



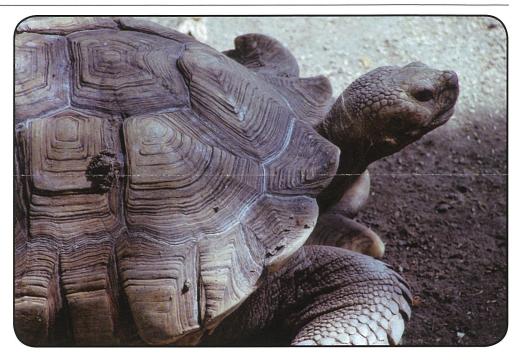
# **Reptiles and Amphibians**

# Cibola National Wildlife Refuge

Cibola National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1964 as mitigation for channelization and dam construction on the Colorado River in the 1930s and 1940s. The refuge is located in the floodplain of the Lower Colorado River and provides important habitat for migratory birds, wintering waterfowl, and resident species. The refuge contains several miles of historic river channels and backwaters that provide key habitats in a changed environment.

#### Refuge Wildlife

About 240 species of birds use the refuge during the year. Cibola NWR provides important riparian and upland nesting areas for a variety of songbirds and is a critical wintering area for Canada geese and greater sandhill



cranes. Several endangered and threatened species use the refuge. Included are the willow flycatcher, brown pelican, peregrine falcon, bald eagle, Yuma clapper rail,

bonytail chub, and razorback sucker. Other resident bird species include Gambel's quail, kestrel, Harris' hawk, roadrunner, phainopepla, and burrowing owl. Mule deer, coyote, and bobcat are common mammals on the refuge. Visitors occasionally spot mountain lion, kit fox, gray fox, and badger on the refuge as well. Many species of reptiles and amphibians, including the western diamondback and sidewinder rattlesnakes also call the refuge home.

Class Amphibia (Amphibians)

# Order Anura (Toads, frogs, and treefrogs)

Family Bufonidae (Toads) Great Plains Toad Bufo cognatus Red-Spotted Toad Bufo punctatus



Top, Desert tortoise. Above, Side-blotched Lizard. / USFWS Photographs

Woodhouse's toad B. woodhousii woodhousii Couch Spadefoot Toad Scaphiopus couchii

Family Ranidae Bullfrog Rana catesbeiana

Class Reptilia (Reptiles)

### Order Crocodylia (Alligators, caimans, lizards, and iguanian lizards)

Lizards

Western Banded Gecko Coleonyx variegatus

Desert Iguana

Dipsosaurus dorsalis

Chuckwalla

Sauromalus obesus

Desert Collared Lizard Crotaphytus insularis

Leopard Lizard

Gambelia wislizenii

Desert Spiny Lizard Sceloporus magister

Side-blotched Lizard

Uta stansburiana

Long-tailed Brush Lizard Urosaurus graciosus

Tree Lizard

Urosaurus omatus

Desert Horned Lizard Phrynosoma platyrhinos

Zebra-tailed Lizard

Callisaurus draconoides

Western Whiptail

Cnemidophorus tigris



Above, Mojave rattlesnake Below, Sidewinder. / USFWS Photographs

#### **Order Squamata (Snakes)**

Family Colubridae (Typical snakes)

Western Blind Snake

Leptotyphlops humilis

Coachwhip

Masticophis flagellum

Western Patch-nosed

Salvadora hexalepis

Glossy Snake

Arizona elegans

Banded Sand Snake

Chilomeniscus cinctus

Gopher Snake

Pituophis melanoleucus

Common Kingsnake

Lampropeltis getulus

Longnosed Snake Rhinocheilus lecontei Checkered Garter

Thamnophis marcianus

Western Groundsnake

Sonora semiannulata

Western Shovel-nosed Chionactis occipitalis

Night Snake

Hypsiglena torquata

Western Diamondback\*\*

Crotalus atrax

Sidewinder\*\*

Crotalus cerastes

Mohave Rattlesnake\*\*

Crotalus scutulatus

\*\*Known to be poisonous

### **Order Testudines (Turtles and** tortoises)

Family Trionychidae (Softshell turtles) Spiny softshell turtles Trionyx spiniferus Desert Tortoise Gopherus agassizii

It is unlawful to harass or disturb any wildlife within the refuge.

January 2025

