



C.F.O.
Journal

No. 30, Summer 1977

Pine Grosbeak, Summit County

Photo, Louise Roloff

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The C.F.O. Journal, formerly the Colorado Field Ornithologist, is a journal devoted to the field study of birds in Colorado. Articles and notes of scientific or general interest, and reports of unusual observations are solicited. Send manuscripts, with photos and drawings, to Hugh Kingery, Editor, 869 Milwaukee Street, Denver, Colorado 80206

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BIRD TAXONOMY CLINIC FOR CFO MEMBERS

Dr. Allan R. Phillips will be in Denver during the month of September as a taxonomic consultant for the bird collection of 40,000 specimens at the Denver Museum of Natural History. Mike Moulton, President of CFO, and Betsy Webb, Curator of Zoological Collections at DMNH, have agreed to set up a clinic on Saturday, September 24th, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with Dr. Phillips presiding. There will be a fee of \$8.00 for each participant to help defray the costs incurred by the museum. The museum will then donate half of the proceeds to CFO. Those interested in attending must make reservations with Curator Webb at the museum, telephone number 575-3911. Registration will be at 9:45 a.m. immediately prior to the clinic.

Dr. Phillips is an internationally recognized Ornithologist who received his PhD in 1946 from Cornell University. He lives in Nuevo Leon, Mexico and travels extensively throughout the United States each year conducting his research. He is currently Guest Research Associate with National Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon and is Research Associate at the Delaware Museum of Natural History. He is senior author of "The Birds of Arizona" and has also written many other scientific publications in major journals.

Dr. Phillips has requested that if there are any questions of a highly technical nature that they be submitted to Curator Webb at least one week in advance of the clinic.

BOUQUETS

C.F.O. offers its congratulations to the Grand Junction Audubon group for its cordial and beautifully organized sponsorship of the annual meeting in May. The food was terrific (do we always think of that first?); the organization was tremendous; and the field trips excellent.

Featuring the field trips were a Pygmy Owl nest and a Scott's Oriole, singing at Unaweep Canyon.

Our thanks to all those who attended, to all those who planned and worked on the annual meeting, and especially to Nyla Kladder, who chaired the successful affair.

We have an invitation to two Cape Hatteras Pelagic trips, Sept. 3 and 4. The trip was half full on July 1, but perhaps spaces remain. Information from Paul G. DuMont, 4114 Fessenden St. N.W., Washington D.C. 20016. Or reservations by a \$28 check to Paul. Telephone 202-363-8994. Cape Hatteras is an inviting place in the fall, with good birding and good beach walking.

* * *

Ron Ryder reports on the formation of a Colonial Waterbird Group formed last year. Their goals are:

1. Encourage and coordinate standardized surveys of colonial waterbirds.
2. Publish a newsletter.
3. Assist efforts by conservationists related to protection and management of colonial waterbirds and wetland and coastal ecosystems.
4. Act as a clearinghouse of information for ongoing research and research opportunities.

Chairman is John C. Ogden. Dues are \$5. Ron is reporter for our area; address is Department of Fishery and Wildlife Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado 80523.

PARTICIPATE IN C.F.O.

President Mike Moulton invites C.F.O. members to participate in the club activities, in the areas in which they have interests. If you would like to add to our organization, we would certainly appreciate your involvement.

Mike suggests the following talents and interests as input which we would welcome:

- Leaders, and ideas for field trips. Contact President-Elect Elinor Wills, 540 Asbury Place, Colorado Springs.
- Typists. Contact Mike, 1328 S. Coffman, Longmont.
- Notes and articles for the Journal. Contact the Editor, 869 Milwaukee Street, Denver 80206.
- Work on the Journal. Contact the Editor.

We welcome more participants, and ideas to make the organization function more effectively.

THE FALL MIGRATION - 1976

by Pete Moulton

Mild and dry weather, almost devoid of any strong frontal activity, dominated a slow and leisurely Fall migration. Many birds remained in the state long after their average departure dates, but oddly, a number of the typical Fall and Winter species arrived quite early. The lack of frontal activity may have been responsible for sparse reports of shorebirds and most sparrows, but many other groups staged flights of major proportions.

A Groove-billed Ani was found at Bonny Reservoir on October 3 by Peter Gent, Mike Moulton and Bruce Webb, and photographed by Webb. Loons and scoters were much more numerous than usual, and a Red-throated Loon was seen by many observers at Denver. In an unprecedented congregation of scoters, all three species were present at Clover Basin. The gulls were lower in numbers this year than last, but at least three Black-legged Kittiwakes and one Thayer's were seen. Mountain Chickadees invaded the central Front Range in huge numbers, and Golden-crowned Kinglets invaded the plains. The warbler migration was not massive in point of actual numbers, but at least 25 species were involved.

In short, this year's Fall migration may not have been varied enough to suit some observers, but it was certainly not without its significant points.

* Records marked with an asterisk subject to review by C.F.O. Records Committee

THE FALL SEASON, 1976

September 1 - November 30

Common Loon - A strong flight resulted in the observation of at least 25 on the Eastern Slope, and Western Slope observers reported them widespread throughout the season at Durango and Grand Junction. A very early one was in the Bow Mar area on Sept. 9 (DFO).

Arctic Loon - At least 5 were reported, all from the Eastern Slope. 1 at Union Res. Oct. 20 (JR,VR) was joined by another Oct. 23 (DFO); these remained together until Nov. 14. 1 at Sloan's Lake Oct. 22-23 (VR), and up to 2 at CCRA Nov. 13-20 (JR).

*Red-throated Loon - The most unusual loon of the season was 1 at Sloan's Lake Oct. 27-30 (VR,m.ob.). The bird had a partially red throat and was seen at close enough range to observe the diagnostic bill shape and the characteristic dorsal markings. Andrews: there are virtually no valid records - most lack details.

*Red-necked Grebe - 1 at Union Res. Nov. 1-2 (BW,m.ob), and 2 there Nov. 14 (FH).

Horned Grebe - Remained on several waters through the season and 2 at Union Res. until Dec. 12. A high count was 325 in north-central Colorado on Oct. 23 (DFO).

Eared Grebe - 1 was at 10,000 ft. elevation on Molas Pass Sept. 28 (HK). Elsewhere they were sparsely reported, but they remained through the end of the period at Durango (KS).

Western Grebe - High count, 1050 in north-central Colorado on Oct. 23 (DFO); a few remained into December on Union and Valmont Reservoirs.

White Pelican - Latest at Pueblo Res. on Nov. 7, high count, 108 at Barr Lake on the Denver Fall Count, Sept. 11.

Double-crested Cormorant - Widely reported on the Eastern Slope, many lingering into December. A rare Western Slope observation was made at Totton Oct. 8-12 (KS).

Green Heron - 2 at Boulder Sept. 5-18, with 1 staying until the 24th, and 1 at Wheatridge on Sept. 23 (BA).

- *Little Blue Heron - 1 noted at Prewitt Res. on Oct. 1 (WDG) was the only report.
- Cattle Egret - 6 were reported: 4 at Sloan's Lake Sept. 21 (PE,m.ob.). 1 at CF&I Lakes Oct. 30 (AB,EB), and 1 at Boulder Res. Oct. 31 (BT).
- Snowy Egret - Only a few were reported this Fall, 2 at Evergreen Lake on Aug. 17 (DK), 1 Barr Lake Aug. 23 (BA), 4 in north-central Colorado on Sept. 4 (DFO), and 1 at Berthoud on Sept. 10 (VB). The only Western Slope report was an undated sighting at Grand Junction.
- Yellow-crowned Night Heron - 2 Vaille Res. Aug. 7 (JR), 1 MHDC Aug. 21 (JR), and 1 Barr Lake Sept. 25 (BA,PG,BW).
- Black-crowned Night Heron - Sightings were very few, but a late one was at Boulder Oct. 20.
- American Bittern - 1 from Bonny Res. Oct. 19 (VR), and 1 at Sawhill Ponds on Oct. 31 (MJ).
- White-faced Ibis - 18 at Totton Aug. 1-Oct. 10, and 15 at Barr Lake, where it is scarce in Fall, on Sept. 25 (BA).
- Whistling Swan - 2 at MVNWR on Oct. 24 (DFO), 6 at CF&I Lakes on Nov. 4 (EB), 19 at Narraguinnep on Nov. 10 was a high number there, and 3 at Boulder on Nov. 13.
- White-fronted Goose - 1 at Bonny on Nov. 7 (MM,PM) seems to be the only Eastern Slope report. Numbers and dates were reported as normal at Grand Junction (DAG).
- Snow Goose - About 65 were reported, all from the Eastern Slope, and all between Oct. 20 and Nov. 18. 39 of these were seen Oct. 20, 10 at Nee-So-Pah Res. and 29 at Lake Henry (BK,SL,VR).
- Ross' Goose - 1 at Lake Henry on Oct. 20 (BK,SL,VR), and 1 Jackson Res. on Oct. 30 (JR).
- Black Duck - A flock of 20 was noted at Bonny Res. on Oct. 16 (MM,SN).
- Green-winged Teal - Of interest is the report of 4 seen at 11,600 ft. on Loveland Pass Sept. 4 (HK).
- Blue-winged Cinnamon Teal - Late reports were 2 at Chatfield Oct. 28 (VR), 1 on the Greeley Fall Count Nov. 13, and 1 at Boulder on Nov. 25.
- Wood Duck - About 15 reported this Fall: 2 at Bonny Res. Sept. 18 (MM,PM), 3 at Bonny on Oct. 17 (JR,VR), 1 at Nee-So-Pah Res. on Oct. 20 (BK,SL,VR), 1 at Chatfield on Oct. 23, 2 at Bonny on Oct. 23 (MM), 2 at CCRA on Nov. 1 (MS), and 4 at Bonny on Nov. 7 (MM,PM).
- Lesser Scaup - Although most observers reported the duck migration as normal, this species was listed in far lower numbers than usual. The largest number reported was 150 at Bonny Res. on Nov. 7, a considerable drop from the 2000 noted at CCRA Nov. 9, 1975.
- Barrow's Goldeneye - A total of 4 visited Baseline Lake Nov. 1-6 (BA,BK,FH). They had not reached Lake Estes by the end of the period (WR).
- Bufflehead - A very early bird at Marston Lake (DFO) on Sept. 9 predated the previous extreme by 15 days.
- *Harlequin Duck - The most unusual duck of the season was a female Harlequin at Barr Lake (BA). This represents only the 3rd or 4th state record for the species.
- White-winged Scoter - 3 were at Totton on Oct. 23 for a very unusual Western Slope record (KS), and 2 were at Clover Basin Nov. 5-27 (BB,CB,RB,MJ,BK,TVZ,m.ob.).
- Surf Scoter - 1 was at Sloan's Lake Oct. 27-30 (VR,m.ob.), and 2 were at Clover Basin on Nov. 6 (BB,CB,RB,MJ,BK,TVZ,m.ob.).
- Black Scoter - 9 were reported, outdoing even last year's incredible flight. 3 were at CCRA on Oct. 12 (JohC,JR,VR), 2 at Valmont on Oct. 23 (DFO), 2 at Hygiene on Oct. 23 (TVZ), and 2 at Clover Basin (BB,CB,RB,MJ,BK,TVZ). Consideration of the above dates will indicate that all three species of scoters were present together at Clover Basin on Nov. 6, in what is probably the most amazing congregation of scoters in the history of Colorado field ornithology!

- Hooded Merganser - About 19 were reported, all from the Eastern Slope Oct. 24-Nov. 21, and nearly all after Nov. 5.
- Common Merganser - A very early plains report was a female at New Windsor Res., Weld Co., but the main flight did not arrive until the 1st week of November.
- Red-breasted Merganser - Reported from Grand Junction (undated), and 9 were seen near Boulder Oct. 25-Nov. 20.
- Turkey Vulture - The last at Boulder on Oct. 3.
- Goshawk - None reported from the plains, though 9 were reported from the mountains.
- Cooper's Hawk - About 28 were noted, most in the last two weeks of September.
- Red-tailed Hawk (Harlan's) - 6 reports: 1 at Longmont on Sept. 26 (PM), 1 Bonny Res. on Oct. 16 and 23(MM), which was probably the same bird, 1 at Barr Lake on Oct. 25 and later, (BA), 1 at Prewitt Res. on Nov. 24 (JR), and 2 at Chatfield on Nov. 30 (JohC).
- *Red-shouldered Hawk - An immature was noted at Barr Lake (BA) for the only report.
- Swainson's Hawk - Sparsely reported, the latest at Bonny on Sept. 25, 4 at Julesburg the same day, and 1 at Boulder on Sept. 26.
- Rough-legged Hawk - Early reports were 2 at Durango Aug. 9 (KS), and 1 at Boulder on Aug. 28, but the majority of reports were from the 3rd week of October on.
- Bald Eagle - The earliest sighting was at LaPosta on Sept. 18 (KS); early on the Eastern Slope was 1 at Bonny on Oct. 16(MM). Elsewhere they did not arrive until about Nov. 1. The reports were widespread and the number seems rather high.
- Osprey - The 5 reports include; an early one at Chatfield on Aug. 28 (DFO), 1 at La Posta on Sept. 18 (KS), 1 at Bonny Res. Sept. 26 (MM), 1 at Union Res. Sept. 26 (PM,SS), and 1 at Totton on Oct. 2 (KS).
- Peregrine Falcon - 1 at Crook Sept. 25(DFO), 1 at Barr Lake the same day (BA), and 4 in the Durango region that were present for most of the season (KS).
- Merlin - Only 3 were reported this Fall: 1 at Boulder Oct. 14 (PJ), 1 at Grand Junction on Oct. 15 (DAG), and 1 at Two Buttes Res. on Oct. 20 (SL,VR).
- Gambel's Quail - Several birds probably of this species were noted near Bonny Res. during the season (DP). It seems likely that they are the remnants of a less than successful transplant attempt.
- Bobwhite - An unusual location was Union Res., where 4 were seen on Nov. 13 (BK,BW).
- Whooping Crane - Up to 6 were on the MVNWR Oct. 24 (PF), including 4 immatures and 2 yearlings. Single birds in adult plumage were noted at Grand Junction (DAG) and Ridgway (RG), both on Nov. 17.
- Sandhill Crane - 2 were early at Barr on Sept. 11 (BA), but the peak came about a month later, when up to 15,000 greater were at MVNWR (PF). Flocks of 1200-1400 were observed on the PNG Oct. 15 and at Barr Lake on the next day. Latest report on the Eastern Slope was a flock of 14 at Bonny on Nov. 7, and the latest on the Western Slope were flocks at Grand Junction and Ridgway on Nov. 17.
- Virginia Rail - 2 were still at CCRA on Nov. 28 (DFO).
- Semipalmated Plover - A very late one was at Julesburg Res. Oct. 16 (VR).
- Mountain Plover - Latest was one at Bonny Sept. 18 (MM).
- American Golden Plover - 1-2 were at Barr Lake Oct. 17-28 (BA,TG,VR), and a single one was in Littleton Oct. 26 (WB).
- Ruddy Turnstone - 2 were reported from Lake Meredith Sept. 5 (EW), and 1-2 were at Barr Lake Sept. 11-13 (BA,TG,HK,JR,BW).
- Long-billed Curlew - 10 seen at MVNWR on Oct. 24 (DFO) were the only ones reported.
- Short-billed Dowitcher - 1 at Jackson Res. Sept. 6 (JR).
- Long-billed Dowitcher - Latest, 15 at Chatfield on Nov. 6 (DFO).
- Stilt Sandpiper - Large concentrations in the Fall are becoming typical for this species; 260 were noted in the Jackson-Prewitt area on Sept. 6 (JR).

- Marbled Godwit - The only report was 1 in the Jackson-Prewitt area on Sept. 6 (JR).
- American Avocet - A very late one stayed at Union Res. through November (AC,m.ob.).
- Black-necked Stilt - 2 at Sawhill Ponds Oct. 1(VH) for the only Fall report.
- *Red Phalarope - This rare species was seen twice during the season: 1 was at Barr Lake Sept. 11-13 (BA,TG,JR), and 1 was at Union Res. Nov. 7 (SL).
- Wilson's Phalarope - Latest, 1 at Bonny Res. Sept. 18.
- Northern Phalarope - 13 were listed during the season, all Sept. 4-25, and a very late one was at Prewitt Res. Oct. 16 (VR).
- *Parasitic Jaeger - A probable Parasitic was at Barr Lake Sept. 17-25 (BA,SL,JR,BW), and an immature was identified at Prewitt Res. Nov. 24 (JR).
- Stercorarius sp. - An unidentified jaeger was at Barr Lake on Sept. 11 (BA,TG), and another was at Bonny Res. Nov. 6 (LCa, MM,SN,JS).
- Herring Gull - The first was at Boulder on Oct. 9, and an immature (?) was at Grand Junction on Nov. 4, where records are scarce (HT).
- *Thayer's Gull - The only report this season was of one immature in first winter plumage at Prewitt Res. Nov. 24 (JR).
- California Gull - Latest was an adult at Barr Lake Nov. 16 (BA).
- Laughing Gull - The species continued its recent increase in Colorado with 4 more reports this Fall: 3 were at Lake Henry Sept. 5 (EW), and 1 was at Union Res. Oct. 23-25 (AC,TE,JR,DFO).
- Franklin's Gull - Latest were 1 at Boulder on Nov. 13, and 12 at Greeley the same day.
- Bonaparte's Gull - Though most had departed by Nov. 1, 14 were recorded at Pueblo on Nov. 27 (CG,DG,DFO). The species was quite scarce throughout the state, and in north-central Colorado the numbers were drastically reduced (as at Union where the species is abundant in Fall).
- Sabine's Gull - For the second consecutive year this species was reported in only quite low numbers: 1 was at Grand Junction Sept. 15 (DAG), and 2 were at Union Res. Sept. 25-30 (BK,SL,PM,SS). All three were in immature plumage.
- Black-legged Kittiwake - The most impressive flight ever produced at least three records for the species this Fall. A winter adult was at Union Res. Sept. 25 (PM,SS), and one in the same plumage, possibly the same bird, was there on Oct. 17 (BW). An immature was noted, also at Union Res., on Nov. 13 (PG,SL,PM,BW), and was observed daily until Dec. 4. It was then joined by another immature through the 5th (PM,BW). One of the two then remained at the reservoir until Dec. 12.
- Forster's Tern - Quite late were 7 at Muir Springs - Jackson Res. area on November 7 (DFO).
- Common Tern - 11 reports this season included: 2 at Horseshoe Lake (near Loveland) Sept. 12 (BA,SL,BW), and 7 the same day at Union Res. (BA,TG,BK,SL,MM,PM,BW), 1 at Union Res. Oct. 23 (JR), and 1 at Gunnison Sept. 24 (HK), probably the first Western Slope record.
- Black Tern - Latest were 5 in the Bow Mar area on Sept. 9 (DFO).
- Black-billed Cuckoo - An immature banded at Lykins Gulch Sept. 16 was the only Fall report (AC).
- *Groove-billed Ani - The most unusual bird of the season was Colorado's second state record Groove-billed Ani, observed at Bonny Res. on Oct. 3 (PG,MM,BW), and photographed (BW).
- Barn Owl - The only report was a single bird at Cherry Creek Village on Oct. 25 (JR).
- Great Horned Owl - Widespread, but their numbers were down, especially at Bonny Res.
- Pygmy Owl - 1 at Boulder in September (ABe,RBe), 1 Chasteen's Grove Oct. 23 (CCu,EM,Mma,AM), 1 near Bear Mountain in November (EH), and 1 at Ridgway, also in November (RG).
- Burrowing Owl - Latest was at Bonny Res. Oct. 2 (PG,BW).

- *Spotted Owl - 2 reported this Fall: 1 was at Dillon on Sept. 5 (HK), and 1 was heard hooting and barking in November at Ridgway (RG). This species is probably more numerous than the records indicate but it can be very difficult to find as it tends to roost quietly in quite dense habitats.
- Long-eared Owl - About 18 were reported, mostly from well-known roosting sites in the Bonny, Boulder and Longmont areas. A high count was 6 at Boulder on Nov. 13 (DFO). The only Western Slope report was 1 at Breen on Oct. 23 (KS).
- Short-eared Owl - 1 was observed in pinyon/sage habitat near Ridgway on Sept. 27 (HK), a little earlier than most other reports, and a high count was an undated 10 seen at MVNWR (PF).
- Saw-whet Owl - 1 was seen about 8 miles north of Fowler (JL,AAS), and 3 were at Castlewood Canyon on Sept. 4 (JR,DFO).
- Poorwill - Latest were 1 at Bodo Wildlife Area Sept. 14, 1 at Barr Lake Sept. 27 (BA), and 1 at Boulder Oct. 12 (BB,CB).
- Common Nighthawk - 150 were at Durango on Sept. 16 (KS), and a very late one was along the Arkansas Oct. 25 (JL).
- Black Swift - The only report was 150 at Ouray on Sept. 27 (HK).
- White-throated Swift - The species lingered through September at many sites, and a late one was at Boulder on Oct. 17 (PJ).
- Chaetura sp. - 1 at Ridgway was the only swift of this genus to be reported, but poor light prevented specific determination (HK).
- Black-chinned Hummingbird - 1 at McCoy on Sept. 14 was late for that location, and a very late one was at Durango Oct. 1 (KS).
- Broad-tailed Hummingbird - Most left in early September, but one was at Estes Park on Sept. 20 (WR), and an exceptionally late one was at Durango on Oct. 10 (KS).
- Rufous Hummingbird - The species was more widely reported this year than last, and an extremely late sighting was made at Durango on Oct. 17 (KS).
- *Rivoli's Hummingbird - A female was on Kebler Pass, Gunnison Co., on Sept. 5 (SL) for the only Fall record.
- Common Flicker (Yellow-shafted) - This form was noted 5 times this Fall: 1 at Boulder on Sept. 21 (BK), 1 at Ridgway on Sept. 27 (HK), 2 at Barr Lake on Oct. 7 (BA), and, very unusual, was 1 at Durango Nov. 1 (KS). Note: many birders are inclined to call intergrades between this form and the Red-shafted "hybrids," but this term is not accurate in reference to the results of interbreeding of different color forms within the same polytypic species. "Cross-breed" or "intergrade" is a more suitable term. This is not merely a matter of semantic pettiness; the biological terminology is quite specific and accurate reporting depends on the proper use of it.
- Red-bellied Woodpecker - Bonny Res. continues to be the only area reporting this species on a regular basis; this Fall 1-3 were seen Oct. 3 to the end of November.
- Red-headed Woodpecker - Were at Bonny on Sept. 25 (MM), 2 at Two Buttes on Oct. 20 (BK,SL,VR), and a very rare Western Slope sighting was an immature at Breen on Oct. 22 (KS).
- Lewis' Woodpecker - Western Slope observers found this species to be widespread and numerous in the proper habitat, but Ligon reported that their numbers were drastically reduced in the Arkansas Valley. Reasons for this decline are unknown at present, but the situation certainly bears careful study.
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - Well-reported throughout most of the state; late sightings at Bonny on Oct. 19 (BK,SL,VR), and 2 at Boulder on Nov. 16-17 (TVZ).
- Williamson's Sapsucker - Latest reports were 1 at Hermosa Sept. 9 (KS), and 2 at Boulder on Sept. 24 (GW).
- Hairy Woodpecker - This species continues to decline, especially on the plains.

- Statewide, many observers considered them scarce or did not report them at all.
- Eastern Kingbird - Latest was 1 at Barr Lake on Sept. 11 (DFO).
- Western Kingbird - The last seen was at Colorado Springs on Sept. 29 (PE).
- Great Crested Flycatcher - 1 was on Green Mountain on Oct. 1 (ME).
- Ash-throated Flycatcher - 1 was at Fort Morgan on Aug. 9 (JCR), and 1 Barr Lake on Aug. 28 (BA). Both locations are quite remote from this bird's normal range.
- Eastern Phoebe - 1 was seen at Cherry Creek Village on Oct. 24 (JR) for the sole report.
- Say's Phoebe - The species left rather early, and the last was seen at Bonny Res. on Oct. 2 (PG,BW).
- Dusky Flycatcher - Only reported from the Hack Ranch, Park Co., Aug. 28 (CH,KH).
- Western Flycatcher - Latest reported was 1 at Aurora on Sept. 23 (MS).
- Western Wood Pewee - Widespread reports continued through September and none was seen after Oct. 1.
- Olive-sided Flycatcher - Last reports were Aug. 16 at Evergreen (WB), Sept. 4 at Bonny Res. (MM), Sept. 12 at Boulder, and Sept. 18 at Denver.
- Violet-green Swallow - 3500 were at Breen on Aug. 14 and 1500 were still there on Sept. 19 (KS). Latest departure on the Eastern Slope was Sept. 9, and the latest on the Western Slope was Oct. 16.
- Tree Swallow - Very late were 1 at Union Res. on Oct. 24 (VR), and 1 at Barr Lake on the next day (BA).
- Rough-winged Swallow - Latest departure on the Eastern Slope was Oct. 3 at CCRA (DFO), and the latest on the Western Slope was at Totton on Oct. 16 (KS).
- Barn Swallow - The species remained quite late on both sides of the mountains: last date on the Eastern Slope was at Barr Lake on Oct. 25 (BA), and the latest Western Slope report was at Totton on Oct. 16 (KS).
- Cliff Swallow - Latest were 8 at Totton on Oct. 16, and 2 at MVNWR on Oct. 24 (JL).
- Purple Martin - 3 were at Summit on Aug. 12 (KS).
- Blue Jay - Continues to be reported from ever-more westerly locations: Marshdale on Oct. 4 (ET), Evergreen on Nov. 14, and on Stanley Hts. near Estes Park in mid-November (WR).
- Stellar's Jay - Came on to the plains early: Sept. 7 at Lykins Gulch (AC), and Boulder on Oct. 15 (RE), and Front Range observers uniformly reported them in increased numbers.
- Scrub Jay - Reported in the lower areas near Grand Junction from August on, a rather early movement (DAG), and an unusual sighting was at Barr Lake on Sept. 25 (BA, PG,BW).
- Pinyon Jay - A few were on the plains this season: 2 at Bonny Res. on Oct. 2 (PG,MM, BW), 1 at Fort Morgan on Oct. 6 (JCR), and 1 was at Longmont on Oct. 17 (FAC).
- Clark's Nutcracker - Early plains reports were from two different feeders in Boulder on Oct. 8, but the species seemed scarce this Fall.
- Mountain Chickadee - The most noteworthy ornithological event was a spectacular invasion of this species in the central Front Range from about the 1st of October until about mid-November. The first on the plains was at Barr Lake on Sept. 27 (BA); from then through the end of October they outnumbered Black-cappeds 72-47 (BA). In Boulder plains locations they outnumbered Black-cappeds from Sept. 30-Nov. 30 195-146 (BK). 17 were banded at Lykins Gulch in Oct., which is more than usual (AC), and at Colorado Springs they outnumbered the Black-cappeds at feeders (CC).
- Bushtit - 20 were at Chasteen's Grove, west of Loveland on Oct. 24 (RH,AM); they are considered possible breeders in that location (AC). An unusual report was of a flock at Pueblo Res. on Nov. 7 (JL).
- Red-breasted Nuthatch - Reports were widespread, but the species was not common anywhere. Some interesting sightings were: 1 Aurora Sept. 9 (MS), 1 southeast of Boulder Sept. 24 (BK), 1 Bonny Res. Oct. 10 (DP), and 1 Two Buttes Res. Oct. 20 (BK,SL,VR).

- Pygmy Nuthatch - Reported in increased numbers, especially in the Front Range.
- House Wren - Latest were 3 at Bonny Res. on Oct. 2 (MM), and 1 at Boulder on Oct. 15.
- Winter Wren - Staged quite a strong flight, with at least 8 birds reported: 1 Barr Lake Oct. 23 (BA,TG), 1 Marshdale Oct. 25 (ET), 1 CCRA Oct. 30 (PM,JS), 1 Aurora Nov. 10 (MS), 1 Waterton Nov. 13 (JR), 1 Boulder Nov. 18 (BK), 1 Eldorado Springs Nov. 19 (BB), and 1 on the Arkansas River Nov. 21 (JL).
- Long-billed Marsh Wren - 1 was at the Hack Ranch on Sept. 5, but the majority of sightings were made from the 3rd week of October on at Bonny Res., and from mid-November on at Fort Morgan and Greeley. The species was quite scarce elsewhere.
- Short-billed Marsh Wren - A tiny, short-tailed wren, possibly of this species, was imperfectly observed in a wet meadow at Bonny Res. on Sept. 19 (BB,CB,PM).
- Northern Mockingbird - Late reports were 1 Aurora Nov. 15 (MS), and 1 Boulder Nov. 21 (DPI).
- Gray Catbird - Latest was 1 at Boulder Oct. 2 (BB,CB,BT,BWi).
- Brown Thrasher - Latest were 1 at Boulder Oct. 23 (CBi), 1 at Barr Lake Oct. 25 (BA,TG), and 1 at a feeder in Eldora Oct. 26-Nov. 3, not only late, but at a rather high elevation (GS).
- Sage Thrasher - Larger numbers this than last: 12 were at Horsetooth Res. on Sept. 10 (VB), and 14 were noted at Ridgway on Sept. 27. Latest was at Longmont on Oct. 17 (FAC).
- Varied Thrush - A rare Varied found at Bodo Wildlife Area on Nov. 21 was considered the most exciting bird of the season in the Durango region (PS,KS).
- Wood Thrush - At least 3 were reported; 1 at Fort Morgan Sept. 28 (JCR), 1 at Boulder on Sept. 29 (SL), and another there on Nov. 18 (RB).
- Hermit Thrush - 11 were reported statewide from Sept. 6-Oct. 23, and a late one was at Pueblo on Nov. 27 (CG,DG).
- Eastern Bluebird - Some unusual locations were : Barr Lake where 1 was seen on Oct. 30, and CF&I Lakes where 20 were observed the same day (EB,JL). 1 was noted at Cherry Creek Village Nov. 24 (JR), for a rather late date.
- Townsend's Solitaire - Earliest on the plains was 1 at PNG on Oct. 30 (DFO).
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 1 was at Waterton Aug. 28 (DFO), 1 Red Rocks Sept. 12 (DFO), 19 at Ridgway Sept. 27 (HK) was the highest count, and 1 at Totton Nov. 13 (KS) was the latest report.
- Golden-crowned Kinglet - The species was very widespread on the plains this Fall, and most sites reported them before the 3rd week of October. The most unusual report was 5 at Two Buttes Res. on Oct. 20 (BK,SL,VR).
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet - Late birds were at Bonny Res. on Nov. 14, and Boulder on Nov. 27.
- Water Pipit - Few were noted, nearly all before the 3rd week of October. A late one was at Bonny Res. Nov. 14.
- *Sprague's Pipit - A rare Sprague's was on Table Mountain, near Boulder, Aug. 23 (FH).
- Bohemian Waxwing - This bird's well-known peregrinations occurred mostly outside the state this Fall, and only 2 were seen, both in Lakewood on Nov. 25 (JohC, JoyC).
- Cedar Waxwing - Cedars were widespread in the eastern half of the state, and some were noted near Grand Junction. A high count was 100 at Loveland Nov. 12 (JeC).
- Northern Shrike - A very early one was reported at McCoy on Aug. 29, and one was early at Union Res. on Sept. 25 (PM,SS), but the majority of the flight did not arrive elsewhere until the 3rd week of October. Numbers seemed higher than usual throughout the plains.
- Loggerhead Shrike - An extremely late one was at Evergreen on Nov. 26 (WB).
- Bell's Vireo - The only report was 1 at Bonny Res. Aug. 15 (PM).
- Solitary Vireo - 1 of undetermined subspecies was still at Waterton on Oct. 23 (DFO).
- Red-eyed Vireo - 6 were reported: 1 Bonny Res. Aug. 28 (MM), 1 Boulder Aug. 30 (LH),

- 1 Fort Morgan Sept. 4 (JCR), 2 on the Denver Fall Count Sept. 11 (DFO), and an exceptionally late one at Rocky Ford Oct. 20 (VR). ^{o v e}
- *Philadelphia Vireo - 1 at Bonny Res. Sept. 18 (BB,CB,MM,PM,JS).
- Black-and-white Warbler - 1 at Boulder on Aug. 18, and 1 at Aurora on Sept. 14 (MS).
- Nashville Warbler - The 6 reported include: 2 Boulder Sept. 25, 1 Bonny Res. Oct. 19 (BK,SL,VR), 1 Boulder Oct. 23 (DFO), 1 Barr Lake Oct. 28 (BA), and a late one at Boulder Nov. 22 (FH,BK).
- Tennessee Warbler - 1 on Hoosier Pass Sept. 5 at the elevation of 10,000 ft. (CC), and 3 in Boulder Sept. 27-Oct. 2.
- Virginia's Warbler - Latest was 1 at Boulder Oct. 2 (RVZ).
- Northern Parula - An unusual Fall report for this species was an immature banded at Lykins Gulch (AC) on Oct. 5.
- Yellow Warbler - Latest was 1 Boulder Sept. 27.
- Magnolia Warbler - The 3 reports include 1 Barr Lake Sept. 27 (BA), 1 Bonny Res. Oct. 2 (PG,MM,BW), and 1 CF&I Lakes Nov. 4 (EB).
- *Cape May Warbler - The 2 reports both came from Boulder: 1 Sept. 21 (KN), and 1 Oct. 31 (BA,JohC, TG,BK,Bl,SL,TM,BW).
- Black-throated Blue Warbler - At least 9 were reported, from Sept. 15 at Barr Lake until Nov. 13 at Boulder.
- Black-throated Gray Warbler - A very unusual report was 1 at Crook on Sept. 25 (DFO).
- Townsend's Warbler - At least 10 were reported from the plains: 5 at Barr Lake Sept. 11 (DFO), 1 at Prospect Res. the same day (DFO), 1 at Crow Valley Park on Sept. 12 (MM,PM,JR), 1 at Barr Lake on Oct. 17 (BA), and 1 in the Fort Morgan area the same day (JR).
- Black-throated Green Warbler - This Fall's strong flight brought at least 5 to Colorado: 2 Barr Lake Sept. 11 (BA), 1 Boulder Sept. 19 and 29 which may or may not have been the same bird (SL), a female at Jackson Res. Oct. 30 (JR), and 1 at Minnequah Nov. 16 (EB).
- Chestnut-sided Warbler - 1 was at Waterton Sept. 19 (JR).
- Bay-breasted Warbler - 1 was at Aurora Sept. 30-Oct. 3, and was banded (MS).
- *Pine Warbler - 1 at the C.U. campus in Boulder Oct. 30 (SL,BW), and the same bird, or another, was there on Nov. 13 (BK,SL,BW).
- Palm Warbler - The only Palm reported was at Pueblo Oct. 15 (EB).
- Ovenbird - The 3 reports include: 1 Barr Lake Sept. 11 (BA), 1 Wheatridge Sept. 17 (PE), and 1 Lakewood (JohC).
- Hooded Warbler - 1 was in Boulder Sept. 9 (BK) for the only Fall report.
- American Redstart - A late one at Barr Lake Oct. 17 (BA).
- *Eastern Meadowlark - 2 were reported from the Red Lion area Sept. 25 (DFO).
- Yellow-headed Blackbird - Latest was at Boulder Nov. 13 (DFO).
- Orchard Oriole - This early-departing species was last recorded at Barr Lake on Aug. 16 (BA), and at Bonny Res. Aug. 25 (MM).
- Northern Oriole - The latest was a Bullock's form seen on the Denver Fall Count Sept. 11 (DFO).
- Rusty Blackbird - 2 at Bonny Res. Oct. 6 (JH,SN), and 1 along Clear Creek in Jefferson Co. Oct. 31 (PR).
- *Great-tailed Grackle - 3 were at Bayfield from at least Oct. 10 on, a total of about 3 weeks (KS).
- Scarlet Tanager - A female was identified at Bonny Res. on Oct. 19 (BK,SL,VR).
- Summer Tanager - 1 banded at Aurora Sept. 24 (MS) was the only Fall report for this rare species.
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak - 1 was in Boulder Sept. 26, and an immature was banded at Lykins Gulch (AC). A possible intergrade between this and the Black-headed visited a feeder in Eldora (GS).

Indigo Bunting - 1 immature was banded at Lykins Gulch Oct. 21 (AC).

*Purple Finch - 2 were at Boulder Oct. 24 (SL,VR), and 2, possibly the same birds were there Nov. 18 (RB,BK); 1 was recorded at Barr Lake on Oct. 30 (BA).

Cassin's Finch - A curious record is of 1 seen at Two Buttes Res. Oct. 20 (BK,SL,VR); this location is about 125 miles from the nearest mountains.

Gray-crowned Rosy Finch - Some were in Eldora in late November (GS), but they had not reached Estes Park by Dec. 1 (WR).

Black Rosy Finch - The species reached Grand Junction in the 1st week of November (DAG), but the only Eastern Slope report was of 1 at a feeder at Eldora in late November (GS).

Common Redpoll - In contrast to last year's spectacular invasion, only 1 was reported this Fall, Nov. 21 in Boulder (BWi).

Red Crossbill - Very few were reported this Fall, and most observers described their numbers as quite low.

Green-tailed Towhee - Latest were 3 at Bonny Res. Oct. 2 (MM).

Lark Bunting - Late reports were at Bonny Res. Sept. 25, and at Boulder Sept. 26.

Baird's Sparrow - 1 was at Barr Lake Aug. 8 (BA).

Vesper Sparrow - Vespers were much more numerous this year than last; 165 were listed on the Denver Fall Count Sept. 11, and 3 lingered at CCRRA until Nov. 28 (DFO).

Lark Sparrow - A late one was at Boulder Nov. 21 (BWi).

Sage Sparrow - 7 were noted at Ridgway Sept. 27 (HK), and an extremely late bird was at MVNWR Oct. 24 (JL).

Gray-headed Junco - The species was on the plains at Bonny Res. from Oct. 16 on (MM), and at Colorado Springs from Oct. 17 on (CC).

Tree Sparrow - The earliest arrived at Boulder Oct. 9, but most areas did not report them until Nov. 1.

Chipping Sparrow - Last seen were at Bonny Res. and Boulder Oct. 17.

Clay-colored Sparrow - Numbers were low along the Front Range, but 25 were counted at Bonny Res. on Oct. 2 (MM).

Field Sparrow - A strong flight was documented by the observation of about 13 of this species: 4 Boulder Sept. 25 (FH), 7 Bonny Res. Oct. 2 (MM), 1 Bonny Res. Oct. 19 (MM), and 1 Boulder Nov. 13 (DFO).

White-throated Sparrow - About 40 were reported, beginning with 2 at Fort Morgan Sept. 26 (JCR), and ending with 2 at Waterton Nov. 6 (DFO). Unusual mountain observations were made at Evergreen, where 2 visited feeders during the last week of October and the first week of November (WB).

Fox Sparrow - About 10 were reported and at least 3 subspecies were mentioned. The slaty mountain form, *P.i. schistacea*, was noted at the Hack Ranch Aug. 10 (CH,KH), and at McCoy Sept. 19. The rusty eastern form, *P.i. zaboria*, was recorded at Barr Lake Oct. 7-10 (BA), at Green Mountain Oct. 25, and at Bonny Res. Nov. 7 (MM,PM) and Nov. 21 (MM). Presumably the Boulder and Loveland reports are referable to this form, but subspecific determination was not mentioned. Very unusual was a gray-headed west coast bird seen at Barr Lake Oct. 17 (BA).

Lincoln's Sparrow - Late reports were at Barr Lake, where 1 was seen Oct. 28 (BA), and Boulder, where 7 were seen on Nov. 21 (BT,BWi). This is a late date for so many, but they have been recorded there in winter.

Swamp Sparrow - 9 were reported this Fall which is a rather high number for this scarce species. 1 Bonny Res. Oct. 16 (MM,SN), 3 Bonny Res. Oct. 19 (VR), 3 Two Buttes Res. Oct. 20 (VR), 1 Barr Lake Oct. 23 (BA,TG), and 1 Evergreen Oct. 24 (WB), at a rather high elevation.

McCown's Longspur - Latest was at Bonny Res. Oct. 19 (MM).

Lapland Longspur - The 3 reports include: 8 Chatfield Oct. 28 (VR), 7 on the PNG Oct. 30, and a flock of 60-75 at the CF&I Lakes Nov. 9 (EB).

Chestnut-collared Longspur - Late reports were 1 at Barr Lake Oct. 10 (BA,VR), 1 at Bonny Res. Oct. 19 (MM), and 1 at Chatfield Oct. 28 (VR).

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Barr Lake, Northeastern Colorado: Bob Andrews; Bonny Reservoir: Mike Moulton, Dan Pinkham; Boulder: Bruce Bosley (31), Louise Hering (30); Buena Vista: Judy Porrata; Durango: Kip Stransky (11); Estes Park: Warner Reeser; Evergreen: William Brockner (23); Fort Collins: Ted Bodner (6); Fort Morgan: J.C. Rigli; Grand Junction: David Galinat (10); Greeley Fall Count (30); Hack Ranch: Carol Hack, Kathy Hawkins; Hesperus: Mary Lindner; Longmont: Alegria Collister; McCoy: Mrs. Kenneth Ewing, Clark Ewing; Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge (MVNWR): Phillip Feiger; Pueblo: Jerry Ligon (3), Carolyn and Dave Griffiths; Ridgway: Richard Guadano.

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BOOK REVIEWS

Birds of Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks, by Dick Follett. Published by the Yellowstone Library and Museum Association, Yellowstone Park, Wyo. \$2.95.

Designed to appeal to the Yellowstone and Grand Teton tourist, this book offers an overall view of the bird life in Yellowstone and Grand Teton parks. The main feature of the book is brief biographies of typical park birds, such as White Pelican, Harlequin Duck, Calliope Hummingbird and Gray Jay. Each account has a superb photographic portrait. The best is a baby White Pelican dipping into its parent's pouch for food; other good ones include a Com. Raven, Audubon's Warbler, and Black Rosy Finch (the latter by Coloradan Harold Holt).

The last six pages of the book constitute a checklist of birds of the two parks, using a system akin to most National Wildlife Refuge checklists. From the checklist comes the surprising information that some species have differing status in the two parks: Blue Grouse are common in Yellowstone and occasional in Grand Teton, while the Ruffed Grouse is the reverse; Steller's Jays are common in the Tetons, occasional in Yellowstone; so are White-breasted Nuthatches, but Red-breasted Nuthatches are the reverse; only three warblers are common in Yellowstone (Yellow, Yellow-rumped, and yellowthroat), only four in the Tetons (the same, plus MacGillivray's). The Calliope Hummingbird is the only common hummingbird, and that only in the Tetons.

The book admirably suits its purpose of providing information for the park tourist. Its value to the more serious field ornithologist is limited because the checklist, while thorough, provides no details on the occurrences of either common or rare species.

-H.E.K.-

The National Agricultural Chemicals Association has distributed to us a pamphlet entitled, "Wintering Bald Eagle." It contains the responses of a number of wildlife refuge managers and a few bird-watchers (like Kip Stransky of Durango) to a questionnaire on wintering Bald Eagles.

The author, Donald Spencer, briefly analyzes his survey data, with a map and three-page discussion. He concludes that, according to the responses to his questionnaire, 8-9000 migrant Bald Eagles winter in the conterminous 48 states (plus resident populations in Maine, Chesapeake Bay and Florida).

He makes no historical analysis (e.g., how many wintered in the U.S. 50 years ago) and has no discussion of where and why declines may have occurred. He offers an explanation as to why the plains states winter 1000-1500 birds: new water impoundments plus warm water from power plants which keep waterways open.

The book offers little discussion of food requirements, no consciousness of the Utah desert population (Am. Birds 30:783, Aug. 1976), and no mention of the Casper, Wyoming, roosts or poison episode.

With the agricultural chemical industry as a sponsor, it would seem that the effects of persistent pesticides would be a pertinent topic to mention, even if briefly, in a survey of this nature.

The author concludes that the Bald Eagle is adaptable and innovative in its feeding and winter habitat requirements. He lists twelve "Red Carpet Measures" which have contributed and will continue to contribute to the eagle's survival, including some of the measures to prevent man's intentional and unintentional attacks on them. These include changing patterns in predator control, a solution for the powerline electrocution problem, and, by golly, "Progressive correction of chemical residue problem in foods eaten by bald eagles."

-H.E.K.-

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