

# Frequent Flyers of the Presidio

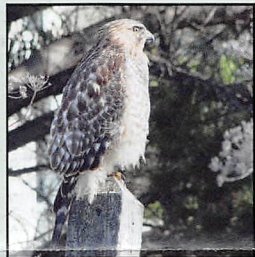
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Presidio of San Francisco



Presidio Trust



The Presidio of San Francisco has one of the greatest diversity of birds of any urban park in the world, with over 200 species identified here. A number of factors create this diversity, including the exceptionally wide variety of habitats found here—from open water and protected bay, to rocky and sandy shoreline, to tidal marshes, coastal scrub, grasslands, mixed woodlands and ornamental areas. Because the Presidio lies on a major bird migratory route, the Pacific flyway, it also hosts a variety of transient birds that stop over to rest and feed on their journey to and from places as far away as South America and the Canadian arctic. This combination of factors makes the Presidio a birder's paradise with many different species to see throughout the year.



**Red-shouldered Hawk (juvenile)**  
Woodland & scrub  
Common year-round



**Allen's Hummingbird**  
Woodland & scrub  
Common spring & summer



**Chestnut-backed Chickadee**  
Woodland  
Common year-round



**Black Phoebe**  
All terrestrial habitats  
Common year-round



**Hermit Thrush**  
Oak & scrub  
Fairly common fall–spring



**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**  
Woodland  
Common fall & winter



**Townsend's Warbler**  
Oak & Willow  
Fairly common fall–spring



**California Towhee**  
Oak & scrub  
Fairly common year-round



**American Goldfinch**  
Willow, scrub, grassland  
Fairly common year-round

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## Habitats

- Native Oak & Willow
- Dune, Scrub & Grasslands
- Planted Forest & Ornamental
- Water and Wetland
- Trail

## Changing Habitats

Bird diversity at the Presidio has shifted over the years as its habitats have changed. When Europeans arrived in the 1770s, the area was mostly dune scrub with few trees. The army planted the Presidio's forest in the 1890s and a much greater variety of forest dwelling birds moved in. During the same period, the marshes along the bay were filled throughout the Bay Area, leading to a decline in shorebirds and waterfowl. The recreated tidal lagoon and marsh at Crissy Field has attracted those birds back to the Presidio. Egrets, Herons, Kingfishers and other water birds are commonplace once again.





**Barn Swallow**

All terrestrial habitats  
Common spring-fall



**Scrub Jay**

Scrub and willow  
Common year-round



**Northern Mockingbird**

Scrub  
Common year-round



**White-crowned Sparrow**

Oak, willow, scrub, grassland  
Common year-round



**Song Sparrow**

Low dense scrub and willows  
Fairly common year-round



**House Finch**

All terrestrial habitats  
Common year-round



**Red-tailed Hawk**

All terrestrial habitats  
Common year-round



**Anna's Hummingbird**

All terrestrial habitats  
Common year-round



**Dark-eyed Junco**

Willow, oak, scrub, grasslands  
Common year-round



**Common Raven**

All terrestrial habitats  
Common year-round



**Hooded Oriole**

Willow, palms, landscaped areas  
Fairly common spring-summer



**American Robin**

All terrestrial habitats  
Common year-round



**Western Grebe**

Open salt water  
Common fall-spring



**Double-crested Cormorant**

Salt & fresh water  
Fairly common year-round



**Surf Scoter**

Open salt water  
Common fall-spring



**Mallard**

Tidal & fresh water  
Common year-round



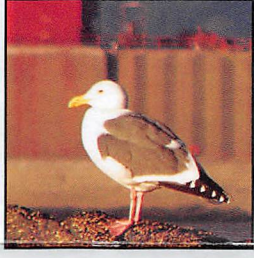
**Greater Scaup**

Tidal & fresh water  
Fairly common fall-winter



**Caspian Tern**

Salt, tidal & fresh water  
Fairly common spring-fall



**Western Gull**

Salt & fresh water  
Common year-round



**Least Sandpiper**

Salt & tidal water  
Fairly common fall-spring



**Willet**

Salt & tidal water  
Common fall-spring



**Killdeer**

Fresh water, grasslands  
Fairly common year-round



**Great Blue Heron**

Tidal & fresh water  
Fairly common year-round



**Great Egret**

Tidal & fresh water  
Fairly common year-round



**Snowy Egret**

Tidal & fresh water  
Fairly common spring-fall



**Black-crowned Night Heron (juvenile)**

Tidal & fresh water  
Fairly common year-round



**Brown Pelican**

Open salt water  
Common spring-fall