



BURROWING OWL

Central New Mexico Audubon Society

October–November 1991

WELCOME!

The Central New Mexico Audubon Society meets at 7:30 pm, on the third Thursday of each month, at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, Copper and Jefferson NE. Nonmembers are welcome at all meetings, field trips and special events.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

AFRICAN WILDLIFE - The Future of Wildlife Management in Africa.

--Thursday, October 17th

Author, speaker and conservation advocate Charles Cadieux will present a slide show along with commentary on wildlife management of Africa. With the ecological changes in Africa causing diminishing wildlife and habitat loss, many of us need a better understanding of wildlife management in Africa. The study of ecological survival of animals worldwide is an important issue and one that we all need to be aware of.

SCIENCE EDUCATION FOR THE 90'S

--Thursday, November 21st

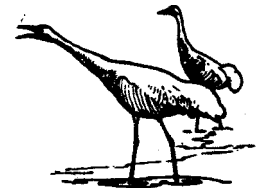
Parents, educators and interested parties are all invited to an informative and enlightening discussion of Science Education in the 90's. Former science supervisor in New York schools, Mary Jo Smerechniak is now a resident of Corrales and will lead this month's program. She has had many years of experience working with National Audubon staff, particularly with Marshal T. Case, National V.P. for Education. *Also Given Ebert, APS*

A SPECIAL WELCOME

We now have a new Field Trip Coordinator on board. Anne Marie Farley comes to us via Massachusetts and New York. Anne has a strong background as an animal activists and brings a wealth of information to CNMAS. She is in the process of developing some programs for children, but since September has been such an active month for her she has only been able to plan a late October trip. I know she looks forward to meeting all of the members and future members on upcoming events. If you have any suggestions or comments about past or future field trips please call or write Anne. Her information can be found in the directory. Ed.

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

October 12th
--Glenwood, New Mexico



Ralph Fischer will be leading a field trip to the Glenwood area for the Southwest New Mexico Audubon Society on October 12, and has invited us to join them. Depending on the road conditions, the agenda us Little White Water Creek or the Catwalk. Meeting place is the Hudson Plaza in Silver City at 8:00 a.m. For details and confirmed space phone Ralph at 1-535-2320.

October 13
--Secrets of the Sandias: Special Places, Special Birds
Active birder and longtime Christmas Count leader, Hart Schwartz will be conducting field trips for the Rio Grande Nature Center on five consecutive Sundays, beginning October 13. You can sign up for one or all of these instructional birding outings: Waterfall Canyon, Bernalillo Watershed, Cooper Burn (Capulin Peak), Hondo Canyon, and the Sandia Crest. Call RGNC at 344-7420.

October 19
--Birding at the Bosque

Visit the Bosque del Apache. Its time for the annual fall trek! This day trip will start at 7:30 a.m. and will be lead by Charlie Black. Come meet our new Field Trip Coordinator, Anne Marie Farley.

On this adventure you'll see snowgeese, sandhill cranes, a variety of ducks, wild turkeys, pheasant, coyote, deer and perhaps the famous whooping cranes. Visit the bird overlook, the visitors center and stop in at the end of the day at the Owl Cafe - known for their incredible green chile cheeseburgers! Or take along a picnic lunch.

A warm jacket and correct shoes are suggested, insect repellent, binoculars, scopes, and field guides will be useful. This is a two hour drive and car pooling is suggested. Plans are to meet at the UNM parking lot at Yale and Lomas. Please call Anne Marie Farley to confirm.

THURSDAY MORNING BIRDING GROUP

For information on the Thursday morning birding group to nearby areas, please call Tamie Bulow, 298-9116.

CONSERVATION NOTES
By Verne Huser

A few days ago President Bush, who continues to claim to be the "environmental" President, made a political speech on the rim of the Grand Canyon, using a national park as the backdrop for an early campaign pitch. How many of you believe him? His proposed energy policy is an oilman's program to keep the country dependent upon fossil fuels until we run out. To see that we do, he also proposes the opening of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas exploration, then development, a program that will extend your oil supply for only a few weeks but will have serious impact



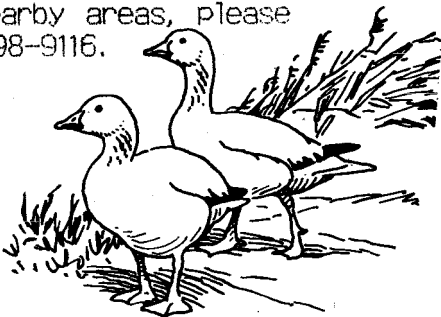
upon many species of arctic wildlife. His campaign promise in 1988 included "no net loss of wetlands," yet a few months ago he essentially rewrote the definition of wetlands to satisfy development interest and to withdraw thousands of acres of wetlands from protection under federal law.

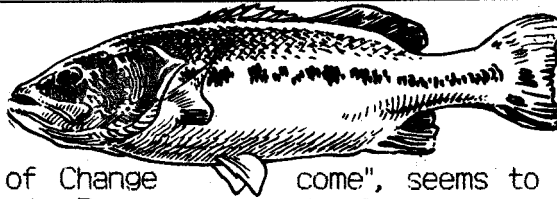
Spokesmen and spokeswoman for the President participated in the annual conference of the Outdoor Writers Association of America in Salt Lake City last June, trying to make the President look and sound as though he were concerned about the environment; but the outdoor writers all but laughed them off the stage. His agency fronts gave no meaningful answers to questions, spoke the party line and refused to address serious environmental issues. Bush did appoint two sound environmental leaders to his administration, EPA Director William Reilly and Fish and Wildlife Service Director John Turner, but both have been hamstrung by the President and his conservative colleagues, and both have been ineffective on the real pitty-gritty issues such as the Spotted Owl controversy (vs old-growth timber cutting) and the Clean Air Act.

The President also opposes current legislation that would require the Department of Defense and the Department of Energy to comply with federal environmental regulations.

A Presidential think-tank has usurped the decision-making process, imposing an executive-initiated economic evaluation on critical issues, determining that, for example, the enforcement of the Endangered Species Act would be too economically negative.

I'm not sure that writing to the President, giving your opinion on environmental issues, makes sense. I recall a bumper sticker I saw during the Spiro Agnew era that said, "The majority isn't silent; the government is deaf". I often feel that way in the "environmental" Presidency, but I encourage you to write: to the President, to your Congressmen and Senators (even if their minds are made up), to the newspapers and to your friends. In a



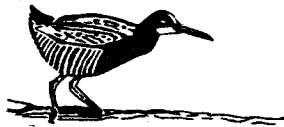


recent talk before the Seeds of Change environmental conference in Santa Fe, September 20th, former Texas agriculture commissioner Jim Hightower, a possible Presidential candidate and populist, suggested that "The water won't clear up until you get the hogs out of the creek," hinting that much of the mess in Washington is due to the hogs feeding at the federal trough of the good-ole-boy pork-barrel system (you vote for my project and I'll vote for yours).

WIPP----

Remember the EXXON VALDEZ? I suggest that the gigantic oil spill in Prince Williams Sound has a lesson for New Mexicans. The Alaskan Oil Pipeline was built only after Congress by-passed NEPA, the National Environmental Policy Act, that requires an environmental impact statement. The Act is designed to anticipate the very kind of disaster that occurred when the tanker ran aground, but Congress by-passed the environmental concerns under pressure from the oil companies (including now President George Bush). Now we are faced with a similar situation with the premature opening of the Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP) being pushed by our political representatives (again, the majority isn't silent; the government is deaf). Have you let your representatives know how you feel?

DOUBLE EAGLE AIRPORT



A new massive airport is being planned in secret by the City of Albuquerque, an airport that is anticipated to handle twice the present traffic of Albuquerque International within 20 years, an airport that would have a main runway routing air traffic right over Petroglyphs National Monument. Double Eagle exists as a small general aviation facility, but the plans call for major expansion to facilitate the largest jets. I prefer to call the new airport "The Field of Dreams", an airport (airfield) that seems to exist in the minds of its proponents as the baseball field in an Iowa cornfield; "If you build it, they will

come", seems to be the dream of the development community on the Westside. Keep an eye on this one. So far the public has been kept out of the process even though tens of thousands of public dollars are being spent to study the feasibility, which is as transparent as an Army Corps of Engineers cost-benefit study (have you even seen the cost-benefit ratio of a proposed dam suggest that the dam shouldn't be built?).

THE GREEN TEAM

Friends of the Albuquerque Petroglyphs (FOTAP) founder and president Ike Eastvold was recently named to Barbara Bush's Green Team, a dozen "modern-day heroes who have devoted their lives to guarding our natural and historical treasures." In the September issue of Countryside, Barbara Bush, Honorary Chairperson of the 75th anniversary of the National Park Service, lists Eastvold as a member of her Green Team "representing thousands of men and women working hard every day to preserve this (NPS) legacy for future generations." The accompanying article says, "The expansion of a nearby airport would increase noise levels at the site," and is listed as a threat to the integrity of the monument.

Also (somewhere):

Hart Schwartz will give a lecture on Birds of Petroglyphs National Monument Nov. 16 at 2 p.m. The free lecture will be at the Albuquerque Museum (2000 Mountain, NW). Schwartz, an active member of Audubon who leads occasional field trips, is an expert on birds of central New Mexico.

Birding Group Options

Pat Johnson, an active mother on the go is looking for a like-minded mom or group of mom's who would like to trade babysitting and/or combine kids as group on short birding trips. Her children are one and four years old. If you're interested you can leave a message anytime at 299-1768.



ACTIVISTS NEWS

NAS Actionline was out of commission during a recent move, but the NAS office has assured Tamie that it would be back in operation soon. Thanks for your patience.... For current information out of Washington, 24- hours a day call **ACTIONLINE AT (202)-547-9017**. LISTEN TO THE LATEST IN RECORDED FAST MOVING ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION.

EDUCATION NOTES

by Marge Carrick

CNMAS is sponsoring Audubon Adventures in 35 classrooms during the 1991-92 school year. Topics will be:

August/September:	Bats
October/November:	Deciduous Trees
December/January:	Sea Turtles
February/March:	Owls
April/May:	Amphibians
June/July:	Butterflies and Moths
Audubon Month:	Oceans: The Atlantic
Special Issue:	Recycling



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Senator Domenici's Bosque Initiative
 Senator Pete Domenici called a meeting on September 6th to announce his plans to preserve and permanently protect our precious Bosque, stretching from Cochiti Reservoir to Elephant Butte. The task force appointed by the Senator is composed of men and women around the state whose purpose is to assess the current status of the Bosque, identify key issues, and recommend plans for its use and protection. Once an office has been established, the task force will invite public comment. We will keep you posted on a contact once one is released.

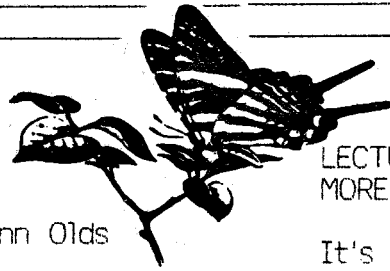
Special Thanks...

Many thanks to Shirley Kendall for enlightening us on "a day in the life", of a rehabber...phew!! Our field trip was wonderful, so-oooo educational, and left us in awe at the amount of care and precision that goes into nursing these creatures back to health - ultimately to be released back into the wild. Wildlife Rescue, a licensed rehab organization, could use some help. Items in need are caging materials (lumber, screening material, carpentry work), traveling cages, (port - a -pets), for transporting birds (either molded plastic kind or the cardboard one your vet supplies you with); intensive care items like electrical heating pads, old towels, old laundry baskets are always needed. **ESPECIALLY** needed are "go-fers"... folks who can pick up or deliver necessary supplies to the rehabbers so they can do what they do best. Please call Janelle at 256-7607 or Shirley at 898-9629 if you can help out. Also needed are birders who would be willing to help out on identification of injured birds, either visually or over the phone. All birds must be identified before treatment process can be initiated (i.e. diet, habitat), and once in a while they need help on the ID. Call Tamie at 298-9116 if you are willing to be on their call list.

AND A REMINDER FOR OUR UPCOMING DECEMBER MEETING

****CHRISTMAS AND COUNTING****

This meeting will be extra fun - not only do you get a slide presentation by Celestyn M. Brozek on what birds are likely to be seen on the various Christmas Counts (Audubon's 92nd year of taking a bird inventory in the United States!), but you can meet the count leaders, ask questions and sign up for the counts in which you want to participate. **PLUS...** we will be having a holiday bazaar of sorts! We will be selling gift wrap, T-shirts, used library books, Audubon items - from patches and pins to stationery! All elves are invited for cookies and punch while shopping!!



WEEKEND BIRDERS

An open letter from Jean Ann Olds

In July, I contacted the editor of the Burrowing Owl asking for the announcement about weekend birding to be discontinued; instead, an announcement was printed in the August-September issue implying miscommunications which did not occur, so I felt an explanation was due.

The weekend birders evolved into several groups of people who bird together informally on weekends. I was very pleased to see this happen; however, there was nothing regular about the outings. People from out of state would call me expecting an outing every weekend. I also received frequent calls asking assistance in locating difficult species which I was not qualified to handle. For these two reasons I decided to discontinue the announcement. I appreciate the support given to me by Donna Broudy, Tamie Bulow and CNMAS allowing us to try out this idea, and I hope that the groups started will continue their outings together as well as the outings planned by our new field trip chair, Anne Marie Farley.

BOOK REVIEWS

Verne Huser tells me that a new book has been purchased for our library. It is a hardback copy of "Aspen, Blazen of the High Country" by Anne Zwinger. Anne is known for her skills as an artist, writer and naturalist. Barbara Sparks is the photographer. This is a gorgeous book with photos and text about aspen - throughout the four seasons. This book and other earlier books of Ms. Zwingers are available through the University of Arizona Press. And as a special note, it is an autographed copy - so if you've needed an excuse to come to meetings and/or check out books from the library now is an opportune time. Our library is a terrific resource for all of us. Your book reviews are needed. Beth Hurst is our new librarian and will be glad to assist you in your search for the ultimate in fascinating reading.

LECTURES, CLASSES, SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND MORE --- Read on!!!

It's Not Just a Birdseed Sale Anymore...

It's time once again to stock up on birdseed at the Rio Grande Nature Center's "Birds of a Feather" weekend, October 19 and 20, 10a.m.- 4p.m. They will be selling wild birdseed mix (millet and sunflower) and russian sunflower, plus feeders, birdbooks and other items in the Gift Shop. However, make sure to stop in at the exhibit booths by Hawkwatch International, Bird Banders, Talking Talons, Wildlife Rescue, Open Space, CNMAS and others. Our chapter will be helping to identify birds and ducks to visitors. If you would like to help with identifications for a 2-hour shift, call Tamie Bulow at 298-9116. Tours of the Nature Center will also be given. CNMAS member and longtime RGNC volunteer Howard Kimbrough invites all CNMAS families to join in the fun. He especially likes grandchildren! For more details please call the RGNC at 344-7240.

FESTIVAL OF THE CRANES, 1991

Formerly the Bosque Fall Festival, this function has grown more exciting each year. Mark your calendars for November 22-24 this fall, and plan on spending all weekend!! Celebrate the return of the cranes (and ducks and geese) at the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, with additional festivities in Socorro. At both locations there will be exhibits, workshops, guided tours, demonstrations, and lectures. The keynote speaker will be noted ornithologist Dr. Roger Tory Peterson. Other features include artist Doug West (one-man exhibit), Bosque Photographic Workshop, Drawing Workshop (Nature and Art) by Julie Zickefoos, Art and Creativity Workshop by William Warder, and native New Mexican Judith Phillips will teach us how to landscape with native plants. For brochures on specifics, contact Festival of the Cranes, P. O. Box 743, Socorro, NM 87801 (505) 835-0424.

CHRISTMAS COUNT DATES

Albuquerque - Dec. 15
Hart Schwartz - 266-1810

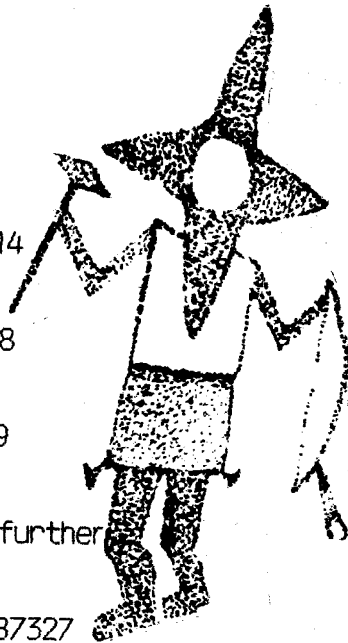
Bosque del Apache - Dec. 14
Steve Cox - 345-2385

Sandia Mountains - Dec. 28
Kay Anderson - 821-1606

Sevilleta - Dec. 14 and 19
Ross Teuber - 265-8962

Zuni - Call or write for further
information

Dave Cleary - 1-782-4917
P. O. Box 1045, Zuni, NM 87327



READERS FORUM

(From the Editor)

Coming up is another great birding tale from one of our members here in Albuquerque. Thanks for the response and I hope all of you birders will keep an eye out for birds showing unusual behavior. If it's funny, unusual, exciting or an actual RARE bird sighting please call me and leave a message or write.

This editions story is from John Durrie. He writes, "Your request in the August-September issue for feedback on unusual bird behavior made me think of an experience a number of years ago when I had a feeding platform outside the second floor window of my University of New Mexico office. In addition to seed, I kept a suet bag on the platform for a while but found that crows would either carry it off or make short work of it when it was secured, so I tied a two-foot cord to the bag and let it hang freely below the platform. This enabled the nuthatches and the chickadees to partake without interruption but seemed to stump the crows. One day, however, I got back from lunch in time to see a crow standing on the platform, using its claws and bill to pull the cord and subsequently the bag, inch by inch, back up to the platform where he soon dispatched the suet. I thought this was pretty enterprising behavior.

AUDUBON AND POPULATION ENVIRONMENT

-Dr. John Tyson

An Albuquerque physician, Dr. John Tyson acted as the CNMAS representative to the Regional Audubon Conference held this September in Texas. Here is Dr. Tysons report.ED.

The golden cheek warblers will not be returning to Austin from Central America in their usual numbers this year; tropical songbirds are also decreasing in numbers. Scientists at the meeting reported a decline of 50% based on comparative studies of coastal radar (compared with figures from the 1960's), eastern screech owl predator diet analysis and nestling bird count data. Central America tropical forest habitats have decreased 50% from the 1960's due to slash and burn practices used to support farming initiatives from otherwise unemployed "small farmers". Population has doubled in Central America during this period due to less disease and under funded health care for women at the local level. Nicaragua has the biggest problems; Costa Rica is a little better off. International family planning funding efforts through the United Nations and International Planned Parenthood have been gutted in the 1980's because of Right to Life grassroots work for local Republican parties and pressure on President's Reagan and Bush policy makers. This despite the fact the U. S. aid and United Nations dollars have not directly supported any voluntary termination of pregnancy programs. The National Audubon Population Environment workers at the meeting urged members to write their Congressmen, Senators, Secretary of State and President to urge restoration of the International Family Planning funding and urging reversal of their Mexico City Policy, which has resulted in cutting aid dollars formerly used for helping family planning programs. More family planning would decrease the need for abortion and help women stay healthier by increasing the time between pregnancies resulting in smaller, healthier families. In Albuquerque, the Population Environment Coalition has programs available. If you want to help out, or have someone speak for your next meeting please phone Kristen Fox at 265-5976 (Population Environment Network Coordinator) or Dr. John Tyson at 255-1740.

CNMAS DIRECTORY

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Tamie Bulow, 8126 Northridge NE, 87109;
298-9116

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0191

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Anne Farley, 614-B Washington, 87110, 266-
8510(h), 884-6789(w)

FIELD SIGHTINGS/RARE BIRD ALERT

Mary Lou Arthur, 728 Monroe NE, 87110;
256-7359

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255-7107

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Carole Rowland, 1618 Gold SE, Apt. A,
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CIRCULATION, BURROWING OWL

Lillian Tenopyr, 727 Stallion NE, Rio
Rancho, 87124; 892-4879

NEW MEXICO AUDUBON COUNCIL DIRECTORY**President**

Steve West, PO Box 2489, Carlsbad, 88220;
885-1153

Vice President

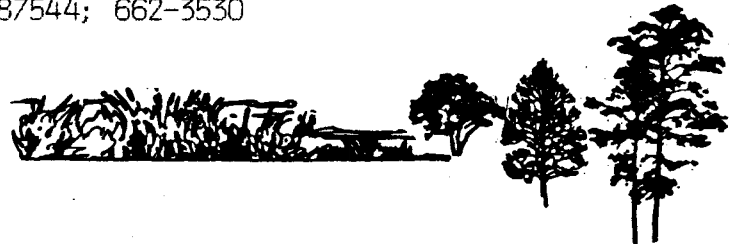
Donna Broudy, 510 Laguna Blvd SW, 87104;
242-7108

Treasurer

Lew Helm, 8213 Cherry Hills NE, 87111; 821-
8586

Secretary

Pat Snider, 2435 C 45th St, Los Alamos,
87544; 662-3530



A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO A NEW CORPORATE SPONSOR; PLAZA THREE ACADEMY HAS GRACIOUSLY AND VERY GENEROUSLY LOANED THE USE OF THEIR COMPUTER AND PRINTER TO OUR EDITOR, CAROLE ROWLAND. WITHOUT THEIR SUPPORT AND WILLINGNESS TO CONTRIBUTE TO CNMAS, THE LIKELIHOOD OF GETTING THIS MOST RECENT PUBLICATION OF THE B.O. OUT WOULD HAVE BEEN INSURMOUNTABLE. SPECIAL THANKS TO BILL HALL, AND OWNERS CHRIS CLEAR AND PAT PRINCE.



NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY**Membership Application**

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society and of my local chapter, Central New Mexico Audubon Society. Please send Audubon magazine and Burrowing Owl newsletter, and my membership card to the address below.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Gift Membership

Please enter a one-year gift membership in the National Audubon Society and send a gift announcement card.

TO:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

FROM:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Gift Card to read, "from" _____

Membership category preferred:

Introductory Membership (first year only)/\$20

Individual/\$30 Sr. Citizen-Individual/\$21

Family/\$38 Sr. Citizen-Family/\$23

Student/\$20

My check for \$_____ is enclosed

Bill me, please.

Local Chapter
Central New Mexico Audubon Society
Q51 7XCH8

Please make checks payable to National Audubon Society and send with this application form for membership or renewal to:

Audubon Society
Chapter Membership Data Center
PO Box 51001
Boulder, CO 80322-1001

Contact Claudia Crawford, 242-7081, to report errors or changes for the Burrowing Owl.

Who to Contact:

The President Honorable Pete V. Domenici
The White House Honorable Jeff Bingaman
Washington, DC 20500 United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Steve Schiff
Honorable Joe Skeen
Honorable Bill Richardson
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

US Fish and Wildlife Service
500 Gold Avenue, SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102
Mr. Michael Spear, Regional Director
Mr. Gary Halverson, Endangered Species Coordinator
Mr. James Lewis, Whooping Crane Coordinator

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish
Villagra Building
Santa Fe, NM 87503
Mr. William Montoya, Director
Dr. Wain Evans, Assistant Director
Dr. John Hubbard, Endangered Species

State Game Commission
Mr. Jamie Koch, Chairman
NM Game & Fish Dept
PO Box 1926
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Mr. J. W. Jones
8800 Susan Drive, SE
Albuquerque, NM 87123

Randall Davey Audubon Center
Mr. David Henderson
PO Box 9314
Santa Fe, NM 87504
[505] 983-4609

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