

# Colorado Birds

The Colorado Field Ornithologists' Quarterly

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### Front Cover

Short-billed Dowitchers at Chatfield State Park on 30 April 2005. Photo by Bill Schmoker.

### CFO WEBSITE

We invite you to browse the Colorado Field Ornithologists' website. If you don't own a computer, check your local library. Visit the site regularly because new items and changes appear often. The Internet address is:

<http://www.cfo-link.org>

## **CFO BOARD MINUTES**

Lisa Edwards, Secretary

The regular quarterly meeting was held August 20 at 10:00 A.M. Board members present were President Norm Lewis, Vice President Bill Schmoker, Treasurer David Waltman, and Directors Maggie Boswell, Cheryl Day, Doug Faulkner, Rachel Hopper, Mark Peterson, Larry Semo, and Glenn Walbek. Secretary Lisa Edwards and Director Tom McConnell sent their regrets. The minutes of the April meeting were approved.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Norm said he was pleased to assume the presidency of an excellent board. His impression of this year's convention was that it went well for the participants. He offered suggestions for better organization for next year's convention.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

CFO's current liquid assets are \$36,569.80. The retail value of the merchandise inventory is \$6,018.50. The Treasurer's report was approved.

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

The Board listened to a presentation by Chris Wood on eBird, operated by the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. The cost for CFO would be \$9,000, which would entitle CFO to have its logo on a website, and have access to the raw data. Chris needs a decision within 1-2 months. The consensus of the Board was that it would not be in CFO's best interest to spend \$9,000 to join eBird.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Maggie Boswell reported that there are 411 active members, including 52 out-of-state and 15 institutional members.

### **WEBSITE**

- 1) The merchandise sales part of the website has been updated. It was agreed that more advertising should be done to promote web merchandise sales.
- 2) The County Birding Sites section will be up soon. County checklists can be printed from the website. A state checklist can also be printed from the web, which will make it unnecessary to sell checklists. It was agreed that the checklists should include information on how to join CFO.
- 3) Colorado Birding Trail - Rachel Hopper, Nathan Pieplow and Scott Hutchings met with Colorado Division of Wildlife people to discuss the possibility of a partnership in production of the Colorado Birding Trail website.

4) COBIRDS archives - Archives are deleted from the server after 30 days, and CFO may want to do something someday to preserve the archives.

### AWARDS

It was agreed to provide plaques with photos to two households for extraordinary hospitality to the Colorado birding community this past year.

### FIELDTRIPS

Bill Schmoker reported that Nathan Pieplow will do a Sprague's Pipit field trip on 9 October, and a South Dakota winter trip. A variety of other trips are being considered.

### COLORADO BIRDS

Doug Faulkner reported that the July issue is just out. Printing will increase to 600 due to increased membership, but he will check with institutions that get multiple copies to see if the extra copies are necessary.

### CBRC

Larry Semo reported the second batch of 2003 records are out for votes, and will be reported in the October issue of *Colorado Birds*. The third batch of 2003 records are being duplicated now. The first 2004 records will soon be considered by the committee. Scott Hutchings, CFO's website consultant, is working on expansion of the CBRC website to provide more information on the work of the committee.

### PROJECT FUND

Cheryl has updated the guidelines for proposal preparation with the support of the board.

### CONVENTIONS

Rachel Hopper proposed that the next convention be at Sterling on Memorial Day weekend, and provided a great deal of detailed information on the Ramada Inn facilities and costs. The Board approved the proposal, and authorized Rachel to contact potential keynote speakers. David Waltman proposed that the convention registration fee be waived for trip leaders. The board approved.

The next Board Meeting will be held at the home of Tom and Kay McConnell in No Name, CO at 11:00 A.M. on November 5, 2005.

The board meeting was adjourned at 3:45 P.M.

## **2006 YOUNG BIRDER TRACK, TUCSON, AZ**

Elise M. S. Becker  
CFO Scholarship Fund Recipient

Tuesday morning dawned bright and clear in Fort Collins, CO., where I was staying. I woke with the sun, sleepy, but full of excited anticipation. I would be in Tucson, AZ., in just a few hours to attend the first ever Young Birder Track, or YBT, at the ABA Convention, for my mom's and my plane was scheduled to get us there by 1:00 P.M. We made our final packing adjustments and were off in a hurry to catch our plane. Due to unfortunate circumstances, however, our 1:00 P.M. landing turned into an 11:00 P.M. landing.

The next morning, more unfortunate circumstances (our hotel alarm clock never rang) made me miss my 3:30 A.M. departure for the first YBT trip. The trip to California Gulch was, or so I heard, a great success, as the group saw several excellent birds, including the Five-striped Sparrow which I had desperately wanted to see. Oh well, the day was fun for me anyway as, instead of going on the trip, I spent the day attending convention workshops, including "Tyrant Flycatchers" with Alvaro Jaramillo and Chris Benesh, and Jon Dunn's "Southeast Arizona Sparrows". During these detailed lectures, we looked at numerous slides of the many North American species of flycatchers and sparrows that would help me with identification later during the field trips.

Thursday morning I was able to wake up on time, thanks to the on-the-dot wake-up call, and was on the bus to Mount Lemmon in the Santa Catalina Mountains at 5:30 A.M. On the way to Mount Lemmon we, 10 young birders and our leaders Jon Dunn, Steve Howell, Louise Zemaitis, Michael O'Brien, Jennie Duberstein, and Lori Fujimoto, made several stops and observed a good many birds including: Gambel's Quail, Northern Cardinal, Gila Woodpecker, and a few others. On one stop, we got out at a campground where we picked up Canyon Towhee, Cassin's Kingbird, Phainopepla, and many other birds. We also observed several interesting non-birds including huge swarms of Queen Ants which were fascinating due to their numbers. Unfortunately, we did not see birds feeding on them - what a spectacle that would have been! We also saw a beetle that Louise Zemaitis pointed out. If you stomped down near this beetle, it stood itself up on its head, and if you stomped again, it keeled over and played dead for a few seconds before getting up and attempting to scuttle away.

When we finally reached our destination, we did some hiking and saw, among other birds, Yellow-eyed Juncos, a flying Zone-tailed Hawk, and finally, Red-

faced Warblers. The first Red-faced Warbler we saw, we had only a fleeting glimpse of. Further up the trail, however, we got great looks at some adult males. (This was lucky as we had gone that way to check out some agitated birds, among which we hoped to find an owl. We didn't see an owl, but we did see the warblers!) On the way down, some of us also had an extensive discussion with Michael and Louise about the identification of a certain butterfly we found along the trail. After our eventful morning of birding, we returned to the hotel and were allowed a short break before our first workshop.

Jon Dunn taught the first workshop on "Tyrant Flycatchers". I was glad to be drilled on flycatchers again, because I know that is one of my weaknesses, and flycatchers are such a difficult group to differentiate the species. Following that, we had a workshop taught by Michael O'Brien and Louise Zemaitis on "Improving Observation Skills: Sketching and Note-taking". In their workshop, we were shown glimpses of bird slides which we discussed as a group to practice noting size, shape, color, and behavior, then we also sketched the slides. Louise and Michael were encouraging and full of helpful tips and pointers.

Friday's trip was my very favorite. We set out in the morning for the Huachuca Mountains where we would be birding in Carr and Miller canyons. Miller Canyon was the highlight of my trip, as we observed hundreds of my favorite family of birds - hummingbirds. We observed enormous quantities of these beautiful birds, coming to the three feeding stations at Beatty's Guest Ranch, including Anna's, Magnificent, Broad-billed, Costa's, White-eared, Black-chinned, Broad-tailed, Calliope, Rufous, and Blue-throated Hummingbirds (On the way up the canyon, we picked up a Blue-throated Hummingbird who was attracted to our van's tail-lights!). One of my favorite hummingbirds was a Berylline x Magnificent hybrid, which we all got to observe for some time, getting great looks. Also at the Beatty's Guest Ranch, we were treated to a truly amazing sight - two Black-tailed Rattlesnakes in a vicious duel (or doing a mating dance - there was speculation going both ways)!

The trip to the Huachucas coupled with the other days made my trip to Tucson for the first ever Young Birder Track extremely enjoyable, and I am glad that the ABA included it in this year's annual convention. I would like to thank the ABA Education Program and the Colorado Field Ornithologists, for without their scholarships, I could not have attended the YBT. I would also like to thank the ABA for running the YBT, which I was very fortunate to attend and think was a huge success!

## **BARROW'S GOLDENEYE IN COLORADO**

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The first North American nesting confirmation of Barrow's Goldeneye was recorded in Colorado at the mouth of the Blue River in Middle Park in 1876 (Brewer 1879). Over the next few years, several more observations were reported and a few specimens and egg sets were collected in Middle Park (Brewer 1879). Breeding was also reported in La Plata County, and in 1886, downy young were seen at the upper lake of St. Vrain Creek in Boulder County (Bailey and Niedrach 1965). Following that observation, this species inexplicably disappeared from the state as a breeding bird, and for a century was considered only a rare winter visitor to the state.

In 1988, Hugh and Urling Kingery, working with the Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas project, found Barrow's Goldeneyes at Crescent Lake in the Flat Tops Wilderness (Kingery 1989), and encouraged other field workers to look for breeding Barrow's Goldeneyes in the area. In response, Mary Cunningham-Massey, a biologist on the White River National Forest, working with Jim Ringleman of the Colorado Division of Wildlife and other contributing partners, initiated a waterfowl inventory on the Flat Tops. In 1992 they documented 45 young (9 broods), 25 females, for a total of 70 Barrow's Goldeneye (Cunningham-Massey 1993). Since 1992, White River National Forest Biologists have conducted searches for broods in six years (Table 1) with varying success (from 0 to 15 broods) and estimate there may be up to a couple dozen nesting goldeneyes in favorable years. Interviews with Colorado Division of Wildlife personnel conducted in 1995 resulted in the belated discovery of other observations of goldeneye broods in the 1980s and in observations of hens entering spruce cavities (C. Reichert pers. comm.).

Table 1. Summary of Barrow's Goldeneye breeding documentation on the Flat Tops 1982-2005.

Year	Comments	Location	Source
1982	Female, 1 brood	SE of Clinard Lake	C. Reichert
1988	Female, 1 brood	1 mi. SE of Twin Lakes	C. Reichert
1988	2 prospecting females	Crescent Lake	H. Kingery
1989	Female, 1 brood	1 mi. SE of Twin Lakes	C. Reichert
1990	Female, 1 brood	1 mi. SE of Twin Lakes	C. Reichert
1991	Female, 1 brood	1 mi. SE of Twin Lakes	C. Reichert
1991	Female, 1 brood	S of Oyster Lake	C. Reichert
1991	Female observed flying into cavity	SE of Twin Lakes	C. Reichert
1992	9 broods, 45 young	Twin Lakes to Wall Lake	M. C-M.
1993	43 females w/ 0 broods, no production	Twin Lakes to Wall Lake	M. C-M.
1995	3 pair noted in June	Pond above Willow Lake	J. Wilson
1995	1 pair noted 23 June	S of Horse Lake	M. Wunder
1996	Female with 1 brood, 4 young	Wall Lake	K. Potter
1996	15 birds, mixture of young & adults	Little Crescent Lake	J. LaFleur
1998	15 broods; total of 82 birds	Twin Lakes to Wall Lake	K. Potter
2002	5 broods, 32 young	Little Crescent to Wall Lake	K. Potter
2003	2 broods-14 young	Twin Lakes to Wall Lake	K. Potter
2004	2 broods-15 young	Oyster Lake to Little Crescent Lake	K. Potter
2005	3 broods-22 young	Twin lakes to Little Crescent Lake	K. Potter

Note: M. C-M. = M. Cunningham-Massey

During the 1990s, and perhaps somewhat earlier, birders had noted sizeable flocks of Barrow's Goldeneyes in late fall at lakes and fish hatcheries around the flanks of the Flat Tops, and in 1999, a small group of birders attempted a one-day count of several of these sites. They found 229 birds at eight sites. In 2000, Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory's *Monitoring Colorado's Birds* program expanded on the 1999 count, recruiting volunteers to canvass as much open water as possible looking for wintering Barrow's Goldeneyes (Leukering et al. 2001). This count has been repeated in late November or early



December annually since then, and each year more than 200 bodies of water have been surveyed. Over six years of counts, Barrow's Goldeneyes have been detected at 33 sites, but a handful of these sites has accounted for a preponderance of the birds on each count (Table 2). Most of these sites are near the known breeding area in the Flat Tops Wilderness Area, with Lake Avery, which lies on the west edge of the Flat Tops in Rio Blanco County, accounting for approximately 25% of the total of each count (Table 3). Three of the top 15 sites are some distance from the Flat Tops: Jerry Creek Reservoirs in Mesa County, Blue Mesa Reservoir in Gunnison County, and Horsetooth Reservoir in Larimer County. Regular presence of Barrow's Goldeneyes at these sites may suggest an influx of birds from outside of the state, undiscovered breeding areas within the state, or a dispersal pattern that we do not yet understand.

Table 2. Summary of Barrow's Goldeneye counts, 1999-2004.

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
#sites with BAGO	8	16	21	16	21	14
Total # of BAGO	229	109	216	189	245	226
% at top 5 sites	83	40	69	69	63	73
% at top 10 sites	86	75	86	89	83	77
% at top 15 sites	99	91	92	95	96	98

Table 3. Top 10 Locations for Barrow's Goldeneyes during late fall/early winter counts, 1999-2004.

County	Site	Years	Total	% of count
Rio Blanco	Lake Avery	6	289	24
Garfield	Rifle Falls Fish Hatchery	5	159	13
Gunnison	Blue Mesa Reservoir	4	124	11
Mesa	Jerry Creek Reservoirs	5	123	10
Grand	Grand Lake	4	110	9
Moffat	Yampa River	2	64	5
Garfield	Rifle Gap Reservoir	5	48	4
Eagle	Blue Lake	4	43	4
Grand	Shadow Mountain	3	41	3
Grand	Lake Granby	2	39	3

Although a number of details remain to be worked out, research on Barrow's Goldeneye conducted in other areas combined with the work conducted by the *Breeding Bird Atlas*, U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Colorado Division of Wildlife and Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory over the past 15 years, enables us to hypothesize a pattern of Barrow's Goldeneye's annual cycle in Colorado. In mid-May to early June, the birds (200-250) arrive at the lakes in the Flat Tops Wilderness Area. Some pairs (up to two dozen?) set up territories and the females each lay a clutch of eggs. Inexperienced females may spend the summer prospecting for a likely site to nest the following year. Most of the goldeneyes probably nest in spruce snags; no nests have been located on the Flat Tops, but Engelmann spruce snags that died as a result of a massive spruce budworm infestation in the 1940s are abundant in the area, and many of them have broken off and have hollow tops, which are known to be favored nest sites in other areas (Eadie et al. 2000).

In studies in other areas, clutch size ranged from 6 to 12 and the average duration of the laying period was 14 days. After the last egg has been laid (mid-to late June), the females begin a 30-day incubation period. Eggs hatch in mid-to late July, and 24 to 36 hours after hatching the youngsters leave the nest and follow the female to a brood lake, which may be up to one kilometer away. Females with prior experience usually return to previous nest sites, and Forest Service surveys on the Flat Tops have repeatedly found broods at the same small lakes. The ducklings are precocious and require little care, but the broods stick closely together for two to three weeks, the target period for brood surveys. The young can fly when they are 56-65 days old (Eadie et al. 2000).

The males leave the nest sites 7 to 10 days after incubation begins and move to larger lakes in the area to molt and to associate with other post-breeding males and nonbreeders. Wall Lake and Twin Lakes each typically host substantial numbers—50 or more—of Barrow's Goldeneyes in mid-summer. It is unknown whether these birds are molting males, nonbreeding males, nonbreeding females, or some combination of these. In other parts of this species' breeding range, the males are known to travel long distances to molting areas (Robert et al. 2002), but this appears to not be the case with Colorado's population. However, careful surveys of these lakes during this period are needed.

In mid-September, hatch-year birds join the adults at staging lakes - probably the same lakes used by post-breeding males and non-breeders. The flocks remain until the lakes begin to freeze, usually late October or early November, and then move down slope to the nearest suitable open water, remaining on these lakes as long as they are open, some throughout the winter. If and when these lakes freeze, the birds apparently move on to lower elevations or to open

ivers. It is unknown how widely they disperse at this point.

Colorado's Barrow's Goldeneyes constitute the southernmost breeding population of this species. It is a very small population (ca. 200-300 birds) and it is probably also fairly recent. A study of nesting waterfowl on the lakes and ponds of the White River Plateau conducted in 1952 and 1953 found no goldeneyes (Frary 1954). It would take several years for suitable nest cavities to develop in the snags created by the spruce budworm infestation of the 1940s, so it is likely that the population had not been long established before it was first detected. The area may eventually see a loss of these birds as nearly all potential cavities are in old snags that will fall long before they will be replaced; however, for the time being the population appears to be stable or increasing.

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Male and female Barrow's Goldeneye in Silverthorne, Summit County, on 26 Dec 2002.  
Photo by Tony Leukering.

### **CFO SUPPORTS ETHICS CODES**

The Colorado Field Ornithologists is dedicated to the conservation of avian species and to increasing the public awareness of human impact on birds. As one step toward achieving these goals, the CFO Board has endorsed the American Birding Association's (ABA) *Birding Code of Ethics* and the Ornithological Council (OC) of North American Ornithological Societies' *Code of Ethics*.

## THE 40<sup>TH</sup> REPORT OF THE COLORADO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

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### Introduction

The Colorado Bird Records Committee (hereafter, CBRC or Committee) here provides the 40th report of its deliberations on submissions to the CBRC for documentation and archival purposes. In this article, I provide the results of the circulation of 44 reports submitted by 27 observers documenting 35 occurrences of 30 species. This article deals primarily with occurrences in 2003, but with a sizable number of occurrences from recent years that for various reasons had not previously been published. All reports originating from a year prior to 2003 have the year **bold-faced**. Of the reports here considered, the CBRC accepted 29 records of 24 species and did not accept six reports (of six species). Per CBRC by-laws, all accepted records received final 7-0 or 6-1 votes to accept. Each report that was not accepted received fewer than four votes to accept in the final vote for that report.

The documents reviewed here include the second accepted record of Costa's Hummingbird, two accepted records of occurrences of Baird's Sparrow in Baca County in April 2000, and the first West Slope record of Grasshopper Sparrow to be accepted by the CBRC – there is a specimen record from Gunnison County and a previous sight report from Montezuma County cited in Andrews and Righter (1992). The CBRC has also accepted three first county records for Eurasian Collared-Dove; there is a backlog of first-county-record reports to review of this species which the Committee hopes to tackle soon. Please recall that the CBRC had asked for documentations for all potential first-county records of the species (Semo et al. 2002, Semo and Leukering 2004).

The state list total remains at 477. Reports of Black Vulture and Kelp Gull are still circulating, and, if accepted, would add to the state list. Additionally, the CBRC has decided to review all archived reports of Bendire's Thrasher, as it did for jaegers a couple years ago (see Leukering 2003); the results should be published in the near future in *Colorado Birds*. The top seven observers submitting the most documents for inclusion here are: Jim Beatty (8), Tony Leukering (6), and Patrick Gould, Karleen Schofield, Dick Schottler, David Silverman, and an unnamed observer (2 each). Committee members voting on

these reports were Coen Dexter, Tony Leukering, Ric Olson, Brandon Percival, Karleen Schofield, Larry Semo, John Vanderpoel, and Christopher L. Wood.

### **Addendum**

Responding to the direct request in the 38<sup>th</sup> report (Leukering and Semo 2004b), John Rees of New Mexico, sent in lovely photographs of the Blackpoll Warbler at Pastorius Reservoir, *La Plata*, in May 2002 (2002-47). Thanks, John! Now, hopefully, others will respond to a similar request concerning a Yellow-throated Warbler (see below).

### **Corrigenda**

In the 37<sup>th</sup> CBRC report (Leukering and Semo 2004a), the Reddish Egret at Prewitt Reservoir was published with the wrong accession number (2002-77); it is actually 2002-135. The accession number of 2002-77 correctly belongs to the Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher published in the same report.

In the 38<sup>th</sup> CBRC report (Leukering and Semo 2004b), the second-round vote tally for the Fort Morgan Eurasian Collared-Dove (2001-147) was incorrectly listed as 7-0; it was actually 6-1.

In the 39<sup>th</sup> CBRC report (Leukering and Semo 2005), a document was mistakenly omitted from the circulation of the Wood Thrush record from *Baca* (2003-43). So, please add Jim Beatty to the very short list of documenting observers and add 4 May 2003 to the time period accepted for the record.

### **Committee Functions**

All reports received (written documentation, photographs, videotapes, and/or sound recordings) by the CBRC are archived at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 Colorado Boulevard, Denver, CO 80205, where they remain available for public review. The Committee solicits documentation of reports in Colorado for all species published in its review list, both the main and supplementary lists (Semo et al. 2002, Semo and Leukering 2004), and for reports of species with no prior accepted records in Colorado. While documentary materials can be submitted in hard copy to Larry Semo (CBRC Chair; see address on the CBRC form provided inside the journal's dustcover), the CBRC would greatly appreciate submission via the new CBRC website, which is now online ([www.cfo-link.org](http://www.cfo-link.org); follow links to the CBRC website). Members' term-expiration dates are printed on this journal's masthead.

### **Report Format**

The organization and style of this report follow that of Leukering and Semo (2003), with some alterations. This report consists of three parts: Part I consists

of accepted records, Part II lists those reports that were not accepted because the documentation did not support the identification and/or eliminate all similar species, and Part III lists those reports of birds whose identification was not questioned but whose wild origin was. The CBRC wishes to reiterate at this time that the main reason reports are not accepted is that those reports either do not support the identification or do not fully describe the bird in question, thus failing to eliminate all other identification contenders.

The nomenclature and sequence of these lists follow that of A.O.U. (1998) and supplements. As of 1 January 2002, the CBRC removed from the main review list, but only from the main review list, those species preceded by the pound, or number, sign (#; Semo et al. 2002), thus the reports here are from a period when the species were on the main review list. Those species' names preceded by the plus symbol (+) are species that are rare in certain parts of the state or at certain times of the year and for which the CBRC requests documentation from those areas (Semo et al. 2002, Semo and Leukering 2004). Also in 2002, the CBRC added a few species to the state review list for which there are numerous previous reports and these species are indicated by a preceding caret (^); the number of accepted records listed for these species is, obviously, only those accepted since 2002. Finally, an asterisk (\*) preceding a species' name indicates that the species is not currently on any CBRC review list (Semo et al. 2002), but that the report is of some interest, due to location, date, plumage, etc., but for which documentation would not be required.

The numbers in parentheses after each species' name represent the total number of accepted records for Colorado followed by the number of accepted records in the past ten years (1995-2004). The latter number is of importance, as it is one of the criteria for a species' placement on the main CBRC review list (Semo et al. 2002). However, note that the number of accepted records will decline for some species as the CBRC tackles the backlog of determinations as to how many of the accepted records are simply recurrences in subsequent years of a known individual.

Within each species account, records are listed chronologically by first date of occurrence. Each record presents as much of the following information as I have available: number of birds, age, sex, locality, county, and date or date span. In parentheses, I present the initials of the contributing observer(s), the official record number, and the vote tally in the first round and, if relevant, second round (with the number of "accept" votes on the left side of the dash).

The initials of the finder(s) of the bird(s) are underlined and presented first if that person (those people) contributed documentation; additional contribu-

tors' initials follow in alphabetical order by last name. If the finder(s) is (are) known with certainty, but did not submit documentation, those initials are presented last. Observers submitting a photograph or video image have a dagger (†) following their initials and those that submitted video are indicated by a lower-case, italicized "v" (v). Thus, the parenthetical expression of a report in Part I "(JDv, RA†, PEL, BR, DAS; 2002-36; 4-3, 5-2)" means: JD found the bird(s) and submitted documentation (including video) and as the finder, is first in the list of those that submitted details with initials underlined; RA, though alphabetically first of the five submitting observers, was not the finder, so comes second; RA submitted, at least, photographic documentation; the record number assigned to the occurrence was 2002-36; and in the three rounds of voting, the first-round vote was four "accepted" votes and three "not accepted" votes, the second-round vote was 5-2 in favor of accepting the report, and since this report was listed in Part I, the report was accepted at a CBRC meeting. The decision on most reports is completed on the first round.

In this report, county names are italicized, in keeping with the style established for the *News from the Field* column in this journal (e.g., Semo and Wood 2003). I have attempted to provide the full date span for individual records, with the seasonal reports in *North American Birds* and this journal being the primary sources of those dates. The Committee has not dealt with the question of full date spans as compared to submitted date spans.

Abbreviations used in this report are: **BLSP**=Barr Lake SP, *Adams*; **BR**=Bonny Res., *Yuma*; **CBR**=Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso/Pueblo* (county indicated in account); **CVCG**=Crow Valley Campground, Pawnee National Grassland, *Weld*; **FLWE**=Ft. Lyon Wildlife Easement, *Bent*; **JR**=Jackson Res., *Morgan*; **LCC**=Lamar Community College, *Prowers*; **Res.**=reservoir; **SP**=State Park; **SWA**=State Wildlife Area.

### **Part I: RECORDS ACCEPTED**

TRUMPETER SWAN - *Cygnus buccinator* (23/12). An adult stood on Colorado River ice near Wolcott, *Eagle*, 30 December 2003 (JLB; 2003-6; 7-0). The out-of-state birder submitting documentation provided a nice sketch of the bill that helped the Committee in making a decision on the record.

^TUNDRA SWAN - *Cygnus columbianus* (5/5). Five adults escorting a juvenile/immature undoubtedly caused Beatty a slight elevation of blood pressure when he found them at Pastorius Reservoir 26 November 2003 (JB; 2003-146; 7-0). This occurrence probably accounts for the first *La Plata* record of the species, as Righter et al. (2004) does not map it there.



GLOSSY IBIS - *Plegadis falcinellus* (33/29). An adult in alternate that graced Highway 52 about 0.2 mi. west of the *Weld* line in *Boulder*, 13 May 2002 (NP †; 2002-214; 7-0), provided only the second accepted county record and the first since 1989. Another alternate-plumaged adult was along US 160 about 2 miles east of Hayden 28 April 2003 (MI; 2003-41; 7-0). This individual was the first found in Routt and only the second found on the West Slope; the first was at Sweitzer Lake, *Delta*, and provided the first state record back in 1986.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK - *Buteo platypterus*. An adult was found along Highway 14 between Sheep and Red mountains, west of Stove Prairie Road, on 25 April 2001 (DF; 2002-210; 7-0) for a rare record away from the eastern plains.

+WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER - *Calidris fuscicollis*. As this species is quite rare on the West Slope, the sighting of nine individuals at Fruitgrowers Reservoir, *Delta*, 6 June 2003 (JB; 2003-140; 7-0) is of more than passing interest. These birds were found on a CFO pre-convention trip and enjoyed by many, though the Committee received only one documentation.

AMERICAN WOODCOCK - *Scolopax minor* (6/2). An individual heard peenting at the woodlot on the north side of Lake Henry, *Crowley*, 19 February 2001 (BKP; 2001-6; 5-2, 6-1) provided only the sixth accepted state record (in the sixth county, interestingly enough). Two recent reports from *Yuma* have yet to be submitted to the Committee.

POMARINE JAEGER - *Stercorarius pomarinus* (18/9). The CBRC is here finally publishing the results of voting on three older Pomarine Jaeger records, all of them of dark-morph juveniles. The first chased gulls at Standley Lake, *Jefferson*, 30-31 October 1999 (TL, NE; 2000-42; 7-0), though documented from the second date only. The second report had previously circulated and been not accepted (Lisowsky 2001), but with additional information, it was recirculated and accepted – Pueblo Reservoir, Pueblo, 6 November 1999 (DSi; 1999-48; 5-2, 6-1). Finally, another report that had previously been not accepted (Lisowsky 2001) that with additional documentation provided after the first decision was made, was recirculated and accepted. This last was at Cherry Creek Reservoir, *Arapahoe*, 15 November to at least 6 December 1999 (BB, TL; 1999-49; 7-0).

PARASITIC JAEGER - *Stercorarius parasiticus* (7/3). A dark-morph juvenile was present at Chatfield, *Douglas* and *Jefferson*, 9-13 October 2000, with submissions covering 10-12 October (TL, RO, DSc, JBH, JK; 2000-46; 7-0).

ARCTIC TERN - *Sterna paradisaea* (8/4). One juvenile was accepted by the

Committee as occurring at Chatfield, *Douglas* (only), 8-9 October **2000** (KS, DS, JK; 2000-66; 6-1). Though two birds were reportedly present 7-10 October, both documents received described only one Arctic Tern, so the CBRC is accepting only one. The CBRC will certainly entertain changing its collective mind on the number should it receive additional documentation describing two birds.

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE - *Streptopelia decaocto*. The Committee accepted first-county reports for three counties in this batch of reports. The first *Kit Carson* record was of two birds found about one mile west of Burlington on 14 April **2001** (TL, LS †; 2001-174; 7-0). *La Plata*'s first accepted record was provided by a single bird at the home of Katherine Ortega near Durango 31 March 2003 (JB, KO; 2003-147; 7-0). The document provided also mentioned a separate occurrence near Durango in April 2003, but the document only describes one bird, so the CBRC has accepted that one and ignored the April occurrence. Also, the mention of the *La Plata* record in the relevant *News from the Field* column (Semo et al. 2003) cites the date as 21 March; the CBRC accepts the date on the documentation. Finally, *Boulder* scored its first with a single bird at Doudy Draw 7 May 2003 (SP; 2003-30; 7-0).

COSTA'S HUMMINGBIRD - *Calypte costae* (2/2). An immature male was captured for banding at the Colorado State University field campus at Pingree Park, *Larimer*, 4 August 2003 (BW, TJ, CE †; 2003-64; 7-0) and Colorado racked up only its second accepted record.

+EASTERN BLUEBIRD - *Sialia sialis*. A male was found by the late Jack Merchant along Brush Creek Road southwest of Eagle 2-3 April **2000** (JM; 2001-10; 7-0), thus providing the first *Eagle* record.

VARIED THRUSH - *Ixoreus naevius* (21/12). A female, beautifully photographed, graced the Bell residence in Ft. Collins, *Larimer*, 1-3 January 2003 (NB; 2003-4; 7-0).

#GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER - *Vermivora chrysoptera*. A male was seen in the Mead yard in Lakewood, *Jefferson*, 11 May **2001** (KS; 2001-57; 7-0). Karleen Schofield visited the Meads and wrote notes for them and submitted the sole documentation of the bird.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER - *Dendroica dominica* (28/10). A singing male took up brief residence at Pueblo City Park, *Pueblo*, 27 May - 5 June 2003 (DSi, MCL; 2003-47; 7-0). Despite reportedly being photographed by at least two observers, the Committee received no pictures of this relatively obliging individual; it is never too late to submit such.

PRAIRIE WARBLER - *Dendroica discolor* (23/13). Two singing males were found at the Wagon Wheel Campground at Bonny Reservoir, *Yuma*,

6 May 2003 (JB; 2003-138; 6-1). The reporter believed there to possibly have been a female also, but there was no support in the documentation for that, so the CBRC here accepts only the two males.

+BLACKPOLL WARBLER - *Dendroica striata*. An immature flopped into a mist net at a Trout Creek banding station, *Teller*, 5 September 2003 (PG †; 2003-70; 7-0) for a potential first county record.

HOODED WARBLER - *Wilsonia citrina*. An immature was a nice find behind the Home Depot in Durango, *La Plata*, 2 September 2003 (JB; 2003-142; 6-1). Righter et al. (2004) list only two West Slope records and does not include this one.

+FIELD SPARROW - *Spizella pusilla*. A Field Sparrow captured, banded, and nicely photographed at Gould's banding station along Trout Creek 22 May 2003 (PG †; 2003-35; 7-0) provided a first *Teller* record. This record, from ~7800', also just misses being the high-elevation record for the state, being surpassed only by a record cited in Andrews and Righter (1992) from Shadow Mountain Village, *Grand*, at ~7900'.

+GRASSHOPPER SPARROW - *Ammodramus savannarum*. A fall migrant skulked at Totten Reservoir, *Montezuma*, 19 September 2003 (JB; 2003-144; 7-0) and provided a very rare West Slope record. Righter et al. (2004) list only four records from the West Slope and none since 1996.

BAIRD'S SPARROW - *Ammodramus bairdii* (11/4). The CBRC accepted two separate occurrences from April 2000 in *Baca*. The first was of at least two birds in southeastern Comanche NG (about 6 mi. southeast of Campo) on 22 April (TL, CLW; 2000-151; 7-0) and the second was of four individuals in a Conservation Reserve Program field on the east side of 8 Road near P Road on 30 April (TL; 2001-170; 7-0). Though the species is reported extremely infrequently in the state, a quick ogling of the species' breeding and non-breeding distributions would strongly suggest that it occurs regularly in the state in migration. The first record mentioned here was the result of an organized effort to search for Baird's Sparrow at a site at which it had previously been seen (see Lisowsky 2000).

LE CONTE'S SPARROW - *Ammodramus lecontei* (10/4). At least eight spent the winter of 2002-2003 in a marsh on the west edge of John Martin Reservoir, *Bent*, but only six were documented and only on 20 December 2002 (BM; 2002-116; 7-0).

PAINTED BUNTING - *Passerina ciris* (26/16). A male with a mixture of red and yellow underparts graced the Geiger yard about eight miles west of Evergreen in *Clear Creek* 15-16 May 2003 (JG †; 2003-37; 7-0).

**Part II: RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED, IDENTIFICATION NOT ESTABLISHED**

EURASIAN WIGEON - *Anas penelope* (24/6). A female reported from an unnamed lake west of Pagosa Springs, *Archuleta*, 11 November 2003 (2003-145; 2-5). The description was reasonable, but since the observer did not see the bird fly, and thus could not determine the color of the axillars, some CBRC members felt that a hybrid wigeon was not ruled out. I found a female wigeon at Utah Park, *Arapahoe* (when the Black Brant was there in fall 1999), with plumage perfectly consistent with that of female Eurasian Wigeon. That is, until review of photos showed the axillars were white as in American Wigeon, and not gray as in Eurasian Wigeon. So, the bird was almost certainly a hybrid.

CURLEW SANDPIPER - *Calidris ferruginea* (1/1). An adult in basic plumage was reported from Jackson Reservoir, *Morgan*, 28 September 2003 (2003-108; 1-6). In the minds of most CBRC members, the description provided did not rule out Stilt Sandpiper or Dunlin, either of which would have been more likely.

+LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL - *Larus fuscus*. The record of an adult gull identified as a Lesser Black-backed Gull and photographed at Walden Reservoir, *Jackson*, 23 June 2003 was not accepted (2003-77; 0-7). Though the single picture provided was illustrative, showing the white head and yellow bill with red gonydeal spot completely lacking black, some members felt that they could not rule out a hybrid gull of some sort. Unfortunately, the written description was very brief and did not allow for identification of the bird in question. The CBRC would be happy to entertain recirculating this record should more photographs come to light that would assist in putting a name to the bird.

#WHITE-EYED VIREO - *Vireo griseus*. An individual reported as an immature from Bohart Ranch, *El Paso*, 22 September **2001** (2001-83; 5-2, 1-6) was not accepted as the Committee felt that the description also fit Bell's Vireo, which, incidentally, would have been a rarer bird at the location.

CERULEAN WARBLER - *Dendroica cerulea* (3/1). A report of a female along a bike trail near C-470 in Douglas 31 May **2001** (2003-15; 3-4) was not accepted due to concerns that female Tennessee Warbler had not been eliminated by the description provided.

CANADA WARBLER - *Wilsonia canadensis* (25/8). A report of a bird identified as a Canada Warbler was submitted as occurring at Fort Lyon Wildlife Easement, *Bent*, 22 April **2001** (2003-12; 1-6). Committee members were concerned that the description did not

completely rule out other possibilities, probably due to the admittedly brief and somewhat obstructed views had of the bird by the reporter. It is unfortunate that none of the other birders there that day (chasing Yellow-throated Vireo and Blue-winged and Worm-eating warblers) saw the bird.

### Reporters and Cited Observers

Jocelyn Lee Baker, Jim Beatty, Nancy Bell, Bob Brown, David Elwonger, Donna Emmons, Carol English, Norm Erthal, Doug Faulkner, Jeffrey Geiger, Patrick Gould, Marshall Iliff, Tina Jones, Joey Kellner, Marie Cécile Lee, Tony Leukering, Bill Maynard, Jack Merchant, Katherine Ortega, Ric Olson, Brandon K. Percival, Nathan Pieplow, Suzi Plooster, Karleen Schofield, Dick Schottler (DSc), Larry Semo, Dave Silverman (DSi), Dixie Smith, Andrew Spencer, Brenda Wiard, Christopher L. Wood.

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## NEWS FROM THE FIELD: THE SPRING 2005 REPORT (MARCH - MAY)

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Spring 2005 was dominated by the wind. While Coloradans are habituated to gusty gales, those nebbish repiners from other regions of the country may spurn the thought of birding if they feel the slightest wisp of breeze on their brow. Not we stalwarts who commonplace are seen sitting cross-legged peering through our scopes rising only two feet off the earth with both hands firmly grasping our optics for fear that if we let go, we would tumble away with the tumbleweeds. But despite the fact that we pride ourselves for our abilities to stand like mighty oaks against Mother Nature's breath, we can only see (or think we see) what is there. If the birds aren't there, we could blame it on the darn wind for keeping the birds low or inactive. But the wind also allows birds to quite effortlessly sail over our fair state. And, based on comments from many observers this past spring, that seems to have been the case. Many commented that it was one of the worst (if not THE worst) year they remember for passerine observations, especially those alluring eastern warblers. While the weather varied from region to region and month to month from normal temperatures and precipitation to below or above levels, it was the wind that adamantly remained strong, especially in May. During May, winds for the majority of the month were of a very tenacious, southerly component, a paragonistic recipe for birds to continue heading north. Despite the difficult conditions for viewing birds, however, we still chronicled a very interesting avian pattern through the season.

An amazing total of 375 species was reported during the season. One potential first state record was detected in *Mesa*, that being a Black-chinned Sparrow, which is a species considered not impossible to show up in Colorado. A great diversity of other vagabonds were also beheld. Two Brant, one a hold-over from winter, graced *Arapahoe*. Five Trumpeter and six Tundra Swans were reported during their travels northward, and three Eurasian Wigeon were tallied. The wintering Red-throated Loon at Pueblo lingered until almost the middle of May. One observer noted an adult Brown Pelican at Cherry Creek Reservoir, though no other fortunate birders slapped bins on it. A wayward Neotropic Cormorant spent almost a month at Bonny Reservoir before heading

somewhere unknown. The Tricolored Heron in *Bent* pleased some, though the amazing 13 Glossy Ibis reported must have befuddled others, as only four were documented. Exciting (for three birders) was the find of a Common Black-Hawk at Two Buttes, potentially the fifth record for the state. This bird was quite adequately photographed to represent the first clear evidence of the occasional presence of this frog-eating species in the state. Shorebirds also provided a bit of a thrill as one Hudsonian Godwit foraged at Beebe Draw and two Red Knots appeared at Pueblo and Upper Queens Reservoir. Though overall Larid numbers seemed low, gull aficionado's fed their habits by some key sightings. A Laughing Gull was near Lamar, two Little Gulls (very rare in spring) spun around Rifle and Barr Lake, while two Mew Gulls hid among Ringers in *Jefferson* and at Big Johnson Reservoir. Another Glaucous-winged Gull popped up at Cherry Creek Reservoir, a location that must be high on the vacationing Glaucous-winged Gull list of places to vagrate to as four of the ten previous records of this species have been from that location. If true, the five Great Black-backed Gulls reported during the season from across the Front Range would be without precedence. Closely related, an adult Arctic Tern was reported at Lake Henry in April. The colonizing Inca Doves remained along the lower Arkansas River Valley and a Black-billed Cuckoo posed for portraits at Crow Valley in May. Two gutsy hummingbirds tried to make their names as explorers, that being a potential second state record Broad-billed at Lamar and the wintering Anna's in *Mesa* that dawdled until May. Two first-year Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were spotted in *Pueblo* and *Fremont*. An Eastern Wood-Pewee report from *Routt* was an outstandingly west observation. Other Tyrannids also showed they could get lost as Vermilion Flycatchers were at Two Buttes and *Bent*, while four Scissor-tailed Flycatchers were noted from Two Buttes, Chico Basin Ranch, *Jefferson*, and *Weld*. A Philadelphia Vireo delighted some lucky enough to be at Chico Basin Ranch in May. One Gray-cheeked Thrush was spotted at Crow Valley Campground, a notorious hideout for this under-documented species. Despite the bewailing by birders that few warblers passed through, the diversity was quite favorable as at least 37 species were espied, including such goodies as returning Lucy's Warblers to Yellowjacket Canyon and Blackburnian Warblers (2), a Yellow-throated Warbler, a Prairie Warbler, a Bay-breasted Warbler, an always rousing Cerulean Warbler, an unfortunate Kentucky Warbler, who met his maker on his quest for the final frontier, and a Mourning Warbler. Hepatic Tanagers trifled with the southern part of the state again and two Scarlet's made a showing. Interesting was the report of three Eastern Towhees during the period. Hopefully observers were able to support the phenotypic purity of them. Golden-crowned Sparrows were in fine form with no fewer than four being reported from across the state. Two Painted Buntings were enjoyed by folks at Erie and Chico Basin Ranch. The "Lilian's" Eastern Meadowlarks (up to four)



continued their dueling singing with Western Meadowlarks at the Campo Lesser Prairie-Chicken lek. And let's not forget those wonderful finches, with reports of two female-type Purple Finches seen at Lamar and out west in Nucla.

Other than some of the state review bird observations listed above, there were a few potential first county records for some species, like the Cackling Goose discovered in *Jackson*. Identification of Cackling Geese is problematic at the present time and we need to remember that not all small dark geese are Cacklers. We are still attempting to determine the status and distribution of the species in the state. Stay tuned to future *Colorado Birds* articles regarding identification pitfalls and status of this relatively new identification challenge.

Early and late observations are also very important and there were a few key dates for some species again. A Snowy Plover was early on 2 April and one wonders when the first March sighting will occur in Colorado. The Olive-sided Flycatcher at *Ouray*, 14 April, should be a new early date, especially considering that most do not arrive back until the middle of May. Likewise, the Willow Flycatcher in *Larimer* on 22 April was inexplicable. A Gray Vireo seen on 19 April at *Montrose* is the earliest recorded for that species in the state. On the other end of the season, a Long-tailed Duck documented from *Weld* on 21 May will provide the latest date for the species. A Merlin in *Otero* on 26 May was unusual, as was the Lesser Black-backed Gull at Cherry Creek on 30 May.

Lastly, let us not forget about those wonderful hybrids. Hybrids can be marvelous examples of evolution, of mistakes, or of desperate birds with an extreme urge to pass on their DNA, no matter who the supplicant or recipient is. Hybrids of first filial generations can exhibit clear sharing of field marks from both interspecific pairings, can show traits illustrative of neither, or can appear to be a rather normal looking member of only one species. If that's not complicated enough, when humans try to phenotypically identify the progeny of F2s and beyond, we usually just throw our hands up in the air. That's what is exciting about finding hybrids, those birds that challenge our field identification abilities since the field marks you see may not be in any contemporary field guide. Birds thought to be hybrids reported during this past season include Blue-winged Teal x Cinnamon Teal, Glossy Ibis x White-faced Ibis, Blue-winged Warbler x Golden-winged Warbler, and Yellow Warbler x Prairie Warbler.

I wish to thank all those who contributed their sightings either to myself directly, through Cobirds, or other avenues. Without you, we cannot continue to track the status and distribution of birds in Colorado.



**Note 1:** The reports contained herein are largely unchecked, and the authors do not vouch for their authenticity. Underlined species are those for which the Colorado Bird Records Committee requests documentation. The Colorado Field Ornithologists' web site (<http://www.cfo-link.org>) has a link to the rare bird Sight Record reporting form that can be submitted electronically; the same form is also printed on the inside cover of this journal's mailer.

**Note 2:** All locations are annotated as to county the **first** time each appears; county names are NOT included with subsequent records, except for locations that are situated within multiple counties where a described sighting for that location may require information on which county the observation occurred.

**Abbreviations:** **CBRC**=Colorado Bird Records Committee; **CG**=Campground; **et al.**=and others (restricted to use for the finding group of a bird that was not seen subsequently); **m.ob.**=many observers (used for birds that were refound, either the same day or on subsequent days, by others); **NG**=National Grassland; **NWR**=National Wildlife Refuge; **Res.**=Reservoir; **SP**=State Park; **SWA**=State Wildlife Area.

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** Seemingly average numbers of this species were reported from the eastern portion of Colorado, with a high count of 120 at Jumbo Res., *Sedgwick/Logan*, on 26 March (GG, JRr). Along the Front Range, one was at Inverness, *Douglas & Arapahoe*, on 10 March (JWe), one was at Cherry Creek Res., *Arapahoe*, on 18 March (SD), and two were at Meadow Lake near Falcon, *El Paso*, between 4 and 6 April (KBo).

**Cackling Goose:** A member of the *hutchinsii* form was seen at Walden Res., *Jackson*, on 22 April (MJI), which should represent the first record of this newly split species for that county.

**Brant:** The wintering juvenile *nigricans* at Inverness Business Park lingered until at least 12 March (MPe, BKP). A juvenile *nigricans* also appeared at Cherry Creek Res. between 18 and 19 March (SD) and was believed to be a different bird than present at Inverness based on plumage dissimilarities. This second bird later reappeared at Quincy Res., *Arapahoe*, between 2 and 3 April (GW, DFa). There are eleven previously accepted records of Brant for Colorado. Documentation has been submitted to the CBRC for both the Inverness and Quincy Res. sightings.

**Trumpeter Swan:** A total of five Trumpeters were reported during the period, all from March, which is their typical spring migration pattern in Colorado. One was reported from Highline State Park, *Mesa*, on 8 March (LA). The wintering

bird in *Boulder* continued at Fentress Lake, where seen between 16 and 23 March (DW). Lastly, three (one adult, two juveniles) were reported from Fossil Creek Res., *Larimer*, on 20 March (NK). No documentation for any of these birds has been submitted to the CBRC.

**Tundra Swan:** Six were reported during the season. A group of five was seen at Brown's Park NWR, *Moffat*, on 8 March (TLi et al.) and also reported to have been photographed. A single bird loafed at Rio Blanco Res., *Rio Blanco*, between 8 and 18 March (EH, FL). Despite apparent photographs for the *Moffat* birds, the CBRC has not received documentation for either observation.

**Eurasian Wigeon:** The wintering male documented at Pueblo City Park, *Pueblo*, lingered until at least 16 April (BKP, m.ob). Another male Eurasian Wigeon was reported from Rio Blanco Res. between 28 March and 18 April (DH, FL, VZ, EH). If documented and accepted by the CBRC, this would represent the first known occurrence of this species for *Rio Blanco*. A third male was documented and photographed from Larimer County Road 64 near Wellington, *Larimer*, between 28 and 30 April (DSm, DFa).

**Blue-winged X Cinnamon Teal:** Waterfowl hybridism is certainly not a rare occurrence, and in some cases (i.e., American Black Duck and Mallard), it can be common. Blue-winged and Cinnamon Teal also mate interspecifically, which is not illogical considering that the habitat selection, social behaviors, and the plumages of females and juveniles of both species are quite similar and that their range overlaps across much of the West. Hybrid males have been noted in Colorado in the past, and at least two offspring of congeners of the parent species were reported again during the spring of 2005. The first was a returning alternate male at Walden and Sawhill Ponds, *Boulder*, on 13 March (PP). Another alternate male was seen at the Environmental Learning Center in Fort Collins, *Larimer*, on 9 May (GLr). It is possible that male Blue-winged Teal are generally the culprits in mixed pairings producing hybrids as they are typically more aggressive than male Cinnamon Teal in both intra- and interspecific social interactions (Connelly and Ball 1984).

**Greater Scaup:** There was a relative dearth of Greater Scaup through Colorado this past spring, with only 20 being reported. As a barometer, over 70 were reported during the same period last year. The range of reports was typical, with the first bird reported from 8 March and the last on 1 May. The high count was eight on 20 March from Fossil Creek Res. (NK) with other reports during the season coming from *Baca*, *Boulder*, *El Paso*, *Fremont*, *Jefferson*, *Moffat*, and *Pueblo*.

**Long-tailed Duck:** Above average (if we can even illustrate averages for this species) numbers were reported. A transitional-plumaged male was at Jumbo Res., *Sedgwick*, on 7 April (RZ et.al). One was at Thurston Res., *Prowers*, on 17 April (JKr, GW). One was at Fossil Creek Res. on 30 April (CWi). Finally, another transitional male was very late at Crom Lake, *Weld*, where documented by Faulkner on 20 and 21 May. This should represent the latest spring record of this species in the state.

**Common Goldeneye:** One remained through the end of the season at Sands Lake SWA near Salida, *Chaffee* (SY).

**Barrow's Goldeneye:** A total of 52 were reported from the state, mainly from montane areas, as usual. The latest report was of nine at Blue Mesa Res., *Gunnison*, on 16 April (MJI). The furthest east reports, all from March, came from Prospect Ponds, *Larimer* (LG), Sharp Point Ponds in Fort Collins (DEy), Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo* (MPe), McLellan Res., in *Arapahoe* (GW), and Poudre Ponds in Fort Collins (DSm).

**Hooded Merganser:** Present from the beginning of the period through at least 27 May, was a female seen at Willow Creek in Lamar, *Prowers* (DR).

**Blue Grouse:** Unusually far east was the bird present along Dinosaur Ridge in Morrison, *Jefferson*, between 5 and 24 April (JRy, BSc).

**Red-throated Loon:** The wintering bird at Pueblo Res., *Pueblo*, remained through at least 12 April (BKP).

**Pacific Loon:** Only two were reported from spring. One was the wintering bird at Pueblo Res. that lingered until 5 April (BKP). The other was of one in alternate plumage at Boulder Res., *Boulder*, on 30 April (TF, BSc).

**Common Loon:** Good numbers (41) of Common Loons were reported in the state during the season from seventeen counties. One wintered at Pueblo Res., thus was present at the beginning of the season (BKP). The last sighting was an alternate-plumaged bird at Rifle Gap Res., *Garfield*, on 30 May (ABo, NP). Other counties reports came from include *Boulder*, *Broomfield*, *Denver*, *El Paso*, *Grand*, *Gunnison*, *Jackson*, *Jefferson*, *Kiowa*, *Larimer*, *Logan*, *Ouray*, *Rio Blanco*, *Routt*, and *Yuma*.

**Red-necked Grebe:** One report was furnished, that being of a bird in basic plumage at Valmont Res., *Boulder*, on 2 March (TF, ABo).

**Eared Grebe:** The high count was of an estimated 7000 at Walden Res., Jackson, on 8 May (CDo).

**Brown Pelican:** An adult (not documented) was reported by Beltz from Cherry Creek Res. on 27 May.

**Neotropical Cormorant:** One was photographed and documented from Bonny Res., Yuma, where present between 19 April and 16 May (MJJ, JBy). If accepted by the CBRC, this may represent the 14<sup>th</sup> record for the state.

**American Bittern:** Six reports of this species were submitted, slightly less than usual. The first was of one at Coot Lake, Boulder, on 24 March (JBa). Other reports during the season included Cattail Pond, Larimer (DSm), Fruitgrowers Res., Delta (LA, AR, OP), where now regular, at Lathrop State Park in Huerfano (RMi), where unusual, and at Sawhill Ponds in Boulder (EZ).

**Great Egret:** The first report was from St. Vrain Greenway, Boulder, on 4 April (TF). Other reports came from Fremont, Huerfano, and Pueblo.

**Little Blue Heron:** An adult was at Valco Ponds, Pueblo, on 8 May (MY).

**Tricolored Heron:** One (not documented) was reported from Verhoeff Res., Bent, between 29 April and 11 May (DN, m.ob). Hopefully documentation will be forthcoming to the CBRC.

**Cattle Egret:** The first report was from Westminster, Adams, on 18 April, when three were seen (ML).

**Green Heron:** Ten were reported from this past spring, a good number for this uncommon to even slightly rare species in the state. The earliest was of a bird on 4 May at Valco Ponds, Pueblo (RMi). The remaining May birds included one at Two Buttes Res., Baca (JK, RO, GW, JR), one at the Environmental Learning Center in Fort Collins on 9 May (CWi), one at a private pond in Littleton, Jefferson, on 10 May (DC), one at the Heron Pond in north Denver, Denver, on 12 May (JE), one along the St. Vrain Greenway in Longmont on 14 May (TF), one at Hale Ponds, Yuma, on 16 May (JBy), one at Belmar Historic Park, Jefferson, on 21 May (KSc), one at the Florence River Park in Florence, Fremont, on 22 May (TL, MPe, BKP), and finally, one in Boulder on 31 May (TF).

**Glossy Ibis:** It is without doubt that Glossy Ibis have become more abundant in Colorado over the past ten years. It is correlative that as a species becomes

more “common”, the number of documentations received by the CBRC for that species declines. The spring of 2005 was without exception as 13 birds were reported from across the state, yet only four were documented. We implore birders to please document their finds as we are still trying to record the pattern of dispersal (or colonization) of this species in the state. Most neighboring states are just beginning to feel the push of Glossy’s and the data gathered from Colorado will contribute significantly to their overall pattern of distribution in the West. The thirteen reported Glossy Ibis from the past spring (and some may represent the same birds on different dates) are as follows: one at Pastorius Res., *La Plata*, on 12 April (JBy, SA), one at Lamar, *Prowers*, on 22 April (BKP, RO), one at Beebe Draw, *Weld*, on 16 April (PGe, BD), one seen and documented at Beebe Draw between 23 April and 1 May (BSc, DFa), one at Canon City, *Fremont*, on 26 April (SMo), two observed and documented north of Las Animas, *Bent*, between 30 April and 1 May (NP, ABo), one at Canon City on 2 May (SMo), one on 7 May at Union Res., *Weld* (LW et.al), another on the same date at Ellgen Ranch near Craig, *Moffat* (FL), which would represent the first for *Moffat*, if documented and accepted by the CBRC, one photographed and documented at Box Springs, *Crowley*, on 13 May (LS, BSc, DFa), and one at Franz Lake in Salida, *Chaffee* on 18 May (NP, SY), which would also represent a first county record if documented and accepted.

**Glossy x White-faced Ibis:** With the recent colonization of Glossy Ibis in the Rocky Mountain region, evidence of nesting has recently been proven in Wyoming (fide Doug Faulkner) and potentially also occurs in Colorado, since the species generally cohorts with White-faced Ibis. As the number of potential mates available for Glossy Ibis in the Rockies is still low, the chance of interspecific matings with White-faced Ibis is relatively high. Colorado, as well as other states, have been observing *Plegadis* ibis that have similarities of both Glossy and White-faced, further suggesting that hybridism between the two species is indeed occurring. Three birds illustrating traits of both species were observed in Colorado this past spring. Those included one at Lake Cheraw, *Otero*, on 19 April (MJI), one at Beebe Draw on 23 April (TL, BSc, SMe), and another at East Lake in *Jefferson* on 2 May (DFa). The CBRC encourages viewers of potential hybrid ibis to document them so that a clearer pattern of occurrence and identification characteristics becomes available.

**Turkey Vulture:** The first report came from Fort Collins, where a bird was spotted on 23 March (MO).

**Osprey:** The first Osprey reported for the season was of a bird seen at Boulder Res., *Boulder*, on 23 March (DW). An amazing 15 were found at a roost at Lathrop State Park, *Huerfano*, on 13 April (UK, HK), which certainly would

have been quite the spectacle. There is little information that suggests that Osprey roost in large numbers very often.

**Mississippi Kite:** The only out-of-range report was from *El Paso*, where one was spotted on 19 May (JPt).

**Bald Eagle:** Besides the Osprey spectacle, the Kingery's were fortunate to come across a large concentration of Bald Eagles at San Luis Lake, *Alamosa*. On 13 March, they tallied a whopping 225! Not nearly as interesting, but noteworthy nonetheless, was a late adult at Upper Queens Res., *Kiowa*, on 11 May (MPe, BKP, SN).

**Common Black-Hawk:** Exciting was the discovery of an adult at Two Buttes Res. on 19 April (MJI), which was seen later in the day by Leukering and Nelson. Iliff was fortunate to obtain quite definitive photographs of the bird, the first photographs of the presence of the species in the state, which potentially will represent the fifth record for Colorado.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** The first report for spring was of a bird at Wray, *Yuma*, on 8 April (MPe). An additional 39 Broad-wings were reported across the eastern portion of the state during the period in the following counties: *Boulder, Broomfield, Custer, Douglas, El Paso, Fremont, Huerfano, Jefferson, Larimer, Lincoln, Otero, Phillips, Prowers, and Pueblo*. The high count for a single day was of 13 birds that soared over Dinosaur Ridge Hawk Watch in *Jefferson* on 27 April (JRy).

**Rough-legged Hawk:** The latest report, which is about average, was on 16 April, when one was seen at Beecher Island, *Yuma* (NP, AS).

**Merlin:** Very late was the bird observed southwest of La Junta, *Otero*, on 26 May (SMo).

**Black Rail:** The first of the season was heard east of Fort Lyon, *Bent*, on 23 April (NP, ABo, AS), which may be the earliest record of the species, though more work is needed to determine the timing of arrival of this species in the state in spring. The high count came during the CFO Convention nocturnal trip to the Fort Lyon marshes on 13 May, when 21 were heard from various locales (LSet.al).

**Sandhill Crane:** The earliest report came on 3 March from Fruitgrowers Res. Delta (DG), though a few cranes winter in that region each year. During the spring, Galinat recorded 16,000 passing through the Fruitgrowers area. Of

interest is that a pair nested in Unaweep Canyon, *Mesa* (CDr). A pair also nested at Lower Latham Res., *Weld*, producing one youngster (SMe, m.ob). Late was the bird seen at Timpas, *Otero*, on 26 May (SMo). Also of interest was the leucistic bird found near Thurston Res., *Prowers*, on 14 March (LR).



Leucistic Sandhill Crane near Thurston Res., *Prowers*, on 14 March 2005. Photo by Lee Robinson.

**Snowy Plover:** Early were the birds that showed up at Lake Cheraw on 2 April (KL, BKP) and at Neesopah Res., *Kiowa*, on 3 April (DFa). Iliff tallied the highest count with 10 at Lake Cheraw on 17 April. The only out-of-range report was a bird seen on 11 May at Pueblo Res.

**Semipalmated Plover:** The first reports for the east slope came from *Boulder* locations on 30 April (PGe, MB, JKl, TF, BSc). The first report for the West Slope came on 13 May from Grand Junction, *Mesa*, a new earliest date for the West Slope by one day (RW).

**Piping Plover:** Besides reports from breeding locales, the only out-of-range observation was of one at Lake Cheraw on 17 April (MJI, JKr, GW, m.ob).

**Mountain Plover:** Faulkner reported seven from the Coalmont Greater Sage-Grouse lek in *Jackson* on 6 April. The status of Mountain Plover in North Park is a bit enigmatic. It was confirmed as breeding there during the *Breeding Bird Atlas*, but do not appear to be regular nesters (or are possibly overlooked).



**Black-necked Stilt:** Out-of-range migrants showed up at *Broomfield* on 24 April (EZ, DEy), Rock Canyon, *Pueblo*, on 27 April (RMi), and at McIntosh Lake in Longmont on 24 May (BK, JV, ABr, AC).

**Willet:** The high count, which must have been impressive, was the roughly 200 seen at Boulder Res. on 30 April (BSc, TF).

**Spotted Sandpiper:** The wintering bird at Dutch Clark Stadium in Pueblo remained into the spring season, where last seen on 3 March (MPe, BKP).

**Upland Sandpiper:** Out of range was the bird found by Leukering along State Highway 10 in *Pueblo* on 13 May.

**Whimbrel:** A total of six Whimbrel were reported for the spring season, a low number. The earliest report was from Bonny Res. on 28 April (RDs). Other reports came in May from *Bent*, *Boulder*, *Kiowa*, and *Pueblo*.

**Long-billed Curlew:** First report from Commanche NG, *Baca*, on 3 April (DFa).

**Hudsonian Godwit:** One was reported, but not documented, from Beebe Draw on 30 April (SMe).

**Marbled Godwit:** High counts for the period included 97 at Rio Blanco Res. on 25 April (DH), 55 at Craig on 28 April (FL), and 77 at Beebe Draw on 1 May (BSc).

**Red Knot:** Two were reported from spring, one at Pueblo Res. on 18 April (fide BKP) and another at Upper Queens Res., *Kiowa*, on 13 May (TJ). Documentation for neither bird has been submitted to the CBRC.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** Rare for *Gunnison*, one was present at Curecanti National Recreation Area on 5 May (CDo).

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** The first report for the season came from Neesopah Res., *Kiowa*, on 14 May (BF, GW, m.ob), which is right on schedule. This species is quite rare on the West Slope, so the bird seen at Rio Blanco Res. on 30 May (ABo, NP) is very noteworthy. Hopefully the observers of the West Slope bird will submit details to the CBRC.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** This species is rare in spring. There was one report during the period, that of a bird at Lake Cheraw on 21 April (MPe).



**Dunlin:** There were two reports this past spring, one from 16 April at Bonny Res. (NP, AS) and another at Grand Junction on 23 April (LA).

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** Four Short-billed Dowitchers were reported this past spring. Two were at Chatfield Res., *Douglas*, on 30 April (DSc, JS, BSc). One was at Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo*, on 1 May (BM), and another was at Lake Cheraw on 6 May (JKr, GW, RO). As a reminder, all Short-billed Dowitchers (except those in juvenal plumage) should be documented to the CBRC for possible inclusion to the list of accepted records for the state. No documentation for any of the dowitchers reported during the spring season have yet been submitted.

**Laughing Gull:** An adult was west of Lamar, *Prowers*, 16-18 April (DAL).

**Franklin's Gull:** The first report came on 20 March from Lake Loveland, *Larimer* (NK). The highest count during the period was over 800 at Lake Meredith, *Crowley*, on 17 April (MJI).

**Little Gull:** A basic-plumaged bird was reported from Rifle, *Garfield*, on 21 March (AD) and a first-cycle bird was seen at Barr Lake, *Adams*, on 6 May (SMe, TL). There are only three spring records of Little Gull in Colorado and only one record total for the species on the West Slope. Hopefully observers of these two birds will provide details to the CBRC.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** The earliest report was from 20 March at Fossil Creek Res. (NK). The high count was of 60 at Walden Res., *Jackson*, on 21 April (MJI).

**Mew Gull:** Two Mew Gulls were reported during the spring season. The wintering adult bird found by Plage at Crown Hill Res., *Jefferson*, remained through at least 4 April (MPe, BKP) and was documented earlier by others. A second adult bird was reported from Big Johnson Res., *El Paso*, between 4 and 9 March (MPe), though has not been documented. There are no accepted records of this species for *El Paso*.

**Herring Gull:** Herring Gulls are considered somewhat rare in western Colorado, so the three birds present at Blue Mesa Res., *Gunnison*, on 16 April (MJI) and the three birds at Walden Res. on 21 April (MJI) are noteworthy.

**Thayer's Gull:** Eight reports were received. These included an adult and first-cycle bird at Big Johnson Res. on 9 March (MPe), a first-cycle bird at Marston Res., *Denver*, on 20 March (TL, BSc, JRr), a first-cycle bird at Donath Res., *Larimer*, on 20 and 21 March (NK), a bird (plumage not submitted) seen at

Black Hollow Res., *Weld*, on 22 March (CS), another first-cycle bird at Prince Lake #1, *Boulder*, on 26 March (TF), an adult at Marston Res. on 2 April (BSc, GB), and a first-cycle bird at Cherry Creek Res. on 12 April (LM).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** Ten reports of Lesser Black-backed Gull were received from this past spring. Three adults were at Valmont Res., *Boulder*, a traditional gull roost, on 2 March (TF, ABo), two adults were at Big Johnson Res. on 9 March (MPe), a first-cycle bird was at Marston Res. on 19 March (GW, LM, m.ob), a second-cycle bird was seen at Donath Res., *Larimer*, on 20 March (NK), an adult was at Glasser Res., *Broomfield*, on 28 March (DEy, EZ), a second-cycle bird was at Marston Res. on 2 April (BSc, GB), and lastly, another second-cycle bird was present at Cherry Creek Res. on the very late date of 30 May (JRr). The previous latest record for this wayward species in spring was on 24 May.

**Glaucous-winged Gull:** A second-cycle bird was seen at Cherry Creek Res., a traditional spot for this species in Colorado, between 14 and 25 March (GW, LK), though it apparently wandered over to Marston Res. on 19 March (GW). No documentation has been submitted to the CBRC.

**Glaucous Gull:** Eight were reported during the season. Four (two adults, two first-cycles) were present off-and-on at Cherry Creek Res. between 15 March and 12 April (m.ob). A first-cycle bird was at North Poudre Res. #3, *Larimer*, on 15 March (RH, NK). Three birds (an adult, a first-cycle, and a second-cycle) spent time at Marston Res. between 16 March and 2 April (LK, m.ob).

**Great Black-backed Gull:** Five were reported, an amazing number. An adult was at Valmont Res. on 10 March (ABe). A bird transitional between second and third cycles was photographed at Donath Res. on 19 March (NK, RH), two second-cycle birds were reported from Black Hollow Res. *Weld*, on 22 March (CS). Lastly, a third-cycle bird was at Cherry Creek Res. on 12 April (LM). No documentation for any of these birds has been submitted to the CBRC.

**Caspian Tern:** Eight migrants were reported during the season. Three were at Rock Canyon Swim Beach, *Pueblo*, on 25 April (BKP), one was at Lake Hasty, *Bent*, on 28 March (DN), up to three loafed at Cherry Creek Res. between 2 and 29 May (AH, TH), one was at Valco Ponds, *Pueblo*, on 4 May (RMi) and another was present on the same date at Riverbend Ponds, *Larimer* (BT).

**Arctic Tern:** An adult was reported, but not documented, from Lake Henry, *Crowley*, on 21 April (MPe).

**Least Tern:** Away from the breeding range in southeastern Colorado, singles were observed at Confluence Park, *Delta*, on 14 May (JBn), at Cottonwood Hollow, *Larimer*, on 28 and 29 May (DAL), at Beebe Draw, *Weld*, on 30 May (RO), and at Metro Lake in Colorado City, *Pueblo*, on the same date (DSi).

**Band-tailed Pigeon:** Rare for the Eastern Plains, one rested at Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo*, where seen on 7 May (KL, BM). Hopefully documentation will be submitted to the CBRC.

**White-winged Dove:** White-winged Doves continue their spread into Colorado unabated. This past spring, no fewer than 25 reports were received from across the state, although most observations came from the southeast corner. Breeding was again confirmed for the third consecutive year in *El Paso* (MPe) with other reports from that county (GC, JPt), and undoubtedly the species bred again in *Prowers* (DAL, JS, DR), and Rocky Ford, *Otero* (BKP, GR, m.ob). Other counties observers found birds included *Baca*, *Elbert*, *Fremont*, *La Plata*, *Larimer*, *Mesa*, *Montezuma*, *Pueblo*, and *Washington*.

**Inca Dove:** Inca Dove was reported from its two strongholds in the state: Lamar (JTh) and Rocky Ford (BKP, GR, m.ob), where present most of the season.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** Colorado lies on the extreme western periphery of the breeding range of Black-billed Cuckoo, thus few are fortunate to catch glimpses of this enigmatic and retiring species. A bird that showed up at Crow Valley CG, *Weld*, on 22 May (JV, CC et.al), however, defied this species normal behavior by openly perching and allowing viewers to obtain stunning looks and photographs.

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** Yellow-billed Cuckoos are very rare on the West Slope of Colorado, and in the west in general. For a discussion on the status and distribution of cuckoos in that region, see Semo and Percival (2005). As in the summer of 2004, this species again showed up on the West Slope this past spring, with an encouraging three birds being reported, that being from Grand Junction on 25 May (LA) and Nucla, *Montrose*, on 30 May (CDr, BW). There were five other reports during the season, all from the Eastern Plains.

**Flammulated Owl:** For the second spring in a row, one was found roosting at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, on 7 May (KL, BM). This also may represent only the second record total for this species on the Eastern Plains, though undoubtedly it migrates over a portion of that region more often than records indicate.

**Long-eared Owl:** It was a grand year for *Asio* observations in Colorado this past spring, suggesting that populations of small mammals may have been high. No fewer than 28 Long-eared Owls were observed during the period, with breeding documented from seven sites including *Fremont*, *Kiowa*, *La Plata*, and *Yuma* with an additional observation from *Pueblo*.

**Short-eared Owl:** A whopping 23 reports of Short-eared Owls were submitted, including 11 throughout the period in southeastern *El Paso* (MPe), one from *Pueblo* on 3 March (MPe, BKP), one from *Yuma* on 19 April (MJI), one from *Crowley* on 22 April (BKP, RO), one at John Martin Res., *Bent*, on 2 May (SMo), another in *El Paso* on 13 May (JKr, m.ob), and at least seven (two road-killed) southwest of La Junta, *Otero* in late May (SMo).

**Common Poorwill:** The first report came from near Lyons, *Boulder*, when one was detected on 13 March (DWK).

**Chimney Swift:** A bit southwest of usual, a migrant was spotted at Lathrop State Park, *Huerfano*, on 8 May (BSc), which should represent the first record for that county.

**Broad-billed Hummingbird:** On the heels of the first state record from Clifton, *Mesa*, in 2002, a male showed up south of Lamar on 17 and 18 April (JS). The presence of the species at that location begs the question of where did it come from and where was it heading?

**Black-chinned Hummingbird:** Slightly out-of-range, but seemingly becoming more regular at those locations, reports came from Cherry Creek Res. on 12 May (BBr), Lamar Community College, *Prowers*, on 13 May (SN), below Two Buttes Res., *Baca*, on 14 May (CFO Convention Trip), and in Lakewood, *Jefferson*, on 29 May (MC).

**Anna's Hummingbird:** The wintering female at Grand Junction remained until at least 1 May (SB).

**Broad-tailed Hummingbird:** East of its usual migratory path, a male was present at Lamar Community College between 16 and 18 April (DAL).

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** On the western edge of their range, Red-headed Woodpeckers were at Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo* (BSc, m.ob) and Barr Lake (JHs) on 15 May, and at the Aurora Gun Club, *Arapahoe*, on 31 May (DEy).

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** The wintering female well west of usual at La Veta,

*Huerfano*, remained until at least 1 March (PN). If documented and accepted by the CBRC, this would represent the first record for *Huerfano*.

**Williamson's Sapsucker:** A male seen at Rouse Park in Canon City, *Fremont*, on 14 May (SMo), may have been an early migrant or a rare wintering bird. There are very few records of this species from the Eastern Plains, thus the female reported from Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo*, on 9 April (MPe) is extremely noteworthy. Hopefully documentation will be submitted to the CBRC.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** A juvenile was reported from west of Pueblo City Park on 3 March (BKP, MPe), presumably the bird that was documented from near that location the previous month. Another juvenile, not documented, was reported from Centennial Park in Canon City, *Fremont*, on 13 March (SMo).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** The one seen and documented near Ridgway, *Ouray*, on 14 April (ABo), was extremely early and potentially will represent the earliest spring record for the state if accepted. Nice job Andy!

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** One was reported, but not documented, at the Nature Conservancy Yampa River Preserve, *Routt*, on 27 May (FL).

**Willow Flycatcher:** Very early was the report of one at Dixon Res., *Larimer*, on 22 April (RDs).

**Gray Flycatcher:** Out-of-range observations included one at Chatfield Res. State Park, *Douglas*, on 21 April (GW), one at Dixon Res. between 22 April and 9 May (CW, RH), one at Doudy Draw, *Boulder*, on 30 April (PGe, MB, JKI), one at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, on 26 and 27 April (BPG), one at Plaster Res., *Broomfield*, on 1 May (DEy, EZ), and one at Colorado City, *Pueblo*, between 8 and 16 May (DSi).

**Eastern Phoebe:** Northwest of usual, one was present at Dixon Res. between 22 April and 21 May (RDs, CWi). There were an additional 12 reports from further east and south in the state during the period.

**Black Phoebe:** Seventeen Black Phoebes were reported. Besides reports from known breeding locations, one was at Knight's Pond near Walsenburg, *Huerfano*, 8-30 April (RMi), two at Portland, *Fremont*, between 9 April and 22 May (RMi), one at the dam of Fruitgrowers Res. on 14 April (RLa), one at Cooper's Ranch in *Gunnison* on 15 April (RMe), one along the Arkansas River at Valle Bridge in *Fremont* on 18 April (RMi), one at Salida between 18 April and 9 May (RMi), and one at Valco Ponds, *Pueblo*, on 27 April (RMi).

**Vermilion Flycatcher:** Two were reported, both females. One was at Two Buttes Res. on 22 April (BKP, RO) and the other was in northeast *Bent* on 13 and 14 May (JKr, m.ob). Neither bird has been documented.

**Ash-throated Flycatcher:** Single birds north of breeding locations were found on 12 and 13 May at Doudy Draw, *Boulder* (PGe, EZ) and at Dixon Res. between 18 and 21 May (RH, NK).

**Eastern Kingbird:** Rare for the San Luis Valley, one was spotted by Righter at Alamosa NWR, *Alamosa*, on 22 May.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher:** Four were reported from this past spring. One was reported from Two Buttes Res. on 20 April (AS), but was not documented, a male was seen and documented at Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo*, on 25 April (BPG), one pleased many folks and was documented at Bear Creek Greenway in *Jefferson* between 30 April and 7 May (KM, JKr, m.ob), and one was documented from south of Briggsdale, *Weld*, on 14 May (NK, CWi, m.ob).



Male Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Bear Creek Greenway, *Jefferson*, on 7 May 2005. Photo by Bill Eden.

**White-eyed Vireo:** After the CBRC removed this species from the main review list in 2002, there has been a lackluster number of observations in the state. None were had during the spring of 2004. However, no fewer than five were reported during the spring of 2005. Those included at the Lamar High School Grove, *Prowers*, on 22 and 23 April (BKP, RO), one at Bonny Res. on 7 May (LM, GG, JRr), one at Lake DeWeese in Westcliffe, *Custer*, on 19 May (DSi), one at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, on 23 May (BPG), and one along Boulder Creek in Boulder on the same date (SL).

**Bell's Vireo:** Interesting location reports included one at Lamar Community College on 8 May (KMD) and a singing male near Holyoke, *Phillips*, on 20 May (RLi).

**Gray Vireo:** One detected on 19 April at Uravan, *Montrose* (CDr) should represent the earliest arrival date for this species in the state. Also of interest was the bird spotted along the Canon City Riverwalk, *Fremont*, on 7 May (SMo).

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** Two reports were received. A singing male was at Sawhill Ponds, *Boulder*, on 8 and 9 May (LO, MB, TF, DW) and another was found on 9 May at the Neenoshe Res. locust grove, *Kiowa* (VAT).

**Plumbeous Vireo:** Dexter found one at Uravan on 23 April, which is a record early date for the species on the West Slope. On the far eastern edge of its range, one was singing at Two Buttes Res. on 11 May (MPe, BKP). A total of 15 were reported from Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso* and *Pueblo*, on 16 May (m.ob).

**Cassin's Vireo:** This species is much rarer in spring than fall in Colorado. Two reports were received this spring. One was at Belmar Historic Park, *Jefferson*, on 7 and 8 May (KSc) and one was at Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo*, between 13 and 15 May (BPG, BM, KL, m.ob).

**Philadelphia Vireo:** One was reported and documented at Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo*, where apparently present on 17 and 18 May (JPt, MPe, BKP, BPG, m.ob).

**Red-eyed Vireo:** A total of 13 reports were received. Most interesting was the bird at Grand Junction on 29 May (LA). Other reports came from the eastern half of the state in *Boulder*, *Broomfield*, *Douglas*, *El Paso*, *Prowers*, and *Weld*.

**Steller's Jay:** The Kingerys reported a maximum of 30 at their residence in

Franktown, *Douglas*, on 7 March.

**Western Scrub-Jay:** Two were noted slightly away from the Front Range at Chico Basin Ranch. One was on the *El Paso* portion of the ranch on 27 April (BPG) and another (or the same bird?) was on the *Pueblo* side on 18 May (BPG, BKP, RO).

**Purple Martin:** Purple Martins were reported from *Moffat*, where they are very infrequently observed. Luke had three at Elkhead Res. on 7 May.

**Tree Swallow:** One seen at Estes Park, *Larimer*, on 5 April (SRo), tied the record early date for that location.

**Mountain Chickadee:** A winter lingerer on the eastern plains persisted at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, until at least 11 May (m.ob).

**Bushtit:** Two were observed along California Park Road in *Routt* on 22 April (MJI), which should constitute a first record for that county. Not to be outdone, Zerbi found two as well in *Pitkin* on 24 May, which also is a first for that county.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** Lingerer birds included one at Campo, *Baca*, on 18 April; a migrant push through Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, between 8 and 21 May, with a high count of 6 banded at that location on a given day (BPG); one at Barr Lake on 15 May (JHs); and one at Crow Valley CG until at least 27 May (RH).

**Pygmy Nuthatch:** Two were seen off the foothills on the Eastern Plains. One was at Pueblo City Park on 28 April (BKP) and another was at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, between 1 and 9 May (BPG).

**Carolina Wren:** There was one report from this past spring, that being of a bird present at Lamar Community College between at least 25 March and 17 April (DAL).

**Winter Wren:** There were three reported during spring. One was in the Lyons area, *Boulder*, on 13 March (DWK). A singing bird was at Rocky Ford SWA, *Otero*, on 25 March (BKP, GR). The third bird was also a singing bird, this one at Two Buttes Res. on 29 April (GW, JKr, JRr).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** Early and rare for the location, one was at Plaster Res., *Broomfield*, on 16 April (DEY, EZ).



**Eastern Bluebird:** Away from more normal far eastern locales, observations from less typical locales included the sightings of a pair at Boulder Valley Ranch, *Boulder*, on 13 March (MB), one at Lake Estes, *Larimer*, on 10 April (SRa), one at Chatfield State Park, *Jefferson* or *Douglas*, on 12 April (BSh), a pair at Canon City on 16 April (MJI), and a pair at Crow Valley CG on 25 April (KSc, WF).

**Veery:** There were twelve reports of migrants on the Eastern Plains, followed by residents in the mountains later in May. Eight birds were recorded from Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, during the period, all of the western *salicicola* group (BPG). On 9 May, a member of one of the eastern 'red-backed' groups, most likely *levyi* based on proximity to Colorado, was seen at Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo* (BKP, MPe).

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** Only one report was received (without documentation) for this past spring, that of a bird seen at Crow Valley CG on 27 May (RH). The CBRC reminds observers that this species remains on the main statewide review list and that all observations of this species should be documented for potential acceptance to the formal state list.

**Swainson's Thrush:** A member of the 'russet-backed' group, a cluster of four West Coast subspecies, was banded and documented from Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, on 23 May (BPG). If accepted by the CBRC, this would represent the second known occurrence of this race in Colorado.

**Gray Catbird:** There were two very early reports, both overwintering birds. The catbird at Lake Beckwith in Colorado City, *Pueblo*, remained at that location until at least 5 March (DSi). The wintering bird at the Paulson's residence north of Lamar lingered into spring until 12 March.

**Northern Mockingbird:** The only slightly out-of-range report was one seen at Red Rocks, *Jefferson*, where seen on 4 March (BSp).

**Brown Thrasher:** The Brown Thrashers that wintered at Lake Beckwith, Colorado City, *Pueblo*, and the Paulson's residence south of Lamar, lingered until at least 5 March (DSi) and 12 March, respectively. Unusual was the one seen at Alamosa NWR on 22 May (BRi), representing a rare San Luis Valley record.

**Curve-billed Thrasher:** East of normal, one was at Lamar Community College on 30 March (DR) and another as at Two Buttes Res. on 23 April (BKP, RO).

**Bohemian Waxwing:** Bohemian Waxwings continued their winter invasion into spring, with more than 3500 reported during the period in *Boulder, Chaffee, El Paso, Fremont, Jefferson, La Plata, Larimer, Mesa, Pueblo, Rio Blanco, Weld*. The last report was of 18 at the University of Colorado in Boulder on 29 April (NP).

**Blue-winged X Golden-winged Warbler:** A hybrid between Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warbler (type not noted) was reported from Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo*, where present between 9 and 11 May (BKP, MPe, NP, m.ob).

**Blue-winged Warbler:** Surprisingly, none were reported during the period.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** Two were reported. A male was seen by Niemann at Fort Collins on 11 May. A female was found at Dixon Res., *Larimer*, on 20 May (NK, RH, NE).

**Tennessee Warbler:** Low numbers were noted overall, with reports of only eight across the state mainly from *Bent, El Paso, Otero, and Weld*. Arnold reported one from Grand Junction on 8 May, where rare.

**Nashville Warbler:** Only one was reported this spring, that from Two Buttes Res. on 14 May (GW, SSc).

**Virginia's Warbler:** A high count of 18 was tallied at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso* and *Pueblo*, on 8 May (BPG, m.ob).

**Lucy's Warbler:** The pair that nested at Yellowjacket Canyon, *Montezuma*, in 2004, returned in 2005, where present from at least 30 April through the remainder of the period (SA, JBy, PD).

**Northern Parula:** Only nine (half the number as reported from 2004) were reported during the season mainly from the following counties: *Chaffee, Crowley, El Paso, Huerfano, Larimer, and Prowers*. Of special interest is the one reported by Berry at Gunnison, where present between 8 and 10 May, furnishing only the fifth record for western Colorado and the third for *Gunnison*.

**Yellow Warbler X Prairie Warbler:** A possible hybrid offspring between Yellow and Prairie Warblers was reported from Chatfield SP, *Jefferson*, on 22 May (PH, SSe).

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** Only two were reported, the “average” is usually in the high teens. A female was at Neenoshe Res. locust grove, *Kiowa*, between 11 and 13 May (MPe, BKP, SN). A male was at Barr Lake, 21-22 May (LK, EZ).

**Magnolia Warbler:** In contradiction to the general poor numbers of warblers seen in 2005, six were reported this past spring compared to only three in 2004. One was at Neenoshe Res. locust grove on 13 and 14 May (GW, m.ob). One was at Belmar Historic Park in Lakewood, *Jefferson*, on 14 May (KSc). One was at Rock Canyon, *Pueblo*, on 19 May (RM). One was at Barr Lake on 22 May (MC). One was at Crow Valley CG on 27 May (RH) and the last was reported south of Lamar on 31 May (JS).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** Three Black-throated Blue Warblers (all males) were seen in spring (four in 2004). The first was at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, on 9 May (BPG). One was at the Lamar Community College on 11 May (DR). The last report came from Campbell at White Ranch Open Space Park, *Jefferson*, on 15 May.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** There were reports of three Black-throated Green Warblers in 2005, down from seven in 2005. One was at Lamar Community College on 3 May (SN, DR, JTh). A singing male was at St. Vrain Greenway in Longmont on 13 May (SSe). One other bird was at Lathrop SP, *Huerfano*, on 14 May (RM).

**Black-throated Green Warbler Hybrid:** A bird having similarities with a parent Black-throated Green Warbler but with a plumage pattern determined to be not pure Black-throated Green was reported from Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo*, on 9 May (MPe, BKP, m.ob).

**Townsend's Warbler:** This species is much less common in spring than in fall in Colorado. Thus the nine reports received is a real good number for the season (six in 2004). The first were birds reported from the Lamar High School grove and Two Buttes Res. on 29 April (RH, GW, JKR, JRr). Other reports came from May with additional birds in *Adams*, *Archuleta*, *Lincoln*, and *Prowers*. The last report was of a bird at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, on 16 May (DAL).

**Blackburnian Warbler:** There were two undocumented reports from the season, one from Two Buttes Res. on 11 May (MPe) and another at Dixon Res., *Larimer*, on 15 May (ETM). There are no accepted records for *Baca* and only three previously accepted records for *Larimer*. Hopefully the observers of these birds will provide details to the CBRC.

**Yellow-throated Warbler:** One was documented from Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, where present between 26 April and 6 May (BPG, m.ob). Another, not documented, was reported from the “Towhee Trail” in *Boulder* on 25 May (CC).

**Grace’s Warbler:** One was present in southern *Huerfano* on at least 21 and 22 May (MPe, TL). This is a location that is seemingly suitable nesting habitat for the species, though Grace’s Warblers are irregular on the Eastern Slope.



Grace's Warbler near Walsenburg, *Huerfano*, on 22 May 2005. Photo by Tony Leukering.

**Prairie Warbler:** One was present at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, where documented and photographed between 1 and 8 May (BPG, BM, m.ob). This should represent the second record of this species for *El Paso*.

**Palm Warbler (Western):** There were seven reports, compared to 14 in 2004. One was at Two Buttes Res. on 29 April (GW, JKr, JRr). One was at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, on 5 May (BPG). Another was at Bonny Res. on 7 May (LM, JRr, GG). One was present at Pastorius Res., *La Plata*, between 7 and 9 May (SA, JBy, m.ob). One was east of Colorado City, *Pueblo*, on 12 May (DSi). Lastly, one was in Akron, *Washington*, on 16 May (BH).

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** A first-year male was photographed at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, on 15 May (BPG).

**Blackpoll Warbler:** A total of 38 were reported this year, as compared to 10 during the spring of 2004. All were seen in eastern Colorado. The first was seen on 27 April at Lamar Community College (DR) with other May reports coming from *Baca*, *Bent*, *Boulder*, *El Paso*, *Jefferson*, *Larimer*, *Phillips*, *Prowers*, *Pueblo*, and *Yuma*.

**Cerulean Warbler:** A male was apparently seen, but not documented, at Longs Pond, *Larimer*, on 16 May (RH). There are no currently accepted records of this species for *Larimer*. Hopefully documentation will be submitted to the CBRC so that the species may be recorded on the official list for that county.

**Black-and-white Warbler:** There was a paltry seven reported during the spring from the following counties: *Adams*, *Archuleta*, *Bent*, *El Paso*, *Jefferson*, *Larimer*, and *Weld*.

**American Redstart:** There were 33+ reports in spring of 2004. This past spring, only 14 were recorded from the following counties: *Adams*, *Bent*, *Boulder*, *El Paso*, *Jefferson*, *Prowers*, *Pueblo*, *Washington*, *Weld*, and *Yuma*.

**Prothonotary Warbler:** Many at the CFO Convention enjoyed observing a first-spring bird in northeastern *Bent*, where present at least on 13 and 14 May (KK, BKP, RH, m.ob).

**Worm-eating Warbler:** Five reports came in for this past spring, a good number. The most unusual observation was the one seen at Franz Lake, *Salida*, on 9 May (SY). This species should still be documented for any mountain or western locations and hopefully the observer will provide details to the CBRC so that this becomes the first record for *Chaffee*. Other more eastern reports included one at Lake Hasty CG, *Bent*, on 13 May (DN, NP), one at Flagler SWA, *Kit Carson*, on 15 May (BK), one at Dixon Res., *Larimer*, on 18 and 19 May (BD, JSe, AG), and one at Barr Lake on 22 and 23 May (MC).

**Ovenbird:** This species was first recorded on 12 May (ten days later than 2004) with a bird seen at Dixon Res. (DSm). The last observation from non-breeding locales came from Lamar Community College on 28 May (BK). There were 20 other reports across the Eastern Plains throughout that period.

**Northern Waterthrush:** This first report of this species came on 23 April when one was spotted at Lathrop SP, *Huerfano* (RM). Other May reports came from the following counties: *Baca*, *Bent*, *Boulder*, *Broomfield*, *Chaffee*, *Denver*, *El Paso*, *Fremont*, *Larimer*, *Mesa*, *Prowers*, *Pueblo*, and *Yuma*.

**Kentucky Warbler:** One unfortunate bird hit a residential window and was killed in Westcliffe, *Pueblo*, where found on 7 May by the Canderlaria's. The bird was photographed and will be repositied in the Denver Museum of Nature & Science.

**Mourning Warbler:** A male was documented by Gent and observed by others (KL, RH, m.ob) from Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo*, on 15 May.

**Hooded Warbler:** A measly three were reported during the season. Those included a female at Last Chance, *Washington*, between 13 and 15 May (DFa, m.ob), a male at Cottonwood Canyon, *Baca* or *Las Animas*(?) on 14 May (JKr), and a female at Crow Valley CG present between 12 and 27 May (GW, m.ob).

**Hepatic Tanager:** A female was documented at Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo*, where present between 11 and 13 May (BPG, KL). Apparently a male at Prior, *Huerfano*, returned for another year, where seen on 21 and 22 May (MPe, m.ob), although no details have been submitted to the CBRC.

**Summer Tanager:** Only five were reported during the season. One was at Rocky Ford, *Otero*, on 23 April (KL, BM). One was found by Berry in *Gunnison* where present on 9 and 10 May, which was an excellent find. One was at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, on 9 May (KBe, m.ob). Another was at Lake Holbrook, *Otero*, on 13 May (VAT). The last bird was spotted at Valco Ponds, *Pueblo*, on 28 May (MY).

**Scarlet Tanager:** Two were detected, including a spanking male at Belmar Historic Park, *Jefferson*, on 12 May (KSc) and a female at McKay Lake, *Adams*, on 15 May (DEy, EZ). No documentation for either bird has been received by the CBRC.

**Eastern Towhee:** Three, none documented, were reported, including a male at Littleton, *Jefferson*, on 1 May (TJ), a male at Bonny Res. on 16 May (JBy), and a female at Tamarack Ranch SWA, *Logan* (JBy) on 17 May.

**Canyon Towhee:** North of usual, one was found at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, on 12 March (MPe), which is a new record for that property.

**Black-throated Sparrow:** West of its usual eastern Colorado range, one was near Florence, *Fremont*, on 13 April (MPe).

**Black-chinned Sparrow:** One, which would be a potential first state record, was heard well by an observer with considerable experience working with this species. The bird was detected at Colorado National Monument, *Mesa*, on 24 May (JBn). Details have been submitted to the CBRC.

**Sage Sparrow:** Four out-of-range birds were noted. One was at Colorado City, *Pueblo*, on 24 March (DSi), another was at Walden Ponds, *Boulder*, on 28 March (BSp), one was at Boulder Res., *Boulder*, on 10 and 11 April (BSc), and one was at Runyan Lake in *Pueblo* on 11 April (MY).

**Fox Sparrow:** The "Slate-colored" Fox Sparrow, the form that breeds in montane areas of the state, is rarely observed in migration outside of mountainous areas. Two were seen off the foothills this past spring, including one on 12 April at the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory headquarters at Barr Lake (KBe) and one on 13 April at Walden Ponds, *Boulder* (DSp).

**Swamp Sparrow:** The last report was one at Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo*, on 14 May (BM).

**White-throated Sparrow:** Westernmost reports included one at Sand Lake in Salida on 17 April (SY), one at Palisade, *Mesa*, on 21 April (SB, DB), and one at Pastorius SWA, *La Plata*, where present between 24 and 27 April (JBy, m.ob). The latest report for the state during the season was one that lingered until 17 May at Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo* (BKP, MPe).

**Harris's Sparrow:** Westernmost reports included one at Delta, *Delta*, on 11 March (JBn), one at Florida Mesa, *La Plata*, 21-28 April (KSt, m.ob), one at Palisade, *Mesa*, on 2 May (DB, SB), and one north of Buena Vista, *Chaffee*, on 18 and 19 May by Hancock, which also was the latest report for the season.

**Golden-crowned Sparrow:** A surprising four were reported. The wintering bird at Galinat's feeder at Fruitgrowers Res., *Delta*, remained until at least 1 March. One was reported, without documentation, from Yellowjacket Canyon, *Montezuma*, on 30 April (PD). Another was reported without documentation in Grand Junction by Newberry. Lastly, one was documented from Lathrop State Park, *Huerfano*, where present between 7 and 9 May (BSc, m.ob).

**Gray-headed Junco:** Late for the elevation was the bird still present at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, on 22 May (BPG).



**Chesnut-collared Longspur:** West of usual was the flock of approximately 35 reported by Floyd in *Boulder* on 12 May.

**Northern Cardinal:** West of usual reports included a male at Barr Lake present between 20 and 23 April (RR, DFa, MPe, LE, BSc, TL), another male at Fort Lyon, *Bent*, on 27 April (DN), and a third male at Las Animas, *Bent*, on 20 May (DN).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** Above average numbers (28) were reported beginning 8 April, when one was seen at Paonia, *Delta* (JBn), which if documented, would represent the record early date for the state. The reported number of sightings are as follows: *Adams* (2), *Bent* (1), *Boulder* (2), *Chaffee* (1), *Delta* (2), *El Paso* (6), *Fremont* (1), *Jefferson* (2), *Larimer* (1), *Logan* (1), *Pitkin* (1), *Prowers* (3), *Pueblo* (3), *Teller* (1), and *Weld* (1).

**Painted Bunting:** Price was excited to find a male at his feeder in Erie, *Boulder*, where it stayed and was documented from 6 to 9 May (m.ob). This should represent the second record of this species for heavily birded *Boulder*. There was also a report (without documentation) of a female from Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo*, between 13 and 15 May (KL, MPe, m.ob).

**Bobolink:** Outside of traditional breeding areas, one was at Heron Pond in north Denver, *Denver*, on 13 May (CTK), two males were at Chico Basin Ranch, *El Paso*, on 15 May (BPG), and one was at Paonia, *Delta*, on 18 May (JBn), which should represent a first county record. The high count for the season was 28 males seen near Steamboat Springs, *Routt*, on 30 May (FL).

**Eastern Meadowlark:** Up to four of the *liliana* race were found near the Campo Lesser Prairie-Chicken lek, *Baca*, where observed between 3 and 18 April (m.ob). Hopefully continued documentation will be submitted for this recently discovered population.

**Rusty Blackbird:** Eight were noted during the period. One was at Colorado City, *Pueblo*, on 4 March (DSi) and eight were present east of Lamar between 25 and 28 March (DAL).

**Baltimore Oriole:** Besides birds being reported from northeast Colorado, where they nest, unusual locations the species was reported from include a male northwest of Windsor, *Weld*, on 8 May (MM) and a female east of Trinidad, *Las Animas*, on 10 May (MPe, BKP). A Baltimore x Bullock's Oriole was reported from Lake Hasty CG on 6 May (JKr, RO, GW, JRr).

**Scott's Oriole:** An adult male found in Boulder by Koch and Snyder was present from 30 April until 6 May and pleased some fortunate birders. Up to six were reported from Brewster's Ridge in *Mesa* ( a traditional nesting locale) in the latter half of May (RLe, LA). A male was reported from Texas Creek, *Fremont*, on 18 May (ABo), which, if documented and accepted by the CBRC, would represent the first record for that county. Another six were seen in the Rangely area, *Rio Blanco*, during May (DH).



Male Scott's Oriole in Boulder on 4 May 2005. Photo by Bill Schmoker.

**Rosy-Finch spp.:** Up to 2000 were at Estes Park, *Larimer*, on 28 April (SRa).

**Pine Grosbeak:** Mountain spillovers included a female at Chico Basin Ranch, *Pueblo*, on 16 May (DAL, DEy, EZ) and another female in the City of Pueblo on 17 May (VAT).

**Purple Finch:** Two (both female types) were reported without documentation. One was at Lamar on 25 and 26 March (JTh) and another was present between 2 and 7 April at Nucla, *Montrose* (CDr, BW).

**Red Crossbill:** Eastern Plains reports included five seen by Wyatt at

Burlington, *Kit Carson*, on 12 May, a pair at Ovid, *Sedgwick*, where present on 25 and 26 May (HA), and three seen by Sallee at Limon, *Lincoln*, between 27 and 31 May.

**White-winged Crossbill:** Two were seen at Monarch Pass, *Chaffee*, on 7 April (CLW).

**Common Redpoll:** Multiple birds were present at Ovid between 3 and 12 March (HA) and two were seen near Horsetooth Mountain Park, *Larimer*, on 20 March (GLr).

**Lesser Goldfinch:** Unusual locations included the bird that overwintered for a second consecutive year in *Garfield*, where it remained until at least 7 March (DFi), one in Lamar on 13 April (JTh), another south of Lamar on 15 April (JS), a female at Gunnison on 16 April (MJI), and two in Springfield, *Baca*, on 17 April (MJI).

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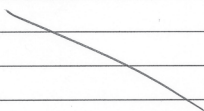
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