



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Dragonflies and Damselflies

Havasu National Wildlife Refuge

Dragonfly and damselfly at Havasu National Wildlife Refuge

There are twenty-five dragonfly and damselfly species listed at the 37,515 acre Havasu National Wildlife Refuge, one of more than 540 refuges throughout the United States. These National Wildlife Refuges are administered by the Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service. The Fish and Wildlife Service mission is to work with others “to conserve fish and wildlife and their habitat.”

General Information

Havasu National Wildlife Refuge encompasses 37,515 acres adjacent to the Colorado River. Topock Marsh, Topock Gorge, and the Havasu Wilderness constitute the three major portions of the refuge. Dragonflies, an important indicator of water quality, can be found on the refuge, primarily in Topock Marsh and Topock Gorge. Dragonflies can be viewed on the refuge year-round, with hot, sunny days providing some of the best viewing. Sixty-three dragonfly and damsel species have been identified in Mohave County, Arizona. Visitors are encouraged to contact refuge staff with a description or photograph, if an unlisted species is observed.

Family

Scientific Name

Common Name

Clubtails (*Gomphidae*)

Erpetogomphus compositus
White-belted Ringtail

Stylurus plagiatus

Russet-tipped Clubtail

Darners (*Aeschnidae*)

Anax junius

Common Green Darner

Rhionaeschna multicolor

Blue-eyed Darner

Skimmers (*Libellulidae*)

Erythemis collocata

Western Pondhawk

Erythrodiplax basifusca

Plateau Dragonlet



Male blue-ringed dancer sedula

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Libellula luctuosa

Widow Skimmer

L. pulchella

Twelve-spotted Skimmer

L. saturate

Flame Skimmer

Pachydiplax longipennis

Blue Dasher

Pantala flavescens

Wandering Glider

Pantala hymenaea

Spot-winged Glider

Perithemis intensa

Mexican Amberwing

Sympetrum corruptum

Variiegated Meadowhawk

Sympetrum pallipes

Striped Meadowhawk

Sympetrum semicinatum

Band-winged Meadowhawk

Tramea calverti

Striped Saddlebags

Tramea lacerate

Black Saddlebags

Tramea onusta

Red Saddlebags

Pond Damsels–Dancers (*Coenagrionidae*)

Argia moesta

Powdered Dancer

Argia sedula

Blue-ringed Dancer

Enallagma civile

Familiar Bluet

Ischnura barberi

Desert Forktail

Ischnura hastate

Citrine Forktail

Ischnura ramburii

Rambur’s Forktail

This list provided by Kathy Biggs, published author of three dragonfly books, from her research on Dragonfly (Odonata) distribution in San Bernardino County, California; Mohave County, Arizona; and Clark County, Nevada. Dragonfly photographs are used with permission from Dave Welling, professional photographer.

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