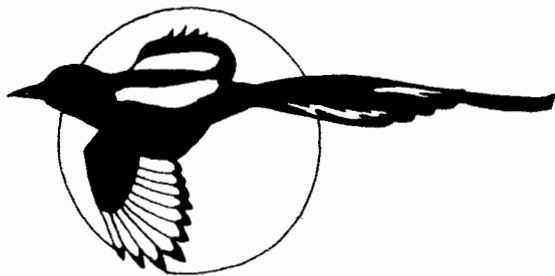




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Cover Photograph: *Male Garganey at Sombrero Pond, Boulder,
Colorado, April 1992 by Dean Hill.*

FROM THE EDITOR

Mona Hill
3410 Heidelberg Drive
Boulder, Colorado 80303

An Editorial Board of the *Journal* has been appointed, as the C.F.O. Bylaws direct. Mike Carter, Peter Gent, David Leatherman, Paul Opler and Bill Prather have agreed to be on it. Since the number of Board members is not mentioned in the Bylaws, I would be pleased to hear from other C.F.O. members interested in helping to review articles for the *Journal*. An informal review system has been in place for some time; the Editorial Board serves to allow me, as Editor, to take advantage of the birding expertise of the Board members. David Leatherman has further indicated an interest in becoming the next Editor; we hope that, by his having been involved prior to assuming the role, the transition (in a few years) will be a smooth one.

The Food Items of Colorado Birds articles are now scheduled to be published in every other issue. Look for it next in October. Duane Nelson has written for this issue what I hope will be the first of a series of introductions of members of the C.F.O. Official Records Committee. Thanks to Rich Levad and Coen Dexter for letting us print their Grand Valley and Mesa County checklist. It is in the center of the *Journal* to allow easy removal for use.

CORRECTIONS

Volume 25(4) p. 95: Amount in C.F.O. money market account should have been \$2,180.00.

Volume 26(1) p. 8: The Brown Pelican seen by Steve Stachowiak on 6/24 was at Chatfield Res. not Barr Lake.

MINUTES OF THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS
BOARD MEETING,

Barr Lake State Park
April 5, 1992

Present: Mike Carter, Linda Vidal, Mona Hill, Dave Leatherman, Dave Silverman, Bill Prather, Steve Bouricius, and Paul Opler.

Treasurer's Report: Steve Bouricius presented treasurer's report. The balance as of March 31 is \$9,206.47. We have 300 active members with 20% unpaid to date. We lose about 9% membership per year. In 1989 and 1990 we had a big increase due to Dave Martin sending a letter to about 700 birders statewide.

C.F.O. Journal: Mona Hill suggested the creation of an associate or assistant editor for the *CFO Journal*. This person would be the heir apparent when the current editor resigns. There should also be a finite term for the editorship, perhaps 3 years. The last point would require a by-laws change. Mike Carter, Bill Prather, Dave Leatherman, and Paul Opler volunteered to be on the CFO review board. Dave Leatherman indicated that he would entertain being the associate editor.

Mike Carter said there should be a by-laws committee to consider any changes before an agenda item is presented to the board at a future meeting. Linda Vidal said that she would put the by-laws on a computer disk. The review board can be reinstituted without a by-laws change. It was moved by Mike Carter and passed unanimously by the board to have Linda keyboard the by-laws.

Mike Carter brought up the topic of the identity of the *CFO Journal*, i.e. journal vs. newsletter. The editor and review board should exercise some control over journal quality, e.g. fictitious citations or non-certified bird records should not be published in the *CFO Journal*. Content of publications (p. 13) in by-laws could also reviewed as suggested by Bill Prather. For example, the by-laws now specifically discourage publication of site guides. The topic of separating scientific articles from notes and announcements in the *CFO journal* was discussed. The editor and review board can make decisions on changing the journal format.

Ways of sprucing up the journal were presented by Steve Bouricius. For example, using a dyed (color splash) cover for \$35 per year or publishing a color photo on the cover one issue a year at \$400 per issue, were suggested

as alternatives. A discussion of the merits and effects on the budget ensued. The former option was suggested as preferred by treasurer Bouricius.

A motion was made to budget \$3,000 for the journal in 1992. Motion by Mike Carter, second by Dave Silverman. Passed unanimously.

Mission Statement: Linda Vidal urged the board to consider adopting a mission statement for CFO. The merits of giving money to good ornithological causes versus improving the *CFO Journal* was discussed. Increasing the CFO membership was viewed as a high priority and marketing CFO by using DFO mailing lists and having a brochure was recommended. The By-laws committee will consider a mission statement and brochure. A letter and membership application will be distributed with the flyer on Andrews' Colorado bird book by ABA. A budget of \$800 was approved for the brochure.

Rare Birds Records: A proposed 20-year summary of Colorado rare bird records by Jack Reddall was discussed. The board decided to wait until the Andrews book is published and to see if it would be redundant to publish the manuscript. The board will also ask Duane Nelson to publish the 1988 records.

1992 Convention: The meeting site was moved from Boulder to the Holiday Inn in Northglenn, due to a CU football home game. The format will be the same as 1991. Two or more workshops, an optics demonstration, and field trips will be included. Suggested workshops include beginning birding and bird-feeding. Emphasis on youth birding was discussed. Several banquet speakers were suggested: Rowinski, Ron Ryder, Tina Jones, Perry Conway, Carl Bock Karen Hollingsworth, and Shattil and Rozinski.

Funding Requests: The Colorado Bird Atlas requested funding assistance. It was moved by Vidal and seconded by Opler that \$500 be granted to the Colorado Bird Atlas project. The motion was amended to include \$500 for the Colorado Bird Observatory. The motion passed with one abstention.

Submitted by Paul Opler

C.F.O. MEETS K.O.S. AND THERE WAS A MIGHTY WIND

Bill Prather
13810 Weld County Road, #1
Longmont, Colorado 80504

The Kansas Ornithological Society held its 1992 Spring Meeting and Field Trip in Cheyenne County, Kansas and invited CFO members to join them birding on both sides of the border between Colorado and Kansas. Scott and Diane Seltman of Necoma, Kansas, who have been C.F.O. members for years and are a great source of information about birding in Kansas and far south-eastern Colorado, suggested and organized the joint field trip. Birders from both states gathered at St. Francis, Kansas and at North Cove Campground, Bonny Reservoir State Park, Colorado on Friday evening, May 8, 1992. Saturday morning field trips explored Bonny Reservoir and the Republican River Riparian Woodland east to the border, the Republican River from St. Francis west to the border and other areas in Cheyenne County, Kansas.

Unfortunately, the wind began to blow in the morning and steadily increased until we were dealing with a 30 mile per hour wind out of the south. Still, we did see a lot of birds. The group in Kansas found a Yellow-throated Warbler and a Northern Parula Warbler and Cardinals W of St. Francis - very close to Colorado. The group in Colorado found their best bird near the end of the day. Tired of fighting the wind and about to quit, we were within shouting distance of the state line at Hale ponds when we noticed a bird fly into a small willow on the edge of the pond. It was yellowish underneath and greenish on top. We carefully looked at the colors and the bill and quickly came to the conclusion that we were looking at a female Painted Bunting! It bobbed around on the thin branches like a wind chime as it fed on the seeds but everyone got good, close looks. After that excitement we travelled toward the campground and were overtaken by the Kansas group east of Hale. Peter Gent who had birded with the group in Kansas showed us Eastern Bluebirds where he had found them the day before. When we got to the camp we found Diane Seltman who had returned early to prepare for the cookout had been forced to work on several of the tents to keep them from blowing away. Not wanting to start a range fire that could be fanned all the way to North Dakota, we decided not to have the cookout and went to St. Francis for dinner. The people at the restaurant were very accommodating of a good-sized group which dropped in on them unannounced and put us up in a private room. After a good dinner, we did a compilation and found all the groups had seen 113 species, the Colorado group getting the most waterbirds and the Kansas group getting the most passerines. The next day we found the wind had shifted to

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coming out of the north but it was still blowing hard. After a morning of birding around Bonny Reservoir and Hale ponds, the Kansas people needed to start home (a number had come from the far eastern part of Kansas). One of them remarked that Kansas birders had generally always been a little jealous of Colorado birding but the wind on this trip had completely cured that! We all had a great time and it was good to make new friends. Thanks to Scott and Diane Seltman and we all look forward to more joint outings.

C.F.O. FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE 1992

Lake Isabel Area (Pueblo & Custer Counties)

Meet at Lake Isabel, 9:00 a.m., June 27 at USFS parking lot across CSH 165 from southeast corner of the lake. Lake Isabel is located about 20 miles northwest of Junction of I-25 and CSH 165. Search will be made for Flammulated Owls and Three-toed Woodpeckers. Possible side trip to Rye area for nesting Redstarts and Ovenbirds. One day trip; bring lunch.

Leader: Brandon Percival

Fountain Creek Regional Park South of Colorado Springs

Meet at 8:00 a.m. Saturday October 10, 1992, at the north parking area of the park [see map in *C.F.O. Journal* 26(1)]. Directions: From I-25 take exit 132 to CSH 16 south of Colorado Springs. Go east of CSH 16 across Fountain Creek to USH 85. Go south to Willow Springs Road. Go west on this road into park and to north parking area.

*Leaders: Toni Brevillier (719) 540-5653 and
George Maentz, Park Supervisor (719) 520-6387*

**C.F.O. FIELD TRIP: LARIMER & WELD COUNTIES
APRIL 18, 1992**

**David Leatherman
2048 Whiterock Court
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526**

At least one Friday-night weather predictor used the word "nasty" in describing what to expect on Saturday, April 18. Apparently, most of you believed him. Only Dave Hawksworth met Joe Himmel and me for our scheduled CFO field trip. Despite feeling somewhat awkward, we decided to follow our original plans and take advantage of the surprisingly good (albeit windy) weather.

Our first stop was Fossil Creek Nursery in south Fort Collins. An adult Yellow-crowned Night-heron had been present here since the blizzard of March 8. We found "Bert" ("Bertha"?), as the bird is affectionately known by the nursery employees, perched in a blue spruce tree right in the middle of the busiest retail sales area! What a strange and beautiful sight it made balancing on a swaying evergreen branch. The bird's bill was caked with mud, backing up reports of its fondness for earthworms.

After early success, we turned east to ply Joe's favorite haunts near Greeley. The season's first Loggerhead Shrike sat atop a fence near Carbody Lake. Greeley's "very reliable" 12th Avenue Eastern Screech-Owl was not home. Why do "very reliable" owls always do this on field trips?

Along the south edge of Lower Latham Reservoir we observed the brunch etiquette of a fine Peregrine Falcon. The "special" this day was fresh teal. Marsh Wrens rattled. Ducks dabbled. Peeps pecked. Grackles, the Great-tailed variety, were quite obvious among the cattails.

The county roads south of Lower Latham cross a rich mosaic of ponds, wet fields, cropland and prairie. Perhaps most rewarding here were a Semipalmated Plover and a flock of 100+ White-faced Ibis. At a pond just south of Monfort feedlot, Joe spotted a dapper Black-necked Stilt just where he said it would be. The 12th Avenue screech-owl should take a lesson.

If you enjoy pelagic birding, you should have joined us for our visit to Riverside Reservoir. Wind-blown waves exploded over the "seawall" rimming the south shore. Ducks and gulls played hide-and-seek amid the swells. California and Bonaparte's Gulls joined our tally. The wet woodlands below the south wall appeared tantalizingly ready for May vagrants.

Along Weld CR89 east of Riverside, a pair of Wood Ducks and Tree Swallows appeared. East of Barnesville on SR392 we scoped a nice flock of 54 Sandhill Cranes. The wind kept the grassland birds lying even lower than normally. We couldn't even buy a Burrowing Longspur, a specialty of the area.

Dave and I dropped off Joe at his car in Greeley about 6 PM. On the way home, a small group of Long-billed Curlews struggled north against the wind west of Eaton and a lone female Red-breasted Merganser bobbed on Deadman Reservoir. These were the finishing touches to a most enjoyable day.

Don't listen to the forecaster next time.

TRIP LIST

Pied-billed Grebe	Red-tailed Hawk	Great Horned Owl
Western Grebe	Am Kestrel	Belted Kingfisher
Clark's Grebe?	Peregrine Falcon	Downy Woodpecker
Am White Pelican	Ring-n Pheasant	N Flicker
D-cr Cormorant	Virginia Rail	Horned Lark
Great Blue Heron	Sora	Tree Swallow
Blk-cr Night-heron	Sandhill Crane	Rough-w Swallow
Yel-cr Night-heron	Semipalmated	Barn Swallow
White-faced Ibis	Plover	Black-b Magpie
Canada Goose	Killdeer	Am Crow
Wood Duck	Black-necked Stilt	Marsh Wren
Green-winged Teal	Am Avocet	Hermit Thrush
Mallard	Greater Yellowlegs	Am Robin
Northern Pintail	Lesser Yellowlegs	Am Pipit
Blue-winged Teal	Willet	Loggerhead Shrike
Cinnamon Teal	Long-billed Curlew	Eur Starling
Northern Shoveler	Marbled Godwit	Vesper Sparrow
Gadwall	Least Sandpiper	Song Sparrow
Am Wigeon	Baird's Sandpiper	Song Sparrow
Redhead	Long-b Dowitcher	W Meadowlark
Ring-necked Duck	Common Snipe	Yellow-h Blackbird
Lesser Scaup	Franklin's Gull	Brewer's Blackbird
Bufflehead	Bonaparte's Gull	Great-t Grackle
Red-br Merganser	Ring-billed Gull	Common Grackle
Ruddy Duck	California Gull	House Finch
Northern Harrier	Forster's Tern	Evening Grosbeak
Sharp-shin Hawk	Rock Dove	<u>House Sparrow</u>
Swainson's Hawk	Mourning Dove	TOTAL: 82 SPECIES

BOREAL OWL SEARCH CONTINUES IN THE WET MOUNTAINS AND AT PIKES PEAK

Dan Bridges
1925 South Vaughn Way, #207
Aurora, Colorado 80014

April is probably the best month for calling Boreal Owls in Colorado. On April 21, 1992, I climbed up Snowslide Trail on the northeast side of the Wet Mountains southwest of Pueblo to try my luck. Snowslide Trail starts from Highway 165 half a mile southeast of Lake Isabel at 8,700 feet. I started at 1:00 p.m. and reached Greenhorn Road at the top at 6:00 p.m. After the first mile I had to put on my snowshoes and use my ski poles for balance and climbing steep spots. Near the top, the snow was 6-8 feet deep and it was difficult to follow the trail.

From 8:30 to 11:00 p.m. I alternately played Boreal Owl and Saw-Whet tape as I moved along the trail. I followed the snowmobile markers along the top, so I had to retrace that interval for an hour before following my snowshoe tracks down the trail to my vehicle at 2:30 a.m. I never heard nor saw any owl above 10,000 feet. From 9,800 to 8,800 feet, after I stopped playing my tapes, 3 separate Saw-whets called spontaneously for 15 to 30 minutes.

On April 28, 1992, I hiked up Pikes Peak to timberline to try my luck. Richard Bunn, who lives in Green Mountain Falls at the foot of Pikes Peak, told me that to the best of his knowledge no one had tried to call Boreal Owls on Pikes Peak.

At 7:30 p.m. I reached the Glen Cove buildings at 11,300 feet and discovered a light on, with a young fellow inside. He told me that he lived there year round, so I played the Boreal Owl tape for him. He assured me that he had never heard that call.

Then I hiked to the sharp curve at 11,600 feet just above Glen Cove to wait for darkness. From 8:45 to 10:00 p.m. I alternately played Boreal Owl and Saw-whet Owl tape as I walked down to 10,000 feet on the toll road. I also did lots of listening, but I never heard nor saw an owl. From 10:45 to 11:15 p.m. there was a Saw-whet calling spontaneously from the upper end of Crystal Creek Reservoir at 9,300 feet. For 10 minutes around midnight a Saw-whet called spontaneously below the Crystal Creek Reservoir spillway at 9,200 feet.

Both of the April 21st and April 28th nights were clear, calm excellent owling nights. Based on the negative results from these two nights in April 1992 plus negative results for Boreal Owls in September and October 1991 (Bridges, 1992), it seems progressively less likely that there are Boreal Owls in the Wet Mountains or on Pikes Peak. However, the possibility of a small isolated population still exists: and there is always the chance of a stray wandering Boreal Owl.

The Northern Saw-Whet Owl story is perplexing. After finding pale-brown Saw-whet morphs at 11,000 feet in the Wet Mountains in September 1991 (Bridges, 1992), I surmised that these birds lived there all year long, and had gradually lost their reddish color in the higher altitude. This conclusion seemed reasonable to me because after I found a Boreal Owl calling from its nest hole in the Tincup breeding-bird block at 11,460 feet west of Buena Vista on April 21, 1990, I heard what I thought was a Saw-whet calling outside the priority block at about 10,800 feet in an aspen grove. However, the apparent total absence of Saw-whets above 10,000 feet on Snowslide Trail and at Pikes Peak in April 1992 seems to indicate that these birds move down below 10,000 feet during the winter.

Reference Cited

- Bridges, D. (1992). Northern Saw-whet Owls vs. Boreal Owls above 10,000 feet in the Wet, Sangre de Cristo, and Culebra Mountains of South-central Colorado, A Preliminary Report. C.F.O. Journal 26(1): 29-31.



**Male Garganey with Blue-winged Teal
Sombrero Pond, Boulder, Colorado, April 1992
Photo by Dean Hill.**

MALE GARGANEY IN BOULDER

Peter Gent
55 South 35th Street
Boulder, Colorado 80303

On the afternoon of Saturday, March 21, 1992 a Foothills Audubon Society field trip found a male Garganey (*Anas querquedula*) at Walden Pond which is just northeast of Boulder, Boulder County. The bird was seen by several people including the Prather family and was last seen flying south at about 4:00 p.m. It was looked for, but not seen, the next day at both Walden and Sawhill Ponds.

At about noon on Saturday, March 28, 1992 Bob Andrews and I refound the bird at Sombrero Pond, just south of the intersection of 63rd and Arapahoe in east Boulder. The bird was easily seen at the pond for the next two weeks until April 11, and may have been present for a few days after that.

This is the second occurrence of Garganey in Colorado in the past few years. The first was a male at Jackson Reservoir, Morgan County, which was present from April 22 until April 28, 1990. This record has now been accepted by the C.F.O. Records Committee; see the report by Duane Nelson in this issue.

In both occurrences, the Garganey was in the close company of Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*) and Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) and was paying a lot of attention of a female Cinnamon Teal. In the case of the Boulder bird, everyone I talked to, which was about a dozen people, thought that this was a female Cinnamon Teal. There was some speculation that the female was a Garganey in the case of the Jackson Reservoir bird. For example, David Martin in his Spring "News From the Field" article in the *C.F.O. Journal* (1990) says, "This first state record was soon joined by a female Garganey and the pair was seen by many through April 28th." I thought that this female was also a Cinnamon Teal although my looks at this bird were not as close or as leisurely as at the Boulder bird. The reason I thought this was a female Cinnamon Teal was that, although it had a weak face pattern of a white spot near the bill and a darker line through the eye, I thought that it was not nearly strong enough to be a female Garganey. I have never seen a female Garganey but have spoken to a few people, including Nick Watmough, who have. They all said that the female Garganey face pattern is very noticeable and should not be confused with a female Cinnamon Teal. They said that the illustration of a female Garganey on page 75 of the National Geographic field guide is good; the description of Garganey on page 74 says

the "Female has a strong facial pattern." The male Garganey's appearance was just like the illustration on page 75 of the National Geographic Field Guide. The bold white eyestripe shows up well on the accompanying photographs.

Were the Garganey sightings natural occurrences or escaped birds? The Garganey's summer range covers most of Europe and Asia and its winter range is the northern half of Africa, India and the islands of Southeast Asia. It has one of the longest migrations of all ducks, so that it is prone to some vagrancy. In both cases when the Garganeys were seen in Colorado, Garganeys were also seen elsewhere in the USA. In 1990 there were a few birds seen, ranging from Colorado to the Midwest. This year another male Garganey was seen in the Tucson area of Arizona for a week at the same time as the bird was in Boulder. In its usual range the Garganey migrates in March and early April at the same time as the teal species in the Americas. Thus, this is the expected time for vagrants to appear in the USA. Therefore, I conclude that the two sightings of Garganey in Colorado are most likely to be natural occurrences.

This conclusion about the natural origin of spring records of Garganey in the inland USA is also drawn in the article by Spear et al (1988). They looked at all the recent occurrences of Garganey in the USA and the Hawaiian Islands. They quote a sighting of a male Garganey with Blue-winged Teal at Waterton Canyon near Denver by Frank Justice on May 4, 1980. This sighting was also reported in the spring migration seasonal report for 1980 by Hugh Kingery (1980). No documentation of this sighting was submitted to the C.F.O. Records Committee so it was not considered as a possible first state record for Colorado.

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- Martin, D. E. (1990). News From the Field: Spring 1990. *C.F.O. Journal* 24(3), 82-90.
- Spear, L. B., M. J. Lewis, M. T. Meyers and R. L. Pyle. (1988). The Recent Occurrence of Garganey in North American and the Hawaiian Islands. *American Birds* 42, 385-392.

THE C.F.O. OFFICIAL RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 1990

Duane Nelson
1619 Ford Street
Golden, Colorado 80401

This report reviews records received by the Committee for the year 1990.

When there are more than two reports for the same bird, all reporters are listed. Generally, the first name listed is the person who first found the bird. Sometimes the person who initially finds a bird doesn't submit a report, and credit can't be given to that person. In that case, the person who sends in reports is listed. The best way around this is for finders to submit records. Those who documented birds by photographs are listed in the text.

The Records Committee members who voted on these records include Coen Dexter (Grand Junction), Peter Gent (Boulder), Joe Himmel (Greeley), Bill Howe (Laurel, MD), Mark Janos (Pueblo), Dick Schottler (Golden), David Silverman (Rye), and Van Truan (Pueblo).

Part 1. Species Added to The C.F.O. State List.

Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) 8-90-14. One was observed at a small pond one-half mile south of the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 34 on Weld County Road 59 on October 15, 1990. This species has a strong tendency to wander after the breeding season, and many Colorado birders felt that it was inevitable that one would show up in the state. The issue of the bird's origin was considered by the committee. One cautious voter felt that "... the chance of it being a wild bird is at least as great as it being an escapee from somewhere." This bird was found by Joe Himmel and seen later that day by Jerry Cairo.

Garganey (*Anas querquedula*) 8-90-11. A male was found by John Bregar at Jackson Reservoir in Morgan County. It was put on the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, and dozens of observers saw it on April 26th and 27th, 1990. There is a strong pattern in the interior of the continent for these birds to migrate north with Blue-winged Teal in April. This bird conformed to this expected pattern. All reviewers felt that the origin of this bird was not a problem. A possible female Garganey was reported from the same flock. The committee members did not come to a unanimous decision on that bird. Reports were submitted by Peter Gent and Mark Janos.

Bronzed Cowbird (*Molothrus aeneus*) 54-90-76. An immature male, probably of the Texas subspecies (*aeneus*), summered near the yard of Bill and

Jan Carter, on Green Mountain in Jefferson County. Because all three U.S. cowbird species are expanding their ranges so explosively, it should come as no great surprise that a Bronzed Cowbird appeared here. If there is an element of surprise, it is that it appeared so soon so far north. Peter Gent documented it on May 18th, 1990, and Mark Janos's report was from June 5th, 1990.

Part 2. Reported Species Not Added to the State List.

Yellow-billed Magpie (*Pica nuttalli*) 37-90-38. A photograph was submitted of a magpie with a pale horn-colored bill. The photo was taken in Rocky Mountain National Park on May 6th, 1990. The bird lacked the diagnostic yellow skin around the eye. Yellow-billed Magpies are the only bird species that have never been seen outside California.

Cactus Wren (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus*) 42-90-39. An intriguing report from Comanche National Grasslands, Baca County, on May 19, 1990. The song was heard but not described. There was only one observer, and the observation period was too brief to see all field marks.

Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*) 56-90-74. A flock was reported near Calhan and Ellicott, El Paso County, 8/14-8/18, 1990. The committee felt that the photographs did not support the identification and did not rule out non-breeding Lark Buntings.

Part 3. Category A Records (Submitted Documentation Supports the Recorded Description).

Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*) 1-90-1. One bird in first winter plumage was observed at Pueblo Reservoir, Pueblo County on 11/17 and 11/18/90 (Mark Janos).

Olivaceous Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax olivaceus*) 4-90-2. An immature bird was observed at Jumbo Reservoir, Logan County on 8/21/90 (Dan Bridges).

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) 5-90-3. An adult was seen at Nee Noshe Reservoir, Kiowa County, on 6/6 and 6/7/90 (Mike Carter and Duane Nelson).

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) 5-90-4. One adult was found at Jackson Reservoir, Morgan County, on 4/24/90 by a group searching for the previously mentioned Garganey (Norm Erthal).

Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) 5-90-5. One immature was found by David Silverman at C.F.I. Ponds, Pueblo County, on 8/8/90 (Mark Janos).

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) 7-90-7. One adult was observed at Orlando Reservoir near Walsenburg in Huerfano County, on 7/4/90 (David Silverman).

Brant (*Branta bernicla*) 8-90-9. Four adults of the eastern race were observed at Barr Lake, Adams County on 11/10/90. This may be the largest group ever observed together in Colorado (Mark Janos).

American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*) 8-90-10. A report documented the

occurrence of a male in a pond at the home of Bob Steele in Pueblo, Pueblo County, on 3/28/90. It was still periodically seen through the end of May (David Silverman).

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) 8-90-12. One adult male was found at an ephemeral pond on Tower Road one and one-half miles north of 88th Avenue, Adams County, on 3/21/90 (Dan Bridges).

Black Scoter (*Melanitta nigra*) 8-90-13. A female was observed at Pueblo Reservoir, Pueblo County on 11/9/90 (Mark Janos).

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) 11-90-15. An adult was observed in Ft. Morgan, Morgan County, on 6/18/90. This species is expanding its range in Colorado dramatically (Margaret I. Hawk and Valerie Kitchens).

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) 10-90-16. An adult was observed by dozens of ABA conventioners during a field trip to Crow Valley Campground in Weld County, on 6/20/90 (Stephen F. Bailey).

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) 19-90-17. An adult in alternate (breeding) plumage was seen at Jet Lake (a part of Nee-so-pah Reservoir isolated in low water years), Kiowa County, on 7/31/90 (Duane Nelson).

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) 19-90-18. One adult was observed at Nee Noshe Reservoir, Kiowa County, on 8/7/90 (Duane Nelson).

American Woodcock (*Scolopax minor*) 19-90-19. One well-described bird was seen on 11/28 and 11/30/90 in Sunshine Canyon west of Boulder, Boulder County. This is the fourth record for the state and the first since 1974 (John Prather and Peter Gent).

Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicaria*) 21-90-20. A female in breeding plumage was present at Blue Lake, Bent County, between 5/31 and 6/3/90. It associated with White-rumped Sandpipers (Duane Nelson and Mark Janos).

Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicaria*) 21-90-21. A basic-plumaged bird was observed at Prewitt Reservoir, Washington County, on 9/19/90 (Dan Bridges).

Common Black-headed Gull (*Larus ridibundus*) 23-90-22. One adult with a full dark brown hood cooperated with dozens of observers at Jim Hamm City of Longmont wildlife area, Boulder County. It was with a mixed flock of Bonaparte's and Franklin's Gulls. The date of the reported sighting was 4/14/90, but it was present before that date (Mark Janos).

Mew Gull (*Larus canus*) 23-90-23. One first-winter bird wintered along the Arkansas River in Pueblo, Pueblo County, between 1/2 and 2/3/90 (David Silverman and Mark Janos).

Mew Gull (*Larus canus*) 23-90-24. A juvenile molting into first-winter plumage was found on the Arkansas River near the Olive Marsh in Pueblo, Pueblo County, on 9/27 and 9/28/90 (Mark Janos).

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) 23-90-25. One adult was seen at Cherry Creek SRA, Arapahoe County, on 11/17/90 (Randy Lentz, Bob Righter and Peter Gent).

Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) 23-90-26. One in first-winter plumage was seen at Jumbo Reservoir, Logan County, on 11/22/90 (Mark

Janos).

Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia*) 23-90-27. One was observed at Hohnholz Lake #3 in Larimer County, on 6/20/90. Caspian Terns nest across the state line in Wyoming and can be expected to nest somewhere in Colorado in the near future, if the current trends of increasing reports continue (Virginia Dionigi).

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) 25-90-28. One was photographed by Irv Cohen at his home in southwest Denver County. It was present between 6/6 and 6/9/90 and seen by twelve other observers (Irv Cohen).

Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) 26-90-29. One immature was seen at the campground at Jumbo Reservoir, Logan County, on 8/7/90. (Norm Erthal).

Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis*) 28-90-30. One was heard in Manti-La-Sal National Forest near Paradox, Montrose County, by a crew of USFS Biologists on 5/25/90 (Heather Musclow).

Lesser Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis*) 29-90-31. Three (all probably males) were present near Two Buttes Reservoir, Baca County, on 5/28/90. They were present for at least a week before and after that date and were seen by several others (Mark Janos).

Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) 34-90-32. One was seen and heard at Jumbo Reservoir, Logan County, on 8/18/90 (Mark Janos).

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) 34-90-33. One was carefully observed and heard in the Olive Marsh, Pueblo, Pueblo County, on 5/29/90. About the 7th state record (Mark Janos).

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) 34-90-35. A female was seen at Plum Creek, Chatfield SRA in Douglas County, on 4/4/90 (Virgil Williams).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) 34-90-37. A male was observed at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Adams County, on 4/24/90 (Greg Hughes).

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) 42-90-40. One was seen in Lykins Gulch, Boulder County, on 11/17/90 (Peter Gent).

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) 42-90-41. One was present between 12/1/90 and 1/13/91 in Golden, Jefferson County, coming to a feeder in Duane Nelson's yard (Duane Nelson and Peter Gent).

Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) 44-90-42. An adult was seen below Prewitt Reservoir in Washington County, on 9/17/90 (Dan Bridges).

Bendire's Thrasher (*Toxostoma bendirei*) 43-90-43. One was seen and heard northwest of Del Norte in Saguache County, on 6/9/90. It was found in an area known to support a small population of this species (Dan Bridges).

White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*) 51-90-44. One was seen and heard in the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt, Jefferson County, on 5/16/90. It was photographed by Duane Nelson on 5/17/90 (Joe Tenbrink and Duane Nelson).

Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) 51-90-45. One was seen on the ABA Convention trip to Crow Valley, Weld County, on 6/20/90 (Stephen F. Bailey and Joan Humphrey).

Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) 51-90-46. A singing male was present at Chatfield SRA, Jefferson County, at least from 5/26 to 6/5/90. Photographs were obtained by Nelson (Duane Nelson and Mark Janos).

Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphicus*) 51-90-47. One was seen at Bonny Reservoir, Yuma County, on 5/20/1990 (Bob Righter).

Blue Winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*) 52-90-48. One male was seen at Barr Lake, Adams County, on 9/19/90 (Duane Nelson).

Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) 52-90-49. A male was seen and heard at the Olive Marsh in Pueblo, Pueblo County, on 5/19/90. This bird was seen by a group attending the C.F.O. Convention (Mark Janos).

Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*) 52-90-50. An immature male was seen in Colorado City, Pueblo County, on 12/1/90 (David Silverman).

Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Dendroica caerulescens*) 52-90-51. A female was observed at Lake Beckwith, Colorado City, Pueblo County, on 5/21/90 (Mark Janos).

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*) 52-90-52. A male was observed at Rocky Ford SWA, Otero County, on 4/28 and 5/3/90 (Mark Janos).

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*) 52-90-53. A male was present at the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt, Jefferson County, on 5/16 and 5/17/90. It was photographed by Duane Nelson (Duane Nelson).

Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*) 52-90-54. An immature male was observed in the Olive Marsh, Pueblo, Pueblo County, on 9/27 and 9/28/90 (Mark Janos).

Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*) 52-90-55. A male was photographed at the Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Adams County, on 5/21/90 by Bob Rozinski and Wendy Shattil (Bob Rozinski and Wendy Shattil).

Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*) 52-90-57. A male was present in the Wheat Ridge Greenbelt, Jefferson County, on 5/16 and 5/17/90. It was photographed by Duane Nelson (Duane Nelson).

Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*) 52-90-58. An immature female was observed in the Olive Marsh, Pueblo, Pueblo County, on 9/22 and 9/23/90 (Mark Janos).

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) 52-90-61. A bird that was either a female or immature male was seen along the Canon City Riverwalk, Fremont County, on 9/23/90 (Mark Janos).

Worm-eating Warbler (*Helmitheros vermivorus*) 52-90-62. One was seen at Bonny Reservoir, Yuma County, on 5/15/90 (Dan Bridges).

Swainson's Warbler (*Lymnolophus swainsonii*) 52-90-63. Found by Bill Howe. For a discussion of this bird, see *C.F.O. Journal* 25(4): 125-129. Photographed by Dave Leatherman (Peter Gent).

Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*) 52-90-64. A well-described female in breeding plumage was seen at the Ft. Lyons Wildlife Easement, Bent County, on 5/24/90 (Mark Janos).

Hepatic Tanager (*Piranga flava*) 55-90-67. A pair was observed at the south side of the Royal Gorge Bridge, Fremont County, on 6/24/90. Do they nest here? (Norman D. Walker).

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) 55-90-68. An adult male was seen on Two Buttes Creek 1.5 miles below the dam, in Baca County, on 5/8/90 (Dan Bridges).

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) 55-90-69. A first-winter male was observed at the Canon City Riverwalk, Fremont County, on 9/23/90 (Mark Janos).

Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) 56-90-71. One adult was seen in Shadow Mountain Village near Grand Lake, Grand County, on 11/7 and 11/9 and 11/10/90 (David A. Jasper).

Black-throated Sparrow (*Amphispiza bilineata*) 56-90-72. One was observed north of Del Norte, Rio Grande County, on 4/18/90. This is apparently the first of this species recorded in the San Luis Valley (John J. Rawinski).

Le Conte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*) 56-90-73. First found by Dan Bridges on 12/2/90, up to five wintered in a marsh near where the Arkansas River enters John Martin Reservoir. Many observers eventually saw these generally cooperative birds (Dan Bridges, Norm Erthal and Peter Gent).

Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*) 56-90-77. A presumed female was present near Kingfisher Bridge in Chatfield SRA, Jefferson County between 1/15 and 1/27/90. It was photographed by Duane Nelson (Warren Finch, Duane Nelson, Mark Janos).

Part 4. Category B and C Records. (Submitted documentation probably indicates a misidentification or is too brief or incomplete to support the stated identification).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax violaceus*) 5-90-6. An immature was observed in flight at Jumbo Reservoir, Logan County, on 8/8/90. The committee split on this vote, some members feeling that the observation duration and report were too brief.

Brant (*Branta bernicla*) 8-90-8. One seen in a lake near the Colorado River near Silt, Garfield County, on 4/12/90. The vote on this was split, some members feeling that the report was too brief.

Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) 34-90-34. A female was observed along Bear Creek near the Kansas border in Baca County, on 4/28/90. This vote was almost accepted, but some observers felt that the description of some critical field marks was ambiguous.

Dusky-capped Flycatcher (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*) 34-90-36. One was seen below Two Buttes Reservoir in Baca County, on 5/20/90. The vote was split on this species. Those members voting "no" did so with reluctance, feeling that additional information provided by a description of song, a photograph or additional observer would have helped in a genus as confusing as the

Myiarchus group.

Palm Warbler (*Dendroica palmarum*) 52-90-56. An adult was seen at the Bravo SWA, Morgan County, on 4/22/90. The committee could not rule on the bird since the description space on the form was not filled in.

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) 52-90-59. Four seen at Parshall, Grand County, on 6/15 and 6/16/90. The description was too brief.

Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) 52-90-60. A male was seen at Sand Creek in Sedgwick County, on 10/10/90. The committee split on this vote. Some members felt that the description was incomplete.

Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*) 52-90-65. One (probably a male) was seen on 6/15 and 6/16 at Bonny Reservoir in Yuma County. The committee split on this vote. The description of the bird was felt by some to be incomplete.

Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*) 52-90-66. One (probably an immature female) was seen at Jackson Reservoir, Morgan County, on 9/21/90. Most members felt that the description was too brief and didn't eliminate similar species.

Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) 56-90-70. One or more were observed in the vicinity of Parshall, Grand County, on 6/17/90. The report was felt to be too brief.

Bronzed Cowbird (*Molothrus aeneus*) 56-90-75. One was seen in Greeley, Weld County, on 6/14/90. The red eye was suggestive of the species, but the rest of the report was too brief.



Cape May Warbler in Silver Maple
460 Japonica Way, Boulder, February 9, 1992
Photo by Dave Leatherman
See article page 122.

BREEDING BIRD ATLAS UPDATE

Hugh E. Kingery
869 Milwaukee Street
Denver Colorado 80206

Preliminary reports from early Atlas work this spring offer encouraging news of Atlas enthusiasm and field work. Among the breeders which start early, owls are the hardest to find, much less to confirm breeding.

At least 30 new volunteers have accepted the challenge of Atlas work, and we expect to see more new faces at the six Atlas rendezvouses.

Ron Ryder reports a several Boreal Owls singing on Cameron Pass. John Rawinski packed into the Elwood Pass block (37106D6), south of Wolf Creek Pass, in early April. He heard two Boreals and one Great Horned Owl. Norm Barrett has found Boreals in two or three places near Gore and Rabbit Ears Passes. Alan Versaw and Andrea Robinson have found Western Screech-Owls in two places near Cortez. Dan Bridges found Saw-whets calling in South Park in February.

Dick Pratt and I heard a couple of Great Horned Owls north of Maybell in late May, and also several poorwills. In the Sevenmile Draw block (40108F3) we also heard a Whip-poor-will; although it's most likely a migrant, some Atlasers will check on it later. The bird sang with an eastern dialect, not southwestern, and we have it recorded on tape. We concluded that the best way to encounter birds like this is to camp out in the block, and to sleep lightly (easy to do on your first or second night out, especially with a sleeping pad that lets you feel the rocks and sticks).

Coen Dexter went towards Utah to inspect the Scott's Oriole nesting sites and discovered a colony of Lark Buntings where they had never before nested. These seemed like nesting birds, with a number of larking males, and females which did not flush far. Coen says that the grass is lusher this year than in past years--Mesa County has had a lot of rain this spring--and that perhaps that explains their decision to nest. Dick Pratt and I also saw a good-sized colony north of Maybell, on property of the Division of Wildlife. These birds larked in a sagebrush/grass section in Atlas block 40108G2 (The Nipple).

At this writing on Memorial Day weekend, the White-eyed Vireos discovered in Crow Valley Park by Joe Himmell and J. B. Hayes are nesting. With a nest 18 inches from the ground vulnerable to predators like dogs, coyotes, campers, photographers, and birdwatchers, the vireos will do well to succeed--in a new place far out of range. This makes the twelfth new breeding species found in Colorado during the six years since the Atlas started.

MESA COUNTY CHECKLIST

Richard Levad
2924 Ronda Lee Road
Grand Junction, Colorado 81503

Our checklist of Mesa County birds is meant to put into a compact package a complete listing of the status, abundance, and time of presence of each species. It includes all the records we could scare up for the county. We attempted to represent the flow of birds through the area by defining spring and fall abundance of migrating species in terms of population movements rather than the calendar. The dates of the bulk of migration is represented using numbers to indicate the month and lower case letter to represent the week of that month.

We attempted to make the list useful as a field checklist as well. An observer should be able to predict quite accurately the odds of finding a given bird at a given time in Mesa County. The list is long for a field list because it includes all those rarities, but local birders are more interested in local rarities and providing them with the historical records may increase the chances finding the bird again. Visitors would also know the status of each species and would be alerted if they sight something unusual (like a Black-tailed Gnatcatcher).

A primary intent of this checklist is to encourage the gathering and reporting of information. Observers will no doubt note discrepancies between what they see in the field and what they see on this list. If that information is reported, the list and our understanding of our local avifauna will become more complete and more accurate.

We would also like to note that a checklist is never done, it just goes to press. Three additions are already necessary. We overlooked the Grace's Warblers that Linda Frederick found in Mesa County while doing atlas work last summer, and first county records of Little Blue Heron (Lee Stigen's find) and of Summer Tanager (Coen Dexter) have been made.

Bird Check List

*For the Grand Valley
and surrounding high country of
Mesa County, Colorado*

Observers: _____

Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

Time: start _____ end _____

Temperature: start _____ °F end _____ °F

Wind Velocity / Direction:

0 CALM (smoke rises vertically) **1** LIGHT (wind direction shown by smoke drift) **2** SLIGHT (wind felt on face: leaves rustle) **3** GENTLE (leaves: small twigs in constant motion) **4** MODERATE (raises dust and loose paper) **5** FRESH (small trees in leaf begin to sway) **6** STRONG (large branches in motion)
start _____ / _____ end _____ / _____

Cloud Cover: (clear) (partly cloudy) (overcast) (foggy)

Snow Cover: (none) (patchy) (full _____ in.)

Ice: 0 30% 75% 100% (streams, rivers, ponds, lakes)

Barometric pressure: _____

Notes:



recycled paper



Tom Moran • Layout Design

Legend

Status codes. (after Colorado Latlong Study, modified)

- R Resident**, non-migratory species. Breeds in Mesa County. Numbers may fluctuate due to the influx of migrant populations or to partial winter withdrawals. Local altitudinal migration may occur.
- B Breeding**, migratory species. Nests in Mesa County. Some years a few may winter. * Breeds irregularly.
- b May breed** (unconfirmed) in Mesa County. Migratory species. Some may winter.
- W Winters**. Migratory species that winters but does not nest in Mesa County.
- M Migratory** species that neither nests nor winters in Mesa County. May be present during the breeding season but is a non-breeder.

Seasons. Defined for migratory species by the birds' movements; for non-migratory birds by the calendar

- WI Winter**--That period when the species is on its wintering grounds; December-February.
- SM Spring Migration**--That period when the species is moving from its wintering grounds to its nesting grounds; March-May.
- Br Breeding**--That period when the species is on its nesting grounds; June-July.
- FM Fall Migration**--That period when the species is moving from its nesting grounds to its wintering area; August-November.

Abundance categories (after Righter and Andrews)

- A Abundant**. More than 100 birds per day may be seen in the appropriate season and habitat.
- C Common**. 25-100/day.
- F Fairly common**. 10-25/day.
- U Uncommon**. 1-10/day. Usually seen daily.
- R Rare**. 1-5/day, 1-10/season. Usually not seen daily.
- V Very rare**. 10-40 records for Mesa County.
- S Casual**. 4-10 records for Mesa County.
- X Accidental**. 1-3 records for Mesa County.

Spring and Fall migration windows. Dates for the bulk of migration through Mesa County. Aberrant dates have been disregarded. When available, dates for migrant populations of resident species are given. Dates for casual and accidental species reflect few observations and should not be considered limiting. The species may be present during the winter and/or breeding season.

- 1-12** January through December.
- a-d** First week of the month through the fourth.
- W** Present during the winter.
- B** Present during the breeding season.

Please submit data that might modify this list of Mesa County's 310 recorded bird species to the GVAS Research Committee. Contact the list's compilers:

Coen Dexter, 3227 D 1/2 Road, Clifton, CO 81520 (ph: 434-6137)
Rich Levad, 2924 Ronda Lee, Grand Jct. CO 81503 (ph: 242-3979)

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Bird Name	ST	WI	SM	Br	FM	Spring	Fall
LOONS							
○ Red-throated Loon	M				X		10c- 10d
○ Pacific Loon	M				X		10b- 11c
○ Common Loon	M	X	V		R	4c- 5b	10d- 11d
GREBES							
○ Pied-billed Grebe	b	R	U	V	U	4a- 5c	9a- 12d
○ Red-necked Grebe	M		X		X	3c- 3c	11c- 11c
○ Horned Grebe	M		V	V	V	3d- 4c	9d- 11d
○ Eared Grebe	B		U	V	U	3d- 5c	9d- 11c
○ Western Grebe	M		C	V	C	3b- 5d	9c- 12a
○ Clark's Grebe	M		R		S	4c- 6a	?- 9b
PELICANS & CORMORANTS							
○ Am. White Pelican	M		V	X	V	5a- 5c	9b- 11b
○ Dble-crested Cormorant	M		R	S	R	4a- 5c	9c- 11c
BITTERNS, HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS							
○ American Bittern	M				X		?
○ Least Bittern	M		X			5d- 5d	
○ Great Blue Heron	R	F	C	C	C		
○ Great Egret	M		S	X	S	5a- 5d	9c- 10a
○ Snowy Egret	B*		U	R	R	4c- 6b	8c- 9b
○ Cattle Egret	M		V		X	4c- 5b	10b- 11a
○ Green-backed Heron	M		V	S	V	5b- 6a	8b- 9a
○ Blk-crowned Night Heron	B	V	U	R	R	4a- B	B- 10d
○ White-faced Ibis	M		F	R	U	4a- 5d	8c- 9d
WATERFOWL							
○ Tundra Swan	M	S	S		V	3b- 4a	11b- 11c
○ Trumpeter Swan	W	X					
○ White-fronted Goose	W	S	X		S	W- 3d	11b- W
○ Snow Goose	W	R	R		U	W- 3c	11a- W
○ Ross's Goose	W	V	V		V	W- 3c	11a- W
○ Canada Goose	R	A	A	C	A	?	?
○ "Black" Brant	M				X		10d- 10d
○ Wood Duck	R	F	U	U	U		
○ Green-winged Teal	B	U	C	C	C	2b- B	B- 12c
○ Mallard	R	A	A	C	A	2b- B	B- 12c
○ Northern Pintail	W	U	F		U	2b- 5a	9b- 12b
○ Blue-winged Teal	B		U	R	R	3b- 5c	8c- 10b
○ Cinnamon Teal	B		C	F	C	2c- B	B- 10b
○ Northern Shoveler	M	R	C	R	F	3b- 5c	8d- 12a
○ Gadwall	b	R	F	R	F	3b- 5c	9a- 10a
○ American Wigeon	W	U	F	R	F	W- 5c	8d- W
○ Canvasback	W	R	R		R	3b- 5c	10c- 12b
○ Redhead	b	R	F	R	U	3a- 6a	10b- 12b
○ Ring-necked Duck	B	C	C	R	C	W- 5c	9a- W
○ Greater Scaup	M	X	X	X	V	4a- 5a	10b- 12b
○ Lesser Scaup	M	U	F	R	F	3b- 5b	9b- 12a
○ Oldsquaw	M		X		S	4a- 4a	11b- 12a
○ Black Scoter	M				X		10d- 10d
○ Surf Scoter	M				S		10d- 11a
○ White-winged Scoter	M				S		11a- 12b
○ Common Goldeneye	W	F	F		F	W- 4b	11a- W
○ Barrow's Goldeneye	W	V	X			W- 4b	11b- W
○ Bufflehead	W	R	F	X	F	3a- 5c	10b- 12c
○ Hooded Merganser	W	R	V		V	W- 4c	11a- W
○ Common Merganser	B	U	F	V	F	2b- 5a	10d- 12b
○ Red-brst'd Merganser	M		V		V	3c- 5a	11a- 11d
○ Ruddy Duck	M	V	U	S	F	3a- 6a	8c- 12a
VULTURES							
○ Turkey Vulture	b		F	F	F	3d- 4c	9c- 10c

Bird Name	ST	WI	SM	Br	FM	Spring	Fall
HAWKS & FALCONS							
○ Osprey.....	M		R		R	4a - 5b	8d - 10c
○ Bald Eagle.....	B*	U	U	S	U	W - 2d	10c - W
○ Northern Harrier.....	R	U	U	R	U	3b - 5a	9a - 10b
○ Sharp-shinned Hawk.....	R	U	U	R	U	3d - 5a	9a - 10b
○ Cooper's Hawk.....	R	U	U	U	U	3d - 4d	9b - 10b
○ Northern Goshawk.....	R	R	R	R	R	3d - 4d	9a - 10c
○ Swainson's Hawk.....	B		R	R	R	4a - B	B - 9b
○ Red-tailed Hawk.....	R	F	F	F	F	3b - 4b	9a - 10c
○ Ferruginous Hawk.....	R	U	U	R	U	2d - 3d	9b - 10b
○ Rough-legged Hawk.....	W	U	R		R	W - 3c	10d - W
○ Golden Eagle.....	R	U	U	U	U	2d - 4d	9a - 10c
○ American Kestrel.....	R	F	C	C	C	3d - 4d	9b - 10a
○ Merlin.....	W	R	V		V	W - 3b	10a - W
○ Peregrine Falcon.....	B	V	R	R	R	2d - 4d	9b - 11a
○ Gyrfalcon.....	W	X					
○ Prairie Falcon.....	R	U	R	R	R	2c - 4c	9a - 10c
FOWL-LIKE BIRDS							
○ Chukar.....	R	R	R	R	R		
○ Ring-necked Pheasant.....	R	F	F	F	F		
○ Blue Grouse.....	R	U	U	U	U		
○ Sage Grouse.....	R	V	V	V	V		
○ Sharp-tailed Grouse.....	R	X	X	X	X		
○ Wild Turkey.....	R	R	R	R	R		
○ Gambel's Quail.....	R	F	F	F	F		
RAILS & CRANES							
○ Virginia Rail.....	B	R	U	U	U	3d - B	B - 12d
○ Sora.....	B	S	U	U	U	4b - B	B - 11d
○ Common Moorhen.....	M		X			5a - 5a	
○ American Coot.....	B	R	C	U	C	3a - 5b	8c - 12a
○ Sandhill Crane.....	M	S	F		F	3a - 4d	9c - 12b
○ Whooping Crane.....	M		V			4a - 4b	
PLOVERS							
○ Black-bellied Plover.....	M		S		S	5b - 5c	10b - 10c
○ Lesser Golden-Plover.....	M				X		11b - 11b
○ Snowy Plover.....	M		S			4c - 6a	
○ Semipalmated Plover.....	M		V		S	4d - 5c	8a - 9c
○ Killdeer.....	R	R	C	C	C	3a - B	B - 12a
○ Mountain Plover.....	M		X			4a - 4a	
STILTS & AVOCET							
○ Black-necked Stilt.....	M		R	X		4b - 5c	
○ American Avocet.....	B		F	R	U	3d - 5d	8b - 10d
SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPES							
○ Greater Yellowlegs.....	M	S	U	X	R	3d - 5a	8a - 10b
○ Lesser Yellowlegs.....	M		U	X	U	4a - 5c	8a - 10d
○ Solitary Sandpiper.....	M	X	V		R	4d - 5b	8a - 9c
○ Willet.....	M		R	X		4c - 5c	
○ Spotted Sandpiper.....	B	X	F	F	F	4d - B	B - 10d
○ Upland Sandpiper.....	M		X			5b - 5b	
○ Whimbrel.....	M		X			5a - 5a	
○ Long-billed Curlew.....	B*		R	S	X	4a - 5b	8c - 8c
○ Hudsonian Godwit.....	M		X			5d - 5d	
○ Marbled Godwit.....	M		R		X	4b - 5c	
○ Ruddy Turnstone.....	M		X		X	5c - 5c	9a - 9c
○ Red Knot.....	M		X			5c - 5c	
○ Sanderling.....	M		X		S	4d - 5a	7d - 10b
○ Semipalmated Sandpiper.....	M		S		V	4c - 5b	8a - 9c
○ Western Sandpiper.....	M		R	X	U	4c - 5b	7d - 9d
○ Least Sandpiper.....	M	X	U		U	4b - 5c	7b - 10d
○ White-rumped Sandpiper.....	M		X			6a - 6a	

Bird Name	ST	WI	SM	Br	FM	Spring	Fall
○ Baird's Sandpiper.....	M		R		R	4b - 5b	7c - 9d
○ Pectoral Sandpiper.....	M				V		9b - 10c
○ Dunlin.....	M	X	X		X	4a - 5a	10a - 11b
○ Silt Sandpiper.....	M		S		V	5b - 5b	8d - 9b
○ Short-billed Dowitcher.....	M				X		8c - 8c
○ Long-billed Dowitcher.....	M		U		U	4a - 5c	7d - 11a
○ Common Snipe.....	R	R	F	F	U	3d - B	B - 11d
○ Wilson's Phalarope.....	B		U	F	U	4b - B	B - 9c
○ Red-necked Phalarope.....	M		R		V	4d - 5c	9b - 10b
○ Red Phalarope.....	M		X		X	4d - 4d	9b - 9b

GULLS & TERNS

○ Franklin' Gull.....	M		U	S	V	4a - 5c	8b - 10d
○ Bonaparte's Gull.....	M		U	S	R	4a - 5d	10d - 11b
○ Mew Gull.....	M				X		11c - 11d
○ Ring-billed Gull.....	M		U	R	U	3a - 5d	9d - 12a
○ California Gull.....	M		U	R	U	3c - 5d	10a - 11c
○ Herring Gull.....	M		V		V	3a - 4c	11a - 12b
○ Glaucous Gull.....	M				X		11a - 11a
○ Black-legged Kittiwake.....	M				X		11c - 11d
○ Sabine's Gull.....	M				S		9c - 9d
○ Caspian Tern.....	M		V	S	S	4d - 6c	8b - 9d
○ Common Tern.....	M		S	S	S	5b - 5d	9c - 9d
○ Forster's Tern.....	M		R	S	R	4c - 5d	8c - 10b
○ Least Tern.....	M		X			4d - 5c	8c - 8c
○ Black Tern.....	M		R	X	R	5b - 5c	8c - 9d

DOVES & CUCKOOS

○ Rock Dove.....	R	A	A	A	A		
○ Band-tailed pigeon.....	b		R	V	V	4a - B	B - 9c
○ Mourning Dove.....	R	A	A	A	A	?	?
○ Yellow-billed Cuckoo.....	b		S	S		5c - B	B - 9c

BARN OWLS & TYPICAL OWLS

○ Barn Owl.....	R	R	R	R	R		
○ Flammulated Owl.....	B		R	R		5c - B	B - ?
○ Western Screech Owl.....	R	U	U	U	U		
○ Great Horned Owl.....	R	U	U	U	U		
○ Northern Pygmy Owl.....	R	S	S	S	S		
○ Burrowing Owl.....	B		U	U	U	3d - B	B - 10b
○ Long-eared Owl.....	R	R	V	V	V		
○ Short-eared Owl.....	?	X		X			
○ Boreal Owl.....	R	X	X	X	X		
○ Northern Saw-whet Owl.....	R	S	S	S	S		

GOATSUCKERS

○ Lesser Nighthawk.....	M		X			5a - 6a	
○ Common Nighthawk.....	B		U	C	A	5d - B	B - 10c
○ Common Poorwill.....	B		R	R	R	5a - B	B - 9d

SWIFTS & HUMMINGBIRDS

○ Chimney Swift.....	?			X			
○ White-throated Swift.....	B		C	C	C	4a - B	B - 10b
○ Black-chinned Humbird.....	B		F	F	F	4c - B	B - 10a
○ Calliope Hummingbird.....	M				V		7b - 9a
○ Broad-tailed Hummingbird.....	B		F	C	F	4d - B	B - 9b
○ Rufous Hummingbird.....	M				F		7a - 9d

KINGFISHERS

○ Belted Kingfisher.....	R	U	U	U	U		
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WOODPECKERS

○ Lewis' Woodpecker.....	R	R	U	U	U		
○ Red-bellied Woodpecker.....	W	X					
○ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.....	M				X		10d - 10d
○ Red-naped Sapsucker.....	B		U	U	R	4b - B	B - 10d

Bird Name	ST	WI	SM	Br	FM	Spring	Fall
○ Williamson's Sapsucker.....	B	X	R	R	R	5b - B	B - 9c
○ Downy Woodpecker.....	R	U	U	U	U		
○ Hairy Woodpecker.....	R	R	U	U	U		
○ Three-toed Woodpecker.....	R	V	V	V	V		
○ Northern Flicker.....	R	C	C	F	C		

FLYCATCHERS

○ Olive-sided Flycatcher.....	B		R	U	R	5c - B	B - 9b
○ Western Wood-Pewee.....	B		U	F	U	5b - B	B - 9c
○ Willow Flycatcher.....	B		S	S	S	6a - B	B - 8d
○ Hammond's Flycatcher.....	B		R	R	R	5d - B	B - 9a
○ Dusky Flycatcher.....	B		F	C	F	5a - B	B - 9b
○ Gray Flycatcher.....	B		U	U	R	4b - B	B - 9b
○ Cordilleran Flycatcher.....	B		R	U	U	5d - B	B - 9d
○ Say's Phoebe.....	B	V	F	F	U	3a - B	B - 10a
○ Vermilion Flycatcher.....	M				X		8d - 8d
○ Ash-throated Flycatcher.....	B		U	F	R	5a - B	B - 9d
○ Great-crested Flycatcher.....	M				X		9d - 9d
○ Cassin's Kingbird.....	B		V	V		5a - B	B - ?
○ Western Kingbird.....	B		C	C	R	4d - B	B - 9b
○ Eastern Kingbird.....	B		R	R	V	5c - B	B - 9b

LARKS

○ Horned Lark.....	R	A	C	C	C		
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SWALLOWS

○ Purple Martin.....	B		R	R		5c - B	B - 8d
○ Tree Swallow.....	B		A	F	F	4a - B	B - 9c
○ Violet-green Swallow.....	B		C	C	F	4b - B	B - 9d
○ Rough-winged Swallow.....	B		U	U	U	4c - B	B - 9b
○ Bank Swallow.....	B		F	C	F	4c - B	B - 9d
○ Cliff Swallow.....	B		A	A	F	4d - B	B - 9c
○ Barn Swallow.....	B		A	A	C	4b - B	B - 10

JAYS, MAGPIES & CROWS

○ Gray Jay.....	R	U	U	U	U		
○ Steller's Jay.....	R	F	F	F	F		
○ Blue Jay.....	W	X	X		X	W - 2c	11c - W
○ Scrub Jay.....	R	F	F	F	F		
○ Pinyon Jay.....	R	F	F	F	F		
○ Clark's nutcracker.....	R	F	F	F	F		
○ Black-billed Magpie.....	R	A	A	A	A		
○ American Crow.....	R	F	F	U	F		
○ Common Raven.....	R	C	C	C	C		

CHICKADEES, TITMICE & BUSHTITS

○ Black-capped Chickadee.....	R	F	U	U	U		
○ Mountain Chickadee.....	R	F	C	C	F		
○ Plain Titmouse.....	R	U	F	F	U		
○ Bushtit.....	R	U	R	R	R		

NUTHATCHES

○ Red-breasted Nuthatch.....	R	U	U	U	U		
○ White-breasted Nuthatch.....	R	U	U	U	U		
○ Pygmy nuthatch.....	R	R	U	U	U		

CREEPERS

○ Brown Creeper.....	R	R	R	R	R		
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WRENS

○ Rock Wren.....	B	R	C	C	U	3d - B	B - 10b
○ Canyon Wren.....	B	R	F	F	U	3a - B	B - 10d
○ Bewick's Wren.....	R	U	F	F	F		
○ House wren.....	B		F	F	F	5a - B	B - 9c
○ Winter Wren.....	W	X					
○ Marsh Wren.....	W	U	U		U	W - 4d	10a - W

Bird Name	ST	Wi	SM	Br	FM	Spring	Fall
DIPPERS							
○ American Dipper.....	R	U	U	U	U		
KINGLETS, GNATCATCHERS & THRUSHES							
○ Golden-crowned Kinglet.....	B	X	R	R	R	?	?
○ Ruby-crowned Kinglet.....	B	R	C	C	F	4d - B	B - 11c
○ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.....	B	S	F	F	F	4d - B	B - 10a
○ Black-tailed Gnatcatcher.....	B			X		? - B	B - 9a
○ Western Bluebird.....	B	R	U	U	U	3d - B	B - 9d
○ Mountain Bluebird.....	R	U	A	C	A	3a - B	B - 10c
○ Townsend's Solitaire.....	R	U	U	U	U		
○ Veery.....	?			X		5b - 5b	
○ Swainson's Thrush.....	B		S	X	S	4b - B	B - ?
○ Hermit Thrush.....	B	S	F	C	U	5b - B	B - 9c
○ Wood Thrush.....	M				X		10b - 10b
○ American Robin.....	R	A	A	C	C	?	?
○ Varied Thrush.....	W	X				W - 2b	12a - W
MIMIC THRUSHES							
○ Gray Catbird.....	B		V	R	X	5c - B	B - 9c
○ Northern Mockingbird.....	B	V	U	R	R	5a - B	B - 9d
○ Sage Thrasher.....	B	X	F	U	U	3b - B	B - 10b
○ Brown Thrasher.....	M		X		X		9d - 9d
○ Bendire's Thrasher.....	M		X			5a - 5a	
PIPITS							
○ American Pipit.....	B	U	U	R	U	3c - 4d	10a - 11c
WAXWINGS							
○ Bohemian Waxwing.....	W	R	V			W - 3c	11d - W
○ Cedar Waxwing.....	W	F	F		F	W - 3d	11a - W
SHRIKES							
○ Northern Shrike.....	W	U	R		R	W - 3d	10d - W
○ Loggerhead Shrike.....	B	R	U	U	U	3d - B	B - 9d
STARLINGS							
○ European Starling.....	R	A	A	A	A	?	
VIREOS							
○ Gray Vireo.....	B		U	U	R	4d - B	B - 9a
○ Solitary Vireo.....	B		F	F	U	4d - B	B - 9d
○ Warbling Vireo.....	B		F	C	U	5a - B	B - 9d
○ Red-eyed vireo.....	M		X			5d - 5d	
WOOD WARBLERS							
○ Tennessee Warbler.....	M				X		9a - 9d
○ Orange-crowned Warbler.....	B	X	F	F	F	4d - B	B - 10d
○ Nashville Warbler.....	M				X		9a - 9d
○ Virginia's Warbler.....	B		F	F	F	4c - B	B - 9c
○ Lucy's Warbler.....	M		X			5b - 5b	
○ Northern Parula.....	M				X		9a - 9a
○ Yellow Warbler.....	B		C	C	F	5a - B	B - 9b
○ Chestnut-sided Warbler.....	?			X			
○ Yellow-rumped Warbler.....							
"Audubon's" Warbler.....	B	R	C	F	C	4d - B	B - 11a
"Myrtle" Warbler.....	M		V			4c - 5b	
○ Black-thrted Gray Warbler.....	B		F	F	U	4c - B	B - 9b
○ Townsend's Warbler.....	M		X		R	5a - 5a	8a - 10b
○ Prairie Warbler.....	M				X		9d - 9d
○ American Redstart.....	M				X		9a - 9b
○ Northern Waterthrush.....	M		S		S	5b - 5d	8c - 9a
○ MacGillivray's Warbler.....	B		U	U	U	5a - B	B - 9d
○ Common Yellowthroat.....	B	X	U	U	U	5a - B	B - 9c
○ Wilson's Warbler.....	B		U	U	F	5a - B	B - 10a
○ Yellow-breasted Chat.....	B			U		5b - B	B - 9a

Bird Name	ST	WI	SM	Br	FM	Spring	Fall
TANAGERS, GROSBEAKS & BUNTINGS							
○ Western Tanager.....	B		F	F	F	5b - B	B - 9d
○ Rose-breasted Grosbeak ..	M		S	X	X	5c - 5c	8d - 9a
○ Black-headed Grosbeak.....	B		F	F	U	5a - B	B - 9b
○ Blue Grosbeak.....	B		U	F	F	5b - B	B - 9d
○ Lazuli Bunting.....	B		F	F	U	4d - B	B - 8d
○ Indigo Bunting.....	b			S		5d - b	b - ?
○ Painted Bunting.....	M		X			6a - 6a	
○ Dickcissel.....	M						
TOWHEES & SPARROWS							
○ Green-tailed Towhee.....	B	X	C	C	F	4d - B	B - 9d
○ Rufous-sided Towhee.....	R	U	C	C	F		
○ American Tree Sparrow ..	W	U	R		R	W - 3c	11b - W
○ Chipping Sparrow.....	B		C	C	C	4d - B	B - 10d
○ Clay-colored Sparrow.....	M				S		9a - 9b
○ Brewer's Sparrow.....	B		F	F	F	5a - B	B - 10d
○ Vesper Sparrow.....	B	S	C	C	F	4b - B	B - 10a
○ Lark Sparrow.....	B	X	F	F	U	4c - B	B - 9c
○ Black-throated Sparrow.....	B		R	U	R	4a - B	B - 8d
○ Sage Sparrow.....	B	X	F	U	F	3a - B	B - 10c
○ Lark Bunting.....	M	X	V	S	V	5b - 5d	8c - 9c
○ Savannah Sparrow.....	B	X	U	U	U	4c - B	B - 9d
○ Baird's Sparrow.....	M				X		9b - 9b
○ Fox Sparrow.....	B		R	U	R	3c - B	B - 9b
○ Song Sparrow.....	R	C	C	F	C	?	?
○ Lincoln's Sparrow.....	B		F	F	F	3c - B	B - 11b
○ Swamp Sparrow.....	W	S				W - 2b	11c - W
○ White-throated Sparrow ..	W	S	X				10b - 11c
○ Golden-crowned Sparrow ..	M				X		11c - 11d
○ White-crowned sparrow							
Rky Mtn. White-crown.....	B	S	R	F	R	5a - B	B - 10c
Gambel's Sparrow.....	W	A	A		A	W - 4d	9d - W
○ Harris' Sparrow.....	W	V	V		V	W - 5a	11a - W
○ Dark-eyed Junco							
Gray-headed Junco.....	B	R	R	F	R	4d - B	B - 8d
Oregon Junco.....	W	A	A		A	W - 4d	9d - W
○ Lapland Longspur.....	W	X				W - 2b	? - W
○ Snow Bunting.....	W	X					
BLACKBIRDS, MEADOWLARKS & ORIOLES							
○ Bobolink.....	M		X			5c - 5c	
○ Red-winged Blackbird.....	R	A	A	A	A		
○ Western Meadowlark.....	R	C	C	C	C		
○ Yellow-headed Blackbird.....	B	S	C	C	U	4a - B	B - 9d
○ Rusty Blackbird.....	W	X			X		11a - 11a
○ Brewer's Blackbird.....	R	U	C	A	C	4a - B	B - 10d
○ Great-tailed Grackle.....	B	S	V	V	S	4b - B	B - 11d
○ Common Grackle.....	B		U	U	F	4b - B	B - 11d
○ Brown-headed Cowbird.....	B	V	C	C	U	4d - B	B - 9c
○ No. ("Bullock's") Oriole.....	B		U	F	U	5a - B	B - 9a
○ Scott's Oriole.....	B		R	R		5a - B	B - 8a
FINCHES & WEAVER FINCH							
○ Rosy Finch.....	W	R	V		V	W - 3b	11d - W
○ Pine Grosbeak.....	R	U	U	U	U		
○ Cassin's Finch.....	R	R	U	F	U	?	?
○ House Finch.....	R	A	A	C	A		
○ Red Crossbill.....	R	R	R	R	R		
○ Common Redpoll.....	W	X					
○ Pine Siskin.....	R	U	C	C	C	4c - B	B - 10a
○ Lesser Goldfinch.....	B		U	U	U	4d - B	B - 10c
○ American Goldfinch.....	R	F	F	U	C	W - 3d	9d - W
○ Evening Grosbeak.....	R	F	F	R	U	W - 5a	11a - W
○ House sparrow.....	R	A	A	A	A		

NEWS FROM THE FIELD: WINTER 1991-1992

Bill Prather
13810 Weld County Road, #1
Longmont, Colorado 80504
(303) 776-2191

I will be writing the next few seasonal reports, if the C.F.O. and Mona can tolerate me that long. I encourage everyone to send reports to your regional reporter or directly to Hugh Kingery so he can use the information in his report for *American Birds*. Rare birds should be documented carefully during or soon after the sighting while details are still fresh. Fifty years from now no one will believe any of these reports unless detailed reports are available. Hugh will forward any documentations to the C.F.O. records committee. In addition to those reports sent to Hugh, I used transcripts of the Denver Field Ornithologists' Colorado Bird Report and sightings and field trip reports in the *Lark Bunting*. Thanks to Hugh Kingery, Scott Menough for the Colorado Bird Report transcripts, Phil Hayes for the reports in the *Lark Bunting* and for compiling the field trip reports, the regional reporters for collecting and compiling reports, and all who made reports. I was not able to connect a few names with people so please let me know so I can correct mistakes and give due credit. Each species name is followed by a short statement of what I think its status in this particular season is. These statements are my opinion only and are included to show you why I included reports. Uncommon generally means fewer than ten records a season; rare, fewer than ten accepted records on file. More common species are not included in reports unless trends are apparent or pointed out by reporters or in the case of unusual numbers. I am anxiously awaiting my copy of Colorado Birds, A Reference to Their Distribution and Habitat by Robert Andrews and Robert Righter. This will make my job a lot easier and I encourage everyone to have access to a copy so you will know what to report and document. If you have any comments or criticism please let me know, I'll try to work with you.

* Indicates an observer has sent documentation--watch for the C.F.O. Records Committee report on these sightings in a future *C.F.O. Journal*.

A number of reporters mentioned the possibility that this past winter weather, with few big snows and a general lack of long, bitter cold spells, allowed a number of species to spend the season farther north or at a higher elevation than normal. Grebes, wrens, thrushes, and warblers were reported much more frequently than most years, while northern species like Bohemian Waxwings, Redpolls, and crossbills had fewer reports. We ended up with a

big list of species (191 that I got reports on) but not a lot of really rare species. The Cape May Warbler, Lesser Black-backed Gulls, Trumpeter Swan, and Yellow-billed Loon were exceptions. Oldsquaws, Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, and Red-bellied Woodpeckers had banner years. I can tell from the number of reports that Colorado birders had a lot of fun last winter. Keep those reports coming!

Red-Throated Loon uncommon migrant. 1 at Chatfield Res. 12/2-8/91 (Joey Kellner and others).

Pacific Loon uncommon migrant. 1-2 on Pueblo Res. 12/8-14/91 (Mark Janos); 1 at Boulder Res. 12/1,11/91 (Sotello, Bill Kaempfer).

Common Loon fairly common migrant in small numbers. Only 1 report of 2 birds in Ft. Collins area was unusually low (Dave Leatherman, Paul Opler).

Yellow-billed Loon rare winter visitor. 1 at Chatfield Res. 12/2-9/91 (Dave Leatherman, Joe Mammoser and others).

Horned Grebe uncommon in winter. 1 on 12/7/91 (Brandon Percival, Van Truan), 6 on 2/8/92 (Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Cliff Smith), 3 on 2/15/92 (CFO field trip), all on Pueblo Res.; 1 12/7/91 (DFO upper South Platte field trip); 1-10 on Union Res. 2/3-29/92 (John Prather).

Eared Grebe uncommon in winter. 1 at Highline Res. 12/14/91 (Coen Dexter); 1 on Chatfield Res. 12/14/91 (Joey Kellner); 10 on Pueblo Res. 2/8/92 (Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Cliff Smith); 1 on 2/9/92 (Dave Johnson) and 3 on 2/22/92 (Arkansas Valley Audubon Society) at Cheraw; 2 throughout period at Hamilton Res. (Joe Mammoser, Dave Leatherman and others); 1 near Golden 1/1-31/92 (Duane Nelson).

Western Grebe formerly rare in winter, now reported regularly when there is open water. 3 remained at Highline Res. until 12/14/91 (Rich Levad, Coen Dexter); 1-2 at Pueblo Res. 1/1/92-2/15/92 (many observers); 3, at least 1 of which was a rehabilitated bird released by the Colo. Dept. of Wildlife, at Valmont Res. 2/9/92 (Joe Mammoser, Dave Leatherman); 2 at Hamilton Res. 1/19/92 (John Barber).

Clark's Grebe uncommon in winter. 1 on Pueblo Res. 2/15/92 (Dave Silverman, Susan Blackshaw); 1 at Hamilton Res. throughout period (Joe Mammoser, Dave Leatherman and others).

American White Pelican rare in winter. 1 near Ft. Morgan 12/15/91 (Joe Rigli) and on S. Platte River between Ft. Morgan and Orchard 12/23/91 (Jim Dennis, Colo. Dept. of Wildlife); 1 on McLellan Res. (Arapahoe County) 12/14/91 (Ed Holub, Dick Schottler and others).

Double-crested Cormorant uncommon in winter. 1 on Pueblo Res. 1/6/92 (Dave Silverman) and 2/25/92 (Dave Griffiths); 2 on Valmont Res. (possibly rehabilitated and released by the Colorado Division of Wildlife) 2/9/92 (Dave Silverman and Joe Mammoser).

Black-Crowned Night-Heron uncommon in winter except a group has wintered on the South Platte in Englewood and S. Denver at least the last 10

years. Up to 8 were seen there 12/7/91 to 1/4/92 (DFO field trips); 1 at Loveland 1/26/92 (Foothills Audubon field trip).

Tundra Swan uncommon migrant. 3 on 12/15/91 and 2 on 12/16/91 near Cortez (Alan Versaw); 2 at Highline Res. 1/12,18 and 2/23/92 (Coen Dexter); 2 on Jumbo Res. and 1 on Riverside Res. 12/23/91 (Jim Dennis, Colo. Dept. of Wildlife).

Trumpeter Swan rare visitor. 1 immature at CF&I lakes near Pueblo 1/19-23/92 (Bob Dickson and many observers).

Ducks and Geese in general: Colorado Division of Wildlife's NE region waterfowl count totals with totals for previous year for comparison.

12/11/90	12/9/91	1/7/91	1/6/92
Ducks Geese	Ducks Geese	Ducks Geese	Ducks Geese
67017 118330	103904 160545	54547 78300	72898 130875

Greater White-fronted Goose uncommon winter visitor. 3-10 at Canon City 12/15-21/91 (Jim and Rosie Watts); 4 near Lamar 2/17/92 (Cliff Smith, Pearle Sandstrom-Smith); 4 on Lake Estes 12/14/91 (Judy Smith), 1 on Union Res. 2/28/92 (Bill Prather); 1 at Severance 2/2/92 (Dave Leatherman); 2 E of Severance in early Jan. (Joe Mammoser); 7 at Jumbo Res. and Red Lion SWA 2/15/92 (Jack Reddall, Norm Lewis, Ted Cooper); 1 in Wheat Ridge Greenbelt 12/26/91 and 1/2/92 (Alex Cruz Jr., Duane Nelson).

Snow Goose fairly common to abundant migrant in east, less reports in west (normal ratio in east is about 1 blue morph to 100 white). 1 near Cortez 12/7 and 16/91 (Alan Versaw); Coen Dexter and Rich Levad reported 20 birds on 8 days over the winter season in Grand Junction area; "very low numbers in Pueblo area and lower Arkansas Valley this winter . . . 400 at Fowler 1/12/92" Mark Janos; 4,000 at Ordway 2/15/92 (C.F.O. Field Trip), 3,000 at Jumbo Res. and Red Lion SWA 2/15/92 (Jack Reddall, Norm Lewis, Ted Cooper).

Ross' Goose probably a fairly common migrant with the Snow Geese but usually in much smaller numbers. 1 at Cheraw 12/1/91 (Dave Johnson); 2 at Lake Meredith 2/15/92 (Brandon Percival, Van Truan); 1 at Ordway 2/22/92 (Arkansas Valley Audubon Society), 13 at Fowler 1/12/92 (Mark Janos); 3 near Lamar 2/17/92 (Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Cliff Smith); 1 in Denver 12/19/91 (Tina Jones); 1 E of Boulder 12/15/91 and 1/6/92 (Alexander Brown, Alex Cruz Jr.).

Canada Goose common winter resident. "A few from time to time all through the winter, which is unusual in the Eagle Valley" Jack Merchant; "Very few in Pueblo and Arkansas Valley this winter" (Mark Janos).

Mallard common to abundant winter resident at lower elevations. 1 on Indian Peaks winter count was first in 10 years.

Northern Pintail fairly common winter resident, sometimes abundant migrant. 4,100+ at Hudson 2/29/92 was an exceptional number (Winston William

Brockner and Dan George).

Cinnamon Teal uncommon in winter. 1 on 2/20/92 (Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Cliff Smith and Dave Griffiths) and 2/22/92 (Brandon Percival) at Pueblo; 1 at Hamilton Res. 2/29/92 (Larry Malone, John Barber).

Northern Shoveler fairly common winter resident. 10+ on 20 dates at Clifton "high winter count" (Coen Dexter).

Eurasian Wigeon uncommon migrant. 1 male in Ft. Collins 2/8-10/92 (John Barber and others).

Canvasback uncommon in winter until late Feb. when they increase. 2 at Clifton 12/21-31/91 (Rich Levad, Coen Dexter); up to 11 at Brush Hollow Res. near Penrose 12/29/91-1/11/92 (Jim Watts, Rosie Watts), 1 on 12/7/91 (Brandon Percival, Van Truan) and 4 on 2/22/92 (Dave Silverman) in Pueblo; 1 seen on each of 4 trips 12/1/91-2/16/92 in Denver area (DFO field trips).

Greater Scaup uncommon migrant. 1 at Clifton Marsh 12/4,5/91 (Coen Dexter); 1 on 1/12/92 at Avondale (Dave Johnson and Mike Ketchen); 1 on Pueblo Res. 2/8/92 (Brandon Percival, Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Cliff Smith); 1 seen on 2 DFO field trips 1/1,18/92; 1-2 in Wheat Ridge Greenbelt 12/28/91-2/6/92 (Crofter); 1 pair in Ft. Collins 1/11/92 through period (Dave Leatherman and others); 1 female 12/3/91 and 1 male 2/19/92 at the S. Platte River and 88th Ave in the Denver metro area (Jack Reddall); 1 SW of Denver 2/15-22/92 (Brown).

Oldsquaw uncommon winter visitor. Up to 4 all winter at Pueblo (many observers); 1 at Fountain Regional Park 12/14-21/91 (Toni Brevillier, Cindy Lippincott); 2 near Snyder 12/27/91 (Mark Janos); 2 at Cheraw 2/22/92 (Brandon Percival, Van Truan); 4-5 at Hamilton Res. through period (Joe Mammoser and others); 1-2 at South Platte River Park (Arapahoe County) 12/3-14/91 (Ann Bonnell, Karen Schofield); 1 at Boulder Res. 12/11/91 (Bill Kaempfer).

White-winged Scoter uncommon winter visitor. 1 at Hamilton Res. 12/8/91 through period (Dave Leatherman and others).

Barrow's Goldeneye uncommon migrant. 1 near Mesa 1/1/92 (Rich Levad); 1-2 at Pueblo 1/1-2/20/92 (Brandon Percival and many observers); 1 on Boyd Lake 12/2/91 (Joe Mammoser); 5 on Grand Lake 2/7/92 (Dave Leatherman); 1 pair NE of Denver 2/8/92 (Jack Reddall, Linda Vidal); 2 S of Louisville 2/22/92 (Suzy Plooster, Myron Plooster).

Bufflehead fairly common winter resident. 50 birds on 17 dates "high wintering number" around Grand Junction (Coen Dexter, Rich Levad).

Hooded Merganser fairly common migrant. 7 at McPhee Res. 1/2/91 (this is one of only a few reports from Latilong 22) (Alan Versaw).

Red-breasted Merganser uncommon in winter. 2 on 12/6/91 (Bob Dickson and Dave Johnson) and 4 on 2/25/92 (Dave Griffiths) at Pueblo; 32 on DFO NW Denver field trip 1/5/92; 1 W of Longmont 1/31/92 (D. W. King); 10 on Union Res. 2/26/92 (Ann Means); 2 at Cherry Creek Res. 2/3/92 (Jack Reddall); 2 in Wheat Ridge 2/4/92 (Phil Hayes).

Ruddy Duck uncommon winter resident. 9 birds on 9 dates "high winter count" (Coen Dexter, Rich Levad); 2 at Colorado City 12/1/91 (Dave Silverman) and 1 at Canon City 2/9/92 (Brandon Percival, Pearle Sandstrom-Smith and Cliff Smith); 1-4 seen on 5 DFO field trips 12/1/91-2/16/92; 1 E of Longmont 1/30/92 (Dave Bolton); up to 194 throughout period at Hamilton Res. (Ron Ryder).

Bald Eagle fairly common winter resident. Colo. Division of Wildlife's count found 863 state-wide compared to 704 in 1991.

Sharp-shinned Hawk fairly common resident. Several Ft. Collins area observers reported lower than usual numbers (total of 6 reports in area - perhaps some duplicates) (Dave Leatherman, Paul Opler).

Cooper's Hawk fairly common resident. Only 3 reports in Ft. Collins area - less than usual (Dave Leatherman, Paul Opler).

Red-shouldered Hawk uncommon migrant. 1 eastern-race immature E. of Pueblo 1/7-17/92 (Bob Dickson*, Mark Janos* and others).

Swainson's Hawk very rare in winter; few, if any, accepted records. 1 seen by 2 different groups of observers 1/11,15/92 near Durango (Elva Fox).

Red-Tailed Hawk common winter resident. "More than usual around, occasionally saw as many as 5" in Brush Creek Valley near Eagle (Jack Merchant); 1 Krider's race near Walsh 1/9/92 (Janeal Thompson); 1 Krider's race at 119th and Holly (Adams County) 12/8/91 (Joe TenBrink, Jean Maguire).

Rough-legged Hawk common winter resident. 3 birds on 3 dates around Grand Junction "low winter count" (Coen Dexter, Rich Levad).

Golden Eagle fairly common resident. Coen Dexter reported only 12 over period around Grand Junction; he considers 50+ a normal winter count.

American Kestrel common resident. Several Ft. Collins observers reported significantly higher than normal numbers (Dave Leatherman, Paul Opler)

Merlin fairly common migrant and winter resident. Ft. Collins observers reported lower numbers, especially on the Pawnee National Grasslands (Dave Leatherman, Paul Opler).

Peregrine Falcon uncommon winter resident. 1 at Westcliffe 1/25/92 (Pearle Sandstrom-Smith*); 1 on Rocky Mountain Arsenal all period (Larry Malone); 1 in Denver through December (Neil Ward).

Gyrfalcon rare winter visitor. 1 gray morph near Greeley 1/3/92 (Joe Himmel).

Prairie Falcon fairly common winter resident. At least 1 wintered in Eagle area which was considered unusual by Jack Merchant.

Sharp-tailed Grouse uncommon local resident in west, endangered in east. 1 E of Timnath in mid Jan. (T. Carol Agee) a possible release but within historical range.

Sora uncommon in winter - most reports in recent years. 1 in Longmont 1/17/92 (D. W. King); 1 seen on 2 days in Clifton Marsh (Coen Dexter).

Sandhill Crane uncommon in winter. 1 near Grand Junction 12/23/91 (Coen

Dexter; 50 at Canon City 12/11/91 (Sylvia Wheelock); 500 near Lamar 2/17/92 (Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Cliff Smith); 75 on 2/6/92 (Janeal Thompson) and 100 on 2/8/92 (Sarah A. McKinley) near Walsh.

Killdeer fairly common winter resident. 10 on 8 dates "low number wintered" around Grand Junction (Coen Dexter, Rich Levad).

Greater Yellowlegs uncommon in winter. 1 on 1/22 and 24/92 and 3 on 2/29/92 on Colorado River near Grand Junction (Coen Dexter and Rich Levad); 1 near Holly 2/16/92 (Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Cliff Smith).

Common Snipe fairly common winter resident where there is some unfrozen marsh. "Only 5 reported on 4 days over period - low number" (Coen Dexter).

Franklin's Gull uncommon in winter. 1 on Union Res. 2/22/92 (John Prather).

Bonaparte's Gull uncommon in winter. 1 on 12/14/92 (Mark Janos) and 6 on 1/4/92 (Bob Dickson, Brandon Percival) at Pueblo Res.

California Gull uncommon in winter. 1 at Highline Res. 1/8/92 (Coen Dexter); 1 at Chatfield Res. 1/28/92 (Winston William Brockner); 2-10 on Pueblo Res. throughout the winter (Mark Janos); 1 E of Longmont 2/26/92 (Inez Prather).

Thayer's Gull uncommon winter visitor. 1 at Pueblo Res. 2/8/92 (Brandon Percival, Van Truan); 1 at Cherry Creek Res. 2/17/92 (Larry Malone); 1 at Jumbo Res. 2/15/92 (Jack Reddall, Norm Lewis, Ted Cooper); 1 on S. Platte N. of Denver 1/19/92 (Norm Lewis).

Lesser Black-backed Gull rare migrant. 1 2nd winter immature at Pueblo Res. and CF&I Lakes 1/11-2/15/92 (Van Truan*, Mark Janos* and many observers); 1 1st winter immature at CF&I Lakes 2/8-16/92 (Van Truan*, many observers); 1 2nd winter changing to 2nd summer immature at Cherry Creek Res. 2/24/92 (Jack Reddall); 1 1st winter immature at Chatfield Res. 12/14/91 (Joey Kellner, Jack Reddall, Glen Hageman).

Glaucous Gull uncommon winter visitor. 1 near Walsh 12/26/91 (Janeal Thompson); 1 near Loveland 12/5/91 (John Prather); 1 2nd winter immature at Jumbo Res. 2/15/92 (Jack Reddall, Ted Cooper, Norm Lewis); 1 1st winter immature at Jumbo Res. 2/18/92 (Diana Mullineaux, Don Mullineaux); 1 at Cherry Creek Res. 1/1,4,24/92 (Jack Reddall, Joey Kellner).

Black-legged Kittiwake uncommon winter visitor. 1 12/6/91 (Bob Dickson, Dave Johnson) and 2/16/92 (Mark Janos, Brandon Percival) at Pueblo Res.

Common Barn Owl uncommonly reported in winter, status not completely known. Coen Dexter reports finding 11 birds on 8 dates around Grand Junction over the season.

Northern Pygmy-owl probably fairly common resident but uncommonly reported. 1 at Conifer 2/1/92 (John Austin); 1 heard at Estes Park 2/22/92 (Scott Rashid); 1 heard west of Hamilton Res. 12/29/91 (John Barber, Dave Hawksworth); 1-2 at Mt. Falcon Park 2/12,16,20/92 (Jack Reddall, Ted Cooper, Joe Roller).

Long-eared Owl uncommon to fairly common winter resident. 1-2 near

Longmont 12/13/91-1/25/92 (Barbara Hyde, Bobbie Christensen, Kat Bennett); 2 NE of Laporte through period (Kevin Cook and others); 1 near Wellington 1/20/92 (Dave Leatherman); 1-2 NE of Ft. Collins in Jan. and Feb. (Jim Sedgwick); 1 in Briggsdale Cemetery 1/1/92 (Joe Mammoser); 1 in Pueblo 2/21/92 (Brandon Percival, Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Cliff Smith), 1 in Sterling Cemetery 2/15/92 (Jack Reddall, Ted Cooper).

Short-eared Owl uncommon winter resident. 1 W of Longmont 12/14/91 (Barbara Hyde); 5 SE of Berthoud 1/11-2/29/92 (Bobbie Christensen); up to 8 near Wellington 1/11/92 through period (Norm Erthal and many observers); 3 NE of Loveland 1/26/92 (Foothills Audubon Field Trip); 2 near Ft. Morgan 12/1/91 (Joe Rigli); 2 NE of Sterling 12/3/91 (Tina Jones); 1 at Lower Latham Res. 1/11/92 (Dan Bridges).

Boreal Owl uncommon local resident in mountains. 3 heard on west side of Cameron Pass 2/19/92 through end of period (Ron Ryder, Vicki Herren, John Barber); 1 at Brainard Lake (Boulder County) 1/17/92 (Bob Wilkinson).

Northern Saw-whet Owl fairly common resident but uncommonly reported. 1 on Indian Peaks Winter Count was first in 10 years; 1 in Pueblo 1/22/92 until 2/21/92 when it died (Bob Dickson); 1 heard in upper Poudre Canyon 1/31/92 (Louise Bennett); 1 in downtown Ft. Collins 12/14/91 (Laurie Munroe); 1 heard in Estes Park 1/27/92 (Warner Reeser); 1 heard on 2/1/92 E side of South Park (Dan Bridges); 1 2/20/92 Castlewood Canyon SP (Jack Reddall).

Red-headed Woodpecker uncommon in winter. 1 in Florence 2/19/92 (Norma Peterson); 1 in Lakewood 12/1-1/9/92 (Jewell Henrichs, Bill Henrichs, Dick Schottler).

Red-Bellied Woodpecker uncommon resident in far east, rare elsewhere, becoming more common and widespread in recent years. 1 3 mile W of Grand Junction 12/16/91-1/5/92 (Coen Dexter^{*}); 1 in Pueblo 12/22/91 (Pueblo Christmas Count) and 1/1/92 (Dave Johnson); 1 in Canon City 2/9/92 (Brandon Percival, Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Cliff Smith); 1 near Brush 12/28/91 and 2 at Holly 12/29/91 (Mark Janos); 1 on Rocky Mountain Arsenal 12/11/91 (Larry Malone); 1 in Ft. Collins 12/16/91 through period (Joe Mammoser and others); 1 NE of Ft. Collins 12/29/91 through period (Jim Sedgwick); 1 at Bonny Res. 12/27/91 (Joey Kellner, Jack Reddall), 1 at Cherry Creek Res. 1/1/92 (Joey Kellner).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker uncommon winter visitor, many more reports in recent years. Reports throughout the period from Grand Junction, Mancos, Eagle, Ft. Collins, Poudre Park, Loveland, Denver, Boulder, Lyons, Pueblo, Westcliffe, Beulah, Walsh and Bonny Res.

Red-naped Sapsucker uncommon winter resident. 1 near Grand Junction 12/27/91 (Alan Versaw); 1 at Carbondale 1/28/92 (John Barber).

Three-toed Woodpecker fairly common but local resident, uncommonly reported. 7 on Indian Peaks Winter Count was 10 year high.

Say's Phoebe uncommon in winter. 5 on 8 dates over season (Coen Dexter,

Rich Levad); 1 on Arkansas River near Florence 12/21/91 (Jim Watts, Rosie Watts); 4 in Cottonwood Canyon (Baca County) 1/2/92 (Sarah A. McKinley); 1 south of Waterton 2/2/92 (Ann Bonnell).

Scrub Jay locally fairly common winter resident. Jack Merchant reports they were more abundant than usual in Eagle "often saw 3 or 4, saw 5 on two days in early Feb."

Mountain Chickadee common mountain resident. "Very few wintering in or visiting low elevations" (Dave Leatherman, Paul Opler).

Bushtit fairly common locally in south and west 2/3 of state. "Reports (in Pueblo area) dropped significantly this winter" (Dave Silverman).

Red-breasted Nuthatch fairly common in mountains and foothills. Many reports of up to 22 in Loveland and Lyons area - up significantly from recent years (Ann Means), "2-5 on 8 days scattered through the season. Many more than last year" (Jack Merchant).

White-breasted Nuthatch common in much of state. 1-2 present throughout period in Walsh (new Latilong record) (Janeal Thompson).

Brown Creeper fairly common winter resident. "Most observers thought this species was more common than usual both at low elevations and in the foothills and lower mountains" (Ft. Collins area) (Dave Leatherman, Paul Opler).

Rock Wren uncommon winter resident. 3 on 4 dates around Grand Junction (Rich Levad, Coen Dexter); 3 at Slink 2/17/92 (Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Cliff Smith); 1 in Loveland in Jan. (Sheila deLanville); 2 throughout period W of Ft. Collins. "Not listed as resident in this Latilong, but the general feeling is that a few stay during mild winters" (Dave Leatherman, Paul Opler).

Carolina Wren uncommon visitor. 1 at Beulah throughout period (Mark Yeager, Mark Janos); 1 at Barr Lake 2/26/92 (Hugh Kingery, Urling Kingery).

Winter Wren uncommon winter visitor. 1 at Unaweep Seep (Mesa County) 1/25/92 (Coen Dexter); 1 on DFO Wheat Ridge Greenbelt field trip 1/18/92; 1 at Castlewood Canyon SP 12/28/91 (Joe TenBrink, Jean Maguire); 2 in Boulder 2/22/92 (Alex Cruz Jr.); 1 near Boulder 2/17/92 (Myers).

Golden-crowned Kinglet fairly common in small numbers over much of state in winter. "Reports (in Pueblo area) dropped significantly this winter (Dave Silverman); many reports totalling 77 individuals over period in Loveland and Lyons area - up significantly (Ann Means).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet uncommon in winter. 1 in Wheat Ridge Greenbelt 12/17/91 (Dave Leatherman); 1 in Pueblo 12/5/91 (Bob Dickson, Dave Johnson) and 2/29/92 (Brandon Percival); 12 on 11 days in Grand Junction area (Rich Levad, Coen Dexter); 1 near Rocky Ford 2/15,22/92 (Brandon Percival and others).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher rare in winter. 1 on Grand Junction Christmas Count 12/16/91 (Ron Lambeth).

Eastern Bluebird uncommon in winter, mostly on eastern plains. 1 on

12/4/91 (Dave Silverman) and 10 on 2/29/92 (Linda Butler) at Pueblo; 3 at Crow Valley near Briggsdale 1/1/92 (Joe Mammoser), 2 below John Martin Dam 1/26/92 (Dave Leatherman, Joe Mammoser), 4 at Bonny Res. 12/27/91 (Joey Kellner, Jack Reddall).

Western Bluebird uncommon in winter in southwest, rarer elsewhere. 8 near Cortez 12/17/91 (Lucille Bainbridge); 10 near Gateway 1/17/92 (Rich Levad).

Mountain Bluebird uncommon to fairly common in winter until late Feb. when they increase rapidly. 10 on 12/17/91 and 1 2/27-28/92 near Cortez (Lucille Bainbridge); 40 on 15 days in Grand Junction area (Coen Dexter, Rich Levad); 3 in Evergreen (Mildred Keiser), 1 in Indian Hills (Mrs. Mahler) and 20-40 in Salida (Ruby Ebright) all on 2/24/92; 2 in Eagle 2/27/92 (Jack Merchant); up to 12 in Penrose 1/9-2/25/92 (Jim Watts, Rosie Watts); 2 in Colorado City 2/28/92 (Dave Silverman); 3 on 2/9 and 2 on 2/23 in Denver area (DFO field trips); 3 in Genesee Park 1/20/92 (Norma Kamby, Joe Kamby).

Hermit Thrush rare in winter. 1 in Durango 12/30/91-1/3//92 (Elva Fox); 1 hit window and was killed in Keystone 2/29/92 (Marianna Paulson).

American Robin fairly common winter resident. "Scarce this winter around Evergreen" (Winston William Brockner).

Gray Catbird uncommon in winter. 1 in Pueblo 12/27/91 (Dave Silverman); 1 on 2/22/92 near Lyons (Helen Leichter).

Northern Mockingbird uncommon in winter. 1 on Grand Junction Christmas Count 12/16/91 (Ron Lambeth); "1 or more spent the winter in Pueblo area" (Dave Silverman); 1 E of Crook 1/25/92 (Dan Bridges); 1-2 E of Boulder 12/28/91 through period (Mona Hill, Dean Hill, Bill Kaempfer).

Brown Thrasher uncommon in winter. 1 wintered in Idaho Springs (Ford Craig); 1 in Salida for 6 weeks Jan-Feb (Ruby Ebright); 1 on DFO Chicago Creek field trip 2/22/92.

American Pipit uncommon in winter. 30 plus on 9 days in Grand Junction area (Rich Levad, Coen Dexter); 1 on 2/29/92 in Pueblo and 1 in Canon City 2/9/92 (Brandon Percival, Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Cliff Smith).

Bohemian Waxwing highly irregular - uncommon to abundant. Only 4 reports this year - largest group reported was 30.

Cedar Waxwing fairly common winter resident. 200 in Cortez 2/14/92 was "easily the largest group seen" by Alan Versaw in 5 winters; Coen Dexter reported a "very low count" of 40 birds on 7 dates over period in Grand Junction area.

Northern Shrike fairly common winter resident. "Average to below average numbers through period, saw 2-3 per 100 miles driven in the Pawnee Grasslands in Jan." (Dave Leatherman).

Loggerhead Shrike uncommon in winter. 1 at Whitewater 1/19/92 (Coen Dexter); 2 at Boone on 12/1/91 (Bob Dickson, Dave Johnson); 1 at Walsenburg 2/1/92 (Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Cliff Smith); 1-2 around Walsh in December and January (Janeal Thompson); 2 in Cottonwood Canyon 1/2/92

(Sarah A. McKinley); 1 2/7/92 near Ft. Morgan (Joe Rigli).

Orange-crowned Warbler rare in winter. 2 on Grand Junction Christmas Count 12/16/91 (Ron Lambeth, Tom Moran); 1 in January in Boulder (Alex Cruz Jr.).

Yellow-rumped Warbler uncommon winter resident. Coen Dexter reported "good numbers all winter" around Grand Junction - 30+ on 14 dates; 1-2 in Olive Marsh in Pueblo throughout period (Dave Silverman, Mark Janos); 3 in Boulder Jan.-Feb. (Alex Cruz Jr., and others); 1 in Ft. Collins 1/11/92 (Ron Ryder) and 2/4/92 (Jim Sedgwick); 3 at Marston Res. 12/8/91 (Mort Staatz); 1 at Wheat Ridge Greenbelt 12/30/91 (Karleen Schofield); 1 in SE Boulder 1/12-27/92 (Helen Wainwright, Art Wainwright).

Cape May Warbler rare visitor. 1/24/92 through period in Boulder (Alex Cruz and many observers).

Northern Cardinal uncommon in far east, rarer elsewhere. 4 on Holly Christmas Count (Mark Janos and others).

Green-tailed Towhee uncommon in winter. 1 at Muir Springs 12/3/91 (Jack Reddall).

Rufous-sided Towhee fairly common winter resident. Vic Zerbi reports that "I have had an occasional single Rufous-sided Towhee in my yard [in Glenwood] in the winter, but this year seeing 3-8 per day was common."

Field Sparrow 1 SE of Denver 12/14/91 (Norm Erthal and others).

Vesper Sparrow uncommon winter resident. Coen Dexter recommends that status be changed to "Resident" in Latilong 8 on the basis of many winter records.

Le Conte's Sparrow rare migrant and winter resident. 1 in John Martin Marsh near Las Animas 12/9/91 (Joe Roller).

Fox Sparrow uncommon winter visitor - mostly eastern plains. 1 in McCoy 2/27/92 (Margaret Ewing); 1 Eastern race 2/20-21/92 in Pueblo (Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Cliff Smith, Brandon Percival); 2 in Colorado Springs 2/8/92 (Brandon Percival).

Swamp Sparrow uncommon winter resident. 1 in Walsenburg 2/21/92 (Brandon Percival, Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Cliff Smith); 2 birds seen on 4 dates at Clifton and Hotchkiss by Coen Dexter; 1 on 12/6/91 in Longmont (John Prather); 1 E of Boulder 12/2-14/91 and 2/9-14/92 (Adams, Alexander Brown, Bill Kaempfer); 1 in Ft. Collins 12/21/91 (Karen Mancini); 1 in Wheat Ridge 12/7/91 (Dan George); 2 SW of Denver 12/14/91 (Norm Erthal and others).

White-throated Sparrow uncommon winter visitor rarer in west. 1 all winter at a feeder in Durango (Elva Fox); 1 in Kremmling 12/1/91 to 1/16/92 (1st Latilong record) (Norman Barrett); 2 in Breckenridge through period (Linda McMenemy); 2 at Rocky Ford 2/15/92 (CFO field trip); 1 12/18/91 at Pueblo (Bob Dickson); 1 12/14/91 in Longmont (Kat Bennett); 2 at Canyon City 12/21/91 (Brandon Percival, Van Truan).

Golden-crowned Sparrow uncommon winter visitor. 1 at Red Rocks Park

1/17-2/16/92 (Steve Davis, Larry Malone and others).

Harris' Sparrow uncommon to fairly common winter resident - fewer reports in mountains and west. 1 at Clifton feeder throughout period (Coen Dexter); 1 in Kremmling 12/1/91 to 2/16/92 (1st Latilong record) (Norman Barrett); 1 in Eagle 1/25-2/15/92 (Jack Merchant); reports from Golden, Florence, Rocky Ford, Walsh, Denver, Longmont, Lyons, Loveland, Ft. Collins, and Arvada in eastern Colorado.

Dark-eyed Junco common winter resident. "3 to 6 here, fewer than usual" around Cortez (Lucille Bainbridge).

Lapland Longspur variable winter resident, uncommon-abundant on eastern plains. 1,000 between Last Chance and Anton was an exceptional number 2/19/92 (Urling Kingery, Hugh Kingery).

Snow Bunting irregular winter visitor. 3 12/26-29/91 (Mark Janos and others) and 5 1/4/92 (Duane Nelson) north of Jackson Res.

Yellow-headed Blackbird uncommon in winter. 1 at Vineland throughout period (Brandon Percival, Van Truan); 1 at Colorado City throughout period (Dave Silverman); 1 E of Longmont 1/5/92 (Dave Bolton), 1 near Mead 2/22/92 (Sally Seitz); 2 at Muir Springs 12/3/91 (Jack Reddall).

Rusty Blackbird uncommon winter visitor. 1 at Vineland 12/7/91 (Brandon Percival, Van Truan); 1 in Pueblo 1/21/92 (Jack Reddall) and 2/25/92 (Dave Silverman); 1 near Platteville 1/20/92 (Dave Bolton); 4 at Fountain Creek Regional Park 12/14/91 (Toni Brevillier, Cindy Lippincott); 2-4 near Louviers 2/22-24/92 (Norm Lewis).

Great-tailed Grackle uncommon but increasing winter resident. 12 at Mancos Marsh 12/23/91 (Lucille Bainbridge); 14 in Grand Junction 12/16/91 (Coen Dexter); 4 in Fruita 2/29/92 (Coen Dexter).

Common Grackle uncommon in winter. 2 at Colorado City 12/1/91 (Dave Silverman); 1 on DFO Adams County field trip 2/16/92; 1 near Union Res. 12/10/91 and 1 in Denver 2/19/92 (Dave Leatherman).

Brown-headed Cowbird uncommon in winter. 10 on 2 dates in Fruita (Coen Dexter, Edgar Muhr); 10-15 in Pueblo throughout period (Dave Silverman); 5 near Ft. Morgan 12/15/91 (Joe Rigli); 4 at Muir Springs 12/3/91 (Jack Reddall).

Purple Finch uncommon winter visitor. 1 near Walsh 12/3/91-1/4/92 (Janeal Thompson, Sarah A. McKinley); 1 at Muir Springs 12/3/91 (Jack Reddall).

Cassin's Finch fairly common mountain resident, less common elsewhere. Only 1 reported from low elevation around Ft. Collins, few in foothills, more in mountains. Dave Leatherman and Paul Opler speculate that House Finches are displacing them at feeders - see next species also. "Scarce or absent the last few winters, they elected to stay around this year" (Eagle area) (Jack Merchant).

House Finch common resident. "Ever increasing, driving out Cassin's Finches" around Evergreen (Winston William Brockner).

Red Crossbill fairly common in mountains. None in Pueblo area (Dave

Silverman); numerous reports totalling 64 individuals over period in Lyons-Estes Park area - up significantly (Ann Means).

Common Redpoll uncommon winter resident. 1 over period in Longmont (Barbara Hyde); 1 W of Loveland 2/4/92 (Ron Harden); 1 in Ft. Collins 12/19/91 (T. Carol Agee).

Lesser Goldfinch uncommon in winter. 20 in Glenwood on 1/4/92 "was mind boggling" Vic Zerbi*; 1 in Lyons 2/22/92 (D. W. King); 1 W of Loveland 2/23/92 (Ron Harden).

Evening Grosbeak common but variable resident. "15 on 4 dates - very low winter count" (Coen Dexter); "Only a few throughout period - lowest numbers in past 8 years" around Evergreen (Winston William Brockner); Ruby Ebright reports none - unusual in Salida; "Scarce this winter in Glenwood" (Jack Merchant); reports down significantly from 1990-91 winter in Loveland-Lyons area (Ann Means); Vic Zerbi reports they were late coming to his feeder in Glenwood - none until 2/27/92; 122 reported on the Indian Peaks Winter Bird Count - not an especially high or low number; Margaret and Clark Ewing reported 1-5 at feeder 2 or 3 times weekly with 25 on 2/1/92 which was fairly normal; over 200 in Pueblo area throughout period (Dave Silverman); "Very few reported at lower elevations, usual numbers in mountains" around Ft. Collins (Dave Leatherman and Paul Opler).

House Sparrow common resident. "2 or 3 off and on. A lot fewer than some years" around Cortez (Lucille Bainbridge).



2nd Winter Lesser Black-billed Gull showing dark underwings
Cherry Creek Reservoir, March 2, 1992
Photo by Joe Roller.

THE C.F.O. OFFICIAL RECORDS COMMITTEE

**Duane Nelson
1619 Ford Street
Golden, Colorado 80401**

In 1991 three new Committee members were elected by then CFO President Bill Prather, and two members cycled off in accordance with ORC by-laws. We welcome Peter Gent of Boulder, Joe Himmel of Greeley, and Dick Schottler of Golden. Nick Watmough of Norfolk, UK, and W. Winston Brockner of Evergreen have completed their terms. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to both of them for their diligence, competence, and insights.

Peter Gent has previously served as Chairman of the ORC from 1984-1986. One of C.F.O.'s most active members, he has also served as its President and as Editor of the *Journal*. He is currently President of Western Field Ornithologists. He began birding in England in 1972 and became a serious birder in Northern Africa during spring migration in 1973. He currently works as a scientist for the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder.

Joe Himmel retired as Professor of Music at the University of Northern Colorado seven years ago. He began watching birds in the Chicago area as a child. He spent much time in the field watching birds with his father, a professional botanist. In high school, he volunteered as an intern with the Chicago Field Museum of Natural History, where he met and worked with many imminent ornithologists. Studying birds became a full-time pursuit on his retirement, and he is currently in the field about five days a week. His field work focuses primarily on birds of the plains of Northeast Colorado.

Dick Schottler, a mineral geologist, works as a Bureau Chief at the Denver Federal Center. His casual interest in birds was ignited by a male Scarlet Tanager in his Lakewood yard in 1978. He has become a highly respected bird expert, known for his caution and attention to detail. He is a Regional Coordinator for the Colorado Bird Atlas, and has served as Christmas Count Compiler for the Denver Christmas Count since 1990.

"Bill" Brockner has completed his term. His tenure was marked by well-considered and well-researched evaluations of records based on many decades of experience both in Colorado and all corners of North America. The kindness he received at the hands of some of New York's eminent

ornithologists during his youth must have left a lasting impression, since he is a true friend to everyone he meets.

Nick Watmough has returned to Great Britain, following a two-year Post-doctoral study in biochemistry at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Nick specialized in Western Palearctic birds, especially shorebirds, gulls and terns, and his expertise is a great benefit to all who know him.



Immature Female Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
447 Kalmia, Boulder, February 9, 1992
Photo by Dave Leatherman.

**BOULDER'S WINTER CAPE MAY WARBLER
A BIRD DOES WHAT A BIRD'S GOTTA DO**

**David Leatherman
2048 Whiterock Court
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526**

It begins with a terse taped message on the Colorado Bird Report: "In Boulder on January 24 Cruz reports a Cape May Warbler coming to a pine at 3490 4th Street." Despite the winter of 1991-92 being mild by Colorado standards, mention here of any warbler between Thanksgiving and Easter is going to raise eyebrows. A Cape May Warbler any day, any year, in the Rocky Mountain states is cause for checking your annual leave balance.

My friend Joe Mammoser and I decided to try for the bird February 5 over a long lunch from our Fort Collins base. We arrived in good time at the western Boulder address of Dr. Alexander Cruz, Professor of Biology at the University of Colorado. Luckily Alex was home and, although the bird had not been seen this day, he agreed to show us his excellent video. There on the television screen was a "quail-sized" *Dendroica tigrina*. We marvelled at the quality of the footage, but even more so at what the bird was doing. It was apparently drinking sap from ponderosa pine bark holes pecked by a yellow-bellied sapsucker.

To our knowledge such an association between these two species is unreported for Colorado. Of course, the literature contains many accounts of other animals, from birds to mammals to insects, utilizing sapsucker sap wells as food sources. Hummingbirds are commonly reported feeding in this manner. It has even been proposed their spring migrations are timed to follow right behind northbound sapsuckers. At least 12 warbler species are known to associate with *Sphyrapicus* woodpeckers, with most apparently attracted to sap-seeking insects. Four warblers, including the Cape May Warbler, are known to actually drink the sap. C. S. Marvel tells of a Cape May Warbler in fall 1947 spending two weeks in and around his Urbana, Illinois yard drinking from sapsucker "taps" in willow. Lawrence Kilham, noted woodpecker expert, reported a similar yellow birch association in September 1952 in Tamworth, New Hampshire. Look up the term "commensalism" in John Terres' wonderful *Audubon Encyclopedia of Birds* and you will find it illustrated with a Cape May Warbler near sapsucker holes.

Terminology describing the type relationship between sapsuckers and other animals, including the Cape May Warbler, is "facultative commensalism". In short, the other species are associating with, and

benefitting from, sapsuckers but are not dependant on them.

Excited by what we had seen on the screen, Joe and I thanked Alex and went outside with a vibrant "search-image". Our plan was to hunt first for evidence of sapsucker drilling. Limited discussions with people all indicated the warbler was literally following the woodpecker around.

Along the Colorado Front Range in winter, yellow-bellied sapsuckers seem to prefer long-needled pines with a trunk diameter of at least eight inches. Two exotic species, Scots and Austrian pine, and the native ponderosa pine are favored hosts. For the next hour we combed courts, streets and ways looking over each *Pinus*, all the while tuning our ears for sapsucker "mews" and warbler "chips". We saw or heard nothing of the variety we wanted. Such is birding. "Birds have wings", and all those other cliches.

Within a day, Joe called the tape per custom. Of course, the warbler was seen the day we were in Boulder, on one of those ways we walked. Yes, birds have wings but birders have perseverance. Enough of this lunch hour stuff. Joe and I headed back on a Sunday with several hours in it.

It was near freezing at 7:30 AM, February 9, 1992 when we hit the sidewalk to begin our quest anew. We wondered how early sapsuckers get up on weekends. Apparently the answer was later than Boulderites. People were strolling, jogging and biking everywhere. To a person, they smiled or nodded to the two grown men walking about their early-morning neighborhood with binoculars. Boulder folks always have had a reputation for being a little different. In this case, they still were and we appreciated it.

Pieces of our search plan began to fall in place. Joe spotted an immature female yellow-bellied sapsucker working hard for breakfast on an Austrian pine. This in itself was a source of satisfaction. Sapsuckers of the yellow-bellied variety are not known to be common in Colorado. They are recorded for only 5 of Colorado's 28 Latilongs (a rectangle one degree of longitude by one degree of latitude on a side). The only status given in the current edition of the Latilong Study is "rare migrant". Evidence from recent years seems to indicate a greater presence in migration and that, at least in certain years, several individuals winter on the east flank of the Rockies. Or, birders are getting better at detecting this secretive, but immensely interesting bird. Or both.

Seeing the woodpecker somehow made us feel the warbler was closer. Closer, maybe, but not close enough. We searched and shivered for another hour but only could manage looks at a second sapsucker, this one a pink-throated immature male. It was time for hot coffee and a sweet roll.

Once back at it, the late morning sun began to warm our backs. We met Marilyn and Bill Reed. They were on a walk and innocently inquired about the nature of our search. We told them the story and they questioned aloud whether our goal was the same little yellow bird they had seen in their yard of late. "Probably not", Joe and I thought to ourselves, while giving each other one of those "you don't really think...." looks. At this point we decided to split up to cover more ground.

I headed for the Reed's cul-de-sac because it was the street given on the tape for the most recent sighting. Hanging out over their driveway was a modest silver maple. A large wet spot on the concrete testified to spring's approach. Sap steadily dripped from several pruned and wounded branches. Being a forester whose grandfather used to produce Vermont maple syrup, I decided to photograph the phenomenon.

Soon after switching to my short lens, I peered through the viewfinder for the most obvious area of flow. Something caught my eye and I raised my gaze. There, ten feet away, instead of on some Caribbean island where it should have been, was the "yellow bird"!

I wanted to smile, switch to my telephoto lens and yell for Joe all at the same time. I fumbled with the lens exchange, having contracted a version of "buck fever". The warbler drank sap and probed swelling flower buds, seemingly unaware of the reaction it was generating in a transplanted mammal from Ohio - me. To my happiness, I was able to get off one shutter click and then Joe appeared. Once he deciphered my charades, he too smiled wide.

For a few brief minutes we simply enjoyed the visual treat before us - its overall golden glow, bold understripes, gray crown and greenish back. A subtly beautiful shade of orange smudged the rear edge of the gray ear patch. Then the apparent male Cape May, like a little Lone Ranger with wings, just flew off.

Prior to this bird, only 32 documented records of Cape May Warbler exist for Colorado. Of these, 30 occurred during either spring (23 records) or fall migration. One bird is recorded during summer and only one during winter (12 December 1985 through 16 April 1986 in the Denver suburb of Lakewood). The lone previous winter bird spent most of its time at the feeder of Jane Axtell eating suet and, later, peeled green and red grapes.

So, as usual, the world of nature rewarded us. But also as usual, it had a surprise. Boulder's Cape May Warbler was getting through the winter sharing sapsucker bounty and drinking dilute maple syrup. Because some

observers had reported it foraging on the ground, it no doubt further balanced its diet with insects and other arthropods.

A bird does what a bird's gotta do. Joe and I, and others fortunate enough to see this one, wish it well in the remaining two months before migration. March in Colorado can be harsh. But somehow, between the maple trees, the relentless work of sapsuckers, and its own resourcefulness, I think it will enjoy a productive Canadian summer.

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BLACK RAILS ONCE AGAIN AT BENT'S FORT

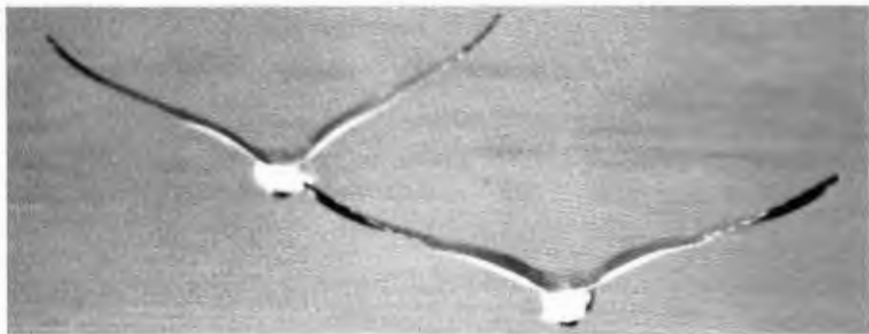
Brandon Percival
835 Harmony Drive
Pueblo West, Colorado 81007

Black Rails were located last May at the Bent's Old Fort Marsh in Bent County in Southeastern Colorado by Dan Bridges. Two or more rails were heard on May 7 & 8, 1991. On May 18, 1991, the bird was seen by Bridges, Bob Dickson, Van Truan, and myself and by many observers through June. Bridges saw one in August of 1991, the last time reported in 1991. Bridges and others wondered if the rails would show up again in the spring of 1992 and possibly breed. In 1991 nesting was not confirmed (Bridges, 1992).

On May 2, 1992, Van Truan and I played tapes to just see if there were any Black Rails in the marsh. We heard ten Virginia Rails and, to our delight, two Black Rails about 9:00 p.m. The birds called from the same area of the marsh as last year. We heard two giving their "kiki-doo" calls. Van and I were not too surprised that the Black Rails were at the Marsh again. What's the reason for these birds to show up here again? Well, I think it is the rails must have attempted to nest last year or they probably would not have been back this year. I hope these rails will be confirmed nesting this year if the water stays at a normal level and if the birder activity stays at a minimum.

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Ring-billed Gulls In Flight
Sloans Lake, Denver, Colorado, December 1991
Photo by Joe Roller.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS OF THE C.F.O. JOURNAL

The *C.F.O. Journal* is devoted to the field study of birds in Colorado. Articles and notes of scientific or general interest and reports of unusual observations are solicited. Articles are informal and are not restricted to any particular style but authors are asked to consult recent issues for the general format. Photos and drawings reproduce best if they are sharp contrast black and white. Other material will be used if it can be printed in black and white. Please send negatives or slides as well as the photos to save on the costs of printing; both will be returned.

Contributors who use an IBM or IBM-compatible computer are encouraged to send both a hard copy of their articles and a computer disk (floppy, 5.25 or 3.5 inches) with the document as an ASCII file (or text file). Most word processing programs offer a command on the menu to save the document this way. Other programs may give a choice of sending the document to the printer or to the disk; sending it to the disk also creates a text file. Please check with the editor if you need further explanation. After the article is published, your disk will be returned.

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Send manuscripts, photographs, drawings, and questions to Mona Hill, 3410 Heidelberg Drive, Boulder, Colorado 80303. Deadlines are December 1, March 1, June 1, and September 1, for issues dated the following months (January, April, July, and October respectively). More detailed instructions are available on request.

HOW TO SUBMIT SIGHTINGS TO THE C.F.O. OFFICIAL RECORDS COMMITTEE

Standard reporting forms are available in the Colorado Bird Distribution Latilong Study, from the *C.F.O. Journal* Editor, or an *American Birds* Mountain West form is available from Hugh Kingery. Use of a form is preferred as completion of all sections helps to make sure all pertinent information is included.

If photographs or slides are submitted, please send two copies as the records are duplicated before being sent to committee members.

Send records of rare birds to the C.F.O. Official Records Committee, c/o Zoological Collections, Denver Museum of Natural History, City Park, Denver, Colorado 80205.