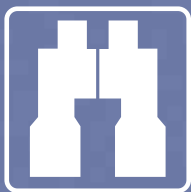


Ash Meadows

*National Wildlife
Refuge*

Birds



*As the largest oasis
in the Mojave Desert,
Ash Meadows is a
rare desert haven.
Ash trees gleam like
a beacon to migrant
songbirds in the
spring, while mesquite
bosque shelter breeding
warblers against
summer's deadly heat.*

*During migration,
hosts of waterfowl
and shorebirds flock
to the open waters of
alkali marshes and
springs. Rock wrens
sing from their rocky
hillside perches, while
quail and roadrunners
traverse the salt-laden
landscape below.*



Introduction

Welcome

Ash Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1984, is the largest oasis in the Mojave Desert, supporting an incredible diversity of birds and other wildlife year-round. Located between two major flyways, over 23,000 acres of alkali seeps, springs, and other unique habitats make Ash Meadows a stopping point for migratory birds—to the delight of novice and expert bird watchers alike.

Enjoying the Refuge's Birds

Birds are most visible during the spring and fall migration (March through May, September through November), when regular migrants, including many exciting rarities, visit the wetlands. Sufficient migration overlap into the summer months assures that even the hottest days can yield interesting birds as well. Walk around the springs and marshes in the winter to see large numbers and variety of waterfowl. Throughout the year, the Point of Rocks area is the best place to see roadrunners, Gambel's quail, Phainopepla, and other typical desert residents. For more detailed information on birding at Ash Meadows, contact the refuge office at 775/372 5435.

Using this Bird Checklist

This list includes over 275 species of birds that have been seen at Ash Meadows to date. Regular bird monitoring is necessary to keep this list current, particularly as many habitats are in the process of restoration. If you believe that you have new information to add to this list, or would like to assist further with our bird monitoring efforts, please contact the refuge office at 775/372 5435.

Bird List Key

Season Symbols

Sp - Spring, March through May
S - Summer, June through August
F - Fall, September through November
W - Winter, December through February

Abundance Symbols

a - abundant, likely to be seen in large numbers
c - common, seen on the majority of visits to proper habitat
u - uncommon, seen on less than half of visits to proper habitat
r - rare, rarely seen
ca - casual, accidental to very rare occurrence
- indicates a Threatened/Endangered Species
> - introduced species/subspecies
***** - bird species known to nest locally
+ - bird species thought to nest locally

General Habitat Symbols

1 - marsh/reservoirs
2 - springs and streams
3 - mesquite/ash riparian
4 - mesquite/saltbush
5 - creosote bush
6 - saltbush
7 - widespread
8 - rocky slope
9 - sand dune
10 - agricultural fields
11 - caves
12 - buildings

Credits

The hard work of many dedicated individuals made this project possible. Deserving of special recognition are Carl Lundblad, Cristi Baldino, Darrick Weissenfluh, Sharon McKelvey, Cyndi Souza, Jim & Marian Cressman, Craig Fosdick, Paul Lehman, Martin Meyers, Greg Scyphers, Beth & David St. George, Carolyn Titus, Paul van Els, Ken Voget, Mark James, and Alyson Mack.

Birds of Ash Meadows NWR

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Waterfowl					
Greater White-fronted Goose	1	r		u	
Snow Goose	1	u		u	u
Ross's Goose	1	u		u	u
Brant	1	ca			
Cackling Goose	1				ca
Canada Goose	1	u		u	u
Trumpeter Swan	1				ca
Tundra Swan	1			r	r
Wood Duck	1,2	r		r	
Gadwall*	1	u	r	u	u
Eurasian Wigeon	1	ca			
American Wigeon	1	c	r	c	u
Mallard*	1,2	c	u	c	u
Blue-winged Teal	1	r	r	r	
Cinnamon Teal*	1,2	c	u	c	r
Northern Shoveler	1	u	u	u	u
Northern Pintail*	1	u	u	c	u
Green-winged Teal	1	c	u	c	c
Canvasback	1	u	r	c	c
Redhead*	1	c	c	c	c
Ring-necked Duck	1	u	r	u	u
Greater Scaup	1	r		r	r
Lesser Scaup	1	u		u	u
White-winged Scoter	1			ca	
Long-tailed Duck	1				ca
Bufflehead	1	u		u	u
Common Goldeneye	1	r		r	u
Barrow's Goldeneye	1				ca
Hooded Merganser	1,2	r		r	r
Common Merganser	1	u		u	u



Gambel's Quail
© Aaron Ambos

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Red-breasted Merganser	1	u		r	r
Ruddy Duck*	1	c	c	c	c
Pheasants, Grouse & Partridges					
Chukar*	3,4,8	r	r	u	r
New World Quail					
Gambel's Quail*	3,4,6	c	c	c	c
Loons					
Pacific Loon	1			ca	ca
Common Loon	1	r	r	u	r
Yellow-billed Loon	1				ca
Grebes					
Pied-billed Grebe*	1,2	c	c	c	c
Horned Grebe	1			r	r
Eared Grebe*	1	c	c	c	u
Western Grebe	1	u	r	u	r
Clark's Grebe	1	r	r	r	r
Pelicans					
American White Pelican	1	r	r	u	
Brown Pelican	1			ca	
Cormorants					
Double-crested Cormorant	1	u	r	u	r
Bitterns & Herons					
American Bittern*	1,2	c	c	c	c
Least Bittern+	1,2	u	u	u	r
Great Blue Heron	1,2	c	u	c	u
Great Egret	1	u	u	u	r
Snowy Egret	1	u	u	u	
Cattle Egret	1	r	r	r	
Green Heron*	1,2	u	r	u	
Black-crowned Night-Heron*	1,2	u	u	u	r
Ibis					
White-faced Ibis	1,10	c	u	c	r
New World Vultures					
Turkey Vulture	7	u	u	u	
Osprey					
Osprey	1	u		r	

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Kites, Hawks & Eagles					
White-tailed Kite	7	r	r	r	r
Bald Eagle	1	r			r
Northern Harrier*	7	c	u	c	c
Sharp-shinned Hawk*	3,4	u	r	u	u
Cooper's Hawk*	3,4	u	u	u	u
Red-shouldered Hawk	7	r		r	r
Swainon's Hawk	7	r	r	r	
Red-tailed Hawk	7	u	r	u	u
Ferruginous Hawk	7	r		r	r
Rough-legged Hawk	7			ca	
Golden Eagle*	7	u	r	u	u
Falcons					
American Kestrel*	7	u	u	u	u
Merlin	7	r		r	r
Peregrine Falcon	1	u	r	u	r
Prairie Falcon+	7	u	r	u	u
Rails					
Black Rail	1	ca		ca	
Yuma Clapper Rail*#	1	r	r	r	
Virginia Rail*	1,2	c	c	c	c
Sora	1	c	u	u	r
Common Moorhen	1	r	r	r	
American Coot*	1	c	c	c	c
Cranes					
Sandhill Crane	1,10			r	ca
Plovers					
Black-bellied Plover	1	r	r	r	
Snowy Plover*	1	u	u	u	
Semipalmated Plover	1	u	r	u	
Killdeer*	1	c	u	c	u
Stilts & Avocets					
Black-necked Stilt*	1	u	u	u	
American Avocet*	1	u	r	u	
Sandpipers, Phalaropes & Allies					
Spotted Sandpiper	1	c	u	u	
Solitary Sandpiper	1,2	u	r	u	
Greater Yellowlegs	1	u	r	u	r

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Willet	1	u	r	r	
Lesser Yellowlegs	1	r	r	u	
Whimbrel	1	r			
Long-billed Curlew	1	r	r	r	
Marbled Godwit	1	r	u	r	
Ruddy Turnstone	1	ca			
Sanderling	1	r	r	r	
Semipalmated Sandpiper	1		r	r	
Western Sandpiper	1	c	u	c	
Least Sandpiper	1	c	u	c	r
Baird's Sandpiper	1			r	
Pectoral Sandpiper	1			r	
Dunlin	1	r		r	r
Ruff	1	ca			
Short-billed Dowitcher	1			r	
Long-billed Dowitcher	1	c	c	u	r
Wilson's Snipe	1,2	r		u	r
Wilson's Phalarope	1	c	u	u	
Red-necked Phalarope	1	c	u	c	
Red Phalarope	1			ca	
Gulls & Terns					
Sabine's Gull	1			r	
Bonaparte's Gull	1	u	r	r	
Franklin's Gull	1	u	r	r	ca
Heermann's Gull	1	ca			
Ring-billed Gull	1	u	r	u	u
California Gull	1	c	r	u	c
Herring Gull	1			r	r
Lesser Black-backed Gull	1	ca			
Least Tern	1	ca	ca		
Caspian Tern	1	r	r	r	

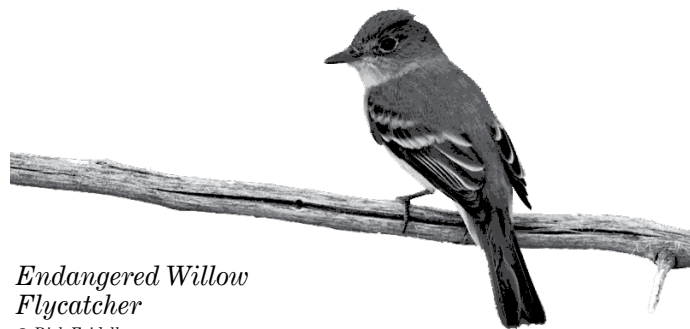
Gulls & Terns, continued on next page



*Endangered Yuma
Clapper Rail*
USFWS

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Gulls & Terns, continued					
Black Tern	1	r	u	c	
Common Tern	1			r	
Arctic Tern	1			ca	
Forster's Tern	1	u	r	r	
Jaegers					
Long-tailed jaeger	1		ca	ca	
Doves					
Rock Dove	7	r	r	r	r
Eurasian Collared-dove*	3,4,12	u	u	u	u
White-winged Dove	3,4	r	r		
Mourning Dove*	3,4,7	u	c	c	r
Inca Dove	3,4,12			ca	
Cuckoos					
Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	2,3	r	r		
Greater Roadrunner*	7	u	u	u	u
Barn Owls					
Barn Owl*	7,11	u	u	u	u
Owls					
Western Screech-owl	3,4	r			r
Great Horned Owl*	7	u	u	u	u
Burrowing Owl*	5,6	r	r	r	
Long-eared Owl+	3,4	r	r	r	u
Short-eared Owl	1,3,9,10	r			
Goatsuckers					
Lesser Nighthawk*	7	c	c	u	
Common Nighthawk	7		r	r	
Common Poorwill+	5,6	u	u	u	ca
Swifts					
Vaux's Swift	7			r	
White-throated Swift*	7,8	u	u	u	r
Hummingbirds					
Black-chinned Hummingbird	3	r		r	
Anna's Hummingbird	3	u	r	r	
Costa's Hummingbird*	3	u	r	r	
Calliope Hummingbird	3			ca	
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	3	r		r	

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Rufous Hummingbird	3	r		u	
Kingfishers					
Belted Kingfisher	1,2	u	r	u	
Woodpeckers					
Lewis's Woodpecker	3	r		r	
Red-naped Sapsucker	3,4	r		u	r
Red-breasted Sapsucker	3,4			r	r
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3,4			ca	
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	3,4	r		r	
"Red-shafted" Northern Flicker	3,4	u		c	u
"Yellow-shafted" Northern Flicker	3,4			ca	
Flycatchers					
Olive-sided Flycatcher	3,4	u		u	
Western Wood-Pewee	3,4	u	r	u	
Willow Flycatcher*#	3,4	u	r	u	
Hammond's Flycatcher	3,4	u		r	
Gray Flycatcher	3,4	u	r	u	ca
Dusky Flycatcher	3,4	u	r	u	
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	3,4	u	r	u	
Black Phoebe*	1,2,3	u	r	u	r
Eastern Phoebe	2,3	ca			
Say's Phoebe*	4,8	u	u	u	u
Vermilion Flycatcher*	2,3	r	r	r	ca
Ash-throated Flycatcher*	3,4	u	u	u	
Brown-crested Flycatcher*	3,4	u	u	u	
Cassin's Kingbird	3,4	r		r	
Western Kingbird*	3,4	c	c	u	
Eastern Kingbird	3,4	ca			



*Endangered Willow
Flycatcher*

© Rick Fridell

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Shrikes					
Loggerhead Shrike*	4,5,6	c	c	c	c
Northern Shrike	4,5,6				ca
Vireos					
Bell's Vireo*	3,4	r	r	r	
Plumbeous Vireo	2,3,4	u		r	
Cassin's Vireo	2,3,4	u		u	
Warbling Vireo	3,4	c		c	
Red-eyed Vireo	2,3,4	ca			
Jays, Magpies & Crows					
Western Scrub Jay	3,4	r		r	r
Pinyon Jay	3,4			ca	
Black-billed Magpie	3,4			ca	
Common Raven*	7	c	c	c	c
Larks					
Horned Lark*	5,6,8	c	c	c	c
Swallows					
Purple Martin	7	ca			
Tree Swallow	7	c	r	u	ca
Violet-green Swallow	7	u	u	u	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	7	c	u	u	
Bank Swallow	7	u	r	u	
Cliff Swallow	7	u	u	u	
Barn Swallow	7	u	u	u	
Chickadees & Titmice					
Mountain Chickadee					ca
Verdin					
Verdin*	3,4	c	c	c	c



Crissal Thrasher
© Martin Meyer

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Bushtit					
Bushtit	3,4	r		r	u
Nuthatches					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3,4		r	r	
Wrens					
Rock Wren*	8	u	u	u	u
Bewick's Wren*	3,4	c	c	c	c
House Wren	3,4	u	r	u	ca
Pacific Wren	3			ca	
Marsh Wren*	1,2	c	u	c	c
Kinglets					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3	r		r	r
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	3,4	u		u	u
Gnatcatchers					
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	3,4	c	u	u	
Black-tailed Gnatcatcher*	3,4,5	u	u	u	u
Thrushes					
Western Bluebird	2,3,4	u		u	u
Mountain Bluebird	7	u		r	u
Townsend's Solitaire	3,4	r		r	r
Swainson's Thrush	2,3	u	r	r	
Hermit Thrush	3	u		u	r
American Robin	3,4	u		u	u
Thrashers & Mockingbirds					
Northern Mockingbird*	3,4	c	c	u	u
Sage Thrasher	4,5,6	u		u	r
Brown Thrasher	3,4			ca	
Crissal Thrasher*	3,4	u	u	u	u
Le Conte's Thrasher*	5,6	r	r	r	r
Starlings					
European Starling	7	u	u	u	u
Pipits					
American Pipit	1	u		u	c
Waxwings					
Cedar Waxwing	3	r		r	r

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Silky-flycatchers					
Phainopepla*	3,4	u	r	u	u
New World Warblers					
Tennessee Warbler	3,4			ca	
Orange-crowned Warbler	3,4	u		c	r
Nashville Warbler	3,4	u		u	
Virginia's Warbler	3,4	r		r	
Lucy's Warbler*	3,4	c	c	r	
Northern Parula	3,4			ca	
Yellow Warbler*	3,4	c	c	c	
Magnolia Warbler	3,4		ca		
Black-throated Blue Warbler	3,4			ca	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	3,4	c		c	u
Black-throated Gray Warbler	3,4	u		u	
Townsend's Warbler	3,4	r		u	
Hermit Warbler	3,4			r	
Blackpoll Warbler	3,4			ca	
American Redstart	3,4	r		r	
Ovenbird	3,4	ca			
Northern Waterthrush	3,4			r	
Kentucky Warbler	3,4	ca			
MacGillivray's Warbler	3	u		c	
Common Yellowthroat*	1,2	c	c	u	
Hooded Warbler	3,4	ca			
Wilson's Warbler	3,4	c		c	
Yellow-breasted Chat*	3,4	c	c	u	
New World Sparrows					
Spotted Towhee	3,4	u		u	r
Green-tailed Towhee	3,4	u		r	
American Tree Sparrow	4				ca
Chipping Sparrow	3,4	u		u	
Brewer's Sparrow+	4,6	u	r	u	
Lark Sparrow	4	u	r	u	
Black-throated Sparrow*	5,6	c	c	u	r
Sage Sparrow*	6	u	r	u	c
Savannah Sparrow*	1,2	u	u	u	r
Song Sparrow*	1,2,3	u	u	u	c
Lincoln's Sparrow	3,4	u		u	r
Harris's Sparrow	3,4			r	r
White-crowned Sparrow	3,4	u		c	c

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Golden-crowned Sparrow	3,4	r		r	r
White-throated Sparrow	3,4			r	r
Dark-eyed Junco	3,4	u		u	u
Cardinals & Allies					
Summer Tanager+	2,3,4	r	r	r	
Western Tanager	3	u	u	u	
Black-headed Grosbeak	3,4	u		u	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	3,4	ca			
Blue Grosbeak*	3,4	c	c	u	
Lazuli Bunting+	3	u	r	u	
Indigo Bunting+	3,4	r	u	r	
Icterids					
Bobolink	2,3	ca			
Red-winged Blackbird	1,2	c	u	c	u
Western Meadowlark*	1,4,10	u	u	u	u
Yellow-headed Blackbird*	1	c	c	u	
Brewer's Blackbird	1	u	r	u	u
Great-tailed Grackle*	1	u	u	u	r
Brown-headed Cowbird*	7	u	c	u	u
Bronzed Cowbird	7	ca			
Hooded Oriole*	3,4	r	r	r	
Bullock's Oriole*	3,4	c	u	u	
Finches					
House Finch	3,4	u	r	u	u
Pine Siskin	7	r		r	r
Lesser Goldfinch	7	u	r	u	u
American Goldfinch	7	u		u	r
Old World Sparrows					
House Sparrow	7	r	r	r	r



Phainopepla

© Aaron Ambos

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<http://desertcomplex.fws.gov/ashmeadows>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
<http://www.fws.gov>

Refuge Information
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Cover photo loggerhead shrike

© Zach Smith

Inside cover photo great blue heron

Cyndi Souza/USFWS.

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