

Recent New Species in Colorado

Peter Gent

Chairman, Colorado Bird Records Committee



Golden-crowned Warbler, 15-18 May 2018, Cheyenne County.
Photo by the finder Glenn Walbek.



Fork-tailed Flycatcher

21-23 October 2018
Boulder County.

Found by Laura Stedman,
Photo by Brandon
Percival.



White-tailed Kite, 27 May 2019, Prowers County.
Photo by the finder Jill Smith.



Yellow-green Vireo, 25 June 2019, Baca County.
Photo by the finder Mark Peterson.



Varied Bunting

22 June 2020
Ouray County.

Photo by finder
Don Marsh.



Ruddy Ground-Dove, 17-29 October 2020, San Miguel County.
Found by George Steele, Photo by Coen Dexter.



Yellow Grosbeak

28 May - 1 June, 2021
Huerfano County.

Found by Gib Rokich,
Photo by Sue Riffe.



Cassia Crossbill

16 July 2021

Grand County.

Recording by the
finder Christian
Nunes.



Rufous-backed Robin

18 January –

1 February 2022

Montezuma County.

Photo by the finders

Brenda Wright and

Coen Dexter.



Yellow Rail

12 July 2022

Monte Vista

National Wildlife

Refuge, Rio

Grande County.

Found by Eric DeFonso,
Recording by Brandon Percival.



Limpkin

23 June – 4 July
2023

El Paso County.

Found by Karen Rau,
Photo by Van Truan.

Questions

What is the status of Cassia Crossbill in Colorado? Did they arrive after the Idaho fire in 2020, or have they been here longer than that?

What is the status of Yellow Rail in Colorado? Could there possibly be a small population at Monte Vista, or was 2022 an anomaly?

Prediction

Most of these new species to Colorado have come from the south, and that will continue into the future as the earth continues to warm.