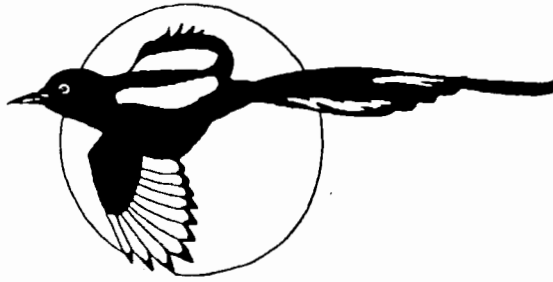

Journal of the

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The Colorado Field Ornithologists' Quarterly





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DESCRIPTIONS OF PHOTOGRAPHS AND ARTWORK

AMERICAN KESTREL: The artwork of Alex Cruz, Jr. once again graces the cover of our *Journal*. This piece was created to accompany the paper on foraging success of American Kestrels by Daniel Evans and Alexander Cruz, Sr. (see page 11). Alex used acrylic on hot press illustration board to bring this American Kestrel to life.

Alex Cruz, Jr.....Front Cover

ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER: David Leatherman documented this Ash-throated Flycatcher on film at the Martin property in Wellington, Colorado, on May 5, 1995. Wellington is a small town just off I-25 north of Fort Collins. This species is described by Andrews and Righer (1992) in their book, *Colorado Birds* (1992), as being a: "Rare spring and fall migrant...on northeastern plains near foothills." They also mention that the species is a: "Very rare nonbreeding summer visitor to northeastern plains..."

David Leatherman.....36

COMMON REDPOLL: On February 2, 1996, David Leatherman photographed this Common Redpoll in the field north of Crow Valley Campground, Pawnee National Grassland, Weld County, Colorado. The temperature was a cozy -25° F!

David Leatherman.....39

Note from the Editor: If you plan to submit material for publication in the *Journal of the Colorado Field Ornithologists* in the near future, then please look over the **Instructions to Contributors** on the inside of the back cover. As promised, I am updating the instructions fairly regularly as I encounter difficulties and find better methods of handling them.

ERRATA:

1. In Vol. 31, No. 4: in the Table of Contents, change "Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors, Colorado Field Ornithologists, 20 September, 997" to "Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors, Colorado Field Ornithologists, 20 September, 1997;" on page 169, change "John Dunn" to "Jon Dunn;" on pages 177-178, change "Scot Pine" to "Scotch Pine;" on page 207, in the photo caption change "Ven Remsen at Patty Echelmeyer's House in Denver, July 2, 1997" to "Lynn Willcockson, Ven Remsen (center), and Patty Echelmeyer at Patty's House in Denver, July 2, 1997."

2. There were several errors with respect to CFO Board and Records Committee personnel, term-expiration dates, and eligibilities for re-election listed on the *Journal's* inside front covers in Volume 31. I hope that these errors have been straightened out. Thank you for your patience as your new editor learns the "ropes."



Archaeopteryx lithographica

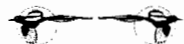
GIFTS TO COLORADO ORNITHOLOGY

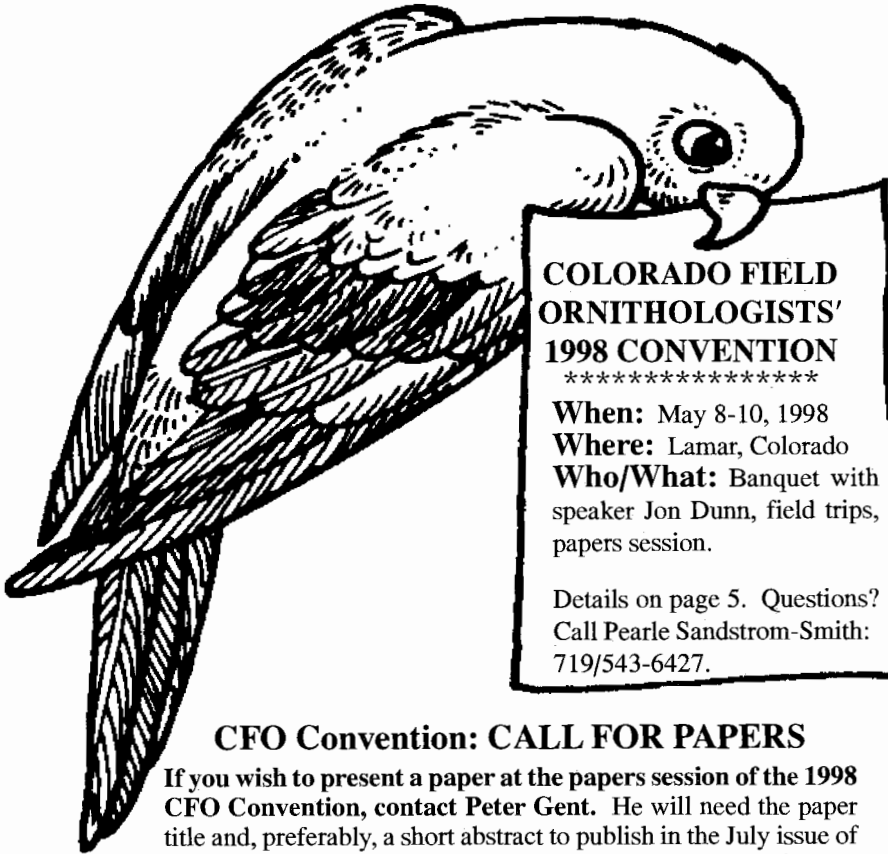
Cynthia Melcher
4200 North Shields
Fort Collins, Colorado 80524
907/484-8373

Among the great losses resulting from the devastating flood last summer at Colorado State University's Morgan Library was the ornithological collection, most of which was damaged or destroyed. Many people have responded to the solicitations for donations of books, full runs of journals, monographs, and other materials to help begin restoring the library's collections.

Among the real heroes and heroines who have donated replacement materials is David Pantle, who gave to the library a major portion of his ornithological collection. David is an active member of the Colorado Field Ornithologists (CFO) and served as CFO's secretary for 4 years from 1992-1996. Among the 180 or so volumes he contributed were some historical, rare, and/or out-of-print items, including: Bailey and Niedrach's (1965) *Birds of Colorado*; the entire series of Bent's (1926-1964) *Life Histories of North American Birds*; Bergtold's (1928) *A Guide to Colorado Birds*; Cooke's (1897) *Birds of Colorado*; Forbush and May's (1939) *Natural History of Birds of Eastern and Central North America*; and Sclater's (1912) *History of the Birds of Colorado*, to name a few. The more contemporary references he replaced included a number of Johnsgard's books (e.g., *Birds of the Rocky Mountains* and *Birds of the Great Plains*), bird atlases for numerous states/regions, monographs on individual bird species, field guides from around the world, volumes from the bird identification series sponsored by the American Birding Association, the *Audubon Encyclopedia of North American Birds*, and a lot more. David also donated almost a full run (missing only three original issues!) of the *Journal of the Colorado Field Ornithologists*. Rich Levad, another very active CFO member, also came through by donating his original copy to replace one of the three missing issues; we have xeroxed copies of the other two missing originals.

On behalf of the CFO and the Colorado community of avian researchers, students, faculty, and bird enthusiasts, I wish to extend our deepest gratitude to David, Rich, and anyone else who has given time, money, and replacement materials to Morgan Library. Your gifts will go a long way towards recovering this tragic loss. Thank you.





COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' 1998 CONVENTION

When: May 8-10, 1998

Where: Lamar, Colorado

Who/What: Banquet with speaker Jon Dunn, field trips, papers session.

Details on page 5. Questions?
Call Pearle Sandstrom-Smith:
719/543-6427.

CFO Convention: CALL FOR PAPERS

If you wish to present a paper at the papers session of the 1998 CFO Convention, contact Peter Gent. He will need the paper title and, preferably, a short abstract to publish in the July issue of the Journal. Papers should cover aspects of field ornithology in Colorado or regions to the east, such as western Kansas and Oklahoma. Contact Peter by e-mail at gent@ucar.edu. or by phone at (303) 494-1750.

COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS MISSION STATEMENT

C.F.O. exists to:

- ♦ promote the field study, conservation, and enjoyment of Colorado Birds;
- ♦ review sightings of rare birds through the Colorado Bird Records Committee and maintain the authoritative list of Colorado birds;
- ♦ publish the *Journal of the Colorado Field Ornithologists*; and
- ♦ conduct field trips and workshops, and hold **annual conventions**.

**ANNOUNCING THE 36TH ANNUAL
COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' CONVENTION
8-10 MAY 1998, LAMAR, COLORADO**

The motto often used to describe southeastern Colorado is "Emerald of the Plains." In the spring of 1998, the Colorado Field Ornithologists will be exploring a variety of southeastern Colorado's birding gems--plains, prairies, ponds, playas, lakes, shores, and marshes. Choose from field trips to John Martin, Great Plains, and Two Buttes reservoirs; Cottonwood Canyon; Fort Lyon marsh; and gems of the La Junta and Baca areas. For history buffs, there will be a tour of Bent's Fort, and, for birders, there will be birding in the Fort's marshland. Each morning trip will depart after a stroll through Willow Creek behind Lamar Community College, where rare neotropical migrants frequently turn up. Then it's on to areas filled with both rare and regular neotropical migrants, shorebirds (such as Piping and Snowy plovers), waterfowl in vast numbers, and raptors galore. If you haven't birded southeastern Colorado, you haven't birded Colorado!

The Convention Banquet speaker will be Jon Dunn, one of the country's leading field ornithologists, author of the much-anticipated *Peterson Field Guide to the Warblers of North America*, and frequently sought-after speaker. Jon also will present a paper on longspurs and two difficult-to-identify sparrows--Henslow's and Baird's. Other papers in the papers session will be announced at a later date. Our banquet and papers session, as well as the meeting point for all field trips, will be at Lamar Community College. The Cow Palace will be our Convention headquarters. The convention will take place from Friday evening (May 8) to Sunday evening (May 10). The Convention Committee is aware that those dates conflict with the International Migratory Bird Count and the Audubon Bird-A-Thon. Due to several constraints, however, this could not be avoided. If you had planned on participating in a Bird-A-Thon, have no fear, for each Convention field trip leader has agreed to keep an accurate tally of bird species and numbers that you may use for your fundraiser. It's a potential conflict turned into an opportunity for several expert counts to take place in several southeastern Colorado counties, for which we need accurate data regarding migratory birds.

Now that you can hardly wait to register for the Convention... the brochure with all the **Convention information and the registration form will be mailed to you in February.** For information, call Pearle Sandstrom-Smith at: 719/543-6427. If you would like a CFO t-shirt, see the bottom of page 10.

**SELECTION CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES
FOR THE
RONALD A. RYDER AWARD
FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO
COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGY**

SELECTION CRITERIA

1. For distinguished service to the Colorado Field Ornithologists organization and its goals.
2. For scholarly contributions to the Colorado Field Ornithologists and to Colorado field ornithology.
3. For sharing knowledge of Colorado field ornithology with the people of the state of Colorado.

NOMINATION & SELECTION PROCESS

1. The Award will be given every other year, at most.
2. Only living persons may be nominated.
3. Nominations may be made by the membership at large.
4. The Board selects and approves an awardee for announcement at the Annual Colorado Field Ornithologists' Convention during the year a recipient is chosen.
5. The Award will be a plaque designed to match the original plaque given to Dr. Ryder.
6. Nominations should be submitted in writing to the Award Committee Chairperson on or before February 1 of even-numbered years to be considered by the Field Ornithologists' Board of Directors.

Submit nominations to Award Committee Chairperson:

Warren Finch
455 Dover Street
Lakewood, Colorado 80226-1147
E-mail: purpfinch@aol.com

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS
NOVEMBER 22, 1997**

Mona Hill, Secretary
3410 Heidelberg Drive
Boulder, CO 80303

The Board of Directors of the Colorado Field Ornithologists met on November 22, 1997 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. at the People's Clinic, 3305 N. Broadway, Boulder, Colorado. Present were Leon Bright, Raymond Davis, Warren Finch, Peter Gent (representing Mark Janos for the Records Committee), Mona Hill, Cynthia Melcher, Suzi Plooster, Pearle Sandstrom-Smith, Bob Spencer, and Linda Vidal. Bill Fink was ill; Steve Bouricius was absent.

Linda Vidal announced that Brandon Percival has resigned as a board member. Mark Janos will ensure that the Records Committee is represented at Board Meetings.

1. Convention Committee report was made by Pearle Sandstrom-Smith. She asked for volunteers to work at the Convention. Volunteers are needed for several positions. Members should contact Pearle at 1-719-543-6427 to volunteer.

Pearle will contact Paul Green at the American Birding Association (ABA) to see whether conflicts with planned ABA activities for International Migratory Bird Day at Barr Lake the second weekend of May can be minimized.

It was moved, seconded and approved to increase the budget for organizing the convention to \$1300, recognizing that money is needed to print registration brochures, T-shirts, etc. Other suggestions for the convention included a poster contest for local schoolchildren, selling copies of Jon Dunn's Warbler book and John Vanderpool's gull video and having an author's signing party. Jon Dunn has agreed to speak on warblers as well as present a shorter talk at the paper session.

2. Peter Gent presented a report from the Records Committee. The 1996 records have completed the second circulation and the report should be ready for the April 1998 *Journal*. Receipt of records for 1997 have been acknowledged by a postcard. Peter Gent and Dick Schottler are completing

their terms on the Records Committee. Joe Mammoser of Fort Collins and John Rawinski of Monte Vista have been appointed. Their terms expire in 2000.

Because of recent taxonomic changes in the bird families, which rendered the family code numbers outdated, the Board voted to amend the Bird Record Committee Bylaws to read: VIII. Circulation And Voting Procedures.

- A. Upon receipt of a record, the Chair shall do the following:
 - 1. Give the record a unique number as follows:
 - a. A first number corresponding to all four digits of the year in which the record is received (which is not necessarily the year that the observation was made), followed by a dash (e.g., "1997-")
 - b. A second number that is a sequential number, based on order of receipt, starting with the number "1" on January 1 of each year (e.g., "77").

[Note: c. under A.1 is now deleted.]

Mark Janos mailed the revised and up-dated "Official Colorado State List" to Cindy Lippincott of ABA on 11/20/97 so that ABA can plan reprinting the CFO checklist.

It was moved, seconded and passed to authorize Mark Janos to spend up to \$1000 to begin building a computerized index of the records. Currently, an index is prepared by Denver Museum of Natural History volunteers Phil Hayes and Jack Reddall when they file the records at the museum. The 1996 records will need to be included in the current index, while future data should be indexed in a computerized database. Linda will write Phil Hayes and Jack Reddall, thanking them for all their work and asking them to continue through the 1996 records.

- 3. Suzi Plooster reported that the new CFO Checklist of Colorado Birds will be printed by ABA after the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU) changes in taxonomic sequence made in the 7th edition of the AOU Checklist of North American Birds are available. ABA will sell the Colorado checklists for 30 cents wholesale (5 cents paid to CFO) and 50 cents retail (with 10 cents paid to CFO). Suzi will contact Denver Field Ornithologists (DFO) for permission to mention the DFO Rare Bird Alert number on the checklists. The board members commented on several aspects of the new checklist; Linda emphasized that dues for the next

several years must be set before these checklists with the attached CFO membership information are printed.

The new DFO internet website includes a "Colorado Checklist"; it is not clear that this is the CFO checklist but Suzi will check with David Quesenberry about it. The current checklist is not copyrighted but the new checklist will be. Suzi also will write to the Colorado State Parks about using the CFO checklist without permission.

4. Minutes of the September 20, 1997 Board meeting were approved as published.
5. Bob Spencer, Treasurer, reported that CFO currently has a total balance of \$17,264. He is setting up a Certificate of Deposit for \$10,000 to increase interest earned. He is still working on setting up a budget.
6. Leon Bright reported on Uncover, an electronic search system for articles. The Board approved permitting Uncover to list titles of articles in the *Journal of the Colorado Field Ornithologists* and to supply these articles for the Uncover minimum fee of \$3.00 per article. This agreement is valid for two years.
7. The *Journal of the Colorado Field Ornithologists* Committee reported that Scott Gilliam will abstract the *Journal* for Recent Ornithological Literature (ROL). Linda will write to Scott and thank him for his work and request that he keep the Board informed if any changes in the abstracting occur.

Mona and Cynthia reported that the replacement *Journals* were ready to be given to CSU to replace the flood-damaged ones. Thanks to generous donations by David Pantle and Rich Levad, all of the replacement *Journals* are original copies except for two issues.

Cynthia reported that Jim Chace has offered to peer review articles for the *Journal* as time permits.

8. The Ron Ryder Award Committee Chair, Warren Finch, submitted a description of duties of the committee, including timing of activities, for the Director's manual.
9. The Membership Committee reported that a list of members' names will be exchanged with ABA.

10. The Field Trip Committee reported that 20 people attended Tony Leukering's Gull workshop the previous evening. Linda, Leon and Suzi reported on costs of insurance for other organizations. Insurance will be considered further at the February meeting.
11. The Nominating Committee chair, Warren Finch, submitted a description of the committee's duties for the director's manual.
12. The publicity committee reported on sending information about CFO to several internet websites. DFO will be asked to add CFO to their links as well.
13. Old Business
 - a. Follow up on conservation/donations was postponed until the February meeting.
 - b. Costs of setting up and maintaining a CFO internet website were discussed. It was agreed to invite Rachel Kolokoff to the February meeting so that Board members' questions could be answered. Mona Hill offered to allow setup of the website through her AOL membership.
14. The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 7, 1998, at the Fountain Creek Regional Park, Fountain, CO, from 10:00 to 2:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Mona Hill

CFO T-SHIRTS STILL AVAILABLE!!!

These 100% cotton CFO t-shirts (right) are a steal at \$10.00 each (plus \$1.50 postage). Get one now to wear at the CFO Convention! If interested, contact Mona Hill, 3410 Heidelberg Dr., Boulder, CO 80303; madmon7@aol.com; 303/494-8135. Sizes and colors still available:

- burgundy: L, XL
- white: L, XL, XXL
- green: L, XL
- tan: S



FORAGING STRATEGIES AND DIFFERENTIAL FORAGING SUCCESS AMONG AMERICAN KESTRELS, *Falco sparverius*

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ABSTRACT

We investigated whether American Kestrels (*Falco sparverius*) experience differential per-strike foraging success when striking at prey from a hover versus a perch. Our study sites were in grasslands and farmlands east of the Front Range in north-central Colorado. We predicted that the higher energetic cost of hovering would result in lower per-strike foraging success because kestrels cannot afford to spend as much time hovering to detect prey. Essentially, hovering would result in less per-strike precision. Of fifty-two observed strikes from perches, thirty-three (63.5%) were successful, while only eight of twenty five (32%) strikes from hovers were successful.

INTRODUCTION

In the eastern foothills and plains of Colorado, the American Kestrel is an uncommon to fairly common resident (Andrews and Righter 1992). Kestrels are observed most often in agricultural areas, grasslands, and along the edges of riparian forests, where typically they are seen perched on fences, trees, and telephone/electrical poles and wires. Often the birds are recognized by their characteristic habit of hovering (stationary flight), with wings beating into the wind, tail spread downward, and eyes scanning the ground below for prey. Detecting prey from perches and hovers are, in fact, the kestrel's most common foraging strategies (Collopy 1973, Rudolph 1982). Perhaps this is due to the fact that foraging from a stationary position (either perching or hovering) permits the kestrel to detect prey better than if it were flapping and gliding, as Grubb (1977) argues is the case for osprey. When no perches are available, kestrels will forage primarily by hovering (Rudolph 1982). In this paper, we present preliminary results of a study comparing the per-strike success among kestrels foraging from perches versus hovers in the Front Range of northern Colorado.

METHODS

We observed kestrels from 2-30 April 1996 on a 5-km stretch of farmland, pasture, and mixed grasses adjacent to Colorado State Road 52, 13 km northeast of

Boulder, and a 1-km stretch of open field consisting of a variety of grasses and yucca (*Yucca glauca*) adjacent to a dirt road immediately southwest of Fort Collins. Next to the road at each site are a number of fences (approximately 1 m high) and telephone and electrical poles and wires (approximately 6 m high). The kestrels we observed were usually perched on these fences, poles, and wires. At both sites we observed kestrels between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. for a total observation time of approximately 20 hours.

We defined "strikes" as dives from either perches or hovers all the way to the ground. We did not count dives that kestrels initiated but then aborted before they reached the ground. We identified whether strikes were successful either by observing prey in the kestrel's bill or talons or by observing the kestrel's behavior after the strike. We used the following behavioral clues to identify successful strikes: (1) flying to a nearby perch, adjusting the prey so that it was held in the talons, and bending over bill-to-talons to eat the prey; and (2) remaining on the ground for an extended period of time (assessed qualitatively), and bending over bill-to-talons to eat the prey. Invertebrate prey were identified to Class and mammalian prey were identified to Order.

RESULTS

Because we did not mark the kestrels, it is difficult to say how many we observed. It is likely, however, that no less than nine were observed because we observed two nesting pairs at each study site, and at the Fort Collins study site we once observed three males simultaneously.

Perch hunting and hover hunting were used 66.2% and 32.8% of the time, respectively. Eight of the strikes from hovers were successful (32%), and 33 of the strikes from perches were successful (63.5%) (Table 1). Thus, foraging from perches proved to be almost twice as successful on a per-strike basis ($X^2 = 5.16$, $df = 1$, $P = 0.026$). Two of the successful strikes from hovers yielded small rodents (possibly deer mice, *Peromyscus maniculatus* or voles, *Microtus* species), and one successful strike from a perch also yielded a small rodent. All the other successful strikes from either hovers or perches yielded insects, many of them with extensive black coloration, possibly beetles (Coleoptera) or grasshoppers (Orthoptera) (Table 1).

DISCUSSION

Both perching and hovering have unique costs and benefits. Hovering permits the kestrel to forage higher off the ground than most perches allow, thus providing a better vantage from which to forage (Shrubb 1982). On the other hand, it is widely recognized that hovering requires more energy than perching per unit of time, perhaps as much as ten times more (Rijnsdorp 1981, Rudolph 1982). The American Kestrel and the closely related Eurasian Kestrel (*Falco*

Table 1. Foraging strategies and success rates among American Kestrels in Boulder and Larimer counties, April 1997.

	Successful Strikes		Unsuccessful Strikes	% Successful Strikes
	Mammalian Prey	Insect Prey		
Hover Strikes	2	6	17	32.0 % (8/25)
Perch Strikes	1	32	19	63.5 % (33/52)
Total Strikes	3	38	36	55.4 % (41/74)

Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*) compensate for this energetic cost of hovering by striking at prey more frequently, and generally they attain a higher rate of success from hovers (Rijnsdorp 1981, Village 1981, Rudolph 1982). Nevertheless, on a per-strike basis, strikes initiated from perches have been shown to be 29% more successful than strikes initiated from hovers (Collopy 1973). It seems there may, in fact, be good reason to expect this. Strikes from hovers may lack precision because kestrels cannot afford the high energetic cost of hovering for long periods. Furthermore, foraging from perches may permit them to be more attentive to prey prior to striking and, hence, more successful on a per-strike basis.

We plan to consider a number of additional variables as we continue this study. They include differential foraging ability between males and females, differential foraging success relative to wind speed, foraging strategy/success relative to grass height, and foraging strategy relative to prey type (e.g., striking easier-to-catch prey from perches and more elusive prey from hovers).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Jameson F. Chace, David Craig, and Diane McClearn Cruz provided helpful comments on the manuscript.

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ARRIVALS OF SPRING MIGRANTS IN COLORADO: 1997

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COBIRDS, the e-mail bulletin board devoted to birding in Colorado, allows for the rapid dissemination of birding information to subscribers throughout Colorado and beyond. In the Spring of 1997, Brandon Percival and I decided that COBIRDS would be an appropriate tool for collecting information from Colorado birders. Consequently, I undertook the project of compiling a list of first-observations reported for common spring migrants in Colorado.

Percival and I constructed a list of approximately 140 common and expected migrants. We excluded rarities and vagrants from the list, but we did include several species that might be considered rare in one part of the state, but expected elsewhere. We selected the Spring reporting period used by Percival and Truan in compiling their regular regional reports for the National Audubon Society's Field Notes. This period includes the months of March, April, and May. Several species (e.g., Cinnamon Teal and Lesser Goldfinch) on the original list were reported during the month of February, but they were eliminated on the basis that they may have been spending the winter in Colorado. In addition, a few species that were expected never were reported. A total of 132 species are included in the final list (below).

During the Spring months of 1997, there were approximately 225 subscribers to COBIRDS. While many of these 225 individuals were not active field birders in Colorado, numerous COBIRDS participants submitted first-observation reports of spring migrants for several other observers. Thus, the resulting list can be thought of as representing the records of hundreds of observers. Only a very small number of reports were subjected to editing because most of the species involved are familiar to Colorado field observers and did not present a significant verification problem. Species first reported from elsewhere tended to be breeders in those locations (e.g., Great Egret and Bobolink in Boulder County).

Because this is the first year of what should become a multi-year project, it is impossible to reach any conclusions as to whether 1997 represented an early or late migration. What this report does, however, is establish baseline data

from a large number of observations. As this database grows over time, it should allow for some general conclusions in the future about patterns of arrival among spring migrants in Colorado. You may note that most first-observation reports in 1997 came from the southeast corner of Colorado.

Reading through this list will undoubtedly generate some comments of the "Hey, I saw that species earlier than that" variety. Keep in mind, however, that the method of data collection was to publish the first-observations list repeatedly on COBIRDS and request updates and corrections. While many such corrections and updates were submitted, clearly the list of first-observations that follows cannot be a list of actual arrival dates. Rather, it is a compilation of what the many primary and secondary participants on COBIRDS reported.

NOTE: Red-headed Woodpecker, Sage Sparrow, Lesser Goldfinch, Western Bluebird, and Cinnamon Teal were all sighted before March 1.

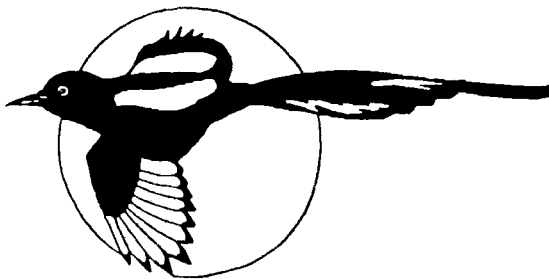
Apologies are offered in advance for any misspellings of observer's names.

Species	Date	County	Observer
American White Pelican	3-5	Otero	Truan
American Bittern	3-30	Boulder	Brunning
Great Egret	4-17	Boulder	Roederer
Snowy Egret	4-18	Bent	Percival/Dickson
Cattle Egret	4-12	Mesa	Levad
Green Heron	5-5	Pueblo	Yeager
White-faced Ibis	4-13	Otero	Percival/Janos
Blue-winged Teal	3-8	El Paso	Bunn
Turkey Vulture	3-18	Boulder	Emerson
Osprey	3-17	Boulder	Brown
Mississippi Kite	4-30	Pueblo	Truan
Broad-winged Hawk	4-3	Jefferson	Sullivan
Swainson's Hawk	3-27	El Paso	Bunn
Sandhill Crane	3-4	Pueblo	Truan
Sora	3-23	Bent	Janos/Percival
Black-bellied Plover	4-5	Mesa	Levad
Snowy Plover	4-3	Kiowa	Stevens
Semipalmated Plover	4-23	El Paso	Versaw
Piping Plover	4-16	Bent	Nelson
Mountain Plover	3-18	El Paso	Bunn
Black-necked Stilt	4-3	Otero	Jones
American Avocet	3-9	Boulder	Hill
Greater Yellowlegs	3-9	Prowers/Fremont	Jones/Elwonger

Lesser Yellowlegs	3-15	Mesa	Levad
Solitary Sandpiper	4-21	Boulder	Trinkner
Willet	4-14	Pueblo	Truan
Spotted Sandpiper	4-16	Adams	Vander Lee
Upland Sandpiper	4-16	Boulder	Prather
Long-billed Curlew	4-1	Baca	Jones
Marbled Godwit	4-18	Weld	Laliberte/Fredlund
Sanderling	4-20	El Paso	Maynard
Semipalmated Sandpiper	4-18	Kit Carson	Hahn
Western Sandpiper	4-23	El Paso	Versaw
Least Sandpiper	3-13	El Paso	Bunn
White-rumped Sandpiper	5-2	Kiowa	Stevens
Baird's Sandpiper	3-13	El Paso	Bunn
Pectoral Sandpiper	4-26	Bent	Janos/Percival
Stilt Sandpiper	5-2	Kiowa	Percival
Long-billed Dowitcher	4-13	Otero	Percival/Janos
Wilson's Phalarope	4-19	Pueblo	Silverman
Red-necked Phalarope	5-1	Mesa	Levad
Franklin's Gull	3-9	Weld	Vanderpoel
Bonaparte's Gull	3-16	Otero	Percival/Janos
Forster's Tern	4-18	Otero	Percival/Dickson
Least Tern	4-30	Otero	Percival/Dickson
Black Tern	5-1	Mesa	Levad
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	5-22	Bent	Percival
Flammulated Owl	5-3	Pueblo	Truan/Lilly
Burrowing Owl	3-22	Otero	Pasquariello
Common Nighthawk	5-12	Weld	Cutts
Common Poorwill	5-24	El Paso, Teller	Bunn
Chimney Swift	4-20	Puebl	Truan
White-throated Swift	3-18	Jefferson	Sullivan
Blk.-chinn. Hummingbird	4-15	Fremont	Watts
Brd.-tail. Hummingbird	4-16	Mesa	Bouricius
Red-naped Sapsucker	4-19	Jefferson	Latona
Williamson's Sapsucker	4-10	Jefferson	Sullivan
Olive-sided Flycatcher	5-4	Kiowa	Stevens
Western Wood-Pewee	5-10	Mesa	Levad
Willow Flycatcher	6-5	Teller	Allen
Least Flycatcher	5-8	Otero	Dickson
Hammond's Flycatcher	5-10	Mesa	Levad
Dusky Flycatcher	5-8	Boulder	Kaempfer
Gray Flycatcher	4-26	Mesa	Levad
Cordilleran Flycatcher	5-3	Mesa	Levad

Eastern Phoebe	3-23	Baca	Pasquariello
Say's Phoebe	3-5	Otero	Van Truan
Ash-throated Flycatcher	5-1	Baca	Percival
Great Crested Flycatcher	5-4	Bent	Percival
Cassin's Kingbird	4-12	Baca	Stevens
Western Kingbird	4-20	Bent	Stevens
Eastern Kingbird	5-8	Otero	Dickson
Purple Martin	5-24	Mesa	Dexter
Tree Swallow	3-14	Otero	Truan
Violet-green Swallow	3-25	Mesa	Bouricius
N. Rough-winged Swallow	4-11	Pueblo	Percival
Bank Swallow	4-11	Pueblo	Percival
Cliff Swallow	4-11	Pueblo	Percival
Barn Swallow	4-3	Mesa, Adams	Levad, Leukering
House Wren	4-19	Adams/El Paso	Stevens/Versaw
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	4-26	Mesa	Levad
Swainson's Thrush	5-2	Prowers	Percival
Hermit Thrush	4-18	Bent	Percival/Dickson
Gray Catbird	5-9	Bent	Janos
Northern Mockingbird	3-29	Fremont	Watts
Sage Thrasher	3-13	Baca	Stevens
Brown Thrasher	4-26	Otero	Janos/Percival
Bell's Vireo	5-9	Bent	Janos/Percival
Gray Vireo	5-3	Mesa	Levad
Solitary Vireo	4-20	Baca	Stevens
Warbling Vireo	5-3	Prowers	Stevens
Red-eyed Vireo	5-9	Bent	Quesenberry
Orange-crowned Warbler	4-19	Adams	Stevens
Virginia's Warbler	5-1	Otero	Stevens
Yellow Warbler	5-1	Baca	Percival
Blk.-throat. Gray Warbler	4-26	Mesa	Levad
American Redstart	5-8	Otero	Dickson
Ovenbird	5-4	Bent	Percival
MacGillivray's Warbler	5-8	Otero/Pueblo	Dickson/Percival
Common Yellowthroat	4-26	Kiowa	Percival/Janos
" "	" "	Pueblo	Silverman
Northern Waterthrush	5-1	Prowers	Percival
Wilson's Warbler	4-26	Pueblo	Silverman
Yellow-breasted Chat	5-9	Jefferson	Pasquariello
Western Tanager	5-2	Bent	Hullinger
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	5-1	Baca	Dickson/Percival
Black-headed Grosbeak	5-2	El Paso	diCenzo

Blue Grosbeak	5-4	Adams	Leukering
Lazuli Bunting	4-29	Mesa	Levad
Indigo Bunting	5-10	Fremont	Versaw
Dickcissel	5-31	Yuma	Quesenberry
Green-tailed Towhee	4-19	Mesa	Levad
Cassin's Sparrow	3-12	Baca	Stevens
Chipping Sparrow	3-31	Crowley	Stevens
Clay-colored Sparrow	5-5	Prowers	Percival
Brewer's Sparrow	4-30	Otero	Percival
Vesper Sparrow	3-12	Baca	Stevens
Lark Sparrow	4-20	El Paso	Bunn
Black-throated Sparrow	4-10	Mesa	Levad
Lark Bunting	4-21	Baca	Stevens
Savannah Sparrow	3-9	El Paso	Bunn
Grasshopper Sparrow	5-3	Baca	Percival
Fox Sparrow	4-21	Boulder	Hallock
Lincoln's Sparrow	3-9	Otero	Jones
McCown's Longspur	3-11	Las Animas	Stevens
Chestnut-collrd. Longspur	3-12	Baca	Stevens
Bobolink	5-8	Boulder	Georges
Yellow-headed Blackbird	3-2	Boulder	Plooster
Orchard Oriole	5-9	Otero	Percival
Bullock's Oriole	5-1	Mesa/Baca	Levad/Percival
" "	"	Otero	Stevens
Scott's Oriole	5-10	Mesa	Levad





A REVIEW OF
WATCHING WARBLERS:
A VIDEO GUIDE TO THE WARBLERS
OF EASTERN NORTH AMERICA
by Michael Male and Judy Fieth

Rachel Kolokoff
1721 Cottonwood Point Drive
Fort Collins, Colorado 80524

Sitting by the fire during winter in Colorado tends to make you think about spring. Can you think about spring without thinking of warblers? Not if you are a birder! This winter, when it is cold and silent and white outside, take some time to learn about or review your knowledge of warblers. A new video, *Watching Warblers*, by Michael Male and Judy Fieth, was designed to help you do just that.

The *Watching Warblers* video jacket states that ".....warblers are the ultimate birding challenge." Because they are small, active, and difficult to separate the identification of wood warblers has been the subject of many scientific works and field guides. The *Watching Warblers* video helps to de-mystify the identification of warblers through clear pictures, synchronized sound, and concise descriptions of habitat and migration patterns. Each of the 39 warblers represented (except Bachman's) was filmed live, with clear, close-up views. All species are shown singing and foraging, and many are filmed at the nest - building, incubating, and feeding. Plumage differences are illustrated by comparing young birds to those with breeding colors. Differences among males and females and brief looks at spring and fall birds are provided to strengthen the skills necessary for successful warbler identification.

The video includes one of the last photographs of the rare (if not extinct) Bachman's Warbler and fantastic footage of the endangered Kirtland's Warbler. While much of the film's focus is on identification, environmental threats to warblers (and to all birds) are discussed, as well. Habitat reduction and destruction, predation, and urban sprawl are all illustrated clearly in this remarkable film. The only thing missing from is a list of bookmarks. To find a particular species, you must search through the entire film. Since the producers did not do it, I did (see page 18). If you intend to buy or borrow this video, keep this list. You will want it! Set your VCR counter to 00:00 and follow from there.

Michael Male and Judy Fieth spent more than six years filming this documentary. It was produced in 1996 by Blue Earth Films, and the results are extraordinary. Novice to experienced birders alike will find something to learn during this 60-minute exploration of some of North America's most fascinating birds. This film deserves a place on the list of birding bests. I hope you agree that your winter will seem a little warmer after viewing *Watching Warblers*. The retail price is \$39.39, and it is available through ABA sales (800-634-7739).

Listed below are three other organizations dedicated to conservation of warblers and other migratory birds:

Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center
National Zoological Park
Washington, D.C. 20008

<http://www.si.edu/natzoo/zooview/smbc/smbchome.htm>

American Bird Conservancy
1250 24th St. N.W., Suite 220
Washington, D.C. 20037

Tel: (202) 778 9705; Fax: (202) 778 9778

Partners in Flight
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
1120 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Suite 900
Washington, D.C. 20036
<http://www.pif.nbs.gov/pif/>

Bookmarks for the *Watching Warblers* Video

- 03:58.....Swainson's Warbler
 05:02.....Bachman's Warbler (photo)
 05:50.....Prothonotary Warbler
 06:56.....Yellow-throated Warbler
 07:47.....Pine Warbler
 08:43.....Yellow-breasted Chat
 09:44.....Prairie Warbler
 11:50.....Hooded Warbler
 13:01.....Kentucky Warbler
 14:14.....Worm-eating Warbler
 15:25.....Cerulean Warbler
 16:15.....Louisiana Waterthrush
 17:25.....American Redstart
 18:50.....Black-and-white Warbler
 20:11.....Ovenbird
 22:20.....Yellow Warbler
 23:28.....Common Yellowthroat
 24:45.....Blue-winged Warbler
 26:08.....Golden-winged Warbler
 27:16.....Chestnut-sided Warbler
 28:26.....Black-throated Green Warbler
 29:09.....Blackburnian Warbler
 30:11.....Black-throated Blue Warbler
 31:23.....Canada Warbler
 32:06.....Northern Waterthrush
 32:44.....Mourning Warbler
 33:46.....Magnolia Warbler
 35:33.....Nashville Warbler
 37:26.....Yellow-rumped Warbler
 39:03.....Bay-breasted Warbler
 39:52.....Cape May Warbler
 40:32.....Tennessee Warbler
 41:19.....Blackpoll Warbler
 42:01.....Northern Parula
 43:15.....Wilson's Warbler
 44:00.....Kirtland's Warbler
 45:31.....Connecticut Warbler
 46:09.....Palm Warbler
 51:51.....Orange-crowned Warbler
 54:10.....review of all warblers (singing)

NEWS FROM THE FIELD: THE SUMMER 1997 REPORT (JUNE AND JULY)

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The summer season was pretty typical. There were a few rare birds seen during the period, as in most years. Most notable was the state's first royal tern (pending acceptance to the Colorado list). Other highlights included Red Phalarope, Laughing Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Lesser Nighthawk, Blue-throated Hummingbird, Eastern Wood-Pewee, White-eyed Vireo, Blue-winged Warbler, Prairie Warbler, and Bay-breasted Warbler. Species not seen in Colorado during the period included Limpkin, Smew, Bat Falcon, and Botteri's Sparrow, to name a few.

The real story for this period is how our nesting birds fared. I tried to include the nesting information I had in this report. Birds that seemed to be having bad years included the Great Blue Herons at Riverside Reservoir, where none nested this year (RAR), Golden Eagles in the north, Dusky and Willow flycatchers, and bluebirds in the vicinity of Rocky Mountain National Park. Cassin's Sparrow reports from the Pawnee National Grasslands trailed off this year after a few prolific seasons. A few species had a very good year. Among these were American White Pelicans, California Gulls, and Dickcissels. Lamentably, Brown-headed Cowbirds seem to be increasing in the region as well.

Shorebirds started showing up again in the last few days of June in the northeast and a few days later in the west. Lower Latham Reservoir was good for shorebirds in the east and Hart's Basin was the best in the west. A remarkable number of Common Loons and diving ducks summered in El Paso County. Big Johnson Reservoir was the premier place to see these summering waterfowl and loons.

June started off wet, then became dry until July. Numerous heavy rain storms saturated the Front Range the last few weeks of the period, including July 29, when over 10 inches of rainfall immediately west of Fort Collins came rolling down into town causing "the flood." Fort Collins itself received anywhere from 6-10" of rain the day of the flood and had numerous 1-2" rainfalls in the

days preceding the big storm. I would say that temperatures were about normal, except for a dip to 32 degrees Fahrenheit in Eagle on 7/2.

The information in this report was either forwarded to me by the Audubon Society Field Notes regional editors (Brandon Percival and Van Truan) or sent directly to me by the observer. I have also incorporated some information I gleaned from the Colorado Rare Bird Alert, but I reserve the right to discontinue doing so at any time. I would much rather hear from all of you in person. Please feel free to send me submissions for News From The Field via e-mail.

Note: The Colorado Field Ornithologist's Record Committee would like to see documentation provided for those species which I have underlined in this report. I will note documentation that I am aware of by putting an asterisk (*) next to the documenting observers initials. If I am not aware of documentation, then I will denote this by putting <ND> (meaning no documentation) after the observer's initials.

Abbreviations used: BBS=Breeding Bird Survey, BJR=Big Johnson Reservoir, CFO=Colorado Field Ornithologists, Co.=county, CVCG=Crow Valley Campground, LCCW=Lamar Community College Woods, NWR=National Wildlife Refuge, Res.=reservoir, RMNP=Rocky Mountain National Park, SP=state park, VPSWA=Valco Ponds State Wildlife Area

Common Loon: A bird in non-breeding plumage was discovered at Rifle Gap on 6/20 (KP). This is a very rare summer resident in the western valleys. A bird in alternate plumage and a bird in basic plumage were seen on 6/2 at Pueblo Res. (BKP). At least two birds summered on Big Johnson Res. in El Paso Co. Others wandered in from time to time and a peak count of seven (!) was attained on 6/27 (RB). All of these birds were gray-brown plumaged, second-year birds (RB). Another bird in similar plumage was on North Catamount Res. in Teller Co. for at least a week, staying until 7/20 (RB). An alternate-plumaged bird showed up at Big Johnson Res. on 7/24 (RB). Some quick work on the abacus showed this to be an exceptional summer for the species, with 10 individuals reported compared with 31 total summer records prior to 1992 (Andrews and Righter 1992).

Horned Grebe: Accidental in the period, a breeding-plumaged bird at Cherry Creek Res. from 7/21-29 (BB) was a great bird for the dog-days of summer.

Eared Grebe: Three non-breeding individuals were discovered in Unaweep Canyon on 6/18 (RL). This is a location where the species has nested in the past, but it is still considered rare here. One was seen at a lake near Cottonwood

Pass southwest of Gypsum on 6/2 (JMe). It is unusual to see one in the summer period in the Eagle area. The species does breed regularly in North Park, where "an average hatch" was reported this year (RAR). Some birds were still incubating as late as 7/23.

American White Pelican: Ron Ryder reports, "Two of Colorado's three colonies did very well." About 1,000 young were produced at Riverside Res. in Weld Co. and 200 more in North Park. Deterred by low water conditions, the Antero Res. Birds did not nest there this year.

Double-crested Cormorant: Over 200 young were produced at the Walden Res. colony this year (RAR).

American Bittern: One was found west of Fort Lyon on 6/11 (BKP). One was heard south of Beebe Draw in Weld Co. on 6/26 (WPL).

Great Egret: One was seen on 6/27 and on 7/20 along the White Rocks Rim Trail in Boulder (JLF). This is in close proximity to where the species has nested in the past. One was at Bartel's Res. in Larimer Co. on 7/20 (SRa) and one was at the Fort Lyon Marsh on 7/28 (BKP, MJ, BD).

Snowy Egret: One pair nested on the island at Riverside Res. (RAR).

Cattle Egret: On 7/9 (RL), a trio was discovered at Hart's Basin, where the species is rare. One lingered through July. At Nee Noshe Res., four were seen on 6/10 (DAL) and 12 were counted on 6/24 and 7/16 (BKP, mob). One was spotted between Las Animas and Hasty on 7/30 (DAL).

Green Heron: One was reported from Denver on 6/22 (KS) near the intersections of Garrison and Florida Avenues. Others were seen in slightly "wilder" areas. One was at VPSWA in Pueblo on 6/2 (BKP), one was at Olive Marsh in Pueblo on 6/2 (MY), and, also on 6/2, one was at Monte Vista NWR (Rh.). An adult, possibly carrying nesting material, was first seen at Prospect Ponds in Fort Collins in early June (JM). Up to two were seen in this area throughout the period.

Black-crowned Night Heron: Thirty-five young were banded in the Arapaho NWR colony on 7/23 (RAR).

Ross' Goose: A non-injured, free-flying bird of this species would be considered accidental anywhere in the state during the summer season. Finding one on 6/9 at Grand Lake is truly bizarre (TL,* SBo). This an unprecedented record.

Common Goldeneye: Two males spent the summer on Big Johnson Res. (RB). There are less than five summer records for the species in the state. Another late bird was near Wellington on 6/14 (SMA, KMa).

Barrow's Goldeneye: A male and female were observed on 6/14 in Routt Co., 10 miles southwest of Yampa (DHa).

Bufflehead: One was found near Runyon Lake on 6/2 (DS), when the species is casual.

Hooded Merganser: Three birds in female-type plumage spent the summer on Big Johnson Res. (RB), a very rare summer occurrence.

Red-breasted Merganser: Again, Big Johnson Res. was host to a pair of summering, female-type plumaged birds (RB). This may be the first summer record for the state. After a flurry of summer records, Big Johnson has now earned its own abbreviation: BJR.

Osprey: A pair produced one fledgling at Debeque on 7/7 (KP, RL). This constitutes the 1st Mesa Co. breeding record. An adult was seen at Hart's Basin on 7/25 (TL, GAm). In the east, two pairs successfully nested along the Poudre River in Fort Collins (BDi) and nest-building was observed at Red Feather Lakes in Larimer Co. in late June (EP).

Mississippi Kite: One at LaSalle in Weld Co. on 7/30 was well out of range (JH).

Northern Goshawk: It's always interesting to keep tabs on this rare resident. An adult on eggs was found on 6/17 at Burnt Mountain in Eagle Co. (EWW). At Christine SWA near Basalt, a female brooding two young was seen on 7/2 (KP). One was observed in Estes Park throughout the period (SR, JR).

Peregrine Falcon: Three young were produced in two different nests in Eagle Co. this summer (KP), while an adult cruised through Silt on 6/12 (KP). In the east, one passed over La Junta on 7/11 (BKP). Two were seen near Royal Gorge west of Canon City on 7/29 (DAL).

Golden Eagle: It's thought that this species had a poor year in northern Colorado, as multiple nesting efforts failed after their inception. A poor rabbit year may be the culprit (RAR).

Sharp-tailed Grouse: This species has been reported infrequently on the Pawnee Grasslands in Weld Co. for several years now. This year four young were found east of Hereford in June (BDi), a possible harbinger of increasing future sightings in the area.

Black Rail: The species was reported at a new site this summer, albeit in the expected "core area" for the species in southeastern Colorado. The report described a calling bird at Boggsville Historic Site in Bent Co. on 6/13 (JHr*). This site is located on Highway 101 about 2 miles south of Las Animas.

Black-necked Stilt: Six were observed at Lower Latham Res. on 6/26 (JH, WPL), a good count for a very local northern Colorado species.

Willet: Though breeding was never confirmed, three individuals spent the summer at Hart's Basin and constituted a rare occurrence in that region (RL).

Upland Sandpiper: Single birds were observed in Morgan Co. on 6/9 and 7/4 (JRi). One was seen near the Nebraska/Colorado border on the Pawnee Grasslands on 6/24 and 6/30 (AA, RA). Two were at Nee Noshe Res. on 7/16 (BKP, MJ).

Long-billed Curlew: This is a tough bird to find away from southeastern Colorado. In the north, one was at Lower Latham Res. on 6/29 (JH) and another was north of Purcell in Weld Co. on 7/11 (BDi).

Marbled Godwit: This species is very rare in Colorado in the summer, but a bird seen on 7/21 at a feedlot pond north of Lake Meredith (WMD*) was most likely an early fall migrant.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Even though the species is considered to be a very rare fall migrant in the west, one dropped in at Hart's Basin on 7/9 (RL).

Western Sandpiper: This species appeared first on the west slope on 7/9, when six were seen at Hart's Basin (RL). They showed in the east at Lower Latham Res. on 7/1 (JH).

Least Sandpiper: A half-dozen whirled into Hart's Basin on the early date of 7/2 (RL). The species is uncommon in the west.

White-rumped Sandpiper: Several places in Weld Co., including Lower Latham Res., hosted this late-migrating species from 6/4-8. Fourteen were at Nee Noshe Res. on 6/10 (DAL).

Baird's Sandpiper: On the heels of the former species' spring departure were southbound Baird's. Three were at Lower Latham Res. in Weld Co. on 6/29 (JH). In the west, one had returned to Hart's Basin on 7/9 (RL).

Pectoral Sandpiper: A rather early individual was at Adobe Creek Res. on 7/11 (BKP, Sch).

Red-necked Phalarope: An especially early report was of three birds at a feedlot pond north of Lake Meredith on 7/21 (WMD*).

Red Phalarope: A colorful adult female was at Antero Res. on 6/8 (TL*).

Laughing Gull: A second-year bird was reported from Big Johnson Res. on 7/23 (Wb) <ND>.

Ring-billed Gull: Though it's an uncommon summer bird in the west, one was at Hart's Basin on 7/15 (RL).

California Gull: On 7/19 (RL), two were seen at Confluence Park in Delta, where the species is uncommon during the period. Reports in that region may soon increase, as 750+ young were produced at Riverside Res. in Weld Co. (RAR) and 500 young were hatched at Walden Res. (RAR).

Great Black-backed Gull: A second summer bird first found on 4/24 at Nee Noshe Res. (SD,* mob) persisted until at least 7/16.

Caspian Tern: Two were seen at Cherry Creek Res. on 6/15 (DBs). One was at Union Res. from 7/13-17. On the western slope, where the species is accidental in the summer, one was seen at Hart's Basin on 7/15 (RL) and another was at Fruitgrower's Res. on 7/17 (RL).

Royal Tern: 1st State Record! (pending acceptance by the CFO Records Committee). A winter-plumaged adult was found at Nee Noshe Res. from 7/15-16 (DN, MJ,* mob). Good job, Duane.

Forster's Tern: An adult bird in breeding plumage was seen at Deep Lake in the Flattops on 7/6 at the lofty elevation of 10,500 feet (KP*). There are apparently no summer records for Garfield Co., nor are there any records at that elevation (Andrews and Righter 1992).

Least Tern: Two were found at Nee Noshe Res. on 6/10 (DAL).

Black Tern: Three adults were seen on 7/25 at Hart's Basin (TL, GAM, DF) for an unusual non-spring appearance by the species in the west.

Eurasian Collared-Dove: Yep, the group in Rocky Ford is still around, and now the species is a member of the state's official list. Up to five were seen throughout the period (mob*).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: On 7/25 (RL, TL), a singing bird was at Olathe in Montrose Co., where the species is rare.

Black-billed Cuckoo: One was found on 6/6 at the Northern Colorado Environmental Learning Center in Fort Collins (JM). A singing bird was discovered at the LCCW on 6/15 (MJ). Upper Queens Res. hosted one on 7/19 (DJ).

Barn Owl: There were no reports received of this species. In northern Colorado, the species seems to have declined sharply in recent years.

Flammulated Owl: Three answered a tape along Beaver Creek near Rifle on 6/16 (KP). Between two and six were heard along the Saint Charles Trail in Custer Co. from 7/1-11 (BKP, mob). Banding efforts on the Uncompahgre Plateau on 7/16 (RL), successfully half-manacled three adult females and twelve associated progeny.

Western Screech-Owl: In the east, one to two were along Burnt Mill Road in Pueblo Co. from 6/23-7/10 (BKP, mob).

Northern Pygmy-Owl: One was heard on 6/16 at Burnt Mountain near Thomasville in Eagle Co. (EWW). One was discovered on 7/21 in Estes Park while being mobbed by a feisty western tanager (SW).

Long-eared Owl: One was reported on 7/10 along Coal Creek south of Boulder (JLF). A nesting pair on Fort Carson in El Paso Co. produced two young (RB).

Short-eared Owl: One was seen near Hereford in Weld Co. in June (RAR).

Boreal Owl: On 6/22, a pair was found in a nest box on the Grand Mesa and another was near Owl Creek Pass (RL).

Northern Saw-Whet Owl: One was heard in Rist Canyon west of Fort Collins on 7/14 (JM, WPL) and one was calling in Estes Park on 7/23 (SR, JR).

Lesser Nighthawk: Following numerous spring reports, one was found on 7/9 at the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site in Las Animas Co. (RB) <ND>.

Common Nighthawk: A sad first: this species was not reported from around Eagle this summer (JMe). Did other observers across the state see fewer as well?

Black Swift: Here's the run-down of the summer reports for this species. Two were near Delta on 6/28 (KP). Six were at the traditional locale, Hanging Lake east of Glenwood Springs, on 7/6 (KP). Two were over South Fork Canyon in Rio Blanco Co. on 7/6 (KP). Three cruised over Fravert Res. near Rifle on 7/27 (KP) and three to five pairs, first seen on 7/29, nested behind Rifle Falls (KP). On the eastern slope, a few were seen around Pikes Peak (RB).

Blue-throated Hummingbird: A male was seen in Cottonwood Canyon in Baca Co. on 7/17 (DBr) <ND>.

Calliope Hummingbird: The first of numerous reports this season came on 7/6 when a female was at Bishop's Castle feeders in Custer Co. (BKP). A male was seen at Wetmore on 7/12 (BKP, SCh). One or two males were at feeders in Estes Park from 7/13-31 (SW). On 7/14, one was at a feeder near Idaho Springs (CSc). A male was at a feeder in Golden from 7/16-22 (IS). A male was seen along Ophir Creek Road in Custer Co. on 7/19 (BKP). Another male was at Roxborough SP on 7/19-20 (BB). A male and a female were at a feeder on Bowmar Drive from 7/21-23 (TJ), while apparently another male and an imm. male were there on 7/30. Boulder had another at a feeder late in July (MPl, SP1). Away from the foothills, one was at a feeder near Wellington from 7/19-22 (SMa, KMa).

Ladder-backed Woodpecker: Always a nice find, one was seen at Apishapa SWA on 7/5 (DAL, WPL, JM).

Three-toed Woodpecker: One was seen at Echo Lake on 6/2 (BB). Multiple birds were seen on 6/21 in RMNP near the parking lot at the old ski area (DFO). Over the hill, two pairs were observed in Kobey Park near Leonado in Pitkin Co. on 7/17 (KP). Baylor Park near Glenwood Springs had five occupied nests, which were discovered between 7/8-11 (EWW).

Eastern Wood-Pewee: A great report comes of a bird at Chatfield SP on 6/15 (BB) <ND>.

Willow Flycatcher: Many fewer than normal were seen in the Eagle area this summer. No more than two were seen on three occasions in June and two dates in July (JMe).

Least Flycatcher: One was seen and heard singing at the Bear Creek Nature Center on 6/8 (RB). Four were at Chatfield SP on 6/15 (BB). Two singing birds were reported six miles north of Livermore in Larimer Co. on 6/20 near the confluence of Tenmile and Stonewall Creeks (DHa).

Dusky Flycatcher: It seemed that numbers of this species were less than normal in the Eagle area this summer (JMe).

Cordilleran Flycatcher: Finally some good news for Empids. This species seems to be holding steady in the Eagle area (JMe).

Eastern Phoebe: One had ranged northwest from traditional areas to Pueblo on 7/5 (PSS).

Great Crested Flycatcher: One was found at a reliable spot, the LCCW on 6/9 (DAL).

Cassin's Kingbird: Nine were found along the Animas BBS route on 6/9 (TL, SBo) to make a good tally. The species is probably more local than it is rare in this area. The route runs from Durango south to Bondad, then east. A big tally of 20 or so was recorded at Apishapa SWA on 7/5 (DAL, JM, WPL).

Eastern Kingbird: The species is being seen with increasing frequency on the western slope. One was seen on the Animas BBS route on 6/9 (TL, SBo) and one was near Dotsero on 6/29 (JMe). The species nested at Fravert Res. near Rifle (KP) and another was observed near Gypsum on 7/23 (KP).

Purple Martin: As expected, all reports received came from the "other side" of the mountains. Eight to ten were found on Muddy Creek Road on 7/2 (RL). Two were seen at Land's End on 7/10 (RL) and one was sighted at Tabaguage Basin on 7/26 (RL, TL).

Blue Jay: Eagle's solo resident of this species persisted through the period (JMe).

Pinyon Jay: Away from the more usual haunts, the species was reported on 6/23 near Pennock Pass west of Fort Collins (JLF). In the Eagle area, the

species was present throughout the period (JMe). Birds also were seen at Apishapa SWA on 7/5 (DAL, JM, WPL) and in Salida on 7/7 (DAL).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: The species probably nested in Grandview Cemetery in Fort Collins again this summer (DAL).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: A late bird was seen at the easterly locale of Dave's Draw on the Pawnee National Grasslands in Weld Co. on 6/3 (BDi).

Eastern Bluebird: A pair near Estes Park in July (JTh) was an accidental occurrence. One was seen at CVCG on 6/3 (DAL) where the species is being found with increasing regularity.

Western Bluebird: The species was reportedly "scarce" in the RMNP area this summer (TL).

Mountain Bluebird: This species was "noticeably absent" around RMNP and Estes Park this summer (SW).

Veery: One was singing along Tarryall Creek, northwest of Como, in Park Co. on 6/19 (TL, SBo) and on 6/23 another was singing about five miles southeast of Eagle, where two were heard in 1996 (JMe).

Sage Thrasher: An out-of-place bird was heard singing on the Willow Peak BBS route at an elevation of 10,400 feet in the Flattops on 7/6 (KP).

Curve-billed Thrasher: Three family groups were observed at the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site in Las Animas Co. Two nests were found (RB).

American Pipit: Several were seen on 7/15 in meadows on Grand Mesa at approximately 10,000 feet (RL). There is only one known breeding record from below timberline in Colorado and the species is seldom found at that elevation during the summer. One must wonder what these birds were doing.

White-eyed Vireo: A super summer record: a female was banded at the Turkey Creek MAPS station in El Paso Co. on 6/17 (RB,* BM*).

Red-eyed Vireo: One was at CVCG on 6/3 (DAL) and one was singing at the north end of Lamar City Park on 6/15 (MJ). The species was also observed in mid July along Boulder Creek north of the Colorado University Campus (SSv).

Blue-winged Warbler: A singing male was seen at Little Fountain Creek on Fort Carson in El Paso Co. on 6/1 (RB)<ND>. This report comes on the heels of a spring that had five reports.

Tennessee Warbler: On the late side was one at CVCG on 6/4 (Dv).

Chestnut-sided Warbler: A singing male was seen and heard at the Wheatridge Greenbelt from 6/3-12. The species has bred there in the past. Another male was singing at Apex Park on 6/15 (BS).

Magnolia Warbler: A female was behind schedule in Pueblo on 6/3 (BD, JD).

Black-throated Blue Warbler: The migrant trap in Denver International Airport produced this species for the second year in a row. The confused bird was present at least through 6/24. The species list for the atrium above the train-loading area in Concourse C still stands at two, with the accompanying house sparrows being the other member. New additions to the list are unlikely. A male was also seen in RMNP on 6/26 (WRw*).

Prairie Warbler: Bonney Res. was the place from 6/1-5, as a breeding-plumaged male “zee zee zee zee’d” its song from the cottonwoods (DQ,* GE, DFO, mob). Kudos and thanks go to Dave Quesenberry who found this bird and had e-mailed thorough documentation by the day’s end.

Bay-breasted Warbler: Some run-off from this spring’s wave of bay-breasted reports (five in the spring) trickled into the summer period on 6/2, when one showed-up near Wellington (SMA, KMA) <ND>.

American Redstart: The species is a rare summer resident and breeder in the state. One male hung around Frog Pond in Colorado City from 6/1-29 (DS,BKP). At least one pair was at the Turkey Creek MAPS station in El Paso Co. during the period (RB).

Ovenbird: One was heard singing in Boulder Co. , ½ mile from Nugget Hill near Gold Hill in June (DHa). A male was also heard at Manitou Lake in Teller Co. on 6/14 (RB), and one was at Rye Mountain Park in Pueblo Co. on 6/29 (BKP).

Hooded Warbler: There were reports that a male spent the summer at Fountain Creek Regional Park (fide RB). I have no specific details.

Hepatic Tanager: Several were seen in Spring Canyon in Las Animas Co. throughout the summer (BM) <ND>. This site has probably had a few since 1990 or earlier.

Scarlet Tanager: A male was reported on 6/9 and 6/12 south of Boulder on the Mesa Trail (DEv) <ND>.

Northern Cardinal: A male wandered west to the Wheatridge Greenbelt on 7/31 (Tu).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: After a plethora of reports in May, one was located at CVCG on 6/4 (Dv). One was in Fort Collins on 6/7 (Bdi). Another showed up at Parker Regional Park on 6/12 (Lw). For the 3rd consecutive year, the species nested near Rist Canyon west of Fort Collins (BDi).

Blue Grosbeak: "Numbers in western Colorado are clearly increasing" (Andrews and Righter 1992). Supporting evidence was provided by Kim Potter, who found them breeding at Rifle Marsh and Fravert Res. Additionally, four were singing in Debeque on 7/27 (KP).

Lazuli Bunting: A singing bird was observed at Lime Park in Thomasville (Eagle Co.) on 6/26 (KP). Situated at 9,400 feet, this bird was at the edge of its altitudinal occurrence.

Indigo Bunting: A male was seen on 6/3 in Waterton Canyon (Jc). One was at the LCCW on 6/9 (DAL). A pair was seen on 6/15 at Apex Park (BS). Up to two were seen along the Poudre River in Fort Collins during the period (JM, RK, JLF). Five were seen during the period in the west-central region (RL), a high count for a locally uncommon species.

Dickcissel: The species was reported in the southeast along Highway 50 at two locations west of 32 RD in Bent Co. and along Highway 194, five miles west of Bent's Old Fort on 6/15 (MJ). The species returned to an area near Kiowa (JTB). Up to 19 birds occupied two different sites on Fort Carson from the first week of June through the period (RB). Farther north, five occurred east of Briggsdale on 7/11 (JH). Two other spots in Weld Co. had five additional birds on 7/25 (JH). In Boulder Co., three were seen near Saint Vrain Canyon (SRa, mob).

Eastern Towhee: One was seen at Tamarack Ranch SWA on 6/21 (BB).

Cassin's Sparrow: According to most observers, the species occurred in very low numbers on the Pawnee National Grasslands this year.

Lark Bunting: Most observers felt this species had a good year in the northeast. Indicative of this was a tally of 700 recorded on 7/26 in Morgan Co. (JRi).

Great-tailed Grackle: Four males and two females were present in the marsh at Barr Lake SP on 6/13 (TL, GAM).

Brown-headed Cowbird: This species was observed parasitizing orange-crowned (KP), Virginia's (JMe), and black-throated gray warblers (JFz) on the west slope during this nesting season. Adult warblers were seen feeding young cowbirds in all three cases. In the Boulder area, Song Sparrow, Brewer's Blackbird, Spotted Towhee, and Blue Grosbeak were the victims (JLF).

Scott's Oriole: A singing male was seen in Piñon Canyon in June (BM).

Red Crossbill: The species was multifariously reported throughout the period but never in big numbers. They seemed to appear more frequently in the mountains beginning in late June, and singing males were observed on 7/26 on the Uncompahgre Plateau (RL, TL). Wide-ranging birds were reported at CVCG, the LCCW, and Red Rocks Park (DAL).

Evening Grosbeak: A peripatetic bird was spotted flying over west Fort Collins on the late date of 6/15 (WPL).

House Sparrow: This species had to hang out with a male black-throated blue warbler at Concourse C *inside* Denver International Airport to be deserving of mention here.

Literature Cited and References Consulted

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

Cited Observers

Amy Adams (AA), Rod Adams (RA), George Armistead (GAM), Don Belts (DBs), Sue Bonfield (SBo), Bob Brown (BB), Dan Bridges (DBr), Richard Bunn (RB), Sherry Chapman (Sch), W. Marvin Davis (WMD), Davis (Dv), Denver Field Ornithologists (DFO), Bob Dickson (BD), Johnie Dickson (JD), Beth Dillon (BDi), Stephen Dinsmore (SD), Dan Evans (DEv), Gail Evans (GE), Doug Faulkner (DF), Jerry Fedrizzi (JFz), Dave Hallock (DHa), Joe

Himmel (JH), Joel Hurmence (JHr), Jacobson (Jc), Mark Janos (MJ), Dave Johnson (DJ), Tina Jones (TJ), Rachel Kolokoff (RK), Joe LaFleur (JLF), David Leatherman (DAL), Tony Leukering (TL), Rich Levad (RL), Lewis (Lw), Bill Lisowsky (WPL), Joe Mammoser (JM), many observers (mob), Kathy Martin (KMa), Steve Martin (SMa), Bill Maynard (BM), Jack Merchant (JMe), Duane Nelson (DN), Brandon Percival (BKP), Eric Petterson (EP), Myron Plooster (MPI), Suzi Plooster (SPI), Kim Potter (KP), David Quesenberry (DQ), Scott Rashid (SRa), Joe Rigli (JRi), Julie Roederer (JR), Scott Roederer (SR), William Rowe (WRw), Ron Ryder (RAR), Ira Sanders (IS), Pearle Sandstrom-Smith (PSS), Karleen Schofield (KS), Cheryl Scott (CSc), Scott Severs (SSv), Rick Shanderback (Rh), Dave Silverman (DS), Bob Spencer (BS), Joe TenBrink (JTB), Jim Thompson (JTh), Truitt (Tu), Susan Ward (SW), Emily Wortman-Wunder (EWW), Webster (Wb), Mark Yaeger (MY). There were 68 cited observers (including "mob").



Ash-throated Flycatcher at Martin property, Wellington, Colorado
May 5, 1995
by D. Leatherman

MEET THE COLORADO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE

Mark Janos, Chairman
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In this article, I asked each current member of the Colorado Bird Records Committee (CBRC) to introduce himself to the general membership. Each year I will ask new members on the committee to "go on stage" as well. I hope that you enjoy getting to know us all a little better.

MARK JANOS, PUEBLO, COLORADO

"I discovered birding when I took an introductory ornithology course at the University of Colorado in 1973. Olwen Williams was an enthusiastic and wonderful professor. I birded in and around Boulder for a year, as all beginners do, by trial and error.

My wife, Vicky, and I spent two years in Costa Rica in the mid 1970s as Peace Corps volunteers. Birding was my only pastime and I learned an awful lot about bird identification.

I returned to Colorado and lived in Delta and La Junta before coming to Pueblo in 1990. During all this time, Vicky and I have raised a family (my twins and my oldest son) and I have birded all corners of Colorado. I have also traveled and birded widely in the United States.

Most of my birding has been in the west and southwest, with many trips to Arizona, California and Texas, but I have also visited Florida, North Carolina, Maine, New York, and other areas. I have conducted Breeding Bird Surveys in eastern and western Colorado, and I have been a compiler and counter for Christmas Bird Counts (including one in Costa Rica). I worked in the early years on the Colorado Bird Atlas project, and I have been a regular contributor to *American Birds* and *Audubon Field Notes*. I have been an off-and-on member of the CBRC for about a dozen years.

The birds that I particularly enjoy watching are warblers, shorebirds, seabirds, and gulls. I like listing, and when family, job, and budget allow I have chased many a rarity around Colorado and the western U.S.

I am an avid reader of all kinds of literature, popular and otherwise, and I have been building an ornithology collection for about ten years. I have nearly 500 volumes (many used and antique), as well as hundreds of back issues of the *Auk*, *American Birds*, *Western Birds*, *Birding*, and the *C.F.O. Journal*. I particularly enjoy field guides, identification books, state bird books,

monographs, and certain authors (Bailey, Chapman, Peterson, Pettingill, Skutch, and Sutton). I have a number of signed volumes and enjoy the history that those books represent, as well as the interconnections between ornithologists and ornithology through the years.”

JOEY KELLNER, LITTLETON, COLORADO

Joey is a well-known birder in the Denver area, and many of his fellow Denver Field Ornithologists (DFO) know him already. Joey writes:

“I have always been a nature buff. As a kid I was constantly looking at rocks, plants, insects, snakes, and birds. My high school biology teacher taught our class how to identify birds. We learned to identify the common, local birds, as well as birds like American Avocets and Long-billed Curlews! I remember thinking that I’d never see those birds “around here.” I became addicted to birding in college and even immersed myself in an ornithology course. At the same time, I “discovered” the DFO and the CFO.

Brenda (now my wife) and I went on many different field trips and we constantly asked the leaders all sorts of questions. We read everything that we could lay our hands on to satisfy our curiosity. I’ve been birding seriously for thirteen years now, and in that time I’ve served two years as Vice President and three years as President for the DFO.

My hearing is great at the high end of the spectrum but poor at the low end. Birders all tell me that this is the opposite of what is suppose to happen as one grows older. This translates to many missed owls and bitterns on trips.

I’ve spent most of my birding time within the state of Colorado and am just starting to “branch out” to other states. I’ve slowed my birding down in the last few years to spend more time with my three daughters, aged four, five, and seven; they keep me pretty busy. I enjoy just being outdoors--the birds are a bonus. I get a special kick outof seeing a relatively common species in an unusual place, such as a Red-naped Sapsucker at Jumbo Reservoir!”

BILL LISOWSKY, FORT COLLINS, COLORADO

Bill is one of the active Ft. Collins crowd. He writes:

“I started birding when I was 10 or 11, back in New Jersey. Like most young birders back then, I was pretty much on my own and spent a lot of time just getting to know local spots. I could get to by walking or riding a bike. Probably the key event that really got me hooked was finding a Lark Sparrow at my feeder when I was 13. I called the local outdoor newspaper writer and told him what I had seen. I also told him I had a flock of Common Redpolls in the backyard too. Thankfully, though cautiously skeptical, he agreed to come by. He verified the sparrow as being the first winter record for New Jersey, told me how rare redpolls were there too, and we agreed to put it all out on the hotline.

In the next two weeks, probably 150 birders from as far away as New Hampshire and Washington, D.C. made a run to our house and most found my birds. One of the folks that came by was Bill Smith (P. William Smith, who now lives in Homestead, Florida; he wrote up the Eurasian Collared-Dove for Audubon Field Notes). He was a great birder and a great mentor. He made a special point during my pre-driving years of asking me to go along on field trips, Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs), etc., and he and taught me a heck of lot. In New Jersey, some of the best places that I birded regularly were Brigantine NWR, Princeton Woods, and Cape May.

I lived in North Carolina while attending North Carolina State University (for those of you who know my e-mail address, now you know what the other half of that address stands for), and I birded that state hard. I eventually wound up working for the Forest Service in Asheville, where I met Paula, my wife-to-be. She soon took up birding, too. We moved to Arkansas in 1979 and lived there for 12 years, raising four children along the way. I became a member of the Arkansas Bird Records Committee there, and I continue serving as a consultant for them today. I began taking extended vacations with my kids to all parts of the country, and, of course, I fit some great birding in too.



Common Redpoll at Crow Valley Campground, Pawnee National Grassland
Briggsdale, Colorado, February 2, 1996
by D. Leatherman

I have lived (and birded pretty actively) in Fort Collins for nearly seven years, and I have been the northern Colorado compiler for Audubon Field Notes for about five years. John Barber, Dave Leatherman, Dave Ely, Joe Mammoser, and Paula, of course, are the folks I bird with most.

I have been a member of the American Birding Association since 1972 or so, and keep year, state and life lists. My life list is 575 and my top three state lists are 290 in New Jersey, 289 in Arkansas, and 365 in Colorado. Paula's life list is up to 504 now. My top year list in Colorado is 310.

I have participated in CBCs since 1969, often doing two or more a year, and I am the compiler for several CBCs. I have conducted Breeding Bird Surveys (BBS) annually (sometimes two routes) since 1982 in Arkansas and in Colorado."

JOE MAMMOSER, FORT COLLINS, COLORADO

Joe and his son used to be a regular sight birding together through eastern Colorado. He became a new member to the Records Committee on 1 January 1998. Joe writes:

"I started birding 31 years ago in Chicago, where I was born and raised. In those early years, birding meant walking or biking to the neighborhood woods (yes there are still wooded areas in Chicago) during spring migration to look for warblers and other passerines. Warblers were, and still are, my passion.

When I moved to Colorado in 1974, I took a hiatus from birding for nine years, during which I found a job, found a spouse, started a family, and bought a house (no, I do not profess to be a poet). In December 1983, I started birding again, and I have since accumulated 409 species on my Colorado list. In spring 1996, I was accepted to graduate school at Colorado State University to begin work on my MBA. This has resulted in a cut-back on birding activities. Due to school and family commitments, I get out to bird one day every other weekend. I enjoy most outdoor activities and would like to take more photos, if only I could remember my camera."

JOHN RAWINSKI, MONTE VISTA, COLORADO

John Rawinski became another new member of the Records Committee on 1 January 1998. John continues a long tradition of representing the CBRC from all parts of the state. Many of you got to know John and his wife, Lisa, at the CFO convention in Monte Vista this past May. His paper presentation on owls was punctuated by John imitating perfectly all of the owl species that he discussed. He writes:

"I have been in Colorado since 1982. I work as Soil Scientist/Minerals Program Manager on the Rio Grande National Forest in Monte Vista. My interest in birds began in Massachusetts, where a screaming goshawk made an

indelible impression on me as it flashed through the forest during boyhood ventures. I still marvel at the sight of goshawks.

My wife, Lisa, and I have birding experience over most of North America. I have particularly enjoyed studying, photographing, and sketching owls across the country. When I'm not birding, I spend time playing tennis, gardening, bowhunting, or drumming in a local band. I am looking forward to the responsibilities of being a member of the CBRC and the challenging tasks ahead."

ROBERT RIGHTER, DENVER, COLORADO

Nearly every Colorado birder knows Bob Righter. Either he has led a birding trip you have been on, or you have gotten to know him through reading his "Bible" of Colorado birding. Bob writes:

"In 1992, Bob Andrews and I co-authored *Colorado Birds*, which is a reference to distribution and habitat of the birds known to occur in Colorado. For a number of years, I have had a strong interest in bird vocalizations and I have recorded many of the birds found in Colorado. I will be the editor of an audio-sound guide that will be published by Cornell's Laboratory of Ornithology. It will be called, "*Bird Songs of the Rocky Mountain States*." This guide is expected to be released in the spring of 1998, and it will present more than 250 species of birds found in the Rocky Mountains.

I also enjoy delving into the history of ornithology. In fact, Chris Blakeslee and I are the authors of a forthcoming article, "The Birds First Discovered by Science in Colorado," for the *Journal of the Colorado Field Ornithologists*. I have been an occasional contributor to the CFO's journal, including several identification-oriented articles. I enjoy leading bird trips and I have lead almost 30 trips to various parts of North America for the DFO."

VIC ZERBI, GLENWOOD SPRINGS, COLORADO

Vic Zerbi is another CBRC representative from western Colorado. He is a very active Colorado and U.S. lister, an Attu veteran, and he has well over 700 species on his North American list.

"My love of birds was nurtured from a very young age. I started in 5th grade, when friends of my parents asked me to join them on their regular, Sunday morning bird walk in the Arboretum in Ann Arbor, Michigan. I started my first yard list in the 6th grade. My mother recently found and sent me that list, and it's obvious from the list that my youthful imagination was extremely creative. The short birding career of my youth ended in 8th grade, when the peer pressure I already had for being a nerd was more than enough; I did not need additional reasons to take heat from my contemporaries.

After graduating from law school and moving to Colorado, my wife-to-be and I spent many weekends in the Colorado wilderness, primarily

identifying wildflowers. I began to notice birds that I had never seen in Michigan. On a trip to the Denver Museum of Natural History in 1976, I decided to upgrade a very old Peterson bird guide and discovered the Lane guide to the *Birds of Eastern Colorado*. The Lane guide not only led me to many new birds and fascinating places, it also led me to chance meetings with many experienced birders, who graciously reached out to me. Thus, I learned about the CFO and the DFO. It was a revelation to learn that I no longer had to hide the fact that I really enjoyed watching birds.

I quickly became a sponge for information about birds. I am sure that Bill Brockner, Jack Reddall, Charlie Chase, Ron Lambeth, Mark Janos, and others had their patience severely tried by my endless questions. Being very compulsive, I started keeping list after list. Life lists, years lists, yard lists, county lists, walking to work lists, etc. Yes, I am a lister in the first degree. I am firmly committed to the principle that listing is not bad as long as you keep good records of all your sightings (not just your "new" sightings) and continue to enjoy even the House Finches you see on the way to work every day. Birds have brought great joy into my life, but the friendships and fellowship of the birders with whom I have shared the exultation and frustration of birding will be cherished far longer."



Photographs and Artwork Needed for the *Journal* !!

If you would rather see more photographs and artwork in the *Journal of the Colorado Field Ornithologists* instead of more crude clip art (see pages 14 and 20), then you might want to consider digging out those photos and sketches of birds you have hidden away and submit them for the *Journal*. I personally know a lot of you out there with GOOD STUFF, so don't be bashful, sort through those endless numbers of slide trays, rifle through your portfolio, and raid the shoe boxes in the attic. I give you my personal guarantee that they will be returned to you after they're published. It's up to you--CFO members and other readers--to keep the supply of photos coming, otherwise, you'll be seeing more of that clip art stuff...



BIRD SPECIES NEEDING DOCUMENTATION WHEN OBSERVED IN COLORADO

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Listed below are rare and unusual bird species for which the Colorado Bird Records Committee (CBRC) requests documentation. When these species or any species not listed on the Colorado Field Ornithologists' (CFO) Field Checklist of Colorado Birds* are observed in Colorado, they should be documented. To document rare and unusual birds, please use the Sight Record Form provided in the centerfold of this and every subsequent issue of the *Journal of the Colorado Field Ornithologists*.

*The CFO's Field Checklist of Colorado Birds is being updated to reflect CBRC actions to date, as well as recent taxonomic changes that will appear later this year in the 7th edition of the *American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds*. The new CFO checklists are expected to be available later this year, and distribution locations will be announced in the *Journal* at that time.

Red-throated Loon	Garganey
Yellow-billed Loon	Eurasian Wigeon
Red-necked Grebe	Harlequin Duck
Brown Pelican	Black Scoter
Neotropic Cormorant	Swallow-tailed Kite
Anhinga	Common Black-Hawk
Magnificent Frigatebird	Harris's Hawk
Least Bittern	Red-shouldered Hawk
Little Blue Heron	Gyr Falcon
Tricolored Heron	Ruffed Grouse
Reddish Egret	Yellow Rail
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	Black Rail
White Ibis	King Rail
Glossy Ibis	Purple Gallinule
Roseate Spoonbill	Common Moorhen
Wood Stork	Whooping Crane
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	Eskimo Curlew
Trumpeter Swan	Hudsonian Godwit
Brant	Ruddy Turnstone
American Black Duck	Red Knot

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
Buff-breasted Sandpiper
Ruff
Short-billed Dowitcher
American Woodcock
Red Phalarope
Pomarine Jaeger
Parasitic Jaeger
Long-tailed Jaeger
Laughing Gull
Little Gull
Black-headed Gull
Mew Gull
Lesser Black-backed Gull
Glaucous-winged Gull
Great Black-backed Gull
Black-legged Kittiwake
Ross's Gull
Ivory Gull
Arctic Tern
Long-billed Murrelet
Ancient Murrelet
Eurasian Collared-Dove
White-winged Dove
Inca Dove
Black-billed Cuckoo
Groove-billed Ani
Snowy Owl
Spotted Owl
Barred Owl
Lesser Nighthawk
Whip-poor-will
Blue-throated Hummingbird
Magnificent Hummingbird
Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Anna's Hummingbird
Acorn Woodpecker
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Alder Flycatcher
Buff-breasted Flycatcher
Black Phoebe
Vermilion Flycatcher
Dusky-capped Flycatcher
Thick-billed Kingbird
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Carolina Wren
Sedge Wren

Louisiana Waterthrush
Kentucky Warbler
Gray-cheeked Thrush
Wood Thrush
Varied Thrush
Long-billed Thrasher
Bendire's Thrasher
Sprague's Pipit
Phainopepla
White-eyed Vireo
Blue-headed Vireo
Yellow-throated Vireo
Philadelphia Vireo
Blue-winged Warbler
Golden-winged Warbler
Lucy's Warbler
Cape May Warbler
Hermit Warbler
Blackburnian Warbler
Yellow-throated Warbler
Pine Warbler
Prairie Warbler
Bay-breasted Warbler
Cerulean Warbler
Prothonotary Warbler
Worm-eating Warbler
Swainson's Warbler
Connecticut Warbler
Mourning Warbler
Canada Warbler
Red-faced Warbler
Painted Redstart
Hepatic Tanager
Scarlet Tanager
Pyrrhuloxia
Painted Bunting
Eastern Towhee
Baird's Sparrow
Henslow's Sparrow
Le Conte's Sparrow
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow
Golden-crowned Sparrow
Eastern Meadowlark
Bronzed Cowbird
Brambling
Purple Finch

INSTRUCTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS OF THE *JOURNAL OF THE COLORADO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS*

The *Journal of the Colorado Field Ornithologists* 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. Papers involving scientific data should include study area/methods/results/literature cited sections; consult current issues for appropriate format. **Please do not use "tabs," "outlines," or other hidden code in electronic manuscripts** (they foul up the layout process); the editor will handle layout details (e.g., hanging indents, columns, fonts, etc.). Tables must be submitted in table format (e.g., do not use tabs, spaces). If you do not submit a hard copy to accompany the electronic copy, please send any special instructions (e.g., underlining, outlining, etc.). The editor will send a more detailed set of instructions upon request.

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HOW TO SUBMIT RECORDS TO THE Colorado Bird Records Committee

Use the standard reporting form inserted in the center of each issue of the *Journal* or use an *Audubon Field Notes* Mountain West form, available from Van A. Truan (1901 Court St., Pueblo, CO 81003; phone: 719/543-4744). Standard forms are preferred because completion of all sections helps ensure that pertinent information is included. If you submit photographs, please send two copies (records are duplicated before being sent to the Records Committee members for review). 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; or send them to Mark Janos, Records Committee Chair, 10 Sedum Ct., Pueblo, CO 81001.

