

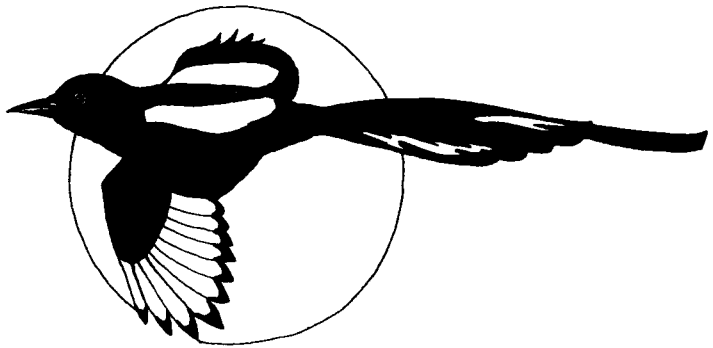
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Cover photograph: Nesting Double-crested Cormorants, by Bud Smith, Northeast Regional Information Officer, Colorado Division of Wildlife.

THE CFO CHECKLIST OF COLORADO BIRDS

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Boulder, CO 80303

This list contains all species of birds reliably reported from the state of Colorado in the opinion of the Colorado Field Ornithologists Records Committee. All committee decisions made through 1986 are reflected. This checklist uses the nomenclature and sequences of the AOU checklist, 6th edition (1983) and its 35th supplement (1985). Major field identifiable forms (primarily those formerly considered full species) are included in parentheses. A total of 440 species are included in this list. Three types of information are provided by notation. These are as follows:

1. Documentation available:

No notation - Species documented by extant specimens (or diagnostic tape recording of call). There are 397 such species.

p - Species documented by photographs deemed acceptable by the records committee. There are 29 such species.

s - Species documented only by written documentation of sight records deemed acceptable by the records committee. There are 14 such species. The records committee desires photographs of these species taken in Colorado.

2. Documentation desired:

R - Species documented by less than ten records. There are 62 such species. The records committee desires documentation of records of these species and any species unrecorded in Colorado.

3. Breeding status:

B - Breeding confirmed within the last 20 years, based on nest, eggs or flightless young. There are 257 such species.

B(nr) - Breeding confirmed, but not recently (more than 20 years ago). There are 6 such species, and 1 such race.

b - Breeding suspected. There are 9 such species. The records committee desires documentation of any breeding record that updates these categories.

Communication with the records committee should be made at the following address:

CFO Records Committee
Dept. of Zoological Collections
Denver Museum of Natural History
City Park
Denver, CO 80205

LOONS

Red-throated Loon R
Pacific Loon
Common Loon
Yellow-billed Loon R

GREBES

Pied-billed Grebe B
Horned Grebe
Red-necked Grebe
Eared Grebe B
Western Grebe B
Clark's Grebe B

PELICANS

American White Pelican B
Brown Pelican R

CORMORANTS

Double-crested Cormorant B
Olivaceous Cormorant R

DARTERS

Anhinga R

FRIGATEBIRDS

Magnificent Frigatebird R

BITTERNS AND HERONS

American Bittern B
Least Bittern B
Great Blue Heron B
Great Egret B
Snowy Egret B
Little Blue Heron p
Tricolored Heron p
Reddish Egret R
Cattle Egret B, p
Green-backed Heron B, p
Black-crowned Night-Heron B
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron B

IBISES AND SPOONBILLS

White Ibis R, s
White-faced Ibis B
Roseate Spoonbill R

STORKS

Wood Stork R

SWANS, GEESE AND DUCKS

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck R, s
 Tundra Swan
 Trumpeter Swan R
 Greater White-fronted Goose
 Snow Goose
 (Snow Race)
 (Blue Race)
 Ross' Goose
 Brant R, p
 (Brant Race p)
 (Black Brant Race p)
 Canada Goose B
 Wood Duck B
 Green-winged Teal B
 American Black Duck
 Mallard B
 Northern Pintail B
 Blue-winged Teal B
 Cinnamon Teal B
 Northern Shoveler B
 Gadwall B
 Eurasian Wigeon s
 American Wigeon B
 Canvasback B
 Redhead B
 Ring-necked Duck B
 Greater Scaup
 Lesser Scaup B
 Harlequin Duck R, B(nr)
 Oldsquaw
 Black Scoter
 Surf Scoter
 White-winged Scoter
 Common Goldeneye
 Barrow's Goldeneye B
 Bufflehead
 Hooded Merganser B
 Common Merganser B
 Red-breasted Merganser
 Ruddy Duck B

AMERICAN VULTURES

Turkey Vulture B

KITES, EAGLES AND HAWKS

Osprey B
 American Swallow-tailed Kite R
 Mississippi Kite B
 Bald Eagle B
 Northern Harrier B
 Sharp-shinned Hawk B
 Cooper's Hawk B
 Northern Goshawk B
 Common Black-Hawk R, s
 Red-shouldered Hawk
 Broad-winged Hawk B
 Swainson's Hawk B
 Red-tailed Hawk B
 (Harlan's Race)
 Ferruginous Hawk B
 Rough-legged Hawk
 Golden Eagle B

FALCONS

American Kestrel B
 Merlin B(nr)
 Peregrine Falcon B
 Gyrfalcon R
 Prairie Falcon B

GROUSE, TURKEYS AND QUAIL

Blue Grouse B
 White-tailed Ptarmigan B
 Sage Grouse B
 Greater Prairie-Chicken B
 Lesser Prairie-Chicken B
 Sharp-tailed Grouse B
 Wild Turkey B
 Northern Bobwhite B

Scaled Quail B
Gambel's Quail B

RAILS, GALLINULES AND COOTS

Yellow Rail R
Black Rail R
King Rail R, p
Virginia Rail B
Sora B
Purple Gallinule R, p
Common Moorhen R, s
American Coot B

CRANES

Sandhill Crane B
Whooping Crane

PLOVERS

Black-bellied Plover
Lesser Golden-Plover
Snowy Plover B
Semipalmated Plover
Piping Plover B(nr)
Killdeer B
Mountain Plover B

STILTS AND AVOCETS

Black-necked Stilt B
American Avocet B

SANDPIPERS AND PHALAROPES

Greater Yellowlegs
Lesser Yellowlegs
Solitary Sandpiper
Willet B
Spotted Sandpiper B
Upland Sandpiper B
Eskimo Curlew R
Whimbrel

Long-billed Curlew B
Hudsonian Godwit
Marbled Godwit B
Ruddy Turnstone
Red Knot
Sanderling
Semipalmated Sandpiper
Western Sandpiper
Least Sandpiper
White-rumped Sandpiper
Baird's Sandpiper
Pectoral Sandpiper
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper R, p
Dunlin
Stilt Sandpiper
Buff-breasted Sandpiper
Ruff R, s
Short-billed Dowitcher
Long-billed Dowitcher
Common Snipe B
American Woodcock
Wilson's Phalarope B
Red-necked Phalarope
Red Phalarope

JAEGERS, GULLS AND TERNS

Pomarine Jaeger
Parasitic Jaeger p
Long-tailed Jaeger R
Laughing Gull p
Franklin's Gull
Little Gull R, p
Bonaparte's Gull
Mew Gull R, p
Ring-billed Gull B(nr)
California Gull B
Herring Gull
Thayer's Gull
Lesser Black-backed Gull R, p
Glaucous-winged Gull R, p
Glaucous Gull
Great Black-backed Gull R, p

Black-legged Kittiwake
 Ross' Gull R, p
 Sabine's Gull
 Ivory Gull R
 Caspian Tern p
 Common Tern
 Arctic Tern R
 Forster's Tern B
 Least Tern B
 Black Tern B

MURRELETS

Marbled Murrelet R
 Ancient Murrelet R

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Band-tailed Pigeon B
 White-winged Dove
 Mourning Dove B

CUCKOOS, ROADRUNNERS AND ANIS

Black-billed Cuckoo B
 Yellow-billed Cuckoo B
 Greater Roadrunner B
 Groove-billed Ani R

BARN-OWLS

Common Barn-Owl B

OWLS

Flammulated Owl B
 Eastern Screech-Owl B
 Western Screech-Owl B
 Great Horned Owl B
 Snowy Owl
 Northern Pygmy-Owl B
 Burrowing Owl B
 Spotted Owl b
 Barred Owl R, B(nr)

Long-eared Owl B
 Short-eared Owl B
 Boreal Owl B
 Northern Saw-whet Owl B

GOATSUCKERS

Lesser Nighthawk R
 Common Nighthawk B
 Common Poorwill B
 Whip-poor-will R
 SWIFTS

Black Swift B
 Chimney Swift B
 White-throated Swift B

HUMMINGBIRDS

Blue-throated Hummingbird R, b, p
 Magnificent Hummingbird B
 Black-chinned Hummingbird B
 Anna's Hummingbird R, p
 Calliope Hummingbird
 Broad-tailed Hummingbird B
 Rufous Hummingbird

KINGFISHERS

Belted Kingfisher B

WOODPECKERS

Lewis' Woodpecker B
 Red-headed Woodpecker B
 Red-bellied Woodpecker B
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
 Red-naped Sapsucker B
 Williamson's Sapsucker B
 Ladder-backed Woodpecker B
 Downy Woodpecker B
 (Rocky Mountain Race B)
 (Eastern Race B)

Hairy Woodpecker B
 (Rocky Mountain Race B)
 (Eastern Race B)
 Three-toed Woodpecker B
 Northern Flicker B
 (Yellow-shafted Race B)
 (Red-shafted Race B)

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Olive-sided Flycatcher B
 Western Wood-Pewee B
 Eastern Wood-Pewee
 Alder Flycatcher
 Willow Flycatcher B
 Least Flycatcher b
 Hammond's Flycatcher B
 Dusky Flycatcher B
 Gray Flycatcher B
 Western Flycatcher B
 Black Phoebe R, B, p
 Eastern Phoebe B
 Say's Phoebe B
 Vermilion Flycatcher B
 Dusky-capped Flycatcher R
 Ash-throated Flycatcher B
 Great Crested Flycatcher b
 Cassin's Kingbird B
 Western Kingbird B
 Eastern Kingbird B
 Scissor-tailed Flycatcher B

LARKS

Horned Lark B

SWALLOWS

Purple Martin B
 Tree Swallow B
 Violet-green Swallow B
 Northern Rough-winged
 Swallow B
 Bank Swallow B

Cliff Swallow B
 Barn Swallow B

JAYS, MAGPIES AND CROWS

Gray Jay B
 Steller's Jay B
 Blue Jay B
 Scrub Jay B
 Pinyon Jay B
 Clark's Nutcracker B
 Black-billed Magpie B
 American Crow B
 Chihuahuan Raven B
 Common Raven B

TITMICE

Black-capped Chickadee B
 Mountain Chickadee B
 Plain Titmouse B

BUSHTITS

Bushtit B

NUTHATCHES

Red-breasted Nuthatch B
 White-breasted Nuthatch B
 Pygmy Nuthatch B

CREEPERS

Brown Creeper B

WRENS

Rock Wren B
 Canyon Wren B
 Carolina Wren
 Bewick's Wren B
 House Wren B

Winter Wren
Sedge Wren b
Marsh Wren B

DIPPERS

American Dipper B

KINGLETS AND GNATCATCHERS

Golden-crowned Kinglet B
Ruby-crowned Kinglet B
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher B

SOLITAIRES AND THRUSHES

Eastern Bluebird B
Western Bluebird B
Mountain Bluebird B
Townsend's Solitaire B
Veery B
Gray-cheeked Thrush
Swainson's Thrush B
Hermit Thrush B
Wood Thrush
American Robin B
Varied Thrush

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS

Gray Catbird B
Northern Mockingbird B
Sage Thrasher B
Brown Thrasher B
Long-billed Thrasher R
Bendire's Thrasher R, B
Curve-billed Thrasher B

PIPITS

Water Pipit B
Sprague's Pipit s

WAXWINGS

Bohemian Waxwing
Cedar Waxwing B

SILKY-FLYCATCHERS

Phainopepla R, p

SHRIKES

Northern Shrike
Loggerhead Shrike B

VIREOS

White-eyed Vireo R, s
Bell's Vireo B
Gray Vireo B
Solitary Vireo B
 (Cassin's Race)
 (Plumbeous Race B)
Yellow-throated Vireo s
Warbling Vireo B
Philadelphia Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo B

WOOD-WARBLERS

Blue-winged Warbler s
Golden-winged Warbler
Tennessee Warbler b
Orange-crowned Warbler B
Nashville Warbler
Virginia's Warbler B
Lucy's Warbler R, B(nr)
Northern Parula b
Yellow Warbler B
Chestnut-sided Warbler B
Magnolia Warbler
Cape May Warbler p
Black-throated Blue Warbler

Yellow-rumped Warbler B
 (Myrtle Race)
 (Audubon's Race B)
 Black-throated Gray Warbler B
 Townsend's Warbler
 Hermit Warbler R, p
 Black-throated Green Warbler
 Blackburnian Warbler
 Yellow-throated Warbler
 Grace's Warbler B
 Pine Warbler
 Prairie Warbler R, p
 Palm Warbler
 Bay-breasted Warbler B
 Blackpoll Warbler
 Cerulean Warbler R
 Black-and-white Warbler
 American Redstart B
 Prothonotary Warbler
 Worm-eating Warbler
 Swainson's Warbler R
 Ovenbird B
 Northern Waterthrush
 Louisiana Waterthrush R, s
 Kentucky Warbler p
 Connecticut Warbler R
 Mourning Warbler R
 MacGillivray's Warbler B
 Common Yellowthroat B
 Hooded Warbler
 Wilson's Warbler B
 Canada Warbler
 Painted Redstart R, p
 Yellow-breasted Chat B

TANAGERS

Hepatic Tanager R, B, s
 Summer Tanager
 Scarlet Tanager
 Western Tanager B

CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS AND BUNTINGS

Northern Cardinal B
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak B
 Black-headed Grosbeak B
 Blue Grosbeak B
 Lazuli Bunting B
 Indigo Bunting B
 Painted Bunting
 Dickcissel B

TOWHEES, SPARROWS AND LONGSPURS

Green-tailed Towhee B
 Rufous-sided Towhee B
 Brown Towhee B
 Cassin's Sparrow B
 Rufous-crowned Sparrow B
 American Tree Sparrow
 Chipping Sparrow B
 Clay-colored Sparrow
 Brewer's Sparrow B
 Field Sparrow b
 Vesper Sparrow B
 Lark Sparrow B
 Black-throated Sparrow B
 Sage Sparrow B
 Lark Bunting B
 Savannah Sparrow B
 Baird's Sparrow
 Grasshopper Sparrow B
 Henslow's Sparrow R, s
 Le Conte's Sparrow R
 Sharp-tailed Sparrow R
 Fox Sparrow B
 Song Sparrow B
 Lincoln's Sparrow B
 Swamp Sparrow
 White-throated Sparrow
 Golden-crowned Sparrow
 White-crowned Sparrow B
 Harris' Sparrow

Dark-eyed Junco B
 (White-winged Race B(nr))
 (Slate-colored Race)
 (Oregon Race)
 (Gray-headed Race B)
 McCown's Longspur B
 Lapland Longspur
 Chestnut-collared Longspur B
 Snow Bunting

BLACKBIRDS AND ORIOLES

Bobolink B
 Red-winged Blackbird B
 Eastern Meadowlark b, s
 Western Meadowlark B
 Yellow-headed Blackbird B
 Rusty Blackbird
 Brewer's Blackbird B
 Great-tailed Grackle B, p
 Common Grackle B
 Brown-headed Cowbird B
 Orchard Oriole B
 Northern Oriole B
 (Baltimore Race B)
 (Bullock's Race B)
 Scott's Oriole B, p

FINCHES

Brambling R, p
 Rosy Finch B
 (Gray-crowned Race)
 (Black Race)
 (Brown-capped Race B)
 Pine Grosbeak B
 Purple Finch
 Cassin's Finch B
 House Finch B
 Red Crossbill B
 White-winged Crossbill
 Common Redpoll
 Pine Siskin B
 Lesser Goldfinch B

American Goldfinch B
 Evening Grosbeak B

INTRODUCED SPECIES

Chukar B
 Ring-necked Pheasant B
 Rock Dove B
 European Starling B
 House Sparrow B

INVENTORIES OF COLORADO'S GREAT BLUE HERONS

Gary C. Miller¹
Walter D. Graul

Colorado Division of Wildlife
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Fort Collins, CO 80526

Great Blue Herons (*Ardea herodias*) were first reported in Colorado in the latter 1800's, and numerous reports followed through the early 1900's (see Bailey and Niedrach 1965). From the late 1930's until Bailey and Niedrach's (1965) summary work, however, little information about the species in Colorado accrued. Ryder et al. (1979) reported results of surveys conducted in 1965, 1973 and 1978-79 which revealed 23, 18, and 38 active heronries, respectively and Kingery and Graul (1978) provided very general information about distributions. However, those surveys were admittedly incomplete, and attempts to locate previously-unknown heronries were minimal. In short, comprehensive information about the status of the state's nesting population of this species was unavailable. From 1981 - 1983 Miller conducted a statewide inventory and habitat characterization study of nesting Great Blue Herons. The results of the inventory, plus additional data collected by Graul in 1980 (Colo. Fed. Aid Job Prog. Rep. FW-22-R) are reported here, and incorporate data reported by Ryder et al. (1979).

Methods. Questionnaires, published and unpublished reports, and interviews of interested people provided the beginning point used to locate nesting sites or areas of heron concentrations (possible nesting sites). (In this paper the term nesting site includes both colony and single nest sites, and is defined as the location where 1 or more pairs have nested. Nests 400 m apart or which occurred on the same lake or reservoir were defined as a single nesting site--see Buckley and Buckley 1979 and McCrimmon 1982). In addition, the major riparian areas of Colorado were inspected for possible nesting sites in conjunction with a study of low-elevation riparian areas in May-June, 1982 (Colorado Fed. Aid Projects W-136-R, W-124-R).

¹Current address of senior author: Colorado Division of Wildlife, 2126 N. Weber, Colorado Springs, CO 80907.

Precise locations of nesting sites and their status (active or inactive) were recorded during on-ground inspections before mid-May or after 15 September (when nest platforms were most visible due to a lack of leaves). During post-September inspections, the status of the nesting site for the previous nesting season was assessed from the absence or presence and condition of heron and food remains, feathers, and droppings. In cases where spring nesting pair counts were not possible (landowner restrictions or physical obstructions) autumn nest platform counts were used as the nesting pair estimate (Stephens 1980). For sites where nesting could not be visually confirmed, published reports or eyewitness accounts by 2 or more independent observers familiar with the species and their nesting activity constituted verification of historical nesting. Censuses were recorded on Colonial Bird Register (159 Sapsucker Woods Rd., Ithaca, NY 14852) forms, and data were supplied to CBR. Population data were pooled for the periods 1978-80 and 1981-83.

Results. During 6 years of surveys, 85 sites were inspected for the occurrence of nesting Great Blue Herons. Current and/or historical nesting was verified for 81 of those sites (Appendix I). Sixty-six sites contained active nests at least 1 season between 1978 and 1983, and 55 (83.3%) of those were active more than 1 season. Most sites (64, 97.0%) held more than 1 active nest during at least 1 nesting season.

The sum-of-highest counts (1 per site) for the 6 years was 1,604 nesting pairs (Table 1). Mean highest count per site was 24.3 ± 36.6 (SD), and the median value was 8 (that is, 1/2 the sites had 8 or more active nests). Seven colonies (10.6% of active sites) accounted for over half (52.1%) of the high counts of active nests (836 nests). These colonies were Johnstown (Weld Co.), Jumbo (Logan Co.), Fossil Creek (Larimer Co.), Chatfield (Jefferson Co.), Prewitt (Washington Co.), Gunnison (Gunnison Co.), and Boulder Creek (Boulder Co.) (Appendix I).

1978-80. Fifty-four sites (4 single nests and 50 colony sites) were occupied at least 1 year during this interval. The sum-of-highest counts was 881 active nests (Table 1). Seven colonies (13.0%) accounted for 441 active nests (50.1%). These colonies were: Fossil Creek, Boulder Creek, Wellington #3, Chatfield, Lone Tree, Empire, and Barr Lake (Appendix I).

1981-83. Fifty colony sites and 5 single nest sites were active during this interval. The sum-of-highest counts was 1,439 active nests (Table 1). Over half (741 active nests, 51.5%)

occurred in the 6 (10.9%) largest colonies for this period: Johnstown, Jumbo, Fossil Creek, Chatfield, Prewitt, and Gunnison. Eight sites, representing 32 nests active in 1978-80, were not active during the 1981-83 interval. These apparent abandonments occurred in Larimer (3 sites), Jefferson, Logan, Moffat, Park, and Pueblo counties (1 site each). Nine sites, representing 94 nests, not known to be active in 1978-80, were documented during this interval. These occurred in Yuma and Routt counties (2 sites each), Delta, Eagle, Garfield, Mesa, and Moffat counties (1 site each).

Table 1. Summary of Great Blue Heron nest sites in Colorado, 1978-83

INTERVAL	ACTIVE NESTS (HIGH COUNTS)				NO. SITES
	Total	x	+ sd	Median	
1978-1980	881	16.3	+ 21.1	6.5	54
1981-1983	1,448	26.3	+ 39.1	7	55
1978-1983	1,604	24.3	+ 36.6	8	66

Discussion. Great Blue Herons were recently identified as deserving special attention in the state, primarily because of their value as ecological indicators (Miller 1986) but also because of their nonconsumptive recreational value, presumed sensitivity to disturbance (see also Vos et al. 1985), and the inadequacy of population information (Webb 1986).

The summary statistics presented here (average nests/nesting site, total number of sites) do not, by themselves, warrant judgments about the current health or future trends of the species in the state. Great Blue Heron populations where most birds nest in a few large colonies, such as in Colorado, may be stable, as in coastal Maine (Gibbs et al. 1987) or declining, as suggested in the midwest (Thompson 1978). Colorado's herons exhibit great variability in numbers of active nests, average colony sizes, and numbers of colonies, similar to characteristics of apparently healthy populations in Kansas (Stephens 1980), and growing populations in New York (McCrimmon 1982). Hence, data presented here will be of greatest value when used as a baseline for comparison of future inventories and when used in conjunction with periodic inspections of habitat conditions (i.e., potential

loss of nest trees, human encroachments, etc.) to quantify and alleviate potential declines in the state's heron populations.

Information presented here may be helpful in developing management strategies for this species to offset potentially harmful effects of human disturbance. For instance, coupling the inventory data with Vos et al.'s (1985) suggestion of 250m (maximum) buffer zone around Great Blue Heron colonies in Colorado, it can be shown that roughly half the state's nesting Great Blue Herons could be protected from many types of human disruptions merely by restricting human activities on a combined area of about 1/2 square mile between mid-February and early August (50 ac./site x 7 sites = 350ac = 0.55 sq. mi.).

Acknowledgements. Funding for this work was through Colorado Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Projects FW-22-R and W-136-R and donations of Colorado taxpayers to the Nongame Checkoff Fund. We are grateful for the cooperation and assistance of other Colorado Division of Wildlife employees, biologists of other land management agencies, numerous private landowners, and members of the Colorado Field Ornithologists.

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APPENDIX I.

High Counts of Great Blue Heron Active Nests in Colorado, 1978-80 and 1981-83. Precise locations are on file, Colorado Division of Wildlife, Denver.

County/Location	1978-80		1981-83	
	High Count	Year	High Count	Year
ADAMS/Barr Lake	45	all	37	1981
Horse Ck. Resvr.	20	1980	29	1981
Box Elder Creek	Aband.		Aband.	
BOULDER/Boulder Ck.	78	1979	95	1982
Boulder Ck @ Valmont	Aband.		Aband.	
East of Lyons	Aband.		Aband.	
Panama Lk.	5	1980	1	1981
DELTA/Dominguez Canyon	4	1980	4	1982
Escalante Canyon	6	1980	3	1982
Escalante SWA	16	1979	4	1982
Fruitgrowers Resvr.	Aband.		Aband.	
Sand Flat	0		4	1981
EAGLE/Cabin Creek	Unknown		5	1982
Dotsero	4	1978	4	1981
Gypsum	2	1978	4	1982
GARFIELD/Carbondale	Aband.		Aband.	
Clough Island	16	1979	10	1982
Grand Valley	12	1978	13	1981-82
Silt	29	1979	29	1981
Snyder Island	Unknown		17	1982
GRAND/Kremmling	13	1978	12	1981-82
GUNNISON/Gunnison R.	24	1979	105	1982
Gunnison R. (5 sites)	Aband.		Aband.	
Gunnison R.	Aband.		Aband.	
JACKSON/North Park	Aband.		Aband.	
Walden Resvr.	4	1978	5	1981

APPENDIX I. (Continued)

County/Location	1978-80		1981-83	
	High Count	Year	High Count	Year
JEFFERSON/Chatfield Resvr.	71	1979	111	1982
Standley Lake	2	1978	0	
Standley Lake	Aband.		Aband.	
KIT CARSON/S. Republican	1	1979	1	1982
S.W. of Flagler	Aband.		Aband.	
LARIMER/Bodecker Lake	1	1979	0	
Boyd Lake	5	1979	0	
Fossil Creek Resvr.	80	1980	115	1981
Horsehoe Resvr.	5	1979	1	1981
Lonetree Resvr.	47	1980	55	1981
Ft. Collins, Poudre	Aband.		Aband.	
Ft. Collins, Poudre	Aband.		Aband.	
Terry Lake	2	1979	0	
Timnath Resvr.	2	1979	22	1983
Warren Lake	Aband.		Aband.	
Wellington Resvr. #3	75	1978	51	1981
LOGAN/Jumbo Resvr.	30	1979	142	1981
N. Sterling Resvr.	10	1979	0	
MESA/Debeque Canyon	12	1978	5	1982
Debeque Canyon	9	1978	12	1982
Skipper's Is.	38	1979	8	1982
Debeque	Unknown		6	1982
MOFFAT/Brown's Park	7	1978	6	1981
Craig	10	1978	1	1981-82
Elkhead Resvr.	4	1979	4	1981-82
Little Snake R.	2	1980	0	
Maybell	2	1980	2	1982
Moffat Airport	Unknown		11	1982
Ralph White Lake	2	1980	2	1982
Slater	2	1980	1	1981
PARK/Donarie	2	1978	0	
PROWERS/Two Buttes	1	all	3	1982

APPENDIX I. (Continued)

County/Location	1978-80		1981-83	
	High Count	Year	High Count	Year
PUEBLO/Pueblo Resvr.	8	1978	0	
RIO BLANCO/Meeker	Unknown		0	1982
Powell Park	5	1979	9	1982
Rattlesnake Mesa	4	1979	28	1981
Rio Blanco lake	8	1979	4	1982
ROUTT/Elk River	8	1978	2	1981
Hayden	Unknown		6	1981
Steamboat Springs	13	1979	47	1982
Yampa	Unknown		31	1981
WASHINGTON/Prewitt Resvr.	35	1978	111	1981
WELD/Barbour Ponds	6	1979	2	1981
Empire Resvr.	45	1979	47	1982
Franklin Lake	3	1979	7	1981
Johnstown	35	1979	157	1981
Milton Resvr.	5	1978	31	1981
Riverside Resvr.	1	1978	7	1982
YUMA/Arikaree R.	Unknown		3	1981-82
S. Republican	5	1978	5	1982
N. Fk. Republican	Unknown		11	1983

WINTER 1986-87 SEASONAL REPORT
December 1 through February 28

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As a collective opinion, the bird count was low in numbers and species for a relatively mild Colorado winter, with a few notable exceptions. Golden-crowned Kinglets were recorded in unusually high numbers throughout the Colorado mountains, as well as impressive numbers of Bohemian Waxwings on both slopes. The count of White-crowned Sparrows rebounded to near normal numbers with a high percentage of immature birds not seen last winter; however, American Tree Sparrows were reported in much lower numbers, as were Horned Larks, Lapland Longspurs, and Snow Buntings.

This seasonal summary is a compilation of the more interesting sightings for Colorado submitted to Hugh Kingery for his report on the Mountain West Region published in the Summer 1987 edition of "American Birds."

SPECIES	TOTAL	DATES	LOCATION	OBSERVER
Pacific Loon	3	12/2-4	Denver	DFO
Common Loon	5	12/2-7	Denver	DFO
	4-5	Winter	Pueblo	AVAS
	1	2/8	Ordway	MY
	1	2/28	Gd. Jct.	ASWC
Yellow-billed Loon	1	12/13-22	Denver	RB,m.ob.
	1	12/14-16	Pueblo	
	1	2/1-14	Denver	MY,DS,m.ob.
Horned Grebe	5	Winter	Boulder	BAS
Eared Grebe	4-5	Winter	Pueblo	AVAS
Western Grebe	5	Winter	Ft. Collins	
G. White-ftd Goose	1	1/18	Gd. Jct.	CD,ASWC
	1	2/14-18	Gd. Jct.	CD,ASWC
	1	1/19-2/23	Bonny Res.	DFO,DL
	1	2/7	Windsor	DL,PO
	1-2	1/3-24	Julesburg	DFO, DB
	5	2/21	Ft. Collins	DL
Snow Goose	4500	Winter	Ordway	AVAS
Ross' Goose	1	1/1	Boulder	BK
	1	1/5	NE Colo	JR
	1	1/18	Gd. Jct.	CD,RL

Greater Scaup	3	1/4	Chatfield R.	DFO
	6	1/27	Denver	JR
Oldsquaw	1	12/6	Gd. Jct.	CD
	1	12/12-1/24	Boulder	BJ,m.ob.
White-winged Scoter	1	12/15	Pueblo	WM
Barrow's Goldeneye	2	12/31+	Denver	DN,m.ob.
	2	2/10	Salida	HRAS
Bald Eagle	60	12/21	Evergreen	JL
	34	1/10	Durango	EF
Gyr Falcon	1	12/4	Julesburg	JC
Virginia Rail	2	Winter	Delta	MJ
Sora Rail	1	1/20	Gd. Jct.	CD
Greater Yellowlegs	1	12/13	Gd. Jct.	CD
	1	1/3+	Denver	DFO
Solitary Sandpiper	1	to 1-18	Gd. Jct.	CD
Spotted Sandpiper	1	1/13	Gd. Jct.	ASWC
Laughing Gull	1	1/25-2/15	Pueblo	DS,m.ob.
Bonaparte's Gull	8	1/10	Pueblo	DB
Thayer's Gull	1	12/8	Delta	MJ
	3	1/13,15	Pueblo	DG
Glaucous Gull	1	12/7,1/27	Denver	DFO
	1	1/20	Ft. Collins	DL
	1	2/8	Boulder	BK
Blk-lgd Kittiwake	1	12/13	Pueblo	DS
Band-tailed Pigeon	2	2/28	Delta	MJ
Northern Pygmy Owl	1	2/10	Boulder	SJ
	1	2/28	Lyons	SJ
Boreal Owl	1	2/28	S.W. Colo.	JJR
N. Saw-whet Owl	4	12/27+	Glnwd. Sp.	VZ
	1	1/3	Delta	MJ
Red-bellied Woodpckr	1	1/19	NE Colo	DM,DSc
Y-b Sapsucker	1	1/9-13	Golden	WF
Say's Phoebe	1	12/27	Delta	MJ
	1	1/22	Canon City	J&RW
Blue Jay	1-3	12/16+	Salida	HRAS
	1	1/18,24	Gd. Jct.	CD
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1-2	12/12+	Gd. Jct.	CD
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	1	12/7-8	Gd. Jct.	ASWC
	1	1/7	Delta	MJ
Eastern Bluebird	6	1/10	Yuma	JB
	1	2/23	Bonny Res.	DL
Hermit Thrush	1	1/22-23	Gd. Jct.	CD
Varied Thrush	1	Dec.	Cascade	AAS
	1	2/14+	Ft. Collins	JS
N. Mockingbird	1	12/27+	Glnwd. Sp.	VZ
	1	2/28+	Gd. Jct.	RH

Brown Thrasher	3	12/1+	Boulder	BAS
	1	Winter	Ft. Collins	EM
Water Pipit	30	12/13+	Gd. Jct.	CD
	1	1/17	Denver	DFO
	15	2/20	Delta	MJ
Y-r Warbler	50	12/1-1/11	Gd. Jct.	CD
	2	12/19-21	Boulder	BJ
	1	1/25	Denver	DB
Pine Warbler	1	12/10-1/17	Denver	PF
	1	2/16-20	Denver	AH
Ovenbird	1	12/1-17	Boulder	JK
N. Cardinal	1	1/10-19	Bonny Res.	JB
Green-tailed Towhee	1	to 12/20	Denver	JA
Rufous-sided Towhee	1	1/13-2/16	Boulder	BJ
Chipping Sparrow	1	1/14-25	Rye	DS
Field Sparrow	1	12/27-1/18	Glnwd. Spgs.	VZ,MJ
Swamp Sparrow	1	12/4	Denver	DFO
	1	12/2-7	Wheatridge	DFO
Gldn-cr Sparrow	1	12/2-1/28	Boulder	BAS
Lapland Longspur	17	1/17-19	NE Colo.	JB, DW
Snow Bunting	2	12/26-1/24	Julesburg	JR
Y-h Blackbird	1	12/1-2/28	Florence	NP
	3	12/12-2/10	Delta	MJ
	8	1/8	Rocky Ford	CK
	1	1/24-2/27	Boulder	BAS
Rusty Blackbird	1	12/6	Colo. City	DS
	2	12/16-20	Chatfield R.	JW
Brewer's Blackbird	45	2/13	Florence	J&RW
Gr-tailed Grackle	1+	Winter	Del Norte	JJR
	1	12/12,2/12	Florence	J&RW
Common Grackle	1	to 1/13	Vail	BRi
Common Redpoll	2	1/6	Boulder	JCo
	30	1/20	Salida	HRAS

CITED OBSERVERS: Aiken Audubon Society (AAS); Arkansas Valley Audubon Society (AVAS); Audubon Society of Western Colorado (ASWC); J. Axtell (JA); Boulder Audubon Society (BAS); R. Breckon (RB); J. Bregar (JB); D. Bridges (DB); J. Cairo (JC); J. Coss (JC); Denver Field Ornithologists (DFO); C. Dexter (CD); P. Fischer (PF); E. Fox (EF); D. Griffiths (DF); R. Hanson (RH); A. Hay (AH); Heart of the Rockies Audubon Society (HRAS); M. Janos (MJ); B. Jickling (BJ); S. Jones (SJ); B. Kaempfer (BK); C. King (CK); J. Knopf (JK); D. Leatherman (DL); J. Lehman (JL); R. Levad (RL); D. Martin (DM); E. Marvel (EM); W. Maynard (WM); D. Nelson (DN); P. Opler (PO); N. Peterson (NP); J. Rawinski (JJR); J. Reddall (JR); B. Righter (BR); D. Schottler (DSc); J. Shellenberger (JS); D. Silverman (DS); D. Ward (DW); J. Ward (JW); J. & R. Watts (J&RW); M. Yeager (MY); V. Zerbi (VZ).

SPRING 1987 SEASONAL REPORT

March 1 through May 31

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This report is a summary of birds reported during the spring in Colorado. Emphasis is placed on the rare and unusual, early and late dates, and species not observed which usually are seen in spring.

The spring was mild with few storms which may account for low numbers of some species, however, many early dates were recorded. A total of 338 species were sighted which is better than last year.

Grebes through Ibis

Nineteen species were reported in the state. All expected species were observed except for the Least Bittern. The reports contained good numbers of Horned Grebes, Double-crested Cormorants and White-faced Ibis. Common Loons were observed at several locations but numbers were small. Six sightings of American Bitterns were reported from 5/2 with 5 birds reported by (DFO). Common Egrets had several reports from east of the mountains and three sightings in the west where the bird is rarely seen: 4/22, Hart's Basin (MJ); 5/1, Highline Lake (BT); 5/8, Grand Junction (CD, RL). Little Blue Herons were reported 4/22, Baca County; 4/23, Titan and Waterton Rd.; 5/1, Nee-So-Pah Res. (DB) and at Alamosa W.R. Some reports were incomplete, however. A Tri-colored Heron visited Lake Henry 5/1 (DB, DSi). A new Lat. #22 record for the Mancos River was a Green-backed Heron, 5/26-28 (HK). Several Greenbacks were seen in the east half of the state. Yellow-crowned Night Herons were sighted 4/26-5/5, Duck Lake (DM); 5/2 (DFO) and 5/28, Lake Meredith (JR).

Waterfowl

The state produced 28 different species this spring. Ducks and geese were about normal with some areas up and some down. All species to be expected were reported. An Eurasian Wigeon, for the fifth consecutive year, was reported 3/22-28 at Carbody Lake, Greeley (JH, JC). two Oldsquaws were sighted with one bird reported on several dates in March and April north of Boulder (BK) (JH). Greater Scaups were seen at a few lakes. Ross' Geese numbers

must be increasing. Reports were numerous with birds numbering over 200. Highline Lake in Mesa County had the rare distinction, 3/1, of having all four goose species in one flock; Ross', Snow, Greater White-fronted and Canada (CD).

Raptors

Nineteen raptor species were sighted in the state this spring. All expected raptors were reported, plus a sighting of a very light gray falcon from Grand Junction turned in as a Gryfalcon, 4/14 (BT, HA). However, such a late date would make it seem highly unlikely as all state records are winter reports. Others reported a very light-colored Prairie Falcon from the same area. A Turkey Vulture was seen west of Fruita, 3/28, with a long colored streamer trailing behind. The reason is anyone's guess, but 3/28 is an early date (CD). Ospreys were seen statewide with an early date, 3/29, seen crossing the border south of Durango (CD). The only report of a Mississippi Kite comes from Pueblo, 5/6 (DJ). Bald Eagles were seen everywhere with a peak of 46 birds reported from Alamosa N.W.R., 3/25 (EM). The eagles were feeding on winter-killed carp. A single report of a Broad-winged Hawk was received, 4/30, from Waterton (WWB). A nesting Ferruginous Hawk near Mosca, 5/16, could give Lat. #5 its first breeding record (JJR). A late migrating Rough-legged Hawk was sighted east of Fort Collins, 5/5 (HD).

Chukars through Cranes

All 18 species were sighted this spring. The only Chukars reported came from the Grand Junction area (CD, BT). A single report of 18 Greater Prairie-chickens came from the DFO field trip to Wray, 4/11. Lesser Prairie-chickens were reported twice: 7 birds, Baca County, 5/10 (BK) and the DFO field trip to Southeast Colorado, with 16 birds 4/11. The DFO field trip to Northern Colorado produced the only report of Sharp-tailed Grouse with 12 birds reported, 4/7. Scaled Quail were reported this spring from Lat. #22, a new record (HK). From Craig comes a report of a Common Moorhen, 4/27 (JW) and another from Adams County, 5/14 (MN). Sandhill Cranes migrated into San Luis Valley again this spring with numbers estimated at 24,000. With them came 22 Whooping Cranes (EM). The whoopers were seen at several west slope locations with an early one reported at Harts Basin, 3/16 (MJ).

Shorebirds

Spring migration produced 30 species. Good numbers and numerous sighting of some rarities occurred with some species absent. No reports of Lesser Golden Plovers, Ruddy Turnstones, Redknobs or Pectoral Sandpipers were received. Other plovers had several records with one Piping Plover, 4/18, at Nee Nosh Lake (JC). Black-necked Stilts and Whimbrels had numerous reports. Hudsonian Godwits were sighted at four locations with a total of eight birds reported. Four birds were seen at Nee-So-Pah Lake, 4/34 (JR). Sanderlings had several reports with a new Lat. #8 record at Highline Lake, 5/14 (CD). A Semi-palmated Sandpiper was again reported from the Western Slope, 4/30 (RL). White-rumped Sandpipers had several reports again all from the Eastern slope at the end of May. Only one Dunlin was reported. The bird was seen at Cheraw, 4/29 (JR).

Gulls and Terns

Eleven species were reported. In addition to the expected gulls were several reports of Thayer's Gull and a single report of a Glaucous Gull, 3/8 at Jumbo Res. (JW). The usual terns were reported along with four reports of Caspian Terns. Caspians were sighted at Jumbo, 5/13 (JC); at Blue Res., 4/29 (JR); at Cherry Creek Res. 5/26 (DB) and a pair at Highline Lake on the Western Slope, 4/30, with a photo (CD). In all, five Caspians were reported.

Doves Through Owls

All 18 expected species of this group were reported including 12 owl species. Single reports of a Black-billed Cuckoo and Spotted Owl came from the Durango Birding Club without details. Burrowing Owls were reported down along the Front Range. West of Fruita, in an area of wooded washes and farmland, was found five breeding species of owls: Western Screech; Great Horned; Long-eared; Burrowing and Barn-Owl (CD). Numerous reports of Boreal Owls were received with a state record for New Mexico at Dixie Creek, 4/18 (JJR). A new breeding record for Lat. #22 was confirmed for Northern Saw-whet Owls, 5/27 (HK,DG).

Goatsuckers to Woodpeckers

Twenty-one species in all were reported. Only two humming-bird species were sighted, but all eleven expected woodpecker species were reported. Not everyone is separating Red-naped and

Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, however. A Whip-Poor-Will was documented at Crow Valley Camp, 5/17 (JC). A very early date for Common Poorwills, three birds, was turned in from Boulder, 2/28 (SJ). A possible state record comes from Sweitzer Lake where a Vaux Swift was photographed and documented, 5/22 (MJ). Black Swifts were sighted only once this spring at Hot Creek in the San Luis Valley, 5/25 (JJR).

Flycatchers and Swallows

Many early dates were reported for the 25 species sighted from this group. A Vermilion Flycatcher was photographed at Rollinsville, 4/4 (RC). Great-crested and Scissor-tailed Flycatchers had several reports. From the Mancos River comes a sighting of a Willow Flycatcher, a Lat. #22 first (HK). The only Purple Martin report comes from Silt, 5/24 (JM).

Jays Through Wrens

Not much happening here. A Sedge Wren showed up at Little Jumbo Res., 4/21 (DL). Three Chihuahuan Ravens were reported from the Pueblo area, 4/25 (DFO). In all 25 species were reported and most were in good numbers.

Kinglets to Shrikes

All expected species were reported. Early dates and good numbers headlines this group. Several reports of Eastern Bluebirds with some breeding pairs were received from the eastern border of Colorado. The Varied Thrush, reported in winter, remained in Fort Collins until April. Gray-cheeked Thrushes were sighted at Jumbo, 5/8 (JR) and one bird at Wheatridge, 5/6 (DS, DN). Wood Thrushes were seen at Lory State Park in Fort Collins, 5/30 (BH) and two reports from the Hale area, 5/17, 19 (DB, HK). A total of 25 species were reported.

Vireos and Warblers

All five Vireos, normal for Colorado, were reported with several Red-eyed and Bell's reported from the east and several Grays from the west. Thirty-five warblers species were reported this spring in spite of the fact that most reporters claimed the spring of '87 to be poor.

A single Blue-winged Warbler was reported at Chatfield, 5/15 (DB). Barr Lake had two Golden-winged Warblers, 5/8 (MC).

Several Tennessees were reported. However, only one Nashville was reported. A single northern Parula was seen at Barr Lake, 5/9 (AS). Chestnut-sided Warblers were everywhere. Only one Magnolia Warbler was sighted at Tamarack, 5/14 (JC), as was the case for Cape May Warbler, 5/3 CU Campus (TM). Black-throated Blues were seen at Lamar, 5/20 (JR, TJ) and Crow Creek Camp, 5/24. Townsends had several reports but Blackburnians were sighted only once at Bonny Res., 5/17 (DB). A rare Yellow-throated Warbler was reported, 5/2-6 at CU Campus (DS). Grace's Warblers were again reported from the southwest part of the state. Crow Valley again scored with the only report of a Prairie Warbler, 5/16 (PO). Palm Warblers were seen at Prewitt Res 5/8 (JR) and in Wheatridge, 5/6 (DN). On 5/20, a Bay-breasted Warbler was reported at Riverside (JC) and one at Crow Valley, 5/16 (PO). Blackpolls, Black-and-Whites and Redstarts had many reports. However, Prothonotary Warblers were reported only once, 5/30-31 at Chatfield (JS). A single Worm-eating Warbler was at Waterton Bridge, 5/17 (HK). Ovenbirds and Waterthrushes had their share of sightings. Four Hooded Warblers were reported. Two reports of Kentucky Warblers were received with one seen, 5/30 at Boulder Creek (PG). A Brewster's Warbler was reported from Colorado Springs, 5/21 (HK).

Tanagers to Towhees

In all, 13 species of this group received reports with only the Dickcissel missing. It was a very good year for Tanagers as at least seven different Summer Tanagers were reported. Also one Scarlet Tanager was sighted at Prewitt Res. (DB). Northern Cardinals had four reports and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were seen in numbers, with even one report from the western slope, Glenwood Springs, 5/14 (JM). A Painted Bunting was reported, but details were lacking.

Sparrow to Finches

All likely sparrows were reported except for Rufous-crowned, Baird's and Swamp. In all, 46 species of the group were reported. Great-tailed Grackles had a big spring with many sightings from both sides of the state. A new lat. record for #10 was discovered, 5/29 near Gypsum, which later produced young (JM). A very late Snow Bunting was found at Poudre Canyon, 5/3 (LB). A Brambling was reported, 3/12 at Salida (RE). Two female Purple Finches were reported from Salida, 3/12 (DFO).

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AN ALBINO EARED GREBE AT RUSSELL LAKES STATE WILDLIFE AREA,
SOUTHCENTRAL COLORADO

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An albino juvenile Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) was repeatedly observed and photographed during August 1985 (Table 1) at Russell Lakes State Wildlife Area (SWA), Saguache County, Colorado (38° 57'N, 106° 08'W). The grebe had white plumage (Fig. 1), except for a dorsal dark area between the wings. The dark area may have been stained or pigmented feathers. The feet of the bird were yellow and the bill was pink. The eyes had pink irises, but darker pupils.

The albino was observed in a narrow (10-m wide) area of open water at the edge of a hardstem bulrush (*Scirpus acutus*) stand. It was often accompanied by a normal-colored, similar-sized juvenile Eared Grebe--presumably its sibling. Both grebes were active, apparently healthy, and behaved normally. No adult grebes were observed with them, although two pairs had been seen in the area several times in May and June.

Gross (1965) described four categories of albinism: total, incomplete, imperfect, and partial. A total albino lacks pigment in plumage, eyes, and skin. Incomplete albinos lack pigment in one or two areas, but not in all three. Imperfect albinos have reduced or diluted pigment in any or all three areas. Partial albinos lack pigment only in localized areas. Rollin (1964) allows total albinos to have carotenoid pigments, but no melanin. The Eared Grebe observed at Russell Lakes SWA was a total albino lacking melanin in all three areas, but with carotene coloring its feet yellow. If the dark feathers were pigmented rather than stained, the grebe was an incomplete albino.

Total albinism, the lack of melanin, is hereditary and caused by the absence of the enzyme tryosinase (Welty 1982). Other categories of albinism can be caused by non-hereditary influences such as dietary deficiencies (Rollin 1964).

Albinism has been reported in all 20 orders and 54 of 75 families of birds in North America (Gross 1965). Sage (1963) reported 3,134 records in 42 of 59 families of British birds.

Total albinism is rare, accounting for only 7% of North American records (Gross 1965). Sage (1963) did not distinguish total from incomplete albinos, but only 36.6% of his reports involved all white birds.

Reports of albinism in grebes are even rarer than in other birds. Gross (1965) reported 11 individuals in five grebe species while Sage (1963) found six records in two species. Rockwell (1910) reported an albino Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) and Weller (1959) reported two juvenile incomplete albino Red-necked Grebes (*Podiceps grisegena*). Albino Eared Grebes have been observed at Mono Lake, California during migration concentrations. Allen (1940) and Stott (1948) reported a total albino Eared Grebe and a partial albino Eared Grebe, respectively. Jehl (1985) recorded 57 albino Eared Grebe sightings, 10 of which involved completely white bird(s), during a four-year study at Mono Lake. This apparently high frequency of albinism may be attributed to two causes: (1) a large (up to 800,000) number of eared grebes using the lake at one time; and (2) Jehl did not identify individual albinos so the same birds may have been recorded more than once. Thus, the actual frequency of albinism may have been relatively low.

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Table 1. Dates and observers of albino Eared Grebe at Russell Lakes State Wildlife Area, Colorado, 1985.

Date	Observers
01 Aug	J. L. Schreur (JLS)
02 Aug	E. Edmiston and JLS
05 Aug	C. E. Braun and JLS
14 Aug	J. W. Hupp and JLS
16 Aug	G. Davey and JLS

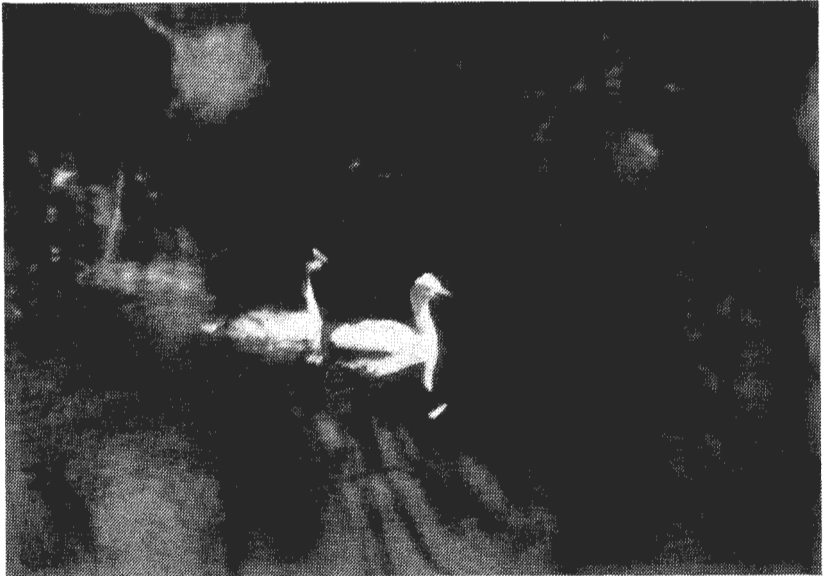


Fig. 1. Albino and normal-colored young-of-the-year Eared Grebes at Russell Lakes State Wildlife Area, Saguache, Colorado. Photo by C. E. Braun.

BIRD ATLAS UPDATE

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 Denver Museum of Natural History
 Denver, CO 80205

Field work on the Colorado Breeding Bird Atlas started last summer, late but enthusiastically. As of early December, about 300 field workers had signed on for 400 atlas blocks. That amounts to 22% of the 1792 available blocks in the state. However, field workers actually did field work in 1987 in about 15% of the blocks, and completed only about a quarter of them.

In order to finish the Atlas within the planned five years, we need lots more field workers, and lots more field work, as well as an earlier start on the season.

The Atlas handbook suggests that it will take 20-30 hours to complete a block. Experience in 1987 suggests that the hours actually required vary greatly. Paul Opler completed several plains blocks in less than 10 hours. My wife, Urling, and I spent four June days in the Willow Lakes block (in the Eagles Nest wilderness)--35-45 hours. We found 33 species and confirmed only 10. I returned a month later for 2-1/2 days to complete it. Contrast the time I spent in Willow Lakes with the other blocks in which I completed field work:

Willow Lakes (high mtns.)	55 hours	36 species	23 confirmed
Bonny Res. NE (riparian, plains)	37 hours	60 species	32 confirmed
Coal Creek (riparian, plains) (SE of Aurora)	21 hours	38 species	20 confirmed
Sentinel Pk SE (desert, riparian) (Ute Reservation, near Towaoc)	20 hours	36 species	18 confirmed

Plains and desert blocks seem to have about 20-40 species; riparian blocks have 35-60 species; mountain blocks, depending on elevation and habitat, vary from 35-70 species. The greatest number of species I have heard of so far was Steve Jones' block which includes the city of Boulder: 85 species.

Here's a rundown of the blocks reported so far (data from 10 of 18 regions). We don't have the cards in from several regions with the highest number of species.

Map # and Name	Number of		% CF	Principal Observer
	Spe- cies	Species Confirmed		
40105A3 Boulder	85	?	?	Steve Jones
39106F7 Eagle	75	32	43%	Jack Merchant
40105D6 Trail Ridge	69	36	52%	Ron Ryder
40107E5 Craig	64	30	46%	Judy Ward
39107F1 Dotsero	64	21	33%	Jack Merchant
39105G3 Ralston Buttes	63	17	27%	David Gulbenkian
37108B4 Moccasin Mesa	62	?	?	Dick Guadagno
39102B2 Bonny Res. NE	60	31	52%	Hugh Kingery
39105F2 Morrison	59	22	37%	Warren Finch
40106G5 Boettcher Lake	59	17	29%	David Guertin
39108A5 Grand Junction	57	20	35%	Rich Levad
40105F1 Wellington	57	19	33%	Larry Nell
40108A3 Brcus Cr. SE	57	13	23%	Ed Hollowed
39108A3 Palisade	54	25	46%	Ron Lambeth
39102H2 Beecher I. NW	54	25	46%	Phil Hayes
39105F3 Evergreen	53	10	19%	Sylvia & Bill Brockner
37103A8 Rock Crossing	52	28	54%	Don Youkey
40104D1 Sunken Lake	52	25	48%	Paul Opler
39108C8 Badger Wash	52	24	46%	Coen Dexter
39109A7 Battleship Rock	52	23	46%	Nyla Kladder
39105G6 Empire	51	15	29%	Fran Enright
40105E2 Horsetooth Res.	50	20	40%	Paul Opler

Completed blocks with better than 50% confirmations (A number of presumably completed blocks report less than 50% confirmation):

Map # and Name	Number of		% CF	Party Hrs.	Principal Observer
	Spe- cies	Species Confirmed			
40105D1 Loveland	48	34	71%	24	Ann Means
39104G4 Bennett	42	28	67%	42	Virginia Bleck
39104E2 Byers SW	30	20	67%	20	Jerry Besser
40104F8 Cobb Lake	25	16	64%	31	William Householder
40107D7 Horse Gulch	28	17	61%	14	Judy Ward
40107C7 Axial	54	32	59%	37	Judy Ward
40104F5 Purcell	18	10	56%	5	Paul Opler
38104C7 Swallows	40	21	53%	28	Mark Yaeger

(Table continued.)

Map # and Name	Number of		% CF	Party Hrs.	Principal Observer
	Species	Confirmed			
39014F6 Coal Creek	38	20	53%	21	Hugh Kingery
40105D6 Trail Ridge	69	36	52%	63	Ron Ryder
39105G2 Golden	48	25	52%	25	Duane Nelson
37104G7 Huerfano Butte	43	22	51%	19	Dave Johnson
40104F7 Nunn	24	12	50%	4	Paul Opler
40104F3 Briggsdale	22	11	50%	14	David Guertin

(A brief explanation about the map number: it locates the block geographically. The first two digits are the latitude, the next three digits are longitude; together they identify the latilong. The last two digits locate the topographic map within the latilong moving from the southeast corner, first North, then West. Thus, Steve's Boulder block 40105A3, is bounded on the south by Latitude 40--the 40th parallel and Baseline Road (or the Mason/Dixon line), on the east by Longitude 105. A3 locates it in the first tier of maps north of Latitude 40 (A), as the third map west from Longitude 105.)

We look forward to field work in 1988, and invite all members of C.F.O. to participate. We have good coverage close to the metropolitan areas, especially the Front Range and Grand Junction, but need volunteers to trek into some faraway places like southeastern and northwestern Colorado, the San Luis Valley, many mountain areas, and especially the wilderness blocks.

Contact the Atlas at the Zoology Department, Denver Museum of Natural History, 2001 Colorado Boulevard, Denver, CO 80205.

The Bird Feeder Book, by Donald and Lillian Stokes. Little, Brown and Co. 1987. 90 pp. Paper-bound, 73 color photographs. \$8.95.

Donald and Lillian Stokes have carved a niche in natural history writing: bird behavior. Their style and their writing ability, backed up by thorough research, has established them as experts on conveying information on how and why birds act the way they do--and in telling us how to watch birds for more than mere field marks.

In the Bird Feeder Book they continue the tack of their fascinating behavior guides on birds, insects, winter, flowers, etc. Ostensibly they modeled this book on other books on the subject--how to attract birds to your yard, and what birds will come there. However, this has much more: it really concentrates on how birds act when they arrive in the yard--and what to look for for each species. Seventeen pages discuss feeders, planting, and bird houses. The rest of the book discusses bird behavior, generally (e.g., Watching, Social and Maintenance Behavior) and specifically: 52 pages about specific species, how they behave around the feeder, and why.

For us in the Rocky Mountain West, the book has the same orientation as their Behavior Guides: the Stokes live in the East and they write about eastern birds. For us in the Denver area, they do cover the common species we see: House Finch, House Sparrow, Blue Jay, Chickadees, Pine Siskins, and Juncos. But if you live in the mountains, or if your feeder attracts more typical western birds, you won't find them discussing half of your birds. They don't mention Mountain Chickadee, Pygmy Nuthatch, Broad-tailed Hummingbird, or Cassin's Finch.

This book piques your curiosity about bird behavior. Even without their mentioning our Mountain Chickadee, one can probably apply to it the behavior of a Black-capped Chickadee, or that of a Ruby-throated Hummingbird to the Broad-tailed. I would like to know, though, about the relationships between the two species when they both come to the same feeder: is one species dominant, are single birds dominant over others of either species? They do

say that sometimes a young bird may be dominant over its parents when it's a fledgling. I'd like to know more! Of course, one objective of these behavior books is to get us to study behavior ourselves. A systematic study of House Finches or Chickadees by a backyard birder might reveal some scientifically significant information.

The book also restricts its subject matter to birds which patronize feeders: it does not mention Robins, which don't come to feeders, or Flickers, which do, at least in Colorado.

Even if the Stokes don't acknowledge our Rocky Mountain/Great Plains area specifically, you probably will learn a lot about birds in your yard from this book.

--Hugh Kingery

NEW EDITOR'S GREETING

Mark Janos
860 Sharpe Circle
Delta, CO 81416

I am pleased to begin work as the editor of the C.F.O. Journal commencing with the next issue. We thank Ann Hodgson who has worked hard the last five years to produce a fine state journal.

I would like to take this chance to make an appeal that I have heard made before in similar circumstances. That is, that this journal belongs to the organization--it is your journal, not mine. We need material for journal articles from all of you. We rely upon you, the individual Colorado birder, to contribute articles for publication.

As the next editor I am soliciting articles from all of you. I will be reaching some of you individually so you may consider this fair warning. We need artwork and photographs as well. Pen and ink sketches are best to illustrate articles and to fill gaps.

Some examples of articles for potential authors are:

1. Book reviews: All birders buy and read bird books and there are new ones published all the time. The newer field guides to identification on gulls, shorebirds and hawks are of interest to all Colorado birders. Many of us travel to areas outside of Colorado, so general and non-regional literature reviews are needed too. If you read a bird book and like it--or dislike it--tell others about it.
2. Site Guides: Tell the rest of us about your local birding hotspot. Include good directions and the best seasons to visit.
3. Behavioral Articles: Birding is a hobby where the observations of amateurs have broader general interest. We want articles on feeding and diet, vocalizations, ecology and populations, migration, and other behavior.

4. Special Attention: Articles documenting first, second or otherwise noteworthy occurrences of bird species in Colorado should appear in the C.F.O. Journal.

Other more technical articles are welcome, but this is a nonprofessional journal and I want to encourage everyone to contribute where possible. Of course the seasonal reports, annual reports of the C.F.O. Records Committee, and organizational announcements will continue to be an important part of the journal.

To a large extent the C.F.O. Journal is the C.F.O. It is the way that many of us keep track--not only of Colorado birds, but of Colorado birders. My principal goal is to continue to produce a quality journal in a timely manner. With this in mind I welcome any comments, suggestions for improvement, or criticisms concerning the C.F.O. Journal.

BIRD LATILONG REVISION UNDERWAY

The Colorado Division of Wildlife has commissioned a third edition of the Colorado Bird Latilong study. This remarkable document collects observations of bird watchers from all over the state to show the distribution of each species of bird in the state. It shows the occurrence of Colorado birds by "latilong"--that piece of geography bounded on each side by one degree of latitude and one degree of longitude. By illustrating distribution according to the 28 latilongs in the state, a useful picture emerges of bird distribution.

The 1983 edition lists 416 species recorded in the state during the previous 15 years; during that period Colorado has had no records of an additional 14 species.

All bird watchers who have information about Colorado are invited to contribute to the revision now underway. "We seek information which substantiates changes to the Second Edition," said Hugh Kingery, who has charge of the revision.

The latilong revision will incorporate information developed from the first year of the Colorado breeding Bird Atlas. However, the latilong study differs from the Atlas by reporting data on migrants and wintering birds as well as breeding birds.

Interested bird watchers may obtain information from and submit data to Hugh Kingery, c/o Zoology Department, Denver Museum of Natural History, 2001 Colorado Boulevard, Denver, CO 80205.

C.F.O. ANNUAL CONVENTION

The 1988 C.F.O. Annual Convention will be held in the southeast corner of Colorado on Memorial Day weekend. The paper session and the banquet will be held at Lamar Community College on Saturday, May 28, 1988. Accommodation at the college will be available for the nights of Friday and Saturday, May 27 and 28. We will then spend Sunday and Monday, May 29 and 30, birding in the southeast, either camping in Cottonwood Canyon or staying in motels in Springfield on Sunday night. On Monday we will visit the resting habitat of Hepatic Tanager near Kim.

Anyone interested in giving a paper should contact Peter Gent, 55 South 35th Street, Boulder, CO 80303, Phone 494-1750.

FIELD TRIP ANNOUNCEMENT
WHITE-TAILED PTARMIGAN

Steve Bouricius has repeatedly observed and photographed white-tailed ptarmigan in western Boulder County. He would like to lead a group on cross-country skis to find and observe these birds in winter plumage. This would be an all-day field trip on Saturday, February 20, 1987 in the Brainard Lake area near Ward. Steve feels that an adventurous beginner or novice skier would do well on this trip. It shouldn't be overly strenuous or difficult. Probably common high-country species will be the only other birds observed although a short side trip to see three-toed woodpeckers will be attempted, time permitting.

For more information contact:

Steve Bouricius - 747-2367

Bill Prather - 776-2191

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