TRIP REPORT, SATURDAY, MAY 1, CHICO BASIN RANCH: John Drummond lead this combined Aiken and AVAS trip and the turnout was so great (approx 35), John asked Brandon Percival and Bill Maynard to help to ensure every participant had the best opportunity for seeing all the birds.

Perhaps because it was so chilly at our arrival, the banding station had practically no activity. Each group set out to search the Ranch's various birding spots. The following list of sightings includes birds seen by both groups. Highlights for the day were a stunning male Summer Tanager and fabulous looks at the Wood Thrush, who allowed wonderful viewing.

Many thanks to John Drummond, Brandon Percival, Bill Maynard and the hospitable folks at RMBO banding station and Chico Basin Ranch for another wonderful day of birding.

El Paso County sightings from all participants (includes the banding station area) -

Scaled Quail
Great Blue Heron
Turkey Vulture
Swainson's Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
American Kestrel
Killdeer
Mountain Plover
Mourning Dove
Great Horned Owl
Burrowing Owl
Black-chinned Hummingbird
Ladder-backed Woodpecker
Northern Flicker (Red-shafted)
Say's Phoebe
Western Kingbird
Loggerhead Shrike
Blue Jay
Common Raven
Chichuahuan Raven
Horned Lark
Cliff Swallow
Red-breasted Nuthatch
House Wren
Townsend's Solitaire
Hermit Thrush
American Robin
Northern Mockingbird
Curve-billed Thrasher
European Starling
Cedar Waxwing
Orange-crowned Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle and Audubon's)
Yellow-breasted Chat
Summer Tanager (Western) - 1 second-year
Green-tailed Towhee
Spotted Towhee
Chipping Sparrow

Vesper Sparrow
Lark Sparrow
Lincoln's Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow (Mountain and Gambel's)
Red-winged Blackbird
Common Grackle
Great-tailed Grackle
Western Meadowlark
Brown-headed Cowbird
Bullock's Oriole
House Finch
House Sparrow

Pueblo County sightings, including HQ Pond, from all participants -

Canada Goose
Gadwall
Mallard
Blue-winged Teal
Cinnamon Teal
Northern Shoveler
Northern Pintail
Green-winged Teal (American)
Greater Scaup
Lesser Scaup
Horned Grebe
Eared Grebe
Great Blue Heron
White-faced Ibis
Swainson's Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Golden Eagle
American Kestrel
American Coot
Killdeer
Spotted Sandpiper
Lesser Yellowlegs
Marbled Godwit
Semipalmated Sandpiper
Western Sandpiper
Least Sandpiper
Long-billed Dowitcher
Wilson's Phalarope
Mourning Dove
Great Horned Owl
Ladder-backed Woodpecker

Northern Flicker (Red-shafted)
Western Kingbird
Loggerhead Shrike
Horned Lark
Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Bank Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow
House Wren
Wood Thrush
American Robin
European Starling
American Pipit
Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle and Audubon's)
Chipping Sparrow
Vesper Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow (Mountain and Gambel's)
Red-winged Blackbird
Western Meadowlark
Yellow-headed Blackbird
Brewer's Blackbird
Common Grackle
Great-tailed Grackle
Brown-headed Cowbird
House Finch
House Sparrow