

SOUTHWEST REGION / Gale Monson

The wettest October in Southwest history left more than 6 inches of rain in some localities. Record floods occurred on the upper Gila drainage in w. New Mexico and e. Arizona — the heaviest flows since at least 1917. Many acres of bottomland and many trees were



swept away, and other areas, including wetlands, silted up. Precipitation and temperature were normal in the last half of August and in September. November was much drier than October, and colder, particularly in the northeastern sections of the Region. Snow that fell at higher elevations in October had, for the most part, melted by the end of that month, and the snow cover November 30 was somewhat less than normal.

The October rains fell too late to produce much vegetative growth. Summer rains, however, were sufficient for a good seed crop on most plants. Acorn and pine nut production proved to be spotty Region-wide, but largely poor or lacking throughout Arizona; the same was true of juniper berries and wild grapes.

New water bird attracting spots that also attracted birders were sugar mill disposal ponds near Chandler, Maricopa Co., Ariz., and the international sewage ponds north of Nogales, Ariz. The sewage disposal ponds at Sierra Vista, Cochise Co., Ariz. might also be mentioned in this respect. An encouraging sign is a move on the part of the U. S. Forest Service to eliminate the many private cabins in Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mts., Ariz., certainly one of the premium birding places in the United States. On the other side of the coin is habitat wreckage by road and water pipeline construction to the marvelously diversified Garden Canyon on the n. side of the Huachuca Mts., Ariz., by the U. S. Army, which agency by now has been directly and indirectly responsible for the loss of thousands of acres of unique wildlife habitat in south-eastern Arizona.

Most observers described the season as better than usual for birdwatching, due mainly to a virtually unprecedented season for the appearance of a number of northern species in unusual abundance, especially in the lowlands. These included Lewis' Woodpecker, jays (Steller's, Scrub, and Pinyon), Clark's Nutcracker, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Winter Wren, Varied

Thrush, Bohemian Waxwing, Purple and Cassin's Finches, Evening Grosbeak, and Red Crossbill. On the other hand, sparrows generally seemed to have declined in numbers since last year, Chipping and White-crowned Sparrows especially.

LOON, GREBES — A Com. Loon was at Bitter Lake Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, N. Mex. on the early dates of Sept. 18-23 (DB); 1 was seen near Chandler, Maricopa Co., Ariz. Oct. 16-26 (RB, VP). Eared Grebe numbers were only about 10 per cent of normal at L. Mead, Ariz.-Nev. (CL). Scattered records of 1-3 W. Grebes came from a number of places in s. Arizona and s.w. New Mexico. Other sightings included 6 on Nelson Reservoir, Apache Co., Ariz. Oct. 21 (DD); 24 at L. Farmington, San Juan Co., N. Mex. Nov. 4 (AN); 1 at Bitter Lake Refuge Nov. 17 (DB, JC); at least 8000 were on L. Mead at the close of the period, about the same as last year (CL).

PELICANS, CORMORANT — Ten White Pelicans were on Elephant Butte Reservoir, N. Mex. Aug. 20 (CH, BE); 200 were seen at Bitter Lake Refuge, Oct. 17 (DB, LK); 190 were counted at L. MacMillan, Eddy Co., N. Mex. Nov. 8 (SW); 7 were on Balmorhea L., Reeves Co., Tex. Nov. 25 (SW); and 1 was at Pipe Spring Nat'l Monument, Mohave Co., Ariz. Oct. 28-Nov. 11 (RWI). A Brown Pelican was on Saguaro L., Maricopa Co., Ariz. Aug. 19 (*fide* SD) and 2 were present there Oct. 8 to at least Nov. 15 (SD *et al.*); one that landed a few mi. e. of Silver Bell, Pima Co., Ariz. Sept. 17 was brought to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum at Tucson (*fide* GM); and 2 were seen on Roosevelt L., Ariz. Oct. 14 (BH, RN). Single Double-crested Cormorants were observed on 3 lakes in San Juan Co., N. Mex. between Oct. 21 and Nov. 18 (AN), and 10 were present at Bitter Lake Refuge Nov. 17 (DB).

HERONS — An imm. Little Blue Heron was found at Las Vegas Wash, Nev., on L. Mead Sept. 2 & 24 (VM), and 8 (including 2 ad.) were at Bosque del Apache Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, N. Mex. Oct. 16 (GZ). Cattle Egrets were noted in increased numbers; among the records were 2 on Havasu Nat'l Wildlife Refuge (Ariz. portion) Nov. 22 to at least Nov. 30 (SB, RK); (number?) present on Cibola and Imperial Nat'l Wildlife Refuges, Ariz.-Calif. Nov. 30 (Monte Dodson); 1 at Phoenix Oct. 5 (RB); 1 at Sierra Vista, Cochise Co., Ariz. Nov. 14 (CM); 9 on Bosque Refuge Nov. 13-16 (GZ); 5 on Sept. 8 and 17 on Oct. 5 at Bitter Lake Refuge (DB); and 1 at Balmorhea L. Nov. 25 (SW). A Least Bittern was picked up along a Tucson street Oct. 7 and brought to the Desert Museum (*fide* GM). An Am. Bittern was found at St. David, Cochise Co., Ariz. Sept. 26 (DD).

WATERFOWL — A flock of 34 Canada Geese flew over Saddle Canyon, Kaibab Nat'l Forest, Coconino Co., Ariz. Nov. 23 (LW). Two White-fronted Geese were observed at McAllister L., San Miguel Co., N. Mex. Oct. 22 (WH). The Snow Goose at Fenton L., 16 mi. n. of Jemez Springs, Sandoval Co., N. Mex. mentioned in the previous report disappeared on Sept.

3 (MS). A flock of 16 flew over near Tombstone, Cochise Co., Ariz. Oct. 16 (JP, FS), and about 15 flew over Farmington, San Juan Co., N. Mex. Nov. 1 (AN). Two appeared at Bosque Refuge on the early date of Sept. 16; a peak of 8000 was reached Nov. 9 (GZ). Bitter Lake Refuge's peak of 4500 came on Nov. 30 (LK). As many as 30 Ross' Geese were on Bosque Refuge Nov. 9 (GZ). A Black-bellied Tree Duck was at Chandler Sept. 3-4 (VP, RWi), and 4 remained at Tucson until Nov. 10 (JG, DHa, MR). A Wood Duck was seen at Balmorhea L. Nov. 25 (SW). A Surf Scoter was n.w. of Phoenix Oct. 12-13 (Mary Lee Swartz, RB). Seven to 8 Red-breasted Mergansers were at Bitter Lake Refuge Nov. 10-24 (DB).

VULTURES, HAWKS — An unusually late Turkey Vulture was seen Nov. 11 at Dixon, Rio Arriba Co., N. Mex. (JWh). Four Black Vultures were observed about 3 mi. s. of Fronteras, Sonora, Mex. Nov. 23 (DZ). A Goshawk was identified near San Carlos, San Carlos Indian Reservation, Gila Co., Ariz. Nov. 4 (DZ). An ad. ♂ crashed into a lighted window of the Arizona Biltmore Hotel, Phoenix, at 11 p.m. on Nov. 21 (*fide* DT). One was photographed near Topock, Mohave Co., Ariz. on Havasu Refuge Nov. 29 (SB). An ad. Red-shouldered Hawk was carefully identified at Mormon Farm, near Las Vegas, Nev. Sept. 2 & 25 (CL, VM). Swainson's Hawks were regular through Sept. 10 e. of the Dragoon Mts., Cochise Co., Ariz., but not thereafter (WA). A very tame Zone-tailed Hawk was found in the driveway of a farmyard in Peeples Valley, Yavapai Co., Ariz. Sept. 17 (RJ, AR). Several Rough-legged Hawks were reported: 1 e. of Dragoon Mts. Oct. 22 (WA); 1 near Las Cruces, N. Mex. Oct. 28 (DHi); 1 at Mormon Farm Nov. 4-25 (VM); 1 s. of Farmington Nov. 10 (AN); 1 at La Joya, Socorro Co., N. Mex. Nov. 25 (PS); and 1 between Douglas and Portal, Cochise Co., Ariz. Nov. 25 (WS). A Ferruginous Hawk was found in the Casa Blanca area, Gila Indian Reservation, Pinal Co., Ariz. Sept. 30 (AR). An imm. Gray Hawk at Nogales, Santa Cruz Co., Ariz. Oct. 22 (TP, SSt) was very late.

More Golden Eagle reports than usual were received. Bald Eagles were reported as follows: 1 ad. near Grants, Valencia Co., N. Mex. Sept. 7 (ABS); 4 ad. and 2 imm. at Big L., White Mts., Apache Co., Ariz. Oct. 22 (DD); 1 ad. at L. Mead, near Temple Bar, Ariz. Nov. 26 (Dave Lane); 1 ad. at Clints Well, Coconino Co., Ariz. Nov. 28 (SB); 2 ad. and 1 imm. at Cedar Hill 10 mi. n. of Aztec, San Juan Co., N. Mex. Nov. 30 (AN); and 1 ad. at Honeymoon, Greenlee Co., Ariz. Nov. 30 (SL). An Osprey was observed at Sun City near Phoenix Sept. 20 to at least Oct. 1 (*fide* SD). Reports were received of only 3 Peregrine Falcons. A Pigeon Hawk was at Tule Springs, near Las Vegas, Nev. Sept. 23 (VM). A Sparrow Hawk was trying to catch sparrows at 11:30 p.m. on the lighted parking lot of the Hilton Hotel, Las Vegas, Nev. Oct. 17 (CL).

QUAIL — Numbers were good in most of Arizona, but poor in New Mexico. Young Gambel's Quail only one-third grown were seen at Globe, Gila Co., Ariz.

as late as Oct. 29 (Bob & Charmion McCusick). Harlequin Quail were unusually numerous in their Arizona range, particularly from the Huachuca Mts. west.

SANDHILL CRANE — Thirty were at Willcox Dry L., Cochise Co., Ariz. Oct. 30 (GM), the most reported from Arizona in the period. Seven were seen at Dixon Nov. 5 (JWh); flocks were over Albuquerque Oct. 17-Nov. 10, with the most birds Oct. 22-23 (Pat Basham); a peak of 36,345 were at Bitter Lake Refuge Oct. 19 (LK); a peak of 8500 occurred at Bosque Refuge Nov. 9 (GZ); and about 1000 were seen near Columbus, Luna Co., N. Mex. Nov. 24 (Myra McCormick).

RAILS, GALLINULES — About 75 Va. Rails were counted at Bitter Lake Refuge Nov. 30 (DB). An imm. ♀ Sora flew into a window at Tyrone, Grant Co., N. Mex. Aug. 8 (*fide* DZ). A Purple Gallinule was seen at St. David Aug. 24 (PN). A Com. Gallinule was observed at Quitobaquito, Organ Pipe Cactus Nat'l Monument, Pima Co., Ariz. Nov. 22 (BRL) and Nov. 23-24 (BM).

SHOREBIRDS — Three Semipalmated Plover were reported at Morgan L., San Juan Co., N. Mex. Sept. 16 (AN). An Am. Golden Plover was at Phoenix Oct. 20 (BB). A Black-bellied Plover was found at Morgan L. Oct. 14 (AN). About 1000 Long-billed Curlews were seen Sept. 29, 35 to 40 mi. e. of Roswell, in Chaves Co., N. Mex. (James Sikes). A Solitary Sandpiper was still at Tucson Oct. 1 (SSt). A Willet was seen at Phoenix Oct. 8 (BB). A Knot was at Las Vegas Wash, Nev. on L. Mead Sept. 16 (VM). A **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** was discovered near Chandler by RWi on Oct. 15, and was seen by m. ob. during the next 2 days; it was photographed by RWi. Not only is this the first Arizona record, but it also appears to be the first inland record for North America! A Pectoral Sandpiper was found at Jackson L., San Juan Co., N. Mex. Aug. 26 (AN). Two Stilt Sandpipers were at Willcox, Cochise Co., Ariz. Aug. 29 (GM) and 2 were at Chandler Sept. 2-3 (VP, RWi). Sanderlings were seen as follows: 1 at Phoenix Aug. 6-10 (BB *et al.*); another at Phoenix Aug. 23-25 (Zona Brighton, SD *et al.*); 1 at Morgan L. Sept. 4 (AN); and 1 at Nogales Sept. 16-23 (PN *et al.*). Single Red Phalaropes were at Phoenix Oct. 8 (BB), at Nogales Aug. 26 and Sept. 7 (PN), and at Willcox Aug. 27 (PN).

GULLS, TERNS — A **Glaucous Gull** was found and photographed Nov. 30 at Boulder Beach on L. Mead; identification through photographs has been confirmed by Guy McCaskie and Joseph Jehl of the San Diego Natural History Museum (CL). It is the first record for Nevada. A first-year imm. Western Gull collided with an airplane at Tucson Internat'l Airport Nov. 4 and was brought dead to the Desert Museum (*fide* GM). A California Gull was seen at Chandler Oct. 25 and 2 others were at Phoenix Nov. 2 (RWi). About 30 Ring-billed Gulls landed on the Los Alamos, N. Mex. airport in mid-October (*fide* PS). Four were seen near Alcalde, Rio Arriba Co.,

N. Mex. on Oct. 31 during a snowstorm (JWh). On Nov. 30 about 500 were at Bitter Lake Refuge (LK). A **Mew Gull** was found at Boulder Beach on L. Mead, Nov. 25 (VM), a second Nevada record after last winter's first. Three Franklin's Gulls were at Phoenix Oct. 7 (RN), 1 was at Nogales Oct. 22-23 (TP, SSt *et al.*), and 1 was at Saguaro L. Nov. 15 (SD *et al.*). Among Bonaparte's Gull records were 5 at Chandler Nov. 5 (RN), 10 at Menagers L., Papago Indian Reservation, Pima Co., Ariz. Nov. 10 (TP, SSt), and 3 at Bitter Lake Refuge Nov. 10 (LK). A **Black-legged Kittiwake** was carefully identified at Bosque Refuge Nov. 12 (GZ) for possibly the first and at least the second New Mexico record. Two Forster's Terns were at Phoenix Nov. 21 (BB), a late date. A Com. Tern was observed at Picacho Reservoir, Pinal Co., Ariz. Aug. 16 (RB); PN saw one at Willcox Aug. 27, 2 at Sierra Vista Aug. 24, and one at Nogales Sept. 7; and one was at Bitter Lake Refuge Sept. 19 (LK). Two Caspian Terns were noted at Phoenix Sept. 16 (RN). As many as 59 Black Terns were at Nogales Aug. 26 (PN).

PIGEON, DOVES — A Band-tailed Pigeon was noted near Bosque Refuge headquarters Oct. 4 (GZ). A White-winged Dove was seen on Bosque Refuge Sept. 25 (GZ); 21 were at Patagonia, Santa Cruz Co., Ariz. Oct. 24 (GM); 45 were roosting in Tucson Nov. 17 (TP, JG, Kenn Kaufman); and 2 were at Ft. McDowell Indian Reservation, Maricopa Co., Ariz. Nov. 29 (RJ, JS). A Ground Dove was seen at San Simon Cienega, Hidalgo Co., N. Mex. Aug. 19 (PS), and 1 was found 2 mi. s. of Nogal Canyon, in Sierra Co., N. Mex. along a Bureau of Reclamation channel Oct. 14 (GZ, John Stroebele). A rash of Inca Dove reports came in from places they had not been seen before, or had been seen only once or twice previously: 3 at Needles, San Bernardino Co., Calif. from last June 3 until Nov. 10 (SB, Tony Moskos); 2 at Globe Sept. 13 (BJ); 15 counted at Silver City, Grant Co., N. Mex. Oct. 15 (DZ); 2 at Ft. Bayard, Grant Co., N. Mex. after Oct. 25 (RF); 1+ at Carlsbad, Eddy Co., N. Mex. Sept. 27 (SW); 3 near Las Cruces Nov. 2 (DHi); and 1 at a Farmington feeder after Nov. 14 (Judy Nordstrom).

CUCKOO, ANI, OWLS — A **Black-billed Cuckoo** was carefully observed near Patagonia for a second Arizona sight record (MR). A Groove-billed Ani was reported from Silver City Sept. 28 to at least Oct. 5 (DHu *et al.*), and 1 was seen n. of Aztec, Yuma Co., Ariz. Nov. 18 (RJ, AR). A Flammulated Owl was found injured at Concho, Apache Co., Ariz. Nov. 13 (G. Israel, *fide* DZ); it subsequently became a specimen at Western New Mexico U. Burrowing Owls were regular until Oct. 28 e. of the Dragoon Mts. but were not seen thereafter (WA). One was found dead on the road, and another seen, near Apache, s.e. Cochise Co., Ariz. Nov. 20 (SSp). Two Long-eared Owls were netted on the Jornada Range Reserve, Dona Ana Co., N. Mex. Sept. 28 (DHi); one was seen in the Santan area of the Gila Indian Reservation Oct. 16 (AR); one was at Corn Creek Field Station, Desert Nat'l Wildlife Range, Nev. Oct. 18 (CL); and one was found freshly dead at Komatke, Gila Indian Reservation, Maricopa

Co., Ariz. Nov. 5 (AR). A Saw-whet Owl was discovered at Las Vegas, Nev. Nov. 1 by LH and photographed by CL.

NIGHTJARS — Two or 3 Whip-poor-wills were heard in Red Canyon, Monzano Mts., Torrance Co., N. Mex. Sept. 23-24 (*vide* Jean Ralston). One was still present on Four Peaks, Mazatzal Mts., Gila Co., Ariz. Nov. 4 (RN). A Poor-will was found dead on the road in the Aspen Campground vicinity on East Fork of the Black R. in the White Mts., Apache Co., Ariz. Aug. 26 (LW). A Com. Nighthawk was still at Farmington Oct. 16 (AN). Lesser Nighthawks (26) were still common on the e. fork of Sycamore Canyon, Mazatzal Mts., Maricopa Co., Ariz. Oct. 9 (RN), and 7 were in the Santan area of the Gila Indian Reservation Oct. 28 (AR).

HUMMINGBIRDS — A ♂ Lucifer Hummingbird was at Ramsey Canyon, Huachuca Mts., Ariz. Aug. 28 (JP) to Sept. 12 (FS, W. Meteers). Last dates hummingbirds were seen at Portal, Cochise Co., Ariz. included one Black-chinned to Nov. 19, 2 Anna's to Nov. 27, one Rufous to Nov. 14, and a Rivoli's to Nov. 25 (SSp). A ♂ Costa's Hummingbird has returned to Tucson by Oct. 2 (SL). A ♂ **Anna's Hummingbird** at Silver City Oct. 2-Nov. 7 (DZ) provided the first New Mexico record (photographed). A ♂ first seen at Globe Aug. 27 remained until Nov. 13 (SH). The only Calliope Hummers reported were singles at Las Vegas, N. Mex. Aug. 29 & Sept. 3 (WH). Two Rivoli's Hummingbirds were found at an unusual location, the Jornada Reserve, Sept. 6 (DHi). A Violet-crowned Hummingbird visited the Desert Museum, Tucson, Oct. 22 (GM). A wintering Broad-billed Hummingbird had returned to a feeder in Youngtown, Ariz., near Phoenix, Oct. 15 (*vide* JWi), and a late one was below L. Patagonia, Santa Cruz Co., Ariz. Oct. 28 (TP, DHa, MR). Another was at a Scottsdale feeder throughout August (LD). A hummingbird nest that fledged young Sept. 19 on the Ariz. State U. campus, Tempe, has been tentatively identified as that of Black-chinned Hummingbirds (Roland Shook).

TROGON, KINGFISHER — A pair of Coppery-tailed Trogons fledged young in Ramsey Canyon Sept. 14-15; the last one was seen Sept. 27 (Carroll Peabody). A Green Kingfisher was at Kino Springs, Santa Cruz Co., Ariz. Sept. 23-Nov. 11 (TP *et al.*), and another was below L. Patagonia Oct. 28 (TP, DHa, MR).

WOODPECKERS — An Acorn Woodpecker first seen e. of Las Vegas, Nev. Oct. 23 was photographed and collected Oct. 27 for a fourth Nevada record (CL). One was seen at a Scottsdale feeder Sept. 10 (LD). Another was at Bitter Lake Refuge Nov. 27 (DB). This was the best year ever for Lewis' Woodpeckers in the Las Vegas, Nev. area; as many as 30 were present at Corn Creek Oct. 1 (CL). One was foraging at 11:30 p.m. in the lighted parking lot of the Hilton Hotel in Las Vegas on Oct. 17 (CL). One was seen in the Ajo Mts., Organ Pipe Cactus Monument, Nov. 23 (BRL); one was in Phoenix after Nov. 5 (SD); one was seen at Komatke Sept. 29 (AR); one was observed on Four Peaks, Mazatzal Mts. Oct. 14 (RN); numbers were in Farmington after Aug. 30 (AN); and

2 were seen near Las Cruces Oct. 28 (DHi). Early Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were noted at Farmington Sept. 6 (AN) and at Portal Sept. 17 (SSp). Single Williamson's Sapsuckers were seen in upper Bear Canyon, Santa Catalina Mts., Ariz. Sept. (T.A.S.) and at Patagonia Nov. 11 (JG, DHa, MR). Two were noted in SU Canyon, San Francisco Mts., Catron Co., N. Mex. Sept. 30-Oct. 1 (BM), and a ♀ was at Jackson L. Oct. 20-27 (AN). A Hairy Woodpecker was seen in Boulder City, Nev. Oct. 26 (CL). A Downy Woodpecker was at Bitter Lake Refuge Oct. 4-Nov. 30 (LK).

BECARD, FLYCATCHERS — A ♂ Rose-throated Becard was seen below L. Patagonia on the late date of Oct. 28 (TP, MR, DHa). A W. Kingbird was observed with 2 Cassin's Kingbirds on Oct. 30 near the junction of US Hwy. 666 with Dragoon Rd., Cochise Co., Ariz. (GM). Single Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were seen at Bitter Lake Refuge Sept. 15 (DB), at Bernalillo, Sandoval Co., N. Mex. Sept. 30 (DL *et al.*), and e. of the Dragoon Mts. (photo — WA). An Olivaceous Flycatcher was identified by both sight and call note at Corn Creek Aug. 27 (VM). Single E. Phoebes were found at Menagers L. Nov. 10 (TP, SSt) and at Bosque Refuge Nov. 26 (PS). An E. Wood Pewee was seen, and heard calling a number of times, at Guevavi Ranch on the Santa Cruz R. n. of Nogales Oct. 15 (TP, DHa, MR).

SWALLOWS — A Violet-green Swallow was noted near the s. end of Kansas Settlement Rd., Cochise Co., Ariz. Oct. 30 (GM). A Rough-winged Swallow was at Phoenix Nov. 8 (GM, HRC). Four to 6 pairs of Barn Swallows nested at Grants (ABS). Late records included 1 near Sunnizona, Cochise Co., Ariz. Nov. 1 (GM), 5 at Phoenix Nov. 8 (GM, HRC), and 3 at Menagers L. Nov. 10 (TP, SSt). An estimated 10,000 Cliff Swallows were on Bosque Refuge Aug. 20 (GZ); a late one was at Phoenix Nov. 2 (RWi). Six Purple Martins were at Cave Creek, Maricopa Co., Ariz. Aug. 27 (ER), 2 were seen near Quitobaquito Oct. 14 (TP, MR), and at least 100 were still at Tucson Oct. 17 (GM).

CORVIDS — This was undoubtedly one of the best corvid years on record, especially for Clark's Nutcrackers. A Blue Jay was at a feeder at Roberts L., Grant Co., N. Mex. Nov. 20-22 (Otto Griggs, *vide* RF). Although Steller's Jays were widespread throughout the Upper and Lower Sonoran Life Zones in Arizona, they were not seen in large flocks — generally in ones or twos or in small flocks, often with Mexican Jays. The earliest good lowland record was of 1 at Youngtown, near Phoenix, Sept. 24 (*vide* SD). In much of New Mexico they were more numerous, with several hundred on Bosque Refuge Oct. 4 (GZ). Scrub Jays were in similar numbers, the earliest lowland records being one at Cave Creek Aug. 31 (*vide* ER), and 4 at Phoenix Sept. 2 (RJ). They were everywhere in the Las Vegas, Nev. area after Sept. 16 (CL). About 4 Black-billed Magpies appeared in the Las Vegas, Nev. area, with one at Corn Creek Oct. 18 (CL) and others seen along the shoreline of L. Mead (Geo. Constantino, photo) and at Las Vegas (CL). Two dozen

Com. Ravens were in a flock at 13,000 ft. over the Truchas Peaks area, Sangre de Cristo Mts., Rio Arriba Co., N. Mex. Sept. 4 (Stuart Bryan, Jr.). Nine Com. Crows were observed near Saguaro L. Nov. 15 (SD).

Pinyon Jays were widely distributed, chiefly in large flocks, and weren't seen so far from their "home base" as other corvids. Earliest reports of their dispersal were of birds at Sandia Park, Sandia Mts., N. Mex. Aug. 9 (Myrtle Hilty); a flock of 25 at the Bounds Ranch in the Mimbres Valley, Grant Co., N. Mex. Aug. 24 (RF); 30 in the Pinos Altos Mts., Grant Co., N. Mex. Aug. 27 (RF); and 22 over the Pinaleno Mts., Graham Co., Ariz. Aug. 31 (GM). By Sept. 15 they had been reported over most parts of the Region, except in s.w. Arizona. Flocks of more than 500 were seen in a number of places. In the Las Vegas, Nev. area they appeared Sept. 23, and flocks up to 40 or more were observed until the end of the period (CL *et al.*).

A Clark's Nutcracker was found at Needles as early as Aug. 28 (*fide* RK), one was seen s.e. of Topock Sept. 14 (SB), and 1 was at Bullhead City, Mohave Co., Ariz. Sept. 15 (G. Edwards). In s.e. Arizona the first ones noted were 6 in Ramsey Canyon, Huachuca Mts. Sept. 17 (CM); hundreds were in the Chiricahua Mts. by late October (TP). In New Mexico, they were seen at San Cristobal, Taos Co. Aug. 27 (WH), they were common in the Sandia Mts. Sept. 4 (CH, BE), and at least 6 were on the U. of New Mexico campus, Albuquerque, Nov. 30 (DL). Four, including one collected, were found at Alpine, Brewster Co., Tex. Nov. 11 (SW). One was in Phoenix Oct. 9 (*fide* JW), and another was on the desert n.e. of Yuma, Ariz. Nov. 23 (Allen Guenther, *fide* DT).

CHICKADEE, NUTHATCHES, CREEPER — Two Mountain Chickadees were seen near the confluence of the Salt and Verde Rivers, Ariz. Oct. 11 (Zona Brighton *et al.*), one was noted in willows just below Coolidge Dam, Ariz. Nov. 3 (TP, SSt), and 3 were at Corn Creek Oct. 19 (CL). Two White-breasted Nuthatches were found at Browns Crossing of the Bill Williams R., Yuma and Mohave Cos., Ariz. Oct. 18-19 (RJ, AR), and at least one was heard n. of Aztec, Ariz. Nov. 18 (RJ). Red-breasted Nuthatches were much more numerous than usual in the high mountain country of at least s.e. Arizona. Large numbers were found in extreme s. Nevada, where as many as 21 were seen at Corn Creek Oct. 9, and 23 the same date at Tule Springs, near Las Vegas (CL). One was at Boulder City on Aug. 31 (PL). Three were feeding at 11:30 p.m. in the Hilton Hotel parking lot at Las Vegas Oct. 17 (CL). Two were at the Joseph City Reservoir, Navajo Co., Ariz. Sept. 24 (AR). Another was in mesquites 13 mi. w. of Quijotoa, Papago Indian Reservation, Pima Co., Ariz. Oct. 21 (TP). A Brown Creeper was collected in the Casa Blanca area of the Gila Indian Reservation Sept. 30 (AR).

WRENS — A House Wren fed at 11:30 p.m. in that busy Hilton Hotel parking lot, Las Vegas, Nev. Oct. 17 (CL). Single Winter Wrens were noted in Ramsey Canyon Oct. 4 (JP), at Corn Creek Oct. 19 (VM), at Granite Basin L. near Prescott, Yavapai Co., Ariz. Nov. 6 (AR), at Patagonia Nov. 18 (T.A.S.), and n.

of Aztec, Ariz. Nov. 18 (AR). A Carolina Wren was heard Sept. 3 and seen Nov. 25 at Rattlesnake Springs, Carlsbad Cavern Nat'l Park, N. Mex. (Frances Williams).

MIMIDS — A Mockingbird was still present at Dilia, Guadalupe Co., N. Mex. Nov. 5 (WH). Two Brown Thrashers were at Bitter Lake Refuge Nov. 30 (DB), one was at Carlsbad, Eddy Co., N. Mex. Sept. 26 (SW), one was in Las Vegas, Nev. Oct. 22-Nov. 18 (VM), and one was at Tule Springs near Las Vegas Oct. 23 (VM). About 6 Crissal Thrashers were found during the period e. of the Dragoon Mts. (WA).

THRUSHES — Robins were unusually scarce, virtually absent, in s.e. and c. Arizona. Only one bird was found all season at Globe (BJ). Finally, at the end of the period, a flock of at least 300 arrived at Portal (SSp). In New Mexico, the picture was somewhat different, with large numbers in most of the n. part, including thousands in the Embudo Valley, Rio Arriba Co., especially in October (JWh). An imm. was seen at Elephant Butte Marsh, at the head of Elephant Butte Reservoir, Aug. 19 (CH, BE). Five Varied Thrushes were seen in the Las Vegas, Nev. area, beginning with one at Corn Creek Oct. 18 (CL). Two were taken in Arizona: one at Roll, Yuma Co. on Nov. 19, and one at Komatke on Nov. 26 (both AR). A Swainson's Thrush was observed at Nogales Sept. 23 (TP *et al.*). About 500 Mountain Bluebirds were counted in 15-20 mi. of jeep driving in the Ft. McDowell Reservation Nov. 29 (RJ, JS). An early Townsend's Solitaire was found at Boulder City Aug. 20 (PL).

WAXWING, VIREOS — Two Bohemian Waxwings were seen at Corn Creek Nov. 19, with no large flocks occurring in the Las Vegas area (CL). Nineteen were noted at Farmington Nov. 27-30 (AN). Late or wintering Solitary Vireo singles were seen at Portal Nov. 14 (SSp), in s.w. Phoenix Nov. 19 (RW), and at Bonito Well, Organ Pipe Cactus Monument Nov. 24 (BM). A Red-eyed Vireo was at Dixon Aug. 24 (JWh), 2 were at Tule Springs near Las Vegas, Nev. Aug. 27 (VM), and one was at Los Alamos Sept. 22 (Lorraine Hartshorne).

WOOD WARBLERS — A Black-and-white Warbler was noted at Boulder City Sept. 29 (PL) and at least 2 others were in the Las Vegas, Nev. vicinity later in the period (CL, VW). One was at Bitter Lake Refuge Sept. 29 (LK), and another was found in lower Sabino Canyon, Santa Catalina Mts. Oct. 17 (GM). A Prothonotary Warbler was carefully observed in Albuquerque Oct. 24-25 (Laura Lefkowsky). Single Tennessee Warblers were seen Oct. 9 & 18 at Corn Creek (CL), Oct. 26 at Boulder City (CL), and Sept. 24 in Baker Canyon, Guadalupe Mts., Cochise Co., Ariz. (WA). A Nashville Warbler was at Dixon Aug. 25 & Sept. 15, and a Parula Warbler was noted there Aug. 24 (JWh). A Nashville Warbler below Coolidge Dam Nov. 3 (TP, SSt) and a Lucy's Warbler at Nogales Oct. 28 (TP) were late, as was a Yellow Warbler at Menagers L. Nov. 10 (TP, SSt). An imm. *Magnolia*

Warbler was window-killed at Farmington Oct. 8 (AN); this is apparently a second record for New Mexico. Perhaps 2 Black-throated Blue Warblers were seen at Corn Creek Oct. 1-Nov. 1 (CL, VM); one was also at Tule Springs Oct. 14 (VM). A Black-throated Gray Warbler was noted at Bonito Well, Organ Pipe Cactus Monument Nov. 24 (BM).

About 7 Townsend's Warblers were at Redington, Cochise Co., Ariz. Nov. 3 (TP, SSt), one was at Menagers L. Nov. 10 (TP, SSt), and about 4 were at Komatke Nov. 26 (AR). One was seen near Saguaro L. Nov. 15 (SD *et al.*), one was in Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mts., Ariz. Nov. 21 (Don Hanbury), and one was in Phoenix Nov. 21 (SD *et al.*). A Hermit Warbler was still in the Mazatzal Mts. Oct. 9 (RN), and one below L. Patagonia Oct. 28 (TP, DHa, MR) was exceptionally late. A Blackpoll Warbler was at Quitobaquito Oct. 14 (TP, MR). A N. Waterthrush near Elgin, Santa Cruz Co., Ariz. Nov. 11 (Ron Pulliam) was late. Three Wilson's Warblers were found at Menagers L. Nov. 10 (TP, SSt). A Painted Redstart was found dead at Youngtown, near Phoenix, Sept. 15 (*vide* SD), one was seen in Phoenix Sept. 10 (*vide* BB), and one was at a Scottsdale feeder Sept. 30 (LD).

ICTERIDS, TANAGERS — Two Bobolinks were found at Mormon Farm, near Las Vegas, Nev. Aug. 24 (Bill Conway, CL). More than 6000 Yellow-headed Blackbirds were already at Picacho Reservoir Sept. 20 (GM). At least one Hooded Oriole was in Globe on Nov. 6 (Donnafred Hoff, SH). A Scott's Oriole was seen near Dwyer, Grant Co., N. Mex. Oct. 11 (RF), and one was at a Tombstone feeder Nov. 6, 10 & 11 (DD). A Western Tanager fed in the Hilton Hotel parking lot in Las Vegas, Nev. at 11:30 p.m. on Oct. 17 (CL). A ♂ Scarlet Tanager was found at Quitobaquito Oct. 21 (TP, MR).

FINCHES & SPARROWS — A Cardinal was observed at Pecos, Reeves Co., Tex. Nov. 22 (SW). A ♀ Pyrrhuloxia was found at Portal Nov. 17 (SSp). A ♂ Indigo Bunting was at Bosque Refuge Aug. 20 (PS). At least 2 Lazuli Buntings were at Komatke Oct. 29 (AR). A ♂ Varied Bunting was still at Kino Springs Sept. 27 (GM). A Painted Bunting was collected n. of Rodeo, N. Mex. Aug. 18 (Ron Shunk, *vide* PS), a ♀ was banded on the Jornada Reserve Sept. 19 (DH), and a ♂ was seen at Kino Springs Oct. 2 (SSt). A Dickcissel was window-killed near Cliff, Grant Co., N. Mex. about Sept. 26 (DHu), and 1 was a Tucson feeder Oct. 4 (SL). A flight of Evening Grosbeaks occurred early in the period in the extreme w. part of the Region. Large numbers appeared in the Las Vegas, Nev. and Boulder City area with up to 1500 present after Oct. 2 (CL). Twelve were at Topock after Oct. 1 (SB), and small flocks were seen as far s. as Lake Havasu City, Mohave Co., Ariz. Oct. 12 (PL). A "mini-invasion" occurred at Pipe Spring Monument from before Oct. 25 to the end of the period (RWI). At Youngtown, near Phoenix, 18 were found on Oct. 23 (*vide* SD). In New Mexico, they were first seen at Farmington on Sept. 26, and were common after mid-October (AN). About 40 were seen in Ramsey Canyon Oct. 14 (T.A.S.), and 7 were at Portal on Nov. 30 (SSp).

A small flight of Purple Finches occurred in Arizona and in the Las Vegas area of Nevada, the first record being of 2 at Tule Springs near Las Vegas on Oct. 8 (VM). A ♂ was seen as far s.w. as Quitobaquito Nov. 10 (TP, SSt), and 30 were observed just n. of Pipe Spring Monument Nov. 29 (RWI). Cassin's Finches invaded the lowlands, mostly in limited numbers, with the earliest reports from New Mexico: one in the w. foothills of the Florida Mts., Luna Co. Sept. 30 (DZ), and 6 in SU Canyon, San Francisco Mts. Sept. 29-Oct. 1 (BM). They were found as far s.w. as Tal-wi-wi near Phoenix where 2 were seen (one collected) Nov. 23 (RJ, JS). Two Pine Grosbeaks were identified at Bear Wallow, Santa Catalina Mts. Nov. 6 (Stephen Russell). A ♂ was found freshly dead (not preserved) in the first week of November, after being observed for 2 weeks previously, at Gila Bend Air Base, Maricopa Co., Ariz. (Mr. & Mrs. W. E. Elms, *vide* RJ). A flock of 6 Black Rosy Finches was noted 15 mi. e. of Fredonia, Coconino Co., Ariz. Nov. 24 (RWI).

Pine Siskins came to the lowlands in larger numbers than usual, including 160 at Patagonia Oct. 24 (GM) and 175 at Boulder City Oct. 27 (CL). Scattered reports of Am. Goldfinch included 21 at Corn Creek Oct. 9 (CL) and 12 along the Verde R. e. of Phoenix Nov. 11 (*vide* JWi). Ads. were still feeding young Lesser Goldfinches in the nest at Dixon Oct. 6 (JWh). Two ♂ Lawrence's Goldfinches were photographed at Corn Creek Oct. 1 for the first documented Nevada record (CL); one was there the previous day (Glade Koch); and one was at Tule Springs the same day (VM). They were present in the Tucson to Nogales area after Sept. 23 (TP *et al.*), and one was at Globe Oct. 16 (BJ). Red Crossbills were abundant in the Pinaleno Mts. Aug. 29-Sept. 1 (GM) and could be found from the Transition Zone up in all s. Arizona mountains in October and later. At least 15 were in Phoenix after Nov. 21 (SD *et al.*). An ad. was seen Oct. 14 along the marsh at the n. end of Elephant Butte Reservoir Oct. 14 (GZ). Seven Rufous-sided Towhees at Komatke Oct. 29 (AR) was an unusual number for a deep Lower Sonoran locality. Lark Buntings were widespread, but in much fewer numbers than last year and below normal.

From one to 5 Grasshopper Sparrows were identified Oct. 2-Nov. 1 near Las Vegas, Nev. and at Corn Creek (CL, VM). Two Five-striped Sparrows were still near Patagonia Oct. 22 (TP). Cassin's Sparrows were last heard singing e. of the Dragoon Mts. Sept. 11 (WA). A Sage Sparrow on Aug. 20 at Elephant Butte Reservoir (CH, BE) was an extremely early arrival. Single White-winged Juncos were noted Nov. 15 & 17 at Jemez Springs (MS) and Nov. 19 at Los Alamos (PS). Three Gray-headed Juncos Sept. 23 in the Dragoon Mts. (DD) were unusually early. A Mexican Junco was found in Kellner Canyon just s. of Globe at 3800 ft. on Nov. 10 (BJ). A Tree Sparrow was observed at Corn Creek Oct. 18 (CL). Single Clay-colored Sparrows were seen at Tule Springs near Las Vegas Aug. 27 (VM) and at Corn Creek Oct. 9 and Nov. 1 (CL) for the first Nevada records. About 200 were on Bitter Lake Refuge Oct. 4 (LK). Seven were banded on the Jornada Reserve on Sept. 15 & 21, and 4 about

7 mi. e. of Las Cruces Nov. 28 (BHi). A Black-chinned Sparrow was found near Elgin Oct. 1 (SSt), and one was in mesquites 13 mi. w. of Quijotoa, Papago Reservation, Oct. 21 (TP, MR). At least one Harris' Sparrow was at Corn Creek after Nov. 1 (CL, VM), one was taken at Sun City, near Phoenix, Nov. 4 (C. Douglas, RJ), and 3 were at Pipe Spring Monument Nov. 30 (RWI). A Golden-crowned Sparrow was seen at Corn Creek Oct. 19 (VM). White-throated Sparrows were at Silver City Oct. 20-23 and Nov. 11 (DZ), at Phoenix Nov. 24 (RB), and in n.w. Phoenix Nov. 30 (SD, Helen Longstreth). A Fox Sparrow was found in the Mazatzal Mts. foothills Oct. 9 (RN). A Swamp Sparrow was at Patagonia Nov. 18 (T.A.S.). A McCown's Longspur had arrived at the Jornada Reserve by Oct. 5 (DHi).

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