



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.

Contributors (area compilers in boldface): Charlie Babbitt (CBa), Parker Backstrom, Jerry Bock (JBo), Jim Burns (JiB), John Coons (Flagstaff), Troy Corman, Richard Ditch, Steve Ganley (SGa), Virginia Gilmore, Sharon Goldwasser (SGo)(Tucson), Stuart Healy, Dave Jasper (Portal), Jill Jones, Roy Jones, Kenn Kaufman, Lynn H. Kaufman, Dave Krueper (Sierra Vista), Chuck LaRue, Gale Monson, Pete Moulton, Lauritz Muehlbach, Richard Palmer, Will Russell, John Spencer (JSp) (Globe), Mark Stevenson, Steve Summers, Bob Thomen, Ash Thornburg, Carl Tomoff (Prescott), Deb Treadway, Jack Whetstone (Sierra Vista), Chuck Williamson (Tucson), Janet Witzeman (Phoenix).

—Chris D. Benesh, 4308 E. Poe St., Tucson, AZ 85711; Gary H. Rosenberg, P.O. Box 91856, Tucson, AZ 85752-1856.

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

was a flock of seven Tundra Swans at Maxwell N.W.R., Nov. 2 (JEP, JO), still present there Nov. 17 (DE, BN) & 24 (JO). Unusually early were single Ring-necked Ducks at Zuni Aug. 2 (DC) and later (DC, JAT), and La Joya Aug. 11 (WH). Santa Rosa L. produced the only scoters, with one—two Surfs Nov. 2–3 (CR, JO) plus a White-winged Nov. 2 (CR). Early was a ♂ Barrow's Goldeneye below Navajo Dam Nov. 16 (TR). A White-tailed Kite was hunting in the Uvas Valley near Nutt Nov. 2 (JH), where there have been persistent reports in recent years. Northeasterly Mississippi Kites were one along the Dry Cimarron R., *Union*, Sept. 4 (GS) and two near Clayton Sept. 14 (WC). The Manzano Mts. hawk watch site tallied record numbers of several raptors, including 2174 Sharp-shinned Hawks Aug. 27–Nov. 5 and 1205 Cooper's Sept. 1–Nov. 2 (HWI), but the nine N. Goshawks Sept. 16–Oct. 31 (HWI) was the fewest there in 6 years. The well-documented subad. **Gray Hawk** in the Animas Valley was last seen Aug. 10 (DE, BN). An imm. **Red-shouldered Hawk** at Loving Sept. 13 (JEP, JO) provided a local first. Broad-winged Hawks continued to demonstrate a very narrow migrational window, with four passing the Manzano site Sept. 27–28 (HWI), and singles at Boone's Draw Sept. 26 (JEP, JO) and Carlsbad Sept. 24 (SW). Record numbers of falcons passed the Manzano site—905 Am. Kestrels Aug. 27–Oct. 31, 48 (!) Merlins Sept. 2–Nov. 4, and 60 Peregrines Aug. 30–Oct. 19 (HWI).

Ptarmigan to Terns

Encouraging was a pair of White-tailed Ptarmigan with four chicks near Jicarita Peak Aug. 3 (ph. JO); four additional adults were also seen nearby (JEP, JO). An impressive 28 Montezuma Quail were in Indian Cr. Canyon, Animas Mts., Oct. 5–13 (TH). Considered late were one—two Virginia Rails in *San Juan* Nov. 27 (TR), as were nine at Zuni Nov. 9 (DC). Well-detailed was an **American Golden-Plover** at B.L.N.W.R., Sept. 27 (JEP, JO); the only Black-bellieds were one—three at La Joya Aug. 11 (WH, JO) and one at B.L.N.W.R., Sept. 6 (JEP, JO). Migrant Mt. Plovers included 150 in 3 flocks at Farley Sept. 4 (GS) and nine near Roy Sept. 5 (GS); other migrants passed through the turf farms at Moriarty Aug. 12–Sept. 20 and Los Lunas Aug. 10–Sept. 20, where there were single day *maxima* of 78 and 48, respectively (v.o.). The Upland Sandpiper migration was judged as poor in the southeast (SW), where high counts amounted to but six—seven at B.L.N.W.R.,



Long-tailed Jaeger at Bitter Lake National Wildlife Refuge, New Mexico, September 6, 1996. This individual was a good example of the pale-headed, white-bellied appearance shown by the palest juveniles of this species. Photograph/Rob Larranga.

Aug. 13–17 (WH, SN), nine at Loving Aug. 18 (SW), and five near Rattlesnake Springs Aug. 25 (DE); westerly were singles at Santa Fe Sept. 13 (CR) and Los Lunas Aug. 10 (DE, BN). Unusual so far west was a Long-billed Curlew at Zuni Sept. 2 (DC); late was one at Ute L., Nov. 22 (JO). Marbled Godwits were reported from the R.G.V. eastward Aug. 4–Sept. 22 (v.o.); highs were five at Maxwell N.W.R. (JO) and 14 at Caballo L. (DE, BN), Aug. 10. Sanderlings were rarely reported were singles at Portales Sept. 26 (JEP, JO) and Tyrone Aug. 22 (EL). Among the few Dunlins was an early one at B.L.N.W.R., Aug. 13 (WH); others included two at Morgan L., Oct. 12 (ph. TR) and five at Bosque N.W.R., Nov. 28 (JEP). Both Pectoral and Stilt sandpipers seemed more prevalent than usual (v.o.); westerly Stilts included four—ten in *San Juan* Aug. 15–Sept. 14 (TR) and two at Zuni Aug. 27 (JAT). Seemingly early for a migrant was a Com. Snipe at B.L.N.W.R., Aug. 13 (WH). High count for Red-necked Phalaropes was 89 at Maxwell N.W.R., Sept. 22 (CR); late was one near Clovis Oct. 26 (SW). Very rare in New Mexico, a **Red Phalarope** was near Clayton Sept. 24 (JEP, ph. JO); single Reds also were at Sumner L., Oct. 7 (R. Dickerman) and Oct. 12 (JO).

Still unverified in New Mexico, a juv. probable **Parasitic Jaeger** was at E.B.L., Sept. 15 (ph. JO); a videotape of this bird is under review. Well-documented was a juv. **Long-tailed Jaeger** at B.L.N.W.R., Aug. 25 (BN, DE, JEP, ph. JO), Aug. 26 (SN), and Sept. 6 (SN, ph. W. Radke, R. Larranaga). An apparent Thayer's Gull was at Bluewater L., Nov. 7–8 (CR, JEP, JO); one—two at Caballo L., Nov. 11 & 27 (ph. JO) provided the only additional report. A first-winter probable **Glaucous Gull** was at

Caballo L., Nov. 29 (JEP). Another good season for Sabine's Gulls found three (including the only adult) at Maxwell N.W.R., Sept. 22 (CR), singles at Santa Rosa L., Sept. 29 (JO) and E.B.L., Sept. 28 (JEP, JO), one at Caballo L., Sept. 23 (JEP, JO) and two there Oct. 4 (JO), and one at Sunland Park Sept. 13 (JNP). The only Caspian Terns were two at E.B.L., Sept. 10 (TH) and one there Sept. 15 (ph. JO), plus two at B.L.N.W.R., Sept. 27 (JEP, JO). One—three Com. Terns were reported at 6 sites from the R.G.V. eastward Sept. 2–28 (v.o.), with the only adult at Sumner L., Sept. 2 (JO). Three Least Terns were feeding at the Dexter Fish Hatchery Aug. 25 (M. Radke); the last Least at B.L.N.W.R. was seen Sept. 7 (JEP, JO).

Pigeons to Swallows

In the Zuni Mts., 106 Band-tailed Pigeons were found gorging on acorns Aug. 29 (JAT). A White-winged Dove wandered to Bingham, e. *Socorro*, Aug. 19 (T. Mitchusson); 24 White-wingeds endured a snow-storm at Silver City Nov. 29 (EL), but most left there shortly afterward. Single Inca Doves were n. in the R.G.V. to Española Nov. 24 (JT, M. MacRoberts) and Alameda Oct. 30 (B. Hurst, *vide* HS). A presumed family group of five N. Pygmy-Owls in Zuni Canyon Aug. 24 included two that sang both one- and two-note songs (JAT). Late was a Com. Nighthawk at Maxwell N.W.R., Sept. 22 (CR), as was a Whip-poor-will at Zuni Aug. 24 (JAT). Six Black Swift nests were active in the Jemez Mts., with fledging occurring from late August—mid-September (HS); a probable Black was feeding with swallows at Grindstone L. near Ruidoso Aug. 21 (DS). A *Chaetura* swift 15 mi s. of Hachita Sept. 2 (JNP) was either Vaux's or Chimney, the former unconfirmed in New Mexico.

A ♂ Blue-throated Hummingbird at P.O. Canyon Nov. 27 (RS) was late; the last Lucifer of the season was seen there Sept. 22 (RS). A probable Anna's was n. to Los Alamos Sept. 12 (PRS); other Anna's were one—two in P.O. Canyon until Nov. 16 (RS) and another elsewhere in the Peloncillo Mts., Sept. 22 (JEP, ph. JO), plus one at Las Cruces Nov. 18–24 (LS). A subad. ♂ possible Costa's Hummingbird was heard and seen at Zuni Aug. 27 (JAT), where there are no previous reports. Lewis' Woodpeckers s. in the R.G.V. were singles at Rio Rancho Sept. 24 (WH), Isleta Oct. 20 (BV), Percha Nov. 9–26 (v.o.), and (for the 2nd consecutive year!) at Sunland Park Oct. 30 and later (BZ). The recently-burned "Dome Fire" area of the Jemez Mts. was dependable for one—two Three-toed Woodpeckers Au-

gust–October (v.o.); one at a small burned area near Sandia Crest Oct. 13 (HS) was noteworthy. Westerly was a Least Flycatcher at Ramon Sept. 12 (JO). Great Crested Flycatchers often go unreported, but this season found one–two at the n. *Roosevelt* trap Sept. 8 (CR), Boone's Draw Sept. 8 (JEP, ph. JO) & 11 (W. West), and Rattlesnake Springs Sept. 13 (JEP, ph. JO) & 14 (BN, DE, CR).

The bird of the season has yet to be positively identified—an unusual flycatcher at Rattlesnake Springs Sept. 2 (ph. JO) & 7 (JEP, SW, ph. JO) that was initially believed to be a Variegated Flycatcher from South America, but may eventually prove to be a juv. Piratic Flycatcher (*vide* J.V. Remsen), a species heretofore unreported n. of Mexico; written details, photos, and videotape of this tropical mystery are under review at L.S.U. and elsewhere. Eastern Kingbirds were widely reported w. to the middle R.G.V.;



Apparent Piratic Flycatcher at Rattlesnake Springs, Eddy County, New Mexico, September 7, 1996. This tropical species had not been identified in North America before, but at least one previous "Variegated Flycatcher" may actually have been a Piratic instead. Photograph/Jerry R. Oldenettel.

late were two at Maxwell N.W.R., Sept. 22 (CR), while unusual was one at Mountainair Aug. 4 (SW). October Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were singles near Elida and Boone's Draw Oct. 6 (BN, DE) and at Jal Oct. 13 (SW). Two Purple Martins were at Bosque N.W.R., Sept. 8 (BZ), where rare. Notably late were two Barn Swallows each at Stubblefield L. (JT) and Santa Rosa (JO) Nov. 3. Cave Swallows enjoyed good productivity at Carlsbad Caverns, where 800 were still present Oct. 20 (SW); a Cave x Barn hybrid was banded there Sept. 7 (SW).

Jays to Thrashers

Corvids on the move included single Blue



Wood Thrush at Zuni, New Mexico, October 7, 1996. Photograph/David J. Cleary.

Jays w. to Albuquerque Oct. 9 (DE) and Socorro Oct. 11 (PB), and Pinyon Jays s. to the Peloncillo Mts., where there were one–two in P.O. Canyon Oct. 7 (RS) and Clanton Canyon Oct. 5 (JO). Clark's Nutcrackers invaded the pinyon-juniper zone of n. and c. mountains, and were especially conspicuous in the Sandias and Manzanos (v.o.); notable were one near Madrid Sept. 11 and two there Sept. 29 (L. Sager). Black-capped Chickadees were found e. to *Union*, with one at Folsom Nov. 23 (JO) and 14 near Clayton Nov. 13 (R. Manglesdorf, *vide* WC). A single Mexican Chickadee persisted in Clanton Canyon to Sept. 21 (JEP, JO). Mountain Chickadees were notably widespread in lowland areas almost statewide, the movement beginning in early September and continuing through the period; Mountains were especially evident on the e. plains (e.g., *Harding*, *Guadalupe*, *DeBaca*, *Roosevelt*) and in the R.G.V. s. to Las Cruces (v.o.). Red-breasted Nuthatches similarly were widespread in submontane areas almost statewide, from Farmington (TR) e. to Clayton (WC, JO) and s. to P.O. Canyon (RS), Deming (SW, JO), Las Cruces (LS, GE, JO), and Carlsbad (SW).

Continuing a trend in the northeast were two Cactus wrens at a new site s. of Conchas L., Oct. 12 (CR). A Carolina Wren singing at Boone's Draw Aug. 23–24 (JEP, JO, BN, DE) provided a rare treat. Single Winter Wrens were at Boone's Draw Oct. 19 (JEP, JO) and in the Gila Valley s. of Cliff Oct. 25 (R. Shook). Late for the north was a Marsh Wren at Clayton L., Nov. 23 (JO). Easterly Golden-crowned Kinglets were singles at Corrumpa Cr., *Union*, Sept. 25 (JEP, JO) and Boone's Draw Sept. 26 (JEP, JO) and Oct. 12 (JO). Lingering Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were singles at Navajo Dam Nov. 1 (TR) and Bosque N.W.R., Nov. 11 (JO). A possible Black-tailed Gnatcatcher was n. to Boone's Draw Sept. 13 (CR), where unknown (and unexpected); two Black-tailed were near Black R. Village Nov. 10 (JO). Six

E. Bluebirds were along *Union's* Corrumpa Cr., Sept. 25 (JEP), where the species is suspected of breeding. Well-detailed were single Wood Thrushes at Zuni Oct. 7–12 (ph. DC) and Roswell Oct. 23 (SB). A fledgling Gray Catbird was being tended by an adult at Zuni Aug. 9–10 (DC); late was an adult at Zuni Nov. 8–9 (ph. DC), while noteworthy was another in the Animas Mts., Oct. 8 (TH). Late for Farmington was a Sage Thrasher Oct. 15 (TR). Brown Thrashers made a strong showing, including three on Corrumpa Cr., Sept. 25 (JEP, JO), two–four at Bosque Redondo L., Sept. 2 & 8 (JO, JEP) (where the species apparently summered), plus singles at n. *Roosevelt* Nov. 9 (JO), Palomas Nov. 9 (GE), and Rattlesnake Springs Nov. 10 (JO).

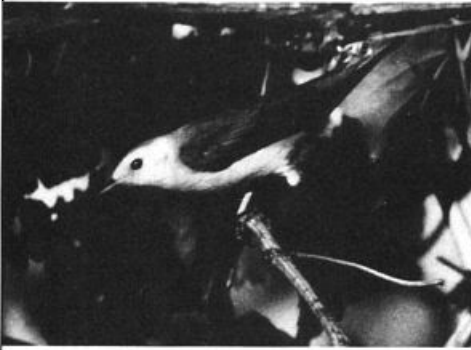
Pipits to Warblers

Two Sprague's Pipits in grasslands near Cloverdale Nov. 28 (JO) provided the only report. Earliest Cedar Waxwings were two at Farmington Aug. 6 (TR) and singles at Zuni Aug. 29 (JAT), Percha Aug. 31 (JEP, JO), and White Sands N.M., Aug. 31 (JO). Last of the summer's northerly Phainopeplas were two at Zuni Aug. 24 (JAT) and one at Placitas Sept. 20 (*vide* HS). The only N. Shrikes were singles at Navajo Dam Nov. 16 (TR), Maxwell N.W.R., Nov. 17 (DE, BN), and Valmora Nov. 24 (JO). A Gray Vireo at Zuni Aug. 27 (JAT) established a local late date. A Yellow-throated Vireo was at Rattlesnake Springs Sept. 7 (JEP, JO, SW). Continuing an easterly trend were single Hutton's Vireos at Percha Aug. 31 (DE) and Sept. 15 & 29 (JNP), and at Dripping Springs Nov. 29 (JO). A probable Philadelphia Vireo was in *Harding* Oct. 12 (CR). Generally a scarce migrant, single Red-eyed Vireos were at L.V.N.W.R., Sept. 7 (CR, PRS, B. Foy) and n. *Roosevelt* Sept. 14 (JEP); three Red-eyes were at Rattlesnake Springs Aug. 14 (DE, BN, CR), where two were present Sept. 13 (JEP, JO).

A probable Lucy's Warbler was e. to Rattlesnake Springs Sept. 8 (CR). Among the rarer warblers were single Chestnut-sideds at Moriarty Sept. 14 (JEP, JO) and n. *Roosevelt* Oct. 19 (JEP, JO); a Magnolia at Moriarty Oct. 4 (CR); single Black-throated Blues at n. *Roosevelt* Sept. 26 (JEP, JO), Boone's Draw Oct. 19 (JEP, JO), Cedar Crest Oct. 21 (JH), and Bosque N.W.R., Nov. 2–3 (RT, CR); two Hermits at Zuni Aug. 27 (JAT) and one at Percha Aug. 31 (DE, BN, CR); a Black-throated Green in n. *Roosevelt* Oct. 19 (JEP, JO, CR) and another found dead near Santa Fe in Oct. (DS); and a Palm in n. *Roosevelt* Oct. 19 (JEP, JO, DE, CR). Deserving special mention were a Cape May Warbler in w. *DeBaca* Sept. 22 (SW) and a Blackburnian Warbler at Rattlesnake

Springs Sept. 14 (DE, BN, CR).

Prothonotary Warblers enjoyed yet another impressive season, with singles at 5 locales: Farmington Sept. 16–20 (ph. TR), L.V.N.W.R., Aug. 25 (JT), one seen by many among the shopping carts and potted plants at an Albuquerque garden center Oct. 31–Nov. 3 (v.o., ph. JO), Percha Oct. 6 (ph. JO) & 20 (E. Wootten), and Rattlesnake Springs Sept. 13 (JEP, JO) & 14 (BN, DE, CR). Far west and certainly a local first was a **Mourning Warbler** at Zuni Aug. 28 (JAT). Unusual among the cactus at Columbus was a Painted Redstart Sept. 2 (JNP).



A surprising five Prothonotary Warblers were found in New Mexico during the fall. This one was in the northwestern corner of the state at Farmington September 20, 1996. Photograph/Tim Reeves.

Grosbeaks to Finches

Very late was a ♀ Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Alameda Nov. 11–23 (J. Phillips, RT). A Dickcissel at Quarai ruins Sept. 7 (HS) furnished a local first. Painted Buntings n. of usual included two each at n. *Roosevelt* and Boone's Draw Sept. 13 (CR) and one at B.L.N.W.R., Aug. 23 (JEP). A just-fledged Botteri's Sparrow begging from an adult in the Animas Valley Aug. 16 (SOW) documented successful breeding there for the 2nd consecutive year. Early and westerly was an Am. Tree Sparrow at Zuni Oct. 27 (DC). Unusual for the southwest were single probable Clay-colored Sparrows at Lordsburg (JO) and in the Animas Valley (JO, JEP) Sept. 21. A surprising four Field Sparrows were at Sumner L., Nov. 16 (DE, BN); one at the n. *Roosevelt* trap Oct. 19 (JO, CR) and Nov. 19 (ph. JO) provided the only additional report. Late was a Sage Sparrow near Farmington Nov. 27 (TR). Efforts to locate **Baird's Sparrows** were successful in grasslands of the Jornada del Muerto e. of San Antonio, with singles there Aug. 25 and Sept. 8 (DB, RM) and three Oct. 25 (DB); another was at Isaack's L., *Doña Ana*, Aug. 28 (RM). Five Grasshopper Sparrows singing near El Sueco, Chihuahua, Aug. 7 (WH) suggested local breeding there. A White-throated Sparrow at Gallegos, *Harding*, Oct. 12 (CR) was early and a



A notable invasion of Lawrence's Goldfinches reached New Mexico this season. The northernmost, only a few miles from the Colorado border, was this male at Bloomfield, San Juan County, October 17, 1996. Photograph/Tim Reeves.

local first. A Golden-crowned Sparrow at Quarai ruins Nov. 23 (HS) provided a local first; one–two Golden-crowns entertained many at Bosque N.W.R., Nov. 10+ (v.o.). Harris' Sparrows arrived in November, with singles at Sumner L., Nov. 9 (JO), near Santa Fe Nov. 12–16 & 28–29 (K. Copeland-Williams, SOW), and Albuquerque Nov. 29 (P. Teare, *fide* HS). Single Lapland Longspurs were s. and w. to Bluewater L., Nov. 7–8 (CR, JEP, JO) and E.B.L., Nov. 14 (CR). The only Bobolink was a migrant near Clayton Sept. 24 (JEP, ph. JO). Lingering Com. Grackles were singles w. to Zuni Oct. 11 & 13 (ph. DC) and Bluewater Village Nov. 7 (CR); 20 were reported at Bloomfield Oct. 17 (TR). Noteworthy for fall was a flock of seven Orchard Orioles at Boone's Draw Aug. 24 (JO, BN, DE); late was a Scott's at Las Cruces Oct. 22 (GE). Cassin's Finches staged a spectacular lowland invasion, with reports from all regions except the extreme southeast, and including birds e. to *Union, Curry*, and *Roosevelt* and s. to the Peloncillo Mts., Las Cruces, San Andres Mts., and Alamogordo (m.ob.). Red Crossbills were conspicuous in both montane and lowland areas, including e. to Clayton, where there were five Nov. 16 (WC) and s. to P.O. Canyon (RS), Deming (JO), Las Cruces (v.o.), Sunland Park (JNP), and Rattlesnake Springs (JO). Pine Siskins moved into lowland areas early, including one at La Joya Aug. 11 (WH) and a high 90 at L.V.N.W.R., Sept. 2 (CR). Evening Grosbeaks joined in the action, with lowland reports beginning in early September and continuing through the period, including in the west from Farmington (TR) and Flora Vista (TR) s. to P.O. Canyon (RS) and Las Cruces (LS, GE), and in the east from Clayton to Boone's Draw. Notably late were two Lesser Goldfinches at Albuquerque Nov. 30

(WH); surprising was a Lesser feeding young at Socorro Nov. 3 (PB). Early Am. Goldfinches were seven at 2 Zuni sites Aug. 3–4 (DC) and one at Charette L., Aug. 17 (JO). Lawrence's Goldfinches, unreported in the state since 1991, staged an impressive invasion—first noted was one in the Peloncillo Mts., Sept. 22 (JEP, JO), followed by three at Silver City Oct. 16–23 (D&M. Zimmerman), one far north at Bloomfield Oct. 17 (TR), about 20 at Caballo Dam Oct. 17 (LS), and about 100 at Oliver Lee S.P., Oct. 26 (GE); Lawrence's remained at Caballo Dam (v.o., ph. JO) and near Alamogordo (v.o.) through November, plus three were at Radium Springs Nov. 29 (ph. JO) and 10–12 were at Las Cruces Nov. 14 (LS).

Exotics

Joining the Mute Swans in the Caballo L. menagerie were two–four Egyptian Geese August–November (v.o., ph. JO), while two Ruddy Shelducks found their way to Holloman L., September–October (GE).

Initialed observers: Pat Basham, Sherry Bixler, Douglas Burkett, David Cleary, Wes Cook, Douglas Emkalns, Gordon Ewing, Hawkwatch International, John Haskell, Toby Hibbitts, William Howe, Eugene Lewis, Raymond Meyer, Sonia Najera, Bruce Neville, John E. Parmeter, James N. Paton, Tim Reeves, Christopher Rustay, Jerry Oldenettel, Gregory Schmitt, Robert Scholes, Lorraine Schulte, Hart Schwarz, Patricia R. Snider, Dale Stahlecker, Joyce Takamine, Ross Teuber, John A. Trochet, Brad Vaughn, Steve West, S.O. Williams, Barry Zimmer.

—*Sartor O. Williams III, New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, P.O. Box 25112, Santa Fe, NM 87504.*