

# BURROWING OWL



CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY, ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. October-November 1979

## CALENDAR -- OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

Note: Non-members and beginners are always welcome at all meetings & field trips

Tuesday      ELECTION -- City bond  
October 2      issue. Environmental  
                 proposals are on the  
ballot. See article in this issue.

Thursday      BOARD MEETING, 7:30 PM  
October 4      at the home of Helen  
                 Riddell (296-6096)  
3010 Gen. Stillwell, NE.

Saturday      FIELD TRIP - evening  
October 6      "owl prow" at Bandelier  
                 National Monument.  
Bring flashlight with extra batteries.  
For meeting place and time call  
Dustin Huntington (831-5755).  
Chance to see a Spotted Owl!

Thursday      REGULAR MEETING of the  
October 18      Central New Mexico Audu-  
                 bon Society, 7:30 PM  
at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church,  
Copper and Jefferson, NE. Speaker  
will be William Huey of the New  
Mexico Natural Resources Dept. who  
is the U.S. delegate at the Confer-  
ence on International Trade and  
Endangered Species. Whale lovers  
don't miss this!

Saturday      New Mexico Audubon  
& Sunday      Council STATE CONFER-  
Oct. 20-21      ENCE in Silver City.  
                 Meetings and field  
trips. Details on page 4. Dustin  
Huntington (831-5755) would like to  
hear from you if you are planning  
to go.

Monday      AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILM  
October 22      7:30 PM at UNM Popejoy  
                 Hall. The first film  
of the 1979-80 season will be "Into  
Australia's Red Center" narrated by  
Greg and Linda McMillan and John  
Taft. See what happens in an arid  
land when it experiences the wettest  
year of the century. Season tic-  
kets are available from Craig  
Andrews (881-9387) or Dot DeLollis  
(299-5384)

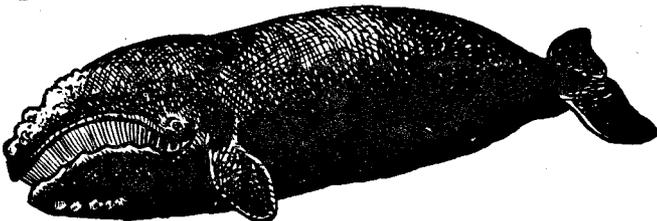
Saturday      FIELD TRIP to  
October 27      Juan Tabo Canyon.  
                 Meet at 8 AM at the  
turn off to Juan Tabo Picnic  
Area on Tramway Blvd. Leader:  
Barbara Hussey (292-5626).  
Half day. Beginners' assistance  
available.

Saturday      SIERRA CLUB car-camping  
& Sunday      trip to the Bisti Bad-  
Oct. 27-28      lands in northwestern  
                 New Mexico. For more  
information call Meg Riedy (255-8042)  
or Carol Miller (299-2703).

Thursday      BOARD MEETING, 7:30 PM  
November 1      at the home of Dustin  
                 & Sue Huntington, 11  
Calle Pueblo Pinado, NW (831-5755)

Saturday      FIELD TRIP to Farmington,  
& Sunday      Navajo Lake, Morgan Lake  
Nov. 3-4      & Jackson Lake Refuge.  
                 Call leader Karen Peterson  
(296-6262) after 4 PM for meeting  
place and to arrange ride pools.  
Tentatively will meet Friday, Nov.  
2nd at about 6 PM. Make motel  
reservations early.

MORE CALENDAR ON PAGE 2





CALENDAR CONTINUED

Saturday      Nov. 10      FIELD TRIP to Bosque del Apache NWR. The whooping cranes will have just arrived -- the best time to see them -- later in the season they move away from the refuge tour route. Meet at refuge headquarters at 9 AM or at 7 at the Physics and Astronomy Bldg., Lomas and Yale, NE to form carpools. No leader yet. Any volunteers? -- call Sue Huntington (831-5755).

Sunday      Nov. 11      FIELD TRIP to Pino Canyon on the west side of the Sandias. Hike 2 miles in through grasslands, pinon juniper, and lower mountain habitat. Not much climbing. Meet at 8 AM at Eldorado Square Shopping Center, Montgomery and Juan Tabo, NE. Park near Montgomery. Leader: Hart Schwarz (266-1810). Bring lunch and water.

Tuesday      Nov. 13      AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILM, 7:30 PM, UNM Popejoy Hall. Robert Rydjord narrates "In the Domain of the Leopard" a film about equatorial East Africa with its savannas, lakes of the Great Rift Valley, high rain forests and jungles crowding the Victoria Nile. Season tickets available from Craig Andrews (881-9387) or Dot DeLollis (299-5384).

Thursday      Nov. 15      REGULAR MEETING of the Central New Mexico Audubon Society, 7:30 PM at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, Copper & Jefferson, NE. Russ Rhoades, deputy director of the New Mexico Environmental Improvement Division will speak on the Division's policies and state environmental projects including WIPP.

Sunday      Nov. 18      DEADLINE for submitting copy for the December-January issue of the Burrowing Owl. Barbara Hussey, editor (292-5626) 705 Monte Alto Drive, NE.

Saturday      Nov. 24-25      FIELD TRIP (on Thanksgiving weekend) to southeastern New Mexico for winter sparrows and longspurs. Meet early Saturday morning near Nutt, N.M. to look for longspurs then continue on to Animas Valley, possibly camping in the Peloncillo Mountains depending on weather and birds. Please call trip leaders, Dustin & Sue Huntington (831-5755) by Thursday, Nov. 22nd if you plan to go.

Thursday      December 6      BOARD MEETING, 7:30 PM  
Any volunteers?

Saturday      Dec. 15      SANDIA MOUNTAINS CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. Meet at 6:30 AM at San Antonio School on NM 14 just north of the turn off to Sandia Crest. Participation fee. Compiler: Ross Teuber (265-8962).

Saturday      Dec. 22      BOSQUE DEL APACHE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. Meet at refuge headquarters at 7 AM. Participation fee. Compiler: Chuck Hundertmark (266-9402)

Saturday      Dec. 29      ALBUQUERQUE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. Meet at Corrales Shopping Center at 7 AM. Participation fee. Compiler: Jim Karo (294-2777).

RARE BIRD ALERT REORGANIZATION

CNMAS is taking names of all those interested in being notified of the local occurrence of unusual birds. All participants must be willing to call two others to pass the word. Each person will receive a copy of the complete telephone chain as well as a bird list and suggestions on reporting rarities.

If you are interested, call Barbara Hussey (292-5626) or Ross Teuber (265-8962) by Nov. 1st.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Thanks to the efforts of Craig Andrews, Dave Lange and the State Fair Committee, we had an excellent booth in the Flower Building at the Fair. As usual, the "booth watchers" were CNMAS members. By the time this edition of the Owl gets out, it will be too late to volunteer as a booth watcher this year but there is always next year. For those who were not booth watchers this year, it's not that bad a job. Sessions are 2½ to 3 hours and two people jointly doing two sessions can be much more pleasant than doing one session alone. You get to meet (sometimes) interesting people, enjoy the flowers and hand out lots of free information.

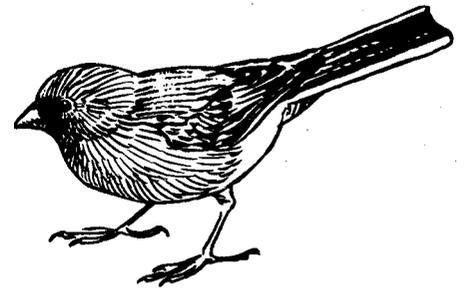
On October 20, the New Mexico State Audubon Council will meet in Silver City. This meeting is open to all Audubon members and all CNMAS members are encouraged to attend. The meeting should be a scaled down version of the national meeting held a few months ago in Estes Park. However, topics will be of more local interest and actions may have a more direct effect on the chapters. There will be field trips in the Gila National Forest on Sunday, Oct. 21 and an afternoon trip to Bill Evans Lake on Saturday. For further information contact Jim Karo (294-2777) or Dustin Huntington (831-5755).

STATE FAIR BOOTH A SUCCESS

CNMAS appreciates all the work done by the members of the State Fair Committee, making our booth better than ever this year. As a result approximately 80 people expressed an interest in our chapter. Of those eighty we may be getting several new members. Thanks go to Alice Andrews, Craig Andrews, Blake Forbes, Elizabeth Forbes, Barbara Hussey, Jim Karo, Dave Lange, Phyllis Schmidt, Ross Teuber, Pat Turner and others for preparing and constructing the booth. And special thanks go to those who volunteered to be "exhibit watchers":

Kay Anderson	Barbara Hussey	Joanne Phillips
Alice Andrews	Tom Hussey	Bill Pike
Craig Andrews	Jim Karo	Evelyn Price
Mary Lou Arthur	Diana Kinney	Helen Riddell
Tom Bidell	Dave Lange	Betty Sauter
Dot DeLollis	Maurice Mackey	Phyllis Schmidt
Elizabeth Forbes	Chip Mansure	Clara Teuber
Alana Gallagher	Cella Mizel	Ross Teuber
Dustin Huntington	Karen Peterson	Terrence Word
Sue Huntington		

CNMAS would also like to thank the Albuquerque Garden Clubs for allowing us complimentary use of the booth space in the Flower Building at the State Fair again this year. (If you know someone not named above who worked on any part of the fair exhibit, please call 292-5626. CNMAS wants to give them credit in the next "Owl" issue...Ed.)

HELP WANTED

CNMAS has several committees which are in need of members who are willing to give a little time. If you are interested, please get in touch with one of the committee chairmen listed in the directory on page 8. Soon we will be forming the Nominating Committee again for chapter elections held in May, a committee will be working on ex-

panding the Albuquerque bird list which was given out at the State Fair, and we will need help soon in making plans for the Southwest Regional Audubon Conference to be hosted by our chapter in June 1980 at Ghost Ranch. If you are interested in working on these projects, contact Dustin Huntington (831-5755).

BEGINNERS' BIRDING CLASS

Starting with the August regular meeting, CNMAS has been conducting a "Birding for Beginners" class at 6:45 P.M. before each meeting. With such a successful turn out, the chapter plans to continue the program. Course outline:

## UNIT

- I. Introduction and Overview  
Basic Birding Behavior
- II. Equipment
  - A. Optical
  - B. Field Guides - Record Keeping
  - C. Clothing and Incidentals
  - (D.) Cameras (?)
- III. Identification
  - A. Differences that Separate Families & Groups (Structural & Anatomical Characteristics)
  - B. Behavior
  - C. Habitat Preferences
  - D. Residence Status
  - E. Range of Occurrence
  - F. Voice (Records and Tapes and Their Use)
- IV. Identification  
Field Marks
- V. Ethics
  - A. Relationship to Birds
  - B. Relationship to Habitat
  - C. Relationship to Birders
  - D. Relationship to Land-owners and the Public

All interested persons are welcome to attend even if you missed the first few sessions.

WHOOOPER NEWS

The latest report from Grays Lake Idaho is that 7 new whooping crane chicks have fledged -- and along with 8 adults from previous years we can expect as many as 15 whoopers in the experimental foster parent flock wintering in New Mexico this year.

NEW MEXICO STATE AUDUBON CONFERENCE  
OCTOBER 20th, SILVER CITY

The New Mexico State Audubon Conference will be held in silver City, N.M. on the weekend of Oct. 20, 1979. This is the first state Audubon conference in New Mexico and the program will include something for everyone. The schedule is as follows:

Friday evening, October 19, 6:30 PM the Holiday Motel - meeting of the joint committee, all interested persons invited.

Saturday October 20, 8:30 AM, First United Presbyterian Church, complimentary coffee and doughnuts. Business meeting of the New Mexico Audubon Council. (All members of the council should be present). Report of the nominating committee. Annual election of officers.

Saturday October 20, 10:30 AM, conference business meeting. All voting delegates should attend. Report from the president of the NM Audubon Council on the council's work of the past year.

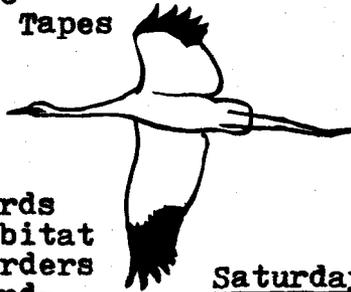
Proposals from the chapters for projects in the coming year.

Saturday October 20, 1:00 PM, Conference luncheon banquet at First Presbyterian Church. Installation of officers. Panel discussion on control of predators. Immediately following the luncheon, a field trip to the Gila River Valley and to Bill Evans Lake.

Saturday October 20, 6:30 PM, an informal dinner at the Holiday Motel.

Sunday morning, October 21, meet at Gibson's parking lot for a field trip on the inner loop of Gila National Forest.

More information from Jim Karo (294-2777).





### CONSERVATION NOTES

#### Dickey-Lincoln

The Dickey-Lincoln project is a large Army Corps of Engineers hydroelectric project planned for the St. John River in northern Maine. The primary purpose of Dickey-Lincoln is to generate peaking power. Two dams are planned; Dickey, the largest, would be the twelfth largest dam in the world. It would inundate 88,000 acres of prime timberland, 278 miles of free-flowing wilderness rivers and streams, and 30 lakes and ponds.

Dickey-Lincoln would save only  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1 % of New England's annual oil consumption. Other options would replace far more oil, at far lower cost. A New England Power Pool report states that conservation and load management could save three times as much power as Dickey-Lincoln would produce. The Maine Dept. of Conservation estimates that the project will cost Maine \$990 million in lost timber production and jobs. The Corps estimates a benefit-cost ratio of 1.2 to 1. Two other studies estimate a B/C ratio of 0.67 to 0.95.

Both of Maine's representatives are opposed to the project and Senator Cohen of Maine is leading the opposition in the Senate (7 of New England's 12 Senators oppose the project).

The Dickey-Lincoln project is being considered for deauthorization in the Senate in October. Senator Domenici voted against the project in July but his continued opposition is not assured. Write Senator Domenici asking him to vote for deauthorization of Dickey-Lincoln. The House Public Works Committee voted 24-17 to deauthorize the project in July.

#### Alaska

Unfortunately little change since the last OWL. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee still has yet to act on the Alaska National Lands bill. Write Senators Jackson (chairman) and Domenici and ask them to begin work quickly and to use S.222 as the mark-up bill and to adopt a bill similar to the House passed H.R. 39.

#### President Carter's Energy Message

Unfortunately President Carter's July energy message was not very good for environmentalists (see September issue of AUDUBON, pp. 7-10). We must press for more emphasis on conservation, mass transit, solar and wind energy and deemphasize synfuels which with their unproven technologies and the Energy Mobilization Board could prove to be environmentally quite harmful to the western US where most of the synfuels would be generated.

Increased emphasis on conservation, mass transit, greater fuel efficiency and solar could save four times as much imported oil in the next decade as the Administration's proposal. With your help Congress can be convinced that there are alternatives to a "moon shot" effort to produce synfuels which would not only reduce our dependence on foreign energy sources but also be much more environmentally acceptable.

#### BIRD PRONUNCIATIONS

Bewick's (wren)	BYOO iks	(3)
Coues' (flycatcher)	COWZ	(2)
Gyr Falcon	JER falcon	(1)
Jaçana	zhah suh NAH	(4)
Sabine's (gull)	SAB inz	(2)
Wied's (flycatcher)	VEETS	(2)

#### References:

- (1) Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language, Cleveland: World Publishing Co. 1960.
- (2) New Century Cyclopedia of Names. New York: Appleton, Century, Crofts, 1954.
- (3) The Random House Dictionary of the English Language. New York: Random House, 1966.
- (4) Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language. Springfield, Mass.: G.&C. Merriam Co., 1963.



### ROSS'S RAVIN'S

Hi folks! What an exciting time this is for birders! As I sit here writing this we're smack in the middle of the fall migration. It's my impression the southern movement started 10 days or two weeks ahead of the normal time this year with an early passage of shorebirds and waders. Some of the more interesting sightings, mostly from Bosque del Apache include northern phalarope, stilt sandpiper, semipalmated and snowy plover, plentiful little blue and green herons, herring gull, and a small flock of black terns. Recently we have had a really bounteous passage of warblers. These were predominantly Wilson's, Virginia's, Townsend's, yellow-rumped (Audubon type), and orange-crowned. But several of us were fortunate enough to see a couple of painted redstarts, and at least three of us saw a bay-breasted warbler all in Cienega Creek in the Sandias. I also had a report of a Connecticut warbler down in Eddy County from Rick Wilt. Other sightings of note include eastern kingbirds at Isleta Marsh, and Bosque del Apache; an American redstart below the Alameda bridge; cattle egrets and lazuli buntings at Bosque del Apache. Hart Schwarz saw a Mississippi kite here in Albuquerque shortly after he came back from Hobbs. The latest word is that the ponds and marshes at Bosque del Apache are being reflooded and many shorebirds and several thousand ducks are already back. On the September 15th field trip we saw an osprey, northern phalarope, dunlin, marbled godwit, white pelican, and sora just to name a few of the 73 species listed. Please keep calling in your interesting sightings (265-8962) so we can all share in them. They don't have to be candidates for the rare bird alert to be of interest to your fellow Auduboners!

An interesting thing happened to me the other day while I was doing the first fall road count for the South West Hawk Watch. I saw a

sparrow fly up from the road just in time to be struck by a passing auto. Thinking it would be a good road kill specimen to salvage for the University, I rushed to pick it up. I was amazed to find that the bird, an adult vesper sparrow, though somewhat dazed and groggy was very much alive. A check of wings and legs revealed no broken bones. So I carefully wrapped it in a towel and put it in a box in the back seat, where it would be dark and quiet. In about an hour and a half I checked and the bird seemed quite perky, so I released it. However, it fluttered just across the road and fell, exhausted, in some bushes. So again I retrieved it and rewrapped it in the towel and placed it where it was dark and quiet. In half or three-quarters of an hour it started to flutter, so again I unwrapped it, and gave it its freedom. Th t time it flew away, apparently to all intents and purposes fully recovered from its traumatic experience.

All this leads up to a point I've been wanting to make. Quite frequently birds, especially migrating birds, fly into obstacles like picture windows, sliding glass doors or just the side of a structure. Often the result is a bird which is stunned, shocked, and confused, but not necessarily seriously injured. Often these birds die, not from their injuries but from shock! The best treatment for shock whether for birds or humans is to retain the patient's normal body heat, keep him lying down and quiet, and let nature function for recovery. Sometimes fluids may be administered, if the patient can take them naturally. Birds normally have higher pulse rates, respiration and temperature than humans. So one of the best treatments is to wrap the little fellow in a soft cloth or towel, put him in a cardboard box with some cloth or soft paper for padding and small holes for ventila-

Continued on next page

ROSS'S RAVIN'S Continued from page 6

tion, and keep it in a dark, quiet place. Quite often, two to six hours of this kind of care is all that is required for apparent complete recovery. You can tell when the patient becomes active and restless -- then it's time to release it. If by chance the injury is a broken neck or other serious skeletal or internal injury, this will become apparent, or the bird will die. In either case call me, and I'll see that it gets to the proper place -- I do have the required permits.

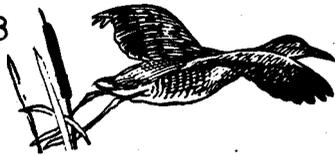
It is an ill wind that blows nobody good! Although the recognized results of the recent hurricanes, David and Frederic have been tragic and devastating to many people around the Gulf of Mexico, the benefits to several forms of birds and wildlife along the south Texas coast may be a godsend. The oil slick from the Mexican Pemex Oil Company Ixtoc I test, inexorably drifting northward posed a major threat to birds, crabs and other shore-feeding wild species, including the endangered whooping cranes that winter and feed at Aransas NWR. This has been a source of great concern to Fish and Wildlife Service biologists. Especially with the imminent return of the whoopers to their wintering grounds. However, the violent tides resulting from the hurricanes lifted tar balls and oily splashes and debris and dropped them 40 to 60 feet up from the shoreline. This is good because these species that feed in the intertidal zone between the dunes and the water's edge will be spared contact with the oil. The wave action may also have helped clean up submerged oil offshore. Northeast winds from Frederic's storm system should keep the oil moving southward, away from the Texas coast. So from an ecological point of view, this atmospheric phenomenon is a definite plus in terms of cleanup of the oil spill. Our sym-

pathy goes out to the victims of these storms. It is extremely unfortunate that so many humans must suffer even though wildlife may benefit.

Hey! the big news in the listing contest is that the 300 species barrier for New Mexico has been broken. On September 2, Rick Wilt found a white-rumped sandpiper in southeastern New Mexico to make number 300 on his list. Incidentally it was also a life bird for him. By September 15, he was up to 307. Dustin and Sue Huntington are not far behind. After finding both the painted redstart and bay-breasted warbler in Cienega Creek, and a weekend in southeastern New Mexico they were up to 301 and 295 respectively. (Editor's Note: Sue has since passed the 300 mark on Sept. 23.) Several more of us are a little farther behind, but still have in excess of 200 species. As of the 15th of September, Dave Tomasko had 208, Hart Schwarz had 211, Dave Lange had 215, and your obedient servant had 241. I haven't heard directly from Steve West, but Dustin saw him this past weekend and reported he had 290. None of these records are to be sneezed at, and there are still three months and three Christmas counts ahead. How far do you suppose we can go? Late reports of local sightings include a golden plover, cedar waxwings, sage thrashers, Swainson's thrush, black-tailed gnatcatcher and Nashville warbler. As I said in the beginning, this is really an exciting season!

I just looked out my window and marveled at an extremely fat hummingbird sucking away at the feeder. Surely with the passing of the cold front, and the zugunrhue upon them, our winged emerald, opal, and ruby jewels will soon be leaving us. That may be my cue to leave too -- so long for now, good birding, and by your leave I'll be back for another visit in the next Burrowing Owl.

Ross L. Teuber



**OCTOBER 2 CITY BOND ELECTION**  
**INCLUDES ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

This coming Tuesday, October 2nd the City of Albuquerque will hold an election for general obligation bonds. Thirteen proposals will appear on the ballot; three of them may be of interest to Audubon members:

Proposal No. 4 - Open Space - \$1,305,000. Continuing acquisition of land around the volcanoes, in the foothills and other areas identified in the Open Space Master Plan; land acquisition for new and infill parks; and art acquisition.

Proposal No. 8 - Parks and Recreation - \$2,125,000. For the issuance of general obligation bonds together with additional federal funds for the improvement,

building and beautifying of public parks and other public recreational facilities, including bikeways, soccer fields, ball fields, swimming pools, and tennis courts.

Proposal No. 9 - Zoo - \$1,105,000. For constructing outdoor facilities for orang-utans and gorilla including a 10 to 12,000 square foot area with natural soil, grass, rocks, logs and trees, replacing bars with moats. For new restrooms, facilities for the handicapped, concession facilities and landscaping.

Supporters of the bond issues explain that because of retirement of old city bonds, there will be no increase in property tax rates.

**ADDRESSES**

The President  
 The White House  
 Washington, D.C. 20500

The Honorable Pete V. Domenici  
 United States Senate  
 Washington, D.C. 20510

The Hon. Harrison H. Schmitt  
 United States Senate  
 Washington, D.C. 20510

The Hon. Manuel Lujan, Jr.  
 House of Representatives  
 Washington, D.C. 20515

The Hon. Harold Ruml  
 House of Representatives  
 Washington, D.C. 20515

**CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY DIRECTORY**

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Audubon Wildlife Film Chm.	Craig Andrews, 3416 Sierra Dr. NE 87108	881-9387
Education Committee Chm.	Mary Lou Arthur, 728 Monroe Dr. NE 87110	256-7359
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Director	Helen Riddell, 3010 Gen. Stillwell NE 87111	294-6096
Director	Ross Teuber, 1612 Kentucky NE 87110	265-8962
NM Audubon Council Rep.	Jim Karo, 1621 Cedar Ridge Dr. NE 87112	294-2777
NM Audubon Council Rep.	Bob Jost, 812 Eastridge NE 87123	292-3625
NM Conservation Coordinating Council Rep.	Kay Anderson, 6200 Indian School NE, Apt. 303 87110	881-9120

**RARE BIRD ALERT - report sightings to: 265-8962, 292-5626 or 898-2568**

**CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
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