

Checklist and Photographic Guide for the Birds of San Juan County, New Mexico

By Tim Reeves

© September 2016

Print this checklist on 8 ½ x 11" paper; single-sided = 7 pg; d-s = 4 pg.

See www.eBird.org for reported sightings and photos taken of those individual birds. Also bar graphs with weekly abundance of each species.

See www.nmbirds.org for rare bird hotline, database of NM bird sightings and photos.



Indigo Bunting X Lazuli Bunting hybrid male singing on territory in Animas Park, Farmington, NM, 09 July 2008. ©Tim Reeves, 2016.

S – Spring

S – Summer

F – Fall

W – Winter

March - May

June - July

August - November

December - February

Most species are documented. Undocumented Species are in ()

a = Abundant – easy to find, numerous

c = Common – certain in suitable habitats

u = Uncommon – not usually seen but a regular inhabitant

o = Occasional – usually seen a few times a season

r = Rare – seen once every few years

x = Accidental – recorded, unexpected

***** = Evidence of breeding

****** = Former breeder, no recent records

+ = Nest built, no documented young raised

I = Introduced

X = Formerly here, not seen in years

% = Native species, but not native here

= Probably not a wild bird

This checklist is based on the Four Corners Bird Club members' sightings, the author's sightings and photographs, and sightings by Frank & Valerie Bowman, John & Jan Rees, and Alan Nelson, and published records on eBird.org and in *Audubon Field Notes*, *American Birds*, and *New Mexico Ornithological Society Field Notes*, and *NMOS Online Searchable Database*, and with many records submitted by members of the Tuesday Morning Bird Walking Group in Animas Park, and the records kept of Animas and Berg Parks by Donna Thatcher. Report unusual, accidental and rare sightings to Tim Reeves 505 330-8766, northern.parula@rocketmail.com.

	S	S	F	W
WATERFOWL				
Greater White-fronted Goose	o	_	x	o
Greater White-fronted Goose X Canada Goose	x?	_	_	x
Graylag Goose (I)	u	u	u	u
Snow Goose	o	r?	o	c
Blue morph	_	_	_	o
White morph	o	r?	o	c
Ross's Goose	o	_	o	u
Blue morph	_	_	_	o
White morph	_	_	_	u
(Barnacle Goose)%	_	_	_	x
Cackling Goose	_	_	_	_
Canada Goose*	u	u	c	c
(Mute Swan) (I)	_	_	_	_
Trumpeter Swan%	u	_	?	u
Tundra Swan	_	r	r	o
Egyptian Goose (I)	_	_	_	r
Muscovy Duck (I)	u	u	u	u
Wood Duck*	o	o	c	o
Gadwall	c	o	c	u
Eurasian Wigeon	x	_	_	_
American Wigeon	u	o	c	c
Mallard*	c	a	a	a
Northern	c	a	a	a
(Mexican)	r	_	_	_
Mallard hybrid Northern ssp. X Mexican ssp.	_	_	_	u
Mallard X American Wigeon	_	_	_	x
Blue-winged Teal	u	o	u	r
Cinnamon Teal*	c	c	c	o
Northern Shoveler	u	o	c	u
Northern Pintail	u	o	c	c
Green-winged Teal	c	o	c	c
Canvasback	o	_	u	u
Redhead*	o	o	u	u
Ring-necked Duck*	u	_	u	c
Greater Scaup	r	_	r	o
Lesser Scaup	o	_	u	u
Surf Scoter	x	x	r	_
White-winged Scoter	_	_	x	_
Long-tailed Duck	_	_	_	x

	S	S	F	W
Bufflehead	u	_	c	c
Common Goldeneye	_	r	o	u
Barrow's Goldeneye X	_	_	u	u
Hooded Merganser	u	_	_	o
Common Merganser*	u	o	u	u
Red-breasted Merganser	_	_	x	x
Ruddy Duck*	c	o	c	u
QUAIL				
Scaled Quail*(I)	u	u	u	u
Gambel's Quail*	u	u	u	u
PHEASANTS,GROUSE, TURKEYS				
Chukar*(I)	r	r	r	r
Ring-necked Pheasant*(I)	c	c	c	c
Dusky Grouse	r	r	r	r
Wild Turkey*	u	u	u	u
LOONS				
(Red-throated Loon)	x	_	_	x
Pacific Loon	_	_	_	x
Common Loon	u	r	r	u
Yellow-billed Loon	x	_	_	x
GREBES				
(Least Grebe)	x	_	_	_
Pied-billed Grebe*	u	o	u	u
Horned Grebe	x	_	_	r
Red-necked Grebe	_	_	x	x
Eared Grebe*	u	o	u	u
Western Grebe	u	u	c	u
Clark's Grebe	o	u	o	o
Western Grebe X Clark's Grebe hybrid	x	_	_	_
SHEARWATERS and PETRELS				
(Audubon's Shearwater)	_	x	_	_
CORMORANTS				
Neotropic Cormorant	x	x	x	_
Double-crested Cormorant	u	u	r	o
PELICANS				
American White Pelican	o	r	o	r
Brown Pelican	u	u	x	_
HERONS				
American Bittern*	u	u	r	o
Least Bittern**	_	x	_	_
Great Blue Heron*	u	c	c	c

	S	S	F	W
Great Egret	r	x	r	x
Snowy Egret	u	u	u	_
Little Blue Heron	x	_	x	_
Cattle Egret	r	_	r	_
Green Heron*	o	c	o	r
Black-crowned Night-Heron*	c	c	c	c
IBISES				
Glossy Ibis	x	u	_	_
White-faced Ibis*?	u	c	u	_
White-faced X glossy Ibis	r	r	_	_
NEW WORLD VULTURES				
Turkey Vulture*	c	c	c	_
California Condor (I)	_	_	_	x
OSPREYS				
Osprey*	o	c	o	_
EAGLES, HAWKS				
(White-tailed Kite)	_	_	_	_
Mississippi Kite	x	x	_	_
Bald Eagle*+	u	r	u	c
Northern Harrier*	c	c	c	c
Sharp-shinned Hawk*	o	r	u	c
Cooper's Hawk*	u	c	c	c
Northern Goshawk*	u	u	u	o
Common Black-Hawk	_	x	_	_
Harris's Hawk#	x	_	_	x
Broad-winged Hawk	_	_	_	x
Swainson's Hawk*				
light morph	c	u	o	_
dark morph	_	_	_	x
Zone-tailed Hawk	x	_	_	_
Red-tailed Hawk*				
Western (<i>calurus</i>)	c	c	c	c
light morph	c	c	c	c
rufous morph		u	u	u
dark morph		_	_	r
Southwestern (<i>fuertes</i>)	_	_	_	_
<i>calurus x fuertes</i>	_	_	_	_
Eastern (<i>borealis</i>)	_	_	_	x
Krider's	_	_	x	_
Harlan's	_	_	_	r
light morph	_	_	_	_

	S	S	F	W
dark morph	_	_	_	r
Ferruginous Hawk*				
light morph	c	u	c	c
rufous morph	u	u	u	u
dark morph	u	u	u	u
Rough-legged Hawk				
light morph	r	_	o	u
brown morph	_	_	_	r
dark morph	_	_	_	_
Golden Eagle*	o	o	u	u
RAILS, GALINULES, and COOTS				
Virginia Rail*	c	c	u	o
Sora*	c	c	u	o
Common Gallinule** X	_	_	_	r
American Coot*	c	u	a	a
CRANES				
Sandhill Crane	u	u	u	u
Whooping Crane%	_	_	x	_
STILTS and AVOCETS				
Black-necked Stilt*	o	o	r	_
American Avocet*	c	o	u	_
PLOVERS				
Black-bellied Plover	o	_	o	r
Snowy Plover	u	_	u	_
Semipalmated Plover	o	o	o	_
Killdeer*	c	c	c	u
Mountain Plover*	_	r	r	_
SANDPIPERS and PHALAROPES				
Spotted Sandpiper*	c	c	c	c
Solitary Sandpiper	r	x	r	_
Wandering Tattler	_	_	x	_
Greater Yellowlegs	u	u	u	r
Willet	u	u	u	_
Lesser Yellowlegs	o	u	u	_
Whimbrel	r	r	_	_
Long-billed Curlew	o	r	o	r
Marbled Godwit	u	r	o	_
Ruddy Turnstone	x	_	x	_
(Red Knot)	_	x	r	_
Stilt Sandpiper	u	u	u	_
Sanderling	o	r	o	_

	S	S	F	W
Dunlin	_	_	r	r
Baird's Sandpiper	r	u	o	_
Least Sandpiper	c	u	c	r
White-rumped Sandpiper	x	u	_	_
Pectoral Sandpiper	_	u	o	_
Semipalmated Sandpiper	u	r	u	_
Western Sandpiper	c	c	u	_
Short-billed Dowitcher	x	_	x	x
Long-billed Dowitcher	o	o	u	r
Wilson's Snipe	o	_	o	u
Wilson's Phalarope	c	o	c	_
Red-necked Phalarope	r	_	r	_
(Red Phalarope)	_	_	_	_
GULLS, TERNS and SKIMMERS				
(Black-legged Kittiwake)	_	_	_	_
Sabine's Gull	_	_	u	_
Bonapart's Gull	o	r	o	x
Laughing Gull	_	x	x	_
Franklin's Gull	c	o	u	r
Mew Gull	u	r	r	u
Ring-billed Gull	c	a	c	c
California Gull	u	c	o	c
Ring-billed Gull X California Gull	_	_	_	x
Herring Gull	o	_	o	o
Herring Gull hybrid	_	_	_	x
Thayer's Gull	x	_	_	o
Lesser Black-backed Gull	_	_	_	o
Glaucous Gull	x	_	_	x
Least Tern	u	r	_	_
Caspian Tern	r	r	x	_
Black Tern	u	u	u	_
Common Tern	_	u	u	_
Arctic Tern	r	r	_	_
Forster's Tern	c	o	u	_
Elegant Tern	_	x	_	_
Black Skimmer	x	_	_	_
PIGEONS and DOVES				
Rock Pigeon*	c	c	c	c
Band-tailed Pigeon*	u	u	u	u
Eurasian Collared-Dove*	a	a	a	a
Inca Dove	x	x	x	r

	S	S	F	W
(Common Ground Dove)	x	_	_	_
White-winged Dove*	u	u	u	u
Mourning Dove*	c	c	c	c
CUCKOOS				
Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	x	o	r	_
Greater Roadrunner	r	r	r	r
BARN OWLS				
Barn Owl*	u	u	u	r
TYPICAL OWLS				
Flammulated Owl*	r	u	_	_
Western Screech-Owl*	u	u	u	u
Great Horned Owl*	c	c	c	c
Northern Pygmy-Owl*	u	u	u	u
Burrowing Owl*	u	u	u	r
Spotted Owl*X	_	x	_	_
Long-eared Owl*	c	c	c	c
Short-eared Owl	r	_	r	r
Northern Saw-whet Owl*	_	r	r	u
GOATSUCKERS				
Common Nighthawk*	o	o	o	_
Common Poorwill *	_	u	u	_
SWIFTS				
Black Swift	_	x	x	_
<i>Chaetura sp.</i> (Chimney or Vaux's Swift)	x	_	_	_
White-throated Swift*	c	c	c	r
HUMMINGBIRDS				
Magnificent Hummingbird	u	u	u	_
(Blue-throated Hummingbird)	_	r	_	_
Black-chinned Hummingbird*	c	c	c	_
(Anna's Hummingbird)	_	_	x	_
(Costa's Hummingbird)	?	_	_	_
Rufous Hummingbird	x	a	c	_
Broad-tailed Hummingbird*	c	c	u	_
Calliope Hummingbird	_	o	o	_
(Broad-billed Hummingbird)	_	_	x	_
KINGFISHERS				
Belted Kingfisher*	u	u	u	u
WOODPECKERS				
Lewis's Woodpecker*	u	u	u	c
Red-headed Woodpecker*	_	u	_	_
Acorn Woodpecker*	o	o	o	_

	S	S	F	W
Red-bellied Woodpecker	—	—	—	x
Williamson's Sapsucker*	—	u	o	u
Red-naped Sapsucker*	o	o	u	u
Red-naped X Red-breasted Sapsucker	—	—	r	—
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	x	—	—	—
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	—	x	x	x
Downy Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
Hairy Woodpecker*	u	o	u	u
American Three-toed Woodpecker*	r	r	r	r
Northern Flicker*	c	c	c	c
Yellow-shafted	x	x	x	x
Red-shafted*	c	c	c	c
Yellow-shafted X Red-shafted	—	—	—	r
CARACARAS and FALCONS				
Crested Caracara (I)	—	—	x	—
American Kestrel*	c	u	c	c
Merlin	r	—	r	u
Peregrine Falcon*	u	u	u	u
Prairie Falcon*	u	u	u	u
TYRANT FLYCATCHERS				
Olive-sided Flycatcher*	o	u	o	—
Western Wood-Pewee*	c	c	c	—
Willow Flycatcher*	u	u	u	—
Hammond's Flycatcher*	u	u	u	—
Gray Flycatcher*	u	c	o	—
Dusky Flycatcher*	u	u	u	—
Cordilleran Flycatcher	u	r	u	—
Black Phoebe*	u	o	x	—
(Eastern Phoebe)	r	—	—	—
Say's Phoebe*	c	c	c	o
(Vermillion Flycatcher)	x	—	x	—
Ash-throated Flycatcher*	c	c	u	—
Cassin's Kingbird*	u	c	o	—
Western Kingbird*	c	a	c	r
Eastern Kingbird*	o	o	x	—
(Scissor-tailed Flycatcher)	x	x	—	—
SHRIKES				
Loggerhead Shrike*	c	c	c	c
Northern Shrike	o	—	r	o
VIREOS				
White-eyed Vireo	—	x	—	—

	S	S	F	W
(Bell's Vireo)	—	x	—	—
Gray Vireo*	u	c	u	—
Plumbeous Vireo*	c	c	u	—
Cassin's Vireo	c	—	c	—
(Hutton's Vireo)	—	x	—	—
Warbling Vireo*	c	u	c	—
(Red-eyed Vireo)	x?	—	x	—
JAYS, CROWS				
Pinyon Jay *	u	u	u	u
Steller's Jay*	c	c	c	c
(Blue Jay)	—	—	—	x
Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay*	u	u	u	u
Clark's Nutcracker*	o	o	o	o
Black-billed Magpie*	u	u	u	u
American Crow*	c	c	c	c
Common Raven*	a	a	a	a
LARKS				
Horned Lark*	a	a	a	a
SWALLOWS				
Purple Martin*	u	u	r	—
Tree Swallow	c	r	u	r
Violet-green Swallow*	c	c	u	—
Northern Rough-winged Swallow*	c	c	c	—
Bank Swallow*	o	r	o	—
Cliff Swallow*	c	a	c	—
Barn Swallow*	c	a	c	—
CHICKADEES and TITMICE				
Black-capped Chickadee*	c	c	c	c
Mountain Chickadee*	c	c	c	c
Juniper Titmouse*	u	u	u	u
BUSHTITS				
Bushtit*	c	c	c	c
NUTHATCHES				
Red-breasted Nuthatch*	u	u	u	u
White-breasted Nuthatch*	c	c	c	c
Pygmy Nuthatch*	c	c	c	c
CREEPERS				
Brown Creeper*	c	c	c	c
WRENS				
Rock Wren*	c	c	c	o
Canyon Wren*	u	c	u	o

	S	S	F	W
House Wren*	c	c	c	r
(Winter Wren)	x	_	x	x
(Sedge Wren)	_	_	_	x
Marsh Wren*	c	c	c	u
Bewick's Wren*	c	c	c	c
GNATCATCHERS				
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	c	c	c	r
DIPPERS				
American Dipper	x	x	x	u
KINGLETS				
Golden-crowned Kinglet	x	_	o	r
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	c	c	c	u
THRUSHES				
Eastern Bluebird	_	_	_	x
Western Bluebird*	c	c	c	c
Mountain Bluebird*	c	c	c	c
Townsend's Solitaire	o	o	o	u
Swainson's Thrush	r	x	x	_
Hermit Thrush	u	u	u	u
American Robin*	a	c	c	a
Varied Thrush	_	_	x	x
MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS				
Gray Catbird	r	r	r	_
(Curve-billed Thrasher)	r	r	x	_
(Brown Thrasher)	o	_	o	x
Bendire's Thrasher*	r	r	r	_
Sage Thrasher*	u	u	u	o
Northern Mockingbird*	c	c	u	o
STARLINGS				
European Starling*	a	a	a	a
PIPITS				
American Pipit	o	_	o	u
WAXWINGS				
Bohemian Waxwing	r	_	r	r
Cedar Waxwing*	c	c	c	c
SILKY-FLYCATCHERS				
Phainopepla	r	r	_	_
LONGSPURS				
(McCown's Longspur)	_	_	x	_
Chestnut-collared Longspur	u	_	r	_
WOOD-WARBLERS				

	S	S	F	W
(Ovenbird)	r	x	x	_
(Worm-eating Warbler)	x	_	x	_
Northern Waterthrush	u	_	u	_
Blue-winged Warbler	x	_	_	_
(Black-and white Warbler)	r	x	_	_
Prothonotary Warbler	_	_	x	_
(Tennessee Warbler)	x	_	r?	_
Orange-crowned Warbler*	c	_	c	r
Lucy's Warbler	r	r	r	_
Nashville Warbler	r	_	u	_
Virginia's Warbler*	o	r	r	_
McGillivray's Warbler*	u	x	c	_
Kentucky Warbler	_	x	_	_
Common Yellowthroat*	c	c	c	x
(American Redstart)	u	_	r	_
(Cape May Warbler)	x	_	x?	_
Northern Parula	x	_	_	x
Yellow-rumped Warbler*	c	c	c	c
Audubon's*	a	c	c	c
Myrtle	o	r	o	u
Audubon's X Myrtle	r	r	r	c
(Magnolia Warbler)	_	_	x	_
(Bay-breasted Warbler)	x	_	_	_
Yellow Warbler*	c	c	c?	_
Chestnut-sided Warbler	x?	_	x	_
Blackpoll Warbler	x	_	x	_
Black-throated Blue Warbler	_	_	x	x?
(Palm Warbler)	x	_	_	_
(Yellow-throated Warbler)	_	x	_	_
Grace's Warbler*	c	c	c	_
Black-throated Gray Warbler*	u	u	u	_
Townsend's Warbler	o	_	o	_
(Black-throated Green Warbler)	x	_	x	_
Wilson's Warbler	c	r	c	x
Yellow-breasted Chat*	c	c	u	_
SPARROWS				
Green-tailed Towhee	u	u	u	x
Spotted Towhee*	c	c	c	c
(Rufous-crowned Sparrow)	x	_	_	_
Canyon Towhee*	c	c	c	c
Cassin's Sparrow*	_	u	_	_

	S	S	F	W
American Tree Sparrow	_	_	u	u
Chipping Sparrow*	a	c	c	r
(Clay-colored Sparrow)	x	_	_	_
Brewer's Sparrow*	c	c	c	_
(Black-chinned Sparrow)	x	_	_	_
Vesper Sparrow*	c	u	c	_
Lark Sparrow*	c	c	c	_
Black-throated Sparrow*	c	c	c	_
Sagebrush Sparrow*	u	c	c	u
Lark Bunting*	u	o	o	_
Savannah Sparrow	u	u	u	r
(Grasshopper Sparrow)	_	_	x	_
(Baird's Sparrow)	x	_	_	_
Fox Sparrow	x	_	_	_
Song Sparrow*	c	c	c	c
Lincoln's Sparrow	o	_	r	r
Swamp Sparrow	_	_	_	r
White-throated Sparrow	o	_	_	o
Harris's Sparrow	o	_	r?	o
White-crowned Sparrow				
White-lored	a	r	c	a
Dark-lored	c	r	r	u
Golden-crowned Sparrow	r	_	r	r
Dark-eyed Junco				
Slate-colored	_	_	r	u
White-winged	_	_	x	x
Oregon	a	_	c	a
Pink-sided	_	_	u	c
Gray-headed*	c	c	c	c
Canadian Rocky Mts	_	_	_	o
TANAGERS,CARDINAL, GROSBEAKS				
Hepatic Tanager	x	_	x	_
(Summer Tanager)	x	r	r	_
(Scarlet Tanager)	x	_	_	_
Western Tanager*	c	c	c	_
(Northern Cardinal)	_	_	_	_
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	o	r	r	_
Black-headed Grosbeak*	c	c	c	_
Blue Grosbeak*	u	c	c	_
Lazuli Bunting*	c	c	u	_
Indigo Bunting*	r	r	r	_

	S	S	F	W
Lazuli X Indigo Bunting*	u	u	_	_
Lazuli X [inbu X lazuli]	_	x	_	_
Painted Bunting	x	_	_	_
(Dickcissel)	_	x	x	_
BLACKBIRDS				
(Bobolink)	x	x	_	_
Red-winged Blackbird*	a	a	a	a
(Eastern Meadowlark)	_	_	_	x
Western Meadowlark*	a	a	a	c
Yellow-headed Blackbird*	u	u	u	u
Rusty Blackbird	_	_	_	x
Brewer's Blackbird*	a	a	a	c
Common Grackle*	o	u	_	r
Great-tailed Grackle*	u	u	u	c
Brown-headed Cowbird*	c	c	u	o
Orchard Oriole	x	_	_	_
Hooded Oriole	x	_	_	_
Bullock's Oriole*	c	c	c	_
Scott's Oriole*	o	o	r	_
FINCHES				
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch	_	_	_	r
Black Rosy-Finch	_	_	_	r
Brown-capped Rosy-Finch	_	_	_	u
Pine Grosbeak	_	_	_	r
House Finch*	a	a	a	a
(Purple Finch)	x	x	x	x
Cassin's Finch*	o	u	o	o
Red Crossbill*	u	u	u	u
White-winged Crossbill	_	_	_	x
Pine Siskin*	u	c	c	c
Lesser Goldfinch*				
Black-backed	r	r	r	r
Green-backed	u	c	c	c
Lawrence's Goldfinch	x	_	_	x
American Goldfinch*	c	c	c	c
Evening Grosbeak	u	o	o	u
OLD WORLD SPARROWS				
House Sparrow*	a	a	a	a