

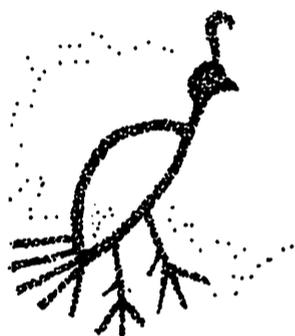
Wupatki and Sunset Crater

National Monuments
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Birds of Wupatki and Sunset Crater National Monuments

The number and diversity of birds varies from the Ponderosa Pine Forest at Sunset Crater National Monument, through the

Pinyon/Juniper Woodland, to the Grassland and Cold Desert Shrub zone at Wupatki National Monument.

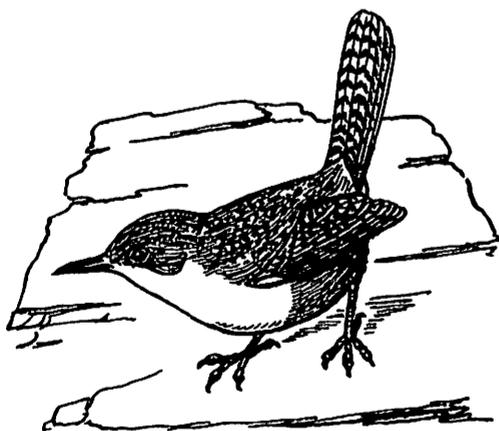


Birds must have had symbolic and religious significance for former occupants of the area. Bird bones recovered from excavations include those of thick-billed parrots and scarlet macaws, traded north from the tropics of Mexico. At Wupatki Ruins, at least eleven articulated parrot and macaw burials were

found; three were wrapped in a room identified as a kiva. One parrot was buried at the foot of a child and had a prayer stick attached to its leg. Birds were also the subject of rock art and ceramic designs. Birds and feathers are important in Pueblo ceremonies today.

Some species of birds are frequently seen in one park and rarely in the other. The Steller's jay can be seen at Sunset Crater. Its blue body and black crest distinguish it from all other jays. The call of the Steller's jay is a harsh "caw" and it can also imitate the call of

other birds. At Wupatki you may find the greater roadrunner scurrying along the desert floor. It is a large ground-dwelling cuckoo streaked with brown and white, it speeds across the desert on long, strong legs. The long white-edged tail and long, heavy beak are its outstanding features.



The bird population at Wupatki and Sunset Crater National Monuments changes with the season. In the summer you may see the western bluebird and mountain bluebird at higher elevations at Sunset Crater. While Wupatki is frequented by the western kingbird and black-throated sparrow. Fall is full of surprises as birds migrate from higher elevations to lower ones. Our park is unique in that we have such a dramatic change in elevations, the visitor is likely to see the same

species at both areas, at different times of the year. The raven is often heard with its distinctive "caw," its dark feathered body playfully soaring in the sky. The drumming of the red-shafted flicker is often heard. This jay-sized woodpecker uses its strong bill to search out wood-boring insects. Look for the dark silhouette of a golden eagle against the sky, and listen for the musical descending notes of the canyon wren.

A list of the bird species seen at Wupatki and Sunset Crater National Monuments follows on the opposite side of this page. With

this information, a field guide, and a little help from a birdwatching friend, you are on your way to bird identification.

ABUNDANCE

OCCURRENCE

LOCATION

Common-almost always seen
 U Uncommon-present/not always seen
 O Occasional-to be expected/seldom seen
 R Rare-surprise but not out of range
 X Accident-out of normal range

P Permanent Resident
 S Summer Visitor
 W Winter Visitor

SC Sunset
 Crater
 WU Wupatki

	SC	WU		SC	WU		SC	WU
Eared Grebe	-	RT	Costa's Hummingbird	-	RT	Cedar Waxwing	OW	RT
D.C. Cormorant	-	RT	Rufous Hummingbird	CS	UT	Bohemian Waxwing	-	OW
Canada Goose	-	RT	Belted Kingfisher	XT	RT	Phainopepla	-	RS
Mallard	RT	RT	Common Flicker	CP	CP	Loggerhead Shrike	OT	UP
Blue-winged Teal	-	RT	Yellow-bellied			Northern Shrike	-	UW
Cinnamon Teal	-	RT	Sapsucker	OT	UT	Starling	OS	OS
Green-winged Teal	-	RT	Lewis' Woodpecker	-	RP	Solitary Vireo	US	-
Bufflehead	-	RT	Williamson's			Gray Vireo	-	RS
Turkey Vulture	RS	OS	Sapsucker	-	OT	<u>Warblers:</u>		
Northern Goshawk	-	RW	Hairy Woodpecker	OP	UP	Orange-crowned	OT	OT
Cooper's Hawk	OS	OP	Western Kingbird	US	US	Yellow	-	OT
Sharp-shinned Hawk	OT	OT	Cassin's Kingbird	US	RS	Yellow-rumped	-	CT
Northern Harrier	-	UW	Ash-throated			Black-throated Gray	OT	OT
Rough-legged Hawk	OW	OW	Flycatcher	OT	OS	MacGillivray's	OT	UT
Ferruginous Hawk	-	RW	Black Phoebe	XT	RS	Townsend's	OT	-
Red-tailed Hawk	UP	CP	Say's Phoebe	XS	CS	Grace's	OS	-
Swainson's Hawk	RS	OT	Willow Flycatcher	-	RT	Wilson's	-	UT
Golden Eagle	OP	UP	Gray Flycatcher	-	OS	Yellow Breasted Chat	-	RT
Bald Eagle	RT	RW	Western Wood-Pewee	OS	RS	Eastern Meadowlark	RS	RS
Marsh Hawk	OW	-	Horned Lark	OT	CP	Western Meadowlark	CS	CS
Prairie Falcon	OW	OP	Barn Swallow	-	RT	Brewer's Blackbird	OT	US
Merlin	-	RW	Violet-Green Swallow	CS	OS	Brown-headed Cowbird	OS	OS
American Kestrel	-	CP	Bank Swallow	-	RT	Yellow-headed		
Sparrow Hawk	CS	-	Steller's Jay	CP	-	Blackbird	-	OT
Wild Turkey	RP	-	Scrub Jay	-	OP	Red-winged Blackbird	-	OS
Snowy Egret	-	RT	Pinyon Jay	CP	UP	Scott's Oriole	-	US
Great Blue Heron	-	RT	Clark's Nutcracker	UP	RT	Northern Oriole	-	CT
B.C. Night-heron	-	RT	Common Raven	CP	CP	Western Tanager	OS	OT
White-faced Ibis	-	RT	American Crow	OP	OP	Hepatic Tanager	OS	RT
American Coot	XT	RT	Mountain Chickadee	CP	OW	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	RT
Sabine's Gull	X	-	Plain Titmouse	UP	UP	Black-headed Grosbeak	OS	RT
Spotted Sandpiper	XT	RT	Bushtit	UP	UP	Evening Grosbeak	OT	RT
Lesser Yellowlegs	XT	RT	White-breasted			Blue Grosbeak	RT	-
Black-necked Stilt	-	RT	Nuthatch	CP	CP	Cassin's Finch	OP	RT
Mountain Plover	-	RT	Red-breasted			House Finch	RT	CP
Killdeer	-	OS	Nuthatch	RS	OS	American Goldfinch	-	RT
Common Snipe	-	RT	Pygmy Nuthatch	CP	CP	Lesser Goldfinch	US	OT
Least Sandpiper	-	RT	Brown Creeper	OT	RW	Gray-crowned Rosy		
Mourning Dove	CS	CS	House Wren	RT	OT	Finch	OW	-
Band-tailed Pigeon	RS	-	Bewick's Wren	-	OP	Black Rosy Finch	OW	-
Roadrunner	-	UP	Rock Wren	US	CP	Pine Siskin	OW	-
Western Screech Owl	-	OP	Canyon Wren	-	CP	Red Crossbill	UP	-
Great Horned Owl	UP	UP	Sage Thrasher	OW	UW	Greentail Towhee	OT	UT
Long-eared Owl	-	OW	Northern Mockingbird	-	CS	Rufous-sided Towhee	US	UP
Short-eared Owl	-	OW	Gray Catbird	-	X	House Sparrow	CP	-
Burrowing Owl	-	OS	Bendire's Thrasher	-	OS	Savannah Sparrow	OT	-
N. Saw-whet Owl	RS	OW	Crissal Thrasher	-	RS	Lark Sparrow	OT	OT
Pygmy Owl	RS	-	American Robin	CS	UW	Vesper Sparrow	-	OT
Common Poorwill	OS	CS	Western Bluebird	CS	OW	Black-throated		
Common Nighthawk	CS	CS	Mountain Bluebird	CS	CW	Sparrow	OS	CS
White-throated			Townsend's			Sage Sparrow	-	UW
Swift	OS	OS	Solitaire	CP	CW	Chipping Sparrow	US	OS
Broad-tailed			Blue-gray			Brewer's Sparrow	OT	UT
Hummingbird	CS	CS	Gnatcatcher	-	OS	White-throated		
Black-chinned			Ruby-crowned Kinglet	RT	CT	Sparrow	-	UT
Hummingbird	UT	OT				White-crowned Sparrow	OT	UT
Calliope						Hooser Sparrow	-	CP
Hummingbird	-	RT				Black-chinned Sparrow	US	-
						Dark-eyed Junco	CW	CW

This publication was produced with funds donated by Southwest Parks and Monuments Association.