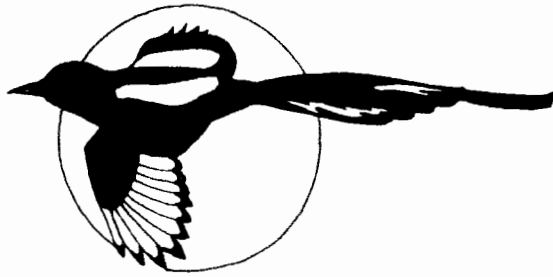


# **COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' JOURNAL**



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**Cover Photograph:**      *Long-tailed Jaeger at Chatfield Reservoir, May 28, 1992. Photo by Joe Roller.*

## TRIBUTE TO ELEANOR WILLS

by

**Dave Silverman**  
**P.O. Box 362**  
**Rye, Colorado 81069**

The saddest experience I had at our Convention was learning of the death July 3, 1992 of Eleanor Wills of Colorado Springs. I remember Eleanor as a cheerful and energetic person. Her contributions to Aiken Audubon Society will long be remembered in Colorado Springs. She also participated in many field trips and activities in Pueblo and elsewhere in Colorado. Eleanor was past president of CFO in 1980. We will miss her.

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*Memorial contributions may be made to the  
Aiken Audubon Society, P.O. Box 7617,  
Colorado Springs, CO 80933; or to the  
Pikes Peak Hospice, 622 South Tejon  
Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80903.*

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**Dave Silverman  
P.O. Box 362  
Rye, Colorado 81069**

Our convention in Denver on Labor Day weekend was attended by about 50 persons. Though we hoped for better attendance, participants included birders from Kansas, New Mexico, and Tennessee. It's a pleasure to see interest in C.F.O. spreading beyond Colorado borders.

On becoming C.F.O.'s new president, I wish to thank Mike Carter, our past one. Mike's able fulfillment of his duties is appreciated in view of his responsibilities as Director of the Colorado Bird Observatory. Thanks to Mike for the valuable time given to C.F.O. out of his busy schedule.

Thanks also to Bill Prather who leaves C.F.O.'s Executive Board. All who know Bill can attest to his birding expertise and thoughtful ideas often tempered by good humor and kindness. Beth Dillon will step down as secretary. Her efficient fulfillment of this time consuming job kept C.F.O. running smoothly. Behind every successful organization, there is a good secretary. Steve Bouricius switches from Treasurer to Vice President. Steve's contributions go far beyond computerizing our balance sheet -- a major achievement in itself. His sound advice and new ideas expressed at our Board meetings make me glad to have him as Vice President.

Duane Nelson leaves the Record's Committee and is replaced as chairman by Mark Janos. Both are two of Colorado's most competent birders. Mark's professional job as a past *C.F.O. Journal* editor is also a good example of his excellent qualifications as head of the Records Committee.

Finally I thank all of you who participate and contribute to CFO. I have learned much about birds as a C.F.O. member and enjoyed myself in the process. As president I hope to continue this fun learning experience which I consider one of C.F.O.'s most important traditions.

CONVENTION '92

**C.F.O. ANNUAL BUSINESS AND BOARD MEETING**

**September 5, 1992**

**Holiday Inn, Northglenn**

**Beth Dillon**

**1225 West Myrtle Street**

**Ft. Collins, Colorado 80521**

**Present:** Steve Bouricius, Mike Carter, Coen Dexter, Bob Dickson, Beth Dillon, Mona Hill, Dave Leatherman, Bill Prather, Paul Opler, and Dave Silverman.

**Officers:** Mike Carter stepped down from the president's office and will be replaced by Dave Silverman. Steve Bouricius has stepped down from the treasurer's office and was nominated and elected as vice-president. Raymond Davis was nominated and elected as the new treasurer. We thank Steve for his dedication the past 5 years and we welcome Raymond to the Board. Beth Dillon will remain as Secretary for the time being. The Official Records Committee Chairman, Duane Nelson, has retired from his position and will be replaced by Mark Janos.

**Board Members:** The board discussed Director's terms, limits and increasing participation by other C.F.O. members. Steve Bouricius moved and Dave Silverman seconded that the number of board members be increased to not less than six nor more than nine serving at any one time. The motion passed unanimously. This decision required a change in the By-laws. David Pantle was nominated to the Board and elected at the business meeting.

**C.F.O. Brochure:** Mike Carter passed a sample brochure around that Linda Vidal has been working on with Steve Bouricius. The brochure will upgrade the content and format of the membership form we have been using in the past.

**GO Colorado:** Mike Carter informed the Board he had received a request for endorsement of the GO Colorado ballot initiative. This initiative will reallocate the lottery funds back to their original intent; to fund recreation, open space, and wildlife. Paul Opler moved and Bob Dickson seconded to endorse the resolution and contribute \$50 to GO Colorado. Steve Bouricius will send Mike a check for \$50 and Mike will send it and a letter of support to the GO Colorado Committee.

**Abstracting Services:** Steve Bouricius reported he had checked on whether the *C.F.O. Journal* was being abstracted. He said the Zoological Record requested that C.F.O. send them complimentary Journal copies so they could include it in their abstracts. *C.F.O. Journal* is also being abstracted by SCI - Science Citation Index, and by Wildlife Review.

***C.F.O. Journal:*** The board discussed how to handle requests for extra copies/reprints from contributing authors. Many journals print up extra copies of papers, which authors will then purchase and distribute as they want. The board decided that authors can receive one free copy of the *Journal* in which their article is published. Additional copies can be purchased at the usual rate of \$3.00. Authors who anticipate needing additional copies of their articles should contact the editor in advance of printing. The editor will add this item to the instructions published on the inside back cover of the *Journal*.

**1993 Convention:** Next year's convention will be in Craig on Memorial Day weekend. The board discussed potential field trips (Brown's Park, California Park) and local resource people to help with the meeting. Sites for the 1994 Convention were suggested with Trinidad emerging as a strong contender. This area has received little birding attention in the past. Due to the large amount of private land, a lot of leg work will be required to secure access for field trips.

<b>CONVENTION '92</b>
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**BANQUET PROGRAM**

Karen and John Hollingsworth of Ft. Collins took us on a tour of the National Wildlife Refuges. They suggested before they started that there were a couple of birds that they weren't sure of the identity and suggested we pay close attention. We all got a chance to test our skills as we saw lots of excellent pictures of birds. Every picture was close and sharp enough to identify the birds. We were impressed at the hundreds of hours and rolls of film it must have taken to get so many great shots. We drank in the great scenery and beautiful sunrises and sunsets. All were inspired as we saw what a wonderful treasure we have in the National Wildlife Refuge System. We would have gladly paid our usual honorarium for such a great show but the Hollingsworths gave it to us for free! Thanks very much-you are valuable members of C.F.O.



CONVENTION '92

ABSTRACT OF PAPERS

**POPULATION TRENDS OF GREAT BLUE HERONS AND  
BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERONS IN THE  
SOUTH PLATTE RIVER VALLEY**

**Mike Carter, Keith Barker and Jack Reddall  
Colorado Bird Observatory  
13401 Piccadilly Road  
Brighton, Colorado 80601**

We used data from the Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) and an analysis of Jack Reddall's (JR's) field trip data to investigate population trends of Great Blue Herons and Black-crowned Night-Herons in the South Platte River Valley. We also used these data to determine if population increases may be occurring in Double-crested Cormorants, a possible competitor with the herons for nest sites. The BBS was generally inconclusive because of low sample size but showed decreasing trends for Black-crowned Night-Herons, increasing trends for Double-crested Cormorants, and mixed trends for Great Blue Herons. An analysis of JR's 550 field trips over the last 26 years indicates statistically significant declines for Great Blue Herons (-6.29% per year) and Black-crowned Night-Herons (-8.70% per year) in the South Platte River Valley. These two different data sets confirm that there is a general downward trend in the two heron species. This decline may be caused by more Double-crested Cormorants usurping traditional heron nesting areas. Another cause may include loss of wetlands, specifically cattail marshes which are sometimes used by Black-crowned Night-Herons for nesting.

CONVENTION '92

ABSTRACT OF PAPERS

WINTER RAPTOR USE OF URBAN PRAIRIE DOG COLONIES

Karen M. Manci

City of Ft. Collins, Natural Resources Division  
Ft. Collins, Colorado 80522

Bald Eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), Ferruginous Hawks (*Buteo regalis*), and other large raptors are common winter residents along the Front Range of Colorado. The black-tailed prairie dog (*Cynomys ludovicianus*), eradicated from most farmed lands, has colonized urban lands preserved as open space, used for limited grazing, and left idle awaiting development. Observations at these sites during winter have included eagles and several species of hawks capturing prairie dogs, and Bald Eagles "stealing" prey caught by other large raptors. In the Ft. Collins area, the largest prairie dog colonies are found within a 2-mile wide, 5-mile long band from the base of the Foothills, southeast to Fossil Creek Reservoir near Interstate 25. In fall 1991, review of a proposal to develop a 148-acre tract of this land along Fossil Creek prompted the City of Ft. Collins to evaluate the importance of these urban prairie dog colonies to the large winter raptors. Special emphasis was placed on the Bald Eagle, a Federal Endangered Species, and the Ferruginous Hawk, a Colorado Species of Concern. Volunteers from the Colorado State University Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society conducted raptor surveys of the main prairie dog colonies (about 1,940 total acres) from late October 1991 through early March 1992. An average 5.5 Bald Eagles and 13.0 Ferruginous Hawks used these sites daily through this period; estimated peak use of all prairie dog colonies within the Ft. Collins area approached 20 Bald Eagles and 50 Ferruginous Hawks. Two important areas for these species were identified: a 1,063-acre West Fossil Creek Complex at the base of the Foothills and a 584-acre East Fossil Creek Complex extending several miles west of Fossil Creek Reservoir. Ferruginous Hawk use was less than expected at the West Complex, where Bald Eagle use was the highest. Small sites (<50 acres each) and a 140-acre City Open Space site along the Foothills were used less than expected by Bald Eagles. The Open Space site is frequently used by people jogging, riding their mountain bikes, and walking their dogs. City management strategies for preserving winter raptor use in Ft. Collins will need to focus on purchasing large tracts of land containing prairie dogs, limiting human use, and protecting both an east and west complex to provide adequate feeding areas for both Bald Eagles and Ferruginous Hawks. High land prices, possible prairie dog damage to landscaped areas on adjacent developed sites, and the public's desire for access to open spaces could hamper achieving these goals.

**CONVENTION '92**

**ABSTRACT OF PAPERS**

**RAPTOR USE OF MAN-MADE STRUCTURES**

**Ronald A. Ryder**

**Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology  
Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, Colorado**

Hawks, eagles, and owls have used a variety of buildings, nest boxes, platforms, perches, burrows, and other artificial structures for nesting, resting and hunting posts. Spotted Owls roost and nest in Indian cliff dwellings at Mesa Verde National Park. Great Horned Owls utilize buildings, bridges, and coal handling "silos" as well as specially provided nest baskets and platforms. Buteos, eagles, and Ospreys also utilize similar baskets and platforms. American Kestrels and at least six species of owls nest in boxes provided by man. Peregrine Falcons, Ospreys, and eagles have been reintroduced into the wild by "hack" boxes and towers. All artificial devices require routine maintenance and should be monitored regularly to assess their value to birds of prey and possible value in rodent and pest control.

**CONVENTION '92**

**ABSTRACT OF PAPERS**

**OWL STUDY PROJECT  
REGIONAL SURVEY COMPILATION AND PROJECTION,  
PRELIMINARY REPORT**

**Dan Bridges**

**1925 South Vaughn Way, #207  
Aurora, Colorado 80014**

The relative abundance of owls in Colorado is quite variable in different parts of the state. The Owl Study Project was established to attempt to make a statewide numerical estimate of Colorado's ten most abundant owls.

About 20 birders around the state have been asked to make estimates in their local areas. It is my task to compile and project this data to cover the entire state. This will be the first of three reports.

CONVENTION '92

ABSTRACT OF PAPERS

ESTIMATED OWL POPULATIONS IN COLORADO

Coen Dexter  
175 Sunset Circle  
Palisade, Colorado 81526

and  
Rich Levad  
2924 Ronda Lee Road  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81503

In attempting to respond to Dan Bridges' queries about owl density and abundance in Western Colorado, it became apparent that determining the amount of appropriate habitat for each species might be very useful. The map entitled "Natural Vegetation of Colorado," which was modified from a Colorado Experiment Station map (1935) and which was published as a frontispiece in Gregg's *Ants of Colorado*, was used to determine these quantities. The map was overlain with a grid, and the number of blocks dominated by each habitat category was counted. In counting, blocks were assigned to the dominant vegetative type and other types present in that block were ignored.

Each block of the grid was 2.4 mm square, and the grid contained 10815 blocks. The grid size was chosen to represent as nearly as possible the area of a Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas priority block (3.75 minutes of longitude by 2.5 minutes of latitude). Many Colorado observers have considerable experience with this project and are accustomed to making estimates of pairs of breeding birds in these blocks.

The average density of terms of breeding pairs per block was then estimated for each species in each habitat. These figures were then multiplied by the number of blocks of that habitat and the results then totaled for each species. The density estimates are the softest sort of data. We would like to solicit estimates from other observers. Comparison of several estimates may yield some consensus or, more likely, will clarify questions that must be answered to produce a more accurate assessment of Colorado owl populations.

CONVENTION '92

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Compiled by:

Bill Prather  
13810 WCR #1  
Longmont, Colorado 80504

*Chatfield Reservoir - Leader Joey Kellner*

This group birded the great riparian areas along the South Platte River. A number of warblers were seen including Townsend's, Virginia's, American Redstart and Yellow-breasted Chat. There were three species of Vireos: Red-eyed, Warbling, and Solitary. Grey Catbird, Wood Duck and Osprey were also added to the list. Turning to the water, the group found a mystery tern that stimulated a lively discussion and enabled everyone to learn a lot more about this sometimes difficult group. A total of 55 species were seen.

*Wheat Ridge Greenbelt - Leaders Margaret and Bill Elliott*

We started out to look for the Eastern Screech-Owl but it wasn't at home in its cavity tree. Along the way we picked up a few warblers including American Redstart and a few more birders who were enjoying the park. David Pantle who was waiting for the group did a little searching along the Tree Bridge Trail and located the owl hiding behind a grape vine. The owl patiently waited for everyone to see it and to get some pictures taken. Farther on more groups of warblers were seen, among these were Nashville, Tennessee, Townsend's and Northern Waterthrush. The group headed back to the Holiday Inn with a list of 47 species.

*Rocky Mountain Arsenal - Leaders Urling and Hugh Kingery*

This group got to bird some great habitats that are normally not open to the public. Seven or eight Ferruginous Hawks were seen - one was a unusual and very beautiful dark morph. Lots of Sage Thrashers were seen also. The bird of the day was first reported as a Black-and-white Warbler. As all gathered to take a look, Coen Dexter noted a distinct similarity to a species he is very familiar with: Black-throated Gray Warbler. All took a second look and found that was its true identity.

We started off at Walden Ponds and found a great variety of water and marsh birds. Traveling to the northwest, we spotted a dark hawk sitting on a power substation complex. The leaders determined that it was a dark morph Swainson's Hawk but a couple of birders were pulling for Broad-winged Hawk. When it finally flew we could see it was a Swainson's. North of Boulder we birded along a road and in Lykin's Gulch adding a number of birds including 2 Solitary Vireos which we thought belonged to different races-Cassins and Plumbeous. These were a good study because there is a possibility they will be split into separate species. Jim Hamm pond and Union Res. east of Longmont were the last stops. Here we added more shore and water birds including both Common and Forster's Terns and Great Egrets.

***Monday Trip - Leaders Bill and John Prather***

The first stop was Latham Res. where we found a great many Cattle Egrets as well other waders, sandpipers, ducks and Marsh Wrens. The ponds a few miles to the south added many more shore birds and Great-tailed Grackles. A Prairie Falcon and Cooper's Hawk flew over giving everyone good looks. We then traveled toward Crow Valley campground, stopping along the way to see Burrowing Owls. At Crow Valley we were moving into the brush, chasing a group of migrants when John Prather got everybody's attention by yelling "Prothonotary Warbler". In a few minutes we had surrounded to bird which seemed unaffected by everyone staring at it. As it continued feeding everyone got great looks and a few good photographs were taken. Some of the group went on to Jackson Res. where more shore birds, including Sanderling, Red-necked Phalarope and Marbled Godwit, were found. Other members of the group went back by Lower Latham Res. and were able to see the American Black Duck that had been reported the day before but was absent in the morning.

CFO members birding around Barr Lake where the Barbecue was held found a Blackburnian Warbler and we had Red-headed Woodpeckers in the trees around us as we enjoyed the meal. The total list for the convention was 159 species

Thanks to all field trip leaders and to Joe TenBrink. Joe had carefully prepared a map of the places he was going on his field trip. At the last minute it was decided to combine his trip with the Boulder trip and go as one group. Joe provided his maps to all members so we can find all his great birding spots in the future. Some great field trips for the next CFO convention in Craig are already being planned. Won't you join us for the fun and the birds?

**THE CFO RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT FOR  
RECORDS SUBMITTED IN 1988**

by

**Peter R. Gent  
55 South 35th Street  
Boulder, Colorado 80303**

and

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

This report contains the decisions of the CFO Records Committee on reports submitted to it of sightings in Colorado in 1988. First, we should apologize to all CFO members that this report is nearly three years late. In 1989, the former Chairman of the Records Committee resigned, affecting the 1988 records. Peter Gent subsequently took charge of completing the first batch of records circulated in 1988. He then handed over to the new Chairman, Duane Nelson, and production of the 1988 Report fell between the cracks of this changeover. Early this year Robert Andrews pointed out to us that there was no Records Committee Report for 1988. The second batch of 1988 records was relocated and voted on recently. Thus, we thought this report should be jointly authored. Besides ourselves, other Records Committee members that voted on some or all of these records were William Brockner (Evergreen), Coen Dexter (Palisade), Joe Himmel (Greeley), William Howe (Laurel, Maryland), Mark Janos (Pueblo), Dick Schottler (Golden), David Silverman (Rye), Kip Stransky (Durango), and Van Truan (Pueblo). This report includes all the 1988 reports.

Records reviewed by the Committee receive an A, B or C designation according to the votes of the members. An A designation requires an A vote from five of the seven members who voted on each of the records. An A designation supports the identification: a B designation denotes a misidentification: a C designation denotes that the record is regarded as incomplete. All records are given a permanent file number e.g. 30-88-18. The first number is the family code (which have not been recoded despite changes in the AOU Checklist of North American Birds), the second number is the year of the report and the third number is the chronological order in which the records were received.

### Part 1. Reported Species added to the CFO State List.

**Common Black-headed Gull** (*Larus ridibundus*) 23-88-33. One in winter plumage was seen at Cherry Creek Reservoir, Arapahoe County, on 8 and 9 October 1988. It was extensively documented in complete reports by Jack Reddall, Steve Stachowiak and David Martin. This addition to the state list was not unexpected as this species breeds in small numbers on the East Coast and Great Lakes regions, and most gulls wander extensively. This was the first occurrence of this species in Colorado, but this record is now published after the second state record, which was at Jim Hamm Pond, Boulder County, and Union Reservoir, Weld County 9-15 April 1990, see Nelson (1992).

### Part 2. Reported Species not added to the CFO State List.

**Vaux's Swift** (*Chaetura vauxi*) 30-88-18. One bird was seen and photographed at Sweitzer Lake, Delta County on 22 May 1987. A majority of committee members said that they did not know enough to make a decision on this report, so a copy of the report and a photograph were sent to Paul Lehman and Guy McCaskie. Paul Lehman responded "Basically as time goes on I get more and more convinced that some *Chaetura*, especially single individuals, are largely unidentifiable". He also wrote that "Silent means relatively little for a lone bird. Chimneys tend to vocalize more, especially when in a flock, but single birds of either species can remain quite silent. Migrant Vaux's are often silent even when in flocks. Contrasting white throat is shown by both species, especially Chimneys, and both species can have paler rumps". Guy McCaskie also made similar remarks to those quoted above and said, "Unfortunately the characters used to separate Chimney and Vaux's Swifts in the field are subjective, and the identification of any individual out of range is subject to some degree of error". He concludes, "I am afraid that I would not endorse this as the first record of Vaux's Swift in Colorado." We conclude from these expert opinions that a specimen is probably going to be necessary to include Vaux's Swift on the CFO State List.

### Part 3. "A" Designation Records.

**Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*) 1-88-11. One in winter plumage was seen at CF&I Reservoir, Pueblo County on 12 October 1987 (David Silverman).

**Yellow-billed Loon** (*Gavia adamsii*) 1-88-25. One in winter plumage was at Hamilton Reservoir, Rawhide Power Plant, Larimer County for over two months in the winter of 1988-89. Photographs dated 5 November 1988 were received, but only one report dated 20 November 1988 was received (David Leatherman, photographs, Peter Gent, report).



**Red-necked Grebe** (*Podiceps grisegena*) 2-88-27. One in winter plumage was at Hamilton Reservoir, Larimer County on 28 November 1988 (William Howe).

**Glossy Ibis** (*Plegadis falcinellus*) 7-88-28. One adult in breeding plumage was south of Lower Latham Reservoir, Weld County on 25 May 1988 (David Martin).

**Eurasian Wigeon** (*Anas penelope*) 8-88-29. A single adult male was at the Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge, Rio Grande County on 14 March 1988 (John Rawinski).

**Black Scoter** (*Melanitta nigra*) 8-88-6. A female in winter plumage was at Hamilton Reservoir, Larimer County on 13 November 1987 (Jerry Cairo).

**Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) 8-88-7. Two females in winter plumage were at Hamilton Reservoir, Larimer County on 13 November 1987 and three females and one male were there on 19 November 1987 (Jerry Cairo).

**Surf Scoter** (*Melanitta perspicillata*) 8-88-30. Two adult females were at La Jara Reservoir, west of Capulin, Conejos County on 27 October 1988 (John Rawinski). There are very few scoter records from the San Luis Valley.

**Bald Eagle** (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) 10-88-3. A pair were reported from Barr Lake, Adams County from December 1986 until April 1987 (Eric Gordon). The nest was then abandoned and the breeding cycle was not completed. The Bald Eagles nesting at Barr Lake have been successful in subsequent years.

**Red Phalarope** (*Phalaropus fulicaria*) 21-88-8. One in winter plumage was at Jackson Reservoir, Morgan County on 14 September 1987 (Jerry Cairo).

**Little Gull** (*Larus minutus*) 23-88-32. One in first winter plumage was at Cherry Creek Reservoir, Arapahoe County on 13 November 1988 (Peter Gent).

**Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) 23-88-5. One in first winter plumage was at Prewitt Reservoir, Washington County on 25 November 1987 (Jerry Cairo).

**Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) 23-88-20. One in first winter plumage was at Walden Pond and Teller Lake #5 on 12 March 1988 (Peter Gent).

**Great Black-backed Gull** (*Larus marinus*) 23-88-34. One in second summer plumage was at Neesopah Reservoir, Kiowa County on 3 September 1988 (Scott Seltman).

**Black-legged Kittiwake** (*Rissa tridactyla*) 23-88-9. One immature in winter plumage was at Prewitt Reservoir, Washington County on 25 November 1987 (Jerry Cairo).

**Caspian Tern** (*Sterna caspia*) 23-88-24. One in breeding plumage was at Cherry Creek Reservoir, Arapahoe County on 19 June 1988 (Peter Gent).

**Lesser Nighthawk** (*Chordeiles acutipennis*) 29-88-19. One female in breeding plumage was killed near Montrose, Montrose County on 20 June 1987 (Mark Janos). This bird is specimen #39386 at the Denver Museum of

Natural History, see the article by Webb and Reddall (1989).

**Eastern Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus virens*) 34-88-21. One in breeding plumage was at the west end of the Cimarron River in Baca County on 29 May 1988 (Peter Gent).

**Eastern Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus virens*) 34-88-36. One adult was at Prewitt Reservoir, Washington County on 21 August 1988 (Jerry Cairo).

**Black Phoebe** (*Sayornis nigricans*) 34-88-22. One in breeding plumage was at Hale Ponds, near Bonny Reservoir, Yuma County on 12 June 1988 (Peter Gent).

**Carolina Wren** (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) 42-88-37. One in basic plumage was in Holly, Prowers County on 2 September 1988 (Diane and Scott Seltman).

**Sedge Wren** (*Cistothorus platensis*) 42-88-38. One male stayed at the Arapahoe National Wildlife Refuge, south of Walden, Jackson County from 15 June 1988 until at least 11 July 1988 (William Howe).

**Varied Thrush** (*Ixoreus naevius*) 44-88-4. One male was in southwest Denver, Denver County on 9 and 10 November 1987 (Betty and Harold Oliver).

**Blackburnian Warbler** (*Dendroica fusca*) 52-88-13. One female was at Riverside Reservoir, Weld County on 6 September 1987 (Jerry Cairo).

**Blackburnian Warbler** (*Dendroica fusca*) 52-88-39. One immature male was at Holly, Prowers County on 2 September 1988 (Diane and Scott Seltman).

**Hepatic Tanager** (*Piranga flava*) 55-28-23. A pair in breeding plumage was on Mesa de Maya, near Kim, Las Animas County on 30 May 1988. This pair was seen by 34 people who were on the CFO field trip following the annual convention held in Springfield and Baca County (Peter Gent).

**Henslow's Sparrow** (*Ammodramus henslowii*) 56-88-40. One in adult plumage was at Red Lion Wildlife Area, near Crook, Logan County on 21 August 1988 (Jerry Cairo).

**Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) 54-88-41. One male in breeding plumage was at Tamarack Ranch near Crook, Logan County on 6 June 1988 (William Howe).

**Eastern Meadowlark** (*Sturnella magna*) 54-88-42. One male in breeding plumage was just east of Platteville, Weld County from 12 June to 6 July 1988 (William Howe).

**Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) 54-88-2. At least 5 adults and 4 juveniles were seen in Salida, Chaffee County between 19 April and 14 July 1987 (Ruby Ebright).

**Great-tailed Grackle** (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) 54-88-1. A pair was first seen at Gypsum Ponds State Wildlife Area, Eagle County on 29 May 1987. They later nested and fledged 2 young (Jack Merchant).

**Pine Grosbeak** (*Pinicola enucleator*) 56-88-14. One male was seen in Lamar, Prowers County on 30 October 1986 (Jennifer Slater). This is very far onto the plains for a record of this species.

#### Part 4. "B" and "C" Designation Records.

**Red-throated Loon** (*Gavia stellata*) 1-88-26. One in winter plumage was reported at Prewitt Reservoir, Logan County on 14 November 1988. Several members thought the description lacked essential details that could not be seen at a distance of 200-300 yards.

**Tricolored Heron** (*Egretta tricolor*) 5-88-10. One was found dead south of Yuma, Yuma County on 20 November 1987. The report did not contain a description and no further information about the specimen was received by the Records Committee.

**Bufflehead** (*Bucephala albeola*) 8-88-15. A pair was reported near Walden, Jackson County on 27 June 1987. The report said, "The male and female were easily identified," and most committee members thought that this was inadequate.

**Gyr Falcon** (*Falco rusticolus*) 12-88-31. One was reported near La Veta Pass, Costilla County on 27 April 1988. Most committee members thought that this brief report did not eliminate other possible raptor species adequately.

**Boreal Owl** (*Aegolius funereus*) 28-88-12. An adult was reported from Rollinsville, Gilpin County on 18 January 1988. The observers had no binoculars with them and several members thought that Saw-whet Owl was not adequately eliminated.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** (*Sphyrapicus varius*) 33-88-35. An adult female was reported near Westcliffe, Custer County on 6 August 1988. Some members thought this report did not adequately eliminate juvenile Red-naped Sapsucker despite its length and amount of detail.

Some of these B and C records reveal potential pitfalls of the Records Committee system. The Tricolored Heron was a specimen, so the reporter did not include a written description. Thus the committee voted not to accept the record. However, the specimen is now in the Denver Museum of Natural History (#39487) and is described in Webb and Reddall (1989). Similarly, the Bufflehead report was not accepted because it contained no real description, but subsequently it has been proven to be true. Buffleheads do breed in small numbers on the east slope of the Park Range, Jackson County; see Andrews and Righter (1992). Thus, even if identification of species is relatively straightforward, an adequate written description is required in order for the committee to make a reasoned decision. This also illustrates that most of the B and C designation records are put in these categories because the report is inadequate and not because the species in question was not observed.

We would like to conclude by thanking everyone who submitted the reports discussed in this article, and to everyone who has submitted reports to the CFO Records Committee since then. We realize that a strong Records

Committee depends entirely on broad support from the Colorado birdwatching community, in the form of submitted records. We strongly encourage birders who have not yet submitted reports to the Records Committee to do so in the future. While we have historically solicited records on standard rare bird forms, we also encourage complete reports done in a more personal narrative style.

*Literature Cited:*

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- Webb, B., and J. Reddall. 1989. Recent State Record Specimens of Birds at the Denver Museum of Natural History. *C.F.O. Journal* 23(4): 121-127.

**REQUEST FOR REPRINTS ON OWLS**

Authors of articles or publications dealing with owls and wishing them to be listed in the second edition of a Working Bibliography of Owls of the World are asked to send reprints to:

Richard J. Clark  
The Owl Bibliography  
c/o Department of Biology  
York College of Pennsylvania  
York, PA USA 17405-7199

## BREEDING BIRD ATLAS UPDATE

by

**Hugh E. Kingery**  
**869 Milwaukee Street**  
**Denver Colorado 80206**

The Atlas report this quarter consists of anecdotes because field workers are still sending in their field cards, and the Regional Coordinators have yet to process them.

Cooperative landowners make Atlas work easier. David and Sherrill Pantle encountered such landowners -- Larry Ward and his wife. They granted access to two miles of stream along Saguache Creek and knew quite a bit about birds on their land (Great Horned Owl and Lewis' Woodpecker, for instance). That Lake Mountain NE block (38106B3) produced 48 breeding species in riparian, pinyon juniper, and sagebrush habitats.

In eastern Colorado, Urling and I enjoyed the hospitality of Carl and Karla Poenisch, whose land straddles three miles of the Arikaree River in the Vernon SW block (39102F4). That block produced 64 species, including super-grassland birds like Greater Prairie-Chicken, Upland Sandpiper, and Grasshopper Sparrow, as well as a wonderful selection of eastern Colorado riparian species.

Every time that Beth Dillon arranges an Atlas Rendezvous, she contacts dozens of landowners for access; Beth coordinates the Atlas Region which includes Baca County and eastern Las Animas County. This year, she arranged with Brett Bannon, who lives on a ranch in northern New Mexico just over the line from Branson, to house the Rendezvous at his ranch. He arranged access with a number of landowners so that the Rendezvous completed three blocks that weekend. Highlights were nesting Eastern and Say's Phoebes and Hepatic Tanagers.

John Toolen and Brad Petch teamed together to obtain permission to work half a dozen blocks near Maybell on that Rendezvous. For the most part the birds found were the typical northwestern Colorado mix, though the quantity of Lark Buntings was startling. Most surprising bird was in a non-priority block -- Scott's Orioles found by Coen Dexter.

Mary Cunningham, biologist with the Forest Service in Meeker, has arranged four Atlas Rendezvous in the last two years. She also seems to arrange for rain on at least one each year. This year's soaker came down on the Devils Causeway block, where Atlasers found 55 species -- a record for a block whose lowest elevation is 10,200 feet (some productive lakes and wetlands helped). Birding highlights included a trek across three miles of Flattops tundra, a dipper nest audible from the trail, and five species of ducks

including Barrow's Goldeneyes.

The Disappointment Valley Rendezvous, planned jointly by Alan Versaw and Ron Lambeth, produced a lot of sagebrush birds; poorwills and nighthawks, but no owls.

## **C.F.O. FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE 1992**

### **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*

### **Arkansas River Valley, Crowley County, Pueblo Reservoir**

Meet Saturday, November 7, 1992, 8:00 a.m. at the K Mart parking lot at the intersection of I-25 and CSH 50 (west) in Pueblo (exit 101 off I-25). We will head east down the Arkansas River Valley, stopping at Rocky Ford SWA for late migrant landbirds. Then we will scope Holbrook Res., Cheraw Lake and Lake Meredith for lingering shorebirds, ducks, gulls and Snow Geese. We will lunch at Lake Henry and investigate both the lake and the migrant trap at the NW corner of the lake. We will return to Pueblo in the early afternoon and, for those who want, we will bird Pueblo Res. looking for loons, grebes, ducks, and gulls. This will be an all-day trip and we will tailor our activities to fill the desires to the field trip participants. Bring lunch.

*Leaders: Mark Janos (719) 544-5002 and  
Brandon Percival (719) 547-3722*

**SPIZA AMERICANA - THE ALL-AMERICAN BIRD**

by

**Joe TenBrink  
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Denver, Colorado 80224**

Surprises are intriguing for birders. The unexpected keeps us going out into the field often. Like in May, 1990 in the Wheat Ridge greenbelt when a rare Bay-breasted Warbler was replaced on a limb by a very rare White-eyed Vireo. Or when a Dickcissel's distinctive song caught my ear while I was driving south of Castlewood Canyon State Park on June 23, 1992.

I have seen this species only twice previously, both times in far northeastern Colorado. While I knew of sightings farther west, I regarded Dickcissels as a far eastern Colorado bird. I was, therefore, amazed to find one that far west and at that higher altitude.

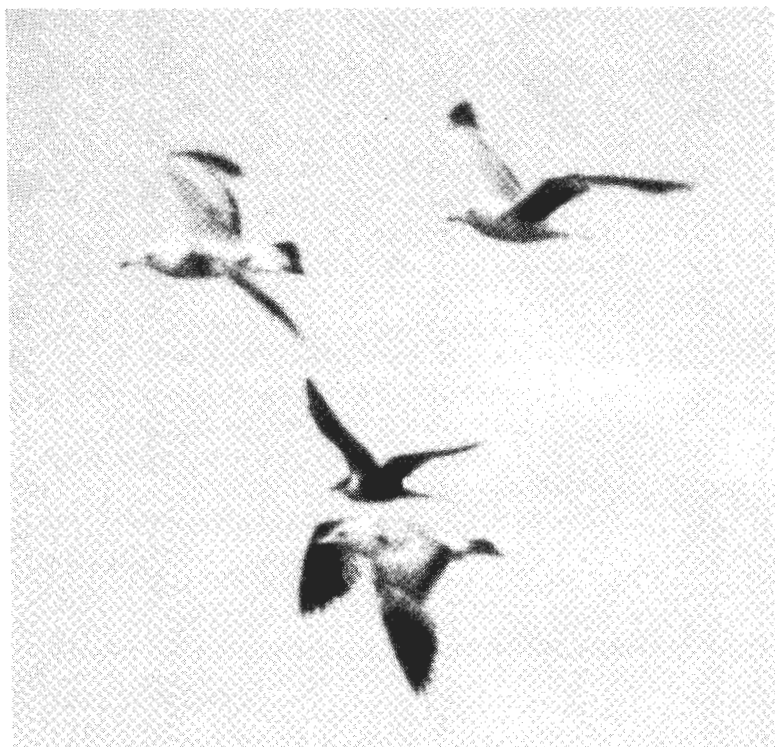
My telescope, zoomed to 36 power, revealed a sparrow-sized bird with a conical bill, gray crown, bright yellow supercillium and breast, white throat, chestnut upper wing coverts, white belly and undertail coverts and black bib, definitely a male Dickcissel in breeding plumage.

For the next four weeks I returned to the area every 3 or 4 days and observed for 2 to 6 hours. On 6/26 I saw 2 males singing from the tops of willows about 100 yards apart. They alternately left the perches for short periods - perhaps to feed. On 6/30 I saw a female Dickcissel appear below the singing male on the left. Both descended to the ground and then the male returned to the perch and resumed singing (Methinks a bit more boisterously!). The next 3 days I watched, I saw the male birds singing less frequently on their previous perches and spending more time out of sight. On one occasion the left male hovered momentarily directly in front of me and flew to a spot in an area where I thought a nest may be located. On 7/13 I arrived at 7:25 a.m. and observed 3 birds in a dead willow. My telescope revealed one of the adult males and two immature Dickcissels which were duller than the male with streaked heads, breasts, and flanks and no chestnut on the wings. They were clumsy flyers and struggled for balance when landing. On my next two visits I saw an adult male and up to 3 immatures only infrequently over long periods and on 7/19 I did not see them at all during a two hour watch.

Based on my observations I believe at least one pair of Dickcissels nested successfully. I had considered trying to find a nest but feared that the disturbance might cause the Dickcissels to abandon the area. I have read that the females handle the nesting chores and I never saw the males carrying food. I had presumed that mating had taken place during my observation on 6/30 and did not expect to see immatures fledge before 19 or 20 days had passed so their

appearance on 7/13 surprised me. Since I observed only 1 group of immatures it is probable that if there were any other nests, they were unsuccessful. Predation by Kestrels, coyotes, foxes or rattlesnakes or the 2 severe thunderstorms could have caused nesting failure.

It was interesting that Bobolinks were nesting in the field across the creek from the Dickcissels. Many birders were able to see both species, usually seen only much farther east, after only a short drive from the Denver area.



**Long-tailed Jaeger with Gulls, Chatfield Reservoir, May 28, 1992**  
Photo by Joe Roller



**THIRD COLORADO RECORD OF LONG-TAILED JAEGER  
(*STERCORARIUS LONGICAUDUS*)**

**Joe Roller**  
13040 West 16th Drive  
Golden, CO 80401

and

**Mark Nikas**  
840 Martin Street  
Longmont, CO 80501

On May 28, 1992, Joe Roller and Mark Nikas identified an adult light-morph Long-tailed Jaeger at the Plum Creek delta of the Chatfield Reservoir State Recreation Area South of Denver in Douglas County, (Latilong 11). This is the third Colorado record for this species, which is accidental in the interior of the United States.

At noon I (Mark) was scanning the shoreline around the Plum Creek inlet with my binoculars for migrant shorebirds. The sky was partly cloudy, the winds light, and the temperature in the low 60's. I spotted what I thought was a gull that "didn't look right" about 150 yards distant. The "gull" appeared to have a black head and was dark gray above with no white visible on its wingtips. My first thought was that this was possibly a Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*), which would be a good find in Colorado. I returned to my car to get my field guide and spotting scope to better identify the bird.

I met Joe Roller heading out to bird the same area and together we trained our scopes on the bird, which had now moved out to a distance of about 250 yards. It was resting on its belly on the mudflats with a mixed flock of gulls, mostly California Gulls (*Larus californicus*). Even with our 25 power scopes we could discern few details on this bird not seen earlier with binoculars. We noted that it was approximately the same size as the nearby Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*), but slimmer, and noticeably darker gray above than the nearby Franklin's Gulls (*Larus pipixcan*).

Our curiosity was piqued enough to wade across the creek and through deep mud to get a closer look at the bird. Joe commented, "This is a good bird. I'm not going into any mud that's above my nose." We advanced slowly, stopping every 20 yards or so to scope the bird until we got to within about 75 yards. It was from here that we could see the bird's head well and note the neat black cap. The black encompassed the forehead, crown and face to a sharp line just below the black eye, then on back to the nape, where it was a little smudged. At this point we wondered not what kind of gull this was, but what kind of jaeger it was. This was no longer a Laughing matter.

Was it a Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) or a Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasitica*)? Both are unusual in Colorado, but are the jaegers to be "expected." We began a systematic examination of the bird from bill to tail. The bill was black, and relatively short and thin, widening slightly at the tip. The upper mandible was slightly longer and hooked. The back was slate gray, contrasting with the black tail and wingtips. The bird had a white

collar contrasting strongly with the black cap and gray mantle. The jaeger was facing somewhat away from us, and the breast and belly were not easy to see. The legs were still tucked beneath the bird.

The tail was resting on the dark mud and not plainly visible at first. While I was concentrating on the side of the breast to see if I could discern the edges of a breast band, Joe exclaimed, "The tail!" And there it was in plain view. The tail itself was long, and from it protruded a 5 to 6 inch central streamer, slender and pointed. It was a Long-tailed Jaeger. We were both silent as we drank in the sight of that diagnostic tail and the importance of the moment sank in. We were looking at a life bird for both of us, a bird no living Colorado birder had seen in the state.

I had a camera in the car, and Joe thought that he did. (His was actually at home.) We knew we should get photographic documentation, but both of us wanted to stay with the bird. Neither wanted to miss seeing the bird in the air if it flew. The thought of trudging back across those mudflats settled the debate.

As we tried to circle around toward the front of the bird, it took off and flew overhead with the gulls to within less than 30 yards from us. The long tail streamer was visible in flight. The jaeger appeared white below with no visible breast band. There was a light gray wash on the belly and lower flanks, beginning in front of the legs and becoming darker near the vent. There was a thin white streak on the outer leading edge of the upper wing. The white appeared to be confined to the shafts of the outer one or two primaries. The shape of the wings was long, narrow, and pointed - like a tern. Overall the bird was slender, not robust like the California and Ring-billed Gulls. All of these features confirmed our identification. The flight was strong, buoyant, and the bird soared regularly. With its dark wings and tern-like silhouette, the bird in flight reminded us of a large Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*). It half-heartedly chased a Ring-billed Gull, flew about one-half mile to the northwest, and alighted on the water.

Mark left and I (Joe) drove home, full of excitement. I phoned the Colorado Bird Report, and Scott Menough updated the tape within the hour. I was also able to reach a few birders whose work numbers I knew. Pulling Bailey and Niedrach's Birds of Colorado off the shelf, I learned that there were only two previous records of the Long-tailed Jaeger in Colorado. An immature bird was collected at Windsor Reservoir in Weld County on October 18, 1902. The other bird, an adult, was seen in the spring of 1963 near Rocky Ford in Otero County, Colorado, by a visiting Iowa birder. That bird appeared ill and allowed the close photograph that appears in the book. The sighting was on May 29, just a day later in the year than the Chatfield jaeger was found. There are no other spring records of any jaeger species from Colorado's plains (Andrews and Righter, 1992).

I grabbed my camera and hurried back to Chatfield. Upon my return Joey Kellner, Dick Schottler, and Warren Finch had just arrived at the Plum

Creek Delta parking lot. They were direct from work, attired in white shirts, ties and slacks. After shedding shoes for boots, we headed for the delta, eager to lay eyes on the bird! The jaeger and the flock of gulls had returned to the mud flats, so we forded Plum Creek, and trekked out to study them. Amid exclamations, more descriptions and sketches were made. This time I was ready with the camera. After we studied the jaeger for one-half hour from as close as 50 yards, it again took to the air, allowing good flight views and photos. The long, dark, pointed wings were beautiful and graceful as it wheeled overhead for several minutes with the flock of gulls.

It then flew across the bay and landed on a rocky shore close to the dam. While we were relocating the jaeger with our scopes, we spotted a Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*), unusual at this late date in Colorado. We were on a roll!

As we had all had great looks at the jaeger, now a long way off, we decided to head for the spit of land east of the Chatfield marina. Kellner had seen White-rumped Sandpipers (*Calidris fuscicollis*) there on the previous day. Also, Schottler needed a change of footwear after locating a deep spot while recrossing Plum Creek! We re-found the jaeger far out on the lake just as Joe Himmel arrived from Greeley in record time. He got to see the jaeger in the distance. Seeking closer views and more photos, we rented a pontoon boat and chugged out to the middle of the reservoir. Cutting the engine, we let the wind drift us slowly toward the bird. We got the best looks yet - close enough to see the gray legs paddling under the water.

From greater distances the breast had appeared pure white. Close looks showed faint dirty smudges, but no traces of yellow. The neat black cap ended just below the black eyes. The black bill had a bulbous tip with hook at the end of the upper mandible. We were close enough to see a small pale spot at the base of the upper mandible, smaller than that shown in the photo of a Long-tailed Jaeger in Farrand's Eastern Birds. The straight portion of the upper mandible was relatively short, corresponding to Kaufman's sketches in Advanced Birding. The mantle was slate gray, contrasting with the black flight feathers. The underwings were uniformly dark gray, with no white "flash" in the primaries. No brown tones were seen anywhere on the bird. The tail itself was proportionately long, and the right central tail streamer was missing. The left one protruded about 5 to 6 inches beyond other retrices, was very slender, and came to a sharp point. The exact size was difficult to estimate, but the tail streamer looked about equal in length to the black primaries on the floating bird. When the jaeger suddenly arose from about 20 yards away, we saw its flexible tail streamer flop or wave. What a sight!

The word on the bird was out and dozens of eager birders searched the reservoir in vain on the morning of May 29. Then at about 4:30 p.m. on May 29 it was spotted again and seen by at least six people, including Mark Janos, Steve Stachowiak, and Karl Stecher. The jaeger was last seen heading north over the dam at about 6:30 p.m. These sightings triggered another

search the following day, but without success. As an interesting aside, about six Black Swifts (*Cypseloides niger*) were seen over the delta on May 29, adding a second new bird to the Chatfield list in as many days.

Many features of this jaeger, noted in the field and confirmed by the photos, distinguish it from Parasitic Jaeger and Pomarine Jaeger. The Chatfield bird was a small, slim jaeger in direct comparison with the California and Ring-billed Gulls. It had a neat black cap, whereas adult light-morph Parasitic Jaegers generally have caps that become paler toward the base of the bill and in the malar region (Kaufman, 1991). The gray back contrasted markedly with the black flight feathers. This is typical of Long-tailed Jaeger, and the bird lacked the brown tones usually seen in the other two adult jaeger species. The secondaries on this bird were black. This dark trailing edge contrasting with gray secondary coverts of the wing is not seen on Pomarine or Parasitic Jaegers. The underwing was uniformly dark gray, not two-toned as in the other two. Also diagnostic was the white shaft of one or two primary feathers, not three to six shafts (Parasitic) or six or more (Pomarine). To me it looked as if someone had drawn a chalk stripe along the leading edge of the outer wing, stopping short of the wing tip. The legs were gray, not black as in adult Parasitic or Pomarine Jaegers (Peterson, 1990; Olsen, 1989). When we reviewed the photographs, one feature became apparent on some underexposed slides that could not be seen on the flying, standing, or floating bird - there was indeed a very faint breast band below the white upper breast. This could indicate that the bird was molting from basic to alternate plumage. Apparently some adult Long-tailed Jaegers can show a solid breast band in basic plumage (Olsen, 1989).

Detailed descriptions and photographs of this jaeger were submitted to the CFO Records Committee, and their evaluation is pending.

I (Joe) looked at the 75 jaegers in the research collection of the Denver Museum of Natural History. In the hand the differences in size and bulk among the three species are striking. The features of the Chatfield jaeger correspond to light-morph adult Long-tailed jaegers. It showed none of the barring on the back or tail that immature jaegers have (Harrison, 1983; Olsen, 1989). I was particularly interested in learning about the pale spot that we had seen on the base of the upper mandible. All three jaeger species can show this to some degree, but many individuals do not (Olsen, 1989). This variability was true for the specimens at the museum. All of the museum's Long-tailed Jaeger specimens showed a yellowish wash on the white breast and neck, whereas the Chatfield bird did not. However this is a variable feature (Olsen, 1989), and photographs in some books show adult Long-tailed jaegers without obvious yellow tones (Farrand, 1988; Haley, 1984).

Bent (1960) describes jaegers as "gull-like birds with hawk-like characteristics." Of the three jaeger species the Long-tailed is the most highly pelagic, rarely being seen near shore except on its Arctic breeding grounds. Unlike the Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers, it is almost never seen from land in

migration. There are accidental records of Long-tailed Jaeger from Utah, New Mexico, Nebraska and Kansas, but none from Wyoming, or Oklahoma (DeSante and Pyle, 1986). Almost all of these are fall records (Zimmer, 1985).

Long-tailed Jaegers are long-distance migrants. They summer so far north that the hours of darkness are few and then spend our winter in the austral summer under the same conditions. These creatures spend most of their lives in sunlight (Stallcup, 1990).

This jaeger appeared to be an adult. We can infer that after its life began on the Arctic tundra, it successfully made several long pelagic migrations to the oceans of the Southern Hemisphere. Each spring it completed the 22,000 mile round trip, finding its way back to the Far North to hunt lemmings and rob Arctic Terns of their catch. But while heading north in May, 1992, it became lost and settled to rest on the mud flats of the Plum Creek delta. We hope that it made it back to the Arctic.

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#### *Acknowledgements:*

We would like to thank Joey Kellner and Dick Schottler for allowing us to check their excellent field notes and for reviewing this paper. Mark Janos and Bob Righter also made many useful comments. Charles Preston and Ric Peigler were helpful in allowing access to the research collection of the Denver Museum of Natural History.

**THE C.F.O. OFFICIAL RECORDS COMMITTEE**

**By**

**Mark Janos  
10 Sedum Court  
Pueblo, Colorado 81001**

**The C.F.O. Official Records Committee is:**

Mark Janos (Chairman), Pueblo; Coen Dexter, Palisade; Peter Gent, Boulder; Joe Himmel, Greeley, Bill Prather, Longmont; Dick Schottler, Golden; Van Truan, Pueblo.

These changes follow the normal cycling of people on and off of the committee following 2 year terms.

The only new member is Bill Prather, president of C.F.O. from 1989-90. Bill and his wife, Inez, and son, John, have all been active birders in Colorado since the late 1970's. Bill lived in Fleming in the early 1980's and made many interesting observations of eastern migrants in the Platte River valley at that time. Bill is best known to Colorado birders for discovering the only record of Ross' Gull in Colorado, on April 28, 1983, at Jumbo Reservoir. Bill has been one of the most active field observers in the state over the last ten years and is well traveled in our state and others. He can often be observed himself on C.F.O. field trips all over Colorado, where his pleasant and easy-going manner make him a well-known and popular figure. Bill makes a welcome addition to the records committee.

David Silverman has completed his term. David, the in-coming president of C.F.O., resides in Rye, Colorado. He is a quiet, careful birder who takes great care in both preparing and evaluating records. David has many years of birding experience in Colorado, especially in the south and southeast. In addition, he has traveled all over the United States for the purpose of birding and has a great deal of experience with regular Colorado bird species as well as the rarities.

## C.F.O. FIELD TRIP TO WET MOUNTAINS

Brandon Percival  
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On June 27, 1992 eleven birders gathered at the Fisherman's parking lot at Lake Isabel at 9:00 a.m. The weather was the talk at the parking lot because of the clouds and the thunder and lightning about 6:00 a.m. that morning. Luckily enough the weather wasn't a problem. At the lake we saw a Red-naped Sapsucker, a Western Tanager, and some Violet-green Swallows. The plan of the trip was to go look for woodpeckers at the Percival's Cabin. It's located 5 miles north of San Isabel on Highway 165. We found many birds including nesting Golden-crowned Kinglets, Red-naped and Williamson's Sapsuckers, and Three-toed Woodpeckers. We observed a male, then a female and then a baby in the nest hole of the Three-toeds giving all of us great looks. We walked back to the cabin after our woodpecker hike and found some Band-tailed Pigeons; it's a common summer resident at the cabin.

The next area we birded was Ophir Creek Road which can be very good for birds. We found an Olive-sided Flycatcher, Lincoln's Sparrows and one of those Empidonax Flycatcher species. At one spot a Red-tailed Hawk was being chased by a Northern Goshawk. Also seen were a Swainson's Thrush singing loudly, some Wilson's Warblers, and White-crowned Sparrows. We ate lunch where the road goes to Gardner or Blue Lakes. Here on a small pond two baby ducks of unknown species swam around; there were no parents around. Also some Yellow-rumped Warblers sang in nearby trees.

We drove and birded our way to Blue Lakes hoping for some higher mountain species. We located 5 Gray Jays, and many Ruby-crowned Kinglets. On the way to the lakes we observed snow, at about 10,000 feet. We birded Blue Lake and found a Hairy Woodpecker, some Dark-eyed Juncos, and some more White-Crowned Sparrows.

The group decided to work their way down the mountain back to Lake Isabel. One spot we located two American Pipits, a Townsend's Solitaire, and some Mountain Bluebirds. Near highway 165 on Ophir Creek Road, I observed a flycatcher crawling along the ground. The group tried to help the bird, but it died. The bird probably had been hit by a car a few minutes before. After some discussion, the bird was identified as a Western Wood-Pewee. We drove to the lake and we had about an hour to bird until dinner at the Lake Isabel Lodge. The group had 5 people at this time. We went to the cabin to check hummingbird feeders. We located many Broad-tailed Hummingbirds and a possible female Rufous Hummingbird (I did not count this in the totals). We ate dinner at 7:00 p.m. at the lodge. After dinner we went back to the cabin to look for more hummingbirds. We found a

Black-headed Grosbeak, Green-tailed Towhee and a couple of Cordilleran Flycatchers.

It was about dark so it was time for the big excitement to start. It was OWLING TIME. The group at this time consisted of Dan Bridges, Ferd & Jo Dirckx, Sylvia Wheelock and Brandon Percival. We went to the St. Charles Trail 4 miles north of San Isabel. We saw two and heard another two Flammulated Owls. We heard a Northern Saw-whet Owl and a Great Horned Owl and some Common Nighthawks. About 10:30 p.m. the birders decided it was time to quit.

Another CFO Field Trip was a success; many birds we found were "lifers" or "state birds" for some of the group. Thanks to all for coming to southern Colorado's Wet Mountains to see many good birds. I will not be able to lead this trip next summer because of a family vacation being planned.

*Participants were:* Susan Blackshaw, Dan Bridges, Bill Craig, Ferd & Jo Dirckx, Bill & Margaret Elliott, Dave Johnson, Brandon Percival (leader), Dave Silverman, Jolan Truan, and Sylvia Wheelock.

**SPECIES SEEN OR HEARD:** 48 species + 1 possible

Duck sp.	2	Common Raven	4
Northern Goshawk	1	Mountain Chickadee	5
Red-tailed Hawk	2	Red-breasted Nuthatch	2
Band-tailed Pigeon	10	House Wren	10
Flammulated Owl	4	Golden-crowned Kinglet	2
Great Horned Owl	1	Ruby-Crowned Kinglet	15
Northern Saw-whet Owl	1	Mountain Bluebird	8
Common Nighthawk	3	Townsend's Solitaire	1
White-throated Swift	2	Swainson's Thrush	1
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	20	Hermit Thrush	10
Rufous Hummingbird	1 possible	American Robin	50
Red-naped Sapsucker	5	American Pipit	2
Williamson's Sapsucker	4	Warbling Vireo	8
Hairy Woodpecker	1	Yellow-rumped Warbler	10
Three-toed Woodpecker	3	Wilson's Warbler	4
Northern Flicker	6	Western Tanager	6
Olive-sided Flycatcher	2	Black-headed Grosbeak	1
Western Wood-Pewee	1	Green-tailed Towhee	1
Cordilleran Flycatcher	3	Chipping Sparrow	5
Empidonax Flycatcher sp.	1	Lincoln's Sparrow	8
Violet-green Swallow	10	White-crowned Sparrow	4
Gray Jay	5	Dark-eyed Junco	20
Steller's Jay	10	Brown-headed Cowbird	1
Black-billed Magpie	3	Pine Siskin	40
American Crow	1		



**NEWS FROM THE FIELD: SPRING 1992**  
(March, April, May)

By

**Bill Prather**  
**13810 WCR #1**  
**Longmont, Colorado 80504**

The season was marked by mostly mild weather; as Mark Janos noted it was good for the birds but bad for birders as there was not enough bad weather to force the migrants to stop and be seen. Most reporters noted that the migration birding was bad for warblers, thrushes, flycatchers and shorebirds. One hopes that the birds just passed us by and are not decreasing in numbers. Some species that may need to be watched include Canvasback, Northern Goshawk, Prairie Falcon, Western Wood-Pewee, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Cordilleran Flycatcher and Long-eared Owl. Still, there was good variety if not good numbers with only a few regular species among the totally missing. There was also some excitement as Garganey, Long-tailed Jaeger and White-eyed Vireo made extremely rare appearances in the state. I counted 340 species for which I found reports. A few species were present in greater than normal numbers: Eurasian Wigeon, White-fronted Goose, Little Blue Heron and Golden-Winged warbler. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers and Oldsquaws were still around after a record winter influx. Peregrine Falcons, Osprey and Bald Eagles seem to be continuing to recover some of their former numbers. Great-tailed Grackles, Red-bellied woodpeckers, and Curve-billed Thrashers seem to be continuing to expand their ranges. Many observers noted early arrival of many species (some had wintered over).

All the statements of status for species in the state are taken from Colorado Birds-a reference to their distribution and habitat by Robert Andrews and Robert Righter. The abundance definitions are:

Abundant:	more than 100 per day in appropriate season and habitat.
Common:	25-100 per day
Fairly Common:	10-25 per day
Uncommon:	1-10 per day; usually seen daily
Rare:	1-5 per day; usually not seen every day
Very Rare:	10-40 records (for the state as a whole , or within certain areas or seasons)
Casual:	4-9 records
Accidental:	1-3 records

I included all sightings classified as "Rare" or less common. Also any statements of trends in more common birds or exceptional numbers were

included. I made no judgements of authenticity - the reports will live or die based on the documentations that were sent in. Colorado Birds is a terrific book, full of information that is known about Colorado birds and shows where we need to report and document our sightings. I recommend everyone have access to a copy. Please continue to send your reports to your regional reporters or Hugh Kingery. Look in Colorado Birds to see what needs to be documented. When making documentations make sure that you put down everything you saw so that there will be absolutely no doubt when the report is read by the CFO records committee or in 100 years by someone who has never heard of any of us. Thanks to Scott Menough, Duane Nelson and the Denver Field Ornithologists for providing reports on the Colorado Bird Report. Thanks to Phil Hayes for the reports in the *Lark Bunting* and for compiling the field trip reports for the last 8 years. Thanks to the regional reporters and Hugh Kingery for forwarding information. \* Indicates an observer has sent a documentation; watch for the CFO records committee report on these sightings in a future CFO Journal. Thanks to everyone who sent in reports, keep them coming!

**Pacific Loon** casual spring migrant on eastern plains. 1 at Chatfield 5/28-31 (Joey Kellner, Dick Schottler, Joe Roller, Warren Finch).

**Common Loon** rare spring migrant in western valleys, mountain parks, and eastern plains. 1 between Meeker and Craig 4/25-26 was first record for latilong 2. (Coen Dexter\*); other reports from Rocky Ford, Hamilton Res. and Marston Res.

**Red-necked Grebe** very rare spring migrant on eastern plains. 1 at Chatfield Res. 3/25 (Phil Hayes).

**Clark's Grebe** fairly common spring migrant in San Luis Valley and on southeastern plains. 1 at Walsh 5/31 was first record for latilong 28. (Janeal Thompson\*).

**Least Bittern** rare spring and fall migrant and summer resident on eastern plains. Reported from Cottonwood Marsh, east of Boulder.

**Great Egret** rare spring migrant on eastern plains, casual in western valleys. 1 at Clifton 5/1 (Rich Levad); other reports from Rocky Ford (2) and Lochbuie as well as near the nesting area east of Boulder.

**Snowy Egret** rare to uncommon spring migrant in western valleys, mountain parks and eastern plains. "1 record-Down" (Coen Dexter); other reports from McCoy, Lake Henry (3), Rocky Ford (2 reports - up to 8 total)

**Little Blue Heron** very rare spring migrant on eastern plains, casual in western valleys. 1 on Colorado River near Grand Junction 5/7-8 (Cece Barr, Coen Dexter\*, Lee Stigen); 1 at Blue Mesa Res. near Gunnison late April (Ron Myers); 1 at Hotchkiss (Mory Rowe); 1 in Pueblo 4/16-21 (Dave Silverman); 1 at Longmont 4/12-15 (Mark Nikas and others); 1 at Sweetwater Res. 5/19 (Duane Nelson, Keith Barker); 1 at Chatfield Aboretum 5/9-11 (Yates and others).

**Cattle Egret** rare spring migrant on eastern plains, in western valleys and in the San Luis Valley. Reports from Walsh, Ft Collins (6), Delta (3,4), Kremmling, Rocky Ford (2), Pueblo, Longmont and Kiowa.

**Green-backed Heron** rare spring migrant on eastern plains, very rare in western valleys. 1 west of Grand Junction 5/9 (Rich Levad), reports from Pueblo (up to 3), Aurora, Lamar, Chatfield Res.

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Reported from Ft. Collins (2).

**White-faced Ibis** rare to uncommon (locally fairly common) spring migrant in western valleys, very rare in mountains outside parks. 1 on Indian Peaks spring count was first in 10 years. (Jeff Bachant); other reports from McCoy, Silt (5), Grand Junction, Eagle and Routt County.

**Greater White-fronted Goose** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Reported from Jumbo Res. (300 on 3/14) and Greeley (4).

**Snow Goose** rare migrant in western valleys. Reported from Grand Junction; many reports from eastern plains.

**Ross' Goose** rare to uncommon spring migrant in western valleys, the San Luis Valley, and on the eastern plains. Reported from Walsh, Jumbo Res. (up to 200-500), Cortez (2), Walsenburg, Cheraw (15) and Broomfield.

**Brant** casual in fall, winter and spring. 1 of the Black subspecies at Monte Vista Refuge 4/1 (John Rawinski); 1 at Bonny Res. 4/5 (Dick Esposito); 1 of the eastern subspecies at Greeley 3/14-19 (Joe Himmel and others).

**Northern Pintail** common to abundant spring migrant in western valleys, mountain parks and on eastern plains. Only 64 seen on 4 (of 17) Denver Field Ornithologist field trips - previous 7 spring totals ranged from 149-1467 (Phil Hayes).

**Garganey** accidental spring migrant. 1 east of Boulder 3/21-4/23 (Foothills Audubon field trip - Ann Means\* and many observers).

**Eurasian Wigeon** very rare spring migrant on eastern plains, casual in mountain parks. 1 near Walden 5/2 (Sheltspeen); 1 at Colorado City 3/28 (David Silverman\*); 1 near Barr lake 4/4 (Denver Field Ornithologists field trip); 1 at Cherry Creek Res. 4/8 (Jean Maguire\*); 1 in Ft. Collins in February and March (Joe Mammoser and others); 1 at Union Res. 5/4 (Inez Prather, Bill Prather); 1 at Baseline Res. 3/29 (Joe TenBrink and others); 1 at Hiram Prince Res. 3/22-28 (Lee Rowe, Marilyn Rowe).

**American Wigeon** common to abundant spring migrant in western valleys, mountain parks and on eastern plains. 330 reported in Barr Lake area 4/4 by Denver Field Ornithologists - high for a DFO trip in the 7 previous springs was 75.

**Canvasback** rare to uncommon spring migrant in western valleys, mountain parks and on eastern plains. "No records - steady decline every year" in Grand Junction area. (Coen Dexter); None were seen on Denver Field Ornithologist field trips - 1st spring in 8 years. (Phil Hayes); reports from Arriola (2), Rocky Ford (30), Cheraw, Walsh (7), Rocky Mountain Arsenal and Longmont

and Loveland areas (54 total).

**Greater Scaup** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Reported from Walsh, Cheraw, Wheat Ridge, Longmont, West Quincy Lakes (4).

**Oldsquaw** very rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Up to 3 at Cheraw 3/1-4/5 (Dave Johnson and others), up to 5 at Hamilton Res. through 4/26 (Ron Ryder and others); 1 southeast of Prospect Valley 5/7 (Mark Nikas).

**Barrow's Goldeneye** Rare spring migrant in western valleys, mountain parks and on eastern plains near foothills. Reported from Cortez, Crystal Springs Lake (4), Broomfield (2), DelCamino (pair), east of Boulder.

**Bufflehead** uncommon to fairly common spring migrant in western valleys, mountain parks and on eastern plains. 139 total seen on 9 Denver Field Ornithologist field trips, including 50 in Adams County 3/28. Highs for the 7 previous years were 62 season total and 19 on 1 trip (Phil Hayes).

**Hooded Merganser** rare spring migrant in western valleys, mountain parks and on the eastern plains, may be uncommon or even common very locally. Reported from Hayden (first record for latilong 2), Cortez (2), Grand Junction, Gypsum (2), Cheraw, Denver area, Boulder Area (6) and Estes Park.

**Red-breasted Merganser** rare to uncommon spring migrant in western valleys and on eastern plains. Reported from Cortez (2 sites), Grand Junction (6 records), Carbondale, Denver area and Longmont area.

**Osprey** rare to uncommon spring migrant. Reports from Cortez, Grand Junction (2 records), Indian Peaks, Pueblo (a pair nesting), Denver area, the Dinosaur Ridge Hawk Watch (52), Boulder area and Loveland.

**Mississippi Kite** very rare in spring, summer and fall on eastern plains away from Baca County and the Arkansas Valley. 1 at Hanna Ranch on 5/16 (Aiken Audubon Society).

**Bald Eagle** rare summer resident very locally. A pair nesting in Grand Junction area was unsuccessful for 3rd straight year (Coen Dexter); a pair built a nest southwest of Loveland but abandoned it after 3/25 (Alice Cain, Ann Means).

**Cooper's Hawk** uncommon to fairly common spring migrant. 422 reported on Dinosaur Ridge Hawk Watch - highest total in 3 years. (Duane Nelson).

**Northern Goshawk** rare to uncommon resident in foothills and mountains, rare spring migrant "None. F.S. biologist looked for 10 nests that were active in 1983 but no action in 5 that were found" (Lucille Bainbridge); only 1 observed on Indian Peaks spring count continued a decline in observations over the last 10 years. (Dave Hallock); none on Dinosaur Ridge Hawk Watch; other reports from Rocky Ford, San Isabel, Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Boulder (2) and Lyons.

**Red-shouldered Hawk** casual spring migrant on northeastern plains. 1 reported on Dinosaur Ridge Hawk Watch 5/15 and 5/22 (Duane Nelson).

**Red-backed Hawk** 1 returned to Gunnison for the 6th year on 3/9 (Don Radovich). Its origin and wintering area is still a mystery.

**Broad-winged Hawk** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. 30 total reported

over season from Dinosaur Ridge Hawk Watch (Duane Nelson), another report from Wheat Ridge.

**Merlin** rare to uncommon spring migrant in western valleys, mountain parks and eastern plains. Reports from Rye, Dinosaur Ridge Hawk Watch (11 total) and Rocky Mountain Arsenal.

**Peregrine Falcon** rare spring migrant-population rebounding in Colorado. Reported from Grand Junction (5 Reports), Dinosaur Ridge Hawk Watch (15 total), Longmont area, Cheraw and Adams County.

**Prairie Falcon** uncommon migrant. none reported on Dinosaur Ridge Hawk Watch (Duane Nelson), only 1 reported on 2 dates at Rocky Mountain Arsenal; other eastern plains observers saw up to 3 over season.

**Black Rail** casual in spring, early summer and fall. 2 at Bent's Fort 5/2 (Brandon Percival, Van Truan).

**Common Moorhen** accidental in western valleys, mountain parks and mountains. 1 at Fruitgrowers' Res. east of Eckert 5/16 (James Guadagno\*).

**Black-bellied Plover** rare to uncommon spring migrant on eastern plains, very rare in western Valleys. 1 at Hart's Basin near Delta 5/10 and 1 at Highline Res. 5/16 (Coen Dexter, Rich Levad); 4 at White Ranch, Saguache County 5/18 (Bob Righter); other reports from Cheraw (4) and Chatfield Res.

**Semipalmated Plover** rare to uncommon migrant on eastern plains, very rare in western valleys. 1 west of Grand Junction 5/16 (Coen Dexter); other reports from Ordway (16), Cheraw (4).

**Piping Plover** very rare spring migrant and local breeder. Found nesting at Blue Lake, a new location and the westernmost known (Duane Nelson); also reported from Neenoshe Res.

**Mountain Plover** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Reports from Cheraw, Bartlett (10), Two Buttes, Walsh (2), Pawnee National Grassland (4).

**Black-necked Stilt** rare spring migrant on eastern plains and in western valleys. Reported from Cortez, Delta, Lake Cheraw (up to 28), Lower Latham Res. (4).

**Willet** rare to uncommon spring migrant in western valleys. Reported from Grand Junction (2 reports).

**Whimbrel** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Reported from Pueblo, Broomfield, Hamilton Res., Neenoshe Res. (4), Lower Latham Res., Prospect Res. (8).

**Long-billed Curlew** rare spring migrant in western valleys, mountain parks and on the eastern plains away from southeast. Reported from Longmont, Wray, Bonny Res. (12), Pawnee National Grasslands (13), Ft Morgan area (2).

**Hudsonian Godwit** very rare spring migrant on eastern plains. 1 at Latham Res. 5/10 (Joe Himmel); 1 south of Latham Res. 5/13-18 (Lee Rowe, Marilyn Rowe and others); 1 at Chatfield Res 5/25 (Joe Roller, Horton).

**Red Knot** very rare spring migrant on eastern plains. 2 at Cheraw 4/27 (Cliff Smith, Pearle Sandstrom-Smith).

**Western Sandpiper** fairly common to common spring migrant in western valleys and mountain parks. "2 records-down" in Grand Junction area (Coen Dexter), "only 3 seen all spring" (Mark Janos).

**White-rumped Sandpiper** fairly common to common spring migrant on extreme eastern plains, rare to near foothills. Reported from Chatfield (2), and Logan County (2).

**Pectoral Sandpiper** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Reported from Cheraw (5) and Longmont.

**Stilt Sandpiper** accidental in mountain parks. 8 at White Ranch in Saguache County 5/19 (Bob Righter).

**Short-billed Dowitcher** accidental spring migrant on eastern plains. 1 at Cheraw 4/25 (Mark Janos, Brandon Percival).

**Long billed Dowitcher** no records in mountains outside parks. 1 on Indian Peaks spring count (Steve Jones, Naseem Munshi).

**Red-necked Phalarope** uncommon to fairly common spring migrant on eastern plains, rare to uncommon in western valleys. 3 reports of about 50 total in Grand Junction area; 200 northeast of Loveland 5/28 (Ann Means).

**Red Phalarope** accidental spring migrant on eastern plains. 1 in Cheyenne County 5/28 (Hugh Kingery\*).

**Long-tailed Jaeger** accidental spring and fall migrant. 1 at Chatfield Res. 5/28-29 (Mark Nikas, Joe Roller).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** 1 at Cherry Creek Res. 3/1-9 (Joe Roller).

**Glaucous-winged Gull** accidental in spring and summer. 1 at Cherry Creek Res. 3/1-4/1 (Joe Roller and others).

**Caspian Tern** very rare spring migrant on eastern plains. 1 at Chatfield Res. 5/30 (Jack Reddall).

**Common Tern** casual spring migrant in west-central valleys in Mesa and Delta counties. 1 at Hart's Basin 5/25 (Coen Dexter).

**Least Tern** local uncommon summer resident in the Arkansas River Valley. 2-4 pair beginning to nest in Bent County 5/28 (Duane Nelson, Hugh Kingery).

**Black Tern** rare to uncommon migrant in western valleys. 2 reports of 3 total in Grand Junction area, none in Eagle for 4th consecutive year - was semi-regular up to 1983 (Jack Merchant).

**White-winged Dove** casual in spring, summer and fall on eastern plains. 1 at Rocky Mountain Arsenal 4/11 (Larry Malone\* and others).

**Common Barn-Owl** rare, and probably locally uncommon, spring migrant in western valleys and on eastern plains. Reported from Grand Junction (2 reports), Bear Creek near the Kansas border, Pueblo, east of Boulder, Ft. Collins (at least 5 nests), Kiowa County and Bonny Res.

**Spotted Owl** very rare resident in foothills and mountains. 1 juvenile found dead near Ft Carson 4/5 (Tony Gurzick); 1 in Phantom Canyon 5/17 (Vic Zerbi), 2-4 in north Fremont County 3/1-5/31 (Chas Clifton, Dick Roth).

**Long-eared Owl** rare resident in western valleys, foothills, lower mountains, and on eastern plains. Reported only from Pueblo.

**Short-eared Owl** rare to uncommon resident in the San Luis Valley and on the eastern plains. Reported from Berthoud, Bonny Res. and Adams County.

**Boreal Owl** rare to locally uncommon resident in higher mountains. Reports from Red Dirt Res.-northwest of Kremmling (5 calling), Slumgullion Pass, Elwood Pass, Pass Creek, Cameron Pass (up to 8 calling), Rabbit Ears Pass (1 roadkill) and Buffalo Pass (4 calling).

**Whip-poor-will** no records for western Colorado. 1 was singing 15 miles north of Maybell on 5/21-22 (Hugh Kingery, Dick Pratt).

**Black Swift** very rare in foothills, and in western valleys, mountain parks and on eastern plains, mostly within 10 miles of foothills; accidental on extreme eastern plains. 12 at Rosita 5/2 (Cliff Smith, Pearle Sandstrom-Smith); up to 5 at Chatfield Res 5/28-29 (Jack Reddall and others); 30 at Julesburg 5/31 (Joe TenBrink).

**Blue-throated Hummingbird** casual in summer and early fall in foothills and lower mountains. 1 west of Rustic 5/29 (Louise Bennett).

**Rufous Hummingbird** casual spring migrant in foothills and lower mountains. 1 near Colorado Springs 5/16 (Aiken Audubon Society).

**Red-bellied Woodpecker** casual in spring on eastern plains away from extreme northeastern areas where they breed. 1 in Pueblo 3/9-4/17 (Van Truan and others); 1 at Lamar 5/25 (Mark Janos); 1 near Colorado Springs 5/16 (Aiken Audubon Society), 1 northeast of Ft. Collins still present from winter 4/2; 1 southeast of Briggsdale 4/12 (Dick Schottler, Karleen Schofield, Norma Erickson).

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** Very rare winter resident on northeastern plains near foothills, accidental on extreme eastern plains and in western valleys. 1 in Paonia 3/29 (James Guadagno\*), 1 in Pueblo 3/7-22 (Arkansas Valley Audubon Society), 1 at Barr Lake 3/8 (Denver Field Ornithologists); up to 2 in Ft. Collins 3/3-14 and 1 windowkill found in May; 1 at Barr Lake 3/7-8 (Lee Rowe, Marilyn Rowe).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** uncommon summer resident in mountains. "Used to breed here, still have not shown up this year" in Evergreen (Bill Brockner).

**Western Wood-Pewee** fairly common to common summer resident in foothills and lower mountains. Like the Olive-sided Flycatcher, "Used to breed here, still have not shown up this year" in Evergreen (Bill Brockner).

**Least Flycatcher** uncommon spring migrant on extreme eastern plains, rare west to base of foothills. No records from higher mountains. 1 on Indian Peaks spring count. (Tom VanZandt, Fern Ford, Jim Holitza); also reported from Chatfield Res.

**Cordilleran Flycatcher** uncommon to fairly common summer resident in foothills and lower mountains. "In prior years I censused 6 to 7 calling, this year one!" in Evergreen (Bill Brockner).

**Black Phoebe** very rare summer resident in Pueblo County. A pair was present 4/16 to end of period and nested in Beulah.

**Eastern Phoebe** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Reported from Ft.

Collins and Castlewood Canyon State Park.

**Ash-throated Flycatcher** rare spring migrant on northeastern plains near foothills. 1 in Ft. Morgan area 5/23 (Joe Rigli).

**Great Crested Flycatcher** rare on southeastern plains. Reported from Lamar.

**Cassin's Kingbird** rare to uncommon and very local summer resident in western Colorado. 1 of 2 seen at Hovenweep National Mon. 5/23 was carrying nesting material. (Alan Versaw), 2 reports from Grand Junction.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** very rare spring migrant on eastern plains. 1 in Canon City 5/16 (Bill Carter, June Carter); 1 in Crow Valley Campground 5/19 (T. Carol Agee, Joe Himmel, Joe Roller); 1 east of Elbert 5/5-6 (Mona Carlton and others).

**Blue Jay** very rare visitor to mountains west of Continental Divide. 1 in Kremmling 5/15 (Norman Barrett).

**Chihuahuan Raven** no recent documented reports away from southeastern plains. 1 in Canon City 5/2 (Van Truan, Bandon Percival).

**Bushtit** rare to fairly common irregular resident in foothills and mesa in western Colorado, rare to fairly common irregular visitor to eastern foothills. "No records-bird has disappeared" (Coen Dexter); Reported from Lyons and Brush Hollow Res.

**Carolina Wren** very rare visitor to eastern plains. 1 still present through period in Beulah (Ken Wahl), 1 at Barr Lake 2/26-3/1 (Hugh Kingery, Urling Kingery).

**Eastern Bluebird** rare migrant on northeastern plains near foothills. Reported from Crow Valley campground, Colorado City and Rye as well as breeding areas on extreme northeastern plains.

**Gray-cheeked Thrush** very rare spring migrant, mostly on northeastern plains. 1 at Crow Valley Campground 5/19-21 (Norm Erthal\*, Bill Brockner).

**Hermit Thrush** uncommon migrant in western valleys. "Scarce so far this year. I heard 1 near Glenwood, and that's all" (Jack Merchant).

**Varied Thrush** accidental in mountains. 1 northeast of Alamosa 4/1 (John Brandt\*, Dorothy Brandt).

**Northern Mockingbird** very rare in foothills and lower mountains. 1 northwest of Lyons 5/11 (Judy Smith).

**Curve-billed Thrasher** very rare visitor on northeastern plains, accidental in mountains. 2 at Kremmling 5/15 (Norman Barrett); 1 northeast of Ft. Collins 3/28-30 (Jim Sedgewick).

**Loggerhead Shrike** common spring migrant in western valleys and on eastern plains. 1 north of Rifle was first record for latilong 9. (Coen Dexter\*).

**White-eyed Vireo** casual spring migrant on eastern plains, no previous nesting records. 1 pair were present 5/15-31, built and abandoned a nest at Crow Valley Campground (Joe Himmel, J. B. Hayes, Joe Mammoser and many observers), 1 at Riverside Res. 5-14 (Joe Himmel), 1 at Tamarack Ranch 5/20-22 (Dan Bridges).



Yellow-throated Vireo very rare spring migrant on eastern plains. 1 at Colorado Springs State Wildlife Area 4/18 (Van Truan\*), 1 in Pueblo 5/7 (Dave Griffiths), 1 at Chatfield 5/11-31 (J. B. Hayes and many observers), 1 at Crow Valley Campground (Dick Schottler, Bob Righter).

Blue-winged Warbler very rare spring migrant on eastern plains. 1 at Castlewood Canyon 5/16-28 (Cooper, Joey Kellner, Dick Schottler and many observers).

Golden-winged Warbler very rare spring migrant on eastern plains. 1 at Crow Valley Campground 5/19-24 (Joe Himmel and others), 1 in Waterton Canyon 5/13, 29 (Aaron Sell, Joe Kamby, Norma Kamby), 1 or 2 at Roxborough State Park 5/25-31 (J. B. Hayes, Dick Schottler), 1 at Castlewood Canyon State Park 5/24 (Ward, Peterson, Bronson).

Tennessee Warbler rare to uncommon spring migrant on eastern plains. Only report was from Chatfield.

Orange-crowned Warbler fairly common spring migrant in western valleys and on eastern plains. "Very few in Ft. Collins Area" (Dave Leatherman), most other observers reported only 1 or 2, if any.

Nashville Warbler rare spring migrant in western valleys, foothills, and eastern plains. Only report was from Lamar.

Northern Parula Warbler rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Reported from Pueblo, Lyons, Adena, Wheat Ridge and Roxborough State Park.

Chestnut-sided Warbler rare spring migrant on eastern plains, casual in western valleys. 1 at Cortez 5/21 (Gerald Flyer\*, Maxine Flyer). Other reports from Crow Valley Campground (pair), Bow Mar and Longmont.

Magnolia Warbler rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Only report was from Crow Valley Campground.

Cape May Warbler very rare spring migrant on eastern plains. 1 which wintered at Boulder was still present 3/9 (Alex Cruz).

Black-throated Blue Warbler rare spring migrant on eastern plains. No reports.

Yellow-rumped Warbler fairly common to abundant spring migrant. A total of only 17 were reported on only 3 (of 17) Denver Field Ornithologists' trips - fewer than any of the 7 previous years (Phil Hayes), low numbers in Ft. Collins area (Dave Leatherman).

Black-throated Gray Warbler rare spring migrant in valleys and plains adjacent to breeding range. Reported from Pueblo as well as breeding areas.

Townsend's Warbler rare spring migrant in western valleys and on eastern plains near foothills. Reported from Cortez, Pueblo, Longmont and Crow Valley Campground.

Black-throated Green Warbler rare spring migrant on eastern plains. No reports.

Blackburnian Warbler rare spring migrant on eastern plains. No reports.

Yellow-throated Warbler very rare spring migrant on eastern plains. 1 in Pueblo from 5-9 to end of period (Van Truan and many observers).

**Palm Warbler** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Reports from Pueblo, Englewood, Crow Valley Campground and Bonny Res.

**Bay-breasted Warbler** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. No reports.

**Blackpoll Warbler** rare to uncommon spring migrant on eastern plains. Reported from Pueblo, Ft. Collins, Crow Valley Campground (2), Longmont, Adena and Bonny Res. (3).

**Black-and-white Warbler** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Reported from Pueblo and Roxborough State Park.

**Worm-eating Warbler** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Reported from Ft. Collins and Muir Springs Park.

**Ovenbird** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Reported from Crow Valley Campground and Wheat Ridge.

**Kentucky Warbler** very rare spring migrant on eastern plains. 1 at Crow Valley Campground 5/2 & 7 (Joey Kellner, Steve Stachowiak).

**Hooded Warbler** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Only report was from Kit Carson.

**Wilson's Warbler** uncommon spring migrant. "First time in 17 springs Sarah and I have not see a Wilson's Warbler" around Baca County (Janeal Thompson), very few in Ft. Collins area (Dave Leatherman).

**Hepatic Tanager** uncommon and very local summer resident in central and eastern Las Animas county, several records in May from Canon City and Pueblo areas. 1 in Pueblo 5/7-8 (Van Truan, Brandon Percival).

**Summer Tanager** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Casual in western valleys. 1 in Clifton 5/21 (Coen Dexter\*). Other reports from Walsh, Pueblo, Waterton, Chatfield and Crow Valley Campground.

**Scarlet Tanager** rare spring migrant on eastern plains. Accidental in western valleys. 1 near Colona, latilong 16 (Peggy Durant). Other reports from Lamar and east of Rocky Mountain Arsenal.

**Northern Cardinal** rare on eastern plains, accidental in mountains, mountain parks and western valleys. 1 male in McCoy 4/27 (Margaret Ewing). Other reports from Pueblo, Wray and Holly.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak** rare to uncommon spring migrant on eastern plains. Casual in foothills, lower mountains, and western valleys. 1 in Kremmling 5/17-19 (Norman Barrett). Other reports from Pueblo (pair), Walsh, Loveland (3 sites), Lyons, Wheat Ridge and Buckhorn Canyon.

**Lazuli X Indigo Bunting** accidental in mountain parks and western valleys. 1 near Gateway 5/27 (Alan Versaw).

**Indigo Bunting** rare to uncommon spring migrant on eastern plains, rare in western valleys. 1 at Cameo 5/21 (Coen Dexter, Rich Levad), 1 south of Rangely 5/29 (Dave Hawksworth), 1 in Kremmling 5/17 (Norman Barrett). Other reports from Canon City, Two Buttes Res., Chatfield Res., Loveland, Lyons, Adena.

**Painted Bunting** casual spring migrant on eastern plains. 1 female at Hale Ponds 5/9-10 (Bill Prather, Bob Dickson, Dick Pantle, Peter Gent).

**Black-throated Sparrow** rare and local on southeastern plains. 2 south of LaJunta 5/2 (Mark Janos).

**Sage Sparrow** very rare spring migrant on eastern plains along foothills. 1 east of Boulder 4/22 (Bill Prather, Inez Prather, Mona Hill, Dean Hill), 1 at Chatfield 3/10-11 (J. B. Hayes).

**Lark Bunting** rare to uncommon on the mesas of northwestern Colorado and in mountain parks. "Much more numerous in the San Luis Valley than usual" (John Brandt). Several dozen pair nesting west of Mack (Coen Dexter).

**Swamp Sparrow** rare spring migrant on eastern plains, may be locally common. Reported from Walsh, Boulder and Bonny Res.

**White-throated Sparrow** rare spring migrant in western valleys and on eastern plains. Very rare in foothills, lower mountains and mountain parks. 2 that wintered in Breckenridge stayed until 3/12 (Linda McMenamy). Other reports from Longmont, Rocky Ford (3) and Wheat Ridge.

**Golden-crowned Sparrow** casual on extreme eastern plains. 1 at Bent's Fort National Monument 4/29 (Van Truan\*).

**Harris' Sparrow** rare in western valleys, very rare in foothills, lower mountains and mountain parks. Reports from Cortex, Clifton, Kremmling (still present from winter), Florence, Rocky Ford (2), Loveland.

**McCown's Longspur** common to abundant local spring migrant on extreme eastern plains. 2,000 plus at Anton 3/27 (W. W. Brockner, Steve Charlton, Chris Geraghty).

**Bobolink** rare spring migrant on eastern plains and in western valleys, casual in northern mountains and mountain parks. A pair at McCoy 5/13 (Margaret Ewing). Other reports from Loma, Pueblo, Longmont, Chatfield, Douglas County and Boulder.

**Yellow-headed Blackbird** abundant summer resident in western valleys, mountain parks and on eastern plains. A total of only 6 were seen on 2 (of 17) Denver Field Ornithologist field trips - low season total for previous 7 years was 23 (Phil Hayes).

**Rusty Blackbird** accidental in western valleys. 2 pair at Gypsum 3/26-4/3 (Jack Merchant).

**Great-tailed Grackle** uncommon to fairly common spring migrant. Reports from Grand Junction (5), Pueblo, Fowler, Bent's Fort National Monument, Walsh (2), Latham Res. (7), Ft. Collins (several reports), Wellington, Ft. Lyon (15) and Gunnison.

**Common Grackle** very local in lower mountains, mountain parks, and in western valleys, mostly rare to uncommon but may be fairly common at some sites. "We see them a lot now (in Breckenridge) they arrived 3 years ago (Linda McMenamy).

**Orchard Oriole** rare migrant on eastern plains near foothills. Reported in Pueblo and east of Boulder as well as normal range.

**Northern (Baltimore) Oriole** accidental in western valleys. 1 in Cortez 5/9/92 (Alan Versaw\*).

**Scott's Oriole** rare to uncommon and very local summer resident along western border. 1 at local breeding area at state line west of Grand Junction (Coen Dexter, Rich Levad).

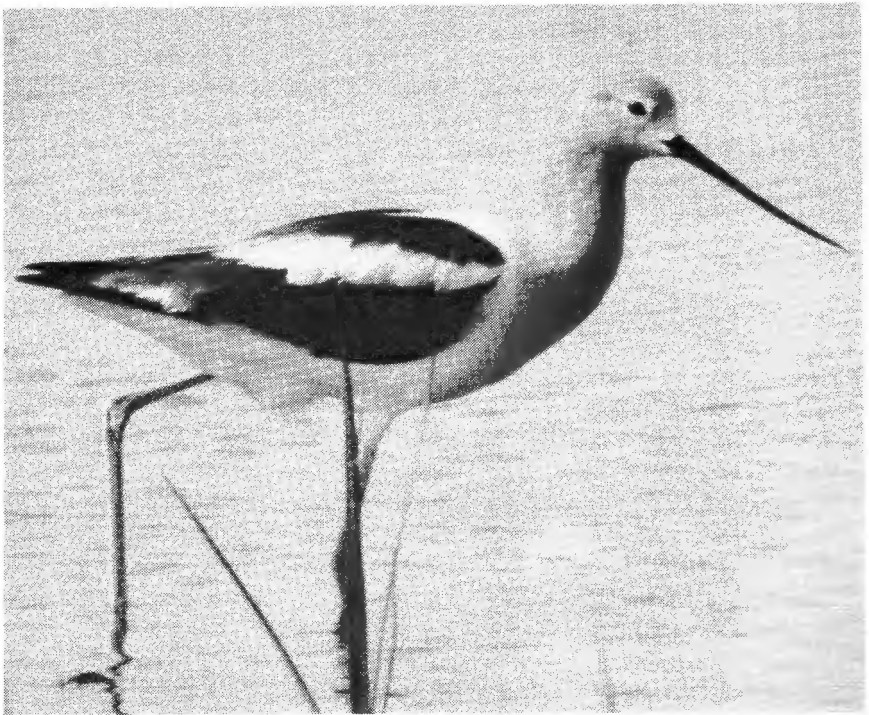
**Purple Finch** rare in spring in lower foothills and adjacent eastern plains. Reports from Lyons and Beulah (3).

**Red Crossbill** irregular resident in foothills and mountains, in favorable years common to abundant. "This spring produced a large population; they were seen all over Breckenridge with young in large numbers" (Linda McMenamy).

**White-winged Crossbill** irregular resident in mountains, usually rare. 3 on Indian Peaks spring count 5/2-9 (Tom Van Zandt, Fern Ford, Jim Holitza).

**American Goldfinch** fairly common to common in migration. A total of 74 were reported on 7 Denver Field Ornithologists' trips, more than any year in the past 7 (Phil Hayes).

**Evening Grosbeak** irregular resident. "Numbers way down" around Grand Junction (Coen Dexter).



American Avocet near lower Latham Reservoir, May 1992

Photo by Dan Roller.

**FOOD ITEMS OF COLORADO BIRDS (IX)**

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A general description of the format, purpose, and reporting procedures for this column can be found in the introductions of previous columns (see *C.F.O. Journal*, Volumes 24 and 25).

This edition contains feeding observations for 61 species, mostly from the period March through August 1992.

Observations are those of the author unless followed by initials. I thank very much those who sent material and shared their interesting observations.

***KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS USED:***

***Places:***

Co.	County
CSU	Colorado State University campus, Fort Collins
CVCG	Crow Valley Campground, Briggsdale
Dixon	Dixon Reservoir, Larimer Co. west of FC
FC	Fort Collins
GC	Grandview Cemetery, Fort Collins
NCELC	Northern Colo. Environmental Learning Center, Ft Collins

***People:***

JBu	John Buquo
WC	Dr. Whitney Cranshaw
D&FH	Dave & Dr. Frank Hawksworth
MH	Mona Hill
HJ	Helga Jacobs
N&JK	Norma & Joe Kamby
HEK	Hugh Kingery
BK	Dr. Boris Kondratieff
GMc	Dr. Gary McIntyre
JM	Joe Mammoser
JMe	Jack Merchant
BP	Bill Prather
RAR	Dr. Ronald A. Ryder
CS	Carol Simmons
RS	Robert Spencer
DS	Dr. David Steingraeber
JTe	Joe TenBrink
JT	Janeal Thompson
RW	Rosie Watts

BIRD	FOOD ITEM	LOCATION	DATE/OBSERVER
Y-cr Night-Heron	Annelid worms	FC	8 Mar-15 Apr JBu
Y-cr Night-Heron	Crayfish sp.	FC	8 Mar-15 Apr JBu
Canada Goose	Old dandelion seedheads	Lakewood	16 May
Northern Harrier	Spotted Sandpiper	Walden Lake	25 Aug N&JK
Sharp-shin. Hawk	European Starling	FC	23 Feb D&FH
N. Goshawk	Cottontail rabbit	Nathrop	late Jan HJ
Golden Eagle	Prairie dog sp.	near Penrose	Feb & March RW
(Rosie Watts reports ranchers frequently hunt prairie dogs on neighboring ranchland. The eagles, two adults and an immature, have learned the sound of rifles in this area usually means a free meal. One of the adults, thought to be a large female, will sit and eat during the shooting! The other eagles pick up their dead prey and eat it elsewhere.)			
Peregrine Falcon	Teal duck (Green-winged?)	Lower Latham Res.	18 Apr
Sharp-t Grouse	Cottonwood buds	se of Timnath Res.	Jan-Feb JM
Killdeer	Grasshopper ( <u>Melanoplus</u> sp.)	Weld CR124 w of CR77	7 Sept
Mountain Plover	Various unident. insects	Walsh, Baca Co.	25 Sept '91 JT
(Janeal Thompson reports she and area farmers frequently observe mountain plovers following tractors during fall wheat-drilling operations near Walsh. The plovers gather on an undrilled portion of the field near the moving tractor to await the arrival of various insects which flee from the wheat drill.)			
Ring-billed Gull	Live crayfish	Chatfield Res.	29 May
Herring Gull	Dead Canada goose	Lee Lake, FC	7 Dec '91 D&FH
Great Horned Owl	Rock doves	CSU	Feb-May RAR et al
Brd-t. Hummingbird	"Flycatching" (for ?)	Eagle	16 June JMe
Brd-t. Hummingbird	Nectar of firecracker penstemon and bee balm sp.	w of FC	30 July CS&DS
Red-h Woodpecker	Pecking ripe apple on tree	NCELC	10 Sept
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	Sap wells in Mugho pine	GC	3 March

Yellow-b. Sapsucker	Sap wells in Rocky Mt. juniper	GC	3 March
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	Sap wells in Austrian pine	GC	14 March
Hairy Woodpecker	Pecking ripe apples on tree	CSU	9 Sept
Northern Flicker	Pecking ripe apples on tree	CSU	8 Sept
W. Wood-Pewee	Painted lady butterfly	CVCG	14 May

(A massive migration of Painted lady butterflies (Vanessa cardui) arrived in Colorado from the southwestern U.S. in late spring and early summer 1992. Many birds took advantage of this abundant food supply. Records listed here are incomplete.)

Empidonax sp.	Hackberry butterfly	GC	29 July
	( <u>Asterocampa celtis</u> )		
Western Kingbird	Painted lady butterfly	CVCG	14 May
Scrub Jay	Pinyon pine seeds from cones	McElmo Canyon	25 Aug
Pinyon Jay	Pinyon pine seeds from cones	McElmo Canyon	25 Aug
Clark's Nutcracker	Pinyon pine seeds from cones	McElmo Canyon	25 Aug
Clark's Nutcracker	"Flycatching" (for ?)	Eagle	18 May JMe
Black-b. Magpie	House finch nestling	FC	19 May
Black-b. Magpie	House sparrow nestling	Pueblo	21 May JT
Black-b. Magpie	Elk dead on edge of road	Hesperus	24 Aug
American Crow	Pecking dead carp	Chatfield Res.	15 May
American Crow	Ripe red mulberries	GC	18 & 29 June
American Crow	Kentucky coffeetree seeds	CSU	8 Sept

(An adult crow was observed on a horizontal American elm branch pecking at a section of Kentucky coffeetree pod. The bird split the pod and ate the beanlike seeds. It then flew over to the nearby coffeetree, where a young crow of the year was begging loudly for food. The adult did not give its pod to the immature, but pecked and fussed over the pod. It was as if the adult was showing the young bird that these pods, which were all around, are food.)

American Crow	Goldfish	Colorado Sprgs	14 March JT
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B-cap Chickadee Poplar twiggall fly pupae FC ear. Apr WC&GMc  
 (This fly is becoming quite common in Colorado. It causes marble-sized swellings on the twigs of aspen. This fly spends the winter as a maggot inside the gall. This larva pupates near the gall surface. In early April the pupa wriggles from the gall and drops to the ground to transform into an adult fly. The chickadees were reported preying on the pupae just beneath the gall surface, or as they attempted to drop from the galls.)

B-cap Chickadee Scots pine seeds FC 7 March D&FH  
 Chickadee Crabapple buds FC 29 March D&FH  
 Mountain Chickadee Gambel oak bud aphids Monument Lake 6 May  
 Mountain Chickadee Red currants (Ribes sp.) Pingree Pk Rd 19 Aug

Rock Wren Grasshopper sp. Eagle 21 July JMe  
 American Dipper Stonefly (Alloperla pilosa) Red Cloud 1 Aug BK  
 Hinsdale Co.

Am. Robin Orange currants (Ribes sp.) Buena Vista 10 Aug  
 Am. Robin Ripe chokecherries Dixon 2 Sept  
 Am. Robin Shriveled pyracantha berries FC 24 March D&FH  
 Am. Robin Currants Poudre Canyon 10 July  
 Am. Robin Brownhead. ash sawfly larvae Colorado Sprgs June  
 (Tomostethus multicinctus)

Sage Thrasher Orange currants (Ribes sp.) Buena Vista 10 Aug  
 Cedar Waxwing Ripe chokecherries Dixon 2 Sept  
 Cedar Waxwing "Flycatching" Gypsum 13 Aug JMe

(Birds were flying from perch, catching several insects per flight. On certain occasions, the insects were 50-100 feet out from the perch. Juvenile waxwings begged for food, but were not given any of the "catch". After a time of this, the juveniles tried on their own. It is suspected flying ants were the prey.)

Cedar Waxwing Apple blossom petals Eagle 13 May JMe  
 European Starling Pecking apples on tree CSU 8 Sept



European Starling	Orange currants ( <u>Ribes</u> sp.)	Buena Vista	10 Aug
European Starling	Ripe chokecherries	Carr	7 Aug
European Starling	Dead painted lady butterflies	SR14 e of FC	4 May
European Starling	Dead painted lady butterflies	I-25 at Dacono	14 May
(During May it was common to see starlings eating vehicle-killed painted lady butterflies in northern Colorado. Many starlings also got killed by vehicles in their attempts to feed in this manner.)			
European Starling	Ripe red mulberries	GC	18 & 29 June
Orange-cr Warbler	Gambel oak bud aphids	Monument Lake	19 Aug
Townsend's Warbler	Linden aphids	GC	1 Sept
	( <u>Tinocallis tiliae</u> )		
Wilson's Warbler	Linden aphids (same sp.)	GC	1 Sept
Worm-eating Warbler	Cottonwood aphids	FC	17 May
Summer Tanager	Vespid wasp	Walsh	13 April JT
Western Tanager	Russian olives	CVCG	8 Sept
Black-h Grosbeak	Siberian elm seeds	near San Pablo	5 June
Rufous-s Towhee	Willow catkins (= flowers)	Dixon	3 May
Am Tree Sparrow	Sib. elm flower buds	Walsh	10 March JT
Clay-col. Sparrow	Wasps, bees & flies	CVCG	4 May
	(at coyote willow flowers)		
Sage Sparrow	Prickly poppy seed	Walden Ponds	22 March BP&MH
	( <u>Argemone</u> sp.)	Boulder Co.	
Grasshop. Sparrow	Cutworm moth sp.	Two Buttes Res.	22 June JT
Song Sparrow	Cutworm moth sp.	Two Buttes Res.	22 June JT
White-cr. Sparrow	Siberian elm flower buds	Walsh	10 March JT
White-cr. Sparrow	Chokecherries	Dixon	2 Sept
McCown's Longspur	Grasshopper ( <u>Melanoplus</u> sp.)	Weld CR124 w CR7	7 Sept
Red-w. Blackbird	Sunflower seeds from heads	Pawnee NG	7 Sept

Yellow-h. Blackbd	Sunflower seeds from heads	Pawnee NG	7 Sept
Common Grackle	Ripe red mulberries	GC	18 June
Common Grackle	Dry bread dunked in water	FC	12-13 May D&FH
Common Grackle	House sparrow nestling	Pueblo	21 May JT
Northern Oriole	Unident. green caterpillar (from cottonwood leaf)	Wheat Ridge	7 May RS
Pine Grosbeak	Dandelion seeds	Sargent's Mesa (Saguache Co.)	24 July HEK
Cassin's Finch	Dandelion seeds	Sargent's Mesa	24 July HEK
Cassin's Finch	Dandelion seeds	Flat Top Mtns. (Garfield Co.)	15 June JMe
House Finch	Ripe red mulberries	GC	18 June
House Finch	Dandelion seeds	GC	19 May
House Finch	Ripe red mulberries	GC	26 May
House Finch	Siberian elm flower buds	Walsh	16 March JT
Red Crossbill	Ponderosa pine seeds	Estes Park	15 Dec '91 D&FH
Red Crossbill	Ponderosa pine seeds	Estes Park	29 March
Red Crossbill	Douglas-fir seeds	Mt Falcon Pk (Jefferson Co.)	28 July
Red Crossbill	CO blue spruce seeds	GC	23 Aug
Pine Siskin	Dandelion seeds	Sargent's Mesa	24 July HEK
Pine Siskin	Dandelion seeds	Flat Top Mtns	15 June JMe
Pine Siskin	American elm seeds/buds	GC	22 April
Pine Siskin	Hackberry psyllids	GC	5 May
Pine Siskin	Hackb. blistergall psyllids (pecked from leaves)	GC	23 Aug
Am. Goldfinch	Am. elm seeds, flowers, buds	GC	22 April

Am. Goldfinch	Normay maple seeds	GC	22 April
Am. Goldfinch	Siberian elm seeds, leaflets	CVCG	4 May
Am. Goldfinch	Knapweed seeds ( <u>Centaurea</u> sp.)	Dixon	2 Sept
Am. Goldfinch	Teasel seeds	Penrose	2-7 Feb RW
	( <u>Dipsacus sylvestris</u> )		
Evening Grosbeak	Siberian elm seeds	near San Pablo	5 June
Evening Grosbeak	Siberian elm seeds	San Luis	5 June
House Sparrow	Dead white-lined sphinx moth	Walsh	23 May JT
House Sparrow	Dead painted lady butterfly	SR14 e of FC	14 May
House Sparrow	Caragana seeds	GC	12 July
House Sparrow	Buckeye tree aphids	CSU	3 Sept

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**Long-tailed Jaeger at Chatfield Reservoir, May 28, 1992**  
**Photo by Joe Roller. See article p. 147**

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