

remained at R.V. until 8 Mar (KV). Lark Buntings were at four Utah locations, the high count being of 7 at Hurricane, *Washington* 5 May (RF). Grasshopper Sparrows are seldom reported in the Region, so the 3 at Antelope Island, *Davis*, UT 17 May (KB & JB) were noteworthy. Single White-throated Sparrows at the Carson R. Diversion Dam, *Churchill*, NV 24 Mar (BS) and at Elk Ridge, *Utah*, UT 3 May (DSH) were the only reports. Single Harris's Sparrows were found at Tonopah 23 Mar (JBr) and A.M.N.W.R. 31 Mar–19 Apr (v. o.), and 3 remained at the Jordan River Parkway, *Salt Lake*, UT until 8 May (TS). The season's last Golden-crowned Sparrow was at Washoe S.P., *Washoe*, NV 5 May (NB). Pink-sided Juncos numbered up to 3 at three Nevada locales 1–23 Mar (v. o.), and Slate-colored Juncos were at R.V. until 8 May (KV) and at Tonopah until 23 Mar (JBr).

It was a good spring for Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, with records from four locations each in Nevada and Utah (v. o.). Indigo Buntings, too, were widely noted, with reports from Moab, *Grand*, UT 7 May (DF); Yuba Res., *Millard*, UT 21 May (TS); and five Nevada locales 20 Apr–31 May (v. o.). A female Dickcissel was reported from M.R.S. 27 Apr (JBr). Single Bobolinks were seen at Scipio Res., *Millard*, UT 16 May (KB & JB); Heber, *Wasatch*, UT 27 May (KB & JB); Indian Springs, *Clark*, NV 28 May (MM); and M.R.S. 29 May (JBr). The Tricolored Blackbird Colony in Minden, *Douglas*, NV has apparently declined in recent years, so it was gratifying to find numerous individuals of both sexes at this site 6 May (BC & BeC). A Common Grackle was seen at Deseret Ranch, *Rich*, UT 19 May (MS et al.). A singing male **Orchard Oriole** was at Indian Creek Crossing, *Esmeralda*, NV 19 May (JBr & DT), and a possible female was at M.R.S. the same day (DT et al.). Northerly Hooded Orioles were found at Cedar City, *Iron*, UT 19 Apr (SS); M.R.S. 27 Apr (JBr); and Fallon, *Churchill*, NV 5 May (BH).

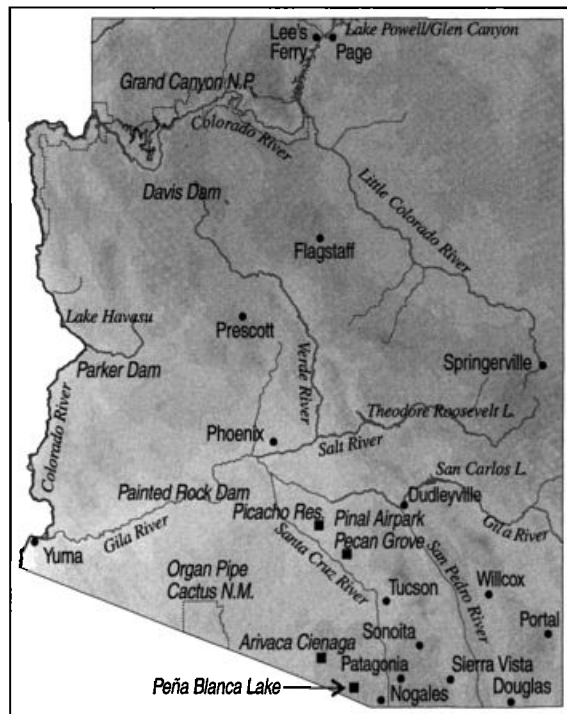
Fifteen Gray-crowned (including 3 Hepburn's race) and 11 Black Rosy-Finches remained at Tonopah until 23 Mar (JBr et al.). A Pine Grosbeak was back at the Ophir Creek Trail, *Washoe*, NV 22 May (TL); the non-summer status of this species in the local area is not known. An unidentified **redpoll** visited a Minden, *Douglas*, NV feeder 8 Mar (WS *vide* MM). There were two reports of **Lawrence's Goldfinch** this spring: a briefly described male seen in the presence of Lesser Goldfinches at Rancho San Rafael Park, *Washoe*, NV 17 Mar (ZS); and an undocumented sighting at Tonopah 22 May (JBr). Migrant Evening Grosbeaks numbered one to 3 at four Nevada locales 14 Apr–31 May (v. o.).

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Arizona



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After an unusually wet winter and a relatively wet spring, Arizona was more lush and green than it had been in several years, particularly in the southeast. Birdlife in the mountains and canyons, as well as the grasslands and desert, certainly appeared more abundant than

after the droughts of the past three winters, and hopefully this will translate into better breeding success. After last winter's major montane invasion around the state, lingering corvids and woodpeckers were detected at odd localities throughout. Very exciting was Arizona's first Glossy Ibis, although it had been expected after recent records from California and New Mexico. Equally exciting, Arizona had its fifth record of Crescent-chested Warbler in Madera Canyon and a likely breeding pair of Rufous-capped Warblers in French Joe Canyon.

Abbreviations: S.P.R.N.C.A. (San Pedro River National Conservation Area); W.W.D. (White

Water Draw); C.S.L. (Cow Springs Lake); N.I.R. (Navajo Indian Reservation); S.W.R.S. (Southwest Research Station); H. R. P. (Hassayampa River Preserve); B.T.A. (Boyce Thompson Arboretum)

LOONS THROUGH MERGANSERS

Still considered casual anywhere in the state in spring, particularly away from the Colorado R., a single Pacific Loon was at L. Pleasant 7 May (J. Beason, K. Noonan). A Common Loon at C.S.L. 23 May (CL) was considered a very late occurrence in the state. Western Grebes were reported with greater frequency than usual this spring throughout the state; 12 seen at W.W.D. 23 May (C. Gresham et al.) was both a very high count and late for se. Arizona. Individual Clark's Grebes were also widely reported, with one at Thatcher 30 Mar (J. Williams), one at Becker L., Springerville 8 Apr (DR, GC), one at W.W.D. 8 Apr (SM), one at Willow L., Prescott 8 Apr (CST), one at Gilbert 16 Apr (SGa), another at W.W.D. 20 May (GB), and one in Maricopa 20 May (M. Baker). Small migrating flocks of American White Pelicans were reported from a variety of locations (e.g. Prescott, Scottsdale) between late Mar and mid-Apr. Neotropical Cormorants are definitely on the increase in s. Arizona, particularly in the Phoenix region, with at least 8 seen along the Salt R. in sw. Phoenix 23 Apr (TC). Elsewhere, numbers continue to fluctuate, with reports coming in from several new areas; while only 5 were reported from usual areas such as Patagonia L. 13 May (GHR), 8 were found at Arivaca L. 17 May (MMS), and one was at a pond in Nogales 20 Apr (MMS, P. Salomon). The status of Double-crested Cormorant in n. Arizona is still not completely known, so 24 at Luna L. 24 Apr (DR, GC), 15 at Pinetop 28 Apr (MMS), one at Show Low 28 Apr (MMS), one at Sunrise L. 28 Apr (MMS), and one at Concho L. 29 Apr (MMS) were all of interest. At least 45 pairs were also noted at Roosevelt L. 11 May (TC).

Single American Bitterns in sw. Phoenix 18 Mar (TC) and Patagonia L. 18 Mar–5 May (MMS et al.) likely wintered locally, while one at Kingfisher Pond, S.P.R.N.C.A. 26 Apr (DK, JWh) was probably a northbound migrant, and provided only a 5th local record. Egrets are rare anywhere in se. Arizona away from breeding areas such as Picacho Res.; therefore 4 Great Egrets at W.W.D. 13 May (AM), 5 there 16 May (GHR), and a single Snowy Egret at Portal 29 Apr (DJ) were all of note. A single Great Egret was out of its normal range at Lee's Ferry 5 May (G. Nealon). Three different Little Blue Herons, a casual spring visitor in s. Arizona, were

reported, one at Kingfisher Pond, S.P.R.N.C.A. 15 May (†J. Havlena), one at W.W.D. 22–26 May (C. Gresham et al.), and the 3rd seen in flight only in sw. Phoenix 27 May (P. Moulton, T. Brodner). Cattle Egrets have a tendency to show up just about anywhere in the state where there is water, but 300 counted along the Salt R. in sw. Phoenix 1 Apr (M. Baker) was an exceptional total. Two in Pasture Canyon near Tuba City 19 May (CL, F. Brandt) added to the growing number of records for the n. portion of the state. Certainly the bird of the season, and at long last, Arizona got its first **Glossy Ibis** record, an ad. found in with White-faced Ibis in Arlington 19–21 May (†, ph. RJ; †MMS; v.t. GHR); in recent years, there have been a number of sightings of this species from California, New Mexico, and w. Texas, and it was thought to be just a matter of time (and in this case effort) before we found one here.

A Black Vulture in with Turkey Vultures along the Salt R. e. of Phoenix 29 May (TC) was at a new location for the species. A **Fulvous Whistling-Duck** reported at Kino Springs 19 Apr (Mark and Sandy Turner et al.) would represent only a 4th record in the last 40 years in se. Arizona. High counts of geese in the south-east included 160 Snow Geese at Willcox 4 Mar (S. Heintl) and 60–100 Ross's Geese there 4–7 Mar (S. Heintl, TC); the Ross's Goose total is easily the highest ever for s. Arizona. Out of place Wood Ducks included a female at Kino Springs 13 May (B. Zimmer, GHR) and a male along the Santa Cruz R., Tucson (M. Hickey). The male Eurasian Wigeon that wintered along Indian Bend Wash in Scottsdale was last seen 11 Mar (*vide* SGa). Two Greater Scaup were at Avra Valley S.T.P. 2 Apr (RH, MMS); this species is casual at best anywhere in s. Arizona, particularly in spring. A possible hybrid scaup x Tufted Duck was at Avra Valley S.T.P. 19 Mar–7 Apr (ph. MMS); there has been only one record of Tufted Duck in the state, a bird that returned several winters to a pond in Mesa. Amazing is a report of a male **Harlequin Duck** from the bottom of the Grand Canyon, first reported in Mar by river rafters (K. Burke, J. Running) and seen again 22 Apr (D. Hall, *vide* J. Coons). Subsequently, the bird has been spotted from the rim in Jun at a distance of nearly a mile (CL). This would represent only a 2nd Arizona record if accepted by the A.B.C. Seemingly large numbers of Red-breasted Mergansers (50 males and 37 females) were present on Roosevelt L. 1–6 Mar (D. Clark, RJ), providing perhaps the largest concentration of this species in the state away from the Colorado R., while 2 were on Becker L., Springerville 5 Mar (TC et al.), 4 were on C.S.L. 30 Mar (CL),

one was on Patagonia L. 23 Mar (A. Core), and one was at Avra Valley S.T.P. 4 May (B. Percival); this species is casual to accidental in spring in se. Arizona.

KITES THROUGH SAPSUCKERS

Individual White-tailed Kites were at Palominas 12 Apr (HB), below Portal 26 Apr (DJ), and near Pearce 24 May (DJ). Scattered Common Black-Hawks (7) were reported during migration around se. Arizona from mid-Mar to mid-May. The Red-shouldered Hawk that was reported from Tuba City during the winter was still present 10 Mar (A. Hahn, CL), while another was reported from Granite Cr., Prescott 10 Mar (CST) and was thought to have wintered locally; this species is still on the A.B.C. review list. A Broad-winged Hawk, also casual in the state during spring, was found in Miller Canyon 23 Apr (†CDB et al.). Zone-tailed Hawks were widely reported during migration from numerous areas away from breeding sites beginning mid-Mar to early May. One near Cameron 20 Apr (CL) provided one of the few reports for the N.I.R., although this species has been found breeding in recent years at the s. rim of the Grand Canyon. Individual Crested Caracaras reported away from known breeding areas included one at Kino Springs 11 Mar (J. McCabe), one near Tucson Mt. Park 1 Apr (N. Miller), and one near Amado 14 Apr (G. West).

A Clapper Rail was picked up injured in Phoenix 26 Apr (*vide* TC), while one was at Picacho Res. 6 May (W. Turner, W. Leitner). Very early was an American Golden-Plover near Phoenix 5 Apr (JoB, SGa); there have been just a handful of previous spring records in the state. Nearly as rare in the state during spring was a Black-bellied Plover coming into breeding plumage at Willcox 20 May (ph. GHR et al.). Both Black-necked Stilts and American Avocets were found nesting at new locations in s. Arizona, and it was generally thought that breeding commenced earlier than usual (by mid-Apr). Relatively large concentrations of Willets were seen at a few locations this spring, with 50 seen n. of Sonoita 26 Apr (B. Percival), 54 seen at Portal 28 Apr (DJ), and 40 seen at Willcox 20 May (GHR, AM et al.). A single Sanderling at Avra Valley S.T.P. 13 May (K. Kertell et al.) was of note, but 12 Sanderlings, many of which were in breeding plumage, were at Willcox 20 May (ph. GHR, AM et al.) was perhaps the largest concentration ever for the spring (or any season). A Stilt Sandpiper at Wahweap 28 Apr (B. & K. Bobowski, *vide* CL) provided one of the few spring reports from the north.

It was an above-average spring for Franklin's Gull passage throughout the state, with nearly 20 reports totaling about 90 individuals 21 Mar–24 May; highest single counts included 23 at Avra Valley S.T.P. 10 May (MMS, GHR) and 14 at Page 24 May (CL, C. Goetze). A count of 23 California Gulls at C S L 23 Mar (CL) was high for spring in n. Arizona. More unusual was the report of 2 Sabine's Gulls at Willcox 21 Apr (†L. Liese et al.), although nearly annual during the early fall, this species is accidental in se. Arizona during the spring. A Caspian Tern at Avra Valley S.T.P. 11 May (MMS) provided the first May record for se. Arizona. Another Caspian was along the Salt R. e. of Phoenix 29 May (R. Dummer). Casual in the southeast in spring, 2 Common Terns were at W.W.D. 5 May (RH, P Wang). Several Forster's Terns were seen this spring at both Willcox and W.W.D. during late Apr and May; this is another species that has been considered only casual during spring. Nine Forster's Terns at Crescent L., White Mts. 13 May (DR) was a strong count for n. Arizona in spring. Least Tern has become virtually annual during the spring; this year one was at Willcox 17–24 May (ph. GHR et al.), and 2 were at W.W.D. 19–26 May (GB, MMS, J. Hirth et al.). Still considered rare or casual in se. Arizona during spring, 6 Black Terns at Willcox 20 May (K. Kertell, GHR, AM) and an incredible 34 at W.W.D. also 20 May (GB, AM) were above-normal counts.

Eurasian Collared-Dove is apparently going through an explosion in Arizona after being reported for the first time just two years ago. This spring we had at least six different reports: one at Roper Lake S.P. 6 Mar (L. Hughes) and 2 there 14 Mar (B. Matheny); one at the Sacaton Rest Area along I-10 21 Mar (A. Averill-Murray); as many as 3 at the Twm Lakes Golf Course in Willcox (all period), one bird at the San Pedro R. Inn in Hereford 1 Apr (SM), with 4 there 24 Apr (W. Kolbe, *fide* DK); one at Pima near Safford 30 Apr (D. Drobka, C. Wilcox); and up to 4 at Palo Verde 21–29 May (TC, JiB). Both White-winged and Inca Doves were seen this spring in the Prescott area, where sightings for both species have increased in recent years. A Common Ground-Dove at B.T.A. 25 Apr (CST) was away from known breeding areas. The only Ruddy Ground-Dove report of the spring was one at B.T.A. 24–30 Mar (CST), a first local record.

Broad-billed Hummingbird was found nesting at B.T.A., as well as along the Gila R. ne of Winkleman, both n. of usual nesting areas in the state (TC). White-eared

Hummingbirds were present at the usual areas in the Huachuca Mts., with at least one at Ramsey Canyon and 2 at Miller Canyon beginning in late Apr (M. Pretti, T. Beatty et al.). A pair of Berylline Hummingbirds was located at Ramsey Canyon beginning 23 Apr (M. Pretti, S. Turner et al.), with the female nesting there during mid-May; this species has been found nesting in Ramsey Canyon at least a few times before. A Magnificent Hummingbird was in W. Fork of Oak Cr. Canyon 20 May (CL); this species is casual in the state away from the southeast. Extralimital Lucifer Hummingbird reports included one in Miller Canyon 2 Apr (T. Beatty) and one in Bisbee 27 May (S. Williamson).

On 6 May, an Elegant Trogon was in French Joe Canyon, where it has not been known to nest (B. Miller), and another male was at Happy Valley Saddle in the Rincon Mts. 18 May (GB, C. Kirkpatrick), providing the first record for that mountain range. An estimated 2–4 pairs of Green Kingfishers were thought to be present along the S.P.R.N.C.A. between Fairbank and the Mexican border (*fide* DK). Lewis's Woodpeckers lingered at a number of s. locations into the spring, with the last report coming from the San Pedro House 7 May (W. Walraven). An Acorn Woodpecker lingered in the lowlands at Tucson until 6 Mar (MMS). The Red-breasted Sapsucker that was found in E. Tucson during the winter was last reported 5 Mar (*fide* MMS).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH PIPITS

Buff-breasted Flycatchers were seen at several areas outside the regular breeding sites high up in the Huachuca Mts.; at least one to 2 were on territory at S.W.R.S. in Cave Cr. Canyon beginning 6 Apr (C. Gresham et al.), one was in lower Carr Canyon 13 Apr (R. Hunt, T. Woods), one was near Helen's Dome, Rincon Mts. 11 May (GB, CK), providing the first report from this mountain range, one was in lower Ramsey Canyon 15 May (M. Pretti), and one was below Bog Springs, Madera Canyon 20 May (MMS, K. Kroesen et al.). Eastern Phoebe usually winter in small numbers in s. Arizona but are seldom seen in spring; therefore, one along Sonoita Cr. near Patagonia 15 Mar (B. Hilsenhoff, *fide* MMS), one in sw. Phoenix 16 Mar (TC et al.), and another along the San Pedro R. near Hwy 90 25 Apr (S. Haskin, B. Prosser) were of note. A Brown-crested Flycatcher at Kino Springs 4 Apr (RP) was about a week earlier than usual for arriving birds. Providing a new nesting record for the Rincon Mts., a pair of Sulphur-bellied Flycatchers was found at Happy Valley

Saddle in this range beginning 18 May (GB), whereas another extralimital Sulphur-bellied was located along Christopher Cr. 22 May (TC), establishing the northernmost record for the state. A nesting Tropical Kingbird at the H.R.P. 20 May (J. Woodley, N. London) was only the 2nd nesting report for *Maricopa*. At least one Tropical Kingbird returned to Kingfisher Pond, S.P.R.N.C.A. by mid-May (DK). Thick-billed Kingbirds were seen at a number of marginal sites including Arivaca, Kino Springs, lower Ramsey Canyon, and lower Carr Canyon; this species is casual to rare anywhere away from Sonoita Cr. and Guadalupe Canyon during spring and summer. The only Eastern Kingbird report of the spring was from n. Arizona, one at Cameron 19 May (F. Brandt, CL). Similarly, the only Scissor-tailed Flycatcher of the spring was one reported from Cottonwood 29 Apr (D. Van Gausig). Reports of both these species have decreased greatly in recent years.

A Yellow-throated Vireo was located at Boquillas Ranch near Fairbank along the S.P.R. 12 May and was joined by a 2nd individual 26 May (A. Brand, J. McCabe, C. Putnam). North of their normal range in Arizona, 2 different Hutton's Vireos were found in the Flagstaff area, with one in Flagstaff 3 May (CL), another in Walnut Canyon 16 May (CL, L. Dickson); this species was not known to breed above the Mogollon Rim. Still casual in se. Arizona, a Red-eyed Vireo was at St. David 6 May (K. Kertell), and another was located in Huachuca Canyon 16 May (DS).

The jay species (Steller's, Western Scrub-, Mexican, and Pinyon), as well as Clark's Nutcracker and American Crow—all of which took part in last fall's major invasion around the state—were found at numerous odd localities this spring. A Brown Creeper at H.R.P. on the late date of 27 May (R. Pearson) was likely a result of greater-than-usual numbers of this species around s. Arizona last winter. Amazingly, the Carolina Wren was still present at Cook's L. 17 Mar (TC et al.); this bird was first found in June 1999. Both Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets were found along Reynold's Cr. in the Sierra Ancha Mts. 12 May (TC), where neither species has been found breeding in the past. A female Black-capped Gnatcatcher was found in Chino Canyon, apparently paired with a Black-tailed, 21 Mar (RH, M. Coker, MMS).

A singing Wood Thrush was present in Cave Cr. Canyon 26–29 May (DJ et al.); there have been about 10 previous reports from se. Arizona. The Rufous-backed Robin that wintered in downtown Phoenix was last reported

13 Mar (*vide* SGA), while another was located at Colossal Cave 18 Mar (CST). The Varied Thrush that was found during the winter above Patagonia L. was still present 20 Mar (B. Pease). Individual Brown Thrashers were at B.T.A. 20 Mar (CST) and at Portal 23 May (DJ). An American Pipit at Avra Valley S.T.P. 14 May (DS) and another at Willcox 20 May (K. Zimmer et al.) were both very late lingerers.

WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES

Very exciting was the discovery of a **Crescent-chested Warbler** near Bog Spring, Madera Canyon 25 May (†MMS, K. Kroesen); the bird was seen again 2 June (B. Massey). If accepted by the A.B.C., this sighting would represent only a 5th Arizona record. Up to 2 Northern Parulas were at the Roadside Rest near Patagonia 26 Apr+ (B. Percival, B. and K. Zimmer). A Grace's Warbler at Rimmy Jim Tank n. of Flagstaff 20 Apr (CL) provided one of the few migrant records of this species away from pines on the N.I.R. Three Black-and-white Warblers, 2 American Redstarts, and at least 3 Northern Waterthrushes were seen this spring in se. Arizona, about normal for a season. A Prothonotary Warbler, casual in the state during spring, was in Portal 10 May (DJ). A Kentucky Warbler, also casual in the state mostly in spring, was in Oak Cr. Canyon 20 May (CL, G. Romig). Another casual but almost regular spring visitor, a Hooded Warbler was in French Joe Canyon 27 May (L. Miller). The long staying **Rufous-capped Warbler** present in French Joe Canyon since last year was joined by an apparent female by 4 May (B. Pickering, B. Miller, m. ob.), and the 2 were seen exhibiting nesting behavior throughout May; there is only one other confirmed nesting record for the state.

This spring, there were a number of confusing reports of Flame-colored Tanagers from several localities. The report from Cave Cr. Canyon 4-6 May (J. Markham, DJ, †C. Gresham) likely involved a pure male, whereas other reports of 2-3 birds in Miller Canyon 28 Apr+ (W. Gross, D. Touret, †MMS et al.) and of up to 2 birds in Carr Canyon 26 May (S. Tripp et al.; ph. T. Vezo) likely involved hybrid birds with Western Tanager, a combination seen more prevalently in Arizona than pure Flame-colored. The A.B.C. encourages all observers of these odd tanagers to study all the features carefully and submit written documentation (and hopefully photographs) so that we can sort out this mess.

At least 3 Black-chinned Sparrows were seen in the Kofa Mts., Yuma 29 Apr (L. Piest,

R. Kerns), with a pair remaining there 29 May (L. Piest); this species has been known to winter in these mountains, but breeding there has not been confirmed. A Harris's Sparrow at Bitter Springs near Lee's Ferry 13 May (B. Russell) was the only sighting of this species this spring and was quite late for the state. On the heels of last winter's invasion of **White-winged Juncos**, another was found in Molino Basin, Catalina Mts. 9-11 Mar (†MMS; ph. GHR), while the individual found in Evergreen Cemetery, Tucson, lingered until at least 6 Mar (MMS). Four of the Lapland Longspurs found on the Salt River Indian Res. during the winter were still present 17 Mar (TC).

It was an above-average spring for Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, with no fewer than 20 individuals seen 12-19 May around the state. The only Bobolink report of the spring was from Page 24 May (CL, C. Goetze). The Common Grackle that was found during the winter at Apache L. was last reported 18 Mar (B. Higgins). Relatively large numbers of Cassin's Finches lingered in s. Arizona at a number of localities during Mar and Apr (m. ob). Similarly, Red Crossbills were present at odd localities, such as at least 20 lingering at Portal into late May (DJ et al.) and 7 frequenting a neighborhood in N. Phoenix 8 Apr (TC). A freshly killed juv. was picked up in Phoenix 9 May (*vide* TC), providing the first potential breeding record for the Greater Phoenix area since 1976. Evening Grosbeak is another species that, on the heels of last fall's montane bird invasion, was found at several lowland areas, with the latest report coming from C.S.L. 23 May (CL).

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WORKSHOPS FOR BIRDERS

Tropical Bird Ecology

with John Kricher
January 7-14, 2002
Chan Chich, Belize

Arctic Breeding Bird Ecology

with Paul Baicich
and Wayne Petersen
June 28-July 5, 2002
Seward Peninsula, Alaska

West Coast Seabirds

with Debi Shearwater
and Peter Pyle
August 3-8, 2002
Central California Coast

Shorebirds

with Wayne Petersen
August 4-11, 2002
Sackville, New Brunswick

Fall Warblers

with Jon Dunn
and Kimball Garrett
August 26-Sept. 1, 2002
Leamington, Ontario

Current Trends in Bird Conservation

with Paul Baicich
and Dave Davis
October 5-11, 2002
Washington, DC

Raptors

with Clay Sutton
October 13-18, 2002
Cape May, New Jersey

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