



Chihuahuan Desert Wildlife Rescue Inc.

Vol. 20, Spring

THE EAGLE

2009

2008 Statistics

BIRDS	
BITTERN, AMERICAN	1
BLACKBIRD, RED-WINGED	1
BUNTING, LAZULI	1
COOT, AMERICAN	3
DOVE, EURA-COLLARED	21
DOVE, INCA	50
DOVE, MOURNING	140
DOVE, ROCK (PIGEON)	278
DOVE, WHITE-WINGED	686
DUCK, MALLARD	22
DUCK, WOOD	12
EAGLE, GOLDEN	2
EGRET, CATTLE	16
EGRET, LITTLE	1
EGRET, SNOWY	7
EXOTIC/DOMESTIC/PET	98
FALCON, PEREGRINE	3
FALCON, PRAIRIE	1
FINCH, BROWN-CAPPED ROSY	1
FINCH, HOUSE	107
FLYCATCHER, YELL-THROATED	4
GADWALL	1
GOLDFINCH, AMERICAN	2
GOOSE, CANADA	1
GOOSE, ROSS'S	1
GRACKLE, BOAT-TAILED	1
GRACKLE, GREAT-TAILED	122



Birds - Continued	
GREBE, EARED	1
GREBE, PIED-BILLED	2
GREBE, WESTERN	1
GROSBEAK, BLACK-HEADED	1
HARRIER, NORTHERN	1
HAWK, COOPER'S	8
HAWK, HARRIS	3
HAWK, RED-TAILED	21
HAWK, SHARP-SHINNED	5
HAWK, SWAINSON'S	8
HERON, BLACK CROWNED-NIGHT	4
HERON, GREAT BLUE	4
HERON, GREEN	1
HUMMINGBIRD, BLACK CHINNED	61
HUMMINGBIRD, RUFIOUS	2
JAY, BLUE	1
KESTREL, AMERICAN	56
KILLDEER	2
KINGBIRD, WESTERN	23
KITE, MISSISSIPPI	1

Birds - Continued	
MEADOWLARK, WESTERN	2
MERGANSER, RED HEADED	1
MERLIN	1
MOCKINGBIRD	50
MOORHEN, COMMON	1
NIGHTHAWK, COMMON	2
NIGHTHAWK, LESSER	8
OSPREY	1
OWL, BARN	26
OWL, BURROWING	31
OWL, FLAMMULATED	2
OWL, GREAT HORNED	20
OWL, LONG EARED	1
OWL, WESTERN SCREECH	3
PHAINOPEPLA	1
PHEASANT	1
PHOEBE, SAY'S	7
POORWILL, COMMON	2



Birds - Continued	
PYRRHULOXIA	3
QUAIL, GAMBEL'S	84
QUAIL, SCALED	4
RAVEN, CHIHUAHUAN	5
RAVEN, COMMON	1
ROADRUNNER	18
ROBIN, AMERICAN	76
SPARROW, HOUSE	203
STARLING, EUROPEAN	19
SWALLOW, BARN	18
SWALLOW, CAVE	12
SWALLOW, CLIFF	7
SWIFT, WHITE-THROATED	1
TANAGER, WEST	2
TEAL, BLUE-WINGED	3
THRASHER, CURVED BILL	15
VULTURE, TURKEY	4
WARBLER, COMMON YELLOWTHROAT	2
WARBLER, ORANGE-CROWNED	1
WARBLER, WILSON'S	4
WARBLER, YELLOW	2
WARBLER, YELLOW-RUMPED	1
WOODPECKER, LADDER-BACKED	2
WOODPECKER, LEWIS'S	1
WREN, HOUSE	6
GRAND TOTAL	2443

Statistics
(continued on page 4)

* CDWR DIRECTORY *

www.whc.net/cdwr

Whom can you call in the El Paso/Las Cruces area when you find an injured/orphaned wild bird/animal?

EL PASO AREA

CDWR CHIEF DISPATCHERS

Helen Bigelow575-882-2910
Debbie Lofton915-772-6011

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Lorraine Snelling592-9642

REHABILITATORS

Central/East

Bill Howe (turtles/snakes/lizards/small exotics).....772-0695
Debbie Lofton (songbirds/raptors/waterbirds/sm. mammals)...772-6011

Northeast -

Charles/Carrol Bella (raptors/reptiles/mammals)751-4711
Deacon Foote (turtles)757-9330

West -

Helen Bigelow (raptors)575-882-2910
Carol Miller (birds, water birds)584-7088
Josie Karam (small mammals/birds/turtles).....920-7867

COOPERATING VETERINARIANS

Central -

El Paso Veterinary Hospital, 4101 Montana.....566-7387
Montana Animal Clinic, 1015 Chelsea.....778-9588
El Paso Animal Emergency Center, 1220 Airway.....545-1148

East -

Johnsen Animal Hospital, 1851 N. Lee Trevino.....592-6200
Desert East Animal Hospital, 11635 Pelicano.....855-4100
Eastwood Animal Clinic, 9509 Montana.....593-0713
Americas Animal Clinic, 630 Americas Ave.858-1971
Animal Clinic, 7184 Alameda778-5355

Northeast -

Skyline Veterinary Hospital, 4424 Titanic755-7647
Northeast Veterinary Clinic, 9405 Dyer755-2231
Fairbanks Animal Hospital, 5320-C Fairbanks757-8387
Harwood Veterinary Clinic, 4404-A Edgar Park.....755-5653

West -

Crossroads Animal Hospital, 4910 Crossroads584-3459
Country Club Animal Clinic, 5470 Doniphan833-0645
Anthony Animal Clinic, 901 Franklin, Anthony TX.....886-4558

TRANSPORTERS/TROUBLESHOOTERS

Northeast -

Joe/Inga Groff.....755-2957
Charlene Ruddock755-5577
Nancy Bain822-9228

West -

Susie Jensen.....877-4036

East -

Linn Anderson859-5413
Alan Phelps.....598-2103

Chaparral, NM -

Jochen Lange.....824-3090

LAS CRUCES AREA

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Gerri Tillett.....575-522-4966

REHABILITATORS

Gerri Tillett (birds)575-522-4966
Tracie Buffington (tortoises).....575-644-9297

SILVER CITY

Margaret Cejka (birds, excluding raptors)575-537-6624

COOPERATING VETERINARIANS

Calista Animal Hospital, 1889 Calle de Ninos575-525-1000
Jornada Vet Clinic, 2399 Saturn Circle.....575-382-1710
East Lohman Vet. Clinic, 1700 E. Lohman575-523-5654

TRANSPORTERS/TROUBLESHOOTERS

David/Sherri Byrd (raptors)575-524-2314
Abe Mendoza575-382-1732
Jack Diven Family575-527-2661

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

WILDLIFE REHABILITATION

Training session for new volunteers

March 29, 2009

Time: 12 noon – to approx. 6 p.m.

Cost: \$20.00

Enrollment limited. Confirmed reservation required to attend. Call or e-mail before March 18.

Class content will include:

- 1) Handling and transporting injured/orphaned wildlife
- 2) Observation
- 3) First Aid
- 4) Splinting fractures
- 5) Feeding techniques, including tube feeding
- 6) Proper release locations and techniques

The class will be presented by an experienced wildlife rehabilitator, permitted by Texas Parks and Wildlife and U.S. Fish and Wildlife. Call Josie Karam: 915-920-7867 or e-mail jwkaram@sbcglobal.net



*To our wonderful cooperating
Veterinarians!
Please support them.*

*To Epson El Paso for
donating the color printing
of our newsletters.*

What Your Pet Can Teach You

By Cesar Millan, The Dog Whisperer. Publication Date: 01/11/2009

I am honored that so many people look to me to help them enjoy more fulfilling relationships with their dogs, but the truth is that the dogs themselves have been my teachers. The most valuable lessons I've received have come from animals. Here are some of the ways dogs have helped me become a better, happier, and more-balanced human being.

Live in the moment.

People often wonder how I get such quick results with the dogs I rehabilitate. The answer is simple: Dogs live in the moment. They don't regret the past or worry about the future. If we can learn to appreciate and focus on what's happening in the here and now, we'll experience a richness of living that other members of the animal kingdom enjoy.

Nurture a balanced life.

I tell my clients to follow this simple rule with their dogs: Offer exercise, discipline, and affection every day. Do the same for yourself. We humans are happier if our routines include physical activity, a sense of structure, and the opportunity to give and receive love on a daily basis.

Trust your instincts.

Animals don't care about words. They recognize that what's really going on in any interaction is beneath the surface. Many of us have lost touch with this all-important instinctual part of our natures. By paying attention to nonverbal cues such as body language and energy, we can learn more about our friends, our loved ones, and ourselves.

Be direct and consistent in your communication.

Many of my clients only intermittently enforce rules, leaving their pets confused about what is and isn't acceptable behavior. Great relationships, no matter the species, begin with clear and consistent communication. This is a lesson we should carry into other areas of our lives—with our family, our friends, and at work. Remember: We teach people how to treat us.

Learn to listen.

Make the time to lend an ear to those you love or those who want to transform their lives. But don't try to fix their problems, and don't take their problems personally, either. A great leader is also a great follower and knows that everybody counts.

Don't hold grudges.

There's a remarkable lack of conflict in dog packs. That's because members resolve the situation when disagreements arise, then move on. Imagine what our world would be like if we dealt with our conflicts before they escalated out of control. Holding onto negative feelings tends to make them multiply and prevent us from moving forward.

Live with purpose.

When dogs are bored, they develop issues ranging from anxiety to aggression. But when given a job and a way to contribute to the pack's well-being, they turn around almost immediately. All animals—including humans—have an inborn need to work for food and water. Ask yourself how you can contribute more to your job, your family, and the world around you. You'll feel much better about yourself if you earn your food and water, too.

Celebrate every day.

For a dog, every morning is Christmas morning. Every walk is the best walk, every meal is the best meal, every game is the best game. We can (continued on back)

*** CDWR ***

El Paso / Las Cruces

Board of Officers

President: Susie Jensen

Vice Pres.: Alan Phelps

Secretary: Inga Groff

Treasurer: Debbie Lofton

Board of Directors

Roger Chacon

Dr. Nancy Crider, DVM

Joe Foster

Abe Mendoza

Patricia Palafox

Newsletter Editor

Susie Jensen

The Purpose of CDWR

Wildlife rehabilitation is the care of injured or orphaned wildlife for return, where possible, to the wild. Successful rehabilitation takes a lot of time, a lot of effort and no small amount of money.

It is challenging work, done by special people. Chihuahua Desert Wildlife Rescue is a nonprofit organization which exists to help the rehabilitators in the El Paso/Las Cruces area. Our purposes are to:

- ◆ provide a volunteer network to assist active rehabilitators in their work
- ◆ support wildlife rehabilitation programs financially
- ◆ provide education and instruction in wildlife rehabilitation
- ◆ educate the public about wildlife conservation problems
- ◆ work for the reduction of pressures on native wildlife from domestic animals and humans

Statistics (continued
from front)

REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS	
DRAGON, BEARDED	1
GECKO	1
IGUANA, GREEN	3
KINGSNAKE, DESERT	1
NIGHTSNAKE, TEXAS	1
RATTLESNAKE, PRAIRIE	2
RATTLESNAKE, BANDED ROCK	1
RATTLESNAKE, BLACK-TAILED	14
RATTLESNAKE, MO-JAVE	2
RATTLESNAKE, WESTERN DIAMOND-BACK	33
SNAKE, BULL	1
SNAKE, CHECKERED GARTER	1
SNAKE, CORN	2
SNAKE, GREAT PLAINS RAT	1
SNAKE, SONORA GOPHER	3
TORTOISE, TEXAS BERLANDIER'S	1
TURTLE, ALLIG SNAP	1
TURTLE, DESERT BOX	101
TURTLE, RED EARED SLIDER	36
TURTLE, SOFT SHELLED	1
TURTLE, WESTERN POND	2
TURTLE, YELLOW MUD	1
GRAND TOTAL	210

MAMMALS	
BAT, BROWN	10
BAT, MEXICAN FREETAILED	1
BEAVER	1
BOBCAT	3
CAT, RINGTAIL	4
DEER, MULE	1
DOMESTIC/EXOTIC/PET	34
FOX, GRAY	1
HARE, JACKRABBIT	13
POSSUM, VIRGINIA	3
RABBIT, COTTONTAIL	82
RACCOON	2
SKUNK, STRIPED	5
SQUIRREL, E FOX	1
SQUIRREL, E GRAY	1
SQUIRREL, MEXICAN GRAY	19
SQUIRREL, ROCK	7
GRAND TOTAL	188

INSECTS	
TARANTULA	3
GRAND TOTAL	3

TOTAL ANIMALS ASSISTED: 2844!!!



How could a creature so humble perform such a miracle?

A Wing and a Prayer

Condensed from "The Bee"
Glenn Wasson



One afternoon a few summers ago, I had been clearing brush in the mountains for several hours and decided to reward myself with lunch. Sitting on a log, I unwrapped a sandwich and surveyed the rugged scenery. Two turbulent streams joined to form a clear, deep pool before roaring down a heavily wooded canyon.

My idyll would have been perfect had it not been for a persistent bee that began buzzing around me. The bee was of the common variety that plagues picnickers. Without thinking I brushed it away.

Not the least intimidated, the bee came back and buzzed me again. Now, losing patience, I swatted the pest to the ground and crunched it into the sand with my boot.

Moments after I was startled by a minor explosion of sand at my feet. My tormenter emerged with its wings buzzing furiously. This time I took no chances. I stood up and ground the insect into the sand with all my 210 pounds.

Once more I sat down to my lunch. After several minutes I became aware of a slight movement near my feet. A broken but still living bee was feebly emerging from the sand.

Beguiled by its survival, I leaned down to survey the damage. The right wing was relatively intact, but the left was crumpled like a piece of paper. Nevertheless, the bee kept exercising the wings slowly up and down, as though assessing the damage. It also began to groom its sand-encrusted thorax and abdomen.

Next the bee turned its attention to the bent left wing, rapidly smoothing the wing by running its legs down the length. After each straightening session, the bee buzzed its wings as if to test the lift. This hopeless cripple thought it could fly!

I got down on my hands and knees to better see these futile attempts. Closer scrutiny confirmed the bee was finished – it *must* be finished. As a veteran pilot, I knew a good deal about wings.

But the bee paid no attention to my superior wisdom. It seems to be gaining strength and increasing the tempo of its repairs. The bent veins that stiffed the gossamer wing were nearly straight now.

At last the bee felt sufficiently confident to attempt a trial flight. With an audible buzz it released its grip on the earth – and flew into a rise in the sand not more than three inches away. The little creature hit so hard that it tumbled. More frantic smoothing and flexing followed.

Again the bee lifted off, this time flying six inches before hitting another mound. Apparently the bee had regained the lift in its wings but had not mastered the directional controls. Like a pilot learning the peculiarities of a strange airplane, it experimented with short hops that ended ignominiously. After each crash the bee worked furiously to correct the newly discovered structural deficiencies.

Once more it took off, this time clearing the sand but heading toward a stump. Narrowly avoiding it, the bee checked its forward speed, circled and then drifted slowly over the mirror like surface of the pool as if to admire its own reflection. As the bee disappeared, I realized that I was still on my knees, and I remained on my knees for some time.

Rare Bird Migrates to US for First Time

By MICHELLE ROBERTS

CHOKO CANYON, Texas (Jan. 10) - Birders with binoculars and cameras are flocking to a remote state park in search of a small yellow-chested bird that apparently crossed the U.S. border for the first time from its high-mountain habitat to the south.

At 5 inches with beige and yellow markings, the pine flycatcher doesn't look like much, but its unprecedented migration from Mexico and Guatemala is exciting birders all over the country. "It's not a thrilling bird visually. It's thrilling because it's a first U.S. record," said Wes Biggs, who flew to Choke Canyon State Park from Orlando, Fla., to catch a glimpse.

The bird, which appears to be alone, was first spotted last month and as recently as Friday. The sightings have been confirmed by photographs and recordings of its chirping. The bird, with a solitary nature, usually stays at high elevations but made its winter home in the low Texas scrubland about 200 miles north of its usual habitat.

For the bird to be added to the official checklists of American birders, it will first have to be accepted by the Texas Bird Records Committee, then the American Birding Association. But expert birders are convinced the bird drawing the masses is a pine flycatcher.

"It's a very unexpected discovery, but this is a bird we don't much know about," said Mark Lockwood, a state parks conservation biologist and secretary of the Texas Bird Records Committee. The committee will review the photos, written descriptions and recordings, but "there is no dispute it's a pine flycatcher," Lockwood said.

Other types of flycatchers have been seen in South Texas, but the pine flycatcher apparently traveled hundreds of miles to get to the hackberry and mesquite trees near a large reservoir.

The bird seems "very much out of whack," said John Arvin, research coordinator at the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory. "It moved over a lot of hostile-looking territory to get there. Why that happened is anybody's guess."

In the last week, word of the pine flycatcher has been spreading through birder web sites and message boards. Steve Matherly, from Houston, showed up in camouflage Thursday night after driving 3 1/2 hours for a glimpse early Friday. "The dollars (spent to get here) per gram of bird is kind of amazing," he chuckled, as he looked around at dozens of other birders scanning the brush and chatting in hushed tones. He belongs to a group that puts out e-mail alerts when a rare bird is sighted and came down as soon as he could. "You never know. I've had my occasions where I've gotten there a day late," said Matherly, who works at a gas pipeline company. "I don't know what I'll see today, but it'll be better than a cubicle."

Dotty Robbins, from Gainesville, Fla., traveled to South Texas to see the pine flycatcher this week even though she came up empty on two previous trips to the area for rare bird sightings. "It's a little bit of a treasure hunt," she said. Robbins concedes the pine flycatcher is "dinky," that its distinguishing features come down to a few feathers combined with a particular call. "He's not spectacular," she said. But "it's unique." *Copyright 2008 The Assoc Press*



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED—WILDLIFE REHABILITATION—LAS CRUCES

Chihuahuan Desert Wildlife Rescue, Las Cruces, is recruiting potential wildlife rehabilitators at a meeting on March 20, 1 - 4 P.M. This will be presented in Las Cruces at the office of New Mexico Dept. of Game & Fish, 2715 Northrise. Space is limited. Call Geri Tillett at 575-522-4966 or 575-382-1753 to reserve a space. A small donation will be welcome to cover the cost of materials.

Chihuahuan Desert Wildlife Rescue, Inc.,
7425 Dale Road, El Paso, Texas 79915

**Yes! I would like to help our area's
wildlife. I am enclosing a donation.**

\$10.00 _____ \$15.00 _____ \$25.00 _____
\$50.00 _____ \$75.00 _____ Amt: _____

Thank you for your support. Your donation is a wonderful opportunity to help orphaned and injured wildlife and to support the efforts of the CDWR volunteer rehabilitators. All donations receive a yearly subscription (3 issues) of the newsletter.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

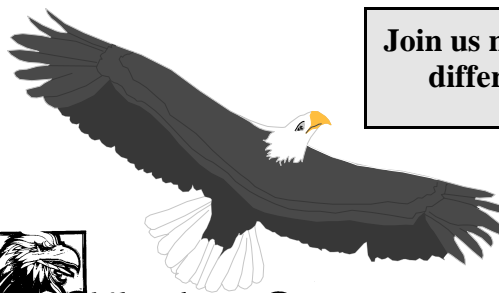
**CDWR is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization
and all donations are tax deductible.**

Thank You



**Chihuahuan Desert
Wildlife Rescue Inc.**

7425 Dale Road
El Paso, TEXAS 79915
www.whc.net/cdwr



**Join us now and help make a
difference for wildlife!**

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
CANUTILLO, TX
PERMIT NO. 001

The Buzzard, The Bat, The Bumblebee

THE BUZZARD: If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6 feet by 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird, in spite of its ability to fly, will be an absolute prisoner. The reason is that a buzzard always begins a flight from the ground with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, as is its habit, it will not even attempt to fly, but will remain a prisoner for life in a small jail with no top.

THE BAT: The ordinary bat that flies around at night, a remarkably nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly and, no doubt, painfully, until it reaches some slight elevation from which it can throw itself into the air. Then, at once, it takes off like a flash.

THE BUMBLEBEE: A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler, will be there until it dies, unless it is taken out. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. It will seek a way where none exists, until it completely destroys itself.

PEOPLE: In many ways, we are like the buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee. We struggle about with all our problems and frustrations, never realizing that all we have to do is look up! Sorrow looks back, Worry looks around, But faith looks up! Live simply, love generously, care deeply, speak kindly and trust in our Creator who loves us.

Teach *(continued from page 3)*

learn so much by observing the way our pets rejoice in life's simplest moments. Take time every day to celebrate the many gifts that are hidden in the ordinary events of your own life.

Cesar Millan is the author of "A Member of the Family" and star of the National Geographic Channel's "Dog Whisperer"

CDWR Needs You!

**We are planning CDWR's
first fundraiser –**



An evening at Sunland Park Casino with dinner, live and silent auctions, and a raffle (tentatively for February 2010).

We're just in the beginning stages and we need volunteers to help in anyway you can!

Please contact Joe Leibich at 575-589-2808