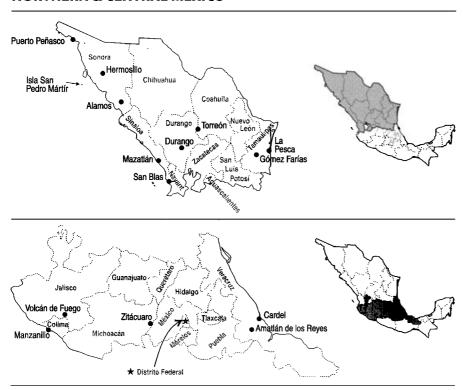
Héctor Gómez de Silva

NORTHERN & CENTRAL MEXICO



At least 8 Thicket Tinamous were heard at Chipinque Park and La Estanzuela Park, both in Monterrey, N.L. in mid-Mar (JG, AH, RD, m.ob.). Groups of 2-4 Fulvous and Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks were seen 13 Apr and again 5 May in a sewage pond on the Nazas R. between Torreón and Gómez Palacio (RLL, FVP). A pair of Mallards and seven pairs of Mexican Ducks were at the Puerto Peñasco, Son. sewage pond 8 Apr (MDC). Two active Turkey Vulture nests were in cliffs on the Río Aros, Son. 12 Apr (NM-C).

A single female Northern Harrier was seen on the Nazas R. near the city of Lerdo, Dgo. 5 Apr, a late date, considering that harriers tend to depart the subregion in Feb (RLL, FVP). A White-tailed Kite was at Almoloya del Río, Méx. 30 Mar (MDC). A single juv. Gray Hawk was recorded in Bosque Venustiano Carranza, an urban park in Torreón 8 Apr, and a Broadwinged Hawk was there 15 Apr (RLL, WB, FVP); the latter species was also noted there also 16 Apr 2003 (FVP). A Common Black-Hawk was at 2500 m elevation near Ejido Ojo de Agua del Cazador, Dgo. 22 Mar (MG, HS, GK). An imm. Solitary Eagle was photographed about 1 km from Alta Cima toward Gómez Farías, Tamps. 14 Mar (RJ), in the same area that furnished the only previous state record about a year before.

A Southern Lapwing was found in the fields just e. of the little pond near the San Blas Suites in San Blas, Nay. in mid-Mar (B&rDS, JM, VA, ph.) but not in Apr or May (MS). This South American species has invaded Central America in the past 10 years, and even though there is one previous record

from Mexico, as well as several from Florida and one from Maryland, this find in n. Mexico was a big surprise. More than 20 Wilson's Phalaropes were seen 13 Apr and 5 May in a sewage pond near Ejido Las Huertas between Torreón and Gómez Palacio (RLL, FVP). An ad. Franklin's Gull in alternate plumage was at the Puerto Peñasco sewage pond, and 2 more were at the golf course on Sandy Beach 8 Apr (MDC).

Seven Eurasian Collared-Doves were seen in Laguna del Rey, Coah. 16 May

(MCS), up to 6 were seen daily around Colonia Mina Bismark, Chih. 1-8 Mar (AM, JM, ph.), and one was in Zuazua, N.L. 15 Apr (JIGP, ph.). Military Macaws arrived a few

weeks earlier than usual at Salto del Agua Llovida, Dgo., with two pairs seen 23 Apr (MAM). Lesser Nighthawks were seen 5 Apr along the Nazas R. near the city of Lerdo Dgo. (RLL, FVP), 26 Apr in Torreón (FVP), and at a sewage pond near Ejido Las Huertas on the Nazas R. 5 May (RLL, FVP).

Four White-throated Swifts were in Cañon del Realito along the Aguanaval R., s. of Torreón 15 May (RLL, FVP). A vocal group of Violaceous Trogons was found near Gómez Farías on the rd. to El Azteca 28 Mar (RJ, ph.) A Gila Woodpecker discovered 8 Mar just n of Colonia Mina Bismark was e. of normal range (AM, JM). A single female Williamson's Sapsucker was seen in Arroyo Las Playas in the w. Sierra Madre of Durango 3 Mar (WB, RLL, FVP, RS, JIS, AGS). Four White-striped Woodcreeper territories were Barbisal de Arriba, Son. in mixed riparian forest with sycamores, palms, oaks, and other trees 14-15 Apr (NM-C, AC, NS, PW, JS, DU ph.).

A Brown-crested flycatcher was recorded at Cañón de Fernández S.P. on the Nazas R. 1 May (RLL, FVP). Three Great Crested Flycatchers encountered 20 May in Xalapa were late migrants (AM). An Eastern Phoebe near Colonia Mina Bismark 3 Mar was w. of normal range (AM, JM). A pair of Black-crowned Tityras was observed nesting at La Florida below Gómez Farías, Tamps. 4 Apr (WC). A Black-capped Vireo was seen in Bosque Venustiano Carranza 8 Apr (WB, FVP), and a Yellowgreen Vireo was at Los Pavos Canyon, Son. 11 Apr (PW, NM-C). A Bell's Vireo was at Laguna Rodeo, Mor. 22 Feb (MDC). A Black-throated Magpie-Jay was seen in Cañon del Realito being mobbed by 2 Northern Mockingbirds 15



tailed Shearwaters, were seen 8-10 kilometers off Puerto Angel, Oaxaca, Mexico on 8 March 2007. This photograph furnishes rare documentation of the species for the state and for the country. *Photograph by Steve N. G. Howell*.

May (FVP); this species is occasionally traded as a cage bird in Torreón, but the theory that it was an escapee has to be proved, as Torreon is 72 km away. A female Prothonotary Warbler struck a window in Monterrey 6 May (JG). A Palm Warbler was found in Presa e. of Tula, Tamps. 8 Mar (JT, EB, KB, MP) A Worm-eating Warbler was seen in Bosque Venustiano Carranza, Torréon 6 May, the first such record in the subregion, and an American Redstart and Northern Waterthrush were there the same day (RLL, WB, FVP); the latter species was also noted in Cañón del Realito on the Aguanaval R. 15 May (RLL, FVP, who also saw one there 1 May 2006).

Up to 4 White-throated Sparrows were seen daily 1-5 Mar near Colonia Mina Bismark, well out of normal range (AM, JM, ph.), and a lone White-throated Sparrow was seen foraging with a Rusty-crowned Ground-Sparrow along the La Petaca rd., Sin. 9 Mar (DM). A Harris's Sparrow discovered 2 Mar near Colonia Mina Bismark was well s. of normal range (AM, JM). Despite intensive searching, only a



This adult Broad-winged Hawk was found at Bosque Venustiano Carranza, Torreón, Coahuila 15 April 2007. Photograph by Francisco Valdés Perezgasga.

single Sierra Madre Sparrow was found at Ejido Ojo de Agua del Cazador 22 Mar (MG, HS, GK). A breeding colony of Montezuma's Oropendolas with 27 nests was noted just w. of El Naranjo, S.L.P. 3 Apr (WC).

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SOUTHERN MEXICO

(MDC), and a Stygian Owl was seen above Filo de Caballo, Gro. 28 Mar (MDC). Four Northern Potoos were above 400 m elevation at km 27 on the Atoyac rd. 24 Mar (MDC). A Common Pauraque was photographed at



Surprisingly, no Singing Quail were heard around Campamento El Triunfo, Chis. in the first week of Mar (MDC). Pied-billed Grebes seen in Apr near La Ventosa were late migrants or possibly residents (AM, JM). Least Grebes continue to show up in the inland lakes in Gro., with more than 10 at Laguna de Tuxpan 29 Mar (MDC). Four Blue-footed Boobies were roosting on a rock off the tip of Punta Diamante, Acapulco, Gro. 23 Mar (MDC). Two A Boat-billed Heron roost was at Botazo Park, La Crucecita, near Huatulco, Oax. 8 Apr (MG, HS, GK). A flock of 22 American White Pelicans soared over 2800 m in the Sierra de Atoyac, Gro. 4 Apr (MG, HS, GK). Eleven, 15, & 16 Brown Pelicans were observed moving northward near La Ventosa 15 Mar, 31 Mar, and 3 May, respectively (AM, JM). Up to 4 Magnificent Frigatebirds were seen almost daily moving northward near La Ventosa late Mar-early May (AM, JM).

A total of 696 Wood Storks was counted migrating northward near La Ventosa late Mar-early May, usually in low numbers but with a high single-day count of 331 (AM, JM). A King Vulture was below Paraíso, Gro. 7 Apr (MG, HS, GK). Two White-tailed Kites were on the flats n. of the Acapulco, Gro. airport 23 Mar, and one was at Almoloya del Río, Mex. 30 Mar (MDC). A Swallow-tailed Kite near La Ventosa 8 Apr was out of normal range (AM). Single Cooper's Hawks were seen above Finca Prusia, Chis. 3 Mar and at Paval, Chis. 8 Mar (MDC). A Barred Forest-Falcon was at 400 m elevation on the Atoyac rd. 24 Mar, and 2 were at 2400 m on that rd. 28 Mar (MDC). Two Collared Plovers were at Presa Tepecoacuilco near Iguala, Gro. 28 Mar (MDC). Four Sandwich Terns were feeding along the shore at Puerto Paredón, Chis. 11 Mar, and 4 were at Playa Paraíso near Atoyac 26 Mar (MDC).

A pair of Mourning Doves discovered nesting near La Ventosa 5 Apr was out of normal breeding range (AM). A Striped Owl was seen near the Tapachula, Chis. airport 10 Mar

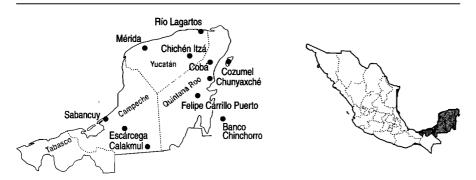
Campo Morado near Acatempan, Gro. 18 May (ORS), an area indicated by a question mark in the range map in Howell and Webb (1995). A Chimney Swift was at La Venta, Oax. 15 Apr (MG, ph.). Up to 3 Beautiful Hummingbirds were present near La Venta 28 Mar–21 Apr (AM, ph.). A Wedge-billed Woodcreeper was in the coffee finca above Paval 9 Mar (MDC).

A White-throated Flycatcher was at Laguna de Tuxpan 29 Mar (MDC). A strong passage of Cedar Waxwings was noted at Finca el Paraíso, Oax. 10 Apr, with more than 1000 birds estimated in half an hour, in flocks of 20 to 100 (MG, HS, GK). A Yellow-green Vireo was early at Paval 9 Mar (MDC). A Blue-headed Vireo was at Taxco El Viejo 30 Mar (MDC), and a Bell's Vireo was at Laguna de Tuxpan 29 Mar (MDC). Up to 85 Mangrove Swallows per day were observed migrating northward near La Ventosa in late Mar and early Apr (AM, JM). A Cave Swallow seen 12 Apr at Rio La Venta was well out of normal range (AM). Several Northern Mockingbirds were singing and defending territories near La Ventosa Apr-mid-May, outside of normal breeding range (AM).

A Chestnut-sided Warbler discovered 9 May near La Venta was well out of normal range (AM), and a Magnolia Warbler was at Laguna de Tuxpan 29 Mar (MDC). A female Cerulean Warbler observed 19 Abr near La Ventosa was well outside of normal range (AM). A Palm Warbler was above 2500 m elevation along the Atoyac rd., Gro. 3 Apr (MG, HS, GK), while a male Hooded Warbler seen 16 Mar near La Ventosa was s. of normal range (JM). A female Brewer's Blackbird was on a golf green on the shore of Presa Tepecoacuilco 28 Mar (MDC). Several Hooded Orioles near La Venta 24 Mar were east of normal wintering range (AM, JM).

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YUCATAN PENINSULA



Although reports were scarce this spring, it is obvious that a migration of warblers and seedeaters entered the central and southern coasts of Quintana Roo 22-24 April, during a period of strong southeasterly winds. We are beginning to understand spring migration routes more clearly; Barn Swallows, for instance, move toward Cuba from Yucatan's north coast, whereas many flycatchers and orioles appear to transit the southern portion of the peninsula, perhaps in order to take an overland route back north or shortening the trip across the Gulf of Mexico.



Another raptor of interest at Bosque Venustiano Carranza, Torreón, Coahuila was this Gray Hawk, photographed 8 April 2007. *Photograph by Francisco Valdés Perezgasga*.

Abbreviations: E.C.P. (Felipe Carrillo Puerto); C.V. (Chanca Veracruz, 8 km s. of E.C.P.); C.Y. (Colonia Yucatán s. of El Cuyo, Yuc.); D.C. (Dzonot Carretero, Yuc); L.O. (Laguna Ocom, 8 km s. of E.C.P.); P.M. (Puerto Morelos); R.L. (Río Lagartos); R.L.B.R. (Ría Lagartos Biosphere Reserve); R.S.S. (Rancho San Salvador); S.A.C. (San Antonio Chel, Hunucma, Yuc.); S.E. (San Felipe, Yuc.); V.C. (Vigía Chico rd., Q. Roo).

DUCKS THROUGH SKIMMER

About 30 Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks, local migrants, were still in a pond behind El Cuyo 3 May (BM), while 300 Fulvous Whistling-Ducks were seen 8 Mar on the Palizada rd. between Jonuta and hwy. 185, with 500 Blue-winged Teal (RH). A Muscovy Duck

was seen at Celestún 30 Apr. Blue-winged Teal lingered into May, with two pairs at a pond near Sacbo, 8 km se. of El Cuyo, and three pairs in a nearby pond 3 May (BM); 3 males were at a pond e. of Dzonot Carretero 9 May (SC, BM). Six pairs of Northern Shovelers were still in the Celestún estuary 30 Apr (MA, AD, BM). A single Red-breasted Merganser, first seen in front of lighthouse at R.L. 10 Mar (IN), was seen again 11 Mar (BS, MS) and is presumed to be the one seen in same area 7 May (BM, DN).

The forest s. of EC.P. still provides good habitat for species such as Great Curassow; a pair was seen perched near the rd. leading to C.V. 18 Mar (AH); on the other side of the hwy., 3 Ocellated Turkeys preened predawn 27 Mar (BM, WS). Records of Yucatan Bobwhite from areas disputed by Yuc. and Camp., but s. of the areas where mapped by Howell & Webb (1995), included 4 at Puchnanchen 15 Apr, 3 at Arroyo Negro 16 Apr, 2 at Cristobal Colón 18 Apr, and 8 at Veinte de Noviembre 19 Apr (MPV). Approximately 1000 American White Pelicans were observed between Celestún and Palmar 23 Apr (MA), and a Black-crowned Night-Heron was at pond near Sacbo 4 May (BM). Thirty Glossy lbis with 45 White-faced Ibis were counted along the Palizada rd. 8 Mar (RH), and a Glossy was at C.Y. 14 Mar (IA, AC, CN, PP, MS, LT). Eight dark ibis were 10 km s. of El Cuyo 3 May, and most likely were Glossy, as 3 were in ponds near Sacbo the same day (BM).

A White-tailed Kite flew over C.V. 21 Mar, and shortly afterwards 6 Swallow-tailed Kites moved over the same village, located w of the savannah zone behind Bahía de Ascención in the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve (AH, WS). A flock of 30 of the latter kites were seen at R.L. 25 Mar (1N), and in the early afternoon 30 Mar a flock of nearly 100 birds was observed flying eastward against a 30-km easterly wind over R.S.S., feeding on dragonflies. At 6:00 p.m., they were in the area of Peten Tucha, R.L.B.R. (1N). A Northern Harrier was seen 8

Mar on the Palizada rd. (RH), while a pair of Crane Hawks was calling in duet to each other, perched in different trees near Sacbo 3 May (BM). A pair of White-tailed Hawks was observed at a nest high up in a tall, leafless tree 2 km s. of S.F. 1 Apr (SC); chicks were observed 6 May (SC, BM, AR, ER). A rare Black-andwhite Hawk-Eagle was seen in the area of Bacalar 22 Mar (BS, MS), while a pair of Ornate Hawk-Eagles was seen and heard calling to each other near their nest at L.O. 16 Mar (BM WS) and in the nest 23 Mar (AH).

An ad. Purple Gallinule in a pond near Sacbo 3 May (BM), and 6 in pond at Dzonot Carretero 6 May (where a juv. was reported last year), could be either residents or migrants (BM, LP). At the latter location on the same date were 2 ad. Common Moorhens with 3 chicks (BM, LP). Three American Coots were still in pond near Sacbo 3 May (BM). Nineteen migrant American Avocets returning northward were at Celestún 19 Apr (AD, BM). A regular but hard-to-find migrant Upland Sandpiper was spotted near



This immature Solitary Eagle was identifiably photographed near Alta Cima, Tamaulipas on 14 March 2007; the species is quite rare in the state. *Photograph by Ricardo Jiménez*.

the estuary at Celestún 22 Apr (FC), and a Whimbrel was in the salt flats at Santa Clara 16 Mar (LT). A transient White-rumped Sandpiper was reported at Celestún along with 8 Pectoral Sandpipers 17-18 May (VM) The wetlands along the Palizada rd. produced 40 Stilt Sandpipers and 100 Longbilled Dowitchers 8 Mar (RH), and 10 other Stilts were at Chabihau 16 Mar (JA, AC, CN, PP, MS, LT). Four Long-billed Dowitchers were identified at Celestún 17-18 May (VM) A single Wilson's Phalarope was sighted at Chabihau 16 Mar (JA, AC, CN, PP, MS, LT), while 6 ad. Forster's Terns were in the Celestún estuary 30 Apr (AD, BM). A Least Tern showed up a month early at El Cuyo on 14 Mar (JA, AC, CN, PP, MS, LT), while 800 Black Skimmers were still in the harbor at Chuburná 31 Mar, where they winter each year in such numbers (BM).

DOVES THROUGH TITYRAS

Four rarely reported Plain-breasted Ground-Doves were found 8 Mar along the Palizada

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rd., exactly where they should be (RH). Six Eurasian/African Collared-Doves were reported in the mangrove at El Cuyo in Apr (LG). Pheasant Cuckoo can be found just about anywhere there are overgrown fields but is rarely seen and therefore not often reported. However, an individual calling in an overgrown pasture was tape-recorded 4 km e. of Dzonot Carretero 6 May (BM). A single Common Nighthawk, a migrant seen in great numbers during fall migration, was flying circles over L.O. area 25 Apr (BM, WS); in the same area 23 Mar, an ad. Northern Potoo was observed during the day in a leafless tree (BM, WS) and photographed on 10 May with a chick (WS).

Approximately 500 Vaux's Swifts circled down into a cave behind the hwy. at Tulum village at dusk 22 Mar (AH, BM, WS). Two female Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were at S.A.C. 13 May, a location that places the bird close to the w. coast of the peninsula, perhaps facilitating a shorter Gulf crossing than during fall migration (BM). A Ringed Kingfisher, a species found scattered around the n. portion of the peninsula where bodies of fresh water exist, was at Cobá 20 Mar (JA, AC, CN, PP, MS, LT). Tawny-winged, Ruddy, Olivaceous, Northern Barred-, and Ivory-billed Woodcreepers were all noted at L.O. 23 Mar (AH, BM, WS). An Olive-sided Flycatcher was first observed in the area of Central Vallarta near the Botanical Garden at P.M. on 29 Oct 2006 and was seen a total of eight times up until 22 Apr (LK). A single Eastern Kingbird flew over Noh Cah, Q. Roo 19 Apr, and 2 were noted along the rd. to V.C. 26 Apr (BM, WS). Another was at Peten Tucha, R.L.B.R. 8 May (SC, BM, ER, AR), and 4 were at S.A.C. 13 May (BM). Three Fork-tailed Flycatchers were observed for two hours, feeding continuously on fig fruits at Nachi Cocom, along the Chetumal-Escarcega rd. 18 Mar (AH, BM). A female Gray-collared Becard was observed while calling to its mate 17 Mar at Calderon near the Belize border (BM). Three Black-crowned Tityras were perched over the rd. to V.C. 21 Mar (AH, BM, WS).

MANAKINS THROUGH WARBLERS

A female White-collared Manakin was heard at Calderon 17 Mar (AH, BM), where its habitat is disappearing rapidly. A Blue-headed Vireo was observed on eight occasions from Nov 2006 through 6 Mar in the Botanical Garden at P.M. (LK). A single Gray-breasted Martin was identified along the rd. from El Cuyo to D.C. 15 Mar (JA, AC, CN, PP, MS, LT). Fifty Tree Swallows were seen making their way back northward along the Palizada rd. 8 Mar (RH). Three Bank Swallows were spotted along the coast between P.M. and Cancún 21 Mar (JA, AC, CN, PP, MS, LT). The spring migration of Barn

Swallow through the pen. was first reported 31 Mar, with 300 flying over Chuburna Harbor in a northeasterly direction (BM); 500 were flying northward 30 Apr over Celestún (AD, BM); and 100 were perched on wires along rd. 12 km s. of El Cuyo at dusk 3 May; all were gone the next morning (BM). A Veery was in forest at L.O. 23 Apr (WS), and a Wood Thrush was seen in the same area 25 Apr (BM, WS).

Cedar Waxwings were in evidence this spring, with 50 observed 3 Mar feeding in a fig tree at S.A.C. (EC, DC). A flock of 30 was feeding in a garden in EC.P. 16 Mar (BM), while 40-45 were near the Celestún bridge 13-14 May,

and 10-20 were in the Celestún park during the same period (VM). The call of the species was heard in the area through 21 May (VM). A Bluewinged Warbler, a bird of special interest in the subregion, was feeding in the forest at L.O. 21 Mar (AH, BM, WS). On 24 Apr, a migration of Yellow Warblers passed along the n. coast of the S.K.B.R., where they were common in the dune vegetation during a strong easterly wind (BM, WS). A late individual was at Sacbo 4 May (BM). Reports of Magnolia Warbler are common, but late migration dates included an in-

dividual at L.O. 23 Apr (BM, WS) and another at Sacbo 3-4 May (BM). A Black-throated Green Warbler was at L.O. 23 Apr (BM, WS), along with a Black-and-white Warbler (WS) and a female of the latter was at Sacbo 4 May (BM). A male American Redstart was among the warbler species at L.O. 23 Apr (BM, WS). A wintering Worm-eating Warbler was feeding in the underbrush at Calderon 17 Mar (BM), and a Kentucky Warbler was reported 6 Mar at Solferino in n. Q. Roo (S.F.).

TANAGERS THROUGH ORIOLES

An ad. Gray-headed Tanager was feeding a fledgling as early as 29 Mar S.K.B.R. (WS), while a rare pair of Crimson-collared Tanagers was spotted briefly in the village of Calderon 18 Mar (AH). A Blue-gray Tanager was reported at C.Y. 14 Mar (JA, AC, CN, PP, MS, LT). Yellow-faced Grassquits, which have spread throughout the general Bacalar area, were seen feeding in grasses around homes in the village of Chacchoben 24 Mar (AH, BM). A single Savannah Sparrow was reported at R.L. 22 Apr (ER). Movement of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks through

the peninsula during spring migration tends to show that they enter the e. coast and move in a west-northwesterly direction, no doubt in seeking a shorter route across the Gulf of Mexico. Between 20 and 30 of the species were scattered throughout the woods at S.A.C. 29 Mar (BM); a female was in the forest on the n. coast of S.K.B.R. 24 Apr (BM, WS); and another was at Sacbo behind El Cuyo 4 May (BM). A male Blue Grosbeak, a species decreasing on the peninsula, was on the V.C. rd. 21 Mar (BM); 4 were at Noh Cah 19 Apr (BM, WS); and another was on the S.K.B.R. n. coast 24 Apr (BM, WS). Six Indigo Buntings were also at Noh Cah

19 Apr (BM, WS), and 30 were seen moving through the coastal scrub on the n. coast of S.K.B.R. 24 Apr (BM, WS). A Dickcissel was also at Noh Cah 19 Apr (BM, WS).

Male Orchard Orioles appear to move through the pen. earlier than females, and those coming from farther s. apparently travel across the s. portion of the pen. in order to exit somewhere along the sw. coast. Twelve were feeding on nectar in flowering shrubs at Calderon 17 Mar (AH, BM); and 14 were feeding nectaring on Lonchocarpus, locally called jabin verde, for two hours

jabin verde, for two hours 18 Mar at Nachi Cocom on the Chetumal-Escarcega hwy. (AH, BM); 2 males were in area of L.O. 20 Mar (BM); one male was singing the same day at Señor, nw. of F.C.P. (AH, BM, WS); 2 males were at C.V. 21 Mar (AH, BM, WS); and 4 were at S.A.C. 29 Mar (BM). A male Baltimore Oriole was at Noh Cah 19 Apr (BM, WS).

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In Tamaulipas, a pair of Violaceous Trogons was found near Gómez Farias, on the road to El Azteca, 28 March 2007 (here). *Photograph by Ricardo Jiménez*.

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