species from the N.I.R. A N. Saw-whet Owl was found dead in Pasture Canyon near Tuba City Nov. 6 (CL); this represents the first N.I.R. record away from coniferous forest, where this species is suspected of breeding. A very late Whip-poor-will was in South Fork, Chiricahua Mts., Nov. 3 (DJa).

An unseasonal ♀ Costa's Hummingbird was seen and heard at the B.T.A., Nov. 18 (CT). A late Broad-tailed Hummingbird was reported at Portal Nov. 3 (DJa, N. Moore-Craig, A. Craig). Late reports of Elegant Trogons came from Cave Cr. Canyon, Chiricahua Mts., Oct. 25, where three were seen (DJa), and from Garden Canyon, Huachuca Mts., Nov. 24 (Smitty, SH). A wandering Eared Trogon was irregularly reported from the Huachuca Mts.; one was seen in Carr Canyon Aug. 23 and in Miller Canyon Sept. 1–4. The **Red-headed Woodpecker** found in Flagstaff during July was last seen Aug. 4 (ph. SGa, RJ). An Acorn Woodpecker, seldom seen in the lowlands, was once again reported from the P.A.P. pecan grove Nov. 30 (SGa). A Yellow-shafted form of N. Flicker was at the B.T.A., Oct. 21–27 (RJ, SGa).

**SA** This fall saw one of the largest invasions of montane species into Arizona in many years. Kenn Kaufman provided some perspective, commenting that this was the biggest since fall of 1972, based on the number of species involved, the number of individuals, and the wide distribution of their occurrence. As Kaufman suggests, the invasion likely resulted from extreme drought conditions to the north of Arizona this past summer, which led to a poor food crop. Major invaders were Clark's Nutcracker, Cassin's Finch, Red Crossbill, and Evening Grosbeak, with smaller numbers of Steller's and Scrub jays, Mt. Chickadee, and Red-breasted Nuthatch. In addition, a flock of 50 Pinyon Jays invaded the Silver Cr. area of the Chiricahua Mts., Sept. 25+ (N. Moore-Craig, A. Craig), and numbers were reported from around Prescott beginning in August (CT *et al.*). Red Crossbills voice-recorded in the Tucson area (KK, CDB) proved to be Type 2 birds [based on Groth's 8 flight-call types]. In w. North America, these Type 2 birds favor Ponderosa and Lodgepole pines; these trees are common in areas which were hit hard by the summer drought.

#### Flycatcher to Vireos

A late Greater Pewee was present at Evergreen Cemetery in Tucson Nov. 15 (C. Nytko), where this species has wintered. Late for n. Arizona, a Hammond's Flycatcher was observed Oct. 26–Nov. 1 in Pasture Canyon near Tuba City (CL). A Dusky Flycatcher at this same location Nov. 10 (CL) was also late. An E. Phoebe at Arivaca L., Nov. 28–29 (N. Crook *et al.*) was the only one reported. An imm. Vermilion Flycatcher in Page Oct. 26–Dec. 13 (C. Goetze, B. Melberg, J. Spence) was both away from known breeding areas and extremely late. An Ash-throated Flycatcher picked up along the highway e. of Cow Springs Oct. 18 (CL) was perhaps the latest n. Arizona record. A late Thick-billed Kingbird was seen in Patagonia Sept. 21 (GM).

Several tardy swallow species were also noted; two Tree Swallows were observed in Tuba City Nov. 4 (CL), single Violet-green Swallows were in Tuba City Oct. 18 (CL) and at the B.T.A., Nov. 10 (CT), a Bank Swallow was at Cow Springs L., Oct. 10 (CL), and a Barn Swallow was in Tuba City Nov. 6 (CL). Other lingering Barn Swallows were reported around the state, including five at Picacho Res., Nov. 5

(GM), and one at Willow Tank, e. of Portal, Nov. 6 (DJ). American Crows were reported away from breeding areas, with 17 at Pasture Canyon, e. of Tuba City, Nov. 1 (CL, F. Brandt, JC), and a flock of 70 seen near Pinetop Nov. 26 (GM). Of great interest was an Am. Crow carefully studied at Yecora, Sonora, Nov. 10 (D. Danforth, DKr), representing perhaps only the 2nd record for Sonora. A Plain Titmouse videotaped in c. Tucson Nov. 26 (CDB) was perhaps the first record for the Tucson Valley away from the foothills. One–two Plain Titmice at B.T.A., Oct. 13+ (J. Bartley, CT) were also out of range. A late Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was at Polaca Nov. 19 (CL). A very early Rufous-backed Robin was observed at the P.A.P. pecan grove Sept. 2 (RJ, R. Brimrose). Another Rufous-backed Robin was photographed in Portal Nov. 1–4 (DJ *et al.*), and a 3rd was at the Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum Nov. 10–11 (C. Findora, S. Edwards). Notable was a Varied Thrush discovered in Phoenix Nov. 24 (B. Johnson, CBa). Arizona's first Northern Wheatear was documented at the P.A.P. pecan grove Oct. 29 (ph. J. Levy, S. Levy, †GM). A bird matching this description was also observed there Oct. 26 (J. Taylor). A Gray Catbird, casual in s. Arizona, was seen in Whitetail Canyon, Chiricahua Mts., Sept. 16 (*vide* DJa). A Brown Thrasher continued to be seen in Portal throughout the period (*vide* DJa). A Warbling Vireo in Tucson Nov. 21 (MS) was very late. A Philadelphia Vireo was studied at Granite Basin Sept. 7 (†CT). A Red-eyed Vireo was studied in Madera Canyon Aug. 31 (†CC); this species is a casual visitor to the state.

#### Warblers to Goldfinches

A Golden-winged Warbler, casual in Arizona, was reported n. of Yuma Nov. 10 (J. Taylor). An Orange-crowned Warbler at Pasture Canyon Nov. 1 (CL, JC, F. Brandt) was late for n. Arizona. The fall's only Tennessee Warbler report was of one in Phoenix Oct. 29 (S. Stangeland). A N. Parula was observed at Arivaca Sept. 27–28 (M. Kehl). A Chestnut-sided Warbler was discovered in Tucson Nov. 21 (G. Hentz) and remained through the period. Two Black-throated Blue Warblers were reported; one was along the Gila R. in Phoenix Nov. 16–17 (PM, TC, ph. MS), and the 2nd was found in n.w. Tucson Nov. 18+ (LHK, ph. MS). A late Hermit Warbler was in Phoenix Nov. 17 (TC). Two Black-throated Green Warblers were reported in Arizona; one was at B.T.A., Oct. 13 (RJ), and the 2nd was found dead w. of Tuba City (CL). A Palm Warbler was



Near Marana, Arizona, October 29, 1996, this Northern Wheatear established a first state record. Photograph/James Levy.

window killed in Palominas Oct. 25 (K&L Salwei, ph. DKr). A Bay-breasted Warbler was reported from Tuba City Oct. 20 (CL). Six Black-and-white Warblers were reported from s. Arizona Aug. 23+. Four Am. Redstarts were found Sept. 18–Nov. 17. Three Prothonotary Warblers were found; one was along the upper S.P.R., Sept. 9 (M. Matheissen), another at B.T.A., Sept. 28 (†CT, SGa), and a 3rd at Cameron Oct. 7 (CL). A Louisiana Waterthrush returned to B.T.A., Sept. 28 (CT) and was seen through the period. A late Wilson's Warbler was at Del Rio Springs n. of Chino Valley Nov. 3 (H. Shaw). The Rufous-capped Warbler was last reported in French Joe Canyon Sept. 11 (MS). A very late Yellow-breasted Chat was observed in e. Tucson Oct. 17–Nov. 10 (KK, LHK). Another late chat was at B.T.A. from late October+ (E. Wootten *et al.*). A pair of lingering Hepatic Tanagers were at Arivaca L., Nov. 30 (MS, CDB).

A basic-plumaged Scarlet Tanager was reported from the B.T.A., Nov. 18 (†CT); there are about 22 records for the state. Two Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were reported; one was at Sabino Canyon Oct. 15 (KK), and the second was in Portal Nov. 24–Dec. 6 (DJa). An unseasonal Blue Grosbeak was at Arivaca L., Nov. 28–30 (N. Crook *et al.*). An Indigo Bunting in Pasture Canyon Nov. 15 (CL, B. Melberg) was extremely late for n. Arizona. Three Painted Buntings were reported; a female in Portal Aug. 2–3 (N. Moore-Craig, A. Craig), a male there Aug. 24 (L. Gunn, DJa), and one at the P.A.P. pecan grove Sept. 3 (RJ). A Dickcissel was heard overhead at Mormon L., Aug. 29 (JC, CL) and a 2nd was heard overhead in n.w. Tucson Sept. 10 (†C. Marantz).

A Clay-colored Sparrow, infrequently reported in n. Arizona, was studied at Ganado L., Oct. 8 (GHR, P. Lindsay). A Lark Bunting seen e. of Kingman Aug. 26 (K. Garrett) was one of few ever reported from this region of Arizona. Grasshopper Sparrows, considered accidental in n. Arizona, were reported in record numbers;



A remarkable invasion brought as many as twenty-one Aztec Thrushes to southern Arizona during the season. This was one of the birds in Miller Canyon, Huachuca Mountains, in early September. Photograph/Jim Burns.

singles were at Mormon L., Sept. 7 (JC, B. Whitney, J. Grahame) and Sept. 22 (JC, E. Morrell), Round Rock L., Oct. 9 (ph. GHR, P. Lindsay), Cow Springs L., Oct. 10 (CL), and Lee's Ferry Oct. 27 (CL). Three Fox Sparrows were reported in n. Arizona, including singles at Pasture Canyon Oct. 24–27, Lee's Ferry Oct. 27, and Cameron Nov. 1 (all CL). Single Golden-crowned Sparrows were reported from Camp Cr., Nov. 9 (TC), and from Pipe Springs Nov. 30 (CL, TC). A Harris' Sparrow was at Wahweap Nov. 3–5 (C. Goetze, J. Spence). A Yellow-eyed Junco, scarce in the lowlands, returned to the B.T.A., Nov. 10 (CT), where it remained through the period. A Lapland Longspur was well documented from the Snyder Hill (Avra Valley) S.T.P., Oct. 27 (†J. Withgott). A Chestnut-collared Longspur, scarce in n. Arizona, was observed at Pasture Canyon Oct. 24 (CL, S. Davidson). One of the more exciting finds this fall was a flock of Black Rosy-Finches along Echo Cliffs, s. of Page, Nov. 29 (CL, ph. †TC). Another good find was a ♀ Rusty Blackbird found at the Nogales S.T.P., Nov. 25+ (†D. Touret *et al.*, ph. †RJ, v.t. CDB); this represented the first report from Arizona since the winter of 1989–1990. Late, singing Scott's Orioles were reported from Madera Canyon Oct. 13 (MS) and from Molino Basin, Catalina Mts., Oct. 27 (CC). Lawrence's Goldfinches were widely reported throughout the period, staging one of their best invasions in years (m.ob.).

**SA** Aztec Thrushes staged an unprecedented incursion into s. Arizona this season. After the initial sighting of a single bird at Ramsey Canyon in late July, there was a steady stream of reports in August and September. Prior to this year, there had been a total of 20 individual Aztec Thrushes sighted in Arizona. But this season alone as many as 21 individuals were reported! On Aug. 14, an Aztec Thrush was observed in Miller Canyon, Huachuca Mts. (B. Biela); <eight Aztec Thrushes were reported there Sept. 1–14 (J. Huntington *et al.*, ph. JiB, †C. Marantz). As early as August 18, two Aztec Thrushes were reported from elsewhere in the Huachucas near Comfort Spring, Carr Canyon. These were seen at least to Aug. 26 (m.ob.). Nearby, at Old Sawmill Spring, <seven Aztec Thrushes were seen Aug. 24–Sept. 3 (m.ob., ph. MS, GHR, v.t. CDB). On the w. side of the Huachucas, another Aztec Thrush was in Lyle Canyon Aug. 23 (J. Martin). In the Whetstone Mts. to the north, an Aztec Thrush was reported from French Joe Canyon Aug. 13–15 (M&D Vanier *et al.*), while in the Santa Rita Mts., single Aztec Thrushes were studied in Madera Canyon Aug. 19 (MS) and at Bog Springs Aug. 25 (T. Army). Despite the large numbers, there was no evidence to suggest local breeding. Thanks to all of you who reported your discoveries, and to the many who provided updates during the course of this invasion. Regrettably, the imperfect means in which we obtain our records precludes us from properly crediting those who deserve it.

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## New Mexico

### SARTOR O. WILLIAMS III

A rather "typical" fall, with generally adequate precipitation from midsummer on, produced a rather typical migration season, but one nevertheless spiced with choice surprises and including an intriguing flycatcher certainly new to the state (and perhaps to the country). Noteworthy was a substantial submontane movement by several species, notably chickadees, nuthatches, finches, and crossbills, plus an invasion from the west by Lawrence's Goldfinches.

Abbreviations: B.L.N.W.R. (*Bitter Lake N.W.R.*); Bosque N.W.R. (*Bosque del Apache N.W.R.*); E.B.L. (*Elephant Butte L.*); L.V.N.W.R. (*Las Vegas N.W.R.*); R.G.V. (*Rio Grande Valley*); Zuni (*Zuni Indian Reservation*).

### Loons to Falcons

Single Pacific Loons were at Stubblefield L., Nov. 2 (JEP, ph. JO) and Ute L., Nov. 17 (JO); earliest Commons were singles at Maxwell N.W.R., Oct. 26 (SW) and Santa Ana Oct. 31 (F&R Slowen) and two at Ute L., Oct. 26 (SW). Early Horned Grebes included two at Maxwell N.W.R., Sept. 24 (JEP, JO) and singles at Tyrone Sept. 24 (EL) and Holloman L., Sept. 19 (GE). The "resident" Red-necked Grebe at Caballo L. was seen on various dates Aug. 11 (ph. JO)–Oct. 3 (v.o.); another was at Cochiti L., Nov. 24 (WH) & 25 (JO, PRS). Of 2500 *Aechmophorus* grebes on upper E.B.L., Oct. 2, all seen well or heard were Westerns (SOW); late were two Westerns at Zuni Nov. 28 (DC), while notable was a Clark's at the Lordsburg playa Nov. 28 (JO). High count for Am. White Pelicans at Caballo L. was 1274 Sept. 29 (JNP). An imm. Brown Pelican was at Sumner L., Oct. 19 (CR, DE); single immatures were also at upper E.B.L., Sept. 12 (TH) and Caballo L., Aug. 11 & 18 (ph. JO). Unusual for the Pecos Valley were one Neotropic Cormorant at Santa Rosa Nov. 2 (CR) and one–two at B.L.N.W.R., Aug. 13 (WH)–through mid-September (v.o.); 90 Neotropics were at Bosque N.W.R., Nov. 9–10 (SOW), where there were still young in nests Aug. 25 (PRS). Single Great Egrets wandered W to Acoma Oct. 4 (WH) and Lordsburg Sept. 22 (JO). Early