

SOUTHWEST REGION

/Janet Witzeman, John P. Hubbard and
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The divergence in temperature abnormalities noted in late fall continued into the winter season. In general, temperatures averaged below normal in New Mexico and above normal in Arizona, more or less in keeping with this winter's continental pattern of East vs. West. The effects of this on the avian populations were less obvious than might have been supposed. The warm weather in Arizona was thought to have figured in the



lingering of several shorebird species; but the most notable of these, a very late Snowy Plover, was rivaled by an equally tardy individual in New Mexico. Perhaps more clearly temperature-related were the Lesser Nighthawks that remained until late December at scattered points in southern Arizona.

Several northern species staged movements into the region, notably Northern Shrike, Bohemian Waxwing and Winter Wren. No blanket explanation, certainly no meteorological one, was available to account for these diverse incursions.

In contemplating the fact that New Mexico had the majority of the Northern Shrike reports and the vast majority of the Bohemian Waxwings, it is well to remember the elevational differences between the states: on average, New Mexico is higher (and thus colder) than Arizona. North central New Mexico is a high and mountainous area continuous with the high massifs of

the Rockies, and moreover there are birders living in this section of the state. By contrast, a large percentage of Arizona (including the centers of birding activity at Phoenix and Tucson) lies at lower elevations than the lowest point in New Mexico. Because of these differences, the winter status (both perceived and actual) of many species differs substantially between the two states. The effect of this far outweighs any additional differences imposed by this winter's temperature pattern.

LOONS, GREBES — Two Com. Loons apparently were present through the winter on Parker Canyon L., s.e. Ariz. (m.ob.); the species is very rare in mid-winter away from the Colorado River Valley. A Least Grebe was found n. of Nogales Dec. 16-23 (#RND, D. Brotz *et al.*); and another was at Quitobaquito Pond, Organ Pipe Cactus Nat'l Mon., from at least Nov. 11 - Apr. 3 (Terry Peters *et al.*). We later heard rumors that there had been

CORMORANTS THROUGH IBISES — There are few winter records for Olivaceous Cormorant in New Mexico. An individual was at Bosque del Apache N.W.R. during the period (RLT, GZ); and an adult and two immatures were at Las Cruces Mar. 5-8 (WHB, W. Piltz). It appears that both Olivaceous and Double-crested Cormorants have been present at Patagonia L., more or less continuously since February 1976 (*fide* DSz). Although numbers fluctuated throughout the winter, both species were present in notable numbers at times; five Olivaceous Jan. 22 (DD, BY, JBI) and 20 Double-crested (with four Olivaceous) Feb. 4 (DSz, GG) may be the largest concentrations of either species ever recorded in s.e. Arizona. Up to four Double-crested also remained through the period at Phoenix, where the species is very rare in winter.

A Great Egret was at Nogales Nov. 30 - Jan. 12 (PW *et al.*), and five were present in the Phoenix area during January and February; the species has generally been quite rare in winter away from the Colorado Valley and Picacho Res. Two White-faced Ibises, rare in winter in Arizona, were present through the period at Cibola N.W.R. (KVR, GC).

WATERFOWL — A swan was reportedly present on Bear Canyon Res., e. of Silver City, for about a month before being illegally shot about Feb. 23. When the salvaged specimen was brought to DAZ, it proved to be an ad. *Trumpeter Swan* — the first definite record for New Mexico. (One was supposedly collected near Las Cruces November 1931, but the specimen cannot be located for confirmation.) More Whistling Swans than usual reached the region, with reports in New Mexico from near Columbus, Las Cruces, and Alamogordo, and singles in Arizona near Yuma, Parker, Many Farms, and Phoenix; 11 were at Roosevelt L., Dec. 11-13 (*fide* SRD) and four were at Topock Marsh Dec. 16 (KVR).

An apparent imm. "Blue" Goose was with Canadas near Espanola, N. Mex., Dec. 30 (EE); there are very few records of this form in the Southwest away from the Bosque and Bitter Lake Refuge areas. Three Wood Ducks were at B.W. Delta in January and February (KVR), and one was near Nogales Feb. 18-23 (D. Hatch, DSC *et al.*).

Birds of the Mexican Duck type are now rare n. of the Bosque area in New Mexico, so it is worth noting the capture and banding of three (among 1109 typical Mallards) during January and February at Belen (TZ). The only solid record of Greater Scaup in Arizona during the period was one collected s. of Parker Jan. 5 (BA).

Two ♂ *Barrow's Goldeneyes* were reported shot near Bloomfield, n.w. N. Mex., Dec. 27. Belatedly, we have word of a male and probable female taken in that area Jan. 4, 1975, and preserved as mounted specimens (Stan Boyer, *fide* JPH); the latter represent the first verified record for New Mexico. Meanwhile, the flock of Barrow's at Davis Dam, Ariz.-Nev., returned for its third winter. Numbers there seemed to build up as the season

progressed, with high counts of 16 on Dec. 14, 33 on Jan. 12, and 45 on Feb. 6; however, the earlier counts may have been incomplete owing to the extensive daily movements of the flock. This was also the third winter for Oldsquaw at Davis Dam: a pair was present in December, three were noted Jan. 5 (VM) and one was still there Jan. 12. One of the two Surf Scoters found in November at Evans L., s.w. N. Mex., remained until Dec. 19 (DAZ, MZ).

RAPTORS — No large winter concentrations of Bald Eagles were reported from the reservoirs of n. New Mexico where such have been frequent during the last two winters; instead, the birds seemed to be more widely distributed than usual, including s. to the Gila Valley, Caballo L., and the s. end of the Guadalupe Mts.; and in Arizona, to Tucson and Parker Canyon L. A stray was in the Peloncillo Mts., s.w. N. Mex., Dec. 4 (D. Hunt, *fide* RAF). At least five were in the Prescott area, and eleven were reported in the Lower Colorado Valley (hereafter LCV) between Topock and Yuma.

Ospreys are rare in winter in New Mexico, so one n. of Truth or Consequences Dec. 28 (RLT) and another near Las Cruces Jan. 14 (C. & L. Wahl) were notable. Reports of Merlins were fairly widespread, and numbered about ten in New Mexico, 12 in Arizona, and two in Sonora. These totals are comparable to those of most recent years.

CRANES — Six Whooping Cranes, the progeny of two years of the Gray's Lake foster-parent experiment, wintered successfully in the c. Rio Grande Valley of New Mexico. Their N migration began in mid-February, with the last bird moving out before the end of the month; at last word, at least five of them had been accounted for as migrants in Colorado.

Numbers of Sandhill Cranes wintering in the Willcox Playa area of s.e. Arizona seem to have been gradually building up during the last few years. Less than one thousand were counted there in winter 1970; this season, surveys by the Arizona Game & Fish Dept. and others counted 3800-4000 birds in the area in February, and there was an unconfirmed report of even greater numbers in December (BH, BR *et al.*). In the LCV, 1500 Sandhills wintered in a relatively small area s. of Parker (KVR *et al.*), and up to 350 were on the Cibola N.W.R. in December, decreasing to 50 in February (GC). During a nine day aerial survey in January, by Rod Drewien of the U.S. F. & W.S., 30,000 Sandhills were counted in Chihuahua, Mex.; some were found as far s. as Durango (*fide* BR).

SHOREBIRDS, GULLS — Two *Piping Plovers* were found n. of Puerto Peñasco, Sonora Feb. 2-3 and again Mar. 26 (KK *et al.*); photos, RAW), this is the third winter in which the species has been found here, the only locality of record in w. Mexico. Single *Snowy Plovers* lingered to Dec. 28 at Laguna Grande, s.e. N. Mex. (SW), and to Dec. 31 at Willcos (GM, EW), exceptionally late dates. Although small flocks of Mountain Plovers regularly winter in w. Arizona, the few localities in which they are found vary from year to year. This winter, flocks were reported during February and March from s. of Parker (KVR, AH), w. of Tonopah (AH), and w. of Gila Bend (DSz, *et al.*).

A first-year *Glaucous-winged Gull* was at Puerto Peñasco, Son., Feb. 2-3 (KK, JW, RAW); the species has been found to be regular in small numbers in the n. Gulf of California as far s. as Guaymas. Arizona's third winter record of Heermann's Gull was one found Jan. 29 (CM) at Nogales, where one had occurred last February. There are now more than a dozen records of this species in Arizona, all but one within the last decade.

PIGEONS THROUGH NIGHTJARS — Remarkable, and without any precedent known to us, was the wintering of up to 400 Band-tailed Pigeons in the Prescott region (CST *et al.*). Previous Arizona winter records had been few, and confined to

the southeast. This amazing concentration possibly reflects the mildness of the season; it also provides unexpected support for the A.O.U. *Check-list's* mysterious claim that the species winters at Prescott! Nineteen near Luna, w. N. Mex., Jan. 12 (TJ) were also unusual; the species is rare and only occasional in winter in New Mexico.

Continuing its advance up the Colorado River Valley, the Inca Dove has reached Bullhead City, Ariz., where it was found to be common in February (KK, T&SP, DSz); a Nevada nesting would appear to be imminent. Pygmy Owls occasionally move downslope in winter, and singles were found at relatively low elevations this season at Santa Fe Dec. 19 and Feb. 10 (JE) and near Cliff Dec. 18 (AZ).

There was a remarkable lingering of Lesser Nighthawks in Arizona, with the species appearing on CBCs at Phoenix, Parker, and Tucson. Another was seen s. of Phoenix in late December (SB); a nighthawk probably of this species was in Tucson Jan. 12-18 (MN, AL); and one to three were near the Arizona border of Blythe, Calif., Jan. 31 - Feb. 1 (KVR, JD, AH). Unlike our Com. Nighthawks which migrate to South America, the Lessers only withdraw into Mexico in winter, and a few may overwinter in Arizona in mild years such as this one.

HUMMINGBIRDS, WOODPECKERS — Anna's Hummingbird is the common wintering hummer of Phoenix and Tucson, but it is still uncommon farther east; one arrived in Hereford, s.e. Ariz., Jan. 30 (JB), and one in Ramsey Canyon in early February (C&JP). A very early ♂ Broad-tailed Hummingbird returned to Ramsey Canyon Feb. 9 (C&JP, B&CY). A ♂ Rufous Hummingbird at the same place Feb. 26 (C&JP, B&CY) was also early, and notable since spring migration of this species is mainly up the w. deserts of Arizona. For the first time in several years no hummingbirds remained past mid-November, at feeders in Portal; however, a single Rivoli's seen at feeders in Madera Canyon, Ariz. in mid-January, was apparently wintering there (*vide* SSpf).

Five to six "Yellow-shafted" Flickers were present through the period in the B.W. Delta (KVR), an area where this form has not been known to winter before. Two Red-headed Woodpeckers were at Roswell Dec. 18 (MW), and one or two were in Albuquerque during January (*vide* DDL); the species is infrequent in winter. Something of a flight of Lewis' Woodpeckers occurred in New Mexico, with numbers up in the Rio Grande Valley s. to Corrales (RLT) and peripheral records in the San Juan Valley (APN) and near Silver City (BJH, DAZ). A Downy Woodpecker at Socorro Feb. 20-24 (PB) was unusual.

FLYCATCHERS — A *Myiarchus* carefully studied near Evans L., s.w. N. Mex., Dec. 18 (DAZ, MZ) may have been a Nutting's Flycatcher; detailed notes on the tail pattern and vocalizations strongly support this identification. The only previous U.S. record of this Middle American species involves one collected near Roosevelt L., Ariz., Jan. 8, 1952.

The E. Phoebe, a scarce winter visitor in Arizona, made a good showing this year. One was at Picacho Res., Dec. 9 (VM); two were on the Santa Catalina Mts. CBC and one each on the Sedona and Nogales CBCs; one was near Phoenix Dec. 19 (BB); and one found in the B.W. Delta in November remained until mid-February, at which time it was singing and actively chasing away Black Phoebes (KVR). An *Empidonax* (Dusky or Hammond's) at Glenwood, s.w. N. Mex., Dec. 30 (UPH) represented only the second local winter record. A Coues' Flycatcher was present in residential Tucson Dec. 22 to at least Mar. 1 (KK *et al.*); in recent years individuals have attempted to winter almost annually in either the Phoenix or Tucson areas. A Vermilion Flycatcher near Cliff, N. Mex., Feb. 20-22 (BJH) was definitely early for that locality.

CORVIDS, PARIDS — Remarkable was the wintering of a flock of 500-600 Com. Crows on the Cibola N.W.R., s.w. Ariz.

(KVR, GC). Except for one or two previous records, there is no history of the occurrence of this species in the LCV!

The Black-capped Chickadee previously reported at Teec Nos Pos, Ariz., was still present Feb. 5. One of the Mountain Chickadees found in the B.W. Delta in November remained through the winter (KVR); there had been no previous records for the LCV. Also a first for that area was a **Bridled Titmouse** in the B.W. Delta from Feb. 17 into March (JSB, *vide* KVR; * to A.S.U.). This bird was scarcely 10 mi. from California, for which state there is no record of the species. A flock of ten Bushtits found 10 mi. n. of Ehrenberg, Ariz., Feb. 25-27 (AH), apparently represents the southernmost record for the LCV.

WARBLERS — Lucy's Warblers are generally difficult to find in Arizona after the end of August, but last autumn they remained later than usual at several points (Sept. 21 in the LCV, KVR; Sept. 25 at Phoenix, ST; Oct. 9 at Nogales, TP, DSz). However, one at Phoenix Dec. 18 (#KK, BJO) produced the state's latest acceptable record by a considerable margin. A Townsend's Warbler at Portal Dec. 30 (#BJO) was the first winter record that far east in Arizona, and was also unusual at that elevation. Hermit Warblers are very rare in Arizona after mid-October, but individuals were reported at three locations near Phoenix Dec. 12 (RAW), Dec. 18 (AG), and Jan. 31 (W. Donagho).

A Chestnut-sided Warbler was near Phoenix Dec. 17-27 (#KK, DSz, ST). Arizona has three previous "winter" records, all December to early January, all (including this one) best considered late fall occurrences. Single Am. Redstarts were noted Dec. 21 at Tucson (DSz), Dec. 29 at Phoenix (SB, ST, AG), and Jan. 2 n. of Yuma (#DT). A banded Painted Redstart returned to winter at Portal feeders for its third, possibly fourth, season (SSpf).

ICTERIDS — For the third consecutive winter, a Scott's Oriole spent the period at feeders near Silver City. Undoubtedly this was the same bird as in the two previous years, as it has progressed from immature to subadult to this year's ad. ♂ plumage (O'Byrnes, *vide* DAZ). The Rusty Blackbird is thought to be very rare in Arizona; this winter two were reported on the Nogales CBC Dec. 26 (SB, RN) and one was minutely described from a ranch s. of Willcox Feb. 5-14 (#BJO, #MH, #DSz, #B&CY). The few previous records of this species in Arizona have been of solitary birds, but the latter bird was associated with Redwings and Brewer's; obviously, Rusties occurring in mixed blackbird flocks could be easily overlooked. A Com. Grackle was at Socorro, N. Mex., Jan. 22 (WS). The species is considered to be casual in winter in the state.

KINGLETS THROUGH VIREOS — Fall 1976 saw a major movement of Golden-crowned Kinglets into the region's lowlands, (see A.B. 31:209). In the last few years these flights of northern Golden-crowns into the s.w. deserts have been phenomena of autumn, with most disappearing after December, but this winter a number of the birds lingered in Arizona: two were n. of Ehrenberg Jan. 7 (CE), three were at Cibola N.W.R., Jan. 12-14 (KVR, CE, JSB); and at Phoenix and Parker a few actually overwintered for the first recorded time, with some present in stands of tall tamarisks into March (ST, KVR, m.ob.). Also in New Mexico, at least three were still present Mar. 5 in the Rio Grande Valley near Las Cruces (WHB). Two found Jan. 22 along the Rio Magdalena near San Ignacio, Son. (KK, TP, DSz, R&JW) were notable, as there are very few records of the species for Sonora or elsewhere in n.w. Mexico.

Arizona's first **Bohemian Waxwings** since 1969 were found this winter at Katherine's Landing, L. Mohave (KK, ST *et al.*). The flock numbered ten on Jan. 12, increased to 14 by Jan. 30, but by Feb. 6 all of the waxwings (and all the local pyracantha berries) had disappeared. These birds were evidently part of a movement which produced a notable flight in the Santa Fe -

Espanola - Los Alamos area of n.c. New Mexico. Hundreds were present in this area from December through February (m.ob.), with 485 counted in Los Alamos County Feb. 16 (*vide* LH) and a high of 600 in Tesuque (BI). Cedar Waxwings were virtually absent from the lowlands of Arizona this winter, but there were more than usual around Flagstaff and Prescott (JH, CST).

If such a low-density visitor as the N. Shrike can stage a spectacular invasion, it happened this winter. The flight was most evident in New Mexico, where prior to this winter 52 records had accumulated since 1846; this season added at least another 25 reports to the roster. Arizona had 14 reports, more than in any previous winter. In some areas they were practically common: six were found in the vicinity of Chama, N. Mex., Feb. 5 (JPH, GS), and at least four were in the Doney Park area near Flagstaff for much of the winter (RPB *et al.*). Southernmost reports, all of single birds, were at Loving Dec. 28 (SW), Reserve, N. Mex., Jan. 1 (JPH), and Portal Dec. 30 (RAW, #JW). Most unusual was a Solitary Vireo (*plumbeus* form) at Las Cruces Dec. 17 (#WHB).

WRENS THROUGH THRUSHES — The Winter Wren was formerly considered rare in Arizona, but this status may be due for revision. The winter of 1974-75 produced six records, the 1975-76 season produced eight records; and in this past fall-winter season, more than 25 individuals were reliably reported virtually statewide. Many of these appeared on CBCs, but outside the count circles the species was deemed fairly common in Oak Creek Canyon (JH) and on the San Francisco Peaks (RPB). In the B.W. Delta some 5-6 individuals were staked-out all winter, and KVR extrapolated there might be as many as 15-20 birds/100 acres in suitable habitat there. New Mexico had at least four Winter Wrens during December, including two at Santa Fe (BI, RSD), one at Roswell (MW), and one at Glenwood (JPH). A House Wren at Pleasanton, s.w. N. Mex., Jan. 7-10 (L. Sumner) represented the first winter record for that area. The species is uncommon in the state in winter, since it usually prefers to winter at lower elevations.

A report of three Gray Catbirds at Rattlesnake Springs, N. Mex., Feb. 26 (GS) was most unusual in date and in number of individuals. Single Brown Thrashers were found in two locations near Tucson Oct. 24 (PM) and Dec. 9 - Feb. 24 (banded, CC). This was reported to be a good year for Sage Thrashers throughout s.e. Arizona, particularly at Portal and in the Avra Valley, and numbers were also up in the Carlsbad area (JC) and near Silver City (DAZ). One at Glenwood, N. Mex., Dec. 30 (JPH) was the first local winter record. The species arrived suddenly in the Parker region in mid-January and remained common in mistletoe-infested areas there through March; KVR termed it locally the "second most abundant frugivore" (after *Phainopepla*) during that time.

American Robins were noticeably scarce in the lowlands of Arizona, but were found in good numbers around Flagstaff (RPB) and other high elevation areas of the state. "Thousands" in the Silver City area were the largest numbers DAZ could ever recall wintering there. Only four Rufous-backed Robins were reported during the period, all in the Tucson area. Eastern Bluebirds were recorded for the second consecutive winter at Las Cruces, where two were seen Dec. 18 (BP *et al.*); the species is still rare in s.c. New Mexico.

FRINGILLIDS — At Globe, Ariz., where the Pyrrhuloxia is a rare straggler, a male was present Dec. 30 - Feb. 4 (SHA), and a female remained from Jan. 7 through the end of the period (BJA). A well-described ♂ Dickcissel visited a feeder s.w. of Tucson Feb. 15 (#J. Ambrose). There is only one previous winter record for Arizona, also at Tucson. At Sandia Crest above Albuquerque, where rose finches are irregular, a flock of 40 birds (including ♂ Blacks and Gray-crowned) was present Dec. 18-20 (RLT *et al.*). A single Brown-capped Rosy Finch at Farmington,

N. Mex., Jan. 15 (APN) was unusual, although there are several previous records at nearby Angel Peak.

Predictions for a Lawrence's Goldfinch flight to the region, based on a supposed pattern of one flight every two winters, failed to be borne out, and the species was even scarcer than last year. The very few that did arrive were mainly in the Santa Cruz Valley of s. Arizona, as appears to be usual in non-flight years. It was, however, an excellent year for Am. Goldfinches. The species was common in extreme n.e. Arizona and locally in the Chino Valley, n. of Prescott; small flocks were scattered throughout the LCV, the Phoenix region, s.e. Arizona, and the Magdalena Valley of n. Sonora.

Red Crossbills were common all winter in pines in the Prescott region, and on Mar. 12 CST observed a juvenal bird there, accompanied by adults, which must have been hatched locally during the winter. The only lowland reports of the entire season were one in the B.W. Delta Nov. 17 (AH), and two at Parker Dec. 20 (KK), and one at Tucson in mid-December (*vide* MC).

Two **Tree Sparrows** were seen s. of Parker Feb. 11 (KVR) — apparently representing the first record for the Arizona portion of the LCV; this rare winter visitor has been recorded only occasionally in n. and n.e. Arizona. In New Mexico the species appeared to be more common than usual, with records w. to the San Juan Valley (APN *et al.*) and s. to Bosque Jan. 2 (CH *et al.*), Roswell Dec. 18 (BS *et al.*), and the Carlsbad area Feb. 26-28 (GS). Chipping Sparrows seemed more numerous than usual in their areas of regular winter occurrence in s. New Mexico; unusual records farther north were eight at Farmington Dec. 18 (APN *et al.*) and one at Espanola Dec. 26 (BL).

This was a very good winter for the less common *Zonotrichias* in the Southwest: for the White-throated Sparrow it was the biggest flight on record, at least in Arizona. Our records of White-throats are far too many to enumerate individually, but we may sum them up as follows — for New Mexico: at least 25 were reported, including 11 near Glenwood Dec. 30 (JPH *et al.*); for Arizona: no less than 62 individuals reported during the late fall and winter, virtually statewide except for the extreme northeast; for Sonora: 13 near Cibola and two near San Ignacio, Rio Magdalena Valley, Jan. 22 (TP, KK *et al.*). Harris' Sparrows were also in good numbers, more than 20 being found in the region; the focus of the flight was on extreme n.w. New Mexico - n.e. Arizona, with ten at Farmington Dec. 18 (APN *et al.*) and three at Teec Nos Pos Feb. 5 (KK, T&SP, DSz). Golden-crowned Sparrows in Arizona numbered seven (in addition to the four reported during the fall), with three in the LCV, two at Tucson, one at Phoenix, and one on the n. edge of the state at Fredonia Dec. 25-30 (BL, *vide* SHe). In New Mexico, where the species is rare, an adult was at Tesuque Jan. 10 to at least mid-February (BI).

It may be worth noting that this good White-throated season also apparently brought many Dark-eyed (Slate-col.) Juncos. A total of 33 appeared on Arizona CBCs; unfortunately, this form seems not to be noticed or reported very much except on the counts. Fox Sparrows may have been slightly more common than usual this winter. About 20 were reported in Arizona; six at Rattlesnake Springs Feb. 26 (GS) was a high concentration for New Mexico.

The regular occurrence of Swamp Sparrows in s.c. Arizona is now well-established, and this season was no exception to the pattern, with more than 20 reported during the late fall and winter. However, the extension of this plentitude to the LCV is new information, since *Birds of Ariz.* treated the species as "casual" there. Two were in the B.W. Delta Nov. 14-15, more than ten others were found in various locations during December, and by winter's end KVR rated it "fairly common in marshes along the [Colorado] and at beaver ponds along the Bill Williams River."

S.A.

In recent years, reliable records of McCown's Longspurs in the Southwest have been few, and have involved few individuals, so we were astonished to find 250 of them e. of Cananea, Sonora, Jan. 23 (KK, TP, DSz, R&JW) — barely 30 mi. s. of the Arizona border. The key to the McCown's abundance seemed to be the desperately overgrazed condition of the rangeland there, and we subsequently found the species in Arizona by searching overgrazed pasture near Elgin, where up to 50 were present in early March (DSz, KK *et al.*). As previously noted by JPH in New Mexico, the tail-patterns emphasized in the field guides proved to be of little aid in distinguishing this species from the Chestnut-collared Longspur. More helpful marks were the McCown's larger size, larger bill, appearance of a broader wing-base in flight, and generally plain, pale appearance of the plumage, sometimes with some chestnut retained in the wing-coverts (although we have never seen a good illustration of this plumage). Among several calls of the McCown's, most distinctive was a ringing "pink" or "poik," similar to the Blue Grosbeak's common call-note. Prospective searchers should note also that the McCown's tended not to mix freely with the Chestnut-collareds (as they sometimes do at waterholes), being found more often in homogeneous groups or in flocks with Horned Larks.

Even more of a rarity in Arizona is the **Lapland Longspur**, with only a handful of records known. One near Phoenix Dec. 17 & 18 (#KK, R&JW, BJo; calls tape-recorded) was the first record for that area. Another, a breeding-plumaged male, was found s. of Parker Mar. 12 (AH, KC), for the third record in the LCV.

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Wilson, Robert A. Witzeman, Bob & Carol Yutzy, Huachuca; Gary Zahm, Tom Zaparka, Allan Zimmerman, **Dale A. Zimmerman**, s.w. New Mexico; Marian Zimmerman. Abbreviations: *Birds of Ariz.*: Phillips, Marshall and Monson 1964, *The Birds of Arizona*, University of Arizona Press, Tucson; LCV, Lower Colorado Valley; m.ob., many observers; *, specimen; #, written details on file with New Mexico Ornithological Society or with Arizona Bird Committee; CBC, Christmas Bird Count. — **JANET WITZEMAN**, 4619 E. Arcadia Lane, Phoenix, Ariz. 85018; **JOHN P. HUBBARD**, 2097 Camino Lado, Santa Fe, N. Mex. 87501; **KENN KAUFMAN**, 2713 S. Martinson, Wichita, Kans. 67217.