



**Naturalist Journeys & Caligo Ventures  
Yellowstone Birds and Wildlife  
Birds and Mammals Species List  
September 22-29, 2016**

*Tour Guides: Woody Wheeler and Greg Smit, Lori Cohen assist, with 12 participants: Jean, Calvin, Ilene, Madeline, Sunday, Susan, Penny, Cindy, Beth, Coralie, Pat, and Johathan*

**(H)** = heard only

**(I)** = introduced

**Birds (77 species):**

**Anatidae: Ducks, Geese, and Swans (15)**

- **Canada Goose** *Branta canadensis*— Seen almost daily in lakes and rivers in both national parks
- **Trumpeter Swan** *Cygnus buccinator*— Seen most days on Jackson Lake and Yellowstone River
- **Wood Duck** *Aix sponsa*—Pair seen on first day in wetlands at Jackson Visitor Center
- **Gadwall** *Anas strepera*— Seen behind Jackson Visitor Center and on Yellowstone Lake
- **American Wigeon** *Anas americana*—Seen on first four days on various rivers and lakes
- **Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*— Seen most days
- **Green-winged Teal** *Anas crecca*—Seen at Jackson wetlands, on Snake and Yellowstone Rivers
- **Redhead** *Aythya americana*— Several in wetlands behind Jackson Visitor Center
- **Ring-necked Duck** *Aythya collaris*— Several in wetlands behind Jackson Visitor Center
- **Greater Scaup** *Aythya marila*— Seen on several days on Yellowstone Lake
- **Harlequin Duck** *Histrionicus histrionicus*— One female on Yellowstone River at LeHardy Rapids
- **Common Goldeneye** *Bucephala clangula*— Mixed in the Barrow's at Gull Point Drive pond
- **Barrow's Goldeneye** *Bucephala islandica*— Many on Yellowstone Lake and on Indian Pond
- **Common Merganser** *Mergus merganser*— Often seen in lakes and rivers in both national parks
- **Ruddy Duck** *Oxyura jamaicensis*— Several in wetlands behind Jackson Visitor Center

### **Phasianidae: Partridges, Pheasants, and Allies (1)**

- **Ruffed Grouse** *Bonasa umbellus*— Three seen crossing road near LeHardy Rapids in Yellowstone NP

### **Gaviidae: Loons (1)**

- **Common Loon** *Gavia immer*— Seen on Jackson and Yellowstone Lakes

### **Podicipedidae: Grebes (3)**

- **Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps*— At wetlands behind Jackson Visitor Center
- **Eared Grebe** *Podiceps nigricollis*—A small flock in the middle of Beartooth Lake
- **Western Grebe** *Aechmophorus occidentalis*— One on Jackson Lake

### **Phalacrocoracidae: Cormorants (1)**

- **Double-crested Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax auritus*— Along the shore of Yellowstone Lake and one on Yellowstone River

### **Pelecanidae: Pelicans (1)**

- **American White Pelican** *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*—Small flock on north end of Jackson Lake

### **Ardeidae: Herons and Egrets (1)**

- **Great Blue Heron** *Ardea herodias*— Seen on most days along lakes and rivers

### **Accipitridae: Hawks, Eagles, and Allies (5)**

- **Golden Eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos*— Pair seen soaring north of Dunraven Pass, Yellowstone NP
- **Northern Harrier** *Circus cyaneus*— Behind Jackson Visitor Center
- **Northern Goshawk** *Accipiter gentilis*— An immature Goshawk flew directly overhead and perched briefly on a snag at Dunraven Pass trail to Mt. Washburn – exciting!
- **Bald Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*—Seen on 4 days near water environs
- **Red-tailed Hawk** *Buteo jamaicensis*— Seen almost daily

### **Rallidae: Rails, Coots and Crakes (2)**

- **Sora** *Porzana carolina*— Great look at one swimming in wetlands behind Jackson Visitor Center
- **American Coot** *Fulica americana*— A raft of them in Jackson Lake and more in Yellowstone Lake

### **Gruidae: Cranes (1)**

- **Sandhill Crane** *Antigone canadensis*— A few seen on Jackson Lake and along Yellowstone River

### Laridae: Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers (1)

- **California Gull** *Larus californicus*—Several on Yellowstone and Jackson Lakes

### Columbidae: Pigeons and Doves (2)

- **Rock Pigeon (I)** *Columba livia*— Seen the first and last days around Jackson
- **Eurasian Collared Dove (I)** *Streptopelia decaocto*— One in Mammoth village

### Strigidae: Owls (2)

- **Great Horned Owl** *Bubo virginianus*— One spotted in Hayden Valley
- **Great Gray Owl** *Strix nebulosa*— Incredibly, two seen! One at Bridge Creek, and one near Canyon – both great looks and both in Yellowstone NP.

### Alcedinidae: Kingfishers (1)

- **Belted Kingfisher** *Megaceryle alcyon*— Seen on four days along lakes and rivers

### Falconidae: Falcons (4)

- **American Kestrel** *Falco sparverius*— Flew over us at Hayden Valley in Yellowstone NP
- **Merlin** *Falco columbarius*— Flapped around as if hunting then disappeared into steam at Grand Prismatic Pool, Yellowstone NP
- **Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*— Flew over us while we were having first picnic lunch in Moose, Wyoming – Grand Teton NP
- **Prairie Falcon** *Falco mexicanus*—A flyover in the Beartooth Mountains in Montana

### Corvidae: Crows and Jays (6)

- **Gray Jay** *Perisoreus canadensis*— Frequent visitors at campgrounds and picnic areas
- **Steller's Jay** *Cyanocitta stelleri*— On Dunraven Pass and in wooded areas in Montana
- **Black-billed Magpie** *Pica hudsonia*—Seen and heard most days
- **Clark's Nutcracker** *Nucifraga columbiana*—Common and active in high country of Yellowstone and Beartooth Mountains
- **American Crow** *Corvus brachyrhynchos*— Seen in Jackson and in Canyon village
- **Common Raven** *Corvus corax*— Common, seen nearly every day.

### Alaudidae: Larks (1)

- **Horned Lark** *Eremophila alpestris*—One clearly seen in grass lands at Clay Butte Lookout

### Hirundinidae: Swallows and Martins (3)

- **Tree Swallow** *Tachycineta bicolor*— Behind Jackson Visitor Center
- **Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*— Behind Jackson Visitor Center
- **Cliff Swallow** *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*— Behind Jackson Visitor Center

### Paridae: Tits and Chickadees (1)

- **Mountain Chickadee** *Poecile gambeli*— Common in Yellowstone conifers

### Sittidae: Nuthatches (2)

- **Red-breasted Nuthatch** *Sitta canadensis*— Often Seen and heard in Yellowstone conifers
- **White-breasted Nuthatch** *Sitta carolinensis*— One seen well at Calcite Canyon in Yellowstone

### Troglodytidae: Wrens (1)

- **Marsh Wren** *Cistothorus palustris*—One in wetlands behind Jackson Visitor Center

### Cinclidae: Dippers (1)

- **American Dipper** *Cinclus mexicanus*—Two flying over LeHardy Rapids

### Regulidae: Kinglets (1)

- **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** *Regulus calendula*— One at Jackson Visitor Center

### Turdidae: Thrushes (2)

- **Mountain Bluebird** *Sialia currucoides*—Several lingering individuals at Clay Butte prior to migration
- **American Robin** *Turdus migratorius*— Saw surprisingly few, only on days 4 and 5

### Sturnidae: Starlings (1)

- **European Starling (1)** *Sturnus vulgaris*— Only in Jackson, Wyoming

### Anthus rubescens: Pipits and Wagtails (1)

- **American Pipit** *Anthus rubescens*—Many at Clay Butte and in Beartooth Mountains

### Parulidae: Wood-Warblers (3)

- **Orange-crowned Warbler** *Oreothlypis celata*— Two seen in Willows across from LeHardy Rapids, Yellowstone NP
- **Common Yellowthroat** *Geothlypis trichas*— Several in wetlands behind Jackson Visitor Center
- **Yellow-rumped Warbler** *Setophaga coronata*— At Jackson Visitor Center and at Dunraven Pass

### Emberizidae: New world Sparrows (5)

- **Dark-eyed Junco** *Junco hyemalis*— Seen on three days flitting through conifers in Yellowstone
- **White-crowned Sparrow** *Zonotrichia leucophrys*—At Jackson Visitor Center
- **Song Sparrow** *Melospiza melodia*— At Jackson Visitor Center
- **Lincoln's Sparrow** *Melospiza lincolnii*—One seen on colorful fall foliage at Jackson Visitor Center
- **Green-tailed Towhee** *Pipilo chlorurus*—One perched on a rock at close range in Mammoth

### Icteridae: Blackbirds, Orioles, and Allies (3)

- **Red-winged Blackbird** *Agelaius phoeniceus*—Common at Jackson Visitor Center
- **Yellow-headed Blackbird** *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*—One seen at Jackson Visitor Center
- **Brewer's Blackbird** *Euphagus cyanocephalus*—The most common trip blackbird

### Fringillidae: Finches (3)

- **Cassin's Finch** *Haemorhous cassinii*—At Dunraven Pass, Yellowstone NP; and at Clay Butte, Wyo
- **Pine Siskin** *Spinus pinus*—Dunraven Pass, Calcite Canyon and in the Absaroka/Beartooth Mountains
- **Black Rosy Finch** *leucosticte atrata*—Flew by in mixed flock with American Pipits in Beartooths

### Passeridae: Old World Sparrows (1)

- **House Sparrow (1)** *Passer domesticus*— Seen only in Jackson



*Green-tailed Towhee*



### **Mammals (20 species):**

- **Pronghorn** *Antilocapra americana*—Seen most days especially in Jackson Hole Sagebrush areas; Hayden and Lamar valleys in Yellowstone
- **American Bison** *Bison bison*—By far most common mammal of trip. 100s seen in Lamar and Hayden valleys and some near to our living spaces at Lake Hotel, Silver Gate and Old Faithful
- **Bighorn Sheep** *Ovis canadensis*—First seen at Dunraven Pass, then at Tower and entrance to Lamar Valley
- **Moose** *Alces americanus*—A cow and calf seen at Pebble Creek, Yellowstone NP

- **Elk** *Cervus elaphus*—Abundant and seen almost daily, including on Travertine formations at Mammoth
- **Mule Deer** *Odocoileus hemionus*—Seen most days
- **Coyote** *Canis latrans*—Good looks at Hayden and Lamar Valleys. Great chorus heard at Old Faithful.
- **Gray Wolf** *Canis lupus*—Nice scope views on two different days in Hayden Valley
- **Red Fox** *Vulpes vulpes*— One at Clay Butte, Wyoming
- **American Black Bear** *Ursus americanus*—One large cinnamon-colored individual near Tower and an adult with two cubs in Slough Creek, Yellowstone NP
- **American Beaver** *Castor canadensis*—One seen on second day in Pelican Creek area
- **Yellow-pine Chipmunk** *Tamias amoenus*—Common denizen of high elevation pine forests
- **Least Chipmunk** *Tamias minimus*—An everyday sighting, often darting about at high speed in search of crumbs
- **Red Squirrel** *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*— Seen and heard at Gull Point picnic area
- **Uinta Ground Squirrel** *Urocitellus armatus*—Spotted near Fishing Bridge in Yellowstone NP
- **Muskrat** *Ondatra zibethicas*—One swimming with mouth full of vegetation in pond along Gull Point Drive
- **American Pika** *Ochotona princeps*—Several seen scurrying and perching on rocks in Beartooth Mountains
- **Mountain Goat** *Oreamnos americanus*—One resting on a rock outcrop at Beartooth Pass
- **Meadow Vole** *Microtus pennsylvanicus*—Seen at Jackson Hole, Hayden and Lamar valleys
- **Mountain Cottontail** *Sylvilagus nuttallii*— Seen multiple times, especially in Jackson Hole sagebrush flats

#### Reptiles (1)

- **Prairie Garter Snake** *Thamnophis radix* – One at trailhead to Morning Glory Pool, Old Faithful

#### Fish (1)

- **Cutthroat Trout** *Oncorhynchus clarkia* – One seen swimming upstream in Firehole River

*List compiled by Woody Wheeler*