



Arizona Sunshine & Saguaros 2016 Tour Species List Guide: Dodie Logue with 3 participants: Andy, Becky & Jane

Ducks, Geese & Swans

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) - Seen at the Gilbert Water Ranch, (GWR).

Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) - A surprising five seen near Buckeye, we stopped at some ponds along Baseline Rd - life birds for Andy and Becky!

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) - Seen at a few places, also "Mexican Mallards" at Agua Caliente.

Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) - Sweetwater Wetlands and Agua Caliente.

American Wigeon (*Anas americana*) - Quite common on the tour, seen at many places.

Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) - Just a lone female seen at Sweetwater Wetlands.

Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*) - Seen at Sweetwater Wetlands.

Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) - Another very common duck, seen most days.

Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*) - Another very common duck, seen most days.

Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*) - There were many Ring-Necks at the first pond at the GWR.

Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) - A couple were spotted by Jane at the end of our morning at the GWR.

Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*) - One lone duck at a back pond at the GWR.

Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) - Seen a few places, some males in beautiful breeding plumage.

Upland Game Birds

Gambel's Quail (*Callipepla gambeli*) - Surprisingly scarce, just a few seen on a few days.

Loons & Grebes

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Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) - Seen at most of the water places we birded.

Cormorants

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) - We had good looks at the GWR, close views.

Wading Birds

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) - Just a couple seen near water areas.

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) - Seen flying and wading.

Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) - Good looks at the GWR.

Hawks & Vultures

Turkey Vulture (*Carthartes aura*) - Fairly common, seen most days.

Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) - Only one individual seen the whole trip, on day 4.

Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) - Surprisingly scarce, just glimpses of one on two days.

Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) - More common than Sharp-shinned, seen most days. Very good looks at one in a tree at Catalina State Park the last morning.

Harris's Hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus*) - A quick fly-by from the car one afternoon, luckily we had one on a telephone pole and then flying by the Red Rocks Feedlot.

Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) - Very common, seen almost every day.

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) - Two individuals seen soaring on separate days, the long, flat wings and large head very apparent.

Rails, Coots, Cranes & Limpkins

Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) - A couple seen at Sweetwater Wetlands.

American Coot (*Fulica americana*) - Common, seen most places where there was water.

Sora (*Porzana carolina*) - One heard at Sweetwater Wetlands, we saw reeds moving but never glimpsed the bird.

Shorebirds

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) - Common.

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) - This lovely bird was seen in good numbers at the GWR.

American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) - Also seen in good numbers at the GWR, in various states of plumage, some in full breeding attire.

Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*) - A couple seen at the GWR.

Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*) - A huge flock seen at a distance near a roadside pond in Buckeye, the long bill and golden underwing were just barely visible.

Least Sandpiper (*Calidris minutilla*) - These small peeps were quite common any where there was muddy shore.

Long-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) - A handful of these shorebirds were seen at the GWR.

Pigeons & Doves

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) - Seen everyday.

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) - Just a couple were seen associating through the fence with the White-winged Doves that were in the aviary at the Desert Museum.

Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) - Seen daily.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) - This bird has become quite common and was seen most days.

Inca Dove (*Columbina inca*) - Once very common, we only saw a couple of these at the GWR.

Cuckoos

Greater Roadrunner (*Geococcyx californianus*) - We had glimpses of these, mostly while driving, on a few days.

Owls

Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) - We snacked under a nest our last morning at Catalina State Park, one bird was on the nest.

Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*) - One owl flew right to the group as we were standing by the road scanning at the Santa Cruz Flats; another was seen by a pond in Buckeye.

Hummingbirds

Anna's Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*) - The most common Hummingbird of the trip, seen most days.

Costa's Hummingbird (*Calypte costae*) - The second most common Hummingbird.

Black-chinned Hummingbird (*Archilochus alexandri*) - Just starting to migrate through, we saw one clear individual.

Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*) - The tail-whirring sound they make is diagnostic, heard and seen a few times.

Broad-billed Hummingbird (*Cynanthus latiristris*) - Great looks at our evening walk at Rio Vista.

Trogons & Kingfishers

Belted Kingfisher (*Megasceryle alcyon*) - One seen flying at Agua Caliente.

Woodpeckers

Acorn Woodpecker (*Melanerpes formicivorus*) - Seen at higher elevations, we has some on our day up the Santa Catalinas.

Gila Woodpecker (*Melanerpes uropygialis*) - Very common, heard and seen every day.

Red-naped Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus nuchalis*) - One beautiful individual seen at our picnic spot at Bear Canyon in the Santa Catalinas.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) - Unusual for this area, one seen at Boyce Thompson Arboretum.

Ladder-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides scalaris*) - A common woodpecker of lower elevations and desert habitat.

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) - Seem and/or heard most days.

Gilded Flicker (*Colaptes chrysoides*) - We had decent looks on a few days of this lovely bird.

Falcons

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) - One seen soaring with a Red-tail on our way down Kitt Peak.

Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) - A fly-by individual seen at Sweetwater Wetlands.

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) - This beautiful falcon was seen on a few days, usually on the wires along the road.

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) - A lovely "Prairie" Merlin was seen perched at close range at the Santa Cruz Flats.

Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*) - We had a surprising number of these; one perched along the road on our way to Kitt Peak, one distant flying while we were at San Xavier, and a few in fields at the Santa Cruz flats.

Tyrant Flycatchers & Becard

Gray Flycatcher (*Empidonax wrightii*) - One individual seen a few times at Catalina State Park.

Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*) - Seen on a few days, this flycatcher likes to be around water.

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) - A common bird, but we only saw a few times.

Vermillion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) - Many great looks at this lovely bird, both male and female.

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) - Recently migrated to AZ, seen at the Santa Cruz Flats, and Andy and Becky had one the last morning at Catalina State Park.

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet (*Camptostoma imberbe*) - One individual briefly seen and heard our last morning.

Shrikes

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) - Seen a few days, usually perched in low shrubs or on the wires.

Vireos

Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii*) - Seen and heard at Agua Caliente, Boyce Thompson, and Catalina SP.

Hutton's Vireo (*Vireo huttoni*) - Seen on our mountain day up in the Catalinas.

Crows & Jays

Mexican Jay (*Aphelocoma wollweberi*) - A bird seen at higher elevation, seen in the Catalinas and on Kitt Peak.

Common Raven (*Corvus corax*) - Common and seen most days.

Larks

Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*) - Seen at the Avra Valley Water treatment place, and in plowed fields at the Santa Cruz Flats.

Swallows

Violet-green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina*) - A few of this recently returned bird at Agua Caliente.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) - Common and seen at a few stops.

Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) - A group of these were seen going under a large culvert at the Santa Cruz flats.

Chickadees & Allies

Bridled Titmouse (*Baeolophus wollweberi*) - This cute bird was seen on our day to the Catalinas.

Verdin (*Auriparus flaviceps*) - Common and seen everyday.

Bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*) - Just a glimpse on our day to the Catalinas.

Nuthatches & Creeper

White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*) - Seen at higher elevations in the Catalinas.

Pygmy Nuthatch (*Sitta pygmaea*) - Seen at Rose Canyon in the Catalinas.

Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) - Seen at Rose Canyon in the Catalinas.

Wrens

Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*) - A fairly common wren, seen a few times.

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) - Surprisingly, just seen once, on our third day up in the Catalinas.

Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*) - Heard at Sweetwater Wetlands and Agua Caliente.

Cactus Wren (*Camphlorhynchus brunneicapillus*) - Common and seen most days.

Canyon Wren (*Catherpes mexicanus*) - Seen a few times, best looks at a stop along the road to Kitt Peak.

Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) - Seen a few times, we had one join us for lunch in Saguaro West.

Gnatcatchers, Kinglets & Others

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila melanura*) - Common in desert-brushy areas.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*) - Seen most days.

Thrushes

Western Bluebird (*Sialia mexicana*) - A small group seen at Rose Canyon in the Catalinas.

Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) - Seen a few days, including at Catalina State Park.

Rufous-backed Robin (*Turdus rufopalliatu*s) - We had great looks at this lovely rare bird on our last morning at Catalina SP, it was in the hackberries in the riparian area.

Mockingbirds, Thrashers, Starlings, Accentors, Wagtails & Pitpits

Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) - A common bird seen most days.

Sage Thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*) - One bird seen at the "Thrasher Spot" near Buckeye.

Le Conte's Thrasher (*Toxostoma lecontei*) - Very brief backlit looks in the scope at an individual bird just as we were about to leave the "Thrasher Spot", it quickly went aground and we never re-found it.

Bendire's Thrasher (*Toxostoma bendirei*) - Decent looks at this bird as it perched up and sang at the "Thrasher Spot".

Curve-billed Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre*) - Seen and heard every day.

European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) - Common.

American Pipit (*Anthus rubescens*) - Good looks at the Avra Valley Sewage Ponds, seen also at Santa Cruz Flats.

Waxwings, Silky-flycatchers, Olive Warbler, and Longspurs

Phainopepla (*Phainopepla nitens*) - A lovely bird, seen most days.

Olive Warbler (*Peucedramus taeniatus*) - Great looks at both a male and female up in the Catalinas at Rose Canyon.

Wood Warblers

Black-and-White Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) - Seen at Catalina State Park.

Orange-crowned Warbler (*Oreothlypis celata*) - We saw a few of these at different places; the western variety seems brighter than we from the east are used to seeing.

Lucy's Warbler (*Oreothlypis luciae*) - A recent arrival, this bird was heard singing and also seen a few days.

Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*) - Heard at Sweetwater Wetlands, finally one seen at the GWR.

Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*) - One seen in the mesquite at the GWR.

Yellow-rumped (Audubon's) Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*) - Common and seen most days.

Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Setophaga nigrescens*) - Spotted by Andy at Sweetwater Wetlands, later seen at Catalina State Park.

Painted Redstart (*Myioborus pictus*) - Brief looks at a bird in the Catalinas at Bear Canyon; heard singing as well.

Emberizine Sparrows

Green-tailed Towhee (*Pipilo chlorurus*) - Finally seen our last day at Catalina SP.

Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*) - Seen on days 3 & 4, our higher elevation days.

Canyon Towhee (*Melospiza fusca*) - Good looks at this chunky bird at a few places, including Boyce Thompson Arboretum.

Abert's Towhee (*Melospiza aberti*) - Seen frequently, especially common at Sweetwater Wetlands.

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Rufous-crowned Sparrow (*Aimophila ruficeps*) - Seen on the way up to Kitt Peak.

Rufous-winged Sparrow (*Peucaea carpalis*) - Had great looks at this bird right away as we got out of the car at the Desert Museum, it was singing in a small tree in the parking lot. Seen a few other times as well.

Black-chinned Sparrow (*Spizella atrogularis*) - A few of had brief looks at a couple of these on the way up to Kitt Peak.

Brewer's Sparrow (*Spizella breweri*) - This small, plain grassland bird was seen many days.

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) - Common in small flocks, seen most days.

Black-throated Sparrow (*Amphispiza bilineata*) - This lovely sparrow was first seen at the Desert Museum, also seen a few other places.

Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) - Only a couple seen from the car at the Red Rocks Feedlot area.

Vesper Sparrow (*Pooecetes gramineus*) - A few seen, best looks on the last day at Catalina SP.

Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) - Seen most days, fun to hear the song differences.

Lincoln's Sparrow (*Melospiza lincolni*) - This delicate sparrow was seen most days.

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) - Just a few of these seen, Oregon and Gray-headed varieties.

Yellow-eyed Junco (*Junco phaeonotus*) - This higher elevation bird was seen on our day up in the Catalinas.

White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) - Seen almost everyday.

White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) - This sparrow is uncommon in AZ, we saw one at Catalina SP.

Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) - Large flocks of these were seen at the Red Rocks Feedlot.

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*) - Also seen in flocks at the Red Rocks Feedlot.

Cardinals

Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) - Surprisingly few of these were seen; Jane spotted nice male at the Desert Museum the first day.

Pyrhuloxia (*Cardinalis sinuatus*) - Seen just a few times, best looks at Catalina SP.

Orioles & Blackbirds

Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) - Large mixed flocks at the Red Rocks Feedlot.

Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) - Common and seen most days.

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) - Large mixed flocks at the Red Rocks Feedlot, also at Sweetwater Wetlands.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) - A few seen at Sweetwater Wetlands, also at Red Rocks Feedlot.

Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) - Just a few seen at the feedlot.

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) - Seen on our day around the Feedlot and the Santa Cruz Flats.

Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) - An unusual visitor from the east, we saw a single male high in a cottonwood at Sweetwater Wetlands.

Finches & Allies

House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) - Common, seen daily.

Lesser Goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*) - Seen most days.

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) - Seen daily.