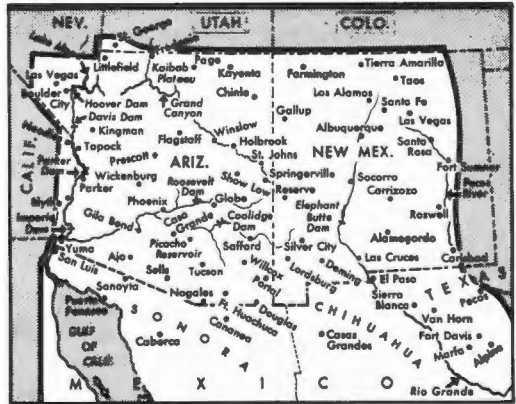


SOUTHWEST REGION

/ Gale Monson

Rains came on Memorial Day and in early June over the southern two-thirds of Arizona and the southwestern half of New Mexico, a month earlier than the summer rainy season almost invariably begins. In most of these areas, precipitation had added up to normal or above



normal amounts by the close of the period. A broad belt across n. New Mexico and Arizona was deficient in moisture and remained in the grip of a lengthy drought, broken only in scattered areas by normal rainfall. As a result, Burford L. on the Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation in n.c. New Mexico, a notable gathering place for birds, was completely dry, and the Animas R. to the west dried in places for the first time in the memory of old-timers. The flow of the Rio Grande at Albuquerque was only 13 per cent of normal!

Ina Road Pond at Tucson, which has yielded numerous good bird records in the past 10 years or so, has been allowed to dry up. It is doubtful that water will be supplied to it in the future.

Food conditions generally were reflected in the amount of rainfall. Desert plants like *simmondsia* and *lycium* produced good crops of fruit, live oaks were plentifully supplied with acorns, and the seed crop of coniferous trees appears to be excellent.

Water bird migration was not up to the usual level of interest, if we discount a remarkable invasion of Brown Pelicans in southern Arizona. Hummingbirds generally were reported in considerably decreased numbers, with scarcely any in the "rare" category found. Nesting results on the part of most bird species were good, particularly in the case of Scaled and Gambel's Quail and Mourning Doves. An unusual number of birds nesting in higher or more northern areas were seen in the lowlands.

LOON, PELICANS, CORMORANTS — A Com. Loon was summering at Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, Nev. June 13 (Rolf Peterson) and June 16 (CL). A White Pelican was observed in Phoenix June 14-16 (BB, RB). The largest invasion on record of imm. **Brown Pelicans** in s. Arizona occurred in July. The first one noted came down at Benson, Cochise Co. July 7 (Geo. Arnold, *vide* SS), followed by 1 at Sells, Pima Co. July 13 (*vide* GMo). On July 16, six were brought to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum from the Tucson vicinity, including 1 from Box Canyon in the Santa Rita Mts. Another was seen flying along the highway n.w. of Tucson July 17 (Jack Reinoehl). Four were reported as coming down in the Phoenix area (*vide* JW). One may well wonder how many came down unreported. No satisfactory explanation for this, or other Brown Pelican flights, has been advanced. Cormorant eggs and young at the upper end of Elephant Butte Reservoir in Sierra Co., N. Mex., mentioned in the preceding report, were found destroyed on June 16 & 17, possibly by a hailstorm; a few Doubled-crests were re-nesting; no Oliveaceous were seen (JH, Chas. Hundertmark).

HERONS, IBIS — A Cattle Egret at Phoenix Aug. 1 (RB, RW) was the only one reported. An ad. and a probable imm. Yellow-crowned Night Heron were found at Bitter L. Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, N. Mex. Aug. 6 (Delbert Boggs *et al.*). Summering Am. Bitterns were noted at Tucumcari, Quay Co., N. Mex. June 13 (JH), at Morgan L., San Juan Co., N. Mex. July 28 (JH), and 2.5 mi. below 6-Mile Dam, Eddy Co., N. Mex. July 31 (SW). A Wood Ibis was seen at Las Vegas Wash, Nev., on L. Mead, July 26 (CL).

WATERFOWL — Five broods of Canada Geese were reared at Bosque del Apache Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, N. Mex. (GZ). Two Snow Geese were at Fenton L., 16 mi. n. of Jemez Springs, Sandoval Co., N. Mex. May 18-June 9, one of them remaining to at least Aug. 15 (MS). Two Fulvous Tree Ducks were at Phoenix, June 14-18 (BB, RB *et al.*). Three Mexican Ducks were identified near Hermanas, Luna Co., N. Mex. about 20 mi. s.w. of Columbus, June 10 (JH). Up to 4 Blue-winged Teal were present in the Las Vegas, Nev. vicinity in June (CL *et al.*); a ♂ was at Tucson until at least July 3 (GMo); and 6 young were seen at Bosque Refuge July 11 (GZ). A ♀ Wood Duck was noted at the Patterson Ranch, on the San Agustin Plains, Catron Co., N. Mex. June 22 (JH). A ♀ Com. Merganser with 10-12 young was found on the San Francisco R. near Frisco Hot Springs, Catron Co. June 9 (JH).

HAWKS — About 10 to 12 Mississippi Kites were present along the San Pedro R. just above Winkelman, Pinal Co., Ariz. in June and July (var. ob.). Two Sharp-

shinned Hawks harassed a Great Horned Owl at Los Ojos (formerly Park View), Rio Arriba Co., N. Mex. July 29 (PS). An early returning Sharp-shinned was at Phoenix Aug. 10 (SD). A Black Hawk was carefully observed along the Rio Ruidoso, about 1 mi. w. of Hondo, Lincoln Co., N. Mex. July 23 (James Henderson *vide* Frances Williams). An Osprey was seen at Saguaro L., Maricopa Co., Ariz. July 22 & 23 (SD). One was observed at L. Avalon, Eddy Co., N. Mex. July 23 (Larry Coalson, SW) and July 24 (K. & S. Elers), and 2 on July 27 (SW). Only two reports of Peregrine Falcons in the Region were received.

RAILS — Three young Va. Rails were found at Las Vegas Wash, July 16 (VM). One ad. was photographed in a n.e. Albuquerque backyard July 16 (JD). A Sora was seen at San Bernardino Ranch, Cochise Co., Ariz. e. of Douglas, July 10 (Walt & Becci Anderson); 1 was at Komatke, Maricopa Co. Aug. 1 (AR); and 1 was found in a Los Alamos, N. Mex. backyard at 7000 ft. after a rain, July 20 (Lorraine Hailshorne, *vide* PS).

SHOREBIRDS — A Semipalmated Plover was at Phoenix, July 23-24 (ZB); 2 were at White Mountain L., Navajo Co., Ariz. July 25 (GMo); and 1 was at Lyman L., Apache Co., Ariz. July 27 (GMo). The first breeding record of **Snowy Plover** in Arizona was obtained at Willcox, Cochise Co. July 3, when 2 ads. and 3 chicks about 7 to 10 days old were found and identified (Jon Dunn, Kim Garrett, Hank Brodtkin); the species had been newly present at the locality since April. A single Mountain Plover was seen near Fence L., Valencia Co., N. Mex. June 22 (JH). A very early returning Com. Snipe was noted at Phoenix Aug. 13 (RW *et al.*). A Knot was found at Las Vegas Wash Aug. 13 (VM). A Sanderling was observed at Phoenix Aug. 6-10 (BB, ZB, SD). Two young Black-necked Stilts were discovered at Bosque Refuge June 29 (GZ). Five to 6 **Red Phalaropes** were found at Las Vegas Wash July 26; an ad. ♂ was collected for the first Nevada specimen (CL). Mid-June Wilson's Phalaropes, all ♀♀, were found as follows: 1 near Hermanas June 10 (JH), 1 at La Cueva, Mora Co., N. Mex. June 11 (WH); and 2 at Tucson June 19 (GMo).

GULLS, TERNS — The gull collected at Las Vegas, Nev. (AB 26:639) thought to be *Glaucous-winged* turned out to be *Larus argentatus thayeri* of the 1957 A.O.U. Check-list (CL). Four Ring-billed Gulls were noted at Picacho Reservoir, Pinal Co., Ariz. June 1 (GMo). Another fed on a dead calf near the Patterson Ranch June 22 (JH). Single Franklin's Gulls were observed at La Cueva, Mora Co. (WH) and at Phoenix (BB), both on June 11. A **Laughing Gull** was identified at Phoenix June 7 (RB), with 2 at the same place next day (RB, BB, SD); it was the second Arizona record. An imm. Bonaparte's Gull was present at Morgan L. July 28 (JH). An ad. ♀ Com. Tern was taken at Las Vegas Wash Aug. 15 for the first Nevada specimen (CL).

DOVES, OWLS — A Ground Dove was seen along the Gila R. 4 mi. s. of Riverside, Grant Co., N. Mex. July 23 (RF, AN). Two Inca Doves were found at Red-rock, Grant Co., N. Mex., Aug. 5 (AN). Several Flammulated Owls were calling June 5 in the Marzano Mts., Torrance Co., N. Mex. (DL). One was netted in

the Pinos Altos Mts., Grant Co. July 2 (JH). A Long-eared Owl was found at Three Rivers, Otero Co., N. Mex. the second week in June (AR). A Saw-whet Owl was calling just before dawn in the Manzano Mts. June 6 (DL).

GOATSUCKERS — A Whip-poor-will called in n.e. Albuquerque June 4 (Laura Lefkowsky). Two Com. Nighthawks on June 9, and 5 on June 10 were with larger numbers of Lesser Nighthawks near Hermanas (JH). Seventeen were observed flying purposefully southward in mid-morning over Pinos Altos, Grant Co. July 1 (JH). Lesser Nighthawks were abundant at Three Rivers the second week in June (AR). Rivers the second week in June (AR).

SWIFT, HUMMINGBIRDS — A Chimney Swift was seen and heard over Las Cruces, N. Mex., May 31 (SW). A ♂ Anna's Hummingbird had already returned to Phoenix, July 19 (JW). One ♂ and 5+ ♀♀ Calliope Hummingbirds were found at Old Ranch, Big Bend Nat'l Park, Texas June 16 (P. A. Buckley). The only "rare" hummingbird reported this summer was a ♂ White-eared at Ramsey Canyon, Huachuca Mts., Ariz. June 19-21 (JP).

GREEN KINGFISHER — A ♀ was found at Hereford, Cochise Co. July 7 (William Ure, *vide* JP); it was seen again the next day (JP, Fletcher Sillick *et al.*), and remained in the vicinity until about Aug. 2. It is the first summer record for Arizona.

WOODPECKERS — A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was lingering at Guadalupe Canyon, Hidalgo Co., N. Mex. June 3 (BM). A Northern Three-toed Woodpecker nest with young was found at 7800 ft. in Guaje Canyon near Los Alamos, N. Mex. June 21 (Marjory Cromer *et al.*), and verified the next day (PS). An ad. was noted in the Pinos Altos Mts. July 15 (RF, AN).

FLYCATCHERS — An E. Kingbird was identified at Hereford, July 16 (RB, PN). Four Tropical Kingbirds were in the Avra Valley, Pima Co., Ariz. June 9 (GMO). The Scissor-tailed Flycatcher that appeared at Gilbert, Maricopa Co. on or about May 2 (see last report) was last seen there July 4 (JW). An E. Phoebe was found near Bernal, San Miguel Co., N. Mex. June 25 (WH). Two ad. and 1 fledgling W. Flycatchers were observed on the Little Colorado R. w. of Eagar, Apache Co., Ariz. July 26 (GMO). One or more Traill's Flycatchers were seen and heard at the Ariz. Hwy. 92 crossing of the San Pedro R., Cochise Co. July 23 (CM, PN, JW, RW) and again Aug. 4 (CM). An early returning Olive-sided Flycatcher was observed at 7000 ft. on the e. side of Mt. Wrightson, Santa Rita Mts., Aug. 1 (GMO).

SWALLOWS, CORVIDS — A ♀ Violet-green Swallow flew in and out of a drill-hole in a man-made cliff on Kitt Peak, Quinlan Mts., Pima Co., Ariz. June 20 (GMO). Four Tree Swallows, including a nesting pair, were found at the n. end of Elephant Butte Res., June 16 (JH). Purple Martins (number?) were seen at Carlsbad, Eddy Co., N. Mex. July 18 (Lena McBee), and a family group of 6 was observed at 9300 ft., w. of Cuba, Sandoval Co., N. Mex. Aug. 4 (Burton Lewis). A pair of White-necked Ravens with 4 young were located 3 mi.

s.w. of Bosque Refuge headquarters June 17 (GZ). Four Com. Crows were seen on the Verde R. near Phoenix, June 7 (SD *et al.*).

MIMIDS, THRUSHES — A Catbird was found at Willow Creek, Mogollon Mts., Catron Co. June 23-26 (JH). Three to 4 pairs were observed near the Rio Grande at Isleta, Bernalillo Co., N. Mex. July 16 (JD, PF). Four to 5 ads. were seen near the Rio Grande n. of Albuquerque, Aug. 12 (Ross Teuber). Brown Thrashers were reported as follows: 2 near Ft. Sumner, De Baca Co., N. Mex. possibly nesting, June 12 (JH); 1 near Fence L. June 22 (JH); and 1 in the Burro Cienega area s.w. of Silver City, Grant Co. Aug. 6 (RF). A late Swainson's Thrush was identified at Apache Creek, Catron Co. June 8 (JH). A Veery was seen and heard singing near 4th of July Canyon, Manzano Mts. June 5 (DL); the song was taped the next day (BM); the bird could not be found again June 27 (BM). Two ♂♂ E. Bluebirds were seen near Pt. Sublime, Grand Canyon Nat'l Park, Ariz. July 31 (MC).

PIPIT, PHAINOPEPLA, VIREO — Unusually late single Water Pipits were found at Centerfire Bog, Catron Co., June 1 (JH) and at Willcox, June 24 (Grace Gregg, Fern Tainter). Several pairs of Phainopeplas were at Three Rivers the second week in June (AR), and 11 were feeding on the berries of an unidentified small tree below Lyman Dam, Apache Co. July 27 (GMO). A Red-eyed Vireo was noted at Kaibab Lodge, Coconino Co., Ariz. about 18 mi. n. of the North Rim of the Grand Canyon July 5-6 (Sam Sinderson, Jr.). Another was seen along the East Rim Drive, Kaibab Nat'l Forest, Coconino Co. Aug. 2 (MC).

WOOD WARBLERS — A ♂ **Golden-winged Warbler** was found with Virginia's Warblers along the Little Colorado R. w. of Eagar July 26 (GMO), for the second Arizona record. Young Orange-crowned Warblers were banded in the Sandia Mts., Bernalillo Co. in July (BM); 1 was observed at Rustler Park, Chiricahua Mts., Ariz. July 3 (GMC); and 1 was noted at Coronado Nat'l Memorial, Huachuca Mts. Aug. 1 (Harold & Rachel Axtell). A Parula Warbler was found at Montezuma, San Miguel Co. June 11-16 (Elmer Schooley, WH). An Audubon's Warbler was lingering in Guadalupe Canyon, N. Mex. June 3 (BM). A ♂ **Yellow-throated Warbler** was identified and photographed at Patagonia, Santa Cruz Co., Ariz. June 2 (BM); it is the second Arizona record, the first one being reported 2 weeks earlier. An unusually early returning Townsend's Warbler was at Strong Spring, Santa Rita Mts. July 30 (SS). Three MacGillivray's Warblers were seen in the Manzano Mts. June 17 (JH). A ♀ Yellowthroat was netted near Hermanas June 10 (JH). A Red-faced Warbler was found along the Little Colorado R. w. of Eagar, July 26 (GMO). A ♀ Am. Redstart was seen at Corn Creek, Desert Nat'l Wildlife Range, Nev. June 10 (VM).

ICTERIDS — E. Meadowlarks were found to be common in new places: along Williamson Valley Rd., Yavapai Co., Ariz., in meadow areas of Fort Apache, Navajo Co., Ariz. and in dry areas of the Acoma Indian Reservation, N. Mex. (AR). Only W. Meadowlarks were found on the Zuni Indian Reservation, N. Mex., in both dry areas and about villages, and in green

meadows at the Acoma villages (AR). Both species were found in dry grassland at Fence L., but more Westerns than Easterns; only Westerns were found to the north and only Easterns to the south (JH). Com. Grackles were at Hayden L., Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation, and at Los Ojos, on or about July 29 (JD, PF). Male Bronzed Cowbirds were seen near Clifton, Greenlee Co., Ariz. July 18, and at Virden, Hidalgo Co., N. Mex. June 29 (JH).

TANAGER, FINCHES, SPARROWS — Summer Tanagers were common in the Inner Canyon of Grand Canyon Park in cottonwoods, Aug. 5-7 (MC). A Pyrrhuloxia was observed at Columbus, Luna Co., N. Mex. June 11 (JH). Indigo Buntings were noted in a number of localities in e. and s.w. New Mexico (JH *et al.*), and a ♂ sang at Farmington, San Juan Co., N. Mex. July 3 (John Baker, AN). A ♂ Lazuli Bunting was at Patagonia July 2 (GMC), and a fledgling was found e. of Tucson Jul 8 (PN). A first New Mexico nest of Varied Bunting was found in Walnut Canyon, Carlsbad Caverns Nat'l Park Aug. 11 (SW); both parties were seen at the nest Aug. 15 (m.ob.). A pair was seen in King Canyon, Tucson Mts., Ariz. June 2, and a ♂ was at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Tucson, July 16 (GMO). A ♂ Painted Bunting was discovered at Hereford, Aug. 10 (Abe Van Noorloos *vide* GMO). A Pine Siskin was in the desert near Hermanas June 10 (JH). A ♀ Lawrence's Goldfinch was found at Arivaca Jct., Pima Co. on the unusual date of July 1 (GMC). Unseasonal Green-tailed Towhees were 1 at Tucson July 4 (T. H. Davis) and 1 in Albuquerque, July 16 and Aug. 15 (Dot De Lollis). A Lark Bunting at Gilbert, Aug. 10 (Valerie Plumlee) was very early for that part of Arizona.

A Rufous-crowned Sparrow was seen near Puerto de Luna, Guadalupe Co., N. Mex. June 13 (JH). The only June record of Cassin's Sparrow obtained w. of the eastern plains in New Mexico by JH was of 2+ singing 15-20 mi. n.e. of Carrizozo, Lincoln Co. At least 1 was already singing in Pima Co., near Sonoita, Ariz. June 21 (GMO). A summering Chestnut-collared Longspur was seen at Willcox July 10 (GMO).

CORRIGENDUM — Under Contributors (*AB* 26:641) the name Harriette Barker should be listed.

INITIALED CONTRIBUTORS — Robt. Bradley, Zona Brighton, Bonnie Burch, Mark Collie, Salome Demaree, John Durrie, Ralph Fisher, Paul Fitzsimmons, Walton Hawk, John Hubbard, Chas. Lawson, David Ligon, (GMC) Guy McCaskie, Barbara McKnight, Chas. McMoran, (GMO) Gale Monson, Vincent Mowbray, Alan Nelson, Phil Norton, Joan Peabody, Amadeo Rea, Patricia Snider, Steve Speich, Marjory Swain, Steve West, Janet Witzeman, Robt. Witzeman, Gary Zahm — **GALE MONSON, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Box 5607, Tucson, Ariz. 85703.**

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