

# BURROWING OWL

CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY, ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 1986

Welcome! Central New Mexico Audubon Society meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M., St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, Copper and Jefferson, N.E. Nonmembers are welcome at all meetings, field trips, and special events.

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 17 - Field Trip

Join the Sangre de Cristo Audubon Society for a trip to Hyde Park and Santa Fe Ski Basin. Meet at 8 a.m. on the east side of the PERA parking lot on Paseo de Paralta, across the street from Fenn Gallery. Leader: Pat Insley (982-0796) in Santa Fe, or call Evelyn Price (831-5028) in Albuquerque for more information.

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 21 - Regular Meeting

Slim Randles, writer, storyteller, conservationist, and journalist, will present "Wild Times in the Alaska Bush." Slim has lived in the Alaska bush for some time. For time and place, see Welcome paragraph.

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 23 - Field Trip

Trip to Bosque del Apache NWR with Bruce Halstead (766-2174 work; 299-9397 home). Many eyes are needed to pick out a few rarities among the many shorebirds to be found at the Bosque this season. Meet (with water and lunch) at the UNM Physics & Astronomy parking lot (NE corner of Lomas & Yale) at 7 a.m.

#### MONDAY, AUGUST 25 - Board Meeting

The meeting will begin with a potluck; bring plates and tableware. We'll be setting goals and planning the budget for the months ahead. Members are always welcome at board meetings! Plan to come and make your ideas known as we go into the new year. Call board members for directions to the Phillips' home at Shady Lakes. 6 p.m. at the home of Joanne Phillips.

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 - Field Trip

Half-day trip to the Oxbow bosque with Mary Lou Arthur (256-7359). Expect to find at least a few surprises among the migrating warblers, sparrows, and waterbirds. Meet at 7 a.m. on the First National Bank parking lot at Montano and Coors. Bring insect repellent--just in case.

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 - Regular Meeting

"Paleontology of the Bisti Badlands" will be the title of the program presented by Dr. Spencer Lucas, UNM Dept. of Geology. He will illustrate and explain the amazing fossil records of the San Juan badlands. See Welcome paragraph for time and place.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 - Field Trip

Capilla Peak in the Manzano Mountains to watch hawk migration. At this location, hawks often come in close for a good view. Though the ride to the site is almost two miles long, the ensuing walk is short and easy. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the new Four Hills Shopping Ctr. near 31 Flavors, a couple of miles west of Tramway on Central. Bring lunch and water. Either Steve Hoffman (home 291-9242; work 766-3972) or Jim Daly (298-2748) will lead.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 - Wildlife Film:"Amazonia" by Jerzy Grabowski

Come to the tropical rain forests of the Upper Amazon! In Venezuela you'll visit Pittier National Park and see howler and squirrel monkeys, giant anteaters, parrots and toucans. In the Llanos are storks, egrets, ibises, capybaras and anacondas; then a trip to famed Angel Falls by dugout canoe. In Columbia we'll find colorful butterflies, leafcutter ants and their underground gardens, and that kinky denizen of the jungle, the kinkajou. Jerzy Grabowski, born in Poland, survived many narrow escapes during World War II, is now an American citizen, naturalist, and a fellow of the famous Explorer's Club. 7:30 p.m., Popejoy Hall.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5 - Field Trip

Trip to the 40-foot waterfall in Waterfall Canyon in the Sandias with Hart Schwarz (266-1810). Cool weather, fine scenery, and a medley of fall color and late season migrants should combine to make this a memorable experience. The 3-4 mile hike involves some climbing and scrambling, but is not particularly difficult at the leisurely pace we will pursue. Meet at 8 a.m. at the intersection of Tramway and the Juan Tabo Picnic Area Road. Bring lunch and water.

**COMING EVENTS:** Mark your calendars for November 7, 8, and 9 when the Southwest Regional Conference will be held in beautiful Texas hill country near Kerrville, Texas. Information should be in the mail soon.

## PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

ENDANGERED SPECIES DAY

The second annual Endangered Species Day will be held on Saturday, September 8. This event is jointly sponsored by the Sierra Club, N.M. Department of Game and Fish, Rio Grande Zoo, and the Museum of Natural History, where it will be held. CNMAS will again host a booth at the Museum. If you can help with this booth, we'd like to hear from you. This is one of those short-term projects which you might find time for. Call 266-0191.

DISCOVER SANDIA MOUNTAIN DAY

Mark and Margie Amato co-chaired the CNMAS table at this June event. Materials were distributed and the Amatos led an early morning bird walk. Our thanks to them and to the others who helped on that day.

FILM SERIES

Check your June-July issue of the OWL for the flyer on the Nature and Wildlife Film Series for 1986-87. The committee has planned an outstanding program, the first one being Amazonia on September 29, 7:30, Popejoy Hall, UNM campus. Call Craig Andrews, Edith Johnson, or any board member for information on tickets. Phone numbers on the back page.

LIBRARY

Carol Davis, our librarian, has been checking her "books overdue" file and has found several books among the missing. Please take a look at your bookshelf and see if you have a book or two from the CNMAS library. No fines and no questions asked--please just bring 'em back! Thank you!



## CONSERVATION NOTES

Help Save the Rio Chama

Anyone who has birded or rafted the Chama between El Vado Dam and Abiquiu Reservoir knows the value of this stretch, not only for birds (many bald eagles) but also an array of other wildlife. But now this precious natural resource is at risk. The Army Corps of Engineers and the City of Albuquerque have proposed storage of water in Abiquiu which would turn at least five miles of the stream into a barren mudflat. Perching trees for bald eagles, archaeological sites, scenic boating waters, and private lands would be ruined. To do this, the Corps of Engineers needs congressional approval to change the authorization of Abiquiu Reservoir. The City of Albuquerque claims it needs storage space for its share of water diverted from the Colorado River basin. During most years, storage would be available in other reservoirs or used for irrigation purposes downstream in New Mexico. The problem is in the relatively few "wet" years.

It is a complicated issue which needs careful study of alternative solutions. There are practical alternative solutions available. To forestall hasty temporary measures which could forever ruin a priceless natural resource, it is urged that members contact their congressional representatives. Tell them that the proposal for increased authorized storage of water is an exceedingly shortsighted approach and that there are practical alternatives available to protect both the water rights of the City of Albuquerque and the many amenities of the Rio Chama. (Also see enclosed brochure.)

Our Bosque Is at Risk

Efforts to protect the bosque in the middle reach of the Rio Grande go back to the late 1960s. The Village of Corrales achieved considerable success in the establishment of a park backed up by vehicle closure and restricted use in 1979. Private individuals made serious efforts to protect an area known as the oxbow in 1975-76 and were aided greatly

by a donation of land by Susie Poole to the Sierra Club Trust Foundation. In 1980 the State of New Mexico designated the river corridor from Angostura Diversion on the north to Isleta Pueblo on the south as the Rio Grande Bosque State Park. The Open Space Program of the City of Albuquerque was given the management responsibility. A nature center was constructed in 1981 to increase public awareness of the values of the bosque.

In spite of all these institutional and private efforts, some of the best bosque is in serious jeopardy. In May of this year, a private landowner destroyed 40 acres of the Park designated area on the west side of the river and adjacent to the oxbow. His reasons remain unclear, but the result is the loss of exceptionally high wildlife value. Breeding bird densities in the bosque habitat lost were the second highest in the Southwest. Wetland habitat was damaged and filled during this activity. In early June 1986 the work was reported by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which has the jurisdictional responsibility for wetlands and waters of the United States under the authority of the Clean Water Act. A recent Supreme Court decision known as the Riverside Case makes the issue of protection of all wetlands no longer an ambiguous area of this law. The oxbow and adjacent wet bosque clearly fall into this category. Thus far, no action has been taken by the Corps.

Investigation of this case has revealed this tract of bosque was State land up until 1967. The adjacent landowner obtained an amendment to a purchase contract (for lands outside the bosque) with the State and acquired some yet undefined property right to the area inside the park. There are other private owners who also have or claim property rights inside the park. These tracts add up to a total of well over 200 acres, all of which could be damaged or lost to the same kind of activity that occurred in May. In fact, development of these lands for housing is entirely possible.

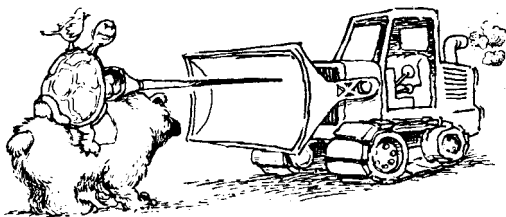
All of this brings us to the conclusion that it is time to establish clear public interest right to the State Park bosque lands. Regardless whether this must be done through purchase or legal action, the time to do it has arrived. The City Open Space Program does not have the money to buy these lands, in spite of the clearly established and overwhelming park values. The City needs your support. The Mayor, the Governor, and the Corps of Engineers need to know how you feel about this issue.

#### Hats Off Department

A significant stretch of the Rio Grande bosque has been cleaned up and is now protected for public enjoyment, nature study, and scientific pursuits. Largely through the efforts of the Nature Conservancy and the City of Corrales, an eight-mile portion of the bosque on the west bank of the Rio Grande is dedicated to the public. The main point of egress is at the far north limits of Corrales. A volunteer horse patrol is operating and will no doubt prevent abuses of the bosque such as illegal dumping of trash and unauthorized motor vehicle use. This stretch is an excellent birding area, and members are urged to take advantage of this valuable habitat right on the doorstep of Albuquerque.

--Lew Helm, Conservation Chairman

## KEEP UP THE CRUSADE!



**P**ick up your lance and stay with those crusading to protect wildlife and the environment. Audubon Action (NAS newsjournal) has been replaced by our new national newsletter, the *Audubon Activist*, to give you all the information you need to slay the dragons. Sign up for the "Activist" corps today. Use the subscription envelope enclosed in the June (final) issue of NAS newsjournal, or send six dollars (for one year) to the *Audubon Activist*, 950 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

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## MEETING ON THE OUTDOORS A SMASH SUCCESS

CNMAS members Lew Helm, George & Evelyn Price, John Vail, and Tom Lankenau joined with members of other environmental groups and representatives from public land agencies for a weekend meeting on the outdoors. The meeting was held at the beautiful Frank Rand Boy Scout Camp in the pinon-juniper-ponderosa country east of Espanola.

The focus of the meeting was public uses of public lands. A wide variety of participants presented some stimulating panels on such subjects as grazing and range management, ORV damage to the public lands, chemical destruction of natural resources, wildlife on the public lands, water resources, etc. Diverse views were presented and some lively discussions ensued!

Good food, campfires, spectacular views, and good fellowship all contributed to a really great experience.

## DISCOVER SANDIA DAY

An estimated 700 people attended "Discover Sandia Say" on June 28. Twenty people were up bright and early for the 6 a.m. bird hike. Over 30 species were seen, including Western Tanagers, Red Crossbills, Hermit Thrush, and a Brown Creeper.

Our volunteers gave plenty of Audubon literature away to interested people at our booth. We'd like to thank Donna Broudy, Betty Balduc, Larry Gorbet, and Elaine Nicholson who assisted us. Many other Audubon members were involved with this event, assisting other organizations. Thanks to all of you, the day was a success.

## FIELD TRIP REPORT

The field trip to Bland Canyon in the Jemez Mountains couldn't have been more fun. Eleven of us managed to ride up to the "swift's cliff." The White Throated Swifts were there. No Black Swifts were seen. A walk through a nearby campsite stirred up MacGillivray's Warblers. On the way down

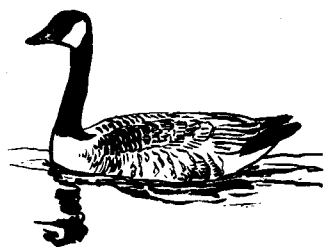
the cliff, the hawks gave us a display. A Cooper's Hawk sat on top of a tree while two Red-Tailed Hawks soared overhead, with a Sharp-Shinned and another Cooper's Hawk chasing them. Finally a Turkey Vulture passed over the site. After lunch we found the Say's Phoebe feeding her second set of nestlings near Cochiti Lake, and two Black-Crowned Night Herons flew overhead near the Cochiti Dam runoff. A total of 42 species were seen on the trip.

#### CNMAS EVENTS WELL PUBLICIZED

Did you misplace your OWL and can't remember when the next meeting or field trip is? Just take a look at your Journal or Tribune to find out what's happening. All of our local field trips and meetings are in the "What's Happening" section of the Albuquerque Journal. The event is placed in the Sunday edition and in the day of the event's edition. Look in the "Town Crier" (found in the back of the classified ad section) in the Albuquerque Tribune, also. Events are listed for the next day in each issue. Saturday's edition carries Sunday's and Monday's events. Remember, all meetings and field trips are open to the public. Remember to look for our wildlife and nature film dates, too.

#### APS CAMPERSHIPS

Mark and Margie Amato spent a day at the APS Camp near Fenton Lake in the Jemez Mountains. CNMAS sponsors some camperships each year, and we found our money is well spent. Each camp, which has a capacity for 90 kids, centers on many outdoor activities. A fishing trip, a hike to the fossil beds, a tour of the fish hatchery are some of the activities planned for the campers. At any time during these events, the counselors will talk about birds, plants, flowers, etc. The campers also take part in conservation, as they keep the camp and the public fishing grounds clean.



#### SPECIAL NATURAL HISTORY TRIPS OFFERED

Dan Scurlock, cultural historian and naturalist, is offering two weekend field trips to explore geology, cultural history, flora and fauna of the Rio Puerco-Cabezon area (August 23-24) and the Chaco Canyon area (September 24-14). Please contact Dan at 242-1635 for complete details. These trips sound fascinating.

#### CNMAS MEMBER OFFERS CLASS

"Gardening Without Work - Wild Gardens" will be offered by the UNM Community College starting August 27 on Wednesdays, 4:30-6:30 p.m. There will be eight sessions taught by Jim Lewis (881-7423).

The methods demonstrated include how to avoid spading, cultivating, weeding, spraying, fertilizing, and lawn mowing; automatic creation of topsoil; availability of free mulch and ground cover materials; and the use of predators to control pests. The design of natural gardens and the use of native edible plants will be emphasized. One session is in the classroom, with the other sessions in natural gardens and on field trips.

#### ROSS' RAVIN'S

By Ross L. Teuber

Hi Folks! By the time you read this, summer will already be half over. We are well into the nesting season, and some of the earliest of the fall migrants are headed south to their wintering areas. Surely, May, June, and July has been by far the wettest three-month period I have seen in the 20 years I have lived in Albuquerque. In early July it was my pleasure to take a short trip back to the middlewest, and the land of my nativity. Never, to my recollection, have I seen it so green in New Mexico's eastern plains, eastern Kansas, the extreme northwest corner of Missouri, and up into central and northeastern Iowa. At that time it appeared that once again Iowa is destined to come up with a bumper corn crop.

Shortly after my return, it was my privilege to take a visiting missionary from Hong Kong on a birding trip into the Sandias. Although he has an impressive life list from Southeast Asia, he is just beginning his U.S. list, so it was easy to show him a round dozen "life birds." It is nearly as exciting to help others find "life birds" as it is to find them for yourself. Mid-July provided an opportunity for a three-day trip to the Chama and Brazos area, which included a day in southern Colorado. In spite of rain and threatened rain, it was a delightful day, and included a tour of the Monte Vista NWR, where "our" WHOOPING CRANES make a stopover on their trips from and to Gray's Lake. The variety of birds at this time was not especially impressive, but what was impressive was seeing nearly every kind of bird accompanied by young. There were AMERICAN COOTS with chicks at all stages of development, from downy youngsters covered with fuzz and bright, orange-red heads and beaks, to nearly grown juveniles which looked more like some exotic species than like their slatey gray, white-beaked parents. Only about a half-dozen species of DUCKS were spotted, but all had a retinue of anywhere from three to sixteen or more ducklings.

It seems the RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRDS have been late in arriving this year. Very few reports have come in, and as of the date of this writing (July 19), no one has called to report the arrival of CALLIOPEs. The first report of a RUFOUS was from Jan Noda at Sandia Knolls on July 11. Farther north, friends at their cabin on the Brazos River, south of Chama, said their first had arrived on July 8; Ruth Luhrs had her first, also at Sandia Knolls, on the 13th; and my first arrived the next day. Most exciting of the hummingbird reports was a card from Lorraine Schulte at Chama (the day after I had been there!) that they had had a WHITE HUMMINGBIRD at their feeder for three days starting on July 13. This is most unusual, so I called and talked to her about details. Based on shape of tail feathers, time of arrival, slight

rusty cast to some of the tail feathers, and size and behavior of the bird, it is my opinion this bird is a male RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD. The bird disappeared on the 16th and 17th, but was back on the 18th. So much for hummingbirds, except please let me know when you see your first Calliope (265-8962).

When Ruth Luhrs called to tell of her first Rufous Hummingbird, she had just shortly returned from a trip to Alaska and was bubbling with excitement and enthusiasm. She had picked up about 30 "life birds" on the trip. Of especial interest, en route to Alaska she was fortunate to see a COMMON BLACK-HEADED GULL. Highlights in Alaska were PUFFINS, MURRES, AUKLETS, and ARCTIC TERN. At various points going, coming, and while there she saw NORTHWESTERN CROW, CACKLING GEESE, VARIED and GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSHES, and CHESINUT-BACKED CHICKADEES. On the same morning David Nevin also called, and he too had just returned from a trip to Alaska. It was intriguing to compare the lists of birds which each of them had found to be especially interesting. David mentioned TUFTED and HORNED PUFFINS, both (THICK-BILLED and COMMON) MURRES, male and female WILLOW PTARMIGAN, male and female HARLEQUIN DUCK, RED-NECKED PHALAROPE and RED-NECKED GREBE. Both mentioned being especially impressed and excited over large numbers of BALD EAGLES. When do you think we should book passage?

More mundane, but certainly of more local interest, are the reports received from some of our many observers right here in New Mexico. From the number of observations reported at Bosque del Apache, it appears that the PHAINOPEPLAS may be extending their range northward. In addition to those mentioned in previous columns, John Durrie and Paul Fitzsimmons saw two just south of San Antonio on May 26. David Dale also reported seeing a male at Bosque del Apache on June 7, and three days earlier there was a female close to the same location. Many of you will recall Pat Basham had a pair at her place all summer two years ago, and

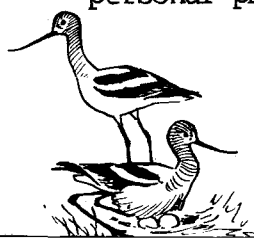


suspected that they nested there, although she never located the nest. They failed to show up last year, and had not been there this year as of the last time I talked to her.

Speaking of Pat, she called on May 25 to report having seen a TRI-COLORED HERON at Bosque del Apache. Several others went to look for it, but none of them were able to locate it again. Refuge personnel were unaware of its presence. On the same date, Joanne Phillips reported that the EASTERN KINGBIRD has returned to her property. On their May 31 trip to Bosque del Apache, John Durrie and Paul Fitzsimmons also saw a LAZULI BUNTING, WILD TURKEYS, SUMMER TANAGER, and a COMMON MOORHEN. They reported seeing a total of 72 species on that trip.

When David Dale called to report the Phainopepla at Bosque del Apache, he said they had also seen an OSPREY (early fall migrant?) flying south, 3 pair of VERMILION FLYCATCHERS (with two nests), 2 BLACK TERNS, a hen TURKEY, and a male BROWN-CRESTED FLYCATCHER. He also told me he has seen a total of 200 species and subspecies at the Rio Grande Nature Center in the last two years. That is very good.

The last week of May, Paul Steel and I had an opportunity to spend several days on a large cattle ranch in Union County, to begin developing a bird list for that property. We were able to verify the occurrence of over 100 species, with nesting evidence for many of them. Among the more interesting was a pair of LONG-BILLED CURLEW w/chicks, nesting EASTERN PHOEBE, a pair of EASTERN BLUEBIRDS, a number of CURVE-BILLED THRASHERS, a ROSE-BREADED GROSBEAK, and many LARK SPARROWS, BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK, NORTHERN ORIOLE, ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER, LEWIS WOODPECKER, MOCKINGBIRDS, ROCK WRENS, and WESTERN AND MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRDS. On the same trip, we saw a BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER and a MARBLED GODWIT at Maxwell NWR, some CHIMNEY SWIFTS at Clayton, and many CASSIN'S SPARROWS (Skylarking) south of Clayton. On our return trip we stopped



at Chicosa Lake and spotted a pair of WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPERS; and at Storrie Lake, 5 CALIFORNIA GULLS, 2 FRANKLIN GULLS, and 3 pair of CANADA GEESE, with 2, 3, and 6 goslings respectively, as well as many COMMON NIGHTHAWKS.

On the 20th of June I received a real nice letter from Ross Rasmussen, a new member who lives at Rio Rancho. He enclosed a detailed record of first and last sightings of spring migrants near his home. Space does not permit printing all of this data, but this sort of record is very valuable, especially when it is maintained conscientiously over a period of years. I have forwarded it to the NMOS archives, where it will be available to students and researchers in the future. I have encouraged him to continue with this effort.

From time to time in my conversations with other birders, the subject of pronunciation of bird names comes up. So as a new feature, in each column we will try to pass on the accepted pronunciation of several of the difficult or often mispronounced names. Even the "experts" do not always agree, but we will try to give the most acceptable and preferred and alternate or alternates for each name. A case in point is the NORTHERN JACANA. There are probably as many or more pronunciations as there are people who have been privileged to see the unique bird in the U.S. Northern presents no difficulty. The official Portuguese pronunciation for the name Jacana, according to Christopher Leahy's Encyclopedic Handbook, is close to ZAH-seh-nah; eastern elitist bird-tour leaders insist on jah-CAH-nuh (or jah-Kay-ner, as in CU-ber); and many southwestern birders, presuming it to be a Spanish name, often say hah-CAH-nuh. John Terres in the Audubon Encyclopedia lists several pronunciations. He says most American ornithologists say jah-KON-ah, others YAH-sah-NAH, and lists dictionary pronunciations as SHA-sah-NAH and JAK-ah-nah. So in this case, folks, it looks as if you may take your choice. My personal preference is ZAH-sah-nuh.

Some other names that present some question are: Northern or Tropical Parula; Pileated Woodpecker, Cassin's Kingbird, Flycatcher, or Sparrow; and Black, Surf, or White-Winged Scoter. Again the problem is not with the more familiar species name, but with the name of the person for whom it is named or the unfamiliar species. Going back to one or more of my favorite authors, the warbler is pronounced PAA-rul-lah or pah-ROO-luh (Leahy); Terres gives the pronunciation of the Latin generic name as PAR-you-la. The name of the woodpecker may be pronounced PYE-lee-ay-ted (preferred) or PILL-ee-ay-ted. Terres agrees, but uses different spelling for the syllables. John Cassin, for whom the birds were named, was an ornithologist in Philadelphia in the mid 19th century, and his name is pronounced CASS-in, not CASE-in. Finally the name of the sea ducks is SKOH-ter, not SCOOT-er. That's enough "education" for this time, but we'll try to come up with some more in the next column.

How would you like to have a bird crossword puzzle or word search puzzle as a part of each column? I'd be interested in some feedback from those of you who are interested (265-8962). Remember to keep me posted on the arrival of Calliope or other hummingbirds as they arrive, and of your observations of fall migrants. So long for now, good luck, and good birding.  
--R.L.T.

P.S. Since the fire at the Pet Shop in the North Valley, I believe in June, there have been numerous calls about exotic birds, mostly parrots or parakeets. Most likely these were escapees from that disaster. This morning (July 21) Joanne Phillips called to say they had been hearing the call of a BOBWHITE from among the junk cars on the lot next door. This likely is also an escapee from someone who has pen-raised birds.

\*\*Following is the portion of Ross' Ravin's that had to be omitted from the last issue of the OWL:



This year, Sunday April 26, was the day Pat Basham and I had selected for our annual "Century Run." If you recall, both the preceding Friday and Saturday were extremely windy. When we arose at 5 a.m. on Sunday morning, the sky was mostly overcast and the breezes were still strong and gusty. This, coupled with the failure of the warbler and bunting migration wave to arrive on schedule, and the nearly complete draining of the marshes at Bosque del Apache, made the prospects of achieving our 100 species goal questionable at best. Our coverage of the Basham property yielded only 14 species, about half the usual number. Even the woodpeckers, northern orioles and black-headed grosbeaks, and Harris sparrow which have been there did not make an appearance.

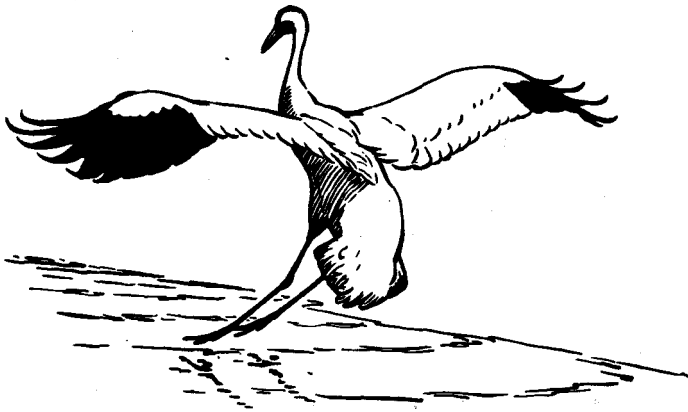
Because of the weather conditions it seemed best to cover Water Canyon first, and then return to Bosque del Apache where the birds were less likely to be affected by the wind. We picked up only three or four additional species en route, and the open areas at the lower end of the Water Canyon Road did not provide the thrashers and sparrows we have come to expect there, nor were the usual canyon wrens, violet-green swallows, and white-throated swifts present along the cliff where they usually occur. We did find most of them on the way out, but no rose-breasted or black-headed grosbeaks, or western tanager. However, by working hard we had 56 species, about the usual number, by the time we had worked Water Canyon and got back to the highway.

Only two additional species were found on the return to Bosque del Apache. After a brief lunch break, we continued our efforts. By that time the wind had abated somewhat and conditions were more favorable. Slowly, slowly, little by little we added one species at a time. Again we were impressed by the lack of migrants, particularly warblers. By the time we got to the curve on the back side of the tour loop where we usually have seen the vermilion flycatcher, we had finally reached a total of 99 species, and we were hoping to have the nice touch of adding



that species as number 100, but it was not to be. It turned out to be number 101. Number 100 was a GREEN-BACKED HERON. We were also pleased to find five WILD TURKEY near the double curve before we got to the north end of the tour loop. Once again we had surpassed the target 100 species.

A few more species were added before we left the refuge, but the final icing was added as we sat on Pat's patio after returning, and watched first several COMMON POORWILL and later both LESSER and COMMON NIGHTHAWKS (calling). The final total was 110 species, about average for the six years we've been making this effort, and accomplished in spite of some very unfavorable weather, at least during the morning.



HELP SUPPORT LOCAL RESEARCH THROUGH THE CNMAS RESEARCH COMMITTEE

CNMAS has provided financial support to two ongoing research projects being conducted by local biologists. In a study of the 1985 fall crane migration by Dale Stahlecker, it was found that a significant portion (25%) of the Rocky Mountain crane population stops overnight north of Albuquerque on their way to Bosque del Apache and other wintering areas. The weather conditions associated with a large number of cranes stopping on certain nights were also documented. The project received partial funding in the amount of \$350 from CNMAS.

CNMAS also supplied support to Jim Daley and Steve Hoffman's ongoing study of hawk migration in the Sandia and Manzano Mountains. Nearly 10,000 hawks, falcons, eagles, and vultures have been counted during two spring and one fall migration along "our" ridge. This project received funding from several sources, including \$500 from CNMAS. More detailed reports on these research projects appeared in the April issue of the Burrowing Owl.

The CNMAS Borard of Directors would like to continue to support studies of local interest. To this end, a Research Committee was formed in the fall of 1985 as a means of soliciting and disbursing funds. Perhaps you would like to contribute to this effort. If you would like to help, fill out the attached form and send it with your check to:

CNMAS Treasurer  
P.O. Box 3002  
Albuquerque, NM 87290-0002

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Yes, I want to help CNMAS Research Committee support studies of local scientific interest.

I am willing to work in fund raising and other committee activities.  
My phone number is \_\_\_\_\_.

Enclosed is my tax deductible contribution of: \$5 \_\_\_ \$10 \_\_\_ \$15 \_\_\_  
\$25 \_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**APPLICATION FOR JOINT MEMBERSHIP  
IN THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY  
AND THE  
CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY**

Joint membership offers you full membership in both the National Audubon Society and the Central New Mexico Audubon chapter at the **same** rate as membership in the national organization only.

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