

**KEY**

Bar graphs indicate relative abundance of a species in suitable habitat at a given time of year:

- Common or Abundant**, present in large numbers.
- Fairly Common**, present in moderate numbers.
- Uncommon**, present in small numbers.
- Rare**, present in very small numbers; often highly localized.
- Very rare**, three or fewer occurrences per season; may not be present every year.
- Casual**, record outside of usual season of occurrence.
- Variable**, may be present in a given area one year, rare or absent the next.

- Winter** January through March
- Spring** April through June
- Summer** July through September
- Fall** October through December

Letter symbols denote the habitat(s) in which the species is most likely to occur:

- A Aerial
- C Cliffs, rocks, and talus slopes
- L Lakes, reservoirs, and marshes
- M Meadows, clearings, and other open terrain
- O Oaks, maples, and other hardwoods
- P Pines, firs, and other conifers
- R Rivers and streams
- S Shrubs
- W Willows, alders, cottonwoods, and other riparian hardwoods

- d (down) Winters primarily below heavy snow level (4,000' - 5,000') or wintering and migrant (nonbreeding) birds occur below elevation range indicated.
- u (up) Up-mountain drift or southward migration carries some individuals to treeline during summer.
- ? Available data are inconclusive.
- \* Breeds or has bred in park.
- l Introduced

		Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Habitat	Elev.
<b>DUCKS</b>	Canada Goose			•	• •	AL	2-7
	Mallard*					LR	2-10
	Green-winged Teal*	• •				RL	2-9
	Harlequin Duck*					R	4-9
	Bufflehead					LR	4-10
	Common Merganser*					LR	2-7
<b>QUAIL</b>	White-tailed Ptarmigan (l)*					M	10-12
	Sooty Grouse*					PSM	4-8u
	Wild Turkey (l)*					OP	2-4
	Mountain Quail*					SM	3-8d
	California Quail*					OS	2-4
	Pied-billed Grebe	•		•	• •	L	2-9
Eared Grebe	•				L	4-10	
Great Blue Heron					RLM	2-9d	
Turkey Vulture					AM	2-6	

		Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Habitat	Elev.
<b>HAWKS, EAGLES, FALCONS</b>	Osprey	• • •				LR	2-9
	Bald Eagle*					RLA	2-12
	Northern Harrier				•	M	2-11
	Sharp-shinned Hawk*					PA	2-9d
	Cooper's Hawk*					WPA	2-9d
	Northern Goshawk*					PA	4-10
	Red-shouldered Hawk					AOW	2-9d
	Red-tailed Hawk*					MA	2-11d
	Golden Eagle*					MAC	2-11
	American Kestrel*					MO	2-11d
<b>OWLS</b>	Peregrine Falcon*					AC	2-7
	Prairie Falcon*	•	• • •			MAC	8-11
	Virginia Rail*		•			L	2-7
	Killdeer*	•				LMR	2-9
	Spotted Sandpiper*				•	RL	2-11
	Wilson's Snipe				•	LMR	2-9
	California Gull				•	ALR	4-11
	Band-tailed Pigeon*					OP	2-7
	Mourning Dove*					MO	2-6
	<b>SWIFTS</b>	Flammulated Owl*					PO
Western Screech-Owl*						OP	2-5
Great Horned Owl*						MOPW	2-9
Northern Pygmy-Owl*						POW	2-6
Spotted Owl (California)*						PO	2-7
Great Gray Owl*						MP	4-8u/d
Long-eared Owl*		? ? ?			? ?	MW	2-7
Northern Saw-whet Owl*						POW	2-6
Common Nighthawk*?						A	2-7
Common Poorwill*			•		• •	MS	2-6
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>	Black Swift*	• •			•	AC	4-8
	Vaux's Swift*	•				PA	2-7
	White-throated Swift*					AC	2-8
	Anna's Hummingbird*					SM	2-8
	Calliope Hummingbird*					MSP	4-7u
	Rufous Hummingbird					MS	2-12
	Belted Kingfisher*					RL	2-9
	Lewis's Woodpecker	•	•			OP	2-10
	Acorn Woodpecker*					OP	2-5
	Williamson's Sapsucker*					P	6-9d
<b>THRUSHERS</b>	Red-naped Sapsucker					WP	2-7
	Red-breasted Sapsucker*					WP	2-8u
	Nuttall's Woodpecker*					O	2-4
	Downy Woodpecker*					WO	2-4u
	Hairy Woodpecker*					PWO	2-10
	White-headed Woodpecker*					PW	4-7
	Black-backed Woodpecker*					P	7-9
	Northern Flicker (Red-shafted)*					POWM	2-10d
	Pileated Woodpecker*					PO	4-7

		Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Habitat	Elev.
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>	Olive-sided Flycatcher*				•	P	4-9
	Western Wood-Pewee*					POW	2-9
	Willow Flycatcher		•		•	W	2-6
	Hammond's Flycatcher*				•	P	4-8
	Dusky Flycatcher*					PS	4-10
	Pacific-slope Flycatcher*				•	WO	2-5
	Black Phoebe*					RWM	2-9
	Say's Phoebe	• •				M	2-5
	Ash-throated Flycatcher*					SWO	2-5u
	Western Kingbird					M	2-4
<b>VIREOS</b>	Loggerhead Shrike		• •	•		MO	2-9
	Cassin's Vireo*	•				PO	2-6
	Hutton's Vireo*					O	2-5
<b>JAYS &amp; CROWS</b>	Warbling Vireo*				•	WPO	2-9
	Steller's Jay*					PO	2-9d
	Western Scrub-Jay*					SO	2-4
	Pinyon Jay					PO	3-9
	Clark's Nutcracker*					PM	6-12
<b>SWALLOWS</b>	American Crow	•			•	M	2-6
	Common Raven*					AMP	2-10d
	Horned Lark*	•				M	10-12d
	Tree Swallow*	•				WAM	2-9
	Violet-green Swallow*					APWO CLRM	2-9
	Northern Rough-winged Swallow*	•			•	RA	2-4
<b>WRENS</b>	Cliff Swallow*					RCA	2
	Barn Swallow*					MRA	2-4u
	Mountain Chickadee*					P	2-10
	Chestnut-backed Chickadee*					PO	2-5
	Oak Titmouse*					OW	2-5
	Bushtit*					SOW	2-6u/d
	Red-breasted Nuthatch*					P	2-8u/d
	White-breasted Nuthatch*					OP	2-10
	Pygmy Nuthatch*					P	2-7
	Brown Creeper*					P	4-10u/d
<b>THRUSHES</b>	Rock Wren*					C	2-3, 8-12d
	Canyon Wren*					C	2-5
	Bewick's Wren*					OS	2-6
	House Wren*	•			•	WS	4-7
	Winter Wren*					WOP	2-6
	Marsh Wren					ML	2-5
	American Dipper*					RL	2-10d
	Golden-crowned Kinglet*					P	4-8d
	Ruby-crowned Kinglet*					PSOW	7-9d
	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	•				S	2-7
<b>THRUSHES</b>	Western Bluebird*					OPM	2-10d
	Mountain Bluebird*					M	8-11d
	Townsend's Solitaire*					P	5-10d
	Swainson's Thrush	•			•	W	2-5
	Hermit Thrush*					PS	2-10d
	American Robin*					MWPO	2-10d
	Varied Thrush			•	•	OPW	2-5

	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Habitat	Elev.
Wrentit*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	S	2-7d
California Thrasher	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	SW	2-4
European Starling (I)*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MO	2-4
American Pipit*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	CM	10-12
Cedar Waxwing	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	POW	2-9d
Orange-crowned Warbler*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	WOSP	2-10
Nashville Warbler*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	OPW	3-8u
Yellow Warbler*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	WSO	2-9
Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's)*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	POMW	2-10d
Black-throated Gray Warbler*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	OP	2-7u
Townsend's Warbler	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	PW	2-10
Hermit Warbler*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	P	4-7
MacGillivray's Warbler*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	SW	2-8u
Common Yellowthroat	■■■■■	●●■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MWL	2-6
Wilson's Warbler*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	WM	4-10
Western Tanager*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	PW	2-8
Green-tailed Towhee*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	●	S	5-8u
Spotted Towhee*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	SW	2-7
California Towhee*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	OS	2-4
Rufous-crowned Sparrow	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MS	2-3
Chipping Sparrow*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	PM	2-10
Brewer's Sparrow	■■■■■	●●●■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	M	2-10d
Black-chinned Sparrow	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	S	2-5
Vesper Sparrow	■■■■■	●●■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	M	2-10d
Lark Sparrow	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	M	2-4
Savannah Sparrow*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	●	M	2-10
Fox Sparrow*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	S	5-8d
Song Sparrow*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	WM	2-9
Lincoln's Sparrow*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MW	4-10
White-crowned Sparrow (Mountain)*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MW	8-11
White-crowned Sparrow (Gambel's)	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MW	2-4
Golden-crowned Sparrow	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	SW	2-5
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MOPW	2-10d
Dark-eyed Junco (Slate-colored)	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MOW	2-4
Black-headed Grosbeak*	●●■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	OWP	2-6
Lazuli Bunting*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	WMS	2-7
Red-winged Blackbird*	●■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MLW	2-9
Western Meadowlark*	●■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	M	2-6u
Brewer's Blackbird*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MWP	2-10u
Brown-headed Cowbird*	■■■■■	●■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MWPO	2-10
Bullock's Oriole*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	WO	2-4
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	CM	9-13
Pine Grosbeak*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	PM	7-10
Purple Finch*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	OP	2-6
Cassin's Finch*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	PM	4-11
House Finch	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MOPW	2-5
Red Crossbill*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	P	4-11
Pine Siskin*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MP	7-10d
Lesser Goldfinch*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MS	2-6u
Lawrence's Goldfinch*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	MW	2-4
American Goldfinch	■■■■■	●■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	WM	2-4
Evening Grosbeak*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	PO	2-9
House Sparrow (I)*	■■■■■	■■■■■	■■■■■	●	OM	2-4

**Additional species recorded at least four times:**

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Snow Goose               | American Coot*            |
| Wood Duck*               | Wilson's Phalarope        |
| American Wigeon          | Red-necked Phalarope      |
| Blue-winged Teal*        | Red Phalarope             |
| Cinnamon Teal            | Ring-billed Gull          |
| Northern Shoveler        | Caspian Tern              |
| Northern Pintail         | Barn Owl                  |
| Canvasback               | Burrowing Owl             |
| Ring-necked Duck         | Black-chinned Hummingbird |
| Lesser Scaup             | Allen's Hummingbird       |
| Common Goldeneye         | Gray Flycatcher           |
| Hooded Merganser         | Black-billed Magpie       |
| Ruddy Duck               | Northern Mockingbird      |
| Common Loon              | Sage Thrasher             |
| Western Grebe            | Bohemian Waxwing          |
| American White Pelican   | Phainopepla               |
| Double-crested Cormorant | Black-and-white Warbler   |
| Great Egret              | American Redstart         |
| Snowy Egret              | Yellow-breasted Chat      |
| Swainson's Hawk          | Rose-breasted Grosbeak    |
| Rough-legged Hawk        | Indigo Bunting            |
| Merlin                   | Yellow-headed Blackbird   |
| Sora                     |                           |

**Additional species recorded fewer than four times:**

- |                           |                                 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Tundra Swan               | Eastern Kingbird                |
| Gadwall                   | Red-eyed Vireo                  |
| Barrow's Goldeneye        | Yellow-billed Magpie            |
| Greater Sage-Grouse       | Bank Swallow                    |
| Pacific Loon              | Tennessee Warbler               |
| Horned Grebe              | Virginia's Warbler              |
| Clark's Grebe             | Northern Parula                 |
| American Bittern          | Magnolia Warbler                |
| Green Heron               | Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle)* |
| Black-crowned Night-Heron | Blackpoll Warbler               |
| White-tailed Kite         | Cerulean Warbler                |
| Yellow Rail               | Ovenbird                        |
| Sandhill Crane            | Hooded Warbler                  |
| Black-necked Stilt        | Clay-colored Sparrow            |
| American Avocet           | Black-throated Sparrow          |
| Solitary Sandpiper        | Sage Sparrow                    |
| Greater Yellowlegs        | Grasshopper Sparrow             |
| Willet                    | White-throated Sparrow          |
| Least Sandpiper           | Harris' Sparrow                 |
| Greater Roadrunner        | Dark-eyed Junco (Gray-headed)   |
| Short-eared Owl           | Chestnut-collared Longspur      |
| Broad-tailed Hummingbird  | Blue Grosbeak                   |
| Northern Shrike           | Bobolink                        |
| Vermillion Flycatcher     | Great-tailed Grackle            |

Compiled in 1977 by David Gaines; revised in 1983 by D. Gaines, 1990 by Kristine Fister, Marla LaCass, Jon Winter, and Len McKenzie, 1993 by K. Fister, and 2009 by Sarah Stock and Travis Espinoza.

You can contribute to future revisions of this list by reporting detailed observations of less common species to [yose\\_birds@nps.gov](mailto:yose_birds@nps.gov) or to:

Wildlife Biologist  
Resources Management and Science  
Yosemite National Park  
P.O. Box 700  
El Portal, CA 95318

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



Yosemite National Park  
California

# Yosemite Bird Checklist



This checklist includes the 256 species of birds presently known to have occurred within the boundaries of Yosemite National Park and in El Portal. The bar graphs indicate seasonal occurrence and abundance of birds. For more detailed information, consult *Birds of Yosemite and the East Slope* (Gaines 1992). Help improve this checklist by reporting all unusual observations. Happy Birdwatching!

Observer(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Species \_\_\_\_\_