

White Sands

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



White Sands National Monument

Featured Birds of White Sands



White Sands National Monument is home to a wide variety of bird species. Some birds make White Sands their home all year, while other species are migratory. One key factor that influences the types of migratory birds in the area is rainfall and the amount of standing water. Keep in mind that the dunes provide unique homes to only some of our bird species. Many of the birds listed here prefer the Chihuahuan Desert shrub on the outer edges of the monument boundaries. Others migrate here when there is a lot of standing water in places such as Lake Lucero. Whether you are an experienced birder or just taking that extra step to familiarize yourself with our flying friends, this list will provide you with a general overview of the birds in and around the world's largest gypsum dunefield.



American Avocet
Recurvirostra americana



Black-throated Sparrow
Amphispiza bilineata



Crissal Thrasher
Toxostoma crissale



American Coot
Fulica americana



Brewer's Blackbird
Euphagus cyanocephalus



Dark-eyed Junco
Junco hyemalis



American Kestrel
Falco sparverius



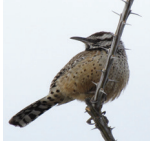
Broad-tailed Hummingbird
Selasphorus platycercus



Eared Grebe
Podiceps nigricollis



American Robin
Turdus migratorius



Cactus Wren
Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus



Gambel's Quail
Callipepla gambelii



Ash-throated Flycatcher
Myiarchus cinerascens



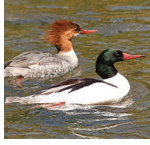
Chihuahuan Raven
Corvus cryptoleucus



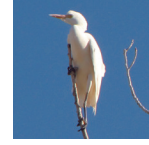
Great Blue Heron
Ardea herodias



Barn Swallow
Hirundo rustica



Common Merganser
Mergus merganser



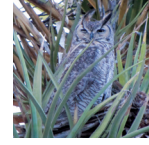
Great Egret
Ardea alba



Black-necked Stilt
Himantopus mexicanus



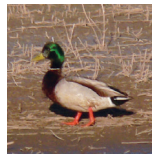
Cooper's Hawk
Accipiter cooperii



Great Horned Owl
Bubo virginianus



Great-tailed Grackle
Quiscalus mexicanus



Mallard
Anas platyrhynchos



Snowy Plover
Charadrius nivosus



Greater Roadrunner
Geococcyx californianus



Mourning Dove
Zenaida macroura



Solitary Sandpiper
Tringa solitaria



Greater Yellowlegs
Tringa melanoleuca



Northern Flicker
Colaptes auratus



Spotted Towhee
Pipilo maculatus



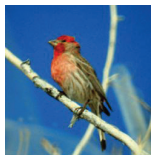
Horned Lark
Eremophila alpestris



Northern Harrier
Circus cyaneus



Swainson's Hawk
Buteo swainsoni



House Finch
Haemorhous mexicanus



Northern Mockingbird
Mimus polyglottos



Turkey Vulture
Cathartes aura



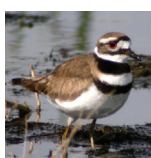
House Sparrow
Passer domesticus



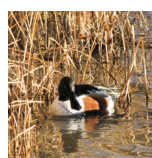
Northern Oriole
Icterus galbula



Western Kingbird
Tyrannus verticalis



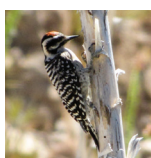
Killdeer
Charadrius vociferus



Northern Shoveler
Anas clypeata



Western Meadowlark
Sturnella neglecta



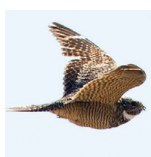
Ladder-backed Woodpecker
Picoides scalaris



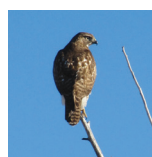
Pyrrhuloxia
Cardinalis sinuatus



White-crowned Sparrow
Zonotrichia leucophrys



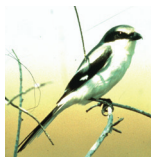
Lesser Nighthawk
Chordeiles acutipennis



Red-tailed Hawk
Buteo jamaicensis



White-winged Dove
Zenaida asiatica



Loggerhead Shrike
Lanius ludovicianus



Sandhill Crane
Grus canadensis



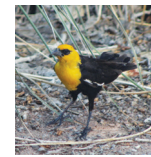
Wilson's Warbler
Cardellina pusilla



Long-billed Curlew
Numenius americanus



Say's Phoebe
Sayornis saya



Yellow-headed Blackbird
Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus



Long-eared Owl
Asio otus



Scott's Oriole
Icterus parisorum



Yellow Warbler
Setophaga petechia

Note: This is not a comprehensive bird list. For more information on White Sands National Monument, visit www.nps.gov/whsa

Revised 2/1/16