

Birds of Ojo Caliente, New Mexico

Birding in Northern New Mexico is a treat, and especially here at Ojo Caliente with its varied habitats. New Mexico enjoys the fourth largest number of bird species in the United States, and many of those birds can be seen here at Ojo! Numerous birds can be seen near the Historic Hotel and other lodging units, in the bosque, or forest, that lines the Rio Ojo Caliente, and in the more desert-like habitat on the mesas to the west of the resort.

Birds you may see year-round on the Bosque Loop trail include Northern Goshawks, Cooper's and Swainson's Hawks, Northern Flickers, Bushtits, and Piñon Jays, as well as resident deer and coyotes. White-breasted Nuthatches and Downy Woodpeckers regularly visit the trees in front of the Historic Hotel throughout the year.

When hiking the mesas in summer, listen for Warbling Vireos, Rock Wrens, and watch for Common Nighthawks in the early morning or at dusk.

In late spring and summer watch Broad-tailed and Rufous Hummingbirds at the feeders in front of the Historic Hotel. Also frequently viewed from the Hotel's portal in summer are Ash Throated Flycatchers and nesting Barn Swallows. Along the Rio Ojo Caliente watch for Black-headed Grosbeaks, colorful Western Tanagers and Blue Grosbeaks, nesting House Wrens, Yellow-rumped Warblers, and Spotted Towhees. A Great Horned owl is sometimes seen near Casa Blanca.

Fall and spring migration brings many birds through Ojo. Listen for Sandhill cranes flying overhead during spring and fall migration, and in winter, watch for Bald Eagles scanning the Rio Ojo Caliente for a meal.

This list was compiled using birding lists for Taos and Rio Arriba counties, in consultation with Rivers and Birds (www.riversandbirds.org) a local non-profit that is also working with Ojo Caliente staff birders to conduct a birding survey throughout 2012. We will continue to update our website with information gleaned from these efforts. We will be keeping an eye and ear open for the endangered Southwestern willow flycatcher, as Ojo has ideal habitat for this rare species in rush riparian areas along the Rio, as well as New Mexico's state bird, the Roadrunner, on the scrubby mesa tops!



	Habitat	Status
WATERFOWL		
Canada Goose	R	M
Gadwall	R	W
American Wigeon	R	W
Mallard	R	R
Blue-winged Teal	R	R
Northern Shoveler	R	W
Northern Pintail	R	W
Green-winged Teal	R	R
Common Goldeneye	R	W
Common Merganser	R	W
HERONS		
Great Blue Heron	R	S
Black-crowned Night Heron	R	M
DIURNAL RAPTORS		
Turkey Vulture	G	S
Northern Harrier	R	W
Sharp-shinned Hawk	F	S
Cooper's Hawk	R-F	R
Northern Goshawk	F	R
Red-tailed Hawk	R-F	R
American Kestrel	R-F	S
Peregrine Falcon	C	R
Prairie Falcon	V	W
Bald Eagle	R	W
Golden Eagle	V	R
UPLAND GAME BIRDS		
Wild Turkey	R, F	R
Scaled Quail	G, R	R
RAILS		
American Coot	W	R

	Habitat	Status
CRANES		
Sandhill Crane	R	M
SHOREBIRDS		
Killdeer	W	R
Mountain Plover	G	M
Spotted Sandpiper	W	S
Wilson's Snipe	W	S
PIGEONS		
Rock Pigeon	H	R
Band-tailed Pigeon	F	S
Mourning Dove	R-F, H	R
CUCKOOS		
Greater Roadrunner		R
OWLS		
Great Horned Owl	R-F	S
Long-eared Owl	F	M
GOATSUCKERS & SWIFTS		
Common Nighthawk	G, W	S
White-throated Swift	C	S
HUMMINGBIRDS		
Black-chinned Hummingbird	R, H	S
Calliope Hummingbird	V	M
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	F	S
Rufous Hummingbird	V	M
KINGFISHER		
Belted Kingfisher	R	S
WOODPECKERS		
Lewis's Woodpecker	W	S
Red-naped Sapsucker	F	S
Downy Woodpecker	R-F	R
Hairy Woodpecker	R-F	R
Northern Flicker (red shafted)	R-F	R

✓	Habitat	Status
FLYCATCHERS		
Olive-sided Flycatcher	F	S
Western Wood-Pewee	R-F	S
Willow Flycatcher	R	S
Fray Flycatcher	W	S
Black Phoebe	R	S
Say's Phoebe	G, J	S
Ash-throated Flycatcher	W	S
Cassin's Kingbird	W	S
Western Kingbird	G-W	S
SHRIKE & VIREOS		
Loggerhead Shrike	G	S
Plumbeous Vireo	W-F	S
Warbling Vireo	R, F	S
JAYS & CROWS		
Western Scrub-Jay	W	R
Piñon Jay	W	R
Black Phoebe	R	S
Black-billed Magpie	R, H	R
American Crow	R-F	R
Common Raven	V	R
LARK		
Horned Lark	G	R
SWALLOWS		
Tree Swallow	F	S
Violet-green Swallow	F	S
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	R	S
Bank Swallow	R	S
Cliff Swallow	C	S
Barn Swallow	H	S

✓	Habitat	Status
CHICKADEES & TITMICE		
Black-capped Chickadee	R-F	R
Mountain Chickadee	W, F	R
Juniper Titmouse	W	R
Bushtit	W	R
NUTHATCHES & CREEPER		
Red-breasted Nuthatch	F	R
White-breasted Nuthatch	R-F	R
WRENS		
House Wren	R-F	S
Canyon Wren	C	S
Rock Wren	C	S
DIPPER		
American Dipper	R	R
KINGLETS & GNATCATCHER		
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	G	S
THRUSHES & MIMIDS		
Western Bluebird	W-T	R
Mountain Bluebird	W-F	R
Townsend's Solitaire	F-T	R
American Robin	R-F, H	R
Gray Catbird	R	S
Sage Thrasher	G	S
STARLING		
European Starling	H	R
WAXWING		
Cedar Waxwing	V	W
WARBLERS		
Yellow Warbler	R	S
Yellow-rumped Warbler	F	S
MacGillivray's Warbler	F	S
Common Yellowthroat	R	S
Yellow-breasted Chat	R	S

	Habitat	Status
TANAGER		
Western Tanager	F	S
TOWHEE'S & SPARROWS		
Green-tailed Towhee	G, F	R
Spotted Towhee	R-F	S
Canyon Towhee	G	R
Chipping Sparrow	R	S
Brewer's Sparrow	G	S
Vesper Sparrow	G	S
Lark Sparrow	G	S
Sage Sparrow	G	M
Savannah Sparrow	F	S
White-crowned Sparrow	T	S
Dark-eyed Junco	F	R
GROSBEAK'S & BUNTINGS		
Black-headed Grosbeak	R, F	S
Blue Grosbeak	R	S
Lazuli Bunting	R	S
Indigo Bunting	R	S
BLACKBIRDS & ORIOLES		
Red-winged Blackbird	R	R
Western Meadowlark	G	R
Yellow-headed Blackbird	R	S
Brewer's Blackbird	R	S
Common Grackle	R-F, H	S
Great-tailed Grackle	G-H	R
Brown-headed Cowbird	V	S
Bullock's Oriole	R	S

	Habitat	Status
FINCHES		
Cassin's Finch	F	R
House Finch	G, H	R
Pine Siskin	F	R
Lesser Goldfinch	R-F	S
American Goldfinch	V	W
Evening Grosbeak	F	R
House Sparrow	H	R

Legend

Habitat Codes (HAB)

- R** Riparian Vegetation, streams, marsh, shoreline
- G** Grass & shrubland up to 6,000 ft
- W** Piñon-juniper woodland from 6,000 - 8,000 ft
- F** Forest from 8,000 to 11,000 ft
- T** Timberline, above 11,000 ft
- C** Cliffs & Rocky Slopes
- H** Human Habitation
- V** Varied

Status Codes (STA)

- R** Resident - Breeds and is present year-round
- S** Breeds and present only in Summer
- W** Winters but does not nest
- M** Migratory - neither nests nor winters