

## **CBC RARE BIRD DOCUMENTATION FORM**

Submitted as documentation of (check all that apply):

  x   Unusual Species           Unusual Date           Unusual Habitat

***MOST IMPORTANT:*** On back of form give complete details of this observation. Use additional sheets as needed. Include information on the bird's plumage, shape, size, vocalizations, habitat, behavior, etc. Describe exactly what you saw; include photocopies of your original notes and sketches. Name the species that you considered ID contenders; explain how you eliminated them.

**Count Area:** Silver City, NM CBC circle

**Species** - *Sturnella magna*, Eastern Meadowlark    **Age:** adult    **Sex:**    **Number:** Six total, but scattered in among various flocks of Western Meadowlarks

4. **Date(s) of Observation:** Dec. 19, 2015    **Time:** between 9:30 AM and 1:00 PM

5. **Place:** Various locations – near corner of Broken Arrow and Railroad Dr. also Glenn Ranch  
**Nearest Town:** Silver City    **County:** Grant County

6. **Observer**    Karen Beckenbach

**Address**    13 Kilimanjaro Ct, Silver City, NM, 88061

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7. **Observation Details:**

**Other Observers:** Grant Weyburne and Sonnie Sussillo

**Optics Used:** Vortex Viper 10X42

**Distance From Bird:** 50 - 100 ft    **Viewing Conditions:** clear and unobstructed

**Weather, sky cover:** Mostly sunny, calm, about 45 °F

**Photo Taken?** No    **Video?** No    **Sound Recording?** No    **Specimen?** NO

**Past Experience: With this or similar species?** Seen a long Separ Rd south of Silver City, where it is almost the only meadowlark species.

**References or Advice Consulted:** Grant and I conferred on the id of these birds

**Was this report done from notes made during or after observation or from memory?**  
Memory

**Signature**    Karen Beckenbach

**Date**    December 27, 2015

**Description:** (use additional pages as needed)

The birds were seen on the ground, fences and most significantly flying usually with Western Meadowlarks. The birds we id as Eastern had a significant amount of white in the tail, just a small stripe of brown in the center of the tail. The Western had just a pair of white feathers on the outside the tails, with the brown center stripe being predominate.