

Craters of the Moon

National Monument
U.S. Department of the Interior

Bird Checklist



While stark, barren lavas are the focal point of the 83-square mile monument, other habitats are well represented: limber pine forest; pockets of Douglas fir and aspen; extensive tracts of sagebrush, other shrubs, and grasses; and a few tiny riparian zones. These attract a variety of birds, and the monument's proximity to other ecosystems—marshes, mountains, forests and lakes—brings a wide spectrum of migrants and accidentals to the area. A surprising 159 species of birds have been reported at Craters of the Moon.

Few birds remain during the harsh winter. However, some are far northern species, difficult to find in the U.S. and therefore of interest to birders. Spring migrants reach a peak in May and early June, and as summer progresses, more than 50 species may nest. By mid-August, south-bound migrants are visible, pausing here to rest and forage.

Sightings by visitors are important additions to our wildlife records. Please report unusual bird sightings at the visitor center or write to:
Craters of the Moon National Monument
Resource Management Division
P.O. Box 29
Arco, ID 83213.

Key to Letter Codes

ABUNDANCE These codes reflect the likelihood of finding a given species in appropriate habitat throughout a given season.

- A** **Abundant**
Hard to miss
- C** **Common**
Seen most days, easy to find
- F** **Fairly common**
Seen annually, but not daily
- U** **Uncommon**
A few are seen most years

- R** **Rare**
Scarce, not seen yearly
- O** **Occasional**
Not present most years
- X** **Accidental**
Not expected; ≤ 3 records
- H** **Hypothetical**
An unverified record exists
- ◆** **Nesting species**
Has nested at Craters of the Moon


SEASONS

- Sp** **Spring** March-early June
S **Summer** early June-late August
F **Fall** late August-November
W **Winter** November-March

	Sp	S	F	W
LARGE WATER BIRDS				
___ Eared Grebe			X	
___ Great Blue Heron	O	O		
___ Tundra Swan	X			
___ Snow Goose	X			
___ Canada Goose	R	R		
___ Green-Winged Teal		X		
___ Mallard ◆		O		
___ Blue-Winged Teal		X		
GALLINACEOUS BIRDS				
___ Grey Partridge ◆		O	O	
___ Chukar ◆		O	O	
___ Ring-Necked Pheasant	X		X	
___ Blue Grouse ◆		U	U	
___ Ruffed Grouse			X	
___ Sage Grouse ◆	U	U	U	U

	Sp	S	F	W
HAWKS, EAGLES, AND FALCONS				
___ Turkey Vulture	R			
___ Bald Eagle			O	O
___ Northern Harrier ◆	U	U		
___ Sharp-Shinned Hawk ◆	U	U		
___ Cooper's Hawk		O	O	
___ Northern Goshawk			O	
___ Swainson's Hawk		R		
___ Red-Tailed Hawk ◆	U	U		
___ Ferruginous Hawk		O		
___ Rough-Legged Hawk				O
___ Golden Eagle ◆	U	U	U	U
___ American Kestrel ◆	F	F		
___ Merlin		O		
___ Prairie Falcon ◆	R	U	U	R



	Sp	S	F	W		Sp	S	F	W		Sp	S	F	W		
SHORE AND MARSH BIRDS						JAYS, CROWS, AND RAVENS						TANAGERS, GROSBEAKS, AND TOWHEES				
___ Sora			X			___ Steller's Jay	O	O			___ Western Tanager ♦	F	U			
___ Killdeer	R	R				___ Pinyon Jay		O			___ Black-Headed Grosbeak ♦		U			
___ Spotted Sandpiper		O				___ Clark's Nutcracker ♦	C	C	A	C	___ Lazuli Bunting ♦		F	U		
___ Wilson's Phalarope			X			___ Black-Billed Magpie ♦	R	R	F	R	___ Green-Tailed Towhee ♦					
___ Common Snipe			O			___ American Crow ♦	F	R			___ Rufous-Sided Towhee ♦	C	F	U		
GULLS AND TERNS						___ Common Raven ♦	C	C	C	C						
___ Ring-Billed Gull	O					___ Chihuahuan Raven			H							
___ California Gull	O					CHICKADEES, NUTHATCHES, WRENS, AND KINGLETS										
PIGEONS AND DOVES						___ Black-Capped Chickadee ♦	F	F	F	F	SPARROWS					
___ Rock Dove ♦	U	F	F	U	___ Mountain Chickadee ♦	F	F	F	F	___ Chipping Sparrow ♦	U	F				
___ Band-Tailed Pigeon		O			___ Red-Breasted Nuthatch	F	F	F	F	___ Brewer's Sparrow ♦	C	C	U			
___ Mourning Dove ♦	C	C			___ White-Breasted Nuthatch	U	R	U	R	___ Field Sparrow		X				
OWLS AND NIGHTJARS						___ Brown Creeper	R		R	___ Vesper Sparrow ♦	F	F	F			
___ Great Horned Owl ♦	U	U	U	U	___ Rock Wren ♦	C	C			___ Lark Sparrow		R				
___ Burrowing Owl		X			___ Northern House Wren ♦	U	U	R		___ Black-Throated Sparrow		X				
___ Barred Owl			H		___ Winter Wren	R		R		___ Sage Sparrow		O				
___ Short-Eared Owl ♦		R			___ American Dipper			X		___ Savannah Sparrow	O	O				
___ Long-Eared Owl ♦	R	R	O		___ Golden-Crowned Kinglet	R		R		___ Fox Sparrow ♦	R	R				
___ Northern Saw-Whet Owl ♦	R	R	R	R	___ Ruby-Crowned Kinglet	R		R		___ Song Sparrow ♦	U	U	U			
___ Common Nighthawk ♦		F			___ Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher	O	O			___ Lincoln's Sparrow	X					
___ Common Poorwill ♦		U			BLUEBIRDS, THRUSHES, AND THRASHERS											
HUMMINGBIRDS, KINGFISHERS, WOODPECKERS						___ Western Bluebird		X			___ White-Throated Sparrow			X		
___ Black-Chinned Hummingbird	R	R			___ Mountain Bluebird ♦	C	C			___ Golden-Crowned Sparrow				X		
___ Calliope Hummingbird	R	U			___ Townsend's Solitaire	R		R		___ White-Crowned Sparrow	F	U	F			
___ Rufous Hummingbird ♦	R	F			___ Swainson's Thrush	R		R		___ Dark-Eyed Junco	C		F			
___ Belted Kingfisher	O				___ Hermit Thrush	U		U		___ Snow Bunting				R		
___ Lewis' Woodpecker	R				___ American Robin ♦	C	A	F		BLACKBIRDS AND ORIOLES						
___ Red-Headed Woodpecker		X			___ Varied Thrush	O				___ Red-Winged Blackbird	X		X			
___ Sapsucker	F	R	U		___ Gray Catbird	X	X			___ Western Blackbird						
___ Williamson's Sapsucker	R				___ Sage Thrasher ♦	R	U	F		___ Meadowlark ♦	F	F	U			
___ Downy Woodpecker ♦	R	R	R	R	___ Brown Thrasher		X			___ Yellow-Headed Blackbird				X		
___ Hairy Woodpecker ♦	U	U	U	U	PIPITS, SHRIKES, WAXWINGS, AND STARLINGS											
___ Northern Flicker ♦	C	C	C	C	___ American Pipit			O		___ Brewer's Blackbird	C	A		X		
FLYCATCHERS						___ Bohemian Waxwing			O	R	___ Common Grackle		X			
___ Olive-Sided Flycatcher ♦		U			___ Cedar Waxwing	U	R	U		___ Brown-Headed Cowbird ♦	C	C				
___ Western Wood-Pewee ♦			F		___ Northern Shrike				R	___ Northern Oriole ♦		U				
___ Willow Flycatcher	X				___ Loggerhead Shrike ♦	R	R	R		FINCHES						
___ Hammond's Flycatcher	R				___ European Starling	O	O			___ Rosy Finch	R			R		
___ Dusky Flycatcher ♦	R	F			VIREOS AND WARBLERS											
___ Gray Flycatcher		X			___ Solitary Vireo	R		R		___ Pine Grosbeak			O			
___ Cordilleran Flycatcher			X		___ Warbling Vireo ♦		U			___ Cassin's Finch ♦	C	A	U			
___ Say's Phoebe ♦	U	U			___ Tennessee Warbler	X		X		___ House Finch		O				
___ Ash-Throated Flycatcher	X				___ Orange-Crowned Warbler ♦	U	F	R		___ Common Redpoll				R		
___ Western Kingbird	R		R		___ Nashville Warbler			X		___ Pine Siskin ♦	F	C	F	F		
___ Eastern Kingbird		O			___ Yellow Warbler ♦	U	F			___ American Goldfinch	R		R			
LARKS, SWIFTS, AND SWALLOWS						___ Yellow-Rumped Warbler	C	U	F		___ Evening Grosbeak	U	U	U		
___ Horned Lark			R	R	___ Townsend's Warbler	R		R		___ House Sparrow	O		O			
___ Tree Swallow		O			___ American Redstart	X										
___ Violet-Green Swallow ♦	F	A	R		___ Northern Waterthrush	X		X								
___ Barn Swallow ♦	C	A	F		___ MacGillivray's Warbler ♦	U	F	R								
___ White-Throated Swift	X				___ Wilson's Warbler ♦	U	F	R								
					___ Yellow-Breasted Chat	X		X								