SAN JACINTO WILDLIFE AREA BIRD LIST  
(including Lake Perris State Recreation Area)
by D. M. Morton, Updated February 2008

The following list includes 319 species that have been reported from the combined San Jacinto Wildlife Area and Lake Perris State Recreation Area. Two species, Black Rail, Curlew Sandpiper (queried?) have not been verified and one, Golden Plover sp., was only identified at the genus level. The list includes a few old records predating the establishment of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area and Lake Perris Recreation Area that are presumed to have been in or adjacent to this area. The checklist follows the taxonomy of the American Ornithologists’ Union (AOU) 1997 7th edition checklist and subsequent supplements.

The area covered by this list includes a wide variety of habitats ranging from open water at Lake Perris to dry coastal sage. Observational frequency is based on a full day of birding that includes the proper habitat for individual species. ‘Common’ indicates one or more individuals should be seen any day birding. ‘Uncommon’ indicates should be seen 25-50 % of days birding. ‘Rare’ indicates infrequently to very infrequently seen species. ‘Accidental’ refers to one to a few occurrences of a species and very unlikely to be seen.

The occurrence and frequency of water and shore birds is partly governed by ephemeral Mystic Lake that fills a shallow closed depression in the San Jacinto Fault Zone. When the closed depression floods to form Mystic Lake a large number of transient and wintering birds are attracted, providing excellent opportunities to study shore birds. Mystic Lake is the site of a number of accidental and rare recorded species in the area.

This list was compiled by D.M. Morton for the Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley. Major contributors to the compilation were Gene Cardiff, Cin-Ty Lee, Chet McGaugh, Bob McKernan, Greg Morton, and especially John Green. In the future the Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley are planning on producing an annotated list which will be posted here on our web site.

Note: The Friends want to thank D. M. Morton for all the time and work he put in to revising the San Jacinto Wildlife Area Bird List. Revising a bird list is not an easy or quick task. We would also like to thank all of those who took time to provide input, information, and comments on the list. The original bird list was published in April 1989 and this update will provide the birding community with more accurate information. Eventually, the bird list will be put into a compact form for ease of use.

KEY TO STATUS DESIGNATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>FREQUENCY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R = Resident</td>
<td>c = Common</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M = Migrant</td>
<td>u = Uncommon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V = Visitor</td>
<td>r = Rare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W = Winter Visitor</td>
<td>a = Accidental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S = Summer Visitor</td>
<td>N = Nests in area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N = Nests in area</td>
<td>fhN = formerly nested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nn = non-native</td>
<td>? = Questionable</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hyphenated frequencies indicates range in frequency (e.g, u-c indicates frequency in some years is uncommon and in other years common). Questionable refers to unverified whether identify of the bird or whether it nests within the area.
San Jacinto and Lake Perris Bird List  (fN indicates is a former nester)

**Anseriformes - Screamers, Swans, Geese, and Ducks**

*Anatidae - Ducks, Geese, and Swans*

- Fulvous Whistling-Duck \( r \) fN
- Greater White-fronted Goose \( uMW-rS \)
- Snow Goose \( r-uMW \)
- Ross's Goose \( r-uMW \)
- Brant \( rV \)
- Cackling Goose \( r-uMW \)
- Canada Goose \( u-cMW \)
- Tundra Swan \( rM \)
- Wood Duck \( rMW \)
- Gadwall \( cMWS \) N
- Eurasian Wigeon \( rMW \)
- American Wigeon \( cMWuS \)
- Mallard \( cR \) N
- Blue-winged Teal \( uMW \)
- Cinnamon Teal \( cMW rN \)
- Northern Shoveler \( cMW \)
- Northern Pintail \( cMW rN \)
- Green-winged Teal (*carolinensis*) \( cMW \)
- Eurasian (*crecca*) \( aW \)
- Canvasback \( cMW \)
- Redhead \( cMW rN \)
- Ring-necked Duck \( cMW \)
- Tufted Duck \( rMW \)
- Greater Scaup \( uMW \)
- Lesser Scaup \( cMW \)
- White-winged Scoter \( rM \)
- Long-tailed Duck \( rMW \)
- Bufflehead \( cMW \)
- Common Goldeneye \( rMW \)
- Hooded Merganser \( r-uMW \)
- Common Merganser \( cMWrS \)
- Red-breaster Merganser \( rMW \)
- Ruddy Duck \( cMWrS \) N?

**Galliformes - Gallinaceous Birds**

*Phasianidae - Partridges, Grouse, Turkeys, and Old World Quail*

- Ring-necked Pheasant \( CR \) nn

*Odontophoridae - New World Quail*

- California Quail \( CR \)

**Gaviiformes - Loons**

*Gaviidae - Loons*
Red-throated Loon rMW
Pacific Loon rMW
Common Loon u-cMW
Yellow-billed Loon aW

Podicipediformes - Grebes

Podicipedidae - Grebes
Pied-billed Grebe CR
Horned Grebe uMW
Red-necked Grebe a-rMW
Eared Grebe CR
Western Grebe cMW rN
Clark's Grebe uMW rN

Pelecaniformes - Totipalmate Birds

Sulidae - Boobies
Blue-footed Booby a

Pelecanidae - Pelicans
American White Pelican cMWr-uS
Brown Pelican rSM

Phalacrocoracidae - Cormorants
Double-crested Cormorant cV

Fregatidae - Frigatebirds
Magnificent Frigatebird a

Ciconiiformes - Herons, Ibises, Storks, American Vultures, and Allies

Ardeidae - Herons, Bitterns, and Allies
American Bittern uW
Least Bittern rS fN
Great Blue Heron cR N
Great Egret cMW
Snowy Egret cMW
Little Blue Heron a
Cattle Egret cMW N
Green Heron cR N
Black-crowned Night-Heron cR N

Threskiornithidae - Ibis
White-faced Ibis u-cV fN

Ciconiidae - Storks
Wood Stork r

Cathartidae - New World Vultures
Turkey Vulture cSuW N?
### Falconiformes - Diurnal Birds of Prey

**Accipitridae - Hawks, Kites, Eagles, and Allies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Osprey</td>
<td>cWvrs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-tailed Kite</td>
<td>cRN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bald Eagle</td>
<td>r-uW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Harrier</td>
<td>cMW N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharp-shinned Hawk</td>
<td>cMW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper's Hawk</td>
<td>cR N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harris's Hawk</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-shouldered Hawk</td>
<td>cR N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Eagle</td>
<td>uR N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swainson's Hawk</td>
<td>uM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zone-tailed Hawk</td>
<td>aV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-tailed Hawk</td>
<td>cR N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harlin's Hawk (harlani)</td>
<td>rWv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferruginous Hawk</td>
<td>uW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rough-legged Hawk</td>
<td>rMW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Falconidae - Caracaras and Falcons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crested Caracara</td>
<td>aV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Kestrel</td>
<td>cR N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merlin</td>
<td>uMW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peregrine Falcon</td>
<td>uMWS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prairie Falcon</td>
<td>uR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Gruiformes - Rails, Cranes, and Allies

**Rallidae - Rails, Gallinules, and Coots**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yellow Rail</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Rail</td>
<td>a?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Rail</td>
<td>cR N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sora</td>
<td>cMW N?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Moorhen</td>
<td>u-crN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Coot</td>
<td>cR N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gruidae - Cranes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sandhill Crane</td>
<td>aM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Charadriiformes - Shorebirds, Gulls, Auks, and Allies

**Charadriidae - Lapwings and Plovers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black-bellied Plover</td>
<td>uM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Plover sp.</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowy Plover</td>
<td>rM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semipalmated Plover</td>
<td>uM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Killdeer</td>
<td>cR N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Plover</td>
<td>r-uW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Recurvirostridae - Stilts and Avocets**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Avocet</td>
<td>cMR N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Black-necked Stilt cMR N

**Scolopacidae - Sandpipers, Phalaropes, and Allies**

Spotted Sandpiper uMW
Solitary Sandpiper rM
Wandering Tattler aV
Greater Yellowlegs cMW
Willet rM
Lesser Yellowlegs uMW
Whimbrel uM
Long-billed Curlew uMW
Hudsonian Godwit aV
Marbled Godwit uMrW
Ruddy Turnstone a-rM
Red Knot rM
Sanderling rM
Semipalmated Sandpiper rM
Western Sandpiper cMuW
Least Sandpiper cMW
Baird's Sandpiper r-uM
Pectoral Sandpiper r-uM
Dunlin uM
Curlew Sandpiper a?
Stilt Sandpiper rM
Buff-breasted Sandpiper aM
Ruff aM
Short-billed Dowitcher uM
Long-billed Dowitcher cMW
Wilson's Snipe u-cMW
Wilson's Phalarope uM
Red-necked Phalarope uM

**Laridae - Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers**

Laughing Gull rV or rM
Franklin's Gull rM
Little Gull a-rW
Bonaparte's Gull cWrS
Heerman's Gull a
Mew Gull rMW
Ring-billed Gull cMW
California Gull cMW
Herring Gull u-cW
Thayer's Gull r-uW
Western Gull rW
Glaucous-winged Gull rW
Sabine's Gull rM
Black-legged Kittiwake aW
Least Tern aV
Caspian Tern uM
Black Tern rM
Common Tern rM
Forster's Tern          uMSW
Black Skimmer         aV

**Sterrorniidae - Skuas**
Parasitic Jaeger      aV

**Columbiformes - Pigeons, and Doves**

* Columbidae - Pigeons and Doves
  - Rock Pigeon               cR nn N
  - Band-tailed Pigeon        rV
  - Eurasian Collared-Dove    uR nn N
  - Spotted Dove              a-r nn
  - White-winged Dove         rSV
  - Mourning Dove             cR N
  - Common Ground-Dove        rV
  - Ruddy Ground-Dove         aV

**Cuculiformes - Cuckoos and Allies**

* Cuculidae - Cuckoos, Roadrunners, and Anis
  - Yellow-billed Cuckoo      a-rM
  - Greater Roadrunner        cR N
  - Groove-billed Ani         a

**Strigiformes - Owls**

* Tytonidae - Barn Owls
  - Barn Owl                 u-cR N

**Strigidae - Typical Owls**

  - Western Screech-Owl       r-uV or R
  - Great Horned Owl          cR N
  - Burrowing Owl             uR N
  - Long-eared Owl            uR N
  - Short-eared Owl           r-uW

**Caprimulgiformes - Goatsuckers, Oilbirds, and Allies**

* Caprimulgidae - Goatsuckers
  - Lesser Nighthawk          uM fN
  - Common Poorwill           uM

**Apodiformes - Swifts, and Hummingbirds**

* Apodidae - Swifts
  - Black Swift               r-uV
  - Vaux's Swift              u-cM
  - White-throated Swift      u-cV N

**Trochilidae - Hummingbirds**

  - Black-chinned Hummingbird uS N
  - Costa's Hummingbird       cSuW N
  - Anna's Hummingbird        cR N
  - Calliope Hummingbird      rM
Rufous Hummingbird  uM
Allen's Hummingbird  rM

**Coraciiformes - Rollers, Motmots, Kingfishers, and Allies**

**Alcedinidae - Kingfishers**

Belted Kingfisher  cMW

**Piciformes - Puffbirds, Jacamars, Toucans, Woodpeckers, and Allies**

**Picidae - Woodpeckers**

Acorn Woodpecker  rV
Williamson's Sapsucker  aW
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker  aW
Red-naped Sapsucker  rMW
Red-breasted Sapsucker  rMW
Nuttall's Woodpecker  cR N
Downy Woodpecker  uR N
Hairy Woodpecker  rVW
Northern Flicker  cMW
Yellow-shafted Flicker  rV

**Passeriformes - Passerine Birds**

**Tyrannidae - Tyrant Flycatchers**

Olive-sided Flycatcher  uM
Western Wood-Pewee  cM
Willow Flycatcher  uM
Least Flycatcher  aW
Hammond's Flycatcher  uM
Gray Flycatcher  rMW
Dusky Flycatcher  rM
Pacific-slope Flycatcher  cM
Black Phoebe  cR N
Eastern Phoebe  rW
Say's Phoebe  cWuS N
Vermilion Flycatcher  r-uW
Ash-throated Flycatcher  cMuSrW N
Cassin's Kingbird  cMuR N
Western Kingbird  cMS N
Eastern Kingbird  aV
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher  aV

**Laniidae - Shrikes**

Loggerhead Shrike  u-cR N

**Vireonidae - Vireos**

Bell's Vireo  rMS N
Plumbeous Vireo  rM
Cassin's Vireo  uM
Warbling Vireo  cM

**Corvidae - Crows and Jays**
Steller's Jay
Western Scrub-Jay
American Crow
Common Raven

Alaudidae - Larks
Horned Lark

Hirundinidae - Swallows
Purple Martin
TreeSwallow
Violet-green Swallow
Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Bank Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow

Paridae - Chickadees and Titmice
Mountain Chickadee
Oak Titmouse

Aegithalidae - Long-tailed Tits and Bushtits
Bushtit

Sittidae - Nuthatches
Red-breasted Nuthatch
White-breasted Nuthatch

Certhiidae - Creepers
Brown Creeper

Troglodytidae - Wrens
Cactus Wren
Rock Wren
Canyon Wren
Bewick's Wren
House Wren
Winter Wren
Marsh Wren

Regulidae - Kinglets
Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Sylviidae - Old World Warblers and Gnatcatchers
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
California Gnatcatcher

Turdidae - Thrushes
Western Bluebird
Mountain Bluebird
Swainson's Thrush
Hermit Thrush u-cM
American Robin uW
Varied Thrush u-cW

**Mimidae - Mockingbirds and Thrashers**
Northern Mockingbird cR N
Sage Thrasher uM rW
Bendire's Thrasher a-r V
California Thrasher cR N
Le Conte's Thrasher aV

**Sturnidae - Starlings**
European Starling cR nn N

**Motacillidae - Wagtails and Pipits**
American Pipit cMW
Sprague's Pipit rMW

**Bombycillidae - Waxwings**
Cedar Waxwing uMW

**Ptilgnatidae - Silky-flycatchers**
Phainopepla uM N?

**Parulidae - Wood-Warblers**
Orange-crowned Warbler cM uW
Nashville Warbler uMrW
Lucy's Warbler a
Northern Parula rM
Yellow Warbler cMrW
Chestnut-sided Warbler rMW
Yellow-rumped Warbler
  Audubon's Warbler cMW
  Myrtle Warbler uM W
Black-throated Gray Warbler cMrW
Townsend's Warbler uMrW
Hermit Warbler uM
Palm Warbler rMW
Blackpoll Warbler rM
Black-and-white Warbler rM
American Redstart rM
Ovenbird rM
MacGillivray's Warbler uM
Common Yellowthroat cR N
Wilson's Warbler cM
Yellow-breasted Chat uM

**Thraupidae - Tanagers**
Western Tanager uM
**Emberizidae - Emberzids**

- Green-tailed Towhee \( rMW \)
- Spotted Towhee \( cR N \)
- California Towhee \( cR N \)
- Rufous-crowned Sparrow \( cR N \)
- American Tree Sparrow \( aW \)
- Chipping Sparrow \( uMW \)
- Clay-colored Sparrow \( rW \)
- Brewer's Sparrow \( uMW \)
- Black-chinned Sparrow \( rM \)
- Vesper Sparrow \( uMW \)
- Lark Sparrow \( cR N \)
- Black-throated Sparrow \( rV \)
- Sage Sparrow (Bell's) \( uR N \)
- Lark Bunting \( rMW \)
- Savannah Sparrow \( cMW \)
- Grasshopper Sparrow \( rW fN \)
- Fox Sparrow \( rMW \)
- Song Sparrow \( cR N \)
- Lincoln's Sparrow \( u-cMW \)
- Swamp Sparrow \( aW \)
- White-throated Sparrow \( rW \)
- Harris's Sparrow \( aW \)
- White-crowned Sparrow \( CMW \)
- Golden-crowned Sparrow \( r-uMW \)
- Dark-eyed Oregon
  - Slate-colored \( rW \)
  - Pink-sided \( rW \)
  - Gray-headed \( rW \)
- McCown's Longspur \( rW \)
- Lapland Longspur \( rW \)
- Chestnut-collared Longspur \( rW \)

**Cardinalidae - Cardinals, Saltators, and Allies**

- Black-headed Grossbeak \( u-cM \)
- Blue Grossbeak \( u-cS N \)
- Lazuli Bunting \( uMS N \)
- Indigo Bunting \( rM \)

**Icteridae - Blackbirds**

- Red-winged Blackbird \( cR N \)
- Tricolored Blackbird \( cSuW N \)
- Western Meadowlark \( cR N \)
- Yellow-headed Blackbird \( u-cSuW N \)
- Brewer's Blackbird \( cR N \)
- Great-tailed Grackle \( cR N \)
- Brown-headed Cowbird \( cR N \)
- Hooded Oriole \( uMS N \)
- Bullock's Oriole \( uMSrW N \)
- Scott's Oriole \( rM \)
**Fringillidae - Fringilline and Cardueline Finches and Allies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purple Finch</td>
<td>rV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House Finch</td>
<td>cR N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Crossbill</td>
<td>rW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pine Siskin</td>
<td>rW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesser Goldfinch</td>
<td>cR N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence's Goldfinch</td>
<td>uMS N?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Goldfinch</td>
<td>uRcMW N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Passeridae - Old World Sparrows**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>House Sparrow</td>
<td>cR nn N</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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