

SOUTHWEST REGION.—Fall averaged somewhat cooler than normal, with more wind. Precipitation generally was slightly above normal in most areas. A



notable exception was Nogales, Ariz., where drought caused a poor crop of weed seeds and, hence, a scarcity of sparrows (*BH*). Most areas in the north reported good to "enormous" (*WBL*) acorn crops, but Nogales had a dearth of acorns owing to a late spring freeze (*BH*). A good-to-adequate seed crop was generally reported. The crop of juniper berries was considered good in the upper Rio Grande Valley, N. Mex. but poor at Grand Canyon Nat'l Park, Ariz. (*WHH*) and on the eastern side of the Rocky Mountains in New Mexico (*WH*).

According to records received, the heaviest flight of small landbirds in the Region occurred generally from Sept. 1 to 7. Waterbirds peaked near Phoenix, Ariz. on Sept. 21 (*UEM*); hawks peaked in southern Nevada on Oct. 25 (*CL*). For the most part, migrants arrived earlier than usual, particularly at Big Bend Nat'l Park, Tex. (*RHW*). Organ Pipe Cactus Nat'l Monument, Ajo, Ariz. recorded 26 species seen earlier than ever before; mild cold fronts on Sept. 15-17 and Sept. 21-22 produced several early records, with some 16 species of warblers present in the monument (*RLC*). Migration was considered normal near Las Vegas, Nev. (*CL, JBH*) but sparse and sporadic at Silver City, N. Mex. (*RAF*); several species normally found were completely absent from Grand Canyon Nat'l Park (*WHH*).

Loons, Grebes, Pelican—A Com. Loon was seen on Apache Lake, Maricopa Co., Ariz., Nov. 23 (*M.A.S.*); 2 were noted on Roosevelt Lake, Gila Co., Ariz., Nov. 16 (*RPN*). On Oct. 1 an Eared Grebe was observed at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument (*RLC*). Some 60 Western Grebes were present on Apache Lake, Nov. 23 (*M.A.S.*); earlier in the season, 2 were seen on Mormon Lake near Flagstaff, Ariz. on Aug. 25 (*RPN*). A single White Pelican was noted at Las Vegas, N. Mex., Sept. 29 (*WCT, DR*).

Hérons, Ibis—Two Green Herons were seen in Phoenix, Nov. 19 (*SRD*). On Aug. 17, Snowy Egrets were noted near Tucson, Ariz. (*RPN*). Four Black-crowned Night Herons seen at Organ Pipe

Cactus Monument on Sept. 27 (*RLC*) were unusual. The Yellow-crowned Night Heron again appeared at Big Bend Park, with 1 present Aug. 16-Sept. 14 (*RHW*). An Am. Bittern was seen in the park on Oct. 3 (*RHW*) and was photographed on Oct. 21 (*RAF*). Thirteen White-faced Ibis seen in the Las Vegas, Nev. area on Aug. 25 (*CL, MVM*) were a large number for that locality.

Swans—Twenty Whistling Swans were present in the Pahrangat Valley near Las Vegas, Nev. on Nov. 23, with 18 present there on Nov. 27; hunters were fined for 2 found shot. Another 6 noted at Overton, Nev. on Nov. 30 (*CL*) constituted a large number for this area.

Geese—Fall migration began at Havasu Lake Nat'l Wildlife Refuge near Needles on the Arizona-California border in early September (*BDG*). The first 6 Canada Geese arrived at Bosque del Apache Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Socorro, N. Mex. on Oct. 18, with 1200 present by Nov. 20 (*RWR*). The first 15 Snow Geese arrived at this refuge on Sept. 26; 3700 were present and were accompanied by 10 White-fronted Geese and 35 Blue Geese on Nov. 20 (*RWR*). On Nov. 30, 65 marked Canada Geese were seen in the White Mountains, Apache Co., Ariz. (*RPN*); 100 were seen on Apache Lake, Nov. 23 (*M.A.S.*). An immature White-fronted Goose and 20 Blue Geese were at Bitter Lake Nat'l Wildlife Refuge, Roswell, N. Mex., Oct. 18 (*VM*). At least 2 Snow Geese were present at Española, N. Mex., Nov. 3-10 (*WBL*); 6 were at La Cueva State Game Refuge, Mora Co., N. Mex., Nov. 16 (*WH*). Two Blue Geese were found in Phoenix during November (*UEM*). A Snow Goose and a Ross' Goose were shot in Overton, Nev. on Nov. 20 (*GK*).

Ducks—In late November waterfowl populations at Bosque del Apache Refuge were 50 percent lower than last year, perhaps owing to warmer weather to the north of the Region; 6850 ducks, including 4500 Mallards and 1000 Pintails, were present on the refuge at the end of the period (*RWR*). Numbers were slightly below normal in southern Nevada, with about 1000 ducks, the majority Pintails and Shovelers, present on the Key-Pittman State Wildlife Management Area near Hiko (*CL*). Seven Cinnamon Teal and 2 Shovelers seen at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Aug. 5 and a Ring-necked Duck seen there on Sept. 23 were the earliest ever recorded on the monument (*RLC*). A banded ♀ Wood Duck was in Phoenix on Nov. 1 (*SRD, UEM*), and a male was seen at Tule Springs near Las Vegas, Nev. on Oct. 19 (*MVM*). Twelve Red-breasted Mergansers were noted on Roosevelt Lake, Ariz., Nov. 16 (*RPN*).

Vultures, Hawks, Eagles—A flock of 400 Turkey Vultures was observed near Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Oct. 4 (*RLC*), and 6 late birds were seen in the White Mountains at 8000 feet elevation in sub-freezing temperatures on Nov. 6 (*FT, GG*). A Ferruginous Hawk was seen near Parker, Ariz., Nov. 21 (*RPN*). Single Golden Eagles were recorded on Sept. 10 and 14 and on Oct. 25 near Las Vegas, Nev. (*CL, MVM, GMM*) where the species is considered unusual. One or two young Bald Eagles were seen at

West Pond near Imperial Dam, Calif. on Oct. 12 (EAC) and Oct. 20 (GM, et al.); an adult was seen in the White Mountains on Nov. 3 (RPN); and a bird of this species was observed at Saguaro Lake, Maricopa Co., Ariz. on Nov. 1 (SRD). A Prairie Falcon was noted in the Davis Mountains, Jeff Davis Co., Tex., Oct. 16 (RHW). Single Peregrine Falcons were seen at Big Bend Park on Oct. 4 (RHW), at Tule Springs, Nev. on Oct. 13 (MVM), and at Chloride, Mohave Co., Ariz. on Nov. 19 (GK); 2 were present on Pahrnatag Nat'l Wildlife Refuge near Alamo, Nev. all fall (JBH). An early peak of about 60 Sparrow Hawks was noted in southern Nevada on Sept. 1 (CL).

Grouse, Quail, Pheasants—Nevada traded 50 Sage Grouse to New Mexico to be released on the Navajo Lake Wildlife Area east of Farmington, receiving in turn 100 Scaled Quail and 100 birds of the "White-winged" form of the Ring-necked Pheasant. Since numbers of Ring-necked Pheasants have become low near Mesquite, Nev., the "White-winged" pheasants were released there (CL). Numbers of Scaled Quail and Gambel's Quail were reported as normal to good by most observers. Gambel's Quail had an excellent hatch and subsequent survival rate on the Desert Game Range near Las Vegas, Nev. (JBH) and north of Phoenix (ELR).

Cranes, Rails—The first 4 Sandhill Cranes were noted at Bosque del Apache Refuge on Sept. 27, with 5400 present by the end of the period (RWR). At Bitter Lake Refuge, the first seen were 31 on Sept. 30; 74,000 birds, an all-time high count at the refuge compared to the previous high of 42,000, were present by Oct. 28; this number dropped to 20,000 after the hunting season began on Nov. 2 (VM). A *Virginia Rail* collected at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Sept. 12 (RLC) was the first recorded at the monument. Another was seen at Bitter Lake Refuge on Sept. 27 (VM), and an adult with nearly grown young was encountered at Mormon Lake, Ariz., Aug. 24 (RPN). A Sora came to a Phoenix birdbath and stayed, subsisting on a mealworm diet, Sept. 1-12 (ELR). At least one pair of Com. Gallinules bred successfully on the San Carlos Indian Reservation, Maricopa Co., Ariz. (AR); this is the first known record there since 1900.

Shorebirds, Gull—Lone Semipalmated Plovers were reported at Bosque del Apache Refuge, Sept. 3-5; at the Key-Pittman Wildlife Area, Ariz., Sept. 2 (CL); near Phoenix on Sept. 1 (RPN) and Sept. 21 (M.A.S.); and near Tucson on Aug. 17 (RPN). At least 2 Black-bellied Plovers lingered at Phoenix for seven weeks until Oct. 19 (RPN, SRD). A Com. Snipe at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Sept. 11 (RLC) was the earliest ever recorded there; another early individual was seen at Big Bend Park on Sept. 19 (RHW). A Pectoral Sandpiper was observed near Phoenix on Sept. 1 (RPN), and 4 were seen near Las Vegas, Nev. on Sept. 22 (MVM). Four Dunlins were noted near Phoenix on Nov. 17 (RPN). A Long-billed Dowitcher came to a pool in a yard near Phoenix on Oct. 8 (SRD). At Organ Pipe Cactus

Monument, 1 *Stilt Sandpiper* seen on Sept. 1 and 2 seen on Sept. 3 (RLC) constituted the first records for the monument. A Sanderling was seen at Bosque del Apache Refuge on Oct. 7 (RWR). Black-necked Stilts were not recorded in southern Nevada (CL); 1 observed at Big Bend Park on Oct. 3 (RHW) constituted the first record for the park; single birds were seen on Aug. 26 and Sept. 5-6 at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument (RLC). Four Wilson's Phalaropes were seen at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Aug. 5 and 7, with 3 present on Sept. 1 (RLC). An immature Bonaparte's Gull was observed near Tucson on Dec. 1 (GG, FT).

Doves, Owls—Mourning Doves peaked about two weeks earlier than usual in southern Nevada, with 250 noted on Aug. 25 (CL). An Inca Dove collected at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Oct. 15 (RLC) constituted the first specimen for the monument. A Pygmy Owl in Cave Creek Canyon near Portal, Ariz. was attacked by a Coppery-tailed Trogon on Aug. 17 and by a hummingbird on Aug. 18 (RPN). A Long-eared Owl was noted near Las Vegas, Nev., Sept. 14 (CL, MVM, GMM). A dead Saw-whet Owl was found in Los Alamos, N. Mex. on Nov. 27 (WBL) and the specimen was preserved; another was seen in dense spruce-fir forest on the Philmont Boy Scout Ranch, Cimarron, N. Mex., Aug. 18 (RAR).

Hummingbirds, Kingfisher, Woodpeckers—At Big Bend Park, a ♂ *Ruby-throated Hummingbird* seen on Oct. 5 furnished the first record of this species for the park, and several Anna's Hummingbirds returned during the period, Oct. 27-Nov. 19 (RHW). A Green Kingfisher also was present in the park, Sept. 6-Oct. 27 (RHW). An Acorn Woodpecker was collected on the San Carlos Indian Reservation, in Gila County, Ariz., Oct. 20 (CAT). A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker observed on Sept. 27 at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument (RLC) was the earliest ever seen there; another was noted near Globe, Ariz., Sept. 11 (BJ). Unusual in the Charleston Mountains near Las Vegas, Nev. was a Williamson's Sapsucker found on Sept. 6 (CL).

Flycatchers—A Cassin's Kingbird was seen in Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Sept. 23, providing the monument with its second record of this species (RLC). A late Ash-throated Flycatcher was found at Yuma, Ariz. on Nov. 22 (RPN). There was a good movement of *Empidonax* flycatchers through Cedar Crest, N. Mex., Sept. 1-7 (BM); in Nevada the peak movement occurred on Sept. 1 (CL); in the Tucson area, a greater-than-average number, mostly Traill's Flycatchers, moved through in late September (FT, SMR). A Gray Flycatcher was identified at Laguna Dam, on the California side, Oct. 20 (GM). Olive-sided Flycatchers were fairly common this fall at Big Bend Park, Aug. 25-Sept. 2 (RHW) and in southern Nevada, Aug. 25-Sept. 14 (CL).

Swallows, Corvids—The observation of 30 *Cave Swallows* in Big Bend Park on Sept. 14 constituted the first record of this species for the park (RHW). A Blue Jay remained in Roswell, N. Mex. through November (VM, ANC). Steller's and Scrub Jays were reported to be in good numbers in the northern

highlands, although Steller's Jay is believed to be declining in the Charleston Mountains of southern Nevada (CL). Clark's Nutcrackers were down in numbers in northern New Mexico, but there were scattered records in the southern part of the state and in the Arizona mountains (RAF, BJ, FT, RPN).

Wrens, Thrasher, Thrushes—A House Wren seen at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Sept. 12 (RLC) was the earliest ever recorded there. A Winter Wren was seen in Big Bend Park on Oct. 18 (RHW). A Le Conte's Thrasher seen on Nov. 3 at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument (RLC) was only the third recorded in the monument. Most Robins stayed in the highlands, with only a few scattered lowland observations; the species was reported as scarce in Taos County, N. Mex. (WH) and at Grand Canyon Park (WHH). At Organ Pipe Cactus Monument, 2 Robins on Oct. 22 and a Hermit Thrush on Oct. 8 were the earliest recorded (RLC). At Komatke, Ariz., Swainson's Thrushes were banded, Sept. 13–Oct. 10 (AR), and first specimens were collected. Townsend's Solitaires were reported as fewer in number in southern Nevada (CL) and at Grand Canyon Nat'l Park (WHH), but the species was seen on Sept. 17 and 26 at Komatke (AR) where it is considered unusual.

Kinglets, Pipits, Waxwings, Phainopepla—There was an increase in reports of the Golden-crowned Kinglet, including one seen at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Nov. 11 that constituted the first record for the monument (RLC) and another seen at Roswell, N. Mex. on Oct. 3 (JHS). A Water Pipit at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Oct. 6 (RLC) was the earliest ever seen there; 100 were noted at Tule Springs, Nev. on Oct. 11 (CL). A Cedar Waxwing was seen at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on the record early date of Sept. 22 (RLC). There were scattered reports of Cedar Waxwings in other lowland areas, with 15 seen at Imperial Dam, Calif. on Oct. 12 and other observations there on Nov. 19 (EAC) and Nov. 23 (RG) and large flocks noted in the valley at Albuquerque, N. Mex. on Oct. 4 (PT). A large flock of 1,000 Bohemian Waxwings moved into Los Alamos, N. Mex. on Nov. 28 (BS, WBL, et al.), and a single bird was seen at Overton, Nev. on Nov. 21 (GK). A flock of 12 Phainopeplas flew over Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Sept. 27 (RLC).

Vireos, Warblers—Late records included a Bell's Vireo at Imperial Dam and a Solitary Vireo at Laguna Dam on Oct. 20 (GM, AC, et al.) and another Solitary Vireo at Globe on Oct. 9 and Nov. 7 (SVVH). A Black-and-white Warbler was noted in Big Bend Park on Sept. 7 (RHW). A ♂ Golden-winged Warbler was observed at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Nov. 2-3 and was collected (ELR RLC, SMR). This is the first state record of the species, and a complete account is to be published in the *Condor*. The sighting of 2 Tennessee Warblers at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Sept. 12 (RLC) provided the third record for the monument. A Nashville Warbler was found dead in Los Alamos, N. Mex. on Sept. 10 (BS) and the specimen was

preserved; single birds also were seen at Sacaton, Pinal Co., Ariz. on Oct. 5 (AR) and near Globe, Sept. 29-30 (SVVH); 1 was banded in Cedar Crest, N. Mex. on Sept. 8 (BM). A Parula Warbler at Big Bend Park on Nov. 23 (RHW) and a Magnolia Warbler at West Pond, Calif. on Oct. 12 (EAC) were collected. A ♂ Black-throated Blue Warbler was seen in Los Alamos on Oct. 6 (PRS) and another male in Tucson on Oct. 30 (FT). An Audubon's Warbler on Sept. 27 and a Black-throated Gray Warbler on Sept. 12 were the earliest ever seen at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument, and a Townsend's Warbler was found there on Sept. 28 (RLC). Single Townsend's Warblers also were noted at the Arizona Snow Bowl above Flagstaff, Aug. 25 (RPN), at Grand Canyon Park on Sept. 1 (WHH), and in Roswell on Sept. 18 (VM). The Hermit Warbler is rare in the lowlands as a migrant; individuals were found this fall at Las Vegas, Nev. on Aug. 17 (MVM), at Komatke, Ariz. on Sept. 25 (AR), at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Sept. 27 (RLC), and at Phoenix on Nov. 25 (AA). An Ovenbird was banded at Cedar Crest, N. Mex., Aug. 31 (BM). At Organ Pipe Cactus Monument, 3 Northern Water-thrushes were seen on two dates in September; 2 Yellow-breasted Chats noted on Sept. 17 and a Yellow-throat seen on Sept. 12 were the monument's earliest records; and another Yellow-breasted Chat was seen on Sept. 27 (RLC). A late chat came to Nogales, Ariz., Oct. 9 (BH). An unusual lowland record was that of a Painted Redstart in Globe, Aug. 15 (LS). There were the usual scattered reports of Am. Redstarts in the Region: single birds near Las Vegas, Nev. on Sept. 2 (MVM), in Albuquerque on Sept. 3 (JMD), near Silver City on Nov. 20 (SB), at Tucson on Oct. 5 (SMR), and at Sonoyta, Sonora, Mexico on Nov. 10 (RLC).

Bobolinks, Orioles, Blackbird, Tanagers—The sighting of a Bobolink near Phoenix on Sept. 21 (M.A.S.) established the first Maricopa County record. An adult ♂ Orchard Oriole was seen at Komatke, Ariz. on Oct. 22 (AR). A ♂ Wagler's Oriole (*Icterus wagleri*) was observed near Big Bend Park on Sept. 19 but could not be collected (RHW). This appears to be the first sight record of the species for the United States. A Brewer's Blackbird was seen at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on the record early date of Sept. 25 (RLC). Several Summer Tanagers were noted at Komatke on Sept. 15 (AR), and a male was seen at Globe on Aug. 28 (BJ).

Finches—A ♂ Cardinal was present at Tomé, Valencia Co., N. Mex., Sept. 6-9 (RL). The Pyrrhuloxia, a species that has been extending its range in the last few years, was observed at Komatke (AR); a male was seen at Carefree, Maricopa Co., Ariz. on Nov. 30 (ELR) and another bird was seen at Globe on Oct. 14 (SVVH). A ♂ Rose-breasted Grosbeak was observed at Cedar Crest, Sept. 2 (BM); 1 seen at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Nov. 17-18 (RLC) constituted the monument's first record. Some 100 Blue Grosbeaks in one sunflower field near Nogales on Oct. 5 (FT) must have been quite a sight! This species also was common in mid-October

in the Tucson area (*FT*); earlier in the season, 60 were noted at Las Vegas, Nev. on Aug. 25 (*CL*). A *Lazuli Bunting* at Big Bend Park on Sept. 2 (*RHW*) was the park's first in many years. There were a few scattered reports of Cassin's Finches in the northern mountains, including 6 on the Kaibab Plateau, Coconino Co., Ariz., Nov. 1 (*RPN*). A Purple Finch was seen on the Desert Game Range, Nev., Sept. 14 (*CL*, *MVM*, *GMM*). Lawrence's Goldfinches moved into southern Arizona this fall: at Globe, they appeared on Sept. 27 and were common until the storm of Nov. 14 (*BJ*, *SVVH*, *IT*); at Tucson, a wave occurred during the third week of October (*FT*); 2 males were found at Nogales on Nov. 16 (*BH*); and 2 birds were seen near Phoenix on Nov. 17 (*RPN*). Two Red Crossbills were observed in the Charleston Mountains on Sept. 6 (*CL*) and 50 on the Kaibab Plateau, Nov. 1 (*RPN*).

Sparrows—Earliest records for Organ Pipe Cactus Nat'l Monument included a Green-tailed Towhee on Sept. 1, a Rufous-sided Towhee on Sept. 23, 4 Savannah Sparrows on Sept. 23, a Lark Sparrow on Sept. 11, a Rufous-winged Sparrow on Oct. 7, a Gray-headed Junco on Oct. 17, a Chipping Sparrow on Sept. 27, White-crowned Sparrows on Sept. 23, and a Song Sparrow on Sept. 23 (*RLC*). Seven Sage Sparrows were present at a feeder north of Phoenix, Oct. 9–Nov. 9 (*ELR*). A White-winged Junco was banded in Los Alamos on Nov. 11 (*PRS*). There were scattered records of Slate-colored Juncos: 1 at Imperial Dam on Oct. 20 (*GM*) and 2 there on Nov. 23 (*RG*), 2 at Phoenix on Nov. 26 (*SRD*), 6 near Pahrnagat Refuge, Nev. on Oct. 25 (*CL*), and 1 at Peach Springs, Mohave Co., Ariz., Nov. 20 (*RPN*). Two Gray-headed Juncos were seen at Imperial Dam on Oct. 20 (*GM*) and 1 on Nov. 23 (*RG*); 1 was collected at Laguna Dam on Oct. 12 (*EAC*). A Tree Sparrow was seen near Bard, Calif., Nov. 23 (*RG*), and a Clay-colored Sparrow was banded at Cedar Crest on Sept. 23 (*BM*). An adult Harris' Sparrow was observed at Imperial Dam on Oct. 20 (*GM*); an immature bird of this species was identified at Tule Springs, Nev. on Nov. 16 (*MVM*); and another immature was banded at Tucson on Nov. 23 (*SMR*, *FT*). Scattered records of White-throated Sparrows included 1 at Organ Pipe Cactus Monument on Oct. 17 (*RLC*), 2 at Imperial Dam on Oct. 20 (*GM*), 1 near Springerville, Apache Co., Ariz. on Nov. 2 (*RPN*), a female collected near Needles on Nov. 10 (*EAC*), 3 birds near Overton, Nev. on Nov. 20 (*GK*), and 1 near Bard, Calif. on Nov. 23 (*RG*). A "red" Fox Sparrow was seen near Needles on Nov. 10 (*EAC*).

Contributors—AA, Ann Anderson; SB, Sara Baldwin; ANC, A. N. Carter; EAC, Eugene A. Cardiff; AC, Alan Craig; RLC, Richard L. Cunningham; SRD, Salome R. Demaree; JND, John N. Durrie; RAF, Ralph A. Fisher, Jr.; BDG, Blayne D. Graves; GG, Grace Gregg; RG, Russell Greenberg; SVVH, Sallie V. V. Harris; BH, Bill Harrison; WH, Walton Hawk; JBH, Jack B. Helvie; WHH, Warren H. Hill; BJ, Betty Jackson; GK, Gleb Kashin; CL, Charles Lawson; RL, Ralph Lewis;

WBL, W. Burton Lewis; M.A.S., Maricopa Audubon Society; GM, Guy McCaskie; BM, Barbara McKnight; GMM, Dr. Gordon M. Meade; UEM, Una E. Miller; VM, Vester Montgomery; MVM, M. Vincent Mowbray; RPN, Robert P. Norton; AR, Armando Rea; ELR, Eleanor L. Radke; RWR, Richard W. Rigby; DR, Don Rose; RAR, Richard A. Rowlett; SMR, Stephen M. Russell; JHS, James H. Sikes; LS, Lucille Smith; BS, Blair Swartz; FT, Fern Tainter; CAT, Chester A. Thomas; IT, Iola Thomas; PT, Pat Turner; WCT, William C. Turner; RHW, Roland H. Wauer.—PATRICIA R. SNIDER, (*Mrs. Carl E.*), 4432-A Alabama St., Los Alamos, N. Mex. 87544.