

**Imperial**  
*National Wildlife*  
*Refuge*

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*Birds*



## Birding at Imperial National Wildlife Refuge

Imperial National Wildlife Refuge consists of approximately 25,768 acres along the lower Colorado River. Spring and Fall offer the greatest variety of birds and the best birding opportunities. Also, the refuge is important as a wintering area for Canada geese and many species of ducks. Maps and regulations are available at the Visitor Center.

## Occurrence

This list contains 275 species which have been observed on the refuge. Species are listed in accordance with the 7<sup>th</sup> edition (1998) A.O. U. checklist and the 46<sup>th</sup> Supplement to the A.O.U. Checklist (July 2008).

Symbols used in this list are defined as follows:

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

## Abundance

- A Abundant  
 A common species that is very numerous.
- C Common  
 Certain to be seen in suitable habitats.
- U Uncommon  
 Present, not certain to be seen.
- O Occasional  
 Seen few times during the season
- R Rare  
 Unusual, seen every 2 to 5 years.
- X Accidental  
 Has been seen only once or twice
- \* Nesting Species

*Italics = Federal Threatened or Endangered Status*

## Common Name

Sp    S    F    W

### Ducks, Geese, and Swans

___ Fulvous Whistling-Duck	R	R	R	
___ Greater White-fronted Goose	R		O	O
___ Snow Goose			O	U
___ Ross's Goose	R			O
___ Canada Goose	O	X	U	C
___ Brant	X			
___ Tundra Swan				O
___ Wood Duck	R		R	R
___ Gadwall	U		C	C
___ American Wigeon	U		C	C
___ *Mallard	U		C	C
___ Blue-winged Teal	O	R	O	O
___ *Cinnamon Teal	C	U	C	U
___ *Northern Shoveler	C	U	U	C
___ Northern Pintail	U	O	C	C
___ Green-winged Teal	U	R	O	C
___ Canvasback	O		O	O
___ Redhead	U	O	U	U
___ Ring-necked Duck	U	R	U	U
___ Greater Scaup	O			O
___ Lesser Scaup	U	R	U	U
___ Surf Scoter			X	
___ Long-tailed Duck			X	
___ Bufflehead	C		U	C
___ Common Goldeneye	C		O	O
___ Hooded Merganser			O	O
___ Common Merganser	U	R	U	C
___ Red-breasted Merganser	O	R	O	O
___ *Ruddy Duck	C	U	C	C

### Quail

___ *Gambel's Quail	A	A	A	A
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### Loons

___ Common Loon	O		O	O
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*Anna's Hummingbird*

Photograph by George Andrejko, Arizona Game and Fish Department

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Grebes</b>				
Least Grebe				X
*Pied-billed Grebe	C	C	C	C
Horned Grebe				R
*Eared Grebe	C	O	C	C
*Western Grebe	C	C	C	C
*Clark's Grebe	C	C	C	C
<b>Boobies</b>				
Blue-footed Booby		X	X	
Brown Booby		X	X	
<b>Pelicans</b>				
American White Pelican	O	O	C	C
<i>Brown Pelican</i>	R	R	R	R
<b>Cormorants</b>				
Double-crested Cormorant	C	U	C	A
<b>Frigatebirds</b>				
Magnificent Frigatebird		X		
<b>Herons, Bitterns, and Allies</b>				
American Bittern	O	R	O	R
*Least Bittern	C	C	C	C
*Great Blue Heron	C	C	C	C
*Great Egret	C	C	C	C
*Snowy Egret	C	C	C	C
Tricolored Heron			X	
Reddish Egret			X	
Cattle Egret	O	O	O	O
*Green Heron	U	U	U	U
*Black-crowned Night-Heron	U	U	U	U
<b>Ibises and Spoonbills</b>				
White Ibis	X			
White-faced Ibis	U	U	U	U
Roseate Spoonbill		X	X	X
<b>Storks</b>				
Wood Stork		O	O	
<b>New World Vultures</b>				
*Turkey Vulture	C	C	C	U
<b>Hawks, Kites, and Eagles</b>				
Osprey	O	R	U	U
White-tailed Kite	R	R	R	R
<i>Bald Eagle</i>	R		O	U
*Northern Harrier	C	R	C	C
Sharp-shinned Hawk	O		O	O
Cooper's Hawk	U		U	U
Harris's Hawk	O	O	O	O
*Red-tailed Hawk	U	U	U	U
Ferruginous Hawk			R	
Rough-legged Hawk				R
Golden Eagle			O	O

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Falcons</b>				
*American Kestrel	O	O	U	U
Merlin			R	R
Peregrine Falcon	O		O	O
Prairie Falcon	R	R	R	R
<b>Rails and Coots</b>				
*Black Rail	C	C	C	C
*Clapper Rail	C	C	C	C
*Virginia Rail	C	C	C	C
Sora	C	R	C	C
*Common Moorhen	C	C	C	C
*American Coot	C	C	C	A
<b>Cranes</b>				
Sandhill Crane			O	O
<b>Lapwings and Plovers</b>				
Black-bellied Plover	O	O	O	
Snowy Plover	O	O	O	O
Semipalmated Plover	O	O	O	
*Killdeer	C	C	C	C
<b>Stilts and Avocets</b>				
*Black-necked Stilt	U	U	U	U
American Avocet	U	U	U	O
<b>Sandpipers, Phalaropes, and Allies</b>				
Solitary Sandpiper	O	O	O	
Greater Yellowlegs	U	O	U	O
Willet	U	O	O	R
Lesser Yellowlegs	O	O	O	
Spotted Sandpiper	C	U	C	C
Upland Sandpiper			X	
Whimbrel		O		
Long-billed Curlew	O	R	O	O
Marbled Godwit	O	O	O	O
Sanderling	O		O	
Western Sandpiper	C	C	C	O
Least Sandpiper	C	C	C	C
Pectoral Sandpiper			O	X
Dunlin	O		O	O
Long-billed Dowitcher	U	U	C	C
Wilson's Snipe	U	O	U	U
Wilson's Phalarope	U	U	O	
Red-necked Phalarope	R	O	O	
Red Phalarope				X
<b>Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers</b>				
Sabine's Gull	X		R	
Bonaparte's Gull	O		O	
Franklin's Gull		R	R	
Heerman's Gull			X	
Ring-billed Gull	U	O	C	C
California Gull	O	O	R	O
Herring Gull			X	R

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Gulls and Terns, Continued</b>				
___ Glaucous-winged Gull			X	
___ Gull-billed Tern	X			
___ <i>Least Tern</i>		X		
___ Caspian Tern	O	U	U	R
___ Black Tern	U	U	U	
___ Common Tern		O	O	
___ Forster's Tern	O	U	U	O
___ Black Skimmer		X		
<b>Jaegers</b>				
___ Parasitic Jaeger		X		
<b>Pigeons and Doves</b>				
___ Band-tailed Pigeon			X	
___ *White-winged Dove	C	A	U	O
___ *Mourning Dove	C	A	C	C
___ Inca Dove	U	U	U	U
___ *Common Ground-Dove	U	U	U	U
<b>Cuckoos and Roadrunners</b>				
___ *Yellow-billed Cuckoo		U		
___ *Greater Roadrunner	C	C	C	C
<b>Barn Owls</b>				
___ Barn Owl	O	O	O	O
<b>Typical Owls</b>				
___ *Western Screech-Owl	C	C	C	C
___ *Great Horned Owl	C	C	C	C
___ Elf Owl	R	R	R	R
___ Burrowing Owl	U	O	U	U
___ Long-eared Owl	R		R	R
___ Short-eared Owl			R	
___ Northern Saw-whet Owl				R
<b>Goatsuckers</b>				
___ *Lesser Nighthawk	C	A	C	R
___ *Common Poorwill	U	U	U	
<b>Swifts</b>				
___ Vaux's Swift	O		O	
___ White-throated Swift	O	O	O	O
<b>Hummingbirds</b>				
___ *Black-chinned Hummingbird	U	U		
___ *Anna's Hummingbird	C	C	C	C
___ *Costa's Hummingbird	C	C	U	O
___ Calliope Hummingbird				X
___ Rufous Hummingbird	O		O	
<b>Kingfishers</b>				
___ Belted Kingfisher	U		C	U
<b>Woodpeckers and Allies</b>				
___ Lewis's Woodpecker			X	
___ *Gila Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
___ Red-naped Sapsucker	U		U	U
___ *Ladder-backed Woodpecker	C	C	C	C

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Woodpeckers and Allies, Continued</b>				
___ Northern Flicker (Red-shafted)	U		C	U
___ Gilded Flicker	O	O	O	O
<b>Tyrant Flycatchers</b>				
___ Olive-sided Flycatcher	O		O	
___ Western Wood-Pewee	C	U	C	
___ Willow Flycatcher	U		U	
___ Hammond's Flycatcher	O	R	O	R
___ Gray Flycatcher	O		O	O
___ Dusky Flycatcher	R			R
___ Pacific-slope Flycatcher	C		C	
___ *Black Phoebe	C	O	C	C
___ Eastern Phoebe	X			R
___ *Say's Phoebe	C	C	C	C
___ *Vermilion Flycatcher	U	U	U	U
___ *Ash-throated Flycatcher	C	C	C	R
___ *Brown-crested Flycatcher	C	C		
___ Cassin's Kingbird		X	X	
___ *Western Kingbird	C	C	U	
<b>Shrikes</b>				
___ *Loggerhead Shrike	C	C	C	C
<b>Vireos</b>				
___ *Bell's Vireo	O	O	O	
___ Plumbeous Vireo	U		U	O
___ Cassin's Vireo	U		U	O
___ Warbling Vireo	C		C	
___ Red-eyed Vireo	X			
<b>Crows and Jays</b>				
___ Western Scrub-Jay	X		R	X
___ Pinyon Jay			X	
___ Clark's Nutcracker			X	
___ Common Raven	O	O	O	O
<b>Larks</b>				
___ Horned Lark				U
<b>Swallows</b>				
___ Purple Martin			X	
___ Tree Swallow	A	O	A	A
___ Violet-green Swallow	O		O	O
___ *No. Rough-winged Swallow	C	C	C	O
___ Bank Swallow	U	U	U	
___ *Cliff Swallow	C	C	C	
___ Barn Swallow	C	O	C	O
<b>Verdins</b>				
___ *Verdin	C	C	C	C
<b>Nuthatches</b>				
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch			R	
___ White-breasted Nuthatch			X	
<b>Creepers</b>				
___ Brown Creeper				R

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Wrens</b>				
___ *Cactus Wren	U	U	U	U
___ *Rock Wren	U	O	U	U
___ Bewick's Wren	O		O	O
___ House Wren	U		U	U
___ *Marsh Wren	C	C	C	C
<b>Kinglets</b>				
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet			X	X
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	A		A	A
<b>Gnatcatchers</b>				
___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	C		C	C
___ *Black-tailed Gnatcatcher	C	C	C	C
<b>Thrushes</b>				
___ Western Bluebird			O	O
___ Mountain Bluebird	O		O	O
___ Townsend's Solitaire	O		O	O
___ Swainson's Thrush	U		U	U
___ Hermit Thrush	U		U	U
___ American Robin	O		O	O
___ Varied Thrush				X
<b>Mockingbirds and Thrashers</b>				
___ *Northern Mockingbird	U	U	U	U
___ Sage Thrasher	O		O	O
___ Bendire's Thrasher			R	
___ *Crissal Thrasher	C	C	C	C
<b>Starlings</b>				
___ *European Starling	O	U	O	O
<b>Pipits</b>				
___ American Pipit	C		C	C
<b>Waxwings</b>				
___ Cedar Waxwing	O		O	O
<b>Silky-Flycatchers</b>				
___ *Phainopepla	C	U	C	C
<b>Wood-Warblers</b>				
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	C		C	C
___ Nashville Warbler	U		U	
___ *Lucy's Warbler	C	C		
___ Northern Parula				X
___ *Yellow Warbler	C	O	C	
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C	C
___ Myrtle	O		O	O
___ Audubon's	C		C	C
___ Black-throated Gray Warbler	U		U	O
___ Townsend's Warbler	U		U	X
___ Hermit Warbler	O		O	
___ Palm Warbler			X	
___ Blackpoll Warbler		X		
___ American Redstart	R		R	R
___ Northern Waterthrush			X	

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Wood-Warblers, Continued</b>				
___ MacGillivray's Warbler	C		C	
___ *Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C	U
___ Wilson's Warbler	C		C	O
___ *Yellow-breasted Chat	C	C	C	
<b>Tanagers</b>				
___ Hepatic Tanager				X
___ *Summer Tanager	C	C	O	
___ Western Tanager	C	U	U	
<b>Sparrows and Allies</b>				
___ Green-tailed Towhee	U		U	U
___ Spotted Towhee	O		O	O
___ *Abert's Towhee	A	A	A	A
___ Chipping Sparrow	U		U	C
___ Brewer's Sparrow	C		C	C
___ Vesper Sparrow	U		U	C
___ Lark Sparrow	U	R	U	O
___ Black-throated Sparrow	O	O	O	O
___ Sage Sparrow			U	U
___ Lark Bunting			R	R
___ Savannah Sparrow	C		C	C
___ Grasshopper Sparrow	X			
___ Fox Sparrow	R		R	
___ *Song Sparrow	C	C	C	C
___ Lincoln's Sparrow	U		C	C
___ Swamp Sparrow	O		O	O
___ White-crowned Sparrow	A		A	A
___ Golden-crowned Sparrow	R		R	R
___ Dark-eyed Junco	O		O	O
___ Oregon	O		O	O
___ Gray-headed			R	
___ Lapland Longspur			X	
___ Chestnut-collard Longspur			O	
<b>Cardinals and Grosbeaks</b>				
___ Black-headed Grosbeak	C	O	C	
___ *Blue Grosbeak	C	C	U	
___ Lazuli Bunting	U		U	
___ Indigo Bunting	O	O		
<b>Blackbirds and Orioles</b>				
___ *Red-winged Blackbird	A	A	A	A
___ Western Meadowlark	U		U	C
___ *Yellow-headed Blackbird	C	C	C	C
___ Rusty Blackbird				X
___ Brewer's Blackbird	U		C	C
___ *Great-tailed Grackle	C	C	C	C
___ Bronzed Cowbird	O	O	O	R
___ *Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	C	U
___ *Hooded Oriole	U	U	O	
___ *Bullock's Oriole	U	U	U	
___ Baltimore Oriole				X

**Common Name****Sp****S****F****W****FIELD NOTES****Finches**

___ *House Finch	C	C	C	C
___ Pine Siskin	R		O	O
___ *Lesser Goldfinch	U	U	U	U
___ Lawrence's Goldfinch	R	R		
___ American Goldfinch			O	O

**Old World Sparrows**

___ *House Sparrow	O	O	O	O
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Please Reuse or Return

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Species: \_\_\_\_\_

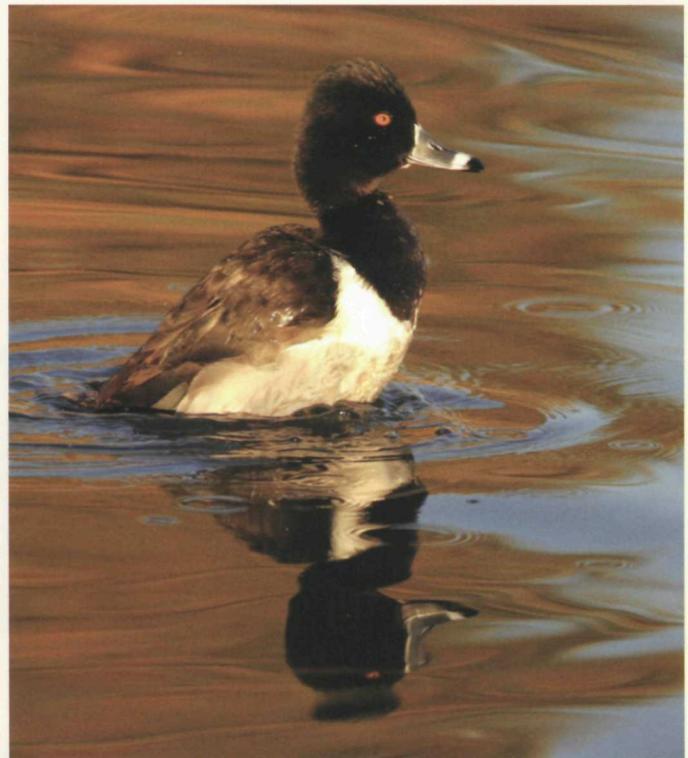
Observers: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather: \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

*Great Horned Owl*

Photograph by George Andrejko, Arizona Game and Fish Department

*Ring-necked Duck*

Photograph by Henry D. Detwiler, Southwest Birders.

Imperial National Wildlife Refuge  
12812 Wildlife Way  
Yuma, Arizona 85364  
928783-3371  
928/783-0652 Fax

[www.fws.gov/southwest](http://www.fws.gov/southwest)

Arizona Relay Service  
1 800/367-8939

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
[www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov)

For Refuge Information  
1 800/344-WILD

*Say's Phoebe*

Photograph by Henry D. Detwiler, Southwest Birders.

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