



**Yellowstone National Park:  
Birding & Wildlife Species List  
Sept 15- Sept 22, 2019  
Compiled by Pat Lueders**

(HO)= Distinctive enough to be counted as heard only  
(I)=introduced

**BIRDS (92 species recorded, 1 guide only (GO), none were heard only):**

**DUCKS, GEESE AND SWANS: Anatidae (16)**

**Canada Goose** *Branta canadensis*—Seen daily in good numbers at all locations

**Trumpeter Swan** *Cygnus buccinator*—Largest number, 20, seen at Upper Lake at Red Rocks NWR

**Blue-winged Teal** *Spatula discors*—Seen at Jackson Visitor Center & Red Rock Lake

**Cinnamon Teal** *Spatula cyanoptera*—Scope views of a few at Red Rock Lake

**Gadwall** *Mareca strepera*—Good numbers seen in Red Rock Lake

**American Wigeon** *Mareca americana*—A few in Flat Creek in Jackson & many at Red Rock Lake

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*—Seen daily at all locations with water

**Green-winged Teal** *Anas crecca*—Close views at Jackson Visitor Center

**Redhead** *Aythya americana*—One in Flat Creek & scope views of many at Red Rock Lake

**Ring-necked Duck** *Aythya collaris*—Good study of juveniles & adults in Flat Creek; many at Red Rock

**Lesser Scaup** *Aythya affinis*—Close looks at males & females in Flat Creek; also seen at Pelican Lake

**Harlequin Duck** *Histrionicus histrionicus*—Watched a group of 3 feeding in the rapids at LeHardy Rapids

**Bufflehead** *Bucephala albeola*—Seen at Henry's Lake & large numbers at Red Rock Lake

**Barrow's Goldeneye** *Bucephala islandica*—Nice sized groups seen often in Yellowstone Lake

**Common Merganser** *Mergus merganser*—Seen daily at all locations with water

**Ruddy Duck** *Oxyura jamaicensis*—Seen often; including Flat Creek, Gull Point, & Henry Lake

**GREBES: Podicipedidae (4)**

**Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps*—Only a few; 1 at Flat Creek, 1 at Floating Island Lake, 1 at Henry Lake

**Red-necked Grebe** *Podiceps grisegena*—Seen at Henry Lake; one still with a red neck at Harriman SP

**Eared Grebe** *Podiceps nigricollis*—Hundreds covered Henry Lake at all visits!

**Western Grebe** *Aechmophorus occidentalis*—Nice study with close scope looks at a number of individuals at Henry Lake

**PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae (2)**

**Rock Pigeon** *Columba livia* (I)—Few seen in town of West Yellowstone

**Mourning Dove** *Zenaida macroura*—Seen around Henry Lake

**RAILS, COOTS AND ALLIES: Rallidae (1)**

**American Coot** *Fulica americana*—Wow! Too many to count in Henry Lake & Red Rock Lake

**CRANES: Gruidae (1)**

**Sandhill Crane** *Antigone canadensis*—Seen twice; a pair when leaving Henry Lake

**PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: Charadriidae (1)**

**Killdeer** *Charadrius vociferus*—Seen on the shore of the Snake River at Harriman State Park

**SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae (2)**

**Solitary Sandpiper** *Tringa solitaria*—Close looks in the bay at Henry Lake

**Lesser Yellowlegs** *Tringa flavipes*—Feeding close to group on shore of Red Rock Lake

**GULLS AND TERNS: Laridae (4)**

**Bonaparte's Gull** *Chroicocephalus philadelphia*—Scope views on water, then flying, at Henry Lake

**Ring-billed Gull** *Larus delawarensis*—Seen flying and on the water at Henry Lake

**California Gull** *Larus californicus*—A few seen at Henry Lake

**Forster's Tern** *Sterna forsteri*—Great looks at one chasing & harassing the eagle at Henry Lake

**LOONS: Gaviidae (1)**

**Common Loon** *Gavia immer*—One greeted us near the shore when we arrived at Yellowstone Lake Hotel

**CORMORANTS: Phalacrocoracidae (1)**

**Double-crested Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax auritus*—Seen often in Yellowstone Lake, Henry Lake, & Red Rock Lake

**PELICANS: Pelecanidae (1)**

**American White Pelican** *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*—Seen often, best at Harriman SP

**HERONS AND EGRETS: Ardeidae (1)**

**Great Blue Heron** *Ardea Herodias*—Feeding at Henry Lake, Red Rock Lake & along the Snake River

**NEW WORLD VULTURES: Cathartidae (1)**

**Turkey Vulture** *Cathartes aura*—Largest number seen over city of Jackson

**OSPREY: Pandionidae (1)**

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*—Again, seen often over all lakes & rivers

**HAWKS, KITES AND EAGLES: Accipitridae (8)**

**Golden Eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos*—Seen soaring near nest in Lamar Valley & Red Rock Lake

**Northern Harrier** *Circus hudsonius*—Spotted often over marsh areas including around Henry Lake

**Cooper's Hawk** *Accipiter cooperii*—Seen soaring at Red Rock Lake

**Bald Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*—Seen over Jackson the first day, later at Henry & Red Rock Lakes

**Broad-winged Hawk** *Buteo platypterus*—A surprise sighting at Lewis Falls, migrating with Red-tail Hawks

**Swainson's Hawk** *Buteo swainsoni*—Great looks at under wing pattern while soaring at Henry Lake

**Red-tailed Hawk** *Buteo jamaicensis*—Seen daily, soaring or perched, at many locations

**Ferruginous Hawk** *Buteo regalis*—Dark morph; Flew across the road at Henry Lake & landed on a post, under wing pattern seen when it flew

**OWLS: Strigidae (1)**

**Great Gray Owl** *Strix nebulosa*—[VOTED BIRD OF THE TRIP](#) -Seen at close range on hike at Lone Star Trail

**KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae (1)**

**Belted Kingfisher** *Megaceryle alcyon*—Pair seen well over pond at Gull point

**WOODPECKERS: Picidae (4)**

**Red-naped Sapsucker** *Sphyrapicus nuchalis*—Our last new trip bird, seen during rest stop at Jackson Lake

**Downy Woodpecker** *Dryobates pubescens*—Flew onto a dead tree at Red Rock Lake campgrounds

**Hairy Woodpecker** *Dryobates villosus*—Seen in a tree during stop at Idaho/Montana Continental Divide

**Northern Flicker** *Colaptes auratus*—Red-shafted; seen & heard around Harriman State Park

**FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae (2)**

**American Kestrel** *Falco sparverius*—Few seen along the road & hovering during drive to Red Rock NWR

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*—(GO) Seen by Pat & Rick flying over the Old Faithful parking lot

**CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae (5)**

**Canada Jay** *Perisoreus canadensis*—Seen in Lamar Valley, at Gibbon Falls & 3 at Continental Divide

**Black-billed Magpie** *Pica hudsonia*—Seen almost daily; in good numbers near Red Rock Lake

**Clark's Nutcracker** *Nucifraga columbiana*—Six sightings, best seen at Gibbon Falls along the cliff

**American Crow** *Corvus brachyrhynchos*—Flocks found on the road to Red Rock NWR

**Common Raven** *Corvus corax*—Common bird seen daily at all locations

**TITS AND CHICKADEES: Paridae (2)**

**Black-capped Chickadee** *Poecile atricapillus*—Seen well at Jackson Visitor Center & on visit to Red Rock NWR

**Mountain Chickadee** *Poecile gambeli*—Seen & heard almost daily at all locations

**SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae (2)**

**Tree Swallow** *Tachycineta bicolor*—Good scope looks at one perched along Flat Creek

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*—Numerous individuals flying over Flat Creek & the marsh

**KINGLETS: Regulidae (1)**

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet** *Regulus calendula*—Good close looks at a number of individuals during walk at Madison Camp ground

**NUTHATCHES: Sittidae (1)**

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** *Sitta canadensis*—Great looks at two of this species on walk at Calcite Springs

**CREEPERS: Certhiidae (1)**

**Brown Creeper** *Certhia americana*—We found two near the end of our walk at LeHardy Rapids

### **WRENS: Troglodytidae (1)**

**Marsh Wren** *Cistothorus palustris*—After hearing them vocalize, we stopped at Harriman SP along the lake and saw at least four vocalizing

### **DIPPERS: Cinclidae (1)**

**American Dipper** *Cinclus mexicanus*—Another favorite species, we watched a very cooperative dipper feeding along the rocks at LeHardy Rapids

### **STARLINGS AND MYNAS: Sturnidae (1)**

**European Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris* (1)—Seen on the utility lines near Anglers Lodge along the Snake River

### **THRUSHES: Turdidae (3)**

**Mountain Bluebird** *Sialia currucoides*—This beautiful species was seen often including near Old Faithful

**Townsend's Solitaire** *Myadestes townsendi*—Best looks at the top of trees on our visit to Norris Geyser

**American Robin** *Turdus migratorius*—Seen often including LeHardy Rapids & Madison Campgrounds

### **WAXWINGS: Bombycillidae (1)**

**Cedar Waxwing** *Bombycilla cedrorum*—Heard & seen often including at Jackson Visitor Center

### **FINCHES: Fringillidae (3)**

**Cassin's Finch** *Haemorhous cassinii*—Seen best on visit to Harriman State park

**Common Redpoll** *Acanthis flammea*—Seen perched by a few when we stopped at Old Faithful to watch the Coyote

**American Goldfinch** *Spinus tristis*—Seen & heard while birding around Henry Lake

### **NEW WORLD SPARROWS: Passerellidae (8)**

**Chipping Sparrow** *Spizella passerina*—Seen well at the sparrow stop along the road to Red Rock NWR

**Brewer's Sparrow** *Spizella breweri*—Great looks at a pair on the road while birding at Henry Lake

**Dark-eyed Junco** *Junco hyemalis*—Expected Pink-sided subspecies; seen often, first spotted under a bush at LeHardy Rapids, again at Madison Campgrounds

**White-crowned Sparrow** *Zonotrichia leucophrys*—Seen at sparrow stop & around Henry Lake

**Vesper Sparrow** *Pooecetes gramineus*—Flash of white tail feathers from the road at Henry Lake

**Song Sparrow** *Melospiza melodia*—Seen at sparrow stop on road to Red Rock NWR

**Lincoln's Sparrow** *Melospiza lincolni*—Two seen well in scope at sparrow stop on road to Red Rocks

**Green-tailed Towhee** *Pipilo chlorurus*—Another popular sighting, good looks at two on the sparrow stop on the road to Red Rock NWR

### **NEW WORLD BLACKBIRDS: Icteridae (4)**

**Yellow-headed Blackbird** *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*—Great looks at a number of individuals along Flat Creek in Jackson on top of the cattails and flying

**Red-winged Blackbird** *Agelaius phoeniceus*—With Yellow-headed along Flat Creek in cattails

**Brown-headed Cowbird** *Molothrus ater*—Mixed in with flocks of Brewer's Blackbirds

**Brewer's Blackbird** *Euphagus cyanocephalus*—Seen daily at all locations

### **NEW WORLD WARBLERS: Parulidae (3)**

**Nashville Warbler** *Leiothlypis ruficapilla*—A surprise sighting of two while birding at Madison Campgrounds

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** *Setophaga coronata*—Seen almost daily including at Pelican Valley  
**Wilson’s Warbler** *Cardellina pusilla*—Good looks on our first day at Jackson Visitor Center

**CARDINAL-GROSBEAKS: Cardinalidae (1)**

**Western Tanager** *Piranga ludoviciana*—Found feeding on berries at our stop at Red Rock Lake

**OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae (1)**

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* (I)—Seen in West Yellowstone parking lots

**Mammals (13 species)**

**Pronghorn** *Antilocapra Americana*—Seen often, best looks on road to Red Rock NWR

**American Bison** *Bison bison*—Seen daily in large numbers at all locations except Idaho

**Moose** *Alces alces*—Good sighting along the Snake River in Idaho of an adult female with juvenile

**Elk** *Cervus elaphus*—Nice sized herds seen in Hayden Valley and between Madison & West Yellowstone

**Mule Deer** *Odocoileus hemionus*—Spotted in the woods on trip to Gull Point

**Coyote** *Canis latrans*—Out in the open on road from Old Faithful

**Gray Wolf** *Canis lupus*—VOTED THE #1 EXPERIENCE! What great luck to be in Lamar Valley & watch a pack of Gray Wolves feeding on a Bison

**American Badger** *Taxidea taxus*—After leaving Red Rock Lake, one was spotted in a field along the road

**American Black Bear** *Ursus americanus*—Near Tower Falls, we stopped to watch a Black Bear close to the road

**Least Chipmunk** *Tamias minimus*—Seen well at most locations, especially around geysers

**American Red Squirrel** *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*—Seen & heard daily at all locations

**Common Muskrat** *Ondatra zibethicus*—Seen swimming near the bank of the Snake River from Antlers Lodge in Idaho

**Bat sp.**—Small, unidentified deceased bat found at our lunch stop at Red Rock Lake