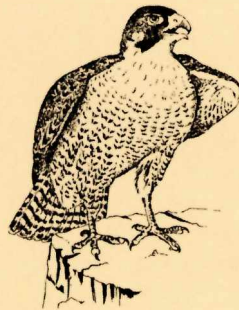


A CHECKLIST OF THE BIRDS

OF
EL MALPAIS NATIONAL MONUMENT

COMPILED BY ROBERT W. ALEXANDER



NEW MEXICO

PUBLISHED BY SOUTHWEST PARKS AND MONUMENTS ASSOCIATION

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2000

El Malpais National Monument, more than 114,000 acres in size, is best known for its geologic and volcanic formations, but also hosts diverse avifauna and contains a variety of bird habitats. The area has recorded more than 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

- C**.....**Common:** likely to be seen in proper habitat
U.....**Uncommon:** present, but not certain to be seen in proper habitat
O.....**Occasional:** present, but only occasionally seen in proper habitat
R.....**Rare:** present, but rarely observed in proper habitat
SP.....**Sporadic:** presence and numbers vary between years

X.....**Accidental:** Have been recorded in the park, but their status by season is not known. These species should be reported with supporting details including a photograph, drawing, or tape recording.

SEASONAL OCCURRENCE

- 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 pinon, juniper, ponderosa pine, aspen, and cacti, are primarily contained within the National Monument.

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

C-SANDSTONE CLIFFS: Extending along highway 117, these high bluffs provide excellent nesting habitat.

G-GRASS/SHRUBLAND: Along the southern portion of the are, rubber rabbit-brush and four-wing saltbrush dominate the open landscape.

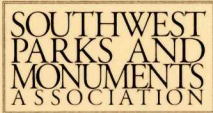
R-RIPARIAN HABITAT/WATER AREAS: These productive zones are scattered throughout El Malpais, usually near streams, springs, or stock ponds, and are dominated by grasses, willows, and deciduous trees.

	Abundance	Seasonal Occurance	Habitat
HERON (<i>ARDEIDAE</i>)			
Great Blue Heron (<i>Ardea herodias</i>)	U	S	R
Green-backed Heron (<i>Butorides striatus</i>)	O	S	R
Black-crowned Night-Heron (<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>)	U	S	R
EGRETS (<i>ARDEIDAE</i>)			
Snowy Egret (<i>Egretta thula</i>)	O	M	R
Cattle Egret (<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>)	O	M	R
IBISES (<i>THRESKIORNITHIDAE</i>)			
White-faced Ibis (<i>Plegadis chihi</i>)	O	M	R
DUCKS (<i>ANATIDAE</i>)			
Green-winged Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>)	U	S	R
Northern Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>)	U	M	R
Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>)	C	S	R
Blue-winged Teal (<i>Anas discors</i>)	U	S	R
Cinnamon Teal (<i>Anas cyanoptera</i>)	O	M	R
Norhern Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>)	U	M	R
Gadwall (<i>Anas strepera</i>)	U	M	R
American Wigeon (<i>Anas americana</i>)	U	M	R
Canvasback (<i>Aythya valisineria</i>)	U	M	R
Common Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>)	R	M	R
Bufflehead (<i>Bucephala albeola</i>)	O	M	R
Ruddy duck (<i>Oxyura dominica</i>)	O	M	R
PLOVERS (<i>CHARADRIIDAE</i>)			
Killdeer (<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>)	C	P	R
Mountain Plover (<i>Charadrius montanus</i>)	O	S	G,R
VULTURES (<i>CATHARTIDAE</i>)			
Turkey Vulture (<i>Cathartes aura</i>)	A	S	All
EAGLES & HAWKS (<i>ACCIPITRIDAE</i>)			
Bald Eagle (<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>)	R	W,M	R
Cooper's Hawk (<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>)	U	P	All
Golden Eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>)	O	P	All
Northern Goshawk (<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>)	O	P	W

	Abundance	Seasonal Occurance	Habitat
Northern Harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>)			
U	W,M	G,R	
Red-tailed Hawk (<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>)	C	P	All
Sharp-shinned Hawk (<i>Accipiter striatus</i>)	U	P	All
Swainson's Hawk (<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>)	U	S	All
Ferruginous Hawk (<i>Buteo regalis</i>)	U	W,M	G
FALCONS (<i>FALCONIDAE</i>)			
American Kestrel (<i>Falco sparverius</i>)	A	P	All
Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>)	U	W,M	W,R
American Perigren Falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>)	O	M,W	W,C
Prairie Falcon (<i>Falco mexicanus</i>)	U	P	C
QUAIL (<i>PHASIANIDAE</i>)			
Blue Grouse (<i>Dendragapus obscurus</i>)	U	P	G,W
Scaled Quail (<i>Callipepla squamata</i>)	U	P	G
Wild Turkey (<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>)	U	P	L,W
RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS (<i>RALLIDAE</i>)			
Virginia Rail (<i>Rallus limicola</i>)	U	M	R
Sora (<i>Porzana carolina</i>)	U	S	R
American Coot (<i>Fulica americana</i>)	C	S	R
STILTS, AVOCETS (<i>RECURVITROSTRIDAE</i>)			
American Avocet (<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>)	O	M	R
SANDPIPERS, ALLIES (<i>SCOLOPACIDAE</i>)			
Solitary Sandpiper (<i>Tringa solitaria</i>)	U	M	R
Willet (<i>Catoptrophorus semipalmatus</i>)	U	M	R
Spotted Sandpiper (<i>Actitis macularia</i>)	C	S	R
Long-billed Curlew (<i>Numenius americanus</i>)	O	M	R
Least Sandpiper (<i>Calidris minutilla</i>)	C	M	R
Long-billed Dowitcher (<i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i>)	O	M	G,R
Wilson's Phalarope (<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>)	O	M	R
GULLS, TERNS (<i>LARIDAE</i>)			
Ring-billed Gull (<i>Larus delawarensis</i>)	O	M	R
PIGEONS (<i>COLUMBIDAE</i>)			
Band-tailed Pigeon (<i>Columba fasciata</i>)	U	S	L,W

	Abundance	Seasonal Occurance	Habitat
Mourning Dove (<i>Zenaida macroura</i>)			
A	P	All	
Rock Dove (<i>Columba livia</i>)	U	P	G
White-winged Dove (<i>Zenaida asiatica</i>)	R	C	R
CUCKOOS (<i>CUCULIDAE</i>)			
Greater Roadrunner (<i>Geococcyx californianus</i>)	U	P	G
OWLS (<i>STRIGIDAE</i>)			
Barn Owl (<i>Tyto alba</i>)	C	P	L,C
Burrowing Owl (<i>Athene cunicularia</i>)	C	S	G
Flammulated Owl (<i>Otus flammeolus</i>)	O	S	W
Great Horned Owl (<i>Bubo virginianus</i>)	C	P	All
Long-eared Owl (<i>Asio otus</i>)	O	P	All
Mexican Spotted Owl (<i>Strix occidentalis lucida</i>)	R	P	L,W
Northern Saw-whet Ow (<i>Aegolius acadicus</i>)	O	S	L,W
Western Screech Owl (<i>Otus kennicottii</i>)	O	P	W
Northern Pygmy-Owl (<i>Glaucidium brasilianum</i>)	O	S	W
GOATSUCKERS (<i>CAPRIMULGIDAE</i>)			
Common Nighthawk (<i>Chordeiles minor</i>)	C	S	All
Common Poorwill (<i>Phalaenoptilus nuttallii</i>)	U	S	L,W,G
Whip-poor-will (<i>Caprimulgus vociferus</i>)	O	M	W
SWIFTS (<i>APODIDAE</i>)			
White-throated Swift (<i>Aeronautes saxatalis</i>)	C	S	C
HUMMINGBIRDS (<i>TROCHILIDAE</i>)			
Black-chinned Hummingbird (<i>Archilochus alexandri</i>)	U	S	W,G
Broad-tailed Hummingbird (<i>Selasphorus platycercus</i>)	C	S	All
Rufous Hummingbird (<i>Selasphorus rufus</i>)	U	M	All
Magnificent Hummingbird (<i>Eugenes fulgens</i>)	U	M	All
Calliope Hummingbird (<i>Stellula calliope</i>)	U	M	All
WOODPECKERS (<i>PICIDAE</i>)			
Acorn Woodpecker (<i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>)	U	P	W
Common Flicker (<i>Colaptes auratus</i>)	C	P	L,W,R
Downy Woodpecker (<i>Picoides pubescens</i>)	U	P	L,W
Hairy Woodpecker (<i>Picoides villosus</i>)	U	P	L,W

	Abundance	Seasonal Occurrence	Habitat
Lewis' Woodpecker (<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>)	C	P	W
Three-toed Woodpecker (<i>Picoides tridactylus</i>)	C	P	W,L
Williamson's Sapsucker (<i>Sphyrapicus thyroideus</i>)	U	S	L,W
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>)	U	S	L,W,R
Ladder-backed Woodpecker (<i>Picoides scalaris</i>)	R	P	G,W
FLYCATCHERS (TYRANNIDAE)			
Ash-throated Flycatcher (<i>Myiarchus cinerascens</i>)	U	S	G,W,R
Cassin's Kingbird (<i>Tyrannus vociferans</i>)	C	S	L,W,R
Cordilleran Flycatcher (<i>Empidonax occidentalis</i>)			
Dusky Flycatcher (<i>Empidonax oberholseri</i>)	U	M	L,W
Hammond's Flycatcher (<i>Empidonax hammondi</i>)	U	M	L,W
Gray Flycatcher (<i>Empidonax wrightii</i>)	U	M	L,W
Western Flycatcher (<i>Empidonax difficilis</i>)	U	M	L,W
Olive-sided Flycatcher (<i>Contopus borealis</i>)	U	M	L,W
Black Phoebe (<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>)	U	P	R
Say's Phoebe (<i>Sayornis saya</i>)	U	S	G,C
Willow Flycatcher (<i>Empidonax traillii extimus</i>)	U	S	G,W
Western Kingbird (<i>Tyrannus verticalis</i>)	U	S	L,W,G
Western Wood-Pewee (<i>Contopus sordidulus</i>)	U	S	L,W
LARKS (ALAUDIDAE)			
Horned Lark (<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>)	A	P	G
SWALLOWS (HIRUNDIDAE)			
Bank Swallow (<i>Riparia riparia</i>)	O	M	R
Barn Swallow (<i>Hirundo rustica</i>)	C	S	G
Cliff Swallow (<i>Hirundo pyrrhonota</i>)	C	S	C



	Abundance	Seasonal Occurrence	Habitat
Northern (<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>)	U	M	R
Rough-winged Swallow			
Purple Martin (<i>Progne subis</i>)	U	S	W
Tree Swallow (<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>)	O	M	L,W,R
Violet-green Swallow (<i>Tachycineta thalassina</i>)	A	S	L,W,R
JAYS (CORVIDAE)			
American Crow (<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>)	U	P	All
Clark's Nutcracker (<i>Nucifraga columbiana</i>)	U	P	L,W
Common Raven (<i>Corvus corax</i>)	A	P	All
Pinon Jay (<i>Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus</i>)	C	P	W
Scrub Jay (<i>Aphelocoma coerulescens</i>)	C	P	L,W
Steller's Jay (<i>Cyanocitta stelleri</i>)	U	P	L,W
CHICKADEES (PARIDAE)			
Black-capped Chickadee (<i>Parus atricapillus</i>)	C	P	L,W
Bridled Titmouse (<i>Parus wollweberi phillipsi</i>)	O	C	L,W
Mountain Chickadee (<i>Parus gambeli</i>)	C	P	L,W
Plain Titmouse (<i>Parus inornatus</i>)	C	P	L,W
BUSHTITS (AEGITHALIDAE)			
Bushtit (<i>Psaltiriparus minimus</i>)	U	P	W
CREEPERS (CERTHIIDAE)			
Brown Creeper (<i>Certhia americana</i>)	U	P	L,W,R
NUTHATCHES (SITTIDAE)			
Pygmy Nuthatch (<i>Sitta pygmaea</i>)	U	P	L,W
Red-breasted Nuthatch (<i>Sitta canadensis</i>)	U	P	W,R
White-breasted Nuthatch (<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>)	C	P	L,W,R
WRENS (TROGLODYTIDAE)			
Bewick's Wren (<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>)	U	S	W,G,R
Canyon Wren (<i>Catherpes mexicanus</i>)	C	P	C
House Wren (<i>Troglodytes aedon parkmanii</i>)	U	M	All
Marsh Wren (<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>)	O	M	R
Rock Wren (<i>Salpinctes obsoletus</i>)	C	P	C
THRUSHES (MUSCICAPIDAE)			

	Abundance	Seasonal Occurrence	Habitat
American Robin (<i>Turdus migratorius</i>)	C	M,S	All
Golden-crowned Kinglet (<i>Regulus satrapa</i>)	R	M	L,W
Hermit Thrush (<i>Catharus guttatus</i>)	U	M,S	L,W
Swainson's Thrush (<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>)	R	M	L,W
Mountain Bluebird (<i>Sialia currucoides</i>)	C	P	All
Ruby Crowned Kinglet (<i>Regulus calendula</i>)	U	M	L,W
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (<i>Polioptila Caerulea</i>)	U	S	L,W
Townsend's Solitaire (<i>Myadestes townsendi</i>)	U	W	All
Western Bluebird (<i>Sialia mexicana</i>)	C	P	W
MIMIC THRUSHES (MIMIDAE)			
Brown Thrasher (<i>Toxostoma rufum longicauda</i>)	O	C	W
Gray Catbird (<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>)	O	M	R
Northern Mockingbird (<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>)	A	S	All
Sage Thrasher (<i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>)	U	S	G
Bendire's Thrasher (<i>Toxostoma bendirei</i>)	O	S	G,W
WAGTAILS, PIPITS (MOTACILLIDAE)			
Water Pipit (<i>Anthus spinoletta</i>)	O	M	R,G
WAXWINGS (BOMBYCILLIDAE)			
Cedar Waxwing (<i>Bombycilla garrulus</i>)	O	M,W	G,W
SILKY-FLYCATCHERS (PTILOGONATIDAE)			
Phainopepla (<i>Phainopepla nitens</i>)	R	C	W
SHRIKES (LANIIDAE)			
Loggerhead Shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>)	U	P	G
Northern Shrike (<i>Lanius excubitor invictus</i>)	O	W	W
STARLINGS (STURNIDAE)			
European Starling (<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>)	O	P	All
VIREOS (VIREONIDAE)			
Gray Vireo (<i>Vireo vicinior</i>)	O	M	W
Solitary Vireo (<i>Vireo solitarius</i>)	U	S	W,R
Warbling Vireo (<i>Vireo gilvus</i>)	U	S	L,W,R
WARBLERS, FINCHES, ALLIES, ETC. (EMBERIZIDAE)			
American Redstart (<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>)	O	M	L,W

	Abundance	Seasonal Occurrence	Habitat
Black-and-white Warbler (<i>Mniotilta varia</i>)	O	M	L,W
Black-headed Grosbeak (<i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i>)	C	S	W
Black-throated Gray Warbler (<i>Dendroica nigrescens</i>)	O	S	W
Blue Grosbeak (<i>Guiraca caerulea</i>)	U	S	G,R
Brewer's Blackbird (<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>)	U	S	R
Brewer's Sparrow (<i>Spizella breweri</i>)	U	M	G,W
Brown Towhee (<i>Pipilo fuscus</i>)	U	P	All
Brown-headed Cowbird (<i>Molothrus ater</i>)	C	S	All
Canyon Towhee (<i>Pipilo fuscus</i>)	C	S	All
Cassin's Sparrow (<i>Aimophila cassinii</i>)	O	S	G,W
Chestnut-sided Warbler (<i>Dendroica pensylvanica</i>)	R	M	W
Chipping Sparrow (<i>Spizella passerina</i>)	C	S	G,W
Common Grackle (<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>)	O	S	R
Common Yellowthroat (<i>Geothlypes trichas</i>)	U	S	R
Dark-eyed Junco (<i>Junco hyemalis</i>)	C	P	All
Eastern Meadowlark (<i>Sturnella magna lilianae</i>)	U	S	G
Evening Grosbeak (<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i>)	C	P	L,W
Grace's Warbler (<i>Dendroica graciae</i>)	U	S	L,W
Great-tailed Grackle (<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>)	C	S	R
Green-tailed Towhee (<i>Pipilo chlorurus</i>)	U	S	G,W
Hepatic Tanager (<i>Piranga flava</i>)	O	S	L,W,R
Hooded Warbler (<i>Wilsonia citrina</i>)	R	C	L,W
Indigo Bunting (<i>Passerina cyanea</i>)	O	M	R
Lark Bunting (<i>Calamospiza melanocorys</i>)	O	M	G
Lazuli Bunting (<i>Passerina amoena</i>)	O	M	R
Lark Sparrow (<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>)	U	S	G,W
Lincoln's Sparrow (<i>Melospiza lincolni</i>)	U	M	R
Mcgillivray's Warbler (<i>Oporornis tolmiei</i>)	U	M	G,L,W
Northern Oriole (<i>Icterus galbula</i>)	U	S	R
Northern Waterthrush (<i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>)	O	M	R
Olive Warbler (<i>Peucedramus taeniatus</i>)	O	M	L,W,G
Orange-crowned Warbler (<i>Vermivora celata</i>)	U	M	G,W,L

	Abundance	Seasonal Occurrence	Habitat
Painted Redstart (<i>Myioborus pictus</i>)	O	S	L,W
Pine Grosbeak (<i>Pinicola enucleator montana</i>)	O	C	L,W
Red-winged Blackbird (<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>)	C	P	R
Rose-breasted Grosbeak (<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>)	O	M	L,W
Rufous-crowned Sparrow (<i>Aimopila ruficeps</i>)	U	M	G
Rufous-sided Towhee (<i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>)	C	S	All
Sage Sparrow (<i>Amphispiza belli</i>)	U	M	G
Savannah Sparrow (<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>)	O	M	G
Scott's Oriole (<i>Icterus parisorum</i>)	R	S	G,W
Song Sparrow (<i>Melospiza melodia</i>)	U	W	R
Townsend's Warbler (<i>Dendroica occidentalis</i>)	U	M	L,W
Vesper Sparrow (<i>Pooecetes gramineus</i>)	A	S	G
Virginia's Warbler (<i>Vermivora virginiae</i>)	U	S	L,W
Western Meadowlark (<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>)	C	P	G
Western Tanager (<i>Piranga ludovician</i>)	U	S	L,W
White-crowned Sparrow (<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>)	U	W,M	G
White-throated Sparrow (<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>)	R	W	W
Wilson's Warbler (<i>Wilsonia pusilla</i>)	U	M	All
Yellow-breasted Chat (<i>Icteria virens</i>)	U	M	R
Yellow-head Blackbird (<i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i>)	O	M	R
Yellow Warbler (<i>Dendroica petechia</i>)	U	S	R
Yellow-rumped Warbler (<i>Dendroica coronata</i>)	U	M	L,W
FINCHES (FRINGILLIDAE)			
Cassin's Finch (<i>Carpodacus cassinii</i>)	U	W,M	W
House Finch (<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>)	U	P	G,W
Lesser Goldfinch (<i>Carduelis psaltria</i>)	C	S	G,W
Pine Siskin (<i>Carduelis pinus</i>)	U	S	L,W
Red Crossbill (<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>)	O	P	L,W
American Goldfinch (<i>Carduelis tristis</i>)	U	W	R
Evening Grosbeak (<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i>)	U	M	L,W
OLD WORLD SPARROWS (PASSERIDAE)			
House Sparrow (<i>Passer montanus</i>)	C	P	G