

Three Green-tailed Towhees were still present at Portal 30 Jun (DJ), representing the latest "spring" record for se. Arizona. A Cassin's Sparrow e. of St. Johns 14 Jul (TC) furnished one of the few *Apache* records and was well n. of this species' normal distribution in the state. A pair of Black-chinned Sparrows near Pipe Springs N.M. 2 Jun (B. Thatcher) was north of this species' known distribution in Arizona; there are breeding records for Black-chinneds from nearby Zion N.P. in southwestern Utah. A number of singing Sage Sparrows southwest of Grand Canyon Village (South Rim) 11 Jun (LAM, CW) was well west of this species' previously known breeding range in the state. A very late Lincoln's Sparrow was at Cameron 10 Jun (CL).

Single Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were at Prescott 6 Jun (M. Dunn), near Watson L. 6 Jun (K. Wingert), at French Joe Canyon 8 Jun (S. Healy), and at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson 23 Jun (MS); this species is rare but regular through most of Arizona in June. A male Varied Bunting at Whitlow Dam 8 Jun (J. Bartley) was well n. of its normal breeding range in Arizona, but there have been a few other summer reports from nearby Boyce Thompson Arboretum. Two Painted Buntings were at Kino Springs 29 Jun (JBU); this species seems to be regular in the Nogales area in late July and early August. Multiple calling Eastern Meadowlarks near Truxton, *Mohave*, 31 Jul (S. Ames, PF) provided additional proof that this species is a regular breeder in the northwest portion of the state.

CORRIGENDA

The location of the Arizona (Strickland's) Woodpecker reported from ne. of Carefree, *Maricopa* (*N. Am. Birds* 54:84) should be changed to se. Galiuro Mountains, *Pinal*.

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new mexico



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Summer 2000 was a season of contrasts, with generally dry conditions broken occasionally by intense local storms, while forest and range fires continued to complicate life for birds and birders. Nevertheless, serious work toward documenting breeding birds proceeded on several fronts, and a new species was added to the state list.

Abbreviations: B.L.N.W.R. (Bitter Lake N.W.R.); Bosque (Bosque del Apache N.W.R.); E.B.L. (Elephant Butte Lake); L.V.N.W.R. (Las Vegas N.W.R.); Maxwell (Maxwell N.W.R.); N.R.T. (north Roosevelt migrant trap near Melrose); R.S. (Rattlesnake Springs, *Eddy*); R.G.V. (Rio Grande Valley).

LOONS THROUGH RAPTORS

Always noteworthy in summer, single Common Loons were at Nutria L. 3 Jun (DC) and Bill Evans L. 7 Jul (GE). The Jicarilla Indian Reservation's Stinking (Burford) L. is a vital Eared Grebe nesting locale, but this year the lake was dry and abandoned by grebes and other waterbirds. Elsewhere, up to 250 Eared Grebe nests were at Horse L. 23 Jun (DS), and a second

wave of nesting there had 120 nests 21 Jul (DS); farther east, 20 Eared nests at Maxwell 18 Jun (DC) furnished a new breeding locale. Western Grebes likewise abandoned Stinking L.; a Western nest plus 4 broods at Mundo L. 22 Jun (DS) furnished a local first, and 8 nests were at Horse L. 21 Jul (DS). Clark's Grebes found Stubblefield L. to their liking, with 5 nests there 20–21 Jun (ph. DC) and 20 nests 16 Jul (CR). A Great Egret n. to Springer L. 26 Jun–16 Jul (SOW, JP, CR) provided a local first; 3 were n. in the R.G.V. to La Joya 30 Jul (BV), while 20 provided a Pecos Valley high at B.L.N.W.R. 7 Jul (GW). Seven Snowy Egret nests at Holloman L. (HR) furnished a Tularosa Basin first. Rare but regular herons included single ad. Little Blues near Los Lunas 29 Jun (DS) and at Bosque 10 Jun (JP, JO), and a Tricolored at B.L.N.W.R. 14–25 Jun (JWM, GW). A **Reddish Egret** at B.L.N.W.R. 10–29 Jul (GW, JP, ph. JO) furnished the state's 9th well-documented record. **White Ibises** made news, with 2 adults at B.L.N.W.R. 12 Jun (JBM) and another at L.V.N.W.R. 15–17 Jul (JP et al., vt. JO). White-faced Ibises failed to nest at any of their known breeding locales. Lingering ducks included 5 Ring-neckeds at B.L.N.W.R. (GW) and one at Percha (GE) 2 Jun, a Lesser Scaup at Zuni 8 Jun (DC), and a Bufflehead at Nutria L. 12 Jun (DC). Unusual for *Luna* was a female Common

Merganser consorting with a male Mexican Duck on the lower Mimbres R. 10 Jun (SOW, PM). The breeding population of Ospreys in n. New Mexico increased to 7 pairs; 4 nests successfully produced 8 young, but the other 3 nests failed (DS). Noteworthy were one Osprey at Eagle Nest L. 26 Jun (PL) and 2 at Quemado L. 13 Jul (DS). Mississippi Kites made news in the middle R.G.V., with a nest at Corrales 26 Jun (J. Findley), plus singles at Los Lunas 30 Jul (BV) and Bosque 16 Jun (BV). All 3 Bald Eagle nests in *Colfax* were successful, fledging a total of 5 young June–July (SOW, PM). Often overlooked in summer, Northern Harriers suggestive of local breeding were 2 at B.L.N.W.R. 8 Jun (WH) and singles at Maxwell 2 Jul (JT) and near Ft. Sumner 2 Jun (SOW). Surprising was an ad. **Gray Hawk** in New Mexico's Guadalupe Canyon 25 Jul (WW); even more surprising was a nest with a large nestling just across the Arizona line (WW). Common Black-Hawks expanded their eastern beachhead in the Hondo and Pecos drainages, with a successful nest on the Rio Bonito at Ft. Stanton (N&SC), plus an adult seen downstream beyond Lincoln 30 Jul (JP, JO); at Santa Rosa, 2 adults exchanged prey that was taken to a likely nest 25 Jun (MB). Perhaps a first for the Tularosa Basin was a Harris's Hawk nest s. of Alamogordo (HR). A Zone-tailed Hawk on the Mimbres R., *Luna*, 9 Jun (SOW, PM, P. Russell) furnished a local first. Tantalizing, but unverified, was a report of 2 possible Crested Caracaras s. of Socorro 23 Jun (J. Kretzman).

PTARMIGAN THROUGH TERNS

Helicopter surveys for Bighorn Sheep in the Pecos Wilderness also produced 6 White-tailed Ptarmigan at 3 sites near Jicarita Peak 14 Jul (ER). Montezuma Quail continued in evidence, including 1–3 at Ft. Stanton 5–30 Jul (WW, JP, ph. JO). Virginia Rails summered at Guadalupita, *Mora*, including 5 on 21 Jun (SOW, PM). Late was a Black-bellied Plover heard over Luis Lopez, *Socorro*, 7 Jun (JO). Snowy Plovers had a good season, including first breeding at E.B.L., where present June–July (JP, JO), and with a high of 21 including 2 broods 29 Jul (CR); elsewhere, up to 6 Snowies were at Bosque 10–16 Jun (JP, JO, NV), and successful nesting occurred at Holloman L. (HR); some 250 were at B.L.N.W.R. 2 Jun and 7 Jul (GW). Late was a Semipalmated Plover at Bosque 16 Jun (NV); early was one at Maxwell 16 Jun (CR). Thirty Mountain Plovers were early

at Los Lunas 22 Jul (JP). Mid-summer Willets included 1–3 at E.B.L. 30 Jun–1 Jul (JO, JP, DE, BN) and 6 at B.L.N.W.R. 23 Jun (GW); mid-summer Marbled Godwits included one at Maxwell 26 Jun (PL) and 1–2 at B.L.N.W.R. 20–22 Jun (JWM), plus 7 there 7 Jul (JO). White-rumped Sandpipers were well-represented at B.L.N.W.R., with 50–70 on 3–4 Jun (DE, BN, JO) and 18 there 9 Jun (GW); farther w. were 3 near Pastura, *Guadalupe*, 4 Jun (WH) and one at E.B.L. 10 Jun (JP, JO). Common Snipe summered in *Mora's* wet pastures, with 12 at Guadalupita 21 Jun and 12 Jul (SOW, PM) and 2 near Mora 8 Jul (DS); others winnowing in suitable habitat were 3 at Angel Fire 17 Jun (CR), 2 at Pecos 18 Jun (CR), and one near Canjilon L. 27 Jun (JO). Southbound Wilson's Phalaropes were conspicuous by the fourth week of June, including 20 at Deming 21 Jun (LM) and 227 at B.L.N.W.R. 23 Jun (GW), where there was also a Red-necked 4 Jul (JWM). An ad. **Long-tailed Jaeger** put in an unexpected appearance at Stubblefield L. 26–27 Jun (PL, WW); there are but 7 previous state records. Almost as surprising was a **Laughing Gull** at B.L.N.W.R. 14 Jun (JWM), while the gull of the season was a **Western Gull** in apparent second-summer plumage at E.B.L. 30 Jun–1 Aug (JP, DE, BN, ph. JO), which furnished the state's 3rd credible report. Single ad. Common Terns wandered to B.L.N.W.R. 21 Jun (JWM) and Stubblefield L. 15 Jul (CR). Endangered Least Terns did well at B.L.N.W.R., where 10 pairs had 9 successful nests and fledged 15 chicks (JBM).

PIGEONS THROUGH FLYCATCHERS

Dry conditions may explain the presence of 175 Band-tailed Pigeons on the Mimbres R., *Luna*, 11 Jun (SOW, PM); others below nesting elevations included 2 each at Quarai 9 Jul (NV) and Mangas 7 Jul (GE) and 6 in P.O. Canyon 20 Jul (ER). Apparently now well-established in the east, with reports this season from Ft. Sumner, Roswell, Carlsbad, Lovington, and Eunice (v.o.), the advancing Eurasian Collared-Dove tide was evident in the R.G.V., with one at Luis Lopez 2 Jun–31 Jul (JO et al.) and 2 at Belen 19 Jul (ph. JO); most westerly yet was one at Lordsburg 1 Jul (ph. JO). An Inca Dove was north to nw. Albuquerque 2 Jul (BV). Common Ground-Doves had their best season in decades, with 1–3 birds (often vocal males) at 7 *Grant* and *Hidalgo* sites June–July, including Mangas (GE), Bill Evans L. (DE,

BN), Redrock (JP, JO, WW), middle Animas Valley (SOW, PM), and Guadalupe Canyon (SOW). Yellow-billed Cuckoos were in the e. in the Canadian, Pecos, Hondo, and Rio Grande drainages, including 5 at Bosque Redondo 3 Jun (JP); in the w. were one at Zuni 7–26 Jun (ph. DC), 14 nests plus 2 additional broods along the Gila R. (SS), 2 on the lower Mimbres R. 6 Jul (SOW, PM), and one on Berrenda Cr. 22 Jun (CR). Two Barn Owl nests on Perico Cr., *Union*, each had nestlings 22 Jun (HS). Elf Owls persisted in the se., with one heard in Last Chance Canyon, Guadalupe Mts., 16 Jul (SW, RW). Astounding were 3 possible **Short-eared Owls** in "native bunchgrass prairie" near Clovis 17 Jun (MB); the species is not known to summer in New Mexico. A Boreal Owl was on Canjilon Mt. 14 Jul (J. Taylor), where first documented in 1988. Early was a Black Swift on a Jemez Mts. nest 4 Jul (JP); elsewhere, 3 were foraging over Sargent W.M.A. near Chama 8 Jul (CR). Far e. were 4 White-throated Swifts at the Mosquero breaks, *Harding*, 11 Jun (CR). A female **White-eared Hummingbird** provided a *Catron* first at Mogollon 23–28 Jul (JO, WW, DE). Other hummers of note were singing Violet-crowneds at 3 territories in Guadalupe Canyon 13–15 Jun (SOW), a female Blue-throated at Mogollon 23 Jul (WW), 2–6 Magnificents at Mogollon 2–27 Jul (JP, JO, WW), plus 1–2 on Sapillo Cr., *Grant*, 8 Jun (LM) and 23 Jul (JO), and a late male Broad-tailed e. to N.R.T. 4 Jun (CR). The earliest Calliope was a male at Nogal, *Lincoln*, 9 Jul (JO); the earliest Rufous was a male at Eldorado 25 Jun (BF). Previously unconfirmed in New Mexico, a young male **Allen's Hummingbird** was banded on Sapillo Cr. 28 Jul (J. Day-Martin, ph. F. Bassett; diagnostic retrices retained). Noteworthy woodpecker records included a Red-headed carrying food to a cottonwood cavity on Ute Cr., *Harding*, 11 Jun (CR); Williamson's Sapsucker nesting at Angel Fire 17 Jun (CR); ad. Downies feeding fledglings at Coyote Creek S.P. 7 Jul (DS); and a female Yellow-shafted Flicker at Perico Cr. 22 Jun (HS). Northern Beardless-Tyrannulets persisted in Guadalupe Canyon, where there were 2 territories 14–15 Jun (SOW). Near the n. fringe of the range was a Greater Pewee on South Fork Negrito Cr., *Catron*, 18 Jun (JO). There was both good and bad news for endangered Southwestern Willow Flycatchers: expanded surveys along Coyote Cr. near Guadalupita documented 17 territories (the largest aggregation in n. New Mexico),

including active nests 21 Jun and 12 Jul (SOW, PM); at San Juan Pueblo, the largest site in the upper R.G.V., 16 territories and 8 nests were located June–July (DS); in the Cliff-Gila Valley, however, which harbors the largest population of this taxon rangewide, numbers declined by some 40% (SS, D. Finch). Gray Flycatchers continued to thrive, with reports from 15 locales from *San Juan* and *Taos* s. to *Otero*, including 3 nests in *San Juan* 15–22 Jun (TR) and highs of 5 birds near Ojo Sarco 24 Jun (JP), 13 on Rowe Mesa 18 Jun (CR), and 6 near Piñon 9 Jun (WH); unusual was one at Spring Canyon S.P., Florida Mts., 10 Jun (LM). Summering Dusky Flycatchers were at two new sites in the Zuni Mts. 13 Jun (HS); far s. was one singing in suitable habitat near Cloudcroft 18 Jun (WH). Noteworthy was a Vermilion Flycatcher at Carrizozo 30 Jul (JP); an adult and 2 fledglings were at Percha 2 Jun (GE). A **Great Kiskadee** at R.S. 27–29 Jul (D. Sheppard, JP, JO) furnished New Mexico's 4th well-documented record. South of usual were 4 Eastern Kingbirds at Clovis 17 Jun (MB); early for the se. was one at R.S. 27 Jul (JP, JO). Extralimital Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were 2–3 n. to Gallegos, *Harding* (SOW), and Yeso (JO) 3 Jun, and singles w. to Albuquerque 14 Jun (CR) and Ladder Ranch, *Sierra*, 12 Jun (S. Dobrott).

VIREOS THROUGH PHAINOPEPLA

Have **White-eyes Vireos** followed Carolina Wrens to the middle R.G.V.? Intriguing was one singing near Socorro 5 Jun (HW) and another singing near Escondida 29 Jun (HW), where it sang while another carried nest material 3 Jul (DH); unfortunately, the chosen site was adjacent to a Cooper's Hawk nest, and neither vireo was seen after 7 Jul (DH). Yet another White-eyed was w. to the Gila Valley near Riverside, where recorded 19 & 21 Jun (R. Shook). Peripheral Bell's Vireos were one on the Mimbres R., *Luna*, 6 Jul (SOW, PM), 2 on Berrenda Cr. 22 Jun (CR), and one at San Nicholas Spring, *Doña Ana*, 27 Jul (R. Taylor). Late was a Yellow-throated Vireo at R.S. 4 Jun (SW, RW, ph. JO). Far w. were single Red-eyed Vireos near Bill Evans L. 2 Jul (DE, BN) and Macho Cr. 23 Jun (CR). Purple Martins were in the San Juan, Zuni, Mogollon, Pinos Altos, Magdalena, San Mateo, White, and Sacramento Mts. (v.o.); noteworthy were 2 in Gallinas Canyon, Sangre de Cristo Mts., 25 Jun (CR) and 6 feasting on swarming ants in the San Agustin Plains 2 Jul (HS). Tree Swallows were feeding young at Chama 17–18 Jun

(DE, BN); the extent to which this species breeds in New Mexico is unclear. Far e. was a Violet-green at the Mosquero breaks 11 Jun (CR).

A Bridled Titmouse on the Mimbres R. 11 Jun (SOW, PM) may be a *Luna* first. Brown Creepers are overlooked in summer, so noteworthy were adults with fledglings at Jemez Falls 9 Jul (WH), Sandia Crest 5 Jul (WH), and near Cloudcroft 16–18 Jun (WH); others were near Dulce 3 Jul (DS) and at 3 Manzano Mts. sites 15 Jul (WH). Cactus Wrens continued in evidence n. to *San Miguel* (CR) and *Harding* (SOW); 5 near Pastura 4 Jun (WH) furnished a local first, while at Albuquerque one was entering a nest 4 Jun (NV). One or more **Carolina Wrens** maintained their presence at Socorro June–July (HW) and at R.S. 4 Jun (SW, RW). At Enbom L., *Rio Arriba*, Marsh Wrens were occupying 8 territories 10 Jun, where there were 80(!) nest structures but only one with eggs (DS). A Black-tailed Gnatcatcher was n. to Macho Cr. 23 Jun (CR); another was at R.S. 29 Jul (JP). Up to 3 Veeries were singing at Chama 17 Jun–8 Jul (DE, BN, JO, PL, CR); at least 2 were heard along the Rio Pueblo, *Taos*, 4–24 Jun (WW, BV, JP). Also at Chama were 1–2 vocal Swainson's Thrushes 25 Jun (vt. JO) and 8 Jul (CR). Gray Catbirds again summered in the R.G.V. s. to Radium Springs; specific breeding records included a nest at Socorro that hatched 5 young 22 Jun (HW, ph. Patrick Lehman) and 3 nests at Bosque (HW). A Brown Thrasher visited Las Cruces 2 Jun–10 Jul (GE). Bendire's Thrashers at new locales were one at Quarai 13 Jul (HS) and 2 in the Bear Mts. 7 Jun (HS). A second round of breeding by Eldorado's Curve-billed Thrashers produced 30 nests, of which 26 were successful (DS). Noteworthy was a Crissal Thrasher in Chaunte Canyon, San Mateo Mts., 9 Jun (HS). Unseasonal was an American Pipit at Maxwell N.W.R. 2 Jul (JT). Suggestive of local breeding were up to 16 Cedar Waxwings at Chama and nearby areas 17 Jun–8 Jul (DE, BN, CR); nesting was first confirmed in New Mexico only in 1995. Phainopeplas were widespread and relatively numerous in the s., including 52 on Macho Cr. 10 Jun (GG); 1–2 were n. to Zuni 24 Jul (DC), Reserve 17 Jun (JO) and Placitas 21 Jun (*fide* HS), with successful nesting at Luis Lopez (JO) and Quarai (HS).

WARBLERS THROUGH SPARROWS

A Nashville Warbler at N.R.T. 3 Jun (JP) was late. Noteworthy for *Sierra* were 5

Lucy's Warblers on Berrenda Cr. 9 Jun (GG) and 7 on Macho Cr. 23 Jun (CR); 6 were on the Mimbres R., *Luna*, 10 Jun (SOW, PM). Several eastern strays livened up the season, including a Northern Parula at Albuquerque 3 Jun (WH), a Chestnut-sided in Bluewater Canyon 16 Jun (CR), a Black-and-white at Chaco Wash 6–7 Jun (H. Smith), a Worm-eating at San Marcial 27 Jun (HW), and a **Kentucky Warbler** at Cliff 1 Jun (SS). Among several lingering American Redstarts were 1–2 at Chama 17–25 Jun (DE, BN, vt. JO), Socorro 2 Jun+ (HW), Bosque 2 Jun (HW), and Ft. Stanton 5 Jul (WW). An Ovenbird was singing at El Rito 24 Jun (JO) near where others had summered in recent years; another was at Zuni 24 Jun (DC). There are few recent breeding records for Wilson's Warbler, so noteworthy was one singing at Taos Ski Valley 4 Jun (WW). Painted Redstarts made the eastward (or northward?) leap to the Sacramento Mts., with one at Bonito L. 5 July (WW) and 2 there 30 Jul (A. Gibson-Mathis). Elsewhere in the Sacramentos, Red-faced Warblers established new locales, including along the Rio Peñasco 17 Jun (WH) and near Timberon 8 June (WH). Tanagers pushing the envelope included a Hepatic e. to near Mosquero 11 Jun (CR) and single Summers n. to the Canadian R near Sabinoso 11 Jun (CR) and Cuervo Cr near Variadero 4 Jun (CR).

Dry conditions notwithstanding, Cassin's Sparrows enjoyed a good season in their eastern strongholds, w. to Maxwell, Cimarron, Mountainair, and the middle R.G.V. (v.o.); in the nw., singles were near Cabezon 15 Jun (CR) and at Zuni 18 Jun (DC), while in the sw., 8 were near Antelope Wells 13 Jun (SOW) and a remarkable 147 were in Lake Valley 24 Jun (CR). New Mexico's breeding Botteri's Sparrow population was cut in half when fire followed by grazing rendered half of its Animas Valley habitat unsuitable; 13 territories were documented in remaining habitat 11–12 Jun and 2–5 Jul (SOW, PM). Representing a significant range extension, however, was a male Botteri's in the lower Mimbres Valley 6 Jul (SOW, PM), a *Luna* first. Black-chinned Sparrows continued in evidence in the upper R.G.V., with up to 5 at Orilla Verde 6 Jun–4 Jul (CR) and one on Guadalupe Mt., *Taos*, 6 Jun (KE). Vesper Sparrows summered s. in mountains near Manzano (WH), Mountainair (C. Cook), Corona (HS), White Oaks (SOW), and Piñon (WH), and 4 were near the San Mateo Mts. 21 Jun (N&SC). Lark Buntings were scarce and restricted to the ne., high

June count was 5 at Maxwell 20–21 Jun (DC). Singing Savannah Sparrows in new locales were singles at Valle Grande, Jemez Mts., 9 Jul (WH) and Guadalupita 12 Jul (SOW, PM). Although Grasshopper Sparrows are scarce in shortgrass prairie, a recently fenced area near Abbott attracted 4 singers 21 Jun (HS); 2 n. of Mora 10 Jul (DS) furnished a new locale.

CARDINALS THROUGH FINCHES

Far n. was a Northern Cardinal on the Canadian R. near Sabinoso 11 Jun (CR); in the sw., one was on Berrenda Cr. 9 Jun (GG) and 7 were on Macho Cr. 10 Jun (GG) while breeding was observed for the first time at P.O. Canyon in the n. Peloncillo Mts. (R. Scholes). Pyrrhuloxias pushing n. in the R.G.V. were singles singing near San Antonio 19 Jun (N&SC) and at Caballo Dam 22 Jul (JP). A male Rose-breasted Grosbeak was at Edgewood 26 Jun (B. Evans *vide* HS). Blue Grosbeaks were conspicuous at Petroglyph N.M., including a first nest for the park 25 Jun (NV). Indigo Buntings inundated the s. half of the state and were conspicuous n. to *San Juan, Rio Arriba, Colfax, and Harding* (v.o.). In a reverse action, several Lazuli Buntings nested s. to the Cliff-Gila Valley (SS). A pair of Varied Buntings ventured n. to the Gila Valley near Riverside 24 Jul (WW); in Guadalupe Canyon, where regular, 3 territories were occupied 14–15 Jun (SOW). Noteworthy for the lower R.G.V. were Painted Buntings at 2 sites near Radium Springs (RM). One–five Dickcissels were at Maxwell, L.V.N.W.R., Ft. Sumner, and Clovis June–July (v.o.). Although still overlooked by popular field guides, fair numbers of Eastern Meadowlarks breed in ne. New Mexico, and this season they outnumbered Westerns in some *Union* locales (HS). Far w. was a Common Grackle at Aztec 6 Jun (TR). Bronzed Cowbirds continued their tainted lifestyle across the s. tier of counties and n. in the R.G.V. to E.B.L. (v.o.). Northerly Orchard Orioles were single males at Maxwell 2 Jul (JT), Ft. Sumner 4 Jun (DC), and N.R.T. 3 Jun (JP, JO). Like Texans, Pine Grosbeaks prefer New Mexico ski areas; this season found singing birds at Taos Ski Valley 4 Jun (WW) and Santa Fe Ski Basin 1 Jul (BF). Cassin's Finches were scarce and generally confined to the n. highlands; high count was 9 on Rio de los Pinos 16 Jun (KE). Red Crossbills were found in the Sangre de Cristo, Jemez, Zuni, Sandia, Jicarilla, and Sacramento Mts. (v.o.); high count was 33 near Angel Fire 17 Jun (CR). Late were 4 Pine Siskins at Silver

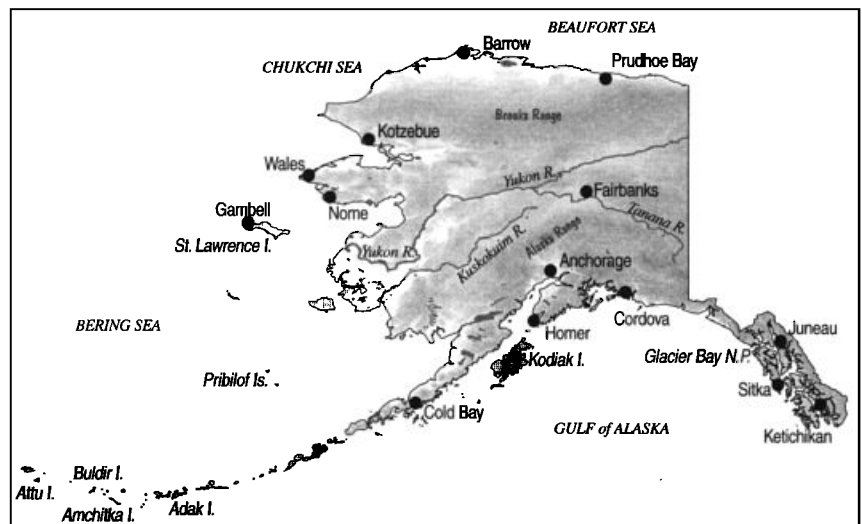
City (D. & M. Zimmerman); noteworthy were adults feeding fledglings at Zuni 3 Jun (ph. DC) and 19 Jul (DC). American Goldfinches were only recently documented breeding in New Mexico; this season found about 12 summering in the Chama area June–July (DE, BN, CR), plus 2 along the Rio de los Pinos 16 Jun (KE) and singles at Orilla Verde 6 Jun (CR) and Gallinas Canyon 25 Jun (CR).

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After a promising warm and dry early season, Summer 2000 faded into a dreary and wet second half. Aside from excellent coverage and subsequent highlights from the Southeast's Mainland river systems, this breeding season was mostly uneventful. Fewer than usual Asiatic records came in, and most significant finds originated from the Southeast and from pelagic forays. Highlights from the season's reports clearly revealed where the Region's pioneering efforts continue to produce

surprises. Each time the larger Southeast river systems are covered, especially between mid-June and July, notable results ensue. Most of these watersheds drain out of British Columbia through the Coast Range and provide continuous but limited deciduous forest cover in an otherwise homogeneous sea of Sitka Spruce/Western Hemlock rainforest. Since the early 1970s most summer-season forays into these riparian habitat "islands" produced interesting birds. A parallel theme holds true for Alaska's southern pelagic realms, where systematic summer coverage also regularly produces new data. Coupled with the standard pelagic access sites, new Alaska ferry routes into deeper waters between Juneau and Seward, and research vessel voyages