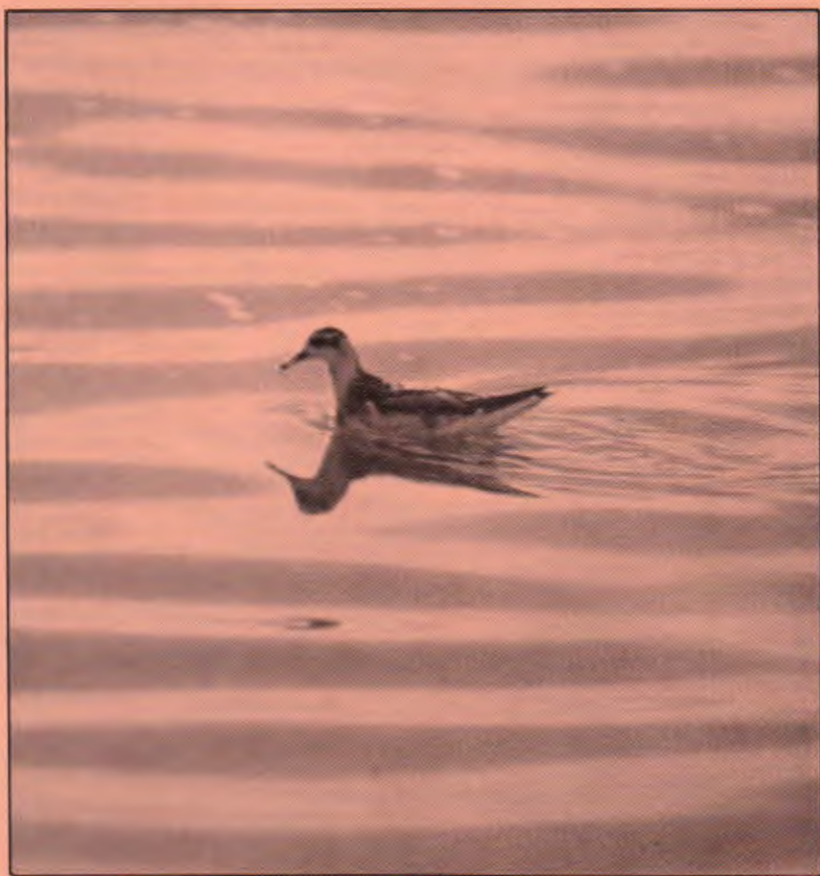


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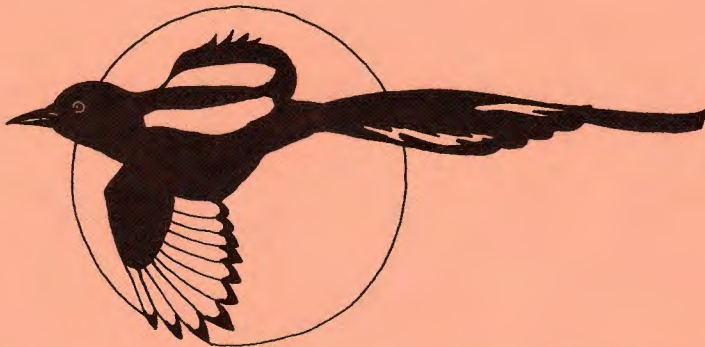
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Cover Photograph: A molting juvenile Red Phalarope at Clifton, Colorado on September 13, 1989. Coen Dexter photographed this rare western slope record.

A STUDY OF BREEDING AND WINTER BIRDS
IN
DIFFERENT AGE-CLASSED LODGEPOLE PINE FORESTS

Dave Hallock
Boulder County Nature Association
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INTRODUCTION

Few studies have been conducted of bird communities in lodgepole pine forests (Pinus contorta) (Hein 1980). It is probable that management activities in this forest type will increase (Fiedler 1986), and produce more structural changes to these forests. Influences of forest structure on breeding bird communities have been recognized (MacArthur 1964, Anderson and Shugart 1974, Balda 1975, Beedy 1976). Forest alteration, whether natural or man-caused, will favor one set of species at the expense of the others.

The objective of this study was to compare breeding and winter bird utilization of several different natural and man-caused age-classes of lodgepole pine forest in the Front Range of Colorado.

STUDY AREAS

The study was conducted within five stands of lodgepole pine in the montaine life-zone on the east slope of the Front Range of Colorado. The sites were located 26 km (16 miles) west of Boulder and within 5 km (3 miles) of Nederland. The elevations of all sites ranged between 2597 m (8520 ft.) and 2661 m (8730 ft.). Each of the five stands represented a different age-class of forest, these being:

- 1) Mature Successional Forest - Dominated by an even-sized lodgepole canopy, the forest was succeeding to Douglas fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii);
- 2) Pole Stage Forest - The overstory was dominated by a dense, even-sized forest;

- 3) Thinned Pole Stage Forest - The Canopy was dominated by an even-sized lodgepole forest that had been evenly thinned in 1982. Regeneration of lodgepole was beginning. Slash from the thinning still remained on the ground;
- 4) Seedling/Sapling Stage - These sites had been patch clear-cut from a lodgepole-dominated forest in the early 1970's. Lodgepole and aspen (Populus tremuloides) were regenerating the sites;
- 5) Grass/Forb Stage - These sites had been patch clear-cut from a lodgepole-dominated forest in 1984. Slash from the timber cut had been scattered evenly throughout the site. Some regeneration, primarily of aspen, had started.

Lodgepole pine is generally considered to be a successional forest type to Douglas fir in the central and lower reaches of the montane lifezone, or to Engelmann spruce (Picea engelmannii) and subalpine fir (Abies lasiocarpa) at higher elevations (Peet 1981). Central elevations of the montane lifezone may be maintained as lodgepole forest due to the preponderance of fire.

Data from a nearby meteorological station indicate a mean daily maximum temperature of 24.8° C during July and a mean daily minimum temperature of -9.2° C in January. The average annual precipitation was 55.1 cm (22.7 in.) (Barry 1973). During winter the ground is normally covered by snow of variable depths due to wind drifting.

METHODS

Vegetation Measurements

Four 10 m X 10 m (33 ft. X 33 ft.) vegetation sampling plots were located 25 m (82 ft.) from the center point of each count station along the north, south, east and west axes. Within each plot, all trees were counted and recorded by species and size class. Stem counts were made of all shrubs and measurements made of height and area. Estimates were made of canopy cover, ground cover and maximum stand height.

Bird Counts

Within each of the five forest types, three count stations, each with a radius of 56.4 m (185 ft.) and an area of 1 ha (2.48

acres), were established. The edge of each station was located no closer than 25 m (82 ft.) to another station. Count circles were located totally within a forest or clear-cut, though all had habitat edges within close proximity (less than 25 m (82 ft.) for at least 25% of the perimeter.

Breeding bird counts were conducted from May 1 through June 30 during 1986 and 1987. Each station was visited eight times per year between 6 a.m. and 10 a.m. Winter Counts were conducted from December 1 through February 28 during the winters of 1985-86 and 1986-87. Each station was visited 10 times per year between 7 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. with a minimum of three counts each year occurring during morning, noon and afternoon periods of the day. Counts were conducted by standing at the center of each station for eight minutes and recording all birds seen or heard within the count circle (flyovers were not counted).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Vegetation

Tree density and basal area were highest in the pole stage forest followed by the mature and thinned pole forests (Table 1). The largest diameter trees were found in the mature forest - 15% of the trees were greater than 30 cm DBH (11.8 in.) compared to 0% for the pole stage forest and 1% for the thinned lodgepole forest. The mature forest also had the greatest amount of standing dead timber (snags). Shrub stem counts tended to be inversely related to tree density, excepting the grass/forb stand. Regeneration (seedlings and saplings) was highest in the seedling/sapling stand followed by the mature forest.

Breeding Season

Forty-seven species were observed over the two breeding seasons (Table 2). Species richness of habitat utilization was greater in the mature forest than the other four forest types. Similar relationships between species richness and different age-classes were reported by Verner (1980) and Sanderson et al. (1980) in western coniferous forests.

Utilization (numbers of individuals detected) was greatest in the seedling/sapling state followed by the mature forest and was

lowest in the pole stage forest. Studies of burned lodgepole forest in and around Yellowstone National Park found the highest bird populations in the sapling stands of 5 to 29 years post-fire (Taylor and Barmore 1980), while Sanderson et al. (1980) found greater feeding by birds in the shrub/sapling stage than pole forests.

The species composition of the different age-classes generally matched previous research of breeding birds in lodgepole forests (Roppe and Hein 1978, Austin and Perry 1970, Taylor and Barmore 1980). Broad-tailed Hummingbird, American Robin, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Gray-headed Junco, Brown-headed Cowbird, and Pine Siskin were the only species found in all study areas. Mountain Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch and Ruby-crowned Kinglet were found in the three conifer forest age-classes while Hammond's Flycatcher, Steller's Jay, Brown Creeper and Evening Grosbeak favored the mature and pole stage forest but were absent from the thinned pole forest. Dusky Flycatcher, Warbling Vireo and Green-tailed Towhee favored the seedling/sapling stage while Mourning Dove, Tree Swallow, Violet-green swallow and Olive-sided Flycatcher were predominantly found in the grass/forb stage. Mountain Bluebird and Chipping Sparrow favored both seedling/sapling and grass/forb stages.

Canopy nesters dominated utilization of the three forested study types as well as the grass/forb stage and were second in importance in the seedling/sapling age-class (Table 3). Brush nesters dominated utilization of the seedling/sapling stage. Ground nesters generally increased their use of an area relative to a decrease in tree density while cavity nesters tended to decrease as tree density or volume of large trees decreased. The grass/forb stage had less ground nesters and more cavity nesters utilizing the plots than would be expected in the context of the above trends probably due to the scattered slash.

Foliage and ground/brush were the dominate feeding groups (Table 4). The latter increased and the former decreased as tree density decreased.

Winter Season

Nineteen species appeared in the study plots during the two winter seasons (Table 2). Species richness and habitat utilization were greatest in the mature forest followed in

decreasing order by thinned pole, pole, seedling/sapling and grass/forb stages. There was little utilization of the seedling/sapling and grass/forb stages relative to the three lodgepole forest types.

Mountain Chickadee was the dominate species in all forest stages, except grass/forb, and comprised 50% of all sightings. Not surprisingly, foliage searchers were the most important feeding group in all forest stages except grass/forb (Table 4). For the mature, pole and thinned pole forests, bark gleaners and timber drillers were the next most important foraging groups. Ground/brush feeders were most important in the grass/forb stage and second in importance in the seedling/sapling stage. As during the breeding season, the ground/brush feeders increased as tree density decreased.

Seasonal Comparisons

The more evident differences between the two studied seasons were the greater species richness and number of individuals present during the breeding season. Eighty percent fewer individuals were seen during the winter month while the number of species dropped from 47 to 19.

The greatest seasonal variation of individuals occurred in the seedling/sapling and grass/forb stages where counts decreased by over 90% from breeding to winter seasons. This correlates with the feeding group information as ground/brush and flycatching feeders, both important components of breeding season avifauna in these two age-classes, showed dramatic decreases in winter.

The three study areas dominated by lodgepole forest overstories showed less numeric variation between the two seasons. This was particularly true for the mature forest whose number declined by only 60% between breeding and winter seasons. These stages were dominated by foliage searching, bark gleaning and timber drilling feeding groups which had less seasonal change than ground/brush and flycatching feeders.

Resident species, particularly Black-capped Chickadee, Mountain Chickadee, Hairy Woodpecker, Brown Creeper and Steller's Jay, showed consistent population levels between the two seasons (Table 4). Twelve of the listed 16 resident species are of the foliage searching, bark gleaning or timber drilling feeding groups

and favored age-classes dominated by a lodgepole forest.

The mature forest proved to be an important habitat in both seasons. It had the greatest species diversity in both summer and winter, received the highest utilization during the winter season, and had the second highest utilization during breeding season. The mature stands were preferred over the pole and thinned pole plots by resident species.

These data suggest that resident species favor later successional stages of forest development while seasonal breeders favor earlier age-classes. Studies by Bowles (1963) and Anderson (1970) had similar findings in Douglas fir forests of the Pacific Northwest. Additionally, resident species are more likely to be habitat specialists and find the most suitable feeding and nesting areas in later successional stages. Balda (1975) felt that seral and ecotonal species tended to be habitat generalists while increased specialization resulted with advancing succession. The mature forest stage of this study fits this line of thought. Species such as Brown Creeper and Red-breasted Nuthatch have been related to the density of large live trees (Keller 1987) which are most often found in later successional stages. The mature forest had the highest number of large diameter trees and greatest utilization by these species.

SUMMARY

Point count stations were set up in five age-classes of lodgepole pine forest during two breeding and winter seasons. During the breeding season, the seedling/sapling stage had the greatest numerical utilization, the mature forest had the highest species richness, and canopy nesters dominated utilization of all five forest types. Mountain Chickadees dominated the winter avifauna of all study areas. During both seasons, foliage searchers, bark gleaners and timber drillers declined with decreased tree density while ground/brush feeders increased. The mature, pole and thinned pole study forests had less seasonal variation of avifauna than the seedling/sapling and grass/forb stages which were sparsely used in winter. The mature forest, with an unevenaged structure and large diameter trees, was favored by resident birds suggesting increased habitat specialization for these species. Resident species showed consistent numeric levels between breeding and winter season.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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TABLE 1

Selected Characteristics of Vegetation in Five Age-Classes of Lodgepole Pine Forest

<u>Forest Type</u>	<u>Average* Tree Size DBH - cm (in.)</u>	<u>Basal* Area m²/ha (sq. ft./acre)</u>	<u>Trees* per ha (acre)</u>	<u>Standing Dead* Trees per ha (acre)</u>	<u>Shrub Stems per ha (acre)</u>	<u>Seedlings/Saplings per ha (acre)</u>
Mature Successional	20.8 (8.2)	35 (151)	916 (369)	291 (117)	5639 (2274)	1099 (443)
Pole	18.1 (7.1)	44 (190)	1591 (640)	183 (74)	1425 (575)	375 (151)
Thinned Pole	20.3 (8.0)	28 (121)	841 (339)	42 (17)	3075 (1240)	391 (158)
Seedling/ Sapling	0	0	0	0	7289 (2939)	4765 (1921)
Grass/ Forb	0	0	0	0	3249 (1310)	516 (208)

*Trees greater than or equal to 10 cm DBH (6.2 in.)

TABLE 2

Breeding and Winter Bird Occurrences in Five Age-Classes of Lodgepole Pine Forest

	Forest Type									
	Breeding					Winter				
	Mature	Pole	Thinned Pole	Seedling Sapling	Grass Forb	Mature	Pole	Thinned Pole	Seedling Sapling	Grass Forb
Number of occurrences (1)	232	146	187	320	180	94	41	49	19	15
Number of species	25	18	19	19	21	13	6	9	7	5
Occurrences/count (2)	14.50	9.12	11.69	20.00	11.25	4.70	2.05	2.45	.95	.75

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Species	Life form ⁽³⁾									
Turkey Vulture	OT/GB					.12				
N. Goshawk	CA/GB					.06		.05		
Red-tailed Hawk	CA/GB					.12				
Mourning Dove	CA/GB					1.31				
Great Horned Owl	CA/GB	.06								
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	BR/GB	.62	.37	.69	2.12	.75				
Red-naped Sapsucker	PC/TD	.19		.12						
Williamson's Sapsucker	PC/TD	.19	.06	.06		.12				
Downy Woodpecker	PC/TD	.06					.05			
Hairy Woodpecker	PC/TD	.25		.12	.06	.31	.25	.30	.05	.05
Three-toed Woodpecker	PC/TD	.05								
N. Flicker	PC/GB	.19		.19	.06	.06				
Olive-sided Flycatcher	CA/FL					.44				

TABLE 2 (continued)

Species	Life form	Forest Type												
		Breeding					Winter							
		Mature	Pole	Thinned Pole	Seedling Sapling	Grass Forb	Mature	Pole	Thinned Pole	Seedling Sapling	Grass Forb			
Hammond's Flycatcher	CA/FL	.37	.62											
Dusky Flycatcher	BR/FL				5.75	.19								
Western Flycatcher	CA/FL		.12											
Tree Swallow	SC/FL					.50								
Violet-green Swallow	SC/FL					.50								
Barn Swallow	SC/FL					.12								
Gray Jay	CA/FS			.12			.05		.10					
Steller's Jay	CA/FS	.69	.37				.60	.20						
Black-billed Magpie	CA/GB						.10		.05	.20	.10			
Common Raven	OT/GB				.19	.06					.05			
Black-capped Chickadee	SC/FS	.06	.06							.05	.05			
Mountain Chickadee	SC/FS	2.06	1.69	1.00	.12		2.35	1.20	1.55	.30	.10			
Red-breasted Nuthatch	PC/BG	.31	.19	.19					.05					
White-breasted Nuthatch	SC/BG	.06	.06				.10	.05						
Brown Creeper	SC/BG	.62	.12				.45	.20	.25					
Rock Wren	GR/GB				.05									
House Wren	SC/GB	.12		.06										
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	CA/FS	1.94	1.37	1.06										
Mountain Bluebird	SC/GB				.12	.25								
Townsend's Solitaire	GR/GB			.25	.62	.75				.05	.45			
Hermit Thrush	GR/GB		.19											

TABLE 2 (continued)

Species	Life form	Forest Type												
		Breeding					Winter							
		Mature	Pole	Thinned Pole	Seedling Sapling	Grass Forb	Mature	Pole	Thinned Pole	Seedling Sapling	Grass Forb			
American Robin	CA/GB	1.81	.62	.69	.81	.37								
Bohemian Waxwing	BR/GB						.05				.05			
Warbling Vireo	CA/FS	.19			1.62									
Virginia's Warbler	CA/FS	.06												
Yellow-rumped Warbler	CA/FS	1.87	1.81	2.25	1.75	.94								
Black-headed Grosbeak	CA/FS	.12												
Green-tailed Towhee	BR/GB				.81									
Chipping Sparrow	CA/GB				.75	1.69								
Lincoln's Sparrow	BR/GB				.06									
Dark-eyed Junco	GR/GB	.75	.25	1.31	3.81	1.69	.15							
Brown-headed Cowbird	OT/GB	.62	.37	1.44	1.25	.37								
Pine Grosbeak	CA/FS						.30							
Cassin's Finch	CA/GB			.25										
Red Crossbill	CA/FS			.94	.06				.30	.20				
Pine Siskin	CA/FS	.56	.44	.56	.06	.37			.05					
Evening Grosbeak	CA/FS	.31	.06				.15	.05						
Unknown		.12	.37	.25		.19	.10	.05						

- (1) Total of two seasons.
- (2) Average number per count in three count stations in each forest type.
- (3) Life form (modified from Haapanen 1965) indicates a species generalized primary nesting (first two letters) and feeding (last two letters) habitat. Abbreviations for nesting habitat are: GR = ground; BR = brush; CA = canopy; PC = cavity excavated by species; SC = cavities not excavated by species; and OT = other. Abbreviations for foraging habitat are: GB = ground or brush; FS = foliage searching; BG = bark gleaning; TD = timber drilling; and FL = flycatching.

TABLE 3
Breeding Season Nesting Groups
in
Five Age-Classes of Lodgepole Pine Forest

Breeding Group	Forest Type				
	Mature	Pole	Thinned Pole	Seedling/Sapling	Grass/Forb
Brush	.62*	.37	.69	8.74	.94
Canopy	6.84	5.41	5.87	5.05	5.30
Ground	.75	.46	1.56	4.43	2.44
Primary Cavity	1.24	.25	.68	.12	.49
Secondary Cavity	2.92	1.93	1.06	.24	1.37
Other	.62	.37	1.63	1.31	.49

* Average number of occurrences per count in three count stations in each forest type.

TABLE 4
Breeding and Winter Seasons Feeding Groups
in
Five Age-Classes of Lodgepole Pine Forest.

Breeding Group	Season	Forest Type				
		Mature	Pole	Thinned Pole	Seedling/Sapling	Grass/Forb
Foliage Search	B (1)	7.86 (2)	5.80	5.93	3.61	1.31
	W (1)	3.45	1.45	2.00	.55	.15
Ground/Brush	B	4.17	1.80	5.07	10.52	7.54
	W	.30	.00	.10	.35	.55
Bark Gleaner	B	.99	.37	.19	.00	.00
	W	.55	.25	.30	.00	.00
Timber Driller	B	.74	.06	.30	.06	.43
	W	.30	.30	.05	.00	.05
Flycatching	B	.37	.74	.00	5.75	1.75
	W	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00

(1) B = breeding, W = winter

(2) Average number of occurrences per count in three count stations in each forest type.

TABLE 5
 Resident Species Component*
 in
 Five Age-Classes of Lodgepole Pine Forest

Season	Forest Type				
	Mature	Pole	Thinned Pole	Seedling/Sapling	Grass/Forb
Breeding:					
Occurrences/count	4.53	2.55	2.56	.30	.37
% of total count for age-class	31%	28%	22%	1%	3%
Winter:					
Occurrences/count	4.10	2.00	2.40	.80	.30
% of total count for age-class	87%	98%	98%	84%	40%

* Includes: N. Goshawk, Great Horned Owl, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Three-toed Woodpecker, Gray Jay, Steller's Jay, Black-billed Magpie, Common Raven, Black-capped Chickadee, Mountain Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Red Crossbill, Evening Grosbeak.

COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAMES OF BIRDS CITED IN TEXT*

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>
Turkey Vulture	<u>Cathartes aura</u>
Northern Goshawk	<u>Circus cyaneus</u>
Red-tailed Hawk	<u>Buteo jamaicensis</u>
Mourning Dove	<u>Zenaidura macroura</u>
Great Horned Owl	<u>Bubo virginianus</u>
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	<u>Cynanthus latirostris</u>
Red-naped Sapsucker	<u>Sphyrapicus varius</u>
Williamson's Sapsucker	<u>Sphyrapicus thyroideus</u>
Downy Woodpecker	<u>Picoides pubescens</u>
Hairy Woodpecker	<u>Picoides villosus</u>
Three-toed Woodpecker	<u>Picoides tridactylus</u>
Northern Flicker	<u>Colaptes auratus</u>
Olive-sided Flycatcher	<u>Contopus borealis</u>
Hammond's Flycatcher	<u>Empidonax hammondi</u>
Dusky Flycatcher	<u>Empidonax oberholseri</u>
Western Flycatcher	<u>Empidonax difficilis</u>
Tree Swallow	<u>Tachycineta bicolor</u>
Violet-green Swallow	<u>Tachycineta thalassina</u>
Barn Swallow	<u>Hirundo rustica</u>
Gray Jay	<u>Perisoreus canadensis</u>
Steller's Jay	<u>Cyanocitta stelleri</u>
Black-billed Magpie	<u>Pica pica</u>
Common Raven	<u>Corvus corax</u>
Black-capped Chickadee	<u>Parus atricapillus</u>
Mountain Chickadee	<u>Parus gambeli</u>
Red-breasted Nuthatch	<u>Sitta canadensis</u>
White-breasted Nuthatch	<u>Sitta carolinensis</u>
Brown Creeper	<u>Certhia americana</u>
Rock Wren	<u>Salpinctes obsoletus</u>
House Wren	<u>Troglodytes aedon</u>
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<u>Regulus calendula</u>
Mountain Bluebird	<u>Sialia currocoides</u>
Townsend's Solitaire	<u>Myadestes townsendi</u>
Hermit Thrush	<u>Catharus guttatus</u>
American Robin	<u>Turdus migratorius</u>
Bohemian Waxwing	<u>Bombycilla garrulus</u>
Warbling Vireo	<u>Vireo gilvus</u>
Virginia's Warbler	<u>Vermivora virginiae</u>
Yellow-rumped Warbler	<u>Dendroica coronata</u>
Black-headed Grosbeak	<u>Pheucticus melanocephalus</u>
Green-tailed Towhee	<u>Pipilo chlorurus</u>
Chipping Sparrow	<u>Spizella passerina</u>
Lincoln's Sparrow	<u>Melospiza lincolni</u>
Dark-eyed Junco	<u>Junco hyemalis</u>
Brown-headed Cowbird	<u>Molothrus ater</u>
Pine Grosbeak	<u>Pinicola enucleator</u>
Cassin's Finch	<u>Carpodacus cassinii</u>
Red Crossbill	<u>Loxia curvirostra</u>
Pine Siskin	<u>Carduelis pinus</u>
Evening Grosbeak	<u>Coccothraustes vespertinus</u>

* Follows 1983 A.O.U. Checklist.

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NEWS FROM THE FIELD:
FALL 1989 (September, October and November)

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This article will summarize reports submitted to American Birds for the spring and summer seasons of 1989 that were not previously available for News From the Field. For a more detailed look at birds reported this past spring and summer, please refer to Volume 23, numbers 2 & 3 of the C.F.O. Journal. The current fall report will follow which will go into more detail for birds reported this season. This format is designed to bring you all the breaking Colorado bird news when it happens and at the same time bring you up to date on bits and pieces of data which arrive after our press deadline.

The weather this past summer continued to be hot and dry with some areas harder hit than others. Drought is the word that more and more people are using. This trend has continued into the fall, with some regional variations.

To report any bird sightings, or any population or migration trends, please drop me a note or leave a message after calling the Colorado Bird Report at (303) 423-5582.

Update, Spring 1989

An adult Little Blue Heron was seen on May 13 in Pueblo by Michael and Rhonda Ketchen. This cooperative heron posed for over 20 minutes giving great looks. Single Trumpeter Swans were seen at Vineland (just east of Pueblo) on March 1 by the Arkansas Valley Audubon Society, and on March 11 at Huerfano Lake by Pat Monoco. About on schedule was Cortez's first Turkey Vulture of the year, spotted by Lu Bainbridge on March 27. John and Elizabeth Rawinski found an immature Bald Eagle at Creede on May 3 and they wondered if it was near its home. A Sharp-shinned Hawk at Bainbridge's Cortez feeder on March 7 was so hungry that it waited until seed was put out and then ate a sparrow. This worked so well that it stayed at the feeder through March 24.

Wild Turkeys were found by Bainbridge at 8000 feet near Cortez on April 6. Bainbridge also found turkey sign on April 13 in the Dolores River Canyon. A White-winged Dove was reported without comment at Wetmore by Monoco on May 7. This species is very rare in Colorado, with no records for the past several years and should have details supplied with any sightings.

The Yellow-billed Cuckoo found on May 28 in Brown's Park by Brenda Wright was a nice West Slope find. They would kill for this species in Utah, only a few miles to the west. Twenty-six pairs of Great Horned Owls on nests were found on March 11 in the San Luis Valley by the Rawinskis. A calling Northern Pygmy-Owl was found by the Rawinskis west of Capulin on April 20. The Rawinskis also reported a pair of Long-eared Owls with two-week-old young on May 26 at Del Norte. Several Short-eared Owls were found in March and April by the Foothills Audubon Society in the Loveland and Berthoud area. One Boreal Owl found near Summitville on March 24 by the Rawinskis extended the range of the Boreal Owls found on Wolf Creek Pass by 12 miles.

A Sedge Wren was found on May 6 by Bill Prather and Jack Coss north of Nederland along Boulder Creek. Ruby-crowned Kinglets were reported as plentiful by David Hallock and Diane Brown in southwestern Boulder County on the May 6 Spring Count. An Eastern Bluebird was seen on April 1 by Dieter Kamm in Evergreen, an unusual spot for this species. A Wood Thrush in Rye, found by Mel Hull, from April 28-May 5 was even more unusual. American Robin numbers were half the usual in southwestern Boulder County as reported by Hallock and Brown. Bainbridge reported two pairs of Northern Mockingbirds which were present through the spring period in Cortez.

Warblers put on a good show for the Rawinskis in the Monte Vista Cemetery. An Orange-crowned Warbler and a Black-throated Gray Warbler were seen on May 3-4, but the big surprise was a first latilong Chestnut-sided Warbler found there on May 17. The Yellow-rumped Warbler count reported by Hallock and Brown in southwestern Boulder County on May 6 was three times the average found there. A Black-and-white Warbler at Gypsum Ponds on May 2 was a treat for Jack Merchant, as was a Worm-eating Warbler found on May 12 at Rocky Ford State Wildlife Area by Chris Knight. Merchant commented that Fox Sparrows seem to be becoming less and less of a rarity each year in the Gypsum area.

Update, Summer 1989

An Eared Grebe colony on Duck Pond, northeast of Loveland, was monitored from May 6 through July 31 by Ann Means who reported a good crop of young. Little Blue Herons were seen this summer at Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge, however nesting was not confirmed. In order to reduce disturbance, their nest site was not visited. Very unusual was a Green-backed Heron found by Bill Howe at Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge in North Park on June 29. Richard Schanderbeck reported finding a new nesting colony on Alamosa National Wildlife Refuge that contained 750 nests of Black-crowned Night-Herons, Snowy and Cattle Egrets and White-faced Ibis.

A Turkey Vulture found by Roberta Winn on June 19 in the Cheesman Breeding Bird Atlas block was at what seemed to be a nest. Turkey Vulture nests are very hard to find for such a large bird. An Osprey seen on the Indian Peaks Count on June 10 was the second ever for the count. Five Osprey nests were seen by Joe Roller this summer at Grand Lake along with 15 Ospreys. A Peregrine Falcon spent most of the summer at Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge. The Indian Peaks Count on June 10 yielded 9 Blue Grouse, a good number in one day for this elusive species. A calling King Rail was heard at Lower Latham Reservoir by Bill Howe and Joe Himmel from June 11-13. Although rare in Colorado in the spring, this rail is probably more common than thought because of its elusive nature.

Roberta Winn found a Flammulated Owl in its nesting hole north of Divide on July 15 but didn't find any in a nearby area where they were last year. Other Flammulated Owls were found at La Veta on June 24 by Dave Johnson, on June 30 in Rye by David Silverman and Bob Dickson, and in San Isabel on July 15 by Van Truan. A Short-eared Owl was seen and heard from mid-June to mid-July by Howe at Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge. A Magnificent Hummingbird was seen on June 20 at Haviland Lakes Campground 25 miles north of Durango by Juliet Howard and a group of Ohio birders. Red-headed Woodpeckers have a tendency to wander, giving the Indian Peaks Spring Count a first record on June 10. A Three-toed Woodpecker was seen on July 7 by Hugh Kingery in the Summit Peak Atlas block near Platoro.

An Ash-throated Flycatcher was found above Cortez at 9000 feet on June 8 by Bainbridge. Another, a first latilong record,

was found by the Rawinskis in Monte Vista on July 16. Very unusual was a report of a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher on June 19 at the Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge by Howard and her traveling Ohio birders. Bushtits were found this breeding season in the foothills west of Loveland, with a high of 3 seen by Ron Harden on June 17.

Kingery estimated 50 pairs of Bell's Vireos to be present in the Vernon Atlas block along the eastern edge of the state in June. A single Gray Vireo seen on June 24 at La Veta by John Yaeger is intriguing. A Gray Vireo nest has never been found on the eastern slope but there is lots of suitable habitat. Steve Jones found Chestnut-sided Warblers, Ovenbirds, and American Redstarts in June in the foothills of Boulder County and thinks they are probably nesting in these areas. On July 8, two male and one female American Redstarts were seen in Lyons by John Prather. These also are probable nesters.

Howard and her Ohio birders found a male Hepatic Tanager on June 17 on the south side of the Royal Gorge Bridge along the Arkansas River. Could they be nesting here in this ideal ponderosa pine habitat? Dickcissels did well in the Vernon Atlas block where Kingery reported 12 singing males on June 29. A Savannah Sparrow was the first ever seen on an Indian Peaks Count when it was found on the June 9 count by Hallock. Grasshopper Sparrows also did very well at Vernon where Kingery reported this species as abundant with 25-45 seen in June and July with many fledglings. Fox Sparrows seem to be spreading with each breeding bird count. Hallock reported that this species continues to spread into suitable habitat in western Boulder County.

Fall 1989: September, October and November

Morton County, Kansas is located just to the east of Baca County, Colorado and is where all the Kansas birders go to find western vagrants. Baca County, in extreme southeastern Colorado, is one of the spots where Colorado birders go to find eastern vagrants. On September 17, Scott Seltman reported massive movements of pinyon-juniper and mountain birds into Morton County. This invasion continued through November 11 and included flocks of Steller's and Scrub Jays, Mountain Chickadees, Golden-crowned Kinglets, Mountain Bluebirds, Townsend's Solitaires, Lesser Goldfinches and Evening Grosbeaks. Also seen were such desert and

riparian birds as Lewis' and Ladder-backed Woodpeckers, Canyon Towhees, and Rufous-crowned Sparrows, all of which are rare to non-existent in Morton County. Then on October 28 a female Pyrrhuloxia showed up and stayed through November 11 north of Elkhart. What does this have to do with Colorado? Lots. Most of these species are common in Colorado (the Pyrrhuloxia notwithstanding) and most probably originated in Colorado. On both October 29 and November 4, Mark Janos visited Baca County's Cottonwood Canyon and found numerous Steller's Jays, Mountain Chickadees, and Golden-crowned Kinglets. These species are unusual at this location and indicate that the phenomenon in Morton County is more widespread. The best explanation may be a cone crop failure in southern Colorado or northern New Mexico, combined with another kind of seed crop failure, which drove both mountain and desert/riparian birds away from their traditional haunts. On October 30, Leatherman found a Mountain Chickadee at Crow Valley Campground in Weld County, and Joe TenBrink found another on November 14 at Muir Springs near Fort Morgan. On November 19, Kevin Cook noted lots of Steller's and Scrub Jays, Mountain Chickadees, and Nuthatches in Fort Collins which indicates other bird movements, but not on the scale seen in the southeast.

Pacific Loons put in a good appearance this fall with the first found by Roller at Lathrop State Park on October 22. Other sightings followed quickly with 12 found on the East Slope lakes, and with at least 5 present on November 12. A Pacific Loon found by Coen Dexter at Highline Reservoir west of Grand Junction is the first since 1986 on the West Slope. The highest count was 3 Pacific Loons seen on November 23 at Jumbo Reservoir by Dan Bridges. Common Loons put on a good show too with many seen since mid-October. By November 9, Dexter reported seeing lots of Common Loons all over the Grand Valley, more than he had ever found there. Highest count was 7 Common Loons found on November 12 at Prewitt Reservoir by Kevin Cook. A single American White Pelican found by Dexter on October 21 at Sweitzer Lake in Delta was unusual. An American Bittern was seen on September 16 by Leatherman in Fossil Creek Slough south of Fort Collins. This species is rarely reported. Is it becoming as scarce as it seems? A Great Egret found on September 15 at Holbrook Reservoir near Rocky Ford by Janos was unusual away from the Boulder Valley Farms nesting area. Sixty Cattle Egrets seen by Mark Nikas on September 13 at Lower Latham Reservoir were in their usual spot. TenBrink found a Green-backed Heron on September 19 sitting on a telephone

wire at 84th Avenue and an I-76 service road in Thornton. Another Green-backed Heron was seen on October 8 at Chatfield State Park by Joey Kellner.

A Trumpeter Swan, present since April at Foster Reservoir east of Longmont, was last seen on September 12 by Nikas, and then left for parts unknown. Tundra Swans made their annual November passage with one seen on November 7 at Barr Lake by Lee Marilyn Rowe. On the 16th, 15 were seen at Hamilton Reservoir by Dave Hawksworth, and these or another group were seen here through the 18th. On November 18, 5 Tundra Swans were seen at Chatfield State Park by Dorothy Horton, 18 were seen at Barr Lake State Park by Mike Carter, and 5 more were spotted flying over Bonny Reservoir by Seltman. A single Greater White-fronted Goose was spotted on November 17 by Bill Fink in Denver's City Park. Snow Geese came through in average numbers in November. On the 1st, 50 were seen flying over Chatfield State Park by Horton, on the 10th, 19 were seen at Hamilton Reservoir by Nelson, and on the 14th Leatherman found 36 at C.F. & I. Ponds in Pueblo. Bridges found 50 Snow Geese on November 18 at Jumbo Reservoir and 100 there on the 23rd. Eleven Snow Geese were seen by Dexter from November 8-19 at Highline Reservoir, and Nelson found another on November 10 at Hamilton Reservoir. Of the 11 Ross' Geese found on November 12 by the C.F.O. and David Silverman at C.F. & I. Ponds in Pueblo, 3 were still there on the 14th. A single Ross' Goose was seen on November 17 in Fort Collins' City Park Lake by Leatherman. Ross' Geese were very rare in Colorado just a few years ago but today they are found regularly in the spring and fall as their population continues to grow. The first batch of winter ducks were seen by Chris Wood on October 7 at West Quincy Lake in Lakewood, where he reported 5 Buffleheads, 100 Redheads, Gadwalls, 50 coots, Pied-billed Grebes, 30 wigeons, and 40 Ring-necked Ducks. On November 9, a major movement of ducks came through the West Slope where Dexter saw more ducks than ever before at Highline Reservoir. Other good duck finds included one Greater Scaup found on November 19 at Hamilton Reservoir by Howe, and an Oldsquaw seen on October 5 at Jackson Reservoir by Himmel. Surf Scoters put in a good appearance this season with one seen on October 4 at Cherry Creek Reservoir by Glenn and Jeane Hageman and three females found on October 10 at Jackson Reservoir by Jack Reddall. Singles were seen on October 19 at Highline Reservoir by Dexter, and at Chatfield by Kellner. The Chatfield Surf Scoter stayed through November 11. Two Surf Scoters were found by Ron Ryder at Hamilton Reservoir on October 31 and were still there on

November 16. Up to five White-winged Scoters were found by Howe from November 5-25 at Hamilton Reservoir. A single female White-winged Scoter was seen at Holbrook Reservoir near Rocky Ford by Janos on November 22. A Barrow's Goldeneye, the first of the season, was found by Nelson in Wheat Ridge on November 28. Unusual in the Grand Junction area were 15 Red-breasted Mergansers seen by Dexter on November 9 at Mack Mesa Reservoir.

Ospreys were reported in good numbers this fall season. Leatherman saw one on September 9 east of Briggsdale flying across the Pawnee Grasslands, an area singularly devoid of fish. Another Osprey was seen on September 16 at Union Reservoir by Scott Fitzmorris. One was reported by Janos at John Martin Reservoir on September 20, and two were seen by Cheryl Scott on September 30 at Chatfield State Park, where Roller saw two more on October 10. Dexter spotted an Osprey on October 21 at Highline Reservoir, carrying a fish. Two immature Bald Eagles seen soaring this fall over Thornton by TenBrink were probably this year's young from Barr Lake. Ray Sperger saw this fall's only Broad-winged Hawk on September 9 as it soared over Lookout Mountain in the company of a Golden Eagle, a Northern Harrier, and a Red-tailed Hawk. What's the old saying? "Politics and migration make strange bedfellows." Leatherman and Howe saw over 120 Swainson's Hawks on September 9 at Jackson Reservoir that feasted on grasshoppers in a field. This is common behavior for this long-distance migrant, which travels in large kettles and drops to the ground to feed on insects, particularly grasshoppers. Peregrine Falcons were seen on September 13 in southern Weld County by Nikas and on September 30 at Chatfield by Scott. Merlins put in a good showing with two seen on October 13 around Julesburg by Nelson. Others were seen November 12 at Walsh by Seltman, and on November 14 at C.F. & I. Ponds by Leatherman. A pair of Merlins were seen on November 21-22 in Denver's Congress Park neighborhood by Urling Kingery. Merlins wintering in the city are becoming more and more typical as this species is finding Denver and its abundant birdlife to its liking. A single Prairie Falcon was reported on September 30 at Bear Creek Lake Park in Lakewood by David Gulbenkian.

Up to 3 Greater Prairie-Chickens were seen from October 1 through November 4 in a fallow wheat field south of Julesburg by Bridges. Three Lesser Prairie-Chicken were seen on September 4 by Jean Maguire in Baca County between the town of Two Buttes and Two Buttes Reservoir. Most unusual were 7 Gray Partridges seen on November 10 about two miles north of Masters by Himmel and Howe.

Unless other evidence arises, these birds will be considered escapes.

Lots of Soras and Virginia Rails were seen by Dexter through November 9 in the marsh where Road 32 1/4 meets the Colorado River in Clifton. The season's first Sandhill Crane was seen on October 7 at Barr Lake State Park by the Colorado Bird Observatory. On October 8, Dan Green reported 162 Sandhill Cranes at Dillon Reservoir, with one Whooping Crane. Four more Sandhill Cranes were seen on October 13 at Boulder Reservoir by Alex Brown, 35 were seen by Leatherman on October 17 flying over western Fort Collins, and 8 were seen by Janos at John Martin Reservoir on October 25. Leatherman also garnered the crane-counter-of-the-fall award by finding over 700 Sandhill Cranes on October 29 at Prewitt Reservoir.

Did any shorebirds show up this fall? Let me check my list. Oh yeah, here are some. Black-bellied Plovers came in average numbers with two seen on September 13 at Lower Latham Reservoir by Nikas. Nine were seen on September 17 at Blue Reservoir by Janos; one was found by the Hagemans at Cherry Creek Reservoir on September 24; 7 were found by Bill Fink on October 17 at Chatfield; and a single Black-bellied Plover, which is a good find on the West Slope, was found by Dexter on October 21 at Hotchkiss. Lesser Golden-Plovers are rare though regular fall migrants, and 3 were reported this fall. The first was seen by Himmel on September 17 at Jackson Reservoir, and others were seen on October 9 at Jumbo Reservoir by Dick Schottler, and October 11 at Jackson Reservoir by Reddall. Five Snowy Plovers on September 17 at Blue Reservoir reported by Janos were probably local breeders, but the Snowy Plover found by Nelson October 2-4 at Cherry Creek Reservoir was out of place. Very late was an American Avocet seen on November 4 at Chatfield State Park by Scott. Ruddy Turnstones were a great rarity in Colorado a few years ago, but are being reported more and more often. Seltman states that this shorebird used to be very rare in western Kansas but has increased to such a degree that hundreds of sightings are now reported annually in Kansas. Fall's first Ruddy Turnstone in Colorado was seen on September 1 at Lake Henry by Jean Maguire. Others were seen on September 9 at Jackson Reservoir by Leatherman, and September 12-14 at the Clifton Sewer Ponds, a very rare West Slope record found by Dexter. One juvenile Ruddy Turnstone found by Janos at Lake Cheraw on September 16 was joined by a second juvenile bird there when Janos revisited his find on the 17th. A single Ruddy

Turnstone was seen on September 17 at Jackson Reservoir by Nick Watmough. A breeding-plumaged Red Knot was found by Janos on September 2 at Meredith Reservoir and 4 more were reported by Watmough which stayed from September 3-9 at Jackson Reservoir. Sanderlings were seen on September 15 at Walter Walker Refuge in Grand Junction, another rare find on the West Slope by Dexter. Other Sanderlings were on September 16 when Fitzmorris found one at Union Reservoir, a high count of 65 tallied at Blue Lake by Janos on September 17, two found by Fink on October 22 at Chatfield Reservoir, and a late Sanderling on November 5 seen by Himmel at Jackson Reservoir. Baird's Sandpiper's came through in average numbers. Late were two found by Leatherman on October 27 at Jackson Reservoir, and later still were 5 seen there by Himmel on November 5. The season's only Buff-breasted Sandpiper was found by Joey and Brenda Kellner on September 2-3 at Chatfield Reservoir's Plum Creek Delta. Three Short-billed Dowitchers were found by Watmough from September 3-9 at Jackson Reservoir, and 3 more were found by Janos at Cheraw Lake on September 17. A Red Phalarope found at Clifton on September 12-13 was (you guessed it!) very rare on the west slope, and was with the Ruddy Turnstone reported above. Another Red Phalarope found on October 15 by Randy Lentz was seen by many observers through the 17th at Chatfield State Park.

Pomarine Jaegers were seen twice this fall, the first was found by Nikas on September 8 at Union Reservoir where it remained through the 13th. The second was seen on October 10 at Jumbo Reservoir by Reddall. Parasitic Jaegers also put in a strong appearance, making this a "Jaeger fall." The first Parasitic found was on September 4 at Jackson Reservoir by Joe and Adam Mammoser. Others seen were: September 7-12 at Union Reservoir, found by TenBrink; on September 16-17 at Jackson Reservoir found by Watmough; and adult light-phase bird at Holbrook Reservoir near Rocky Ford September 19-20; and on October 13 at Jumbo Reservoir found by Nelson. A jaeger seen by Bob Andrews on October 13 at Baseline Reservoir in Boulder was best left as "jaeger species."

A Franklin's Gull seen on October 21 at Crawford Reservoir by Dexter was one of only a handful of fall records for the West Slope. The Little Gull found this summer by David Silverman at Cheraw Lake stayed through September 2, and another put in a brief appearance on September 30 at Cherry Creek Reservoir for Glenn and Jeane Hageman. Bonaparte's Gulls were in short supply this fall. The first was seen on October 19 at Cherry Creek Reservoir by

Roller. Five were found on October 27 at Jackson Reservoir by Leatherman and 8 were seen on October 29 at Prewitt Reservoir, also found by Leatherman. Five others were found by Roller on November 6 and 7 on Sloan's Lake in Denver. Three Bonaparte's Gulls were seen by Cook on November 9 at Prewitt Reservoir, 10 were seen the same day by Dexter on Mack Mesa Reservoir, and 10 more were seen on the C.F.O. field trip on November 12 at Pueblo Reservoir. A Mew Gull found by Reddall stayed from October 3 through November 12 at Cherry Creek Reservoir. This once mythical species has now almost become an expected find. The only Glaucous Gull this fall was one reported by Silverman, an adult present from November 20-25 at C.F. & I. Ponds. Five different Sabine's Gulls were reported from late September to early October. The Sabine's Gull found by the Hagemans at Cherry Creek Reservoir stayed from September 22 through October 2 and was seen by many observers. TenBrink found a Sabine's Gull which stayed from September 24-28 at Walden Pond in Boulder and which was also seen by many. Horton found one which stayed from October 3-8 at Chatfield Reservoir and may have really been two Sabine's Gulls, because on October 7 Fink saw two there. Very unusual this late in the year was an adult Sabine's Gull seen on October 7 at Cherry Creek Reservoir by Mr. and Mrs. Gull, the Hagemans. The last of this season's fantastic invasion of Caspian Terns were a pair seen on September 12 by Bill Prather at Union Reservoir. Common Terns are not all that common in Colorado, 3 were seen on September 10 at Jackson Reservoir by Leatherman, 5 were found on September 10 at Cherry Creek by TenBrink, 9 were at Blue Lake, found by Janos on September 17. A single Common Tern was seen in full breeding plumage by Reddall on October 3-4 at Cherry Creek Reservoir.

Six Monk Parakeets, consisting of adults and young, were seen from September 30 to October 20 in south Denver by Arlene Raskin and were building a nest. This is the same area where this species has cropped up before, and it is obvious that someone in this neighborhood has nothing better to do than let parrots go free.

A Northern Pygmy-Owl seen on September 11 on the C.U. Campus in Boulder by Bill Kaempfer may have been preying on the migrants because of a lack of foothills birds brought on by the drought. Two Pygmy-Owls seen on November 4 in the Flattops Wilderness Area by Steve Bouricius were reported from a seldom-birded area. Another Pygmy-Owl on November 24 in Means Meadow north of Evergreen entertained Bob Spencer's D.F.O. field trip. Intriguing

was a calling Strix sp. owl, thought to be a Barred Owl, recorded on September 25 in Rocky Mountain National Park by Bob Layman. Bob was recording bugling elk, and caught the owl as background noise! If its not airplane engines fouling up your elk recordings, its Barred Owls! This tape will be turned over to the Colorado Records Committee for close scrutiny. An owl identified as a Spotted Owl was seen on October 6 on the Tanner Peak trail south of Canyon City by Roger Holbrook. This report came to light about two weeks after the fact, and follow-up visits to the area did not find any owls. Two Boreal Owls were found on September 5, just north of Bear's Ears Peak by Nelson constituting a new latilong record for Latilong 2. Bouricius found a Northern Saw-whet Owl munching on a mouse on November 4 in the Flattops Wilderness Area. The last Common Poorwill west of Boulder was reported on September 18 in Pinebrook Hills by Bob Evans.

A resident Red-bellied Woodpecker was seen from October 21-29 in Muir Springs by Norm Erthal. A Three-toed Woodpecker seen on September 4 at Rocky Mountain National Park was a good reward for a lifetime of searching for this species by Fink. The fall's only report of an Eastern Wood-Pee-wee came on September 6 when one was seen by Janos at Burchfield Lake Wildlife Area east of Walsh. A female Vermilion Flycatcher was found on November 18 at Waterton by Rich Miller. This bird delighted many birders as it was found by everyone through the end of November. Great-crested Flycatchers were seen on September 2 at Barr Lake by Carter and Waddington, at Two Buttes Reservoir from September 4-6 by Maguire and Janos, and on September 6 at Burchfield Lake by Janos.

A Blue Jay at Evans' feeder on September 15 at 6600 feet in elevation located in the foothills west of Boulder was out of place. Carolina Wrens are still around. One was seen on October 9 at Two Buttes Reservoir by Bridges; the pair that nested in Denver were seen again in October; and another was at Marge Armitage's southeast Denver feeder on November 20. Very early was a Winter Wren seen on October 3 at Bonny Reservoir by Bridges. Another was seen on October 15 at Crow Valley Campground by Himmel, and one was at Chatfield from November 3-10 and was first found by Horton. A Winter Wren was seen on November 10 at Riverside Reservoir by Howe and Himmel and another was found at Waterton by Hugh Kingery on the 11th.

Golden-crowned Kinglets were first found in southeastern Colorado by Janos on October 29 in Baca County and by Leatherman

on October 30 in Grandview Cemetery in Fort Collins, where they were found in small numbers through the period. Chris Wood reported small flocks easily seen on November 24-25 at Means Meadow Park near Evergreen. Eastern Bluebirds are seen in larger and larger numbers every year, which must mean they are doing well. Schottler found 10 on October 10 at Tamarack Ranch in northeastern Colorado, and 5 were seen on October 13 in southern Weld County by Nelson. Of the 10 Eastern Bluebirds seen on October 29 at Prewitt Reservoir by Leatherman, one male was described as the pale southwestern race. A pair of Eastern Bluebirds was found on November 12 by the C.F.O. below the Pueblo Reservoir Dam. Mountain Bluebirds were seen several times in latilong 7 around Julesburg and Jumbo Reservoir by Nelson on October 12. Mountain and Western Bluebirds were noted by several observers on October 17 as they flocked along the beaches of Chatfield State Park. Rare in the fall was a Gray-cheeked Thrush well studied on September 16 at La Junta by Janos. The identity of a Wood Thrush on September 30 at Barr Lake was not in question, as it was banded by the Colorado Bird Observatory. Late Hermit Thrushes were seen on November 12 at Two Buttes Reservoir by Bridges and on November 14 at Muir Springs by TenBrink and Maguire. Brief encounters of the Varied Thrush kind occurred on October 28 at Judy Shipman's Denver feeder and on November 11 at Barr Lake, where Virginia Bleck found another. We know that Brown Thrashers wander a bit in the fall, so one seen on October 24 at 8000 feet in elevation in Coal Creek by Nelson wasn't a shock, but the Brown Thrasher in Linda Vidal's Aspen yard from November 13 through the end of the month was a rare surprise.

Sprague's Pipits. We all know about them--a mystical, solitary bird that is genetically programmed to avoid Colorado. For years Scott Seltman has preached that this species comes through western Kansas in such large numbers that they must migrate through eastern Colorado. Dan Bridges was one such believer, and for the last three years has visited the Julesburg area to search for the Sprague's Pipit. This year on September 30, Dan struck the mother lode. He found a fallow field one mile south of Julesburg and seven miles east of Highway 385 on County Road 30. This field was the headquarters for a flock of migrating Sprague's Pipits from September 30 until October 22. While seeking cover in the weedy, overgrown field here, the pipits often flew into the surrounding winter wheat to forage. Many Colorado birders got textbook looks at these little guys with as many as 10 individual pipits rewarding the patient birder for his drive to

Julesburg.

This fall's Bohemian Waxwing invasion consisted of one bird seen by Roller on November 14 at Jackson Reservoir. Some Cedar Waxwings were about, with 10 reported on November 14 by Sally Asher in the Denver West Office Park, and 15 seen by Jim Allison on November 20-21 at Southglen Mall in Lakewood. The bird of the fall was the (immature?) female Phainopepla in Jim and Rosie Watts' yard at Penrose September 8-12. This is the first Phainopepla in Colorado in many years, and it was cooperative enough to be seen by many eager birders. First Northern Shrike-finder honors go to Leatherman who saw one on October 22 at Rawhide, second place was for one seen on October 24 in Golden by Kirby Werner. A Loggerhead Shrike seen on the C.F.O. November 12 Pueblo Reservoir trip reminded all that the birds really are different down there.

A Yellow-throated Vireo was found at Chatfield on September 9-10 by Joey and Brenda Kellner. A Philadelphia Vireo and a Red-eyed Vireo were banded on October 7 at Barr Lake by the Colorado Bird Observatory. Warbler migration this fall was given a two thumbs down by most observers. Few warblers seen and little variety was the consensus. Victor Zerbi in Glenwood reported above-average finds, but most observers dream of migrations in the past. Not so for Randy Lentz, who found Colorado's first Cerulean Warbler in thirty years, then found a Canada, a Prothonotary, and a Blackburnian Warbler all on the same day at the end of October. These three birds plus a Magnolia Warbler also found by Lentz and a male Black-throated Blue Warbler found by Horton, made for wild birding in the first week of November at Chatfield. After looking for and not finding the Cerulean Warbler at Two Buttes, Janos had to settle for Colorado's first fall record of Louisiana Waterthrush. Not too bad.

A Nashville Warbler found by Zerbi on September 14 at Veltes Park in Glenwood Springs was a rare West Slope find. Chestnut-sided Warblers were seen on September 9 in Wheat Ridge Greenbelt by Nelson and on September 13 in southern Weld County by Nikas. Magnolia Warblers were seen on September 27 at Barr Lake by Bridges, on October 11 at Jackson Reservoir by Reddall, and from November 5-7 at Chatfield State Park, found by Lentz. A female Black-throated Blue Warbler was seen on September 10 at Chatfield by Nelson, and a spectacular male, found by Horton, was seen by many from November 8-12 at Chatfield. Townsend's Warblers came

through in good numbers with a high of 10 seen on September 2 at Barr Lake by the Colorado Bird Observatory. A Black-throated Green Warbler was found dead on October 5 at C.S.U. in Fort Collins by Leatherman who donated the skin to the Denver Museum of Natural History. A live one was seen in Evergreen by Polly Phillips on November 7. A Blackburnian Warbler at Chatfield, briefly glanced on October 29 by Lentz, and identified on October 30 by Roller, posed an identification challenge for Denver area birders. This immature female, which remained through November 4, was missing its tail, and caused many to look for field marks that they are not used to seeing.

A Yellow-throated Warbler was seen in the Denver Zoo on October 14 and on November 18 by Mary Peterson, but at no time in between. A Pine Warbler was seen on October 12 at Beulah by Van Truan. Palm Warblers were found on October 11 at Barr Lake by Roller, and on October 14 in Boulder by Alex Cruz. Blackpoll Warblers were seen on September 9 in Wheat Ridge Greenbelt by Bob Righter, on September 10 at Crow Valley where Leatherman saw 3, on September 11 on Boulder Creek by Bill Kaempfer, and a rare West Slope sighting by Zerbi on October 17-18 in Glenwood Springs. American Redstarts were well seen on the East Slope this fall. A male Prothonotary Warbler was found on October 29 at Chatfield by Lentz. This bird was seen off and on through November 3. The warbler find of the decade was a female Cerulean Warbler found by Lentz on September 4 at Two Buttes Reservoir. This warbler was seen by the entire D.F.O. field trip, as it foraged in the open, giving all a great view. Fall Ovenbird sightings included one on September 6 at Two Buttes Reservoir by Janos, two seen on September 9 in Wheat Ridge Greenbelt by Righter and Steve Stachowiak, one on October 4 in Fort Collins' Grandview Cemetery by Leatherman and another on October 5 at Apex Park, west of Lakewood by Sperger. Northern Waterthrushes are the most common of the "uncommon" fall warblers. Janos found one on September 6 at Two Buttes Reservoir, and on the same day at Burchfield Lake. Another was seen by Diane Mullineaux from September 10-15 in Wheat Ridge Greenbelt, and Zerbi found another on September 11 in Glenwood Springs. The first fall record of a Louisiana Waterthrush for the state was seen on September 6 at Burchfield Lake by Janos, and if accepted by the records committee, will become the third state record. A Common Yellowthroat found by Dexter in Clifton on November 16 was late. A Hooded Warbler was found on September 9 on private land in Waterton Canyon by Hugh Kingery, and a male was seen on November 5 in Baca County's

Cottonwood Canyon by Janos. An adult male Canada Warbler found by Lentz on October 29 was seen by many Denver birders through November 1 at Chatfield. This warbler was one of the five rare warblers seen in Chatfield in November, making it the place to bird.

A Scarlet Tanager found by Janos on September 30 at Rocky Ford Wildlife Area was a male in winter plumage. The banded Northern Cardinal which was trapped at Echo Lake (over 11,000 feet in elevation) this summer came to the Georgetown feeder of Mildred Godoy (8500 feet in elevation) from October 1 to at least November 12. Three Northern Cardinals, perhaps a family group, were seen on November 12 at Pueblo Reservoir by Silverman and the C.F.O. field trip. On the same day, Seltman saw two Northern Cardinals at Holly. A migrant Rose-breasted Grosbeak was seen on September 24 in Nederland by Rick Austin.

A Field Sparrow was spotted on October 30 at Barr Lake State Park by Steve Sanders. Very late was a Lark Bunting seen by Dexter on November 15 west of Fruita. Three Baird's Sparrows were found on October 14 by Bridges in the same spot at which he found the Sprague's Pipits two weeks prior. An eastern race Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca iliaca*), found by Nelson, was seen from November 12-14 at C.F. & I. Ponds, and two Fox Sparrows, also of the eastern race, were found on the same day by Seltman in Holly. A Lincoln's Sparrow was found by C.F.O. on November 12 in Pueblo, and another was seen west of Fruita by Dexter on November 15.

Swamp Sparrows were first seen this fall on Kiowa Creek where Bridges reported one on September 23. A big Swamp Sparrow migration wave occurred on October 8 with some banded at Barr Lake and others seen there. A major influx of Swamp Sparrows was signaled on November 12 when Tom Tuffson found one in Clifton, which was still there on the 20th. About 8 Swamp Sparrows were present on November 24 in the Pueblo area where Silverman reported them below the dam at C.F. & I. Ponds and below Pueblo Reservoir, and at Colorado City. A Swamp Sparrow found by Nelson in Wheat Ridge Greenbelt on November 24 had become a flock of 3 by November 27, and were still there at the end of the month. White-throated and Harris' Sparrows were found in small numbers in several locations from Las Animas to Pueblo to Fort Collins. All the White-throated Sparrows were first seen in October, and all but one of the Harris Sparrows were seen in November, not an identification tip. Each of these species were also found by

Dexter in the Grand Junction area, where they are much less common than on the East Slope. The fall's only Golden-crowned Sparrow was an adult coming to Dexter's Clifton feeder from November 21-26, that looked like it might spend the winter.

Janos reported that late McCown's Longspurs were still coming to a stock pond near Blue Lake on November 28. Lots of Lapland Longspurs were seen by Andrews on November 11 all over northeastern Colorado. This trend continued with 100 Lapland Longspurs seen at Julesburg on November 23 by Bridges, and a few found north of Sedgwick by Tina Jones on November 26. Seltman reported that on the weekend of November 4 many Smith's Longspurs were seen and heard in Morton County, Kansas and a few were still there on November 11. Many were found close enough to Colorado that he was convinced that this species could have come into Colorado that weekend. This species has never been recorded in Colorado, and a thorough understanding of its Kansas migration patterns would help to finding it in Colorado.

A male Great-tailed Grackle came to Kevin Cook's office feeder along the Poudre River in Fort Collins on November 28-29. This species is now found wintering in Grand Junction and at Monte Vista, so a winter bird this far north isn't a big surprise. A single Rusty Blackbird was seen by Reddall on November 12 at Cherry Creek Reservoir, and several were reported by Silverman on November 24 below Pueblo Reservoir.

One Red Crossbill was seen on September 9 in Lower Bear Creek southwest of Denver by Mary Jane Schock and 6 were found on October 5 at Genesee Park by Tina Jones. Two to four Red Crossbills were seen by Leatherman in Fort Collins from October 30 to November 15 as they were flying over Grandview Cemetery, and from 15 to 20 were seen by Fink on November 26 on Guanella Pass, a traditional Red Crossbill stronghold. Common Redpolls made a brief appearance in early November and then vanished. One was seen on November 5-6 in Fort Collins by Howe, who saw another on the 6th near Platteville. Many Common Redpolls were reported on November 8-10 in Weld County near Riverside Reservoir, where Howe and Himmel heard flock after flock passing overhead for two hours. Two more individuals were found at Chatfield by Maguire on November 10-12, and were the last reported sightings.

COLORADO BREEDING BIRD ATLAS UPDATE

Hugh E. Kingery
869 Milwaukee St.
Denver, CO 80206

1990 Goals

Preliminary figures indicate the Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas has initiated coverage in 650 Atlas blocks, and completed 175 blocks. With a goal of completing 1756 by 1991 or 1992, field work so far has not matched the hopes of the organizers. Acceleration of field work is the key. At its meeting in November, the Atlas Steering Committee set goals for 1990: to start 500 new blocks, and to finish twice as many blocks as finished through 1989; that is, to complete 250 more blocks. In order to accomplish this ambitious goal, we need more field workers, and they need to get into the field frequently enough to complete their blocks.

We urge C.F.O. members who have not volunteered for an Atlas block to contact your local Regional Coordinator or me by mail at the Atlas office in Denver or at home (303-333-0161). We also urge C.F.O. members who already have volunteered to put in extra effort in 1990 to work on their blocks or to complete their blocks. We have an impressive list of 64 C.F.O. members who have actually done Atlas field work. Thanks, and keep it up!

1989 Goals

Our information on 1989 field work is still preliminary, since at this writing we haven't received all the cards and since we have posted only one-fifth of the cards received.

We achieved better coverage all over the state. We confirmed nesting of several species in new latilongs (Purple Martin, Eastern Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher), although we did not confirm some others for which we exerted some special effort (Field Sparrow, White-winged Crossbill).

Several blocks have exceeded 90 nesting species: Boulder (40105A3), Trail Ridge (40105D6), Eagle (39106F7), Eldorado Springs (39105H3).

A few observers have completed over ten blocks: Ruth and Walt Kuenning, Coen Dexter and Brenda Wright, Paul Opler. Several other observers have put themselves on a track of completing one block per year: Virginia Bleck, Jerry Besser, Randy Lentz (always a backpacking block), Jean Maguire, Helen and Art Wainwright, Phil Hayes, Ron Meyer, Dick Guadagno, and Roberta Winn, and Vic Zerbi.

Some of the most thorough work has come from organized groups, like the Western Slope Audubon led by Phyllis Radice, who found 84 species in the Hawxhurst Creek block (39107C8) near Collbran; Betsy Webb's Denver Museum of Natural History Zoology Department block, Ponderosa Park (39104D6); and the Tuesday Birders in Castle Rock North (39104D7), (both of the latter groups confirmed first Blue-gray Gnatcatchers breeding in Latilong 12); Boulder Bird Club, which completed Pinewood Lake (40105C3) this year and will work on Gold Hill (40105A4) next year.

Individuals do thorough work too, especially Dan Bridges. Dave Johnson, Regional Coordinator, said: "His field work is by far the most meticulous and complete of anyone who has done field work in Region S."

Then we have the three-bluebird block (Elbert, 39104B5; Ruth and Walt Kuenning), nine-duck block (Alamosa East, 37105D7, Rick Schnaderbeck and Ed Merritt), seven-corvid block (Castle Rock North, 39104D7, Tuesday Birders), and four-grouse-type block (Bowie, 38107H5, Dick Guadagno).

Displaying Atlas Results

At the C.F.O. convention in May, Don Schrupp, computer specialist for the Colorado Division of Wildlife, displayed some color maps produced from Atlas data. Some maps showed single species according to the level of confirmation codes (robin, chickadees, meadowlark, etc.). Other maps compared the distribution of related species (Red-tailed and Swainson's Hawks) or species with contrasting habitat requirements (Horned Lark and Mountain Chickadee). Future editions of the Atlas newsletter will show distribution maps as illustrations of one way to display the

results of this impressive, massive study.

Join Us

Since the study is impressive, and massive, we need all the field worker volunteers we can gather. Officially, we have another two years to complete the effort (I suspect we will extend the project a year or two). We need volunteers to cover blocks further than an hour's drive from the Front Range cities and Grand Junction. Backpackers welcome, too!

SUMMARY OF ATLAS GEOGRAPHY
REGIONAL TERRITORIES

A/B	John Toolen	Northwest Moffat and Routt Counties
E	Ron Lambeth	West Mesa and western Rio Blanco, Garfield, Montrose and San Miguel Cos.
M	Coen Dexter	Central West Delta, Montrose, Gunnison, n. Hinsdale Cos.
F	Jack Merchant	Central Mountains Garfield, Eagle, and Pitkin Cos.
G	Dick Schottler	Central Mountains Grand and Summit Cos., n. Park and Douglas Cos.
C	Jim Sedgwick	North central and east North 20-30 miles from North Park to Nebraska
D	Paul Opler	North central and east Next-north 20-30 miles from North Park to Nebraska
H	Bill Kaempfer	North central Boulder Co. east to Nebraska
J	David Martin	Central east Georgetown east to Kansas, also n. Elbert and Lincoln Cos.
N	Ruth & Walt Kuenning	Central S. Park Co., Teller, El Paso, and Lincoln
L	Jennie Slater	East Kit Carson Cos. to Arkansas River
P	Jeanne Willetto	Southwest Montezuma, Dolores, San Juan, and La Plata Cos.
Q	Phil Hayes	Southwest S. Hinsdale, Mineral, Weminuche Wilderness
R	Pat Monaco	South central Chaffee, Fremont, Custer Cos. and San Luis Valley
S	Dave Johnson	South central Pueblo, Crowley, Huerfano, western Las Animas Co.
T	Beth Dillon	Southeast: Baca and eastern Las Animas Co.

C.F.O. FIELD TRIP TO PUEBLO, NOVEMBER 12, 1989

Duane Nelson
31428 Burke Rd.
Golden, CO 80403

Record shattering warmth and calm winds welcomed the 23 participants of the November 12 C.F.O. field trip to Pueblo. Our trip leader was Dave Silverman, and he was assisted by many members of the Arkansas Valley Audubon Society. We began at Pueblo Reservoir, where our best find was several Bonaparte's Gulls. This barely gave us a clue to the excitement that was soon to follow. Our next stop was the riparian area below the dam. Dave almost immediately heard a "chink" call note which alerted us to a possible Northern Cardinal. While trying to call it up, a male flew by, followed by a female. By the time the third, a molting male, was seen, we were almost blasé about it. More walking in this area resulted in a long look at a pair of Eastern Bluebirds, and several looks at resident Bewick's Wrens.

At Lake Minnequa, we were able to study a staked-out Pacific Loon. This proved to be time well spent, for at our next stop, C.F. & I Pond, the first bird found was another Pacific Loon, this time with two Common Loons thrown in for comparison. Scanning the upper lake, we conjured up a Snow Goose, and eleven Ross' Geese, which we were later able to study and contrast from a much closer distance. One member of the party, seeking relief from the incredible heat and dessicating sun, sought refuge in the shade of a small tree where he was struck by the unexpected appearance of an Eastern race Fox Sparrow. Our efforts to relocate this bird eventually paid off, as everyone still present "oohed and aahed" at this bird for about a half an hour from every possible angle. Later, several of us were able to write "Canyon Towhee" in our log books for the first time since the A.O.U. split Brown Towhee into two species.

Our trip almost over, we headed to Brandon Percival's Pueblo West home to see a usually cooperative Curve-billed Thrasher. It let us down, but a large family group of Scaled Quail was an acceptable consolation prize. We ended the day with 71 species.

PARTICIPANTS:

Mary Bauer, Joyce Bowles, Leon Bright, Nancy Crofton, Coen Dexter, Bill Fink, Joe Himmel, Mark Janos, David Martin, Duane Nelson, Brandon Percival, Bill Prather, Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Dave Silverman, Patricia Snider, Joyce Takamine, Kristin Higer Truan, Van Truan, Sylvia Wheelock, Brenda Wright, Ann Yaeger, John Yaeger, Mark Yaeger.

NOTICE

Plan to attend the 28th annual Convention of the Colorado Field Ornithologists in Pueblo in 1990.

The Convention will be held from Friday evening, May 18 through Sunday afternoon, May 20. The preliminary agenda is as follows:

Friday, May 18: Registration 6:30-9:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn, Pueblo

Saturday, May 19: Morning Field Trips 7:00 a.m.
Afternoon paper session 1-4:00 p.m.
Evening banquet/program 6-9:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 20: All day Field Trips to
To Canon City area or Plains Reservoirs

Make your plans now to attend our Convention in this ornithologically exciting part of Colorado.

Watch for further details and the registration form.

1990 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE OF THE
COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS

David E. Martin
9330 W. 90th Dr.
Broomfield, CO 80021

Below is a summary of the 1990 schedule of C.F.O. field trips. If you plan to go on a trip, please call the leader for complete details of when and where to meet. If you have trouble getting through to a leader, call David Martin at (303) 422-9143, or leave a message on the Colorado Bird Report at (303) 423-5582. Additionally, if you would like to lead a field trip in 1991 to an ornithologically interesting area of Colorado, call David Martin. For these trips, please dress appropriately, remembering that the weather can be severe any time of the year--Colorado can have snow from September through June. Bring a lunch as we will often visit remote sites with no convenient restaurants. The C.F.O. requires all field trip participants to sign a "Release of Liability Form" before the field trip begins. I hope everyone can make it to several field trips this year and good birding.

January 27, 1990 **Saturday** **Pawnee Grasslands**

Leader: David Leatherman (303) 484-5445

We will visit the Pawnee Grasslands in winter. This trip will be to look for the typical wintering birds of the northeast Colorado plains. On a good day, this might include Long-eared and Short-eared Owls, sparrows, Lapland Longspurs and perhaps some surprises. We will also visit Hamilton Reservoir, a power plant cooling pond that is the only open water within 80 miles. This lake usually harbors a good variety of wintering ducks, including scoters the last two years.

February 17, 1990 **Saturday** **White-tailed Ptarmigan**

Leader: Steve Bouricius (303) 747-2367

This trip will look for White-tailed Ptarmigan in western

Boulder County. We will use cross-country skis to ski into a willow carr and attempt to find the White-tailed Ptarmigan in their winter plumage. We should expect to find about a dozen high mountain winter birds in addition to the ptarmigans. Dress for the most severe winter alpine weather conditions, and bring your cross-country skis.

March 24, 1990

Saturday

Greeley

Leader: Joe Himmel (303) 352-0822

This field trip is to the Greeley area where we will look for migrant ducks, early shorebirds, sparrows, and surprises. We will search the fields and lakes in the Greeley area for migrant and late wintering birds. This is the time of year a Eurasian Wigeon has been found here for the last five years.

April 6-7, 1990

Fri.-Saturday

Southwestern Colorado

Leader: Peter Gent (303) 494-1750

In early April, we will travel to southwestern Colorado to visit Mesa Verde, the least-birded National Park. On the night of Saturday the 7th, we will look for the Spotted Owl in its only known nesting area in Colorado. During the day on Saturday, we will bird in the park for pinyon-juniper birds.

May 19-20, 1990

Sat.-Sunday

C.F.O. Annual Convention

This is the annual Convention of the Colorado Field Ornithologists, and it will be held in Pueblo this year. Plan to attend and see why Pueblo is the best spot to bird in Colorado.

May 26-27, 1990

Sat.-Sunday

Grand Junction

Leader: Coen Dexter (303) 434-6137

This trip will visit the ornithological diverse area around Grand Junction. This is the trip that East Slope birders all dream about. Specialties include Gambel's Quail, Purple Martin,

Gray Vireo, Sage Sparrow, Scott's Oriole, and Chukar. We will also look for Barn Owl, Western Screech-Owl, Flammulated and Long-eared Owls, and Gray and Ash-throated Flycatchers. The weather can be anything from cold and windy to very hot but is usually pleasant this time of year. Camping is available in Colorado National Monument.

June 18-24, 1990

A.B.A. Convention

The Convention of the American Birding Association is held this week in Fort Collins. Call 1-800-634-7736 for more information.

July 21, 1990

Saturday

Front Range Mountains

Leader: Duane Nelson (303) 642-7109

This trip will concentrate on some of the mountain nesting species as well as migrant hummingbirds. We hope to find Hermit Thrush, Fox Sparrow and Pine Grosbeak, among others. A strenuous hike to timberline is involved, so bring your good hiking boots. And there is always the chance of a late afternoon thundershower so don't forget the rain gear.

August 4, 1990

Saturday

Glenwood Springs

Leader: Victor Zerbi (303) 945-6017

On this trip we will look for some of the summer birds of Glenwood Springs. If the rest of the family doesn't share your enthusiasm for birding, bring them along to enjoy the world-famous hot springs swimming pool. We will climb to Hanging Lake to observe the nesting Black Swifts and also bird in the surrounding areas. It can get hot in Glenwood Springs in August and be prepared for a tough 45 minute hike to see the swifts at Hanging Lake.

September 15, 1990

Saturday

Northeastern Colorado

Leader: Bill Prather (303) 776-2191

This trip to northeastern Colorado during the prime part of fall migration could yield some good eastern birds. We will be looking for both shorebirds and passerines, and should get a good list of both. The big lure here will be uncommon fall warblers and shorebirds.

October 6, 1990 Saturday Southeastern Colorado

Leader: Mark Janos (719) 384-8672

This trip will go east from La Junta. If the birding has been very good in the lakes along the Arkansas River, that is where the trip will concentrate, otherwise we could go as far east as Kansas, or as far southeast as the Oklahoma border. This part of the state always has interesting birds usually not found elsewhere in Colorado. Add to those the possibility of eastern migrants and this should be a great trip.

November 17, 1990 Saturday Boulder

Leader: Peter Gent (303) 494-1750

We will bird in the interesting Boulder area, to see what turns up. Between the lakes and riparian areas, there is always something interesting around town.

December 8, 1990 Saturday Chatfield Reservoir

Leader: Joey Kellner (303) 985-0552

This trip will be to Chatfield Reservoir, southwest of Denver. This trip occurs one week before the Denver Christmas Bird Count and we should find a good variety of wintering loons, ducks, gulls, and passerines.

IN PROGRESS!

COLORADO BIRDS STATUS AND DISTRIBUTION

This exciting new book will be the first comprehensive treatment of Colorado's avifauna since "Birds of Colorado" by Alfred Bailey and Robert Niedrach appeared in 1965. Written by Bob Andrews, production coordinated by Bob Righter, and with input from hundreds of Colorado's field ornithologists, this 350 page book is scheduled to appear in September of 1990.

Features of COLORADO BIRDS-STATUS AND DISTRIBUTION:

Introduction:

- the geography, climate, and vegetation of Colorado
- the zoogeography of Colorado birds
- the breeding and wintering biology of Colorado birds
- bird migration in Colorado
- patterns of vagrancy in Colorado
- historical changes in Colorado's environment and avifauna

Species accounts of the 440 species of Colorado birds:

- geographic distribution (with maps)
- altitudinal distribution (with bar graphs)
- seasonal movements and dates (with bar graphs)
- habitat
- abundance
- extralimital occurrences
- historical changes
- subspecies

Bibliography, including key pre-1965 references and extensive listing of post-1965 references

(SAMPLE SPECIES ACCOUNT ON BACK)

WESTERN BLUEBIRD

Sialia mexicana

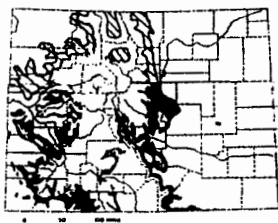
Resident in foothills and lower mountains; most common in southern Colorado, and generally most common in summer. Vagrant on eastern plains. (Specimens) (Breeds)

Status: Summer resident in foothills and lower mountains; fairly common south of the Colorado R. and the Arkansas-Platte divide, and uncommon and very local northward. Rare summer resident in North Park, Park Co. and Middle Park, Grand Co.

Uncommon to common migrant in foothills, lower mountains, western valleys, and mountain parks; most common in southern half of the state. Rare migrant on eastern plains within 5 mi. of foothills. Casual migrant (9 records) on northeastern plains east to Yuma Co.

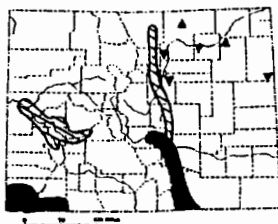
Fairly common to uncommon winter resident in foothills on west slope in Montezuma and La Plata Cos. and on east slope Fremont and Pueblo Cos. southward; rare north to Mesa Co. and very rare north to Larimer Co.

Habitat: Breeds primarily in ponderosa pine forests and less often in pinyon-juniper woodlands and in Gambel oak shrublands. In migration, occurs in most open forest types and adjacent open areas. In winter, in coniferous forests (especially pinyon-juniper), riparian areas and shrublands, generally where fruits are available.



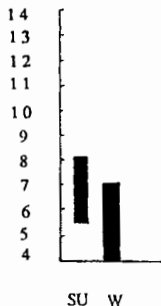
SUMMER RANGE

- Fairly common
- ▨ Uncommon to rare

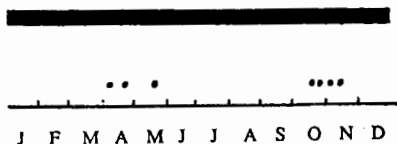


WINTER RANGE

- Fairly common
- ▨ Rare to very rare
- ▲ Spring records
- ▼ Fall records



Foothills
E. Plains



COLORADO BIRD DISTRIBUTION LATILONG STUDY



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