

## 6. Extreme Form

**Great Road Runner** (*Geococcyx californianus*)

**Attribute** - Heat absorbing skin on its back

## 6.10 Best Energy Saver

**Geographical Distribution** - North America (South to Mexico)

EXTREME BIRDS

Just in case you thought that the road-runner was merely a fictional cartoon character, the stamps on this page will convince you that it is alive and well and living outside Hollywood.

It holds record for being the fastest running bird that can fly, reaching an impressive 24km/h (15m/h) when pressed, although sadly it does not go 'beep-beep' as it does so.

Being a member of cuckoo family, on its back it has a patch of feathered skin, heavily pigmented with 'melanin' a chemical that absorbs sunlight. This sunlight passes into the body while fluffing and energizes the bird for its run.



Picture post card, posted on 19.08.1968 to Nebraska, showing the Roadrunner bird.

### U.S. FANCY CANCELS

The carving process sparked the creativity of clerks across the country. Soon, thousands of designs appeared, ranging from shields to skulls to stars, geometrical shapes, animals, plants, and devils with pitchforks.

Wedge Circle	Blue Leaf	Devil Mask	Maltese Cross



Birds Run was originally called Bridgeville, and under the latter name was laid out in 1848. A post office called *Birds Run* was established in 1851, and remained in operation until 1953. Besides the post office, Birds Run had a country store and two churches.

CORK FANCY CANCEL OF ROADRUNNER BIRD

A Registered cover marked No. 13, posted on Sept 13, 1933, was delivered on Sept 15, 1933 at 7am.