

**SOUTHWEST REGION.**—The season saw a continuation of the severe drought initiated with the past winter. Stream flows in Arizona were near record lows,



except in the extreme southeast corner. Although flow of the Colorado River below Hoover Dam was not far from "normal," its discharge into Lake Mead in April was the lowest ever recorded since collection of records started in 1922. Farther east, in the Rio Grande and Pecos drainages, water conditions were much better, although rainfall was quite deficient. April and May were normal to slightly cooler as far as temperatures were concerned. May was unusually windy.

The land-bird migration at least was reported as being considerably better than usual, especially in such groups as *Empidonax* flycatchers, swallows, thrushes, wood warblers, orioles, and sparrows.

**Boobies, Cormorants, Herons, Ibises.**—The Blue-footed Booby that spent the winter on Havasu Lake, Ariz.-Calif., on the Havasu Lake Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, was not seen after April 11 (Charles R. Darling). A Brown Booby that first appeared on Martinez Lake, Ariz., on the Imperial Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, last Sept. 5, and stayed through the winter, was still present to May 31 (Gale Monson). At least 6 pairs of Double-crested Cormorants hatched young in late April on the Bosque del Apache Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, N. Mex. (Lynn A. Greenwalt). The species had virtually disappeared from the Imperial Refuge in May, which was unusual (GM). A flock of 7 Snowy Egrets was seen at Sinita Tank, Yuma Co., Ariz. on the Cabeza Prieta Game Range, May 8 (M. O. Bennett). A nesting colony of about 30 was established at Tornillo, El Paso Co., Tex. by May 9 (Roy Fisk). Two Black-crowned Night Herons were flushed from along Cameron Wash, between the Little Ajo and Growler Mountains on the Cabeza Prieta Game Range in Pima Co., Ariz., April 16 (GM). The species

nested for the first time on the Imperial Refuge, in Taylor Woods on the California side of the Colorado River; 22 nests were found there, May 4 (GM). Least Bitterns became common on the Imperial Refuge in late May (GM). More than 200 White-faced Ibis were seen at Picacho Reservoir, Pinal Co., Ariz., April 24 (Seymour H. Levy).

**Waterfowl.**—The spring flight seemed more or less normal, with larger than usual numbers of Blue-winged Teal reported, however. Twelve Mexican Ducks were seen on the Rio Grande above El Paso, Tex., April 26 (Mary Belle Keefer, Lilla Thomas). About 1400 Blue-winged Teal were present on Bitter Lake Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Roswell, N. Mex., April 3 (Russell Clapper).

**Hawks.**—A pair of Mississippi Kites was seen several times after May 6 at El Paso, where the species has now been present since 1956 (MBK, LT). At least two pairs of Harris' Hawks nested in the Topock Swamp, Ariz. on the Havasu Lake Refuge (CRD); it is thought that not more than one pair nested on the Imperial Refuge (GM). One was observed south of Florence, Ariz., May 14 (Lyndon L. Hargrave). One Osprey (possibly 2) was noted near Cliff, Grant Co., N. Mex., April 18 (Dale A. Zimmerman). The Caracara seems more or less definitely established in south-central Arizona, from the Santa Cruz River west to at least Sells on the Papago Indian Reservation. One was seen in a flock of 22 Turkey Vultures at Monreal Well, on the Cabeza Prieta Game Range near the pass between the Mohawk and Bryan Mountains, Yuma Co., Ariz., April 17 (GM).

**Gallinaceous Birds.**—Scaled and Gambel's Quail, almost without exception throughout the Region, were having a very poor nesting season, owing mainly to the shortage of green food normally produced by winter rains.

**Shorebirds.**—This seemed an unusually good spring for most shorebirds. Three Semipalmated Plovers were seen at Lake Sullivan, north of Prescott, Ariz., April 25 (Heidi McLernon); 1 was found at Espanola, N. Mex. for a new locality record, May 3 (L. G. Hawkins, *et al.*); and 1 was seen at Bitter Lake Refuge, May 29 (RC). Two Black-bellied Plovers were recorded at Bitter Lake Refuge, May 9 (Bruce K. Harris). Four Willets were seen at Lake McMillan, N. Mex., April 26 (BKH); 1 was found near Los Alamos, N. Mex., at 7000 ft. elevation, May 6 (James Travis); 1 was present on the Bosque del Apache Refuge, May 22 (F. S. Dart, LAG); 9 were found near Santa Fe, N. Mex., April 24 (Leon A. Wiard); and 8 were observed at Lake Watson, near Prescott, May 27 (McLernon). The White-rumped Sandpiper was observed (number?) near Las Vegas, N. Mex., April 30 and May 12 (Elmer Schooley); and 3 were found at Bitter Lake Refuge, May 29 (RC). A Dunlin was taken at Picacho Reservoir, April 5 (James T. Bialac); and 1 was seen at West Pond, Calif., near Imperial Dam on the Imperial Refuge, April 20 (GM). Twelve dowitchers and 15 Western Sandpipers remained on the Bitter Lake Refuge until at least May 29 (RC). A Marbled Godwit was seen near Santa Fe, April 19 (LAW); another was found near Las Vegas, April 30 (ES); and 6 were noted at

Tornillo, May 9 and 10 (RF, *et al.*). The Sanderling, a rare bird in this Region, was noted as follows: 2 at Lake McMillan, April 26 (BKH); 2 on May 8 and 7 on May 24 at West Pond (GM); and 10 on Bitter Lake Refuge, May 29 (RC). Only 2 Am. Avocets were present in late May on the Bosque Refuge (LAG). Fifteen Black-necked Stilts, including at least 3 chicks, were seen at Tornillo, May 9 and 10 (RF, *et al.*). Unusually large numbers of Wilson's Phalaropes seen included 300 at Bitter Lake Refuge, April 24 (RC); 115 at West Pond, May 3 (GM); and 130 at Tornillo, May 5 (DeWitt Johnson, MBK); the species was numerous at Las Vegas (ES).

**Gulls and Terns.**—A Bonaparte's Gull was seen at Martinez Lake, May 24 (GM). Two Gull-billed Terns (1 collected) were found on the Imperial Refuge about two miles below its northern boundary, on the Arizona side, for a new state record (GM). Some rather early Forster's Terns included 7 at Bitter Lake Refuge, April 11 (RC); 5 at the Topock Swamp, April 16 (CRD); and 20 near Las Vegas, April 20 (ES).

**Doves, Cuckoos.**—There were many more Band-tailed Pigeons in the Prescott region than in several years (McLernon). In the Rio Grande Valley, a pair of White-winged Doves was seen on April 9 and May 4 in New Mexico near Canutillo, Tex. (MBK, LT), and 1 was also seen at Tornillo, May 15 (RF, LT). Another was observed north of Silver City, N. Mex., May 15 (DAZ). The Inca Dove was not seen at El Paso this period (RF). A Yellow-billed Cuckoo was seen on the Bitter Lake Refuge, May 15 (RC); the species does not arrive along the Colorado River until almost a month later.

**Owls, Swifts, Hummingbirds.**—A Flammulated Owl was seen at Gray Tanks in the Castle Dome Mountains, Kofa Game Range, Yuma Co., Ariz., April 29 (GM); this adds to the evidence that this little owl migrates across the deserts. Three Short-eared Owls were seen in hovering flight near Encino, Torrance Co., N. Mex., May 28 (LAW). A Chimney or Vaux's Swift was observed at the San Simon Cienega, Hidalgo Co., N. Mex., May 27 (Horace H. Jeter). A Violet-crowned Hummingbird was seen at the Southwest Research Station, Chiricahua Mountains, Ariz., May 17 to 19 (JTB).

**Woodpeckers.**—Ten Red-shafted Flickers lingered at El Paso until May 17 (RF). An individual Lewis' Woodpecker stayed near Pinos Altos, Grant Co., N. Mex. until April 8 (DAZ). A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mountains, Ariz., April 24 (Joe T. Marshall, Jr.) was late.

**Flycatchers.**—The first Rose-throated Becard was seen at Patagonia, Ariz., April 30 (Florence Thornburg). Two pairs of Thick-billed Kingbirds were observed in Guadalupe Canyon, Cochise Co., Ariz., May 28 and 29, and June 5 (HHJ, *et al.*). Two Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were seen at Artesia, N. Mex., April 14 (RC), and a pair was found nesting at Fabens, Tex., May 22 (RF, *et al.*). The wood pewee (sp.) reported from near San Xavier Mission, Ariz. in March was perhaps the same individual as seen there on April 11 and 23 (JTM, *et al.*). The Vermilion Flycatcher is being seen more or less regularly at

the Bosque del Apache Refuge (LAG).

*Swallows, Ravens, Dippers.*—Barn Swallows were particularly abundant at the Bosque del Apache Refuge (LAG). Cliff Swallows were nesting on the bridge across the Salt River, Ariz., on the Young road, May 9 (Betty Jackson). A flock of 7 or 8 White-necked Ravens was observed near San Xavier Mission, May 20 (JTM). A Dipper was seen in the Chiricahua Mountains (date?) (Joe Welch, *vide* SHL).

*Thrashers, Thrushes, Kinglets, Waxwings.*—A wintering Brown Thrasher remained at Los Alamos to May 10 (James & Marylou Travis). Bendire's Thrasher returned to its Yuma County habitat in above-normal numbers (GM). A Swainson's Thrush was present at El Paso, May 31 to June 2 (RF, *et al.*). No Ruby-crowned Kinglets were seen at Globe, Ariz., March 30 to April 30, after which several were seen (BJ). Several singing on Mt. Lemmon, Santa Catalina Mountains, Ariz., May 29 and June 1 (JTM) certainly indicated nesting. Between 5000 and 10,000 Bohemian Waxwings spent April 5 to May 5 at Santa Fe; last seen were 3 on May 12 (Jens K. Jensen). This was a most spectacular occurrence for this Region.

*Vireos, Wood Warblers.*—A Bell's Vireo was singing at Cameron Wash on the Cabeza Prieta Game Range, considerably west of its usual range, April 16 (GM). A Virginia's Warbler was seen at the same place and on the same date, followed by another the next day at Monreal Well, also on the Cabeza Prieta Game Range (GM). A Magnolia Warbler was observed in the Chiricahua Mountains, May 23 (W. George). A male Myrtle Warbler was seen near Cliff, April 18, also another at Silver City, April 22 (DAZ). The Black-throated Gray Warbler was not seen at El Paso (RF). A Townsend's Warbler at Cameron Wash, Cabeza Prieta Game Range, April 15 (GM) was early. A male Chestnut-sided Warbler was observed at Pine Spring Camp, Guadalupe Mountains, Tex., May 24 (HHJ). A Northern Waterthrush was seen at the Cienega Ranch, between the Empire and Whetstone Mountains, Ariz., May 3 (SHL), and 2 were seen in the Silver City area, May 13 to 14 and May 16 (DAZ). A Yellow-breasted Chat was found at Globe, April 30 (Harold A. Marsh). A male Am. Redstart at Taylor Woods on the Imperial Refuge, May 4 (GM) was very early; a female was seen 2 miles north of Silver City, May 8 (John Hubbard).

*Blackbirds, Tanagers.*—Fewer Redwinged Blackbirds were noted in the Topock Swamp this spring (CRD). An Orchard Oriole was seen in New Mexico near Canutillo, Tex., May 13 (MBK, LT), and 3 were seen at the San Simon Cienega, May 27 (J. B. Strickling). A pair of Baltimore Orioles was nesting near Fabens, May 22 and 30 (RF, MBK, *et al.*), certainly a most unusual occurrence. The Summer Tanager reappeared on the Imperial Refuge after having been absent last year, when one was noted at Owl Woods, Ariz., May 4 (GM). An Hepatic Tanager was seen at Bitter Lake Refuge, May 13 (RC).

*Finches and Sparrows.*—The *Pyrrhuloxia* continued its inexplicable spread in the deserts of southwestern Arizona, as evidenced by at least 3 seen near Horse

Tank, on the Kofa Game Range, April 29 (GM). The same impetus may have resulted in one being seen on the Bosque del Apache Refuge, May 7 to 12 (LAG). A male Indigo Bunting was found on Granite Creek about 2 miles north of Prescott, May 19 (McLernon). Evening Grosbeaks, House Finches, Am. Goldfinches, and Pine Siskins were feeding on tree buds in Las Vegas in early May (ES). Pine Siskins and Am. Goldfinches were much more common than usual in the Prescott area (McLernon), and both species were abundant at Bitter Lake Refuge about May 13 (RC). About a dozen Pine Siskins were picked up after a thunderstorm at Bitter Lake Refuge, May 7 (RC). Migratory flocks of Lark Buntings were noted at Bitter Lake Refuge, April 13 (RC); and many flocks of 20 to 30 in the Chino Valley, Yavapai Co., Ariz., were unusual (McLernon).

Tree Sparrows remained at Las Vegas until April 15 (ES). An adult Golden-crowned Sparrow was seen near San Xavier Mission, May 5 (JTM). A very late Lincoln's Sparrow was found at the Southwest Research Station, Chiricahua Mountains, May 19 (JTB). —GALE MONSON, *U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P. O. Box 1032, Yuma, Ariz.*