



BIRDS OF THE CARRIZO PLAIN NATIONAL MONUMENT

(REVISED: November 2010)



INTRODUCTION

The Carrizo Plain National Monument presents the birder with a unique opportunity. First: it presents a preserved and protected sample of an endangered habitat that formerly was found throughout the San Joaquin Valley. Second: because of its distance from major cities, the CPNM is visited by relatively few birders. There are still many gaps in our knowledge about the occurrence and distribution of a number of bird species. Thus we ask for your help! **Please share your sightings with us** by mailing field notes of your sightings of species not on the list, those listed as casual or rare, or those sightings that are outside of the expected season (complete lists are also welcome). cacarrizo@ca.blm.gov

or

**Wildlife Biologist. CPNM
BLM, Bakersfield Field Office
3801 Pegasus Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93308**

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

A special thanks to Tom Edell and Curtis Marantz for allowing the use of a pre-publication copy of “**The Birds of San Luis Obispo County California: Status, Distribution, and Breeding Bird Atlas**”, the first exhaustive treatment of the birds of SLO County, to be published in 2011, in the preparation of this list. In addition, data was drawn from “**The Birds of San Luis Obispo County: 4th Edition**” checklist, published by the Morro Coast Audubon Society (MCAS) (www.morrocoastaudubon.org). Other valuable contributors were: Sam Fitton, Kathy Sharum and members of MCAS.

Formatting by Carlo Christian.

List compiled by Alan Schmierer: aaschmierer@yahoo.com

6/20/2010

HABITAT CODES

These codes suggest habitats in which species are likely to be found, generally in the order of preference for that species. Some things to consider: There is often much overlapping of habitats. Some birds accept a variety of habitats, yet others are very specific to a habitat. Post-breeding and in migration many species utilize a great variety of unexpected habitats.

A = Alkaline-loving shrubs (low areas of basin)

B = In or around Barns or Buildings

F = Usually seen in Flight; aerial.

H = Hilly grasslands.

J = Juniper-oak woodlands.

Oaks = Oaks nearby essential.

R = Rocky cliffs or outcroppings.

S = Saltbush-ephedra scrub.

T = Tall Trees (i.e. cottonwood, elm, eucalyptus).

V = Valley floor grasslands.

W = On, or at edge of, Water.

SPECIES CODES:

(.....) = **No Recent Records (since 1985);**

* = **Breeding confirmed or strongly presumed;**

IR = Irregular or irruptive, often due to rainfall & lake levels.

ABUNDANCE:

■■■■■ = **COMMON:** nearly always occurs in appropriate habitats , usually in large to moderate numbers.

■■■■■ = **UNCOMMON:** usually occurs in appropriate habitats in moderate to small numbers.

——— = **RARE:** expected in appropriate habitats, but in very small numbers.

- - - - = **CASUAL:** limited records; may be absent in some years, but some pattern of occurrence is evident.

▪ = **INDIVIDUAL RECORD:** generally a single-bird, single-sighting.

Species	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Habitat
DUCKS - GEESE													
Greater White-fronted Goose	••												WV
Snow Goose	•											•	WV
Brant				•									W
Canada Goose IR													WV
Gadwall IR	•			•								•	W
American Wigeon	••				•								W
Mallard * IR													W
Cinnamon Teal (*) IR	•												W
Northern Shoveler (*) IR						•							W
Northern Pintail (*) IR													W
Green-winged Teal (*) IR													W
Bufflehead		•											W
Ruddy Duck (*) IR													W
CHUKAR - QUAIL													
Chukar *													H
California Quail *	█												JSH
Mountain Quail *													J
LOON - GREBE													
Common Loon				•									W
Eared Grebe IR													W
PELICAN													
American White Pelican	••												W
HERONS - EGRETS													
Great Egret				•	•								W
Snowy Egret				••					•				W
Cattle Egret				•									W
Green Heron										•			W
Black-crowned Night-heron					•								W
White-faced Ibis							•						W

Species	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Habitat
VULTURE - CONDOR													
Turkey Vulture *				█						█			F
(California Condor)													F
KITE - HAWK - EAGLE													
Osprey			••	•					•	•			FW
White-tailed Kite * IR													FVS
Bald Eagle	•	•									••	••	FV
Northern Harrier *	█								█				FWHS
Sharp-shinned Hawk													FTJ
Cooper's Hawk *													FTJ
Swainson's Hawk IR						•					•		F
Red-tailed Hawk *	█								█				FVSJ
Ferruginous Hawk	█				•								VF
Rough-legged Hawk													FVSJ
Golden Eagle *													FVTR
American Kestrel *	█								█				TBVS
Merlin					•								FVS
Peregrine Falcon				•									FVTR
Prairie Falcon *	█												VTR
SORA - COOT - CRANE													
Sora (*) IR													W
(Common Moorhen)							•						W
American Coot * IR													W
Sandhill Crane IR	█	█	█	█						█	█	█	WF
SHOREBIRDS													
Black-bellied Plover IR													W
Snowy Plover		•			•								W
Semipalmated Plover					•								W
Killdeer *													WA
Mountain Plover IR	█											█	V
Black-necked Stilt * IR									•				W

