

# Arizona: Sunshine and Saguaros Species List | November 11 – 17, 2024 with Naturalist Journeys



**Compiled by guide Sharon Goldwasser with Vernie Aikins. Our clients included Matt, Carol, Dennis, Frank and Larry.**

We enjoyed an outstanding week of birding in a broad array of habitats around the greater Tucson area, from the saguaro-palo Sonoran Desert to the fir forests of the Catalina Mountains. The lingering warm weather undoubtedly contributed to an exceptionally high total of bird species for this time of year (156), numerous butterflies, and a good selection of other reptiles and mammals. Some of the highlights included a few of the rarer species that just get into southeastern Arizona, such as Green Kingfisher, Rufous-backed Robin and Berylline Hummingbird. We had plenty of ducks and shorebirds at the various ponds we visited, viewed a colony of Burrowing Owls in a protected site north of Tucson and were treated to the spectacle of over 5000 Yellow-headed Blackbirds coming into a field of milo. We also encountered a great selection of lingering fall migrants and some casual visitors to Arizona, including Tennessee and Chestnut-sided Warblers at the Sweetwater Wetlands. Altogether it was a really rewarding experience with a great group of folks.

The eBird link below details the 156 species of birds our group observed during the tour. If you're new to eBird, be sure to click "Show All Details" on the right side of the list to expand the report and reveal where and when each of the birds were seen and how many.

[Arizona: Sunshine and Saguaros | November 11-17 2024 | eBird Trip Report](#)

Following is a list of the mammals, reptiles and amphibians we were fortunate to observe during the trip.

## **MAMMALS (10):**

### **RABBITS AND PIKAS: Lagomorpha — (1)**

**Desert Cottontail** *Sylvilagus audubonii*

### **RODENTS: Rodentia — (4)**

**Cliff Chipmunk** *Tamias dorsalis*

**Rock Squirrel** *Otospermophilus variegatura*

**Albert's Squirrel** *Sciurus aberti*

**Arizona Gray Squirrel** *Sciurus arizonensis*

### **CANINES, FELINES, AND ALLIES: Carnivora — (1)**

**Coyote** *Canis latrans*

**White-nosed Coati** *Nasua narica*

**EVEN-TOED UNGULATES: Artiodactyla — (3)**

**Mule Deer** *Odocoileus hemionus*

**White-tailed Deer** *Odocoileus virginianus*

**Collared Peccary** *Pecari tajacu*

**REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (6):**

**Red-eared Slider (introduced)** *Trachemys scripta elegant*

**Zebra-tailed Lizard** *Callisaurus draconoides*

**Lesser Earless Lizard** *Holbrookia maculata*

**Desert Spiny Lizard** *Sceloporus magister*

**Whiptail** *Aspidoscelus sp.*

**Western Diamondback** *Crotalux atria*

**BUTTERFLIES (20):**

**Checkered White** *Pontia protodice*

**Cabbage White** *Pieris rapae*

**Southern Dogface** *Zerene cesonia*

**Cloudless Sulphur** *Phoebus sennae*

**Sleepy Orange** *Abaeis nicippe*

**Dainty Sulphur** *Nathalis iole*

**Gray Hairstreak** *Strymon melinus*

**Marine Blue** *Leptons marina*

**Fatal Metalmark** *Calaphelis nemesis*

**American Snout** *Libytheana carinenta*

**Monarch** *Danaus plexippus*

**Queen** *Dana's gilippus*

**Gulf Fritillary** *Agraulis vanillae*

**Texan Crescent** *Anthanassa texana*

**Mourning Cloak** *Nymphalis antiopa*

**Red Admiral** *Vanessa atalanta*

**Painted Lady** *Vanessa cardui*

**Arizona Sister** *Adelphia Eulalia*

**Hackberry Empress** *Asterocampis leilia*

**Funereal Duskywing** *Erynnis funerals*