



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Birds of *Kofa National Wildlife Refuge*

Welcome to birding at Kofa National Wildlife Refuge

Kofa National Wildlife Refuge encompasses 665,400 acres of Sonoran Desert in southwestern Arizona. Broad valleys, gently rolling foothills, jagged peaks and steep cliffs are found within this rugged refuge. The scattered water holes attract a surprising number of waterbirds and other migrant birds.

Nesting birds include red-tailed hawk, Gambel's quail, great horned owl, elf owl, Costa's hummingbird, ash-throated flycatcher, canyon wren, northern mockingbird, phainopepla, Lucy's warbler, and black-throated sparrow, among others.

To see the greatest variety of birds, walk along one of the ephemeral washes. On a spring or summer morning, the washes are filled with the calls of mourning doves, Gambel's quail, white-winged doves, phainopeplas, verdins, and ash-throated flycatchers. During the spring or fall, check the trees surrounding some of the old dirt stock tanks such as Charco 4 or Cholla Tank for migrants such as western tanager, cordilleran flycatcher, and belted kingfisher. Hike up Palm Canyon and listen for the calls of canyon and rock wrens. Scan the skies for soaring red-tailed hawks, turkey vultures, and the occasional golden eagle.

Please contact the refuge office with any new or unusual bird sightings that you make during your visit.

This list was developed using refuge observations and studies reported since 1940. The 193 species are listed in accordance with seventh addition of the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist of North American Birds, (1998) through the 53rd supplement (July 2012). Forty species have been documented as nesting on the refuge.

Symbols used in this list follow:

- W Winter December – February
- Sp Spring March – May
- S Summer June – August
- F Fall September – November
- * Confirmed nester (39 species).
- Possible or probable breeder (12 species).

Federally Endangered or Threatened Species are listed in *italics*.

- A Abundant
A very numerous species.
- C Common
Likely to be seen or heard in suitable habitats.
- U Uncommon
Present, not certain to be seen.
- O Occasional
Seen only a few times during the season
- R Rare
Unexpected, seen at intervals of 2 to 5 years.
- X Accidental
Fewer than 3 records; vagrants outside their usual range.

Breeding records from *Arizona Breeding Bird Atlas* and refuge records.

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Ducks, Geese and Swans				
___ Gr. White-fronted Goose			X	
___ Canada Goose				X
___ American Wigeon			R	
___ Mallard				X
___ Blue-winged Teal			R	
___ Cinnamon Teal	O	R	R	R
___ Northern Shoveler			O	
___ Northern Pintail	R	R	O	R
___ Green-winged Teal		R	R	R
___ Redhead				X
___ Bufflehead	R			R
___ Red-breasted Merganser				X
___ Ruddy Duck				X
New World Quail				
___ *Gambel's Quail	A	A	A	A
Grebes				
___ Pied-billed Grebe	X			
Pelicans				
___ Brown Pelican		R	R	
Hérons, Bitterns and Allies				
___ Great Blue Heron		R	R	
___ Snowy Egret	R		R	

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
New World Vultures				
___ *Turkey Vulture	C	C	C	U
Hawks, Kites, Eagles and Allies				
___ Northern Harrier	O		O	O
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	O		O	O
___ Cooper's Hawk	O		O	U
___ Northern Goshawk		X		
___ Harris's Hawk	X			R
___ *Red-tailed Hawk	C	C	C	C
___ Ferruginous Hawk				R
___ Rough-legged Hawk				R
___ *Golden Eagle	U	U	U	U
Rails, Gallinules and Coots				
___ American Coot				X
Cranes				
___ Sandhill Crane	O		O	
Plovers				
___ Killdeer	O	O	U	
Stilts and Avocets				
___ Black-necked Stilt				R
___ American Avocet				R
Sandpipers, Phalaropes and Allies				
___ Spotted Sandpiper	R		O	
___ Solitary Sandpiper			R	R
___ Greater Yellowlegs			R	R
___ Willet	X			
___ Long-billed Curlew	X	X		
___ Western Sandpiper		X		
___ Wilson's Phalarope				X
___ Red-necked Phalarope				X
Pigeons and Doves				
___ *White-winged Dove	C	A	O	
___ *Mourning Dove	A	A	C	U
___ Common Ground-Dove		O	O	
Cuckoos and Roadrunners				
___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo		X		
___ *Greater Roadrunner	U	U	U	U
Barn Owls				
___ *Barn Owl	O	O	O	O
Typical Owls				
___ Flammulated Owl	X			
___ *Western Screech-Owl	C	C	C	C
___ *Great Horned Owl	C	C	C	C
___ Northern Pygmy-Owl	X			
___ *Elf Owl	C	C		
___ *Long-eared Owl	O	O	O	O



Black-throated sparrow

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Curve-billed thrasher

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Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Goatsuckers				
___ Lesser Nighthawk	O	O	R	
___ Common Poorwill	C	C	C	R
Swifts				
___ Vaux's Swift	O	O		
___ *White-throated Swift	C	U	O	U
Hummingbirds				
___ Black-ch. Hummingbird	O	O		
___ *Anna's Hummingbird	O	O	O	
___ *Costa's Hummingbird	C	U	U	U
___ Broad-tail. Hummingbird	X			
___ Rufous Hummingbird	O	O		
Kingfishers				
___ Belted Kingfisher	O	X	O	
Woodpeckers				
___ Lewis' Woodpecker	R		R	R
___ Red-headed Woodpecker			X	
___ *Gila Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
___ Red-naped Sapsucker			R	
___ *Ladder-bac. Woodpecker	O	O	O	O
___ Northern Flicker	O	O	O	O
___ *Gilded Flicker	C	C	C	C
Falcons				
___ *American Kestrel	C	C	C	C
___ *Peregrine Falcon	R		R	R
___ *Prairie Falcon	O	O	O	O
Tyrant Flycatchers				
___ Olive-sided Flycatcher	O	O		
___ Western Wood-Pewee	C	C		
___ Willow Flycatcher	U	U		
___ Hammond's Flycatcher	O	O		
___ Gray Flycatcher	O	O		
___ Dusky Flycatcher	U	U		
___ Pacific-slope Flycatcher	U	U		
___ Cordilleran Flycatcher	U	U		
___ Black Phoebe	O	O	O	
___ *Say's Phoebe	C	O	O	C
___ Vermilion Flycatcher	R			
___ *Ash-thr. Flycatcher	A	A	R	R
___ *Brown-cr. Flycatcher	O	O		
___ Western Kingbird	O	O	O	
Shrikes				
___ *Loggerhead Shrike	C	C	C	C
Vireos				
___ Gray Vireo	O		R	O
___ Plumbeous Vireo	O	O		
___ Cassin's Vireo	O	O		
___ Hutton's Vireo			R	
___ Warbling Vireo	C	O	C	
___ Philadelphia Vireo			X	
Crows and Jays				
___ Pinyon Jay			R	
___ Steller's Jay			R	R
___ Western Scrub-Jay	O	R	O	O
___ *Common Raven	U	U	U	U

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Larks				
___ Horned Lark		X	O	R
Swallows				
___ Tree Swallow	O	R	O	
___ Violet-green Swallow	U	R	U	
___ N. Rough-winged Swallow	O	O	O	
___ Cliff Swallow		O	O	R
___ Barn Swallow	O		R	
Verdins				
___ *Verdin	A	A	A	A
Nuthatches				
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch			X	
Wrens				
___ *Rock Wren	C	C	C	C
___ *Canyon Wren	C	C	C	C
___ House Wren	O		O	O
___ Bewick's Wren			O	O
___ *Cactus Wren	C	C	C	C
Gnatcatchers				
___ *Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	U	U	U	U
___ *Black-tail. Gnatcatcher	A	A	A	A
Kinglets				
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U		U	U
Thrushes				
___ Western Bluebird			O	O
___ Mountain Bluebird	O		O	
___ Townsend's Solitaire	O		O	R
___ Swainson's Thrush	U		R	
___ Hermit Thrush	O		U	O
___ American Robin	O		U	O
Mockingbirds and Thrashers				
___ Gray Catbird			X	
___ *Northern Mockingbird	C	C	C	U
___ Sage Thrasher	O		O	O
___ Brown Thrasher			X	
___ *Bendire's Thrasher	U	U		
___ *Curve-billed Thrasher	C	C	C	C
___ *Crissal Thrasher	U	U	U	U
___ *LeConte's Thrasher	O	O	O	O
Starlings				
___ *European Starling	U	O	O	O
Pipits				
___ American Pipit			R	R
Waxwings				
___ Cedar Waxwing	O		O	
Silky-flycatchers				
___ *Phainopepla	C	O	U	C
Wood-Warblers				
___ Northern Waterthrush				X
___ Prothonotary Warbler				X
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	C			C
___ *Lucy's Warbler	O	O		
___ Nashville Warbler	C			U
___ MacGillivray's Warbler	C			U
___ Common Yellowthroat	X			
___ American Redstart	X			X
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler				
___ "Audubon's"	C			C
___ Black-thr. Gray Warbler	U			U
___ Townsend's Warbler	C			O
___ Hermit Warbler	U			U
___ Wilson's Warbler	C			U
___ Painted Redstart				R
___ Yellow-breasted Chat			R	R
Sparrows, Towhees, and Allies				
___ Green-tailed Towhee	U			U
___ Spotted Towhee	O			O
___ *Rufous-cr. Sparrow	U	U		U
___ *Canyon Towhee	C	C		C
___ Abert's Towhee	X			
___ Chipping Sparrow	U	U		O
___ Brewer's Sparrow	C			C

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Sparrows, Towhees, and Allies, continued				
___ *Black-chinned Sparrow	O	O	O	O
___ Vesper Sparrow	U		O	R
___ Lark Sparrow	O	O	O	
___ *Black-throated Sparrow	C	C	U	U
___ Sage Sparrow			U	U
___ Lark Bunting			X	
___ Savannah Sparrow			X	
___ Fox Sparrow	O		O	
___ Lincoln's Sparrow			O	
___ White-throated Sparrow				X
___ White-crowned Sparrow	C		O	C
___ Dark-eyed Junco				
___ "Oregon"	O		C	U
___ "Gray-headed"			O	O
Tanagers, Cardinals, Grosbeaks and Buntings				
___ Hepatic Tanager			X	
___ Western Tanager	C	U	C	
___ Northern Cardinal				O
___ *Pyridoxal	R	R		R
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	X			
___ Black-headed Grosbeak	U	O		U
___ Blue Grosbeak		R		
___ Lazuli Bunting	U			U
Blackbirds				
___ Red-winged Blackbird	R			R
___ Western Meadowlark	O		O	O
___ Yellow-headed Blackbird	O	O	O	
___ Rusty Blackbird			X	X
___ Brewer's Blackbird	O		O	O
___ Great-tailed Grackle	O		O	O
___ Bronzed Cowbird	X	X		
___ *Brown-headed Cowbird	O	O	O	
___ *Hooded Oriole	O	O	R	
___ Bullock's Oriole	U	C	U	
___ *Scott's Oriole	C	C	U	O
Finches and Allies				
___ Purple Finch				R
___ Cassin's Finch				R
___ *House Finch	C	C	C	C
___ Pine Siskin				O
___ Lesser Goldfinch	O	O		U
___ Lawrence's Goldfinch	U			O
___ American Goldfinch	X			
Old World Sparrows				
___ *House Sparrow	O	O	O	O

Please reuse or return to office
Thank you

February 2015



Cactus wren

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