

Birding Canyon Country

Species List | September 15-23, 2026

with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide Barb Jording. Our guests included Susan Jo, Bill, John T, John H, Betsy and Kathy.

Beginning in St. George, Utah, on the edge of the Mojave Desert, our journey took us across the Colorado Plateau, from the desert floor to elevations above 9,100 feet in Bryce Canyon National Park.

Along the way, we explored a wide range of bird habitats, from arid scrub and rocky cliffs to rivers, reservoirs, woodland edges, and high-elevation forests. We watched the skies and treetops, searched the ground and understory, and listened for the songs and calls that revealed birds around us.

Throughout the journey, the remarkable geology and vivid colors of southern Utah provided a spectacular backdrop to our birding. The diversity of habitats and birdlife made this a memorable exploration of the Colorado Plateau.

The eBird link below details the 79 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.

[Birding Canyon Country | September 15-23, 2026 | eBird Trip Report](#)

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

MAMMALS: — (12)

Mule Deer *Odocoileus hemionus* — Frequently seen including 3 bucks in the Fruita area of Capitol Reef National Park

White-tailed Deer *Odocoileus virginianus* — Seen lawn feeding in front of Zion Lodge

Desert Cottontail *Sylvilagus audubonii* — Behind Capitol Reef Resort in Torrey

Utah Prairie Dog *Cynomys parvidens* — Watched in the field across from Bryce Canyon Lodge

Ringtail *Bassariscus astutus* — Found in tree outside Zion Lodge just at dark.

Coyote *Canis latrans* — Ran in front of van near Coral Pink Sand Dunes State Park

White-tailed Antelope Squirrel *Ammospermophilus leucurus* — seen near Navajo Bridge

Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel *Callospermophilus lateralis* — Near Bryce Canyon Lodge

Rock Squirrel *Otospermophilus variegatus* — Various locations including Grafton, Zion & Torrey

Cliff Chipmunk *Neotamias dorsalis* — Petrified Forest State Park near Escalante

Uinta Chipmunk *Neotamias umbrinus* — Rainbow Point picnic

Wild Horse *Equus Ferus* — Along the Colorado River in Marble Canyon while on raft trip

REPTILES: — (7)

Common Side-blotched Lizard *Uta stansburiana* — Along the petroglyphs in Fruita

Plateau Fence Lizard *Sceloporus tristichus* — Seen in Zion and Mossy Cave

Western Whiptail *Apisdoscelis tigris* — Found along the Colorado River

Ornate Tree Lizard *Urosaurus ornatus* — Grafton

Red-eared Slider *Trachemys scripta elegans* — In the pond in Tonaquint Park in St George

Soft-shelled Turtle *Trionychidae family* — In the Spring Park Pond in St George

Western Terrestrial Garter Snake *Thamnophis elegans* — Dead on the road behind Ruby's, before Bryce Canyon NP