
A CHECKLIST OF THE BIRDS

OF

EL MALPAIS NATIONAL MONUMENT AND
NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

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FIFTY CENTS



NEW MEXICO

PUBLISHED BY SOUTHWEST PARKS AND MONUMENTS ASSOCIATION
221 NORTH COURT, TUCSON, ARIZONA 85701

1989

El Malpais National Monument and National Conservation Area, over 376,000 acres in size, is best known for its geologic and volcanic formations, but also hosts a diverse avifauna and contains a variety of bird habitats. The area has recorded over 190 species, despite the lack of large water bodies which would attract many additional species. The common names and sequence for this checklist generally follow that of the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist (6th Edition, 1983 and Supplements, 1985, 1987). This list is continually being revised, so further input is welcomed.

ABUNDANCE

The relative abundance of the birds listed are given as follows:

A—ABUNDANT: very numerous, almost always seen in suitable habitat

C—COMMON: likely to be seen in suitable habitat

U—UNCOMMON: present, but not certain to be seen in suitable habitat

O—OCCASIONAL: seen only a few times a season in suitable habitat

R—RARE: sometimes present in suitable habitat, and seldom seen

SEASONAL OCCURRENCE

Seasonal occurrence of birds listed are as follows:

P—Permanent resident

S—Summer resident

W—Winter visitor

M—Migrant in spring or fall

C—Casual, probably out of normal range

HABITATS

Primary bird habitats in the area are as follows:

L—LAVA BEDS: These extensive lava flows (some only 1,000 years old), partly covered by pinyon, juniper, ponderosa pine, aspen, and cacti, are primarily contained within the national monument. Typical birds include Cassin's kingbird, violet-green swallow, scrub jay, common raven, and mountain bluebird.

W—WOODLAND: Occupying the eastern and western edges of the area, pinyon and juniper dominate these higher elevations, with occasional stands of ponderosa pine and oak. Typical birds

include red-tailed hawk, mourning dove, Lewis' woodpecker, northern flicker, pinyon jay, mountain chickadee, and northern mockingbird.

C—SANDSTONE CLIFFS: Extending along highway 117, these high bluffs provide excellent nesting habitat for prairie falcon, white-throated swift, cliff swallow, and canyon wren.

G—GRASS/SHRUBLAND: Along the southern portion of the area, rubber rabbitbrush and four-wing saltbrush dominate the open landscape. Typical birds include American kestrel, horned lark, vesper sparrow, and western meadowlark.

R—RIPARIAN HABITAT/WATER AREAS: These productive zones are scattered throughout El Malpais, usually near streams, springs, or stock ponds, and are dominated by grasses, willows, and deciduous trees. Typical birds include killdeer, sora, American coot, and a variety of ducks (mostly migrants).

	ABUNDANCE	SEASONAL OCCURRENCE	HABITAT
BITTERNS, HERONS (<i>ARDEIDAE</i>)			
Great Blue Heron	U	S	R
Snowy Egret	O	M	R
Cattle Egret	O	M	R
Black-crowned Night-Heron	U	S	R
IBISES (<i>THRESKIORNITHIDAE</i>)			
White-faced Ibis	O	M	R
SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS (<i>ANATIDAE</i>)			
Mallard	C	S	R
Green-winged Teal	U	S	R
Blue-winged Teal	U	S	R
Cinnamon Teal	O	M	R
Northern Pintail	U	M	R
Northern Shoveler	U	M	R
Gadwall	U	M	R
American Wigeon	U	M	R
Canvasback	U	M	R
Common Goldeneye	R	M	R
Bufflehead	O	M	R
Ruddy Duck	O	M	R

	ABUNDANCE	SEASONAL OCCURRENCE	HABITAT
VULTURES (<i>CATHARTIDAE</i>)			
Turkey Vulture	A	S	All
EAGLES, HAWKS (<i>ACCIPITRIDAE</i>)			
Bald Eagle	R	W,M	R
Golden Eagle	O	P	All
Northern Harrier	U	W,M	G,R
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U	P	All
Cooper's Hawk	U	P	All
Northern Goshawk	O	P	W
Swainson's Hawk	U	S	All
Red-tailed Hawk	C	P	All
Ferruginous Hawk	U	W,M	G
FALCONS (<i>FALCONIDAE</i>)			
American Kestrel	A	P	All
Merlin	U	W,M	W,R
Peregrine Falcon	O	M,W	W,C
Prairie Falcon	U	P	C
GROUSE, TURKEYS, QUAIL (<i>PHASIANIDAE</i>)			
Wild Turkey	U	P	L,W
Scaled Quail	U	P	G
RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS (<i>RALLIDAE</i>)			
Virginia Rail	U	M	R
Sora	U	S	R
American Coot	C	S	R
PLOVERS (<i>CHARADRIIDAE</i>)			
Killdeer	C	P	R
Mountain Plover	O	S	G,R
STILTS, AVOCETS (<i>RECURVIROSTRIDAE</i>)			
American Avocet	O	M	R
SANDPIPERS, ALLIES (<i>SCOLOPACIDAE</i>)			
Solitary Sandpiper	U	M	R
Willet	U	M	R
Spotted Sandpiper	C	S	R
Long-billed Curlew	O	M	R
Least Sandpiper	C	M	R
Long-billed Dowitcher	O	M	G,R
Wilson's Phalarope	O	M	R

	ABUNDANCE	SEASONAL OCCURRENCE	HABITAT
GULLS, TERNS (<i>LARIDAE</i>)			
Ring-billed Gull	O	M	R
PIGEONS, DOVES (<i>COLUMBIDAE</i>)			
Rock Dove	U	P	G
Band-tailed Pigeon	U	S	L,W
White-winged Dove	R	C	R
Mourning Dove	A	P	All
CUCKOOS, ROADRUNNERS (<i>CUCULIDAE</i>)			
Greater Roadrunner	U	P	G
TYPICAL OWLS (<i>STRIGIDAE</i>)			
Flammulated Owl	O	S	W
Western Screech-Owl	O	P	L,W
Great Horned Owl	U	P	All
Northern Pygmy-Owl	O	P	L,W
Burrowing Owl	C	S	G
Long-eared Owl	O	P	All
Northern Saw-whet Owl	O	S	L,W
GOATSUCKERS (<i>CAPRIMULGIDAE</i>)			
Common Nighthawk	C	S	All
Common Poorwill	U	S	L,W,G
Whip-poor-will	R	S	R
SWIFTS (<i>APODIDAE</i>)			
White-throated Swift	C	S	C
HUMMINGBIRDS (<i>TROCHILIDAE</i>)			
Magnificent Hummingbird	R	C	W
Black-chinned Hummingbird	U	S	W,G
Calliope Hummingbird	O	M	L,W
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	C	S	All
Rufous Hummingbird	U	M	All
KINGFISHERS (<i>ALCEDINIDAE</i>)			
Belted Kingfisher	O	S	R
WOODPECKERS (<i>PICIDAE</i>)			
Lewis' Woodpecker	C	P	W
Acorn Woodpecker	U	P	W
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	U	S	L,W,R
Williamson's Sapsucker	U	S	L,W
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	R	P	G,W

If you would like to report your observations by sending a checklist, or if you require additional information, please contact:

El Malpais National Monument/National Conservation Area
P.O. Box 939
Grants, New Mexico 87020

Observer: _____ Date: _____

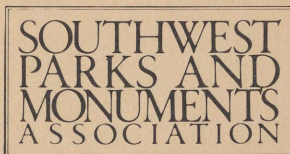
Address: _____

Birding Localities: _____

Weather: _____

Remarks: _____

1M/SPMA/1989



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	ABUNDANCE	SEASONAL OCCURRENCE	HABITAT
Downy Woodpecker	U	P	L,W
Hairy Woodpecker	U	P	L,W
Northern Flicker	C	P	L,W,R
FLYCATCHERS (TYRANNIDAE)			
Olive-sided Flycatcher	U	M	L,W
Western Wood-Pee-wee	U	S	L,W
Hammond's Flycatcher	U	M	L,W
Dusky Flycatcher	U	M	L,W
Gray Flycatcher	U	S	L,W
Western Flycatcher	R	S	L,W,R
Black Phoebe	O	S	W,R
Say's Phoebe	U	S	G,C
Ash-throated Flycatcher	U	S	G,W,R
Cassin's Kingbird	C	S	L,W,R
Western Kingbird	U	S	L,W,G
LARKS (ALAUDIDAE)			
Horned Lark	A	P	G
SWALLOWS (HIRUNDINIDAE)			
Purple Martin	U	S	W
Tree Swallow	O	M	L,W,R
Violet-green Swallow	A	S	L,W,R
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	U	M	R
Bank Swallow	O	M	R
Cliff Swallow	C	S	C
Barn Swallow	C	S	G
JAYS, MAGPIES, CROWS (CORVIDAE)			
Stellar's Jay	U	P	L,W
Scrub Jay	C	P	L,W
Pinyon Jay	C	P	W
Clark's Nutcracker	U	P	L,W
American Crow	U	P	All
Common Raven	A	P	All
CHICKADEES, TITMICE (PARIDAE)			
Mountain Chickadee	C	P	L,W
Plain Titmouse	C	P	L,W
BUSHTITS (AEGITHALIDAE)			
Bushtit	U	P	W

	ABUNDANCE	SEASONAL OCCURRENCE	HABITAT
NUTHATCHES (SITTIDAE)			
Red-breasted Nuthatch	U	P	W,R
White-breasted Nuthatch	C	P	L,W,R
Pygmy Nuthatch	U	P	L,W
CREEPERS (CERTHIDAE)			
Brown Creeper	U	P	L,W,R
WRENS (TROGLODYTIDAE)			
Rock Wren	C	P	C
Canyon Wren	C	P	C
Bewick's Wren	U	S	W,G,R
House Wren	U	M	All
Marsh Wren	O	M	R
THRUSHES (MUSCICAPIDAE)			
Golden-crowned Kinglet	R	M	L,W
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U	M	L,W
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	U	S	L,W
Western Bluebird	C	P	W
Mountain Bluebird	C	P	All
Townsend's Solitaire	U	W	All
Swainson's Thrush	R	M	L,W
Hermit Thrush	U	M,S	L,W
American Robin	C	M,S	All
MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS (MIMIDAE)			
Gray Catbird	O	M	R
Northern Mockingbird	A	S	All
Sage Thrasher	U	S	G
Bendire's Thrasher	O	S	G,W
WAGTAILS, PIPITS (MOTACILLIDAE)			
Water Pipit	O	M	R,G
WAXWINGS (BOMBYCILLIDAE)			
Cedar Waxwing	O	M,W	G,W
SILKY-FLYCATCHERS (PTILOGONATIDAE)			
Phainopepla	R	C	W
SHRIKES (LANIIDAE)			
Northern Shrike	O	W	W
Loggerhead Shrike	U	P	G

	ABUNDANCE	SEASONAL OCCURRENCE	HABITAT
STARLINGS (<i>STURNIDAE</i>)			
European Starling	O	P	All
VIREOS (<i>VIREONIDAE</i>)			
Solitary Vireo	U	S	W,R
Warbling Vireo	U	S	L,W,R
WARBLERS, NEW WORLD FINCHES, BLACKBIRDS, ALLIES (<i>EMBERIZIDAE</i>)			
Orange-crowned Warbler	U	M	G,W,L
Virginia's Warbler	U	S	L,W
Yellow Warbler	U	S	R
Yellow-rumped Warbler	U	M	L,W
Black-throated Gray Warbler	O	S	W
Townsend's Warbler	U	M	L,W
Grace's Warbler	U	S	L,W
American Redstart	O	M	W
Northern Waterthrush	U	M	R
MacGillivray's Warbler	U	M	G,L,W,R
Common Yellowthroat	U	S	R
Wilson's Warbler	U	M	All
Yellow-breasted Chat	U	M	R
Hepatic Tanager	O	S	L,W,R
Western Tanager	U	S	L,W
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	O	M	L,W
Black-headed Grosbeak	C	S	W
Blue Grosbeak	U	S	G,R
Lazuli Bunting	O	M	R
Indigo Bunting	O	M	R
Green-tailed Towhee	U	S	G,W
Rufous-sided Towhee	C	S	All
Brown Towhee	U	P	All
Rufous-crowned Sparrow	U	M	G
Chipping Sparrow	C	S	G,W
Brewer's Sparrow	U	M	G,W
Vesper Sparrow	A	S	G
Lark Sparrow	U	S	G,W
Sage Sparrow	U	M	G

	ABUNDANCE	SEASONAL OCCURRENCE	HABITAT
Lark Bunting	O	M	G
Savannah Sparrow	O	M	G
Song Sparrow	U	W	R
Lincoln's Sparrow	U	M	R
White-throated Sparrow	R	W	W
White-crowned Sparrow	U	W,M	G
Dark-eyed Junco	C	P	All
Red-winged Blackbird	C	P	R
Eastern Meadowlark	U	S	G
Western Meadowlark	C	P	G
Yellow-headed Blackbird	O	M	R
Brewer's Blackbird	U	S	R
Great-tailed Grackle	C	S	R
Common Grackle	O	S	R
Brown-headed Cowbird	C	S	All
Northern Oriole	U	S	R
Scott's Oriole	R	S	G,W
OLD WORLD FINCHES, ALLIES (<i>FRINGILLIDAE</i>)			
Cassin's Finch	U	W,M	W
House Finch	U	P	G,W
Red Crossbill	O	P	L,W
Pine Siskin	U	S	L,W
Lesser Goldfinch	C	S	G,W
American Goldfinch	U	W	R
Evening Grosbeak	U	M	L,W
OLD WORLD SPARROWS (<i>PASSERIDAE</i>)			
House Sparrow	C	P	G