

Cardinals

- Black-headed Grosbeak (m) Cs
- Blue Grosbeak Rt
- Lazuli Bunting (m) Us

Blackbirds

- Western Meadowlark Up
- Red-winged Blackbird Up
- Great-tailed Grackle Rp
- Brewer's Blackbird Fp
- Brown-headed Cowbird Fp
- Hooded Oriole (d) Fs
- Bullock's Oriole (m) Us
- Scott's Oriole Fs

Finches

- Purple Finch (m) Up
- Cassin's Finch (m) Fp
- House Finch Cp
- Red Crossbill (m) Up
- Pine Siskin (m) Up
- American Goldfinch Rw
- Lesser Goldfinch Cp
- Lawrence's Goldfinch Us

Non-Native Species (urban areas)

- Rock Pidgeon Up
- European Starling Fp
- House Sparrow Up

In 2007 the Monument was declared an "Important Bird Area" by the American Bird Conservancy.

Best Times to Visit: During the summer the best birding is at the higher elevations along Highways 74 and 243. Summer residents such as the Scott's Oriole, Lazuli Bunting, and Ash-throated Flycatcher nest between 3,000 and 5,000 feet. Various turnouts and trailheads afford access to the interior. The lower portions of the Monument are best visited during spring and winter. Check the visitor center for recent sightings.

For more information or to report a rare or unusual sighting please contact the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument visitor center at (760) 862-9984

Revised 2011 by Kurt Leuschner

Bird List



From open desert to soaring summits, the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument showcases an amazing diversity of animal and plant life rarely matched in the desert southwest. Including over ten distinct biotic communities, the opportunity for birding within the Monument is outstanding. This list follows the taxonomy and nomenclature determined by the American Ornithologists' Union and will aid visitors while exploring our amazing landscapes and biological diversity.

First letter reflects *Abundance*.

- C common
- F fairly common
- U uncommon
- R rare

The second letter shows *Season*.

- p permanent resident
- s summer resident
- w winter resident
- t transient (spring or fall)

The letters in parenthesis specify the area of the Monument that the species is usually restricted to. If no letter is present, the bird may occur anywhere within the Monument.

Note: In winter, some mountain species may visit the lower altitudes.

- (m) primarily found above 4,000 ft.
- (d) primarily found below 4,000 ft.
- (*) Federally listed as Threatened or Endangered

New World Quail

- Gambel's Quail (d) Cp
- California Quail (m) Fp
- Mountain Quail (m) Up

New World Vultures

- Turkey Vulture Ut

Hawks, Kites, and Eagles

- Osprey Rt
- White-tailed Kite Rt
- Northern Harrier Ut
- Golden Eagle Up
- Bald Eagle Rt
- Sharp-shinned Hawk Uw
- Cooper's Hawk Fp
- Northern Goshawk Rp
- Zone-tailed Hawk Rs
- Red-shouldered Hawk Up
- Red-tailed Hawk Cp

Falcons

- American Kestrel Cp
- Prairie Falcon Up
- Peregrine Falcon Rp

Pigeons and Doves

- Band-tailed Pigeon Fp
- Mourning Dove Cp
- White-winged Dove (d) Fs
- Common Ground-Dove (d) Up

Roadrunners

- Greater Roadrunner Fp

Owls

- Barn Owl Up
- Long-eared Owl Rp
- Great Horned Owl Fp
- Spotted Owl (m) Rp
- Western Screech-Owl Up
- Northern Pygmy-Owl (m) Rp
- Northern Saw-whet Owl Rp

Nighthawks and Nightjars

- Lesser Nighthawk (d) Fs
- Common Poorwill Fs

Swifts

- Black Swift Rs
- Vaux's Swift Ut
- White-throated Swift Cp

Hummingbirds

- Black-chinned Hummingbird (d) Us
- Costa's Hummingbird Cp
- Anna's Hummingbird Cp
- Calliope Hummingbird (m) Rs
- Rufous Hummingbird Ft
- Allen's Hummingbird Rt

Woodpeckers

- Acorn Woodpecker (m) Cp
- White-headed Woodpecker (m) Fp
- Lewis' Woodpecker Uw
- Northern Flicker Cp
- Williamson's Sapsucker (m) Up
- Red-breasted Sapsucker Up
- Red-naped Sapsucker Uw
- Ladder-backed Woodpecker Cp
- Nuttall's Woodpecker Up
- Hairy Woodpecker (m) Fp

Flycatchers

- Olive-sided Flycatcher (m) Fs
- Western Wood-Pewee (m) Fs
- Southwest Willow Flycatcher* Ut
- Hammond's Flycatcher Ut
- Gray Flycatcher Ut
- Dusky Flycatcher (m) Us
- Pacific-slope Flycatcher (m) Us
- Black Phoebe Fp
- Say's Phoebe Fp
- Vermillion Flycatcher (d) Rp
- Ash-throated Flycatcher Cs
- Western Kingbird Cs

Shrikes

- Loggerhead Shrike Up

Vireos

- Least Bell's Vireo* (d) Us
- Hutton's Vireo (m) Up
- Gray Vireo (m) Us
- Cassin's Vireo (m) Rs,Ft
- Warbling Vireo (m) Rs,Ft

Crows and Jays

- Stellar's Jay (m) Cp
- Clark's Nutcracker (m) Up
- Western Scrub-Jay (m) Cp
- Pinyon Jay (m) Up
- American Crow Up
- Common Raven Cp

Larks

- Horned Lark Rt

Swallows

- Tree Swallow Ut
- Violet-green Swallow (m) Cs
- Purple Martin (m) Rs
- Cliff Swallow Fs
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow Ut
- Barn Swallow Ft

Babblers

- Wrentit (m) Fp

Chickadees and Titmice

- Oak Titmouse (m) Fp
- Mountain Chickadee (m) Cp

Verdins

- Verdin (d) Cp

Bushtits

- Bushtit Fp

Creepers

- Brown Creeper (m) Fp

Nuthatches

- White-breasted Nuthatch (m) Fp
- Red-breasted Nuthatch (m) Up
- Pygmy Nuthatch (m) Cp

Wrens

- House Wren (m) Fs
- Bewick's Wren Fp
- Cactus Wren (d) Cp
- Rock Wren Fp
- Canyon Wren Up

Dippers

- American Dipper Rp

Kinglets

- Golden-crowned Kinglet Up
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet Cw,Rs

Gnatcatchers

- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (m) Fp
- Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (d) Cp

Thrushes

- Western Bluebird (m) Cp
- Mountain Bluebird Rt
- Townsend's solitaire (m) Up
- Swainson's thrush (d) Ut
- Hermit Thrush (m) Fw,Rs
- American Robin (m) Fp

Mockingbirds and Thrashers

- Northern Mockingbird Cp
- California Thrasher (m) Fp

Pipits

- American Pipit Rw

Waxwings

- Cedar Waxwing Fw

Silky Flycatchers

- Phainopepla (d) Fw

Wood-Warblers

- Orange-crowned Warbler (m) Fw,Rs
- Nashville Warbler Ut
- Yellow-rumped Warbler (m) Cp
- Black-throated Gray Warbler (m) Fs
- Townsend's Warbler Ut
- Hermit Warbler Ut
- Yellow Warbler Ut,Rs
- MacGillivray's Warbler Ut
- Wilson's Warbler Ct

Tanagers

- Summer Tanager (d) Rt
- Western Tanager (m) Fs

Emberizids

- Green-tailed Towhee (m) Fs
- California Towhee Cp
- Spotted Towhee Fp
- Rufous-crowned Sparrow Rp
- Chipping Sparrow Fp
- Brewer's Sparrow Fw,Rs
- Black-chinned Sparrow (m) Fs
- Black-throated Sparrow (d) Cp
- Sage Sparrow Uw
- Fox Sparrow (m) Fs
- Savannah Sparrow (m) Uw,Rs
- Lincoln's Sparrow (m) Uw,Rs
- White-crowned Sparrow Cw
- Dark-eyed Junco Cs,Fw