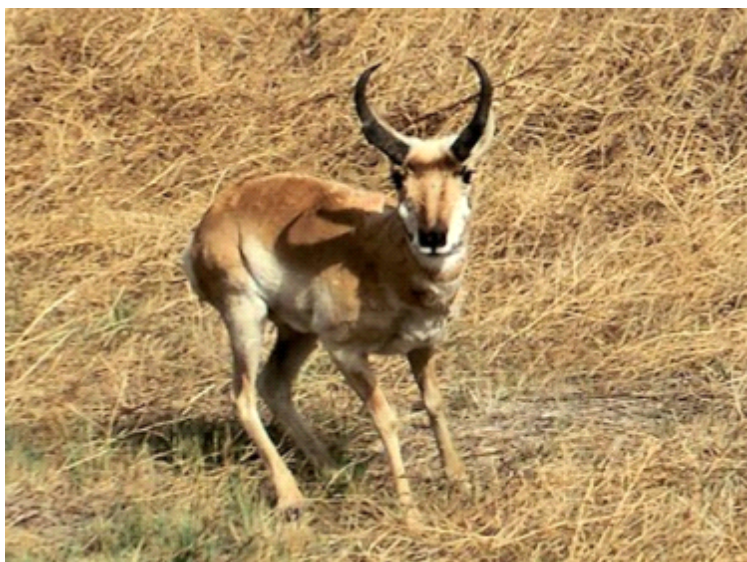


Date: 4/22/2014 8:24:05 PM

Subject: Postcard

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We left far-western Kansas (aka eastern Colorado) and headed to New Mexico. Interstates are fast, but then there are the roads less traveled. Such as US-64.



This is one of the 56 pronghorn we saw along the stretch between Raton and Cimarron. They graze on both sides of the road, both sides of the fences, sometimes among cattle or bison. Some claim that pronghorn can't jump. In fact they prefer to wiggle under fences and will only jump in dire straits.



Just down the road from NRA Wittington Center, some golden eagles had found nice roosts on a couple of phone poles. Vici scared 'em right off when we stopped and they flew away. One circled back to dive at the car and we got a second shot. The other one chased a raven.

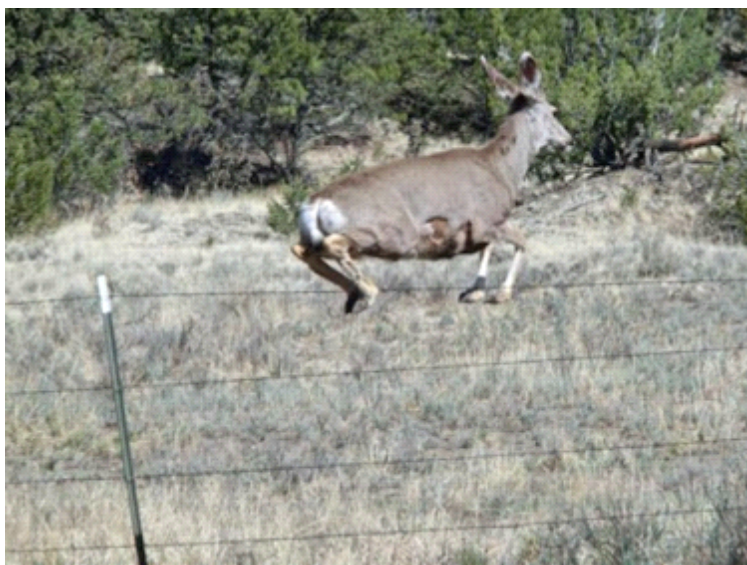


A flock of ring-billed gulls took off from a stock pond they were sharing with white-faced ibises and Canadian geese. They seemed not in a hurry to go anywhere and kind of hovered over us. We left. Vacation tip: Do not become stationary under a hovering flock of *anything*.

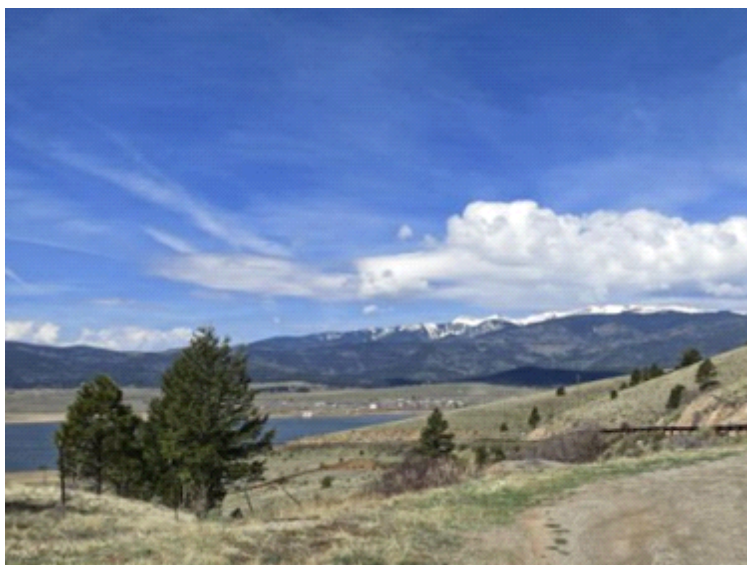
We never see deer along 64. Except today.



There was a kindergarten class of about six of them, or maybe they were dwarves, because they were little bitty things. Deer jump. Readily. With ease and grace.



And only the very smallest of this pack squeezed through the wire.



Through Cimarron, where I bought a belt, (OK, no one wears belts. But I need one when we hike because all the stuff in my pockets pulls my pants down. I already have a number of belts. They are at home.) and on to Eagle Nest...

...home to a zillion prairie dogs.





We only saw about 50. They are probably the scourge of the town but we only have to drive through, not live there. So we like 'em.

The road down to Taos is delightful when there's no one on either bumper. And there weren't.



Tomorrow we will actually do something.

D&S