

“*Encamped at the Inscription Rock, a singular sandstone mesa . . . I observed a new swift . . .*”

Samuel Washington Woodhouse, an ornithologist who passed by here in 1851 with the Sitgreaves Expedition, secured El Morro’s place in American ornithology history books with the first-ever scientific description of a White-throated Swift. Since then, El Morro has offered birdwatchers the chance for discovery. The variety of habitats contained within a small area (1,278 acres) makes possible the diversity and number of bird species found here.

To help further our knowledge of El Morro’s wildlife, we encourage you to report your observations to staff at the visitor center.

KEY

C=Common—usually easy to find.

FC=Fairly Common—usually present but not as easy to find.

U=Uncommon—regular, but only a few individuals may be present in a particular season.

R=Rare—irregular, or not detected every year.

O=Occasional—few records exist.

X=Extirpated—no longer occurs in the area.

*=Nests or has nested.

Compiled from observations made between September 2002 and May 2008, in addition to previous checklists by McCallum (1979), Stoltz (1987), and USGS (2002).

181 species as of May, 2008.

✓	SPECIES	nesting	spring	summer	fall	winter
WATERFOWL						
	Gadwall		O			
	American Wigeon				O	O
	Mallard	*	U	U	U	R
	Blue-winged Teal		O			
	Cinnamon Teal		O		O	
	Northern Shoveler		O		O	
	Green-winged Teal		O	O	O	O
	Bufflehead					O
	Ruddy Duck		O		O	
GALLINACEOUS BIRDS						
	Scaled Quail		O	O	O	O
HERONS, IBIS						
	Great Blue Heron		O	O	O	
	Snowy Egret		O	O		
	White-faced Ibis		O			
VULTURES						
	Turkey Vulture		U	FC	U	
HAWKS, EAGLES						
	Osprey		O			
	Bald Eagle					O
	Northern Harrier		U		U	U
	Sharp-shinned Hawk		U		U	U
	Cooper’s Hawk	*	U	U	U	U
	Northern Goshawk					O
	Swainson’s Hawk		O	O	O	
	Red-tailed Hawk	*	FC	FC	FC	FC
	Rough-legged Hawk					R
	Ferruginous Hawk		R		R	R
	Golden Eagle	*	U	U	U	U
FALCONS						
	American Kestrel	*	FC	FC	FC	FC
	Merlin		R		R	O
	Peregrine Falcon	*	U	U	U	
	Prairie Falcon	*	U	U	U	U
RAILS						
	American Coot		R		R	

✓	SPECIES	nesting	spring	summer	fall	winter
SHOREBIRDS, GULLS						
	Semipalmated Plover		O			
	Killdeer		R	R	R	
	Spotted Sandpiper		R	R	R	
	Solitary Sandpiper				O	
	Greater Yellowlegs		O		O	
	Willet			O	O	
	Western Sandpiper			O	O	
	Baird’s Sandpiper			R	R	
	Pectoral Sandpiper			O	O	
	Long-billed Dowitcher			O	O	
	Wilson’s Snipe			O	O	
	Wilson’s Phalarope		O		O	
	Red-necked Phalarope				O	
	Ring-billed Gull		O			
PIGEONS, DOVES						
	Rock Pigeon		O	O	O	
	Eurasian Collared-Dove		O	O	O	O
	White-winged Dove		O			
	Mourning Dove	*	U	FC	U	
CUCKOOS						
	Yellow-billed Cuckoo			O		
	Greater Roadrunner		R	R	R	
OWLS						
	Flammulated Owl	*	R	R		
	Western Screech-Owl	*	R	R	R	R
	Great Horned Owl	*	U	U	U	U
	Northern Pygmy-Owl		O	O	O	O
	Long-eared Owl					O
NIGHTJARS						
	Common Nighthawk	*	U	FC	R	
	Common Poorwill	*	R	R	R	
SWIFTS, HUMMINGBIRDS						
	White-throated Swift	*	C	C	C	
	Black-chinned Hummingbird	*	C	C	U	
	Calliope Hummingbird		R	R	R	
	Broad-tailed Hummingbird	*	C	C	U	

✓	SPECIES	nesting	spring	summer	fall	winter
	Rufous Hummingbird		R	C	U	
KINGFISHERS						
	Belted Kingfisher		O		O	
WOODPECKERS						
	Lewis’s Woodpecker	*	R	R	R	R
	Acorn Woodpecker		O	O	O	
	Williamson’s Sapsucker		R	R	R	
	Red-naped Sapsucker		FC	R	FC	U
	Ladder-backed Woodpecker		O	O	O	
	Hairy Woodpecker	*	FC	FC	FC	FC
	Northern Flicker	*	C	C	C	C
TYRANT FLYCATCHERS						
	Olive-sided Flycatcher		R		R	
	Western Wood-Pewee	*	C	C	C	
	Willow Flycatcher			O	O	
	Hammond’s Flycatcher		R		R	
	Gray Flycatcher	*	FC	FC	FC	
	Dusky Flycatcher		R		R	
	Cordilleran Flycatcher	*	U	U	U	
	Buff-breasted Flycatcher	*		X		
	Black Phoebe		R	R	R	
	Say’s Phoebe	*	C	C	C	
	Ash-throated Flycatcher	*	C	C	U	
	Cassin’s Kingbird	*	C	C	C	
	Western Kingbird	*	U	U	U	
SHRIKES, VIREOS						
	Loggerhead Shrike		U	U	U	
	Northern Shrike					R
	Gray Vireo			O		
	Plumbeous Vireo	*	C	C	C	
	Cassin’s Vireo		R		U	
	Warbling Vireo		U		U	
JAYS, CROWS						
	Steller’s Jay		R		R	R
	Western Scrub-Jay	*	C	C	C	C
	Pinyon Jay		C	C	C	C
	Clark’s Nutcracker				O	

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	American Crow		U	U	U	U
	Common Raven	*	C	C	C	C
LARKS						
	Horned Lark		R	R	R	U
SWALLOWS						
	Purple Martin			R		
	Tree Swallow		R		R	
	Violet-green Swallow	*	C	C	C	
	Northern Rough-winged Swallow		R	R	R	
	Cliff Swallow	*	C	C	C	
	Barn Swallow		R	R	R	
CHICKADEES AND ALLIES						
	Mountain Chickadee	*	C	C	C	C
	Juniper Titmouse	*	FC	FC	FC	FC
	Bushtit	*	FC	FC	FC	FC
NUTHATCHES, CREEPERS						
	Red-breasted Nuthatch		R	R	R	R
	White-breasted Nuthatch	*	FC	FC	FC	FC
	Pygmy Nuthatch	*	C	C	C	C
	Brown Creeper		R		R	R
WRENS						
	Rock Wren	*	FC	FC	FC	R
	Canyon Wren	*	FC	FC	FC	U
	Bewick's Wren	*	FC	FC	FC	U
	House Wren		U		U	
KINGLETS, GNATCATCHERS						
	Ruby-crowned Kinglet		FC		FC	R
	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher		FC	R	U	
THRUSHES						
	Western Bluebird	*	C	C	C	C
	Mountain Bluebird	*	C	C	C	FC
	Townsend's Solitaire		C		C	C
	Hermit Thrush		R		R	
	American Robin	*	C	C	C	FC
MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS						
	Gray Catbird				O	

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	Northern Mockingbird	*	FC	FC	FC	
	Sage Thrasher	*	FC	R	FC	R
	Curve-billed Thrasher		O			
STARLINGS						
	European Starling		O	O	O	O
PIPITS						
	American Pipit				O	
WAXWINGS						
	Cedar Waxwing		R		R	
WOOD WARBLERS						
	Orange-crowned Warbler		C	R	C	
	Nashville Warbler				U	
	Virginia's Warbler	*	FC	FC	FC	
	Yellow Warbler		U		U	
	Yellow-rumped Warbler		C	U	C	R
	Black-throated Gray Warbler	*	FC	U	FC	
	Townsend's Warbler		R		U	
	Grace's Warbler		R	R	R	
	Kentucky Warbler		O			
	MacGillivray's Warbler		U	U	FC	
	Common Yellowthroat		R		R	
	Wilson's Warbler		FC	R	FC	
	Yellow-breasted Chat		O		O	
TANAGERS						
	Hepatic Tanager	*	FC	FC	FC	
	Summer Tanager		R	R	R	
	Western Tanager	*	C	FC	C	
TOWHEES, SPARROWS						
	Green-tailed Towhee	*	FC	FC	FC	
	Spotted Towhee	*	C	C	C	U
	Canyon Towhee	*	C	C	C	C
	Chipping Sparrow	*	C	C	C	
	Brewer's Sparrow	*	FC	U	FC	
	Vesper Sparrow	*	C	C	C	
	Lark Sparrow	*	C	C	C	
	Black-throated Sparrow		O	O		
	Savannah Sparrow				R	

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	Fox Sparrow				O	
	Song Sparrow		FC	R	FC	
	Lincoln's Sparrow		R		R	
	White-throated Sparrow					O
	White-crowned Sparrow		C		C	FC
	Dark-eyed Junco (Gray-headed, Pink-sided, Oregon)		C		C	C
GROSBEAKS AND ALLIES						
	Rose-breasted Grosbeak				O	
	Black-headed Grosbeak		C	FC	FC	
	Blue Grosbeak		O			
	Lazuli Bunting	*	U	R	U	
	Indigo Bunting		O		O	
BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES						
	Red-winged Blackbird		U		U	
	Eastern Meadowlark		R	R		
	Western Meadowlark	*	C	C	FC	R
	Yellow-headed Blackbird		O		O	
	Brewer's Blackbird		O		O	
	Common Grackle		O		O	
	Brown-headed Cowbird	*	FC	FC	FC	
	Hooded Oriole		O			
	Bullock's Oriole		FC	U	U	
	Baltimore Oriole		O			
FINCHES AND ALLIES						
	Cassin's Finch		R		R	R
	House Finch	*	C	C	C	C
	Red Crossbill		R	R	R	R
	Pine Siskin		FC	U	FC	FC
	Lesser Goldfinch	*	C	C	C	U
	American Goldfinch		U		U	
	Evening Grosbeak		R	R	R	R
OLD WORLD SPARROWS						
	House Sparrow		O		O	O

National Park Service
Department of the Interior



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Bird Checklist

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