

JAYS & CROWS

Steller's Jay	IRR Wi
Scrub Jay	C Res N
Pinyon Jay	FC Res N
Clark's Nutcracker	CAS Wi
Common Raven	C Res N

TITMICE & BUSHTITS

Mountain Chickadee	C IRR Sp Fa Wi
Plain Titmouse	C Res N
Verdin	C Res N
Bushtit	C Res N

NUTHATCHES

Red-breasted Nuthatch	R Fa & Wi
White-breasted Nuthatch	R Fa & Wi
Pygmy Nuthatch	CAS Fa Vag

CREEPER

Brown Creeper	R Fa Wi
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WRENS

Cactus Wren	C Res N
Rock Wren	C Res N
Canyon Wren	C Res N
Bewick's Wren	C Res N
House Wren	U Mig & R Wi
Winter Wren	R Fa & Wi
Marsh Wren	R Fa & Wi

MIMIC THRUSHES

Northern Mockingbird	C Res N
Sage Thrasher	U IRR Mig & Wi
Brown Thrasher	CAS Vag
Bendire's Thrasher	U Su N
California Thrasher	U Res N
LeConte's Thrasher	U Res N

THRUSHES

Western Bluebird	U Wi
Mountain Bluebird	R IRR N
Townsend's Solitaire	U IRR Mig & Wi
Varied Thrush	R IRR Mig & Wi
Swainson's Thrush	U Mig
Hermit Thrush	U Mig & Wi



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American Robin	IRR Mig & Wi
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KINGLETS & GNATCATCHERS

Golden-crowned Kinglet	R IRR Fa Mig
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C Wi
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	C Res N
Black-tailed Gnatcatcher	FC Res N

PIPIT

Water Pipit	U IRR Mig & Wi
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WAXWING

Cedar Waxwing	IRR Mig & Wi
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PHAINOPEPLA

Phainopepla	C Res N
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SHRIKE

Loggerhead Shrike	C Res N
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STARLING

Starling	C Res N
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VIREOS

Bell's Vireo	R IRR Su N?
Gray Vireo	U Su N
Solitary Vireo	FC Mig
Hutton's Vireo	CAS Vag
Warbling Vireo	FC Mig

WOOD WARBLERS

Tennessee Warbler	R Vag
Orange-crowned Warbler	C Mig
Nashville Warbler	C Mig
Virginia's Warbler	R Mig
Lucy's Warbler	R Mig
Yellow Warbler	C Mig
Black-throated Blue Warbler	CAS Fa Vag
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C Mig & Wi
Black-throated Gray Warbler	C Mig
Townsend's Warbler	FC Mig
Hermit Warbler	U Mig
Palm Warbler	CAS Vag
Black and White Warbler	R Mig
American Redstart	R Mig
Ovenbird	CAS Vag
Northern Water Thrush	R Mig
McGillivray's Warbler	FC Mig
Common Yellow-throat	FC Mig & U Wi
Wilson's Warbler	C Mig
Painted Redstart	CAS Vag
Yellow-breasted Chat	U Mig

WEAVER FINCH

House Sparrow	C Res N
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TANAGERS

Summer Tanager	R Vag
Western Tanager	C Mig

EMBERIZID FINCHES & SPARROWS

Black-headed Grosbeak	C Mig & U Su N
Blue Grosbeak	R Mig
Lazuli Bunting	C Mig & Su N?
Lark Bunting	R Mig & CAS Wi
Fox Sparrow	U Mig
Song Sparrow	U Wi
Lincoln's Sparrow	FC Mig & U Wi
Golden-crowned Sparrow	R Mig & Wi
White-crowned Sparrow	C Mig & Wi
Harris's Sparrow	R Mig & Wi
Dark-eyed Junco	C Wi
Chipping Sparrow	FC Mig & R Wi
Brewer's Sparrow	FC Mig & Wi
Black-chinned Sparrow	FC Su N
Savannah Sparrow	U Mig & Wi
Grasshopper Sparrow	R Mig
Vesper Sparrow	R Mig & Wi
Lark Sparrow	U Mig
Black-throated Sparrow	C Res N
Sage Sparrow	C Wi
Rufous-crowned Sparrow	IRR Vag
Green-tailed Towhee	FC Mig
Rufous-sided Towhee	C Res N
Brown Towhee	U Res N

ORIOLES

Hooded Oriole	FC Su N
Northern Oriole	FC Mig & Su N
Scott's Oriole	C Su & R Wi N

BLACKBIRDS

Yellow-headed Blackbird	R Mig
Red-winged Blackbird	U Mig
Western Meadowlark	FC Mig & Wi
Great-tailed Grackle	R Vag
Brewer's Blackbird	FC Mig & Wi N?
Brown-headed Cowbird	FC Mig & Su N

FRINGILLID FINCHES

Pine Siskin	IRR Mig & Wi
American Goldfinch	IRR Mig & Wi
Lesser Goldfinch	FC Res N
Lawrence's Goldfinch	IRR Mig & Su N
Purple Finch	U Fa Mig & Wi
Cassin's Finch	R IRR Mig & Wi
House Finch	C Res N
Red Crossbill	CAS Vag

Bird Checklist



Joshua Tree National Monument

Bird List

GREBES		
Pied-billed Grebe	U Res N (Wa)	
Eared Grebe	R Mig (Wa)	
PELICANS		
White Pelican	R Mig	
Brown Pelican	CAS Vag	
HERONS, BITTERNs & IBIS		
American Bittern	R Mig (Wa)	
Great Blue Heron	R Mig (Wa)	
Great Egret	R Mig (Wa)	
Snowy Egret	R Mig (Wa)	
Green Heron	R Mig (Wa)	
Black-crowned Night Heron	R Mig (Wa)	
White-faced Ibis	R Mig (Wa)	
DUCKs & GEESE		
Snow Goose	R Mig (Wa)	
Brant	CAS Mig (Wa)	
Canada Goose	R Mig (Wa)	
Green-winged Teal	U Mig (Wa)	
Mallard	U Res N (Wa)	
Blue-winged Teal	R Mig (Wa)	
Cinnamon Teal	R Mig & Wi (Wa)	
Canvasback	R Mig (Wa)	
Ring-necked Duck	R Mig (Wa)	
Lesser Scaup	R Mig (Wa)	
Bufflehead	R Mig (Wa)	
Red-breasted Merganser	CAS Mig & Wi (Wa)	
Common Merganser	R Mig (Wa)	
Ruddy Duck	U Res N? (Wa)	
HAWKS & VULTURES		
Turkey Vulture	C Mig & Su Res N?	
Osprey	R Mig	
White-tailed Kite	CAS Vag	
Bald Eagle	CAS Vag	
Northern Harrier	U Mig & R Wi	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U Mig & R Wi	
Cooper's Hawk	U Mig & R Res	
Swainson's Hawk	IRR Mig	
Red-tailed Hawk	C Res N	
Ferruginous Hawk	R Mig & Wi	
Rough-legged Hawk	CAS Fa Mig	
Golden Eagle	U Res N	
American Kestrel	C Res N	
Merlin	R Mig & Wi	
Peregrine Falcon	CAS Mig	
Prairie Falcon	U Res N	

Welcome to Joshua Tree National Monument. This list includes 233 species of birds that have been observed in the Monument. We hope the list will give an idea of what to expect and when. The Monument is a vast area of about 1/2 million acres including high Mojave desert, low Colorado desert, palm oases, and several man-made water impoundments (notably Barker Dam). Watching birds in this spectacular country can be fun!

This list was compiled from park records spanning nearly 30 years, Christmas Bird Counts, and sighting records from diverse other sources. We are particularly indebted to Gene Cardiff of the San Bernardino County Museum for his help in preparing this list. Please help us improve this checklist by reporting unusual or interesting sightings to park personnel. (Nesting records and birds not on this list should be documented with dates and photos).

Birders may be puzzled by the arrangement of species used in this list. The sequence follows that used by Garrett and Dunn in *Status and Distribution of Birds of Southern California*. They adopted this arrangement in order to reflect current thinking on taxonomic affinities and in anticipation of a 1983 publication of the 6th Edition of the American Ornithologists' Union (A.O.U.) checklist.

Jerry Freilich - 1982

Abundance and Distribution

C	Common - Species observed frequently in most proper habitat
FC	Fairly Common - Species occurs in only some of the proper habitat.
U	Uncommon - Species occurs regularly, but is observed infrequently even in proper habitat.
R	Rare - Species occurs regularly, but in small numbers. Requires careful searching of proper habitat.
CAS	Casual - Presence documented by only a few records.
IRR	Irregular - May be common certain years and entirely absent other years.
Mig	Migrant - Passing through in seasonal movement.
Vag	Vagrant - An erratic or irregular wanderer.
Res	Resident - Present year-round.
Sp	Spring.
Su	Summer.
Fa	Fall.
Wi	Winter.
N	Nests (N? - Nesting suspected but not confirmed).
Wa	Indicates water level (adequate rainfall) is important. May be (much less common or) absent if rainfall is inadequate.

Cover: Burrowing Owl by Alice Siebecker

QUAIL		
Gambel's Quail	C Res N	
Mountain Quail	U Res N	
Chukar	No recent records	
RAILS		
Virginia Rail	R Mig (Wa)	
Sora	U Mig & R Wi (Wa)	
Coot	U Res N (Wa)	
AVOCETS & STILTS		
Black-necked Stilt	R Mig (Wa)	
Avocet	R Mig (Wa)	
PLOVERS, SANDPIPERs & PHALAROPES		
Black-bellied Plover	CAS Mig (Wa)	
Killdeer	U Mig (R Res?) N?	
Greater Yellowlegs	R Mig (Wa)	
Solitary Sandpiper	R Mig (Wa)	
Spotted Sandpiper	R Mig (Wa)	
Long-billed Curlew	R Mig (Wa)	
Marbled Godwit	CAS Mig (Wa)	
Sanderling	CAS Mig (Wa)	
Western Sandpiper	R Mig (Wa)	
Least Sandpiper	R Mig (Wa)	
Long-billed Dowitcher	R Mig (Wa)	
Common Snipe	R Mig & Wi (Wa)	
Wilson's Phalarope	R Mig (Wa)	
Northern Phalarope	R Mig (Wa)	
GULLS & TERNS		
Ring-billed Gull	R Mig	
California Gull	R Mig	
Black Tern	R Mig	
LOON		
Common Loon	R Mig (Wa)	
PIGEONS & DOVES		
Band-tailed Pigeon	R Vag	
White-winged Dove	U Mig & Su N?	
Mourning Dove	C Res N	
Ground Dove	R Vag	
Rock Dove	U Res	
CUCKOOS		
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	CAS Mig	
Greater Roadrunner	FC Res N	
OWLS		
Barn Owl	FC Res N	
Screech Owl	FC Res N	
Great Horned Owl	C Res N	
Elf Owl	Extirpated?	
Burrowing Owl	R Res N?	
Long-eared Owl	U Wi (R Res? N?)	

Saw-whet Owl	CAS Mig & Wi
GOATSUCKERS	
Lesser Nighthawk	FC Su N
Common Poorwill	FC Res N
SWIFTS	
Vaux's Swift	FC Mig
White-throated Swift	C Res N
HUMMINGBIRDS	
Black-chinned Hummingbird	U Mig N?
Costa's Hummingbird	C Res N
Anna's Hummingbird	FC Res N
Calliope Hummingbird	U Mig
Rufous Hummingbird	FC Mig
Allen's Hummingbird	R Fa Mig
KINGFISHER	
Belted Kingfisher	R Mig (Wa)
WOODPECKERS	
Lewis' Woodpecker	IRR Mig & Wi
Acorn Woodpecker	R Vag
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	R Mig & Wi
Red-breasted Sapsucker	R Mig & Wi
Williamson's Sapsucker	CAS Fa & Wi Vag
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	C Res N
White-headed Woodpecker	CAS Wi
Common Flicker	U Res N
FLYCATCHERS	
Olive-sided Flycatcher	U Mig
Western Wood Peewee	C Mig
Willow Flycatcher	FC Mig
Hammond's Flycatcher	C Mig
Dusky Flycatcher	U Mig
Gray Flycatcher	U Mig & R Wi
Western Flycatcher	C Mig
Black Phoebe	FC Res N
Say's Phoebe	FC Res N
Vermilion Flycatcher	CAS
Ash-throated Flycatcher	C Mig & Su N
Cassin's Kingbird	U Mig & Su N?
Western Kingbird	C Mig & Su N
LARKS & SWALLOWS	
Horned Lark	C Res N
Purple Martin	R Mig
Tree Swallow	C Mig
Violet-green Swallow	C Mig
Rough-winged Swallow	C Mig
Bank Swallow	R Mig
Cliff Swallow	C Mig (N?)
Barn Swallow	C Mig