

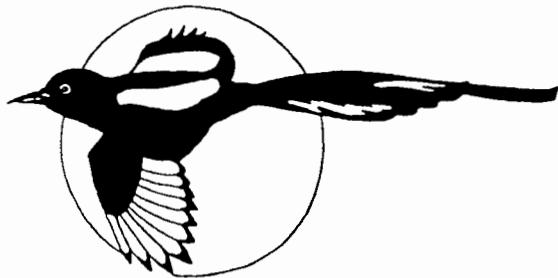
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# *C.F.O. Journal*

The Colorado Field Ornithologists' Quarterly

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## JOINT C.F.O. / W.F.O. CONVENTION

**Our 1996 C.F.O. Convention will be held jointly with the Western Field Ornithologists in Estes Park. The dates are June 14-15-16, 1996. Details are still forthcoming. See the April *C.F.O. JOURNAL* for specifics. This promises to be an exciting chance to interact with fellow birders and ornithologists from throughout the western U.S. Block out the dates and plan to attend!**

## UPCOMING C.F.O. FIELD TRIPS

### GRAND VALLEY AND GRAND MESA OWLS

Meet at 1:00 PM, Saturday 30 March 1996 at the Fruita Visitor Center. The Center is just south of Interstate 70 at Exit 19 (town of Fruita) west of Grand Junction.

Again, we will try for eight species of owls in the Valley and should see Barn Owls, Western Screech-Owls (the Grand Junction Christmas Bird Count in 1994 led all counts in North America for this species with 34 individuals), Great Horned Owls, Burrowing Owls and Long-eared Owls. After viewing the Valley owls, a dinner break is scheduled. At 6:00 PM we will convene at Mesa, a small town on the north side of the Grand Mesa (45 minutes from Grand Junction). We will then give the montane owls a try: Northern Pygmy-Owls (a long shot), Boreal Owls, and Northern Saw-whet Owls.

Last year the ever-increasing large mob was able to view five owl species. A sixth owl was heard but not seen.

Co-Leaders: Coen Dexter 970/464-7971  
Rich Levad 970/242-3979

## PICKETWIRE CANYONLANDS

Saturday, 4 May 1996. The meeting place has yet to be determined on this trip, but it promises to combine warbler migration with many of the birds resident to this little-explored region. We will look for migrants more typical of eastern states plus Greater Roadrunner, Curve-billed Thrasher, and Eastern Phoebe. Other possibilities include Scott's Oriole and Rufous-crowned Sparrow.

Final arrangements for access are not yet concluded. Access may be either by way of a trail into the Purgatoire River Canyon or more directly through the Pinyon Canyon Manuever Site (US Army). In either case, the area is ecologically sensitive and tape players will not be permitted.

Although the field trip is planned for Saturday, participants should plan to be in the areaby Friday night. You will need to pack your own food, and in all probability, water as well. La Junta is the nearest source of food, gas and lodging. Temperatures should be moderate this early in May, but could be either rainy or extremely warm. For further details, contact Alan Versaw at 719/598-7130.



### **COLORADO BIRD OBSERVATORY CONSERVATION LECTURE SERIES**

These lectures are held at the Thornton Civic Center, 9500 Civic Center Drive (on Thornton Parkway just east of I-25) at 7 P.M. Call 303/659-4348 for information. Hopefully you were able to attend the January 29, 1996 lecture by Dr. Sid Gauthreaux of Clemson University on "Radar Ornithology". Upcoming lectures scheduled are:

**Friday, Feb. 16** "The Coffee Connection: Migratory Birds and Shade-grown Coffee", by Dr. Russell Greenberg, Smithsonian Institution.

**Friday, March 22** "Outdoor Recreation is for the Birds", by Dr. Rick Knight, Colorado State University.



**UPDATE ON "THE BLUEBIRD PROJECT"**

In "The Newsletter of The Bluebird Project" for winter 1995, Coordinator Sherry Chapman reports that over 100 routes are now enrolled. Many of these nest box trails are being monitored and the results, although partial, are impressive. Mountain Bluebirds fledged 496 young from monitored boxes. Western Bluebirds ushered 174 young into the big, bad world. The project has yet to report nesting success for Eastern Bluebirds, but the addition of trails in places like Crook bodes well for boosting that species, too. Anyone interested in learning about the project is encouraged to contact Sherry at : The Bluebird Project, CDOW Volunteer Office, 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO, 80216. Phone: 303/291-7253.



Acorn Woodpecker (adult female)  
Sylvandale Ranch west of Loveland  
First Larimer County Record, found by Christen Hagen  
30 September 1995 by David Leatherman

**C.F.O. FIELD TRIP REPORT  
SOUTHEASTERN COLORADO  
SEPTEMBER 9, 1995**

Mark Janos  
10 Sedum Court  
Pueblo, CO 81001  
719/544-5002

Gray Pueblo skies and light drizzle "greeted" a group of C.F.O. birders on the morning of September 9, 1995. There were 10 participants: John Barber (Ft. Collins), Leon Bright (Pueblo), Gary Conover (Colorado Springs), Mark Hullinger (Colorado Springs), Mark Janos, leader (Pueblo), Mike and Ranae Ketchen (Pueblo West), Brandon Percival (Pueblo West), Joe Roller (Denver), David Smith (Colorado Springs) and Alan Versaw (Colorado Springs). The group picked up four additional members at the first stop at Lake Henry: Donna Davis (Swink), John McBride (Utah), Mike Rader (Kansas) and Scott Seltman (Kansas).

The group dodged rain and wind all day. We visited Lake Henry, Lake Meredith, Lake Cheraw, Lake Holbrook, the La Junta Golf Course sewage ponds, and Rocky Ford State Wildlife Area (SWA). Birding seemed very slow for the Arkansas Valley in autumn, but as often happens, a goodie or two was turned up.

The grove at the northwest edge of Lake Henry produced a few migrants, including Orange-crowned, Yellow and Wilson's Warblers and a Yellow-breasted Chat. A Red-breasted Nuthatch, a Gray Catbird and a few Brown Thrashers rounded out the landbird list. Scott Seltman and Mike Rader found us near the grove and added an Eastern Phoebe and a jaeger species to the group list. We did manage to re-find the jaeger and agreed with our Kansas contingent that it was a subadult, light-phase Parasitic.

At Lake Meredith we spotted Forster's Terns and a few got identifiable glimpses of Common Terns as well. We stopped for lunch at Lake Holbrook and then continued on to Lake Cheraw. We added Horned and Eared Grebes, many ducks, Black Terns, lots of Black-necked Stilts and a smattering of shorebirds. Our next stop was the La Junta Golf Course sewage ponds (where Upland Sandpiper, Red Knot and Red-necked Phalarope had been seen during the previous week). Isn't it always the case? We should have been there "last week". But we did add a few species of shorebirds to our day list.

On the way to our next stop, one sharp-eyed participant spotted a late Mississippi Kite in North La Junta and we all stopped to view it. At Rocky



Ford SWA we split up and wandered about. Our Kansas friends found two American Redstarts. Some saw a Green Heron and a Black-crowned Night-Heron here, too.

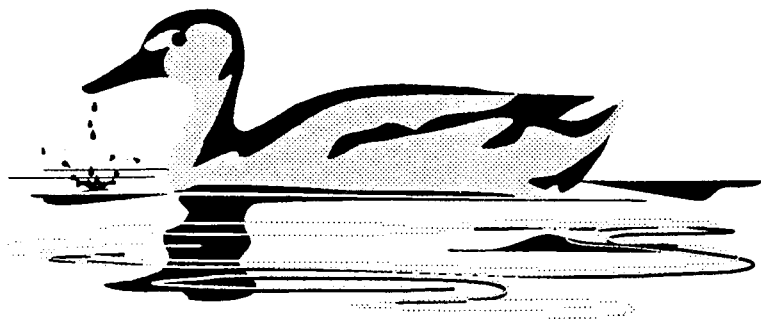
By late afternoon it was once again spitting rain. We returned to Lake Henry to try to get additional views of the Parasitic Jaeger. The entrance road had not absorbed all the rain and we squished and squashed our way up the entrance road to glimpse the lake. It was too windy, wet and muddy to build our enthusiasm much, so we called it a day and returned to Pueblo.

For some of us, a field trip ain't over 'til it's over, so for an intrepid few, we drove 23 miles north from Pueblo to a small pond at Hannah Ranch SWA. We did this to search for a Ruddy Turnstone that Alan Versaw had spotted on the way down to meet our group that very morning. Finally, there in dwindling light and increasing rain, four of us saw it. It was a satisfying capper to a long, tough day.

Although it had seemed slow, we ended the trip with a list of 95 species.

Pied-billed Grebe	Common Tern
Horned Grebe	Forster's Tern
Eared Grebe	Black Tern
Western Grebe	Rock Dove
Clark's Grebe	Mourning Dove
American White Pelican	Common Nighthawk
Double-crested Cormorant	Belted Kingfisher
Great Blue Heron	Lewis' Woodpecker
Green Heron	Red-headed Woodpecker
Black-crowned Night-Heron	Northern Flicker
White-faced Ibis	<b>Eastern Phoebe</b>
Green-winged Teal	Western Kingbird
Mallard	Eastern Kingbird
Northern Pintail	Horned Lark
Blue-winged Teal	Barn Swallow
Cinnamon Teal	Blue Jay
Northern Shoveler	Black-billed Magpie
American Wigeon	American Crow
Redhead	Black-capped Chickadee
Lesser Scaup	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Ruddy Duck	House Wren
Turkey Vulture	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Osprey	<i>Catharus</i> (thrush) sp.
Mississippi Kite	American Robin
Northern Harrier	Gray Catbird
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Brown Thrasher

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Swainson's Hawk         | Cedar Waxwing          |
| Red-tailed Hawk         | Loggerhead Shrike      |
| Ferruginous Hawk        | European Starling      |
| American Kestrel        | Orange-crowned Warbler |
| Prairie Falcon          | Yellow Warbler         |
| Scaled Quail            | American Redstart      |
| American Coot           | Common Yellowthroat    |
| Killdeer                | Wilson's Warbler       |
| Black-necked Stilt      | Yellow-breasted Chat   |
| Greater Yellowlegs      | Canyon Towhee          |
| Lesser Yellowlegs       | Chipping Sparrow       |
| Spotted Sandpiper       | Clay-colored Sparrow   |
| <b>Ruddy Turnstone</b>  | Lark Sparrow           |
| Least Sandpiper         | Lark Bunting           |
| Baird's Sandpiper       | Savannah Sparrow       |
| Stilt Sandpiper         | Red-winged Blackbird   |
| Wilson's Phalarope      | Western Meadowlark     |
| <b>Parasitic Jaeger</b> | Common Grackle         |
| Franklin's Gull         | Brown-headed Cowbird   |
| Ring-billed Gull        | House Finch            |
| California Gull         | American Goldfinch     |
|                         | House Sparrow          |



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**RESULTS OF THE NORTHEASTERN COLORADO TRIP...  
or CAN WE FIND TWO TRADITIONAL LIFERS?**

D. W. King  
P. O. Box 1539  
Lyons, CO 80540  
303/823-5554

This 24 September 1995 C.F.O. trip covered from Tamarack Ranch State Wildlife Area (SWA) to the Gent's Woods at Ovid. Fellow searchers were George Armbrust, Bill Fink (Co-leader), Dean and Mona Hill, D. W. King, and Bill Prather (Co-leader). D. W. took on the honor of listing all wildlife encountered, plus writing these results.

One co-leader plus D. W. arrived the afternoon of 23 September to conduct a scout trip. Our mission came to be: find the BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER plus the RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER. Our scout day count gave 65 species versus a 70 species total on trip day. Our overall total came to 95 bird species (plus 7 forms or color morphs), 3 mammals and 3 amphibians. One leader wished for at least 100 species, so this way he gets 101. A Great Horned Owl, that Prather heard at our Jumbo Reservoir campsite, was not observed when D. W. set out flashlighting for owls the evening of the 23rd. Also, a traditional Screech-Owl territory was apparently unoccupied at this time.

However, upon arriving the next day George Armbrust plus Dean and Mona Hill did report two rewarding encounters. George counted 39 Swainson's Hawks in one field eight miles south of the Wyoming border within the Pawnee National Grasslands. The observation confirmed this species was on its way, casually, to Argentina. Our separate ride from Boulder County east to Sedgwick County only showed an estimated 20 individual Swainson's Hawks, perched or foraging along the highways. The Hills noticed a Merlin along I-76 within 5 miles of Exit 149.

Jumbo Reservoir proved best for American White Pelican (800), the Grebe Family (3 species), Double-crested Cormorant (237), Ruddy Duck (32), Black-bellied Plover (5), Lesser Yellowlegs (20), Sanderling (35), Least Sandpiper (24), Baird's Sandpiper (22), and Forster's Tern (1). Although we carefully walked and searched the high-water mudflats of Jumbo's southeast curve, the Buff-breasted Sandpiper did not cooperate. No one thought of a walk-and-drive strategy completely around this large reservoir.

Both raptor and gallinaceous birds gave us our best encounters at Tamarack SWA. People usage is a sign-in/sign-out procedure, so we operated from Area #7E - Prather's lucky site- plus Area #1W. Sharp-shinned Hawks (two immatures) liked the east side of the Platte River, while an immature Cooper's

Hawk favored the wood's edge on the west side. A Broad-winged Hawk (adult female) gave us our raptor-of-the-day. She circled over our heads on the east side. An unidentified hawk, possibly a second Broad-wing, also used more woodlands between ditches at Tamarack's west side. A light-morph Red-tailed Hawk using field edges on the east side made D. W. question a KRIDER'S subspecies. Apparently, a much paler head, more white-mottled back feathers, and fewer belly-necklace feathers would be needed to qualify a Krider's form (Clark and Wheeler 1987, p. 70-71). Northern Harriers (11) showed at five areas. This count provided a brown-to-gray ratio of 10:1. A Prairie Falcon, using pole perches near I-76, did show via very long-distance view, what it likes for lunch: either Western Meadowlark or Red-winged Blackbird. Our second top candidate for avian predator has to go to a Burrowing Owl. Prather suspected one in a field just west, and prior to, the turn for Red Lion SWA. Our total driving time gave us three at three places. George Armbrust started our owl list first thing on trip day. He found three Great Horned Owls (all large enough to be females) at Tamarack's west side.

Gallinaceous birds rewarded our efforts with three species. The Wild Turkey (6 hens) were found on scout day near Tamarack Area #6E. Northern Bobwhite (covey of 8) demonstrated their surprise flight tactics late the next day near Area #1W. Then the Ring-necked Pheasant (single hen) showed her roadside foraging tactics in the late-afternoon on trip day. Finding the pheasant along SR 138, a well-used road, was somewhat unexpected.

The Woodpecker Family also proved rewarding. Both Red-headed and the RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER were quite active along Tamarack's west side. On scout day, we found an adult plus an immature Red-headed foraging along a line of telephone poles. The next day showed our whole party this bird's preference for this same line of poles: we all examined two young. Scout day yielded long distance views of the Red-bellied (3, maybe 4). These all liked lines of cottonwoods between river ditches near Area #1W. Prather and D. W. could not get closer than 30 yards before the skittish nature of this "rare to uncommon resident" (Andrews and Righter 1992, p. 200) would send it flying away. Thus, the intense red mohawk-styled crown-to-nape could not be seen. By the way, can we ask the A.O.U. to change this one's name to maybe "Red-crowned" or "Mohawk-crowned Woodpecker"? Prather suggested he heard one at Gent's Woods in Ovid. However, a party of three struggled through the riparian corridor but did not make Prather's notion into a confirmation.

Three forms of Northern Flicker provided a chance to measure the extent of hybridization in this part of northeastern Colorado. A total of 111 birds judged to be hybrids or "intergrades" were seen, along with only 8 pure "yellow-shafted" forms and 20 "red-shafted" forms. These counts give the intergrade

form 14 and 5.5 times greater densities when compared with the yellow and red forms, respectively.

Additional bird species seen at Tamarack (Area #1W) and Gent's Woods at Ovid, provide increased sparkle to this field trip. On trip day, we all wondered why the Townsend's Solitaire (13 of 18) liked Tamarack SWA. One leader also had very good luck at spotting both a Tennessee and a Magnolia Warbler as they foraged through tree foliage and waist-high thickets. At Ovid, Mona Hill found a Brown Creeper just by staying put in the car. However, Prather and Dean together got maybe a ten-second look at a Solitary Vireo (eastern "blue-headed" form). Finally, all four of us got fast looks at an American Redstart, as she foraged above the 15-foot level in cottonwood foliage. Seeing this species so far to the east, which in Boulder County is mostly in foothills edge habitats, gave D. W. a new view into bird behavioral ecology.

Literature Cited

Andrews, R. and R. Righter. 1992. Colorado Birds. Denver Museum of Natural History. 442 pages.

Clark, W.S. and B.K. Wheeler. 1987. A Field Guide to Hawks of North America. Houghton-Mifflin Company. Boston, Mass. 198 pages.



Great Egret  
"Buffalo Wallow", near Walsh (Baca County)  
26 September 1995 by Janeal Thompson

**A BIRDER'S GUIDE TO O V MESA  
PURGATOIRE RIVER VALLEY, SOUTHEAST COLORADO**

Robert Spencer  
4430 Gladiola Street  
Golden, CO 80403  
303/279-4682

and

Warren Finch  
455 Dover Street  
Lakewood, CO 80226  
303/233-3372

O V Mesa at last! Only a few more feet of steep abandoned road and we were on top of this isolated feature, which is a Colorado Nature Conservancy preserve and part of a Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas block. Widely spaced pinyon pine and juniper trees fifteen to thirty feet high were just ahead, beckoning us to explore. It was only 9 AM Sunday, May 29, 1994, and a beautiful day. Two hours before, we had left our 4-wheel drive, regular-clearance station wagon at our camp near the end of a ranch road deeply rutted by travel after a devastating rain storm earlier in the week. We hiked northward down a long steep, boulder-strewn and rutted jeep road into Bruno Canyon and then eastward along its bottom to a saddle at the south end of O V Mesa. Here, the only "road" had been blasted straight up through the sandstone ledges for access to build a stock pond long ago.

After briefly exploring a good variety of trees and shrubs for birds along the wide ledge near the south rim, we followed the "road", now an indistinct stony track to the small reservoir. It was dry and mostly overgrown with short, dry grass, with wind-blown patches of sand. No sign of moisture in spite of the recent heavy rain.

The mesa, shaped like a big "O" attached to a long-legged "V", rises nearly 1,000 feet above the Purgatoire River. It is formed by a continuous 180-200 foot cliff of Lower Cretaceous Dakota Sandstone for all of its five-mile circumference. It is nearly a mile wide at the north and south ends, and as narrow as 200 feet near the north-center. There is a small erosional boulder-filled gulch at the north end, but it ends at the rim.

Located south of the Purgatoire River and west of Chacuaco Creek, O V Mesa has marvelous overlooks of the large deep valleys and canyons that surround it. We, however, had to traverse the whole mesa and could not spend much time at overlooks. We stayed within sight of each other, with Spencer keeping

an eye on Finch's bright red backpack. When we were near the north end, Warren called out "red birds". Bob saw two Hepatic Tanagers fly low across the east rim, where one perched on a dead snag. We did not get very close before it flew and was gone. Most of the meadows and spaces between trees were covered with widely-scattered clumps of feather grass (Genus *Stipa*) (West, 1991). The soil seemed thin and sandy in most places. In a few areas, there were 10-inch clumps of "Spanish Bayonets" (*Yucca glauca*) (West, 1991) evenly spaced, as if planted in a garden, but none had flowering stems. Several times we found 3-foot wide patches of a prickly-pear cactus with beautiful yellow blossoms. As we returned along the center of the mesa, we saw exposures of sandstone polished smooth and covered with black desert varnish. In several places we found the ground surface covered with a desert pavement of various-colored sandstone shards. Twice, we came upon large clumps of flowers. One consisted of numerous blossoms of a large white daisy with a yellow center. Later, we came upon 2-foot high Indian paintbrush with bright red bracts.

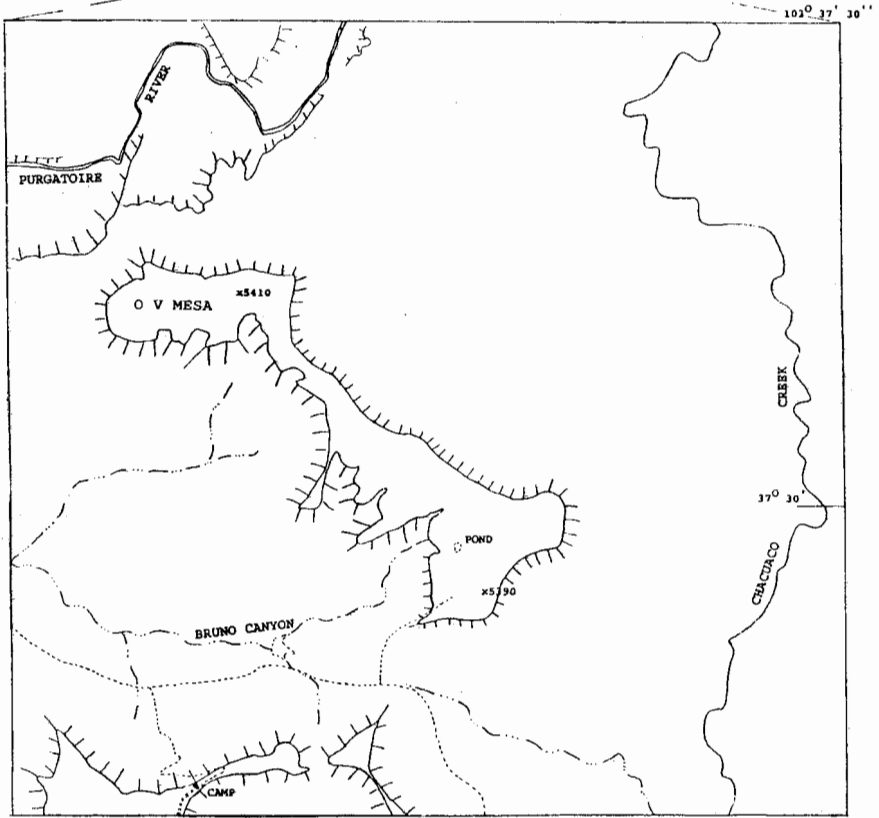
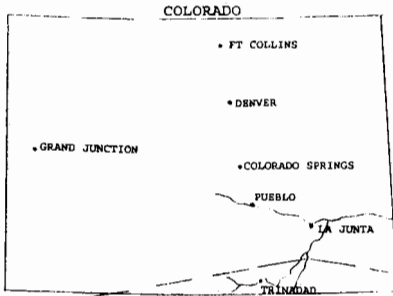
Resident birds on the mesa top were scarce, if present at all. We saw less than 30 individuals, although a large flock of Chihuahuan Ravens flew over at noon. The most abundant were Pinyon Jay (6), Scrub Jay (4), Rufous-sided Towhee (3), Black-headed Grosbeak (pair + 1), Hepatic Tanager (pair) and Lark Sparrow (pair). Single individuals included Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, White-breasted Nuthatch (heard only), American Robin, Solitary Vireo (singing), and Vesper Sparrow. Possible nesters on the mesa top are Lark Sparrow and Black-headed Grosbeak. The Hepatic Tanager probably nests near the sandstone cliffs, for it was not seen at all in the Atlas survey block.

There were no snakes or lizards, and almost no insects. Because forbs are scarce, the only mammal observed was a lone cottontail rabbit near the south rim. The water that surely comes, soaks into the sandy ground quickly and any surplus runs off readily, leaving only sparse plants that have learned to adapt to scarce water. This mesa's extreme aridity and isolation have protected it from transgression by Indians and later from ranchers, their chattel and cattle. Thus, O V Mesa is a unique ungrazed ecosystem- one the Conservancy's monitoring program should find a great natural laboratory.

Certainly, the few hours we spent were not enough to get more than an overview of the bird and other animal life. A study below the rim circumference would take several days but would provide a richer picture.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- West, Keldyn. 1991. O V Mesa Preserve Baseline Biological Inventory; Prepared for the Colorado Board of Land Commissioners: The CO Nature Conservancy Field Office, Boulder, CO 80203, 16 p.



SKETCH MAP OF O V MESA





## BLACK SWIFTS IN THE SANGRE DE CRISTO MOUNTAINS

Alan E. Versaw  
403 Maplewood Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80907  
719/598-7130

On the morning of August 7, 1995, my hiking partner and I broke camp to begin an ascent of Callenger and Kit Carson Peaks in the Sangre de Cristo range. At 6:15 AM, we sat down to eat beside Willow Lake, a stunning subalpine lake surrounded on almost all sides by dramatic rock faces.

The bird life around the lake included the obligatory juncos and chickadees, but my attention was drawn to some birds flying high over the lake. The light was not particularly good this early in the morning, but the behavior and shape of the birds soon gave them away as swifts. On previous visits to the perimeter of the San Luis Valley, I had seen only White-throated Swifts. I assumed these, too, were White-throated Swifts and was about to go on when two birds passes nearer than the others had been flying. I immediately noticed, even in the poor light, a complete absence of white coloration. Flight characteristics helped me to confirm these birds as Black Swifts.

My attention was now fixed and I watched the birds for nearly another half-hour, even though we soon began progressing along the north side of the lake. Near its northeastern corner, I noticed a wet rock face, nearly vertical, around which several of these birds seemed to be flying. A large waterfall was just to the southeast of this face, but the birds seemed to be favoring the wet face and ignoring the waterfall area (which was flanked on either side by dry rock). Although I looked briefly, I was unable to locate any nest sites on the wet face.

By 6:45 AM, the birds had departed from the area. I did not see them again, either in the morning or in the afternoon when we returned to the lake. My assumption is that they left on extended feeding flights and would be seen only at irregular intervals during the day. The maximum number of birds I saw at any one time was five. I believe, however, that a good estimate of the total number of birds would be 10-12.

The birds' behavior around the cliff face and the apparent suitability of the cliff face as a nesting site suggest that these birds may have a small breeding colony at Willow Lake. Perhaps subsequent visits to the lake will confirm this speculation.

Visiting the lake, however, involves no small investment of effort. The trail to the lake begins just east of the small town of Crestone and ascends steadily for five miles (sometimes through a couple inches of loose sand) before reaching

the lake. Three hours, minimum, should be allowed for hiking the trail one way. Some ravenous colonies of mosquitoes along the way help ensure your party maintains a healthy pace.



Brown Pelican  
Confluence Park in Delta (Delta County)  
June-July 1995 by Coen Dexter

**BIRDWATCHER**

Her only companion  
(The rusted horse.)  
Travels on Heaven's grains,  
(always rutted).

Laying gates to rest,  
They enter sand and stream.

Spots  
Hollow bones with color  
continuously lurking.  
Camouflaging rocks  
Hide them.

"A rare number?"  
"Let me know."  
GONE!

Back to the ol' procedure.

Michael P. Thompson  
(birdwatcher's son)  
November 1995  
Walsh, CO



## MYSTERY HAWK

Virginia Dionigi  
2949 University Avenue  
Longmont, CO 80503  
303/776-2609

and

Tony Esposito  
500 E 11th Avenue #4  
Denver, CO 80203  
303/861-5872

Banding birds at the Allegra Collister Nature Area, a.k.a. Lykins Gulch, is always exciting. But on September 26, 1995, when we caught this mystery hawk in one of our mistnets, excitement was at an all-time high.

The hawk must have pursued a White-crowned Sparrow into the net and had been caught itself. As we freed the bird from the net, our first guess was a female Cooper's Hawk. But on closer examination, we were puzzled.

Nothing fit for a Cooper's!

The hawk needed a #6 band, while most Cooper's only use a #4. Body length equalled 40 cm and the tail was 170 mm. The tail was too short for Cooper's, as a previously banded one had been 195 mm. The head and upperwing were brown, edged in white. A pale superciliary line with a black malar stripe marked the brown, mottled head and face. The body underparts were very light-colored and flecked with chocolate vertical streaks. The underwing and leg feathers had few markings, except for dark tips on the primary and secondary wing feathers. Five darker brown bands marked the tail, with the subterminal being the widest. The tail tip had a narrow white band. The wing shape was somewhat pointed. The iris was medium brown, not red or greenish-yellow, like that of an accipiter eye.

What species was this mystery hawk?

We poured over all references available and came to the surprise conclusion it was an immature Broad-winged Hawk and probably a female because of its size and the #6 band needed.

How did a Broad-winged Hawk come to be in our net?

Broad-winged Hawks are small eastern forest buteos that prey on large insects or small mammals, birds, toads, frogs and reptiles. Few are sighted on our eastern plains every spring and fall migration. One possible explanation why we caught the hawk was it had been blown off course due to an early snow storm three days before and had been hunting the gulch that morning.

Several photos were taken and the bird released. It first flew to a nearby branch, allowing a few more pictures to be snapped before it took flight and disappeared among the trees. When Joe Harrison, our banding partner, viewed the photos, he confirmed it was indeed a rare Broad-winged Hawk and an immature.

In a later conversation with Dr. Ron Ryder, he stated twenty-seven years ago a pair of Broad-winged Hawks had nested in Fort Collins' Grandview Cemetery and he banded two of the offspring. He also added one interesting fact: one of their favorite meals had been earthworms. Neither the recently completed Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas Project (Hugh Kingery, personal communication - ED) nor *Audubon Field Notes* (formerly *American Birds*) records any recent Colorado Broad-winged Hawk nestings. Tony Leukering of the Colorado Bird Observatory believes our hawk was the first Broad-winged Hawk to be banded in the state since the two in Fort Collins in 1978.

The banding team is now anxiously awaiting the 1996 spring banding session. If we can catch a prize like the Broad-winged Hawk in our nets, what will be next?



Broad-winged Hawk (immature)  
Lykins Gulch east of Lyons (Boulder County)  
26 September 1995

**THE REPORT OF THE COLORADO BIRD  
RECORDS COMMITTEE (CBRC) FOR 1993**

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303/776-2191

This report includes 127 records that were circulated and voted on. There were 111 new records, seven records that were part of a batch lost during the 1988 circulation (copies were found and resubmitted by Mark Janos), six previously unaccepted records that were recirculated by request, one record that had not received a decisive vote from the 1991 batch, and two records that had been previously accepted but renumbered and recirculated by mistake when new reports were received. The reports were generally very good and all but ten were accepted.

Each record is assigned a unique number (boldfaced in this report). The first part is a family code, the second is the year the record was received, and the third is the number the report was assigned when received that year (the numbers running from "1" through however many records were received that year).

The new rules of the CBRC state that a record is accepted on the first circulation with a unanimous vote to accept or with one dissension. Any record that receives two or three votes to not accept on the second circulation is discussed and voted on at the annual meeting. At the annual meeting a record is accepted if it receives no more than one vote to not accept from the CBRC members present. An unaccepted report does not necessarily mean an incorrect identification. In most cases it just means there were not enough details in the report or not enough information available to make a definite decision.

As a result of records in this report, three new species are added to the C.F.O. Official State Checklist: Common Black Hawk, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, and Red-faced Warbler. With these additions, the checklist stands at 452 species.

C.F.O. Records Committee Members who voted on these reports were: Bob Dickson (Pueblo); Peter Gent (Boulder); Joe Himmel (Greeley), who voted on the first and second circulations before his term expired; Rich Levad (Grand Junction); Bill Prather (Longmont); Paul Opler (Loveland); Bob Righter (Denver), who became a new member and voted only at the annual meeting; and Dick Schottler (Golden).

Thanks very much to all who submitted reports; to Hugh Kingery, Phil Hayes and the Denver Museum of Natural History for forwarding and archiving records; and to all committee members. It is a big job and took a lot of work on the part of everyone.

All the following reports received unanimous votes to accept on the first circulation, except as noted.

**Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*)** Three reports were received: **1-93-6** One at Highline Lake near Loma 10/31/1992, 16th accepted record and only the second accepted record for western Colorado, report by Rich Levad and Coen Dexter. **1-93-4** One at Chatfield Res. 4/8-9/1993, 17th accepted record and the first accepted record for spring, report by J.B. Hayes. **1-93-100** One at Cherry Creek Res. 11/11/1993 and 11/16/1993, report by Jack Reddall, 18th accepted record.

**Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)** **4-93-112** One immature at NeeSoPah Res. 7/17/1988-9/24/1988, report by Mark Janos, becomes the 7th accepted record and 4-90-2, previously accepted, becomes the 8th accepted record.

**Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*)** Three reports were received: **5-93-113** One adult at Hart's Basin near Delta 4/26/1988 becomes the new 22nd record, as it occurred before six records that have since been accepted, report by Mark Janos. **5-93-74** One immature at Turk's Pond, Baca Co. 8/26/1993, report by Karleen Schofield, 29th accepted record. **5-93-45** One immature at Lake Henry 9/5/1993, report by Mark Janos, 30th accepted record.

**Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*)** **5-93-70** One at Huerfano Lake, Pueblo Co. First found and identified by Allen Wood, reports by Dave Silverman and Brandon Percival, 14th accepted record.

**Reddish Egret (*Egretta rufescens*)** **5-93-72** One at Neeskah Res. 4/22/1993, report and photographs by Thomas E. Kihn. The vote to accept on the first circulation was 3-4 because most members did not get the photographs. Vote on 2nd circulation was 6-0, 3rd accepted record.

**Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*)** Two reports were received: **8-93-111** three adults and two immatures on the Colorado River between Debeque and Parachute 1/12/1993 and 1/16/1993, report by Richard Levad, 10th accepted record **8-93-2** Two adults and 2 immatures at Lake Henry 2/28/1993, discovered by Lin Lilly, reports by Mark Janos and Brandon Percival, 11th accepted record.

**Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*) 8-93-24** One at Broadmoor Lake, Colorado Springs 5/28/1993 to at least 9/5/1993. This report was unanimously not accepted. Members felt that it was almost certainly not of wild origin. The location is well known for exotic waterfowl and the bird did not show any natural migration tendency.

**American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*)** Reports received on two sightings: **8-93-3** One near Holly 12/27/92, report by Mark Janos. **8-93-46** One in Pueblo 9/12/1993-11/26/1993, reports by Brandon Percival and Mark Janos, accepted with dissent of one member who felt a case could be made for non-wild origin. These two make eight records of this species that have been accepted by the records committee since 1977 and there are more than 20 older specimen and sight records.

**Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*)** Three reports were received, the 17th, 18th and 19th accepted records. **8-93-120** One adult male at Hart's Basin near Delta 3/29/1993, report by Rich Levad. **8-93-71** One adult male at Home Lake, Rio Grande Co. 4/4/1993 to 4/11/1993, report by Alan H. Carothers. **8-93-110** One immature male at San Luis Lake 10/24/1993, report by R. Lindsay Lilly, Jr.

**Black Scoter (*Melanitta nigra*)** Two reports were received, the 17th and 18th accepted records. **8-93-105** One female at Pueblo Res. 10/17/1993, found by Lin Lilly, report by Brandon Percival. **8-93-99** One female at Cherry Creek Res. 11/16/1993 and 11/22/1993, report by Jack Reddall.

**American Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) 10-93-38** One at Lamar 7/5/1993, report by Walter Hackney, 9th accepted record.

**Common Black Hawk (*Buteogallus anthracinus*)** One new report received a mixed vote on first circulation. A 1980 sighting at Chatfield Res. was accepted by the committee and the species was added to the state list. A later committee removed the species from the list because of doubt about the bird's origin - there was no established pattern of vagrancy. Since that time, three reports had been received. The chair decided there was enough new information to recirculate and vote on all the records: **10-80-83** One at Chatfield Res. 6/20/1980, reports by Bob Andrews and Kate Kittleman, unanimous vote to accept, again becomes the first accepted state record. **10-91-22** One east of Cortez 3/19/1991, vote to accept: 0-6, members felt that the description was too brief and not conclusive. **10-91-23** One at Corrizo Mountain, Baca Co., 6/15/1991, report by Rupert Higgins and Dawn Lawrence, unanimous vote to accept, 2nd accepted record. **10-93-14** One in Fort Collins 4/29/1993. Most members thought the observer had seen a Common Black Hawk but the description did not absolutely clinch the



identification. Not accepted, votes to accept were 3-3-1 on original circulation, 3-3 on recirculation, and 3-3 at the convention meeting.

**Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*)** Reports of three sightings were received, the 17th, 18th and 19th accepted records. **10-93-55** A pair at Ireland Res. #5 near Hudson 4/9/1993, reports by John Vanderpoel and Jake Edge. **10-93-61** One immature in Fort Collins 5/7-8/1993, report by David Leatherman. **10-93-73** One adult at Horsetooth Res. 6/5/1993, report by Franklin Haas and Barbara M. Haas.

**Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*)** Two reports were received: **12-93-13** One east of Boulder 1/15/1993, report by Joe TenBrink, accepted with one dissent, 7th accepted record. **12-93-81** One reported one mile west of New Raymer, Weld Co. 3/16/1993, report by Dave Bolton, 8th accepted record.

**Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*)** **17-93-26** One at Huerfano Lake, Pueblo Co. 6/21/1993, reports by Dave Silverman and Bob Dickson, 10th accepted record.

**American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*)** **18-93-89** Four at Blue Lake, Bent Co. 9/12-19/1993, reports by Bob Dickson and Karleen Schofield. There are many fall records but birders should carefully check for Pacific Golden-Plover, which was recently split from this species.

**Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*)** Two reports were received: **19-93-114** One at Lake Meredith near Fort Lyons 5/21/1988, report by Mark Janos, becomes the 15th accepted record. **19-93-67** One at Lake Cheraw 5/23/1992, report by Mark Janos, becomes the 19th accepted record.

**Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*)** Three reports were received, the 34th, 35th and 36th accepted records. **19-93-68** One breeding-plumaged adult at Neenoshe Res. 5/23/1992, report by Mark Janos. **19-93-91** One at Blue Lake, Bent Co. 9/5/1993 and 9/20/1993, reports by Bob Dickson and Karleen Schofield, may have been two different birds. **19-93-84** One at Union Res. 9/19/1993, report by Joe Mammoser.

**Red Knot (*Calidris canutus*)** Three reports were received, the 27th, 28th and 29th accepted records. **19-93-39** One at Cherry Creek Res. 8/8/1993, report by Walter Hackney. **19-93-82** One in breeding plumage at Blue Lake, Bent Co. 9/6/1993, report by Dave Silverman. **19-93-95** Two in basic plumage at Blue Lake, Bent Co. 9/19/1993, report by Karleen Schofield.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Tryngites subruficollis*)** Two reports were received, 22nd and 23rd accepted records. **19-93-90** One at Blue Lake, Bent

Co. 9/5/1993, report by Bob Dickson. **19-93-98** One at Neenoshe Res. 9/10/1993, report by Karleen Schofield.

**Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*)** Two reports were received: **19-93-115** One at Hart's Basin near Delta 5/8/1988, report by Mark Janos, becomes the 12th accepted record. **19-93-83** One immature at Angel Lake, near Severance, Weld Co. 8/17-18/1993, report by Andrew Smith, 14th accepted record. This species is probably much more common than the number of accepted records would indicate in Colorado, but all sightings should be carefully checked due to the difficulty of separating this species from Long-billed Dowitcher.

**Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicaria*)** **21-93-96** One at Blue Lake, Bent Co. 9/19/1993, report by Karleen Schofield, 19th accepted record.

**Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*)** Documentations of two occurrences were received, the 4th and 5th accepted records. **22-93-41** One adult at Blue Lake, Bent Co. 9/12/1993, report by Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, photograph by Clifton Smith. **22-93-102** One immature at Union Res. 10/14-20/1993, originally identified by John Prather, reports by Peter Gent and David Leatherman, photographs by David Leatherman.

**Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*)** **22-93-57** One at Cherry Creek Res. 10/3/1993, vote to accept 0-7, members felt that there were too few details to rule out similar species, this is a very difficult identification.

**Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*)** **23-93-44** One first winter at Cherry Creek Res. 12/13-14/1993, report by Joe TenBrink, 6-1 vote to accept, 18th accepted record.

**Little Gull (*Larus minutus*)** **23-93-94** One immature on South Platte River, Adams Co. 10/15/1993, report by Karleen Schofield, 8th accepted record.

**Mew Gull (*Larus canus*)** Two records were received, the 9th and 10th accepted records. **23-93-7** One adult east of Mack, Mesa Co. 11/15/1992, report by Rich Levad. **23-93-35** One first-winter at Cherry Creek Res. 11/18/1992, report by Steve Stachowiak, vote to accept 6-1.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*)** Four records were received, the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th accepted records: **23-93-5** One adult at Pueblo Res. 2/7/1993, report by Mark Janos. **23-93-20** One adult and one second-winter at Baseline Res. 2/20/1993-3/1/1993, report on the adult by David Ely and on the second-winter by Steven Feldstein. **23-93-19** One adult at Lake Henry

2/27-28/1993, reports by Brandon Percival and Dave Silverman. 23-93-87  
One second-year at Blue Lake, Bent Co. 9/12/1993, report by Dave Silverman.

**Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*)** Three reports received, the 6th, 7th, and 8th accepted records. 23-93-69 One first-winter at Pueblo Res. 3/14/1993-4/20/1993, reports by Mark Janos and Dave Silverman. 23-93-37 One adult at Chatfield Res. 5/10/1993, report by Steve Stachowiak. 23-93-47 One second-summer at Pueblo Res. 10/1/1993 and 11/25-26/1993, report by Mark Janos. Mark thought this was probably the same bird as 23-93-69.

**Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*)** 23-93-116 One adult at Hart's Basin, Delta Co. 4/28-29/1988, 4th accepted West Slope record.

**White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*)** Two reports were received, the 12th and 13th accepted records. 25-93-58 One near Akron 6/8/1992, report by Grant Beauprez, votes to accept 5-2 and 6-0. 25-93-27 One at Walsh, Baca Co. 6/14-23/1993 and 8/5-6/1993, first found by Tex and Pat Buckhaults, report by Janeal Thompson.

**Common Ground Dove (*Columbina passerina*)** 25-93-51 One heard at Jumbo Res. 8/20/1993. Vote to accept was 3-2 on original circulation, 4-2 on second circulation, and 4-2 at the annual meeting. Dissenting members felt hearing the bird alone was not adequate for identification. Since this was a single observer report, it would not have been the first unconditional state record if accepted. There are two accepted single observer records but until an accepted record with at least two observers or a photograph, specimen, or recording is obtained, this species will not be added to the state list.

**Snowy Owl (*Nyctea scandiaca*)** 28-93-28 One west of New Raymer 3/16/1993, report and photograph by David Bolton, 45th accepted record.

**Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis*)** 28-93-108 Two calling near Beulah 5/8/1993, report by Brandon Percival, 18th accepted record.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*)** 31-91-42 One adult male at Rye 7/13/1991, reports by Tom Shane and Dave Silverman, photograph by Tom Shane, opinion by William Baltosser of the University of Arkansas. This record did not receive a decisive vote when circulated with the other 1991 records and more information was sought. Comparison photographs of similar photographs were presented at the annual meeting and a vote taken after discussion. Vote to accept was 5-1, 1st accepted record.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*)** 33-93-52 One at Bonny Res. 9/19/1993. The identification was based only on the lack of any red on the nape. Other details in the report indicated much worn or aberrant

plumage, so most members felt Red-naped Sapsucker was not eliminated. Votes to accept were 3-3, 1-5.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) 34-93-117** One on the Cimarron River, Baca Co. 5/29/1988, report by Mark Janos. This is a new report of the record that was circulated and accepted as 34-88-21, vote to accept was 6-1, still the 14th accepted record.

**Gray Flycatcher (*Empidonax wrightii*) 34-93-77** One at Dixon Res., Larimer Co. 5/4/1993, report by David Ely, northernmost of less than 10 accepted records for the northern Front Range area.

**Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) 34-93-75** One northeast of Durango 5/22/1993, report by Gloria Childress, 2nd accepted West Slope record.

**Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) 36-93-106** A pair west of Trinidad 7/22/1993, report by Brandon Percival, this is outside known breeding area.

**Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) 37-93-33** One at Aspen 10/27-28/1993, report by Dale Abrams, this species seems to be slowly spreading into western Colorado.

**Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*) 42-93-56** One near Wellington, Larimer Co. 6/15-27/1993, report by Steven G. Martin, 18th accepted record.

**Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*) 45-93-25** Photographs taken at Red Rocks Park 6/27/1993, vote to accept 1-6, members thought all the photographs depicted Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, although one appeared to have an unusually dark tail.

**Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus*)** Four records were received, the 14th, 15th, 16th and 17th accepted records. **44-93-76** One at Lamar 5/1/1993, reports by Mark Janos and Brandon Percival. **44-93-78** One at Waneka Lake, Boulder Co. 5/13/1993, report by David Ely. **44-93-79** One at Crow Valley Campground near Briggsdale 5/17/1993, report by David Leatherman. **44-93-85** One at Barr Lake State Park 5/29/1993, report by Larry Norris, vote to accept 6-1.

**Long-billed Thrasher (*Toxostoma longirostre*) 43-93-1** One at Chatfield State Park 1/6/1993-2/13/1993, reports by Urling Kingery, Hugh Kingery, J.B. Hayes, Joe TenBrink, Larry Norris and Mark Janos, photographs by Hugh Kingery and J.B. Hayes, opinion by Van Remsen, 2nd accepted record.

**Bendire's Thrasher (*Toxostoma bendirei*) 43-93-29** One adult and two immatures west of San Luis 8/1/1993, report by Joe Mammoser, 7th accepted record.

**White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*)** Four records were received, becoming the 12th, 14th, 15th and 16th accepted records. **51-93-8** One at Lyons 8/18/1992, report by D.W. King. **51-93-43** One caught, banded and recaptured four times by the CO Bird Observatory at Alfred M. Bailey Bird Nesting Area, Summit Co. 7/12/1993-8/7/1993, report by Eric M. Lane. **51-93-103** One at Pueblo 10/2/1993, report by Brandon Percival. **51-93-86** One found dead at Barr Lake 10/20/1993, report by Larry Norris and Eric Lane.

**Gray Vireo (*Vireo vicinior*) 51-93-30** One at Dixon Res., Larimer Co. 5/20/1993, votes to accept were 2-5, 3-3 and 1-5, most members felt that Bell's Vireo was not eliminated by the description.

**Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*)** Two records were received, the 18th and 19th accepted records. **51-93-9** One at Lyons 8/28/1992, report by D.W. King, vote to accept 6-1. **51-93-63** One at Lake Henry, Crowley Co. 4/25/1993, reports by Brandon Percival and Mark Janos.

**Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphicus*) 51-93-107** One at Fountain Creek Regional Park 6/3/1993, report by Brandon Percival, 20th accepted record.

**Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) 52-93-34** One adult male and one immature at Roxborough State Park 7/16-17/1993, reports by J.B. Hayes and Steve Stachowiak, 28th accepted record, first breeding record.

**Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica magnolia*) 52-93-92** One near Walden 5/26/1993, report by Brian C. DeVries, there are few accepted records for the mountain parks.

**Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*) 52-93-48** One at Pueblo Res. State Park 10/31/1993, reports by Mark Janos and Brandon Percival, 22nd accepted record.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Dendroica caerulescens*)** Four records were received, all were accepted, there are now sufficient records that we do not need documentation on this species. **52-93-64** One at Rocky Ford State Wildlife Area 5/9/1993, report by Mark Janos. **52-93-97** One at Barr Lake State Park 9/23/1993, report by Karleen Schofield. **52-93-104** One at Pueblo 10/2/1993, report by Brandon Percival. **52-93-60** One at Fort Collins 11/2/1993, report by Joe Mammoser.

**Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*) 52-93-49** One female at Pueblo Res. State Park 9/26/1993, report by Mark Janos. There are many records, we no longer need documentation of this species.

**Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*) 52-93-18** One adult female at Lake Beckwith, Pueblo Co. 10/10/1993, report by Dave Silverman, 20th accepted record.

**Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*)** Three reports were received, the 17th, 18th and 19th accepted records. **52-93-10** One immature male in Boulder 11/20/1992 to 12/9/1992, report by Steven Feldstein. **52-93-11** One immature female in Boulder 12/17/1992, report by Steven Feldstein. **52-93-59** One male at Boulder 10/31/1993, report by Joe Mammoser.

**Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*) 52-93-88** One female at Lake Henry, Crowley Co. 9/12/1993, report by Dave Silverman, 8th accepted record.

**Palm Warbler (*Dendroica plamarum*)** Three records were received, all accepted, there are many records and we no longer need documentation on this species. **52-93-12** One adult at Boulder 11/30/1992-12/9/1992, report by Steven Feldstein. **52-93-109** One adult at Rocky Ford State Wildlife Area 5/1/1993, report by Brandon Percival. **52-93-17** One at Lake Beckwith, Pueblo Co. 10/11/1993, report by Dave Silverman.

**Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*) 52-93-118** One at Fort Lyons 5/21/1993, report by Mark Janos. There are more than 30 records.

**Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*)** Two new records and one previously unaccepted record were received, now the 25th, 26th and 27th accepted records. **52-91-71** One at Pueblo Res. 4/20/1991, report by Virginia Dionigi. **52-93-16** One at Bonny Res. 5/16/1993, report by Jack Reddall. **52-93-40** One at Colorado Springs 6/1-8/1993, report by Jo Romero and Brandon Percival.

**Worm-eating Warbler (*Helmitheros vermivorus*)** Two reports were received, becoming the 30th and 33rd accepted records. **52-93-119** One at La Junta 5/10-11/1988, report by Mark Janos. **52-93-65** One at Lamar 5/1/1993, report by Brandon Percival and Mark Janos.

**Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*)** Two reports were received, becoming the 4th and 5th accepted records. **52-93-42** One caught and banded by the Colorado Bird Observatory at Barr Lake State Park 5/24/1993, report by Mark Carter. **52-93-101** One in Pueblo 10/10/1993, report by Pearle Sandstrom-Smith.

**Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*) 52-93-50** One at Lake Henry, Crowley Co. 9/5/1993, report by Mark Janos, 8th accepted record.

**Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*) 52-93-54** This is the same record that was circulated and accepted as record number 52-92-32. A report in a different format was received and numbered and circulated as a new record by mistake.

**Canada Warbler (*Wilsonia canadensis*) 52-93-53** One or more at Lake Henry, Crowley Co. 8/27/1993. Votes to accept were 5-3, 4-2, 4-2, some members felt the description not complete enough to eliminate other species.

**Red-faced Warbler (*Cardellina rubrifrons*) 52-93-36** One at Wheat Ridge Greenbelt 5/3/1993, reports by Dick Schottler and Steve Stachowiak, photographs by Duane Nelson and Joe Roller, 1st accepted record.

**Hepatic Tanager (*Piranga flava*)** Two records were received, the 14th and 15th accepted records. **55-93-66** One breeding male in Pueblo 5/15/1993, reports by Mark Janos and Brandon Percival. **55-93-31** One adult pair and one immature in a remote area of Pueblo Co. 7/10/1993, report by Dave Johnson, this record was outside of the known breeding area.

**Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) 55-93-80** One adult male in Boulder 11/1/1993, report by Ridi S. VanZandt. There are many previous records, this is the latest date in the year on record.

**Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) 56-93-93** One at Walden 6/2/1993, report by Eugene Patten, 12th accepted record.

**Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) 56-93-32** One at Kremmling 5/15-16/1993, report by Norman Barrett, vote to accept was 6-1, only the 3rd accepted record for western Colorado.

**LeConte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*) 58-93-15** Two at Hale Ponds 5/12/1993 and two at Bonny Res. 5/13/1993, the two sightings may have been the same birds, report by Jack Reddall, 6th accepted record.

**Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*) 58-93-62** One south of Golden 5/1-8/1993, report by Ronda Woodward, vote to accept was 6-1, 15th accepted record.

**Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*) 56-90-74** Loose flocks south of Ellicott 8/14/1993 and 8/18/1993. This report was originally submitted and not accepted in 1990. No new information was submitted and members felt not enough description was submitted and the photographs were not adequate to

eliminate other species, separation from Chestnut-collared Longspur in fall plumage is very difficult. Vote to accept was 0-7, not accepted.

**Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) 54-93-21** One male north of Cortez 1/20/1993. Vote to accept was 2-5, not accepted. Most members felt the description was too brief.

**Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*) 54-91-81** Three at Fountain Creek Regional Park 12/7/1991 and 12/18/1991, report by George Maentz, photographs by Ann Higgins. Photographs were submitted to add to this report not accepted when previously circulated. Vote to accept 7-0, accepted.

**Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*)** Two records were received, 32nd and 33rd accepted records. **56-93-23** One adult female at Red Rocks Park 1/2/1993, report by Bill and Paula Lisowsky. **56-93-22** One adult female at Pueblo 2/20/1993, report by Brandon Percival.

#### Corrections to the 1992 Report of the CBRC

Collecting and circulating records is a long and detailed process. Errors always seem to get included. Phil Hayes found the following as he prepared the 1992 records for the permanent file at the Denver Museum of Natural History. Thanks Phil, and I apologize for the errors - Bill Prather.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) 34-92-55** and **34-92-46** were the 17th and 18th accepted records, not 14th and 15th.

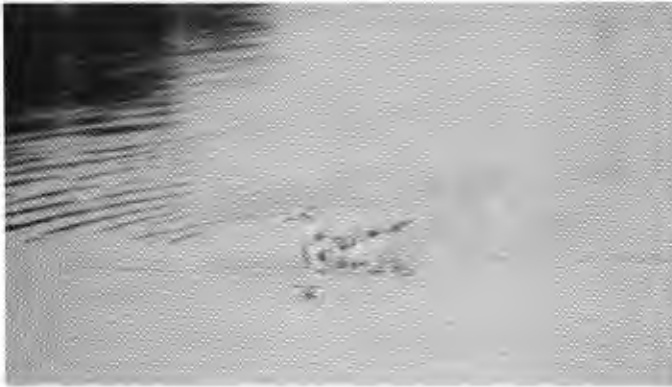
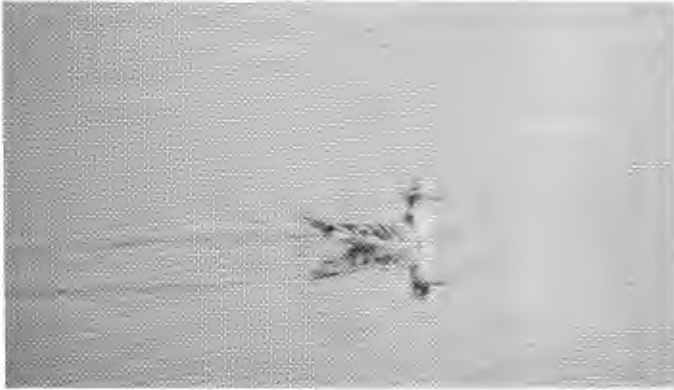
**Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*) 52-92-78** report by Gerald Fyler, not Flyer.

**Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*) 52-92-30** This is a new report on the record that was circulated and accepted as 52-91-63. The date was 11/24/1991, not 1992. There are 20 accepted records.

**Sage Sparrow (*Amphispiza belli*) 56-92-96** report by J.B. Hayes, not Phil Hayes.







Little Gull (near juvenile plumage)  
Clifton Oxidation Ponds, Clifton (Mesa County)  
First West Slope Record, found by Rich Levad  
12-15 September 1995 by Coen Dexter

## DIRECTORY OF E-MAIL BIRDERS

It was inevitable - an electronic network for birders in Colorado and the surrounding area. Thanks to the efforts of several people, most notably our own Alan Versaw, this means of communication is a reality. As promised, we are publishing the first list of e-mail addresses. Since new participants are added literally on a daily basis, this is will be out-of-date before I am done typing. But it is a start and could lead to all sorts of beneficial information-sharing.

For those of you who understand such things, the group is now set up as a "listserv". The name of this listserv is "COBIRDS". Under this arrangement, users can talk to everyone, or to particular members, depending on their wishes. To subscribe, contact the following address via computer:

listproc@lists.Colorado.EDU

Assuming you make contact, the only thing you need to put in your message should be the statement "subscribe cobirds" followed by the subscriber's name. Thus, if I were subscribing, I would put in the message:

subscribe cobirds David Leatherman

Then, if all is correct, you will receive a confirmation message and you are ready to go.

Do NOT direct questions to me. I am about as helpful with computer troubleshooting as I am at finding Gyrfalcons. Please direct questions to Alan Versaw at: [aversaw@kadets.d20.co.edu](mailto:aversaw@kadets.d20.co.edu) (his e-mail address), or to 403 Maplewood Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80907, phone 917/598-7130 (his real human address and phone).

Upon reviewing the addresses that follow, there are some creative monikers.

In only which state would it be likely a real "PicaPica" could communicate with a real "rossgull"?\*

Do you think an osprey that works in a flyshop has an ulterior motive?\*

Which group of sparrows are favorites of Richard Bunn?\*

How many e-mail addresses do you suppose will be listed in the *C.F.O. Journal* ten years from now?\*

\* Random question to fill up this page so all addresses can be listed on the next.

COLORADO BIRDERS LIST AND DIRECTORY  
(in alphabetical order by last human name)

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NEWS FROM THE FIELD  
SUMMER (JUNE-JULY 1995)

Brandon K. Percival  
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Pueblo West, CO 81007-2604  
719/547-3722

This report includes records submitted to *Audubon Field Notes* (Hugh Kingery, compiler) and/or the Denver Field Ornithologists' newsletter *The Lark Bunting* (Lea Ann Brown, editor). Information from the "Colorado Rare Bird Alert" (303/424-2144) is not included in this report, unless it was also reported to the above-mentioned sources. Please continue to report good birds to all these sources and your good bird will not be missed.

This summer had many eastern birds that were found in early June. A total of 12 species of eastern warblers were reported during the summer. The better birds of the summer include: Brown Pelican, Harris' Hawk, Black Rail, Lesser Nighthawk, Blue-throated Hummingbird and six Alder Flycatchers. All of these birds have less than ten accepted records for the state.

All underlined birds require a rare bird form to be submitted to the Colorado Bird Records Committee (CBRC) and all sightings with a \* mean a form was submitted by the observer.

**Brown Pelican:** one immature at Sweitzer Lake SRA, and at Confluence Park in Delta, from 7/9-7/31 (SJ\*, CD, mo).

**American Bittern:** one southeast of Berthoud in July (BC); four in Weld Co. in July (JH); one at Lower Latham Res. on 7/1 (DAL), and 7/11 & 7/31 (TL) and 7/29 (BB); one at Walden Ponds in Boulder on 7/3 (BB); and one at Fort Lyon on 7/16 (BKP, VAT, JBT).

**Least Bittern:** one or two at Bonny Res. from 6/4-6/11 (JRo, BKP, VZ).

**Great Egret:** one to three at Lower Latham Reservoir from 7/19-7/29 (JH); one near Walsh on 7/24 & 7/26 (JT); one on the D.F.O. Tamarack Ranch trip on 7/29-30 (JR, D.F.O.).

**Green Heron:** two in Pueblo's Olive Marsh on 6/2 (BKP); one in Parker on 6/2 (JTe); one in Fort Collins on 6/3 (MN); one at Connected Lake on 6/16 (RL); and two at the Canon City Riverwalk on 7/16 (DP, D.F.O.).

**Snow Goose:** one near Timnath, Weld Co. on 6/4 (DCE).

**Canvasback:** one male at Duck Lake south of Fort Collins on 6/4 (DCE).

**Common Goldeneye:** one immature at Watson Lake west of Laporte until at least 6/20 (DAL).

**Hooded Merganser:** one female in Fort Collins on 6/3 (DAL); and one female near Barr Lake on 7/8 (TL).

**Osprey:** this species was reported all over the state this summer.

**Harris' Hawk** one sub-adult at Mesa Verde National Park on 7/22 (DB). This bird and the three Harris' Hawks found in 1994, plus the one seen in October 1995, may bring the total of Harris' Hawk records for Colorado from zero to five in just two years, if all records are accepted by the CBRC.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** one immature at Lake Henry on 6/3 (MJ); and one immature at a spot east of Lyons on 7/15 (DWK, JV).

**Black Rail:** one at Fort Carson on 6/27 (RB); one at Bent's Fort on 6/29 (BKP\*, BG); and one heard at Fort Lyon on 7/16 (BKP\*, VAT, JBT).

**Piping Plover:** seven nest failed in southeast Colorado this summer and all parents apparently left the state by 7/1 (DN).

**Upland Sandpiper:** an amazing number of 17 between Crook and Ovid on 7/8 (DCE, JFB, WPL).

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** one adult at Beebe Draw south of Lower Latham Res. on 6/28 (JH); two on the D.F.O. Southeastern Colorado trip on 7/26 (DN, D.F.O.).

**Parasitic Jaeger:** one adult six miles north of Ouray on 6/15 (KN\*).

**Laughing Gull:** one adult at Lake Cheraw on 7/16 (VAT, JBT).

**Caspian Tern:** two stayed in Fort Collins from 5/31-6/3 (DAL); one at Union Res. on 6/2 (MN); one at Milton Res. on 7/1 (DAL); and one at Cherry Creek Res. on 7/5 (BB).

**Least Tern:** 11 nests found this summer near Lamar (DN).

**White-winged Dove:** one on the Pawnee National Grassland on 6/17 (GK).

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** one heard at Fort Lyon on 7/7 (PSS, CS).

**Long-eared Owl:** one at Lake Holbrook near Rocky Ford on 6/4 (MJ).

**Short-eared Owl:** one east of Campo in Baca Co. on 6/16 (DAL, WPL).

**Lesser Nighthawk:** one in Fort Collins on 6/2 (JM); one at Carrizo Mountain on 7/14 (DB); one at Two Buttes SWA on 7/25 (JR); and one along Road B.5 east of US 287 in Prowers Co. on 7/26 (JR).

**Blue-throated Hummingbird:** one male at Dinosaur National Monument on 7/20 (HD\*).

**Magnificent Hummingbird:** one female or immature near Wellington on 7/30 (S&KM).

**Calliope Hummingbird:** this species reported from around the state this summer, with not as many reports as last year.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** one at Tamarack Ranch on 6/20 (JM) and five there on 7/8 (JFB, DCE, WPL); and one at Ovid on 6/20 (JM).

**Three-toed Woodpecker:** this species reported all over CO this summer.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** one calling at Bonny Res. on 6/14 (DB).

**Alder Flycatcher:** four reported from Bonny Res. on 6/1 (DB); one seen well and heard calling at Rocky Ford SWA on 6/4 (BKP\*); one seen and heard in Fort Collins on 6/9 (JM). This species, considered very rare in CO, had seven reports in May or June, making 1995 the best year ever for this species in the state. Hopefully, all records will be documented.

**Willow Flycatcher:** one or two at Crow Valley Campground on 6/1 (DAL) and one still there on 7/4 (DAL); one at Grandview Cemetery in Fort Collins on 7/4 (DAL); one singing at calling at Rocky Ford SWA on 6/4 (BKP); and one singing at Lake Holbrook on 6/4 (MJ).

**Least Flycatcher:** one at Hannah Ranch SWA, El Paso Co. on 6/2 (AV).

**Black Phoebe:** a pair stayed at Uravan until at least 6/6 (many observers).

**Vermilion Flycatcher:** a female at Jumbo SWA on 6/20 (JR).

**Ash-throated Flycatcher:** one west of Grover on 6/14 (WPL); one at Crow Valley Campground on 6/27 (JH).

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** two heard at Fort Lyon Wildlife Easement on 6/12 (BKP); two at Lamar Community College on 6/15 (DAL, WPL); and one at Bonny Res. on 6/16 (NE).

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher:** one (possibly a female) near Woodland Park on 6/15 (AV\*); one seven miles north of Ordway on Highway 71 on 6/23 (DB); one east of Galeton on 7/3 (JH); one male and one female on the dry Cimmaron River in Baca Co. on 7/15 (DB); and one at Pinyon Canyon Maneuver Site in Las Animas County on 7/17 (RB).

**Blue Jay:** two or three in the San Luis Valley this summer, with one at Monte Vista in June and in Alamosa in July (LC) and one in Monte Vista on 7/19 (J&LR).

**Veery:** one in Fort Collins on 6/1 (DAL); two on the North Park D.F.O. Trip on 7/1-7/3 (GA, D.F.O.); five to ten near Gould on 7/10 (HEK); and two on Laramie River Road in Larimer Co. on 7/14 (WPL, PDL).

**Bendire's Thrasher:** one near Del Norte on 6/3 (J&LR, JP, TD, DJ, C.F.O.).

**Bell's Vireo:** at least five seen or heard at Tamarack Ranch on 7/8 (DCE, WPL, JFB) and five there on D.F.O. Trip on 7/29-7/30 (JR, D.F.O.).

**Red-eyed Vireo:** one in Fort Collins on 6/2 (WPL, PDL, DAL); two at Lake Henry on 6/3 (MJ); one in Loveland on 6/3 (MN); two in Longmont on 6/20 (TE); one at Boyero on 6/28 (DAL); and one east of Lyons on 7/15 (DWK).

**Golden-winged Warbler:** one female at the Last Chance Rest Area on 6/4 (DB) and one female at Fort Carson on 7/25 (RB, BM).

**Tennessee Warbler:** one singing male in Colorado Springs on 6/1 (VAT); and one female at Lake Henry on 6/4 (MJ).

**Northern Parula:** one singing male at Last Chance Rest Area on 6/7 (BKP).

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** one male at Barr Lake SP on 6/1 (TL); one male near Wellington on 6/7 (S&KM); two males at Fort Carson on 6/16 (RB, BM) and one male there on 7/6 (RB); and one in Lower Waterton Canyon on 7/12 (BB).

**Yellow-throated Warbler:** one at the Chatfield Arboretum on 6/3 (BA, WF, D.F.O.).

**Magnolia Warbler:** one at the Gustav Swanson Nature Area in Fort Collins on 6/6 (MN).

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** one male near Bear Lake in Rocky Mountain National Park on 6/13 (KC).

**Palm Warbler:** one at the Last Chance Rest Area on 6/4 (DB); and one on the Indian Peaks Breeding Bird Count on 6/10 (RC).

**Black-throated Gray Warbler:** one at Crow Valley CG on 6/1 (DAL).

**Blackpoll Warbler:** one singing male at Lake Henry on 6/3 (MJ); one male at Crow Valley Campground on 6/1 (DAL); and one female in Fort Collins on 6/10 (DAL).

**American Redstart** three at Crow Valley Campground on 6/1 (DAL); one female southwest of Berthoud on 6/1 (MN); one at Lake Henry on 6/3 & 6/4 (MJ) and on 6/7 (BKP); one pair and two young east of Lyons from 7/4-7/30 (DWK); and one adult male in Colorado City on 7/15 (BKP, MH).

**Prothonotary Warbler:** one male on Last Dollar Road in San Miguel Co. on 6/17 (DB\*).

**Ovenbird:** one singing at Lake Henry on 6/7 (BKP); one in a Pueblo backyard from 6/16-6/26 (BD); one heard in Rist Canyon on 6/18 & 6/20 (DAL); one singing in Pueblo Mountain Park in Beulah on 7/3 (MJ); and a pair with an immature in Rye Mountain Park on 7/15 (BKP, MH).

**Northern Waterthrush:** five adults and one immature near Gould, North Park on 7/26 (BDi, HEK, UK). Although they have probably nested at this location for at least two years, this summer's observations actually confirmed nesting by this species in CO for the first time. In addition to the late July trip above, a female with a brood patch was caught in a mist net by the CDOW on the Colorado State Forest near Cameron Pass this summer. Lastly, one singing in Fort Collins on 6/10 (DAL).

**Hooded Warbler:** one adult male at Monte Vista NWR on 6/3 (J&LR\*, JP, TD, DJ, C.F.O.); and one female at Crow Valley Campground on 6/4 (JH).

**Canada Warbler:** one in Fort Collins on 6/9 (JM).

**Hepatic Tanager:** one male and one female on Mesa de Maya on 6/23 (DB).

**Summer Tanager:** one immature male at Lake Henry on 6/3 (MJ, DS, GC).

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** one singing male at Great Sand Dunes National Monument on 6/3 (AV); and one male at Loveland on 6/16 & 6/17 (AR).



**Painted Bunting:** one male and one female west of Drake from 6/8-6/10 (MM\*, JW, MS); and one male came back to Cottonwood Canyon for the second summer on 6/28 (DB).

**Dickcissel:** this species reported in good numbers on the plains this summer.

**Field Sparrow:** four at Tamarack Ranch on 7/8 (WPL, JFB, DCE).

**Eastern Meadowlark:** one at Bellvue in Larimer County from 6/12-7/2 (DAL, BKP\*, mo); one singing about two miles northeast in western Laporte on 7/25 (DAL). These two reports may or may not involve the same bird.

**N. ("Baltimore") Oriole:** one male at Lake Henry on 6/3 (MJ, DS, GC).

**White-winged Crossbill:** three reported on the Indian Peaks Breeding Bird Count on 6/10 (DH).

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Late reports were submitted for the **Spring Report**, which I want to add.

**Northern Parula:** three more were found in May, making 21 the spring total.

**Magnolia Warbler:** one more was found in May, making 15 the spring total.

**Palm Warbler:** one at Lake Estes on 5/25 (SR), making 9 the spring total.

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**CORRECTIONS TO THE SPRING 1995 REPORT IN THE *C.F.O. JOURNAL* 29(4), beginning on page 189:**

The male Golden-winged Warbler seen by Mark Janos on 5/28 should be from Lake Henry, not the Canon City Riverwalk as stated.

Please add after **Summer Tanager:**

**Scarlet Tanager:** one colorful male at Two Buttes Res. on 4/30 (BKP\*); and one at Bonny Res. on 5/20-5/21 (D.F.O.).

---

Cited Observers

D.F.O. Field Trip (D.F.O.)	Dave Leatherman (DAL)
C.F.O. Field Trip (C.F.O.)	Tony Leukering (TL)
George Armbrust (GA)	Rick Levad (RL)
Bobbie Ausfahl (BA)	Paula Lisowsky (PDL)
John Barber (JFB)	William Lisowsky (WPL)
Dan Bridges (DB)	Joe Mammoser (JM)
Bob Brown (BB)	Steve & Kathy Martin (S&KM)
Richard Bunn (RB)	Bill Maynard (BM)
Bobbie Christensen (BC)	Miriam Mohr (MM)
Lisa Clements (LC)	Duane Nelson (DN)
Robert Cohen (RC)	Kent Nelson (KN)
Gary Conover (GC)	Mark Nikas (MN)
Kevin Cook (KC)	David Pantle (DP)
Tim Davis (TD)	Brandon Percival (BKP)
Hardin Delafield, Jr. (HD)	Jerry Poe (JP)
Coen Dexter (CD)	Scott Rashid (SR)
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Beth Dillon (BDi)	Jack Reddall (JR)
David Ely (DCE)	Joe Roller (JRo)
Tony Esposito (TE)	Alta Roosa (AR)
Warren Finch (WF)	Pearle Sandstrom-Smith (PSS)
Bob Goycoolea (BG)	Mary Schnieder (MS)
Dave Hallock (DH)	Clif Smith (CS)
Joe Himmel (JH)	David Smith (DS)
Mark Hullinger (MH)	Joe TenBrink (JTe)
Mark Janos (MJ)	Janeal Thompson (JT)
Scott Jorgensen (SJ)	Jolan Truan (JBT)
D.W. King (DWK)	Van Truan (VAT)
Hugh Kingery (HEK)	John Vanderpoel (JV)
Urling Kingery (UK)	Alan Versaw (AV)
Gene Knight (GK)	Jane Wallower (JW)
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The *C.F.O. Journal* is devoted to the field study of birds in Colorado. Articles and notes of scientific or general interest and reports of unusual observations are solicited. Articles are informal and are not restricted to any particular style, but authors are asked to consult recent issues for the general format. Photos and drawings reproduce best if black and white, showing good contrast. Other material will be used if it can be printed in black and white. Please send negatives or slides, as well as prints, to save on costs of printing; both will be returned.

Contributors who use a computer are encouraged to send a hard copy of articles, as well as a disk. The editor would prefer computer-generated articles that use Microsoft Word 5.1 for Macintosh or Word Perfect 5.1 for IBM or ASCII text. Please attach a note to each disk, indicating the software used. After the article is published, the disk will be returned. Please double-space all typed or computer-printed material. Authors may receive one extra copy of the *Journal*. Additional copies are \$3.00 each. Authors who anticipate needing additional copies of their articles should contact the editor prior to printing.

Send manuscripts, photographs, drawings and questions to David Leatherman, 612 Stover Street #7, Fort Collins, CO 80524 [home phone: (970) 416-0193; work phone: (970) 491-6303]. The editor's FAX is (970) 491-7736. The editor's E-mail (Internet) address is:

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Deadlines are December 1, March 1, June 1 and September 1, for issues dated January, April, June and October, respectively.

\*\*\*\*\*

**HOW TO SUBMIT RECORDS TO THE  
COLORADO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE**

Standard reporting forms are available in the "Colorado Bird Distribution Latilong Study", from the *C.F.O. Journal* Editor, or an *Audubon Field Notes* Mountain West form is available from Hugh Kingery. Forms are preferred, as completion of all sections ensures most pertinent information is included.

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

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



Phainopepla  
West of Grand Junction in The Redlands (Mesa County)  
Found by Gloria Howard  
29-30 September 1995 by Coen Dexter



**Statement of Ownership,  
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