Arizona Monsoon Madness | Species List

July 30 – August 6, 2022 | with Naturalist Journeys



With guides Robert Gallardo and Bryan Calk and 10 participants: Ruth, Chuck, Katy, Mike, Amy, Harold, Lenore, Babs, Victor, and Ann



Compiled by: Bryan Calk

(HO)= Distinctive enough to be counted as heard only (I)=introduced https://ebird.org/tripreport/78100

Summary:

A spectacular week of birding Arizona's iconic Sky Islands was made better with great company. Some excellent bird sightings included Montezuma Quail, Elegant Trogons foraging, Red-faced Warbler, Painted Redstarts, Varied Buntings, and Five-striped Sparrow. Our afternoons and evenings were spent with great food and conversation, often accompanied by an impressive monsoon display.

Photo: Varied Bunting by Bryan Calk

BIRDS (147 species recorded):

DUCKS, GEESE AND SWANS: Anatidae

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck *Dendrocygna autumnalis*— Small numbers at the Tubac Golf Resort during dinner and at the Amado Water Treatment Ponds (WTP)

Cinnamon Teal Spatula cyanoptera— One at Patagonia Lake State Park

Mexican Duck Anas diazi— A few at Twin Lakes Golf Course in Willcox and at the Amado WTP Ruddy Duck Oxyura jamaicensis— One pair at Twin Lakes Golf Course in Willcox and at the Amado WTP

NEW WORLD QUAIL: Odontophoridae

Scaled Quail *Callipepla squamata*— A large family group at Twin Lakes Golf Course in Willcox and a couple at Cave Creek Ranch (CCR)

Gambel's Quail Callipepla gambelii — Many seen throughout the week, but most common at CCR **Montezuma Quail** Cyrtonyx montezumae — A pair were in the road as we left the George Walker House and Robert tracked the male down in the grass for close viewing

PARTRIDGES, PHEASANTS, AND ALLIES: Phasianidae

Wild Turkey Meleagris gallopavo— Santa Rita Lodge in Madera Canyon

PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae

Rock Pigeon *Columba livia* (I)— Seen as we drove through Willcox, Tucson, Sierra Vista, etc.

Band-tailed Pigeon *Patagioenas fasciata*— Seen well at the top of the Chiricahua Mountains at Barfoot Park and Rustler

Eurasian Collared-Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* (I)— Most common at Casa de San Pedro but at a few other locations as well

Inca Dove *Columbina inca*— Most easily seen at Patagonia Lake SP but also at CCR and at the Paton Center for Hummingbirds in Patagonia

Common Ground Dove *Columbina passerina*— One at Patagonia Lake SP and one at Box Canyon, both seen briefly

White-winged Dove Zenaida asiatica— One of the most common birds seen throughout the tour Mourning Dove Zenaida macroura— Seen regularly in small numbers throughout the tour

CUCKOOS AND ALLIES: Cuculidae

Greater Roadrunner *Geococcyx californianus*— One at Patagonia Lake SP and one at Montosa Canyon **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** *Coccyzus americanus*— One at Patagonia Lake SP along the birding trail

NIGHTJARS: Caprimulgidae

Lesser Nighthawk *Chordeiles acutipennis*— One that flew over as we were eating dinner and never circled back for a better view

SWIFTS: Apodidae

White-throated Swift Aeronautes saxatalis— A few seen briefly in flight in the Chiricahua Mountains

HUMMINGBIRDS: Trochilidae

Rivoli's Hummingbird Eugenes fulgens— At several feeding stations during the trip

Blue-throated Mountain-gem *Lampornis clemenciae*— Most seen at CCR and a couple at the Southwest Research Station

Lucifer Hummingbird *Calothorax lucifer*— Two at Ash Canyon Bird Sanctuary coming to feeders **Black-chinned Hummingbird** *Archilochus alexandri*— Frequently seen in low numbers throughout the tour, mostly at feeders

Anna's Hummingbird *Calypte anna*— Most abundant and easily seen at Ash Canyon feeders, but elsewhere in the Huachucas and at Paton's

Broad-tailed Hummingbird *Selasphorus platycercus*— One perched at Pinery Canyon and a couple at the feeders at Miller Canyon (Beatty's)

Rufous Hummingbird *Selasphorus rufus*— Singles at a few feeding stations — female-types **Broad-billed Hummingbird** *Cyananthus latirostris*— The most abundant hummingbird of the trip — one seen nest-building at the Patagonia Lake SP birding trail

Violet-crowned Hummingbird *Amazilia violiceps*— One at Miller feeders and one along the trail, and a few at the Paton's Center feeders

White-eared Hummingbird Hylocharis leucotis— One at the George Walker House and one at Miller Canyon feeders

Berylline Hummingbird *Saucerottia beryllina*— One at the Southwest Research Station coming to the feeder, agave bloom, and foraging for insects, and possibly collecting spider web for a nest

RAILS, COOTS AND ALLIES: Rallidae

American Coot Fulica americana— A few in Willcox at the golf course, and some at Patagonia Lake SP

STILTS AND AVOCETS: Recurvirostridae

Black-necked Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus*— Three at the Willcox golf course pond **American Avocet** *Recurvirostra americana*— Over a dozen at the Willcox golf course pond

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: Charadriidae

Killdeer Charadrius vociferus— One at the Willcox golf course pond

HERONS AND EGRETS: Ardeidae

Great Blue Heron Ardea herodias— One at Willcox and one at Patagonia Lake SP

Green Heron Butorides virescens— One at Patagonia Lake SP

Black-crowned Night-Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*— Several roosting around the golf course pond at Willcox

NEW WORLD VULTURES: Cathartidae

Black Vulture Coragyps atratus— Two soaring over Patagonia

Turkey Vulture Cathartes aura— Seen every day of the tour

HAWKS, KITES, AND EAGLES: Accipitridae

Mississippi Kite Ictinia mississippiensis— Two in Patagonia soaring over the center of town

Cooper's Hawk *Accipiter cooperii*— One at Carr Canyon

Harris's Hawk *Parabuteo unicinctus*— Stumbled upon a pair of these in San Simon just after getting gas on day one

Gray Hawk *Buteo plagiatus*— One pair at Casa de San Pedro, and several around the Patagonia general area

Swainson's Hawk *Buteo swainsoni*— Best observed at Casa de San Pedro where they were hunting the field and perching in the large cottonwood tree

Zone-tailed Hawk *Buteo albonotatus*— A pair flying over Madera Canyon as we were staking out the trogons

Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis*— A couple around Barfoot Park were the best seen, but a few at other locations as well

OWLS: Strigidae

Whiskered Screech-Owl Megascops trichopsis— Two duetting at John Hands Campground in Cave Creek Canyon

Great Horned Owl Bubo virginianus— One at Casa de San Pedro

TROGONS: Trogonidae

Elegant Trogon *Trogon elegans*— Three foraging in the sycamore-oak lined Madera Canyon

WOODPECKERS: Picidae

Acorn Woodpecker *Melanerpes formicivorus*— Seen almost every day of the tour, except at the lowest elevations

Gila Woodpecker *Melanerpes uropygialis*— Seen for most of the tour once we got to low enough areas **Ladder-backed Woodpecker** *Dryobates scalaris*— First seen at Cathedral Rock Rd. in Portal, but encountered several other areas, mostly around Casa de San Pedro and Patagonia

Hairy Woodpecker *Dryobates villosus*— one at the Southwest Research Station, a few at Barfoot Park **Arizona Woodpecker** *Dryobates arizonae*— Most easily seen by all at Santa Rita Lodge feeders, but also at CCR

Northern Flicker Colaptes auratus— Mostly heard during the week, but several seen at Barfoot Park

FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae

American Kestrel *Falco sparverius*— A couple seen while driving, one at Casa de San Pedro **Peregrine Falco** *peregrinus*— Two at South Fork of Cave Creek Canyon

TITYRAS AND BECARDS: Tityridae

Rose-throated Becard Pachyramphus aglaiae— One female type at the Patagonia Roadside Rest Area

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: Tyrannidae

Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet Camptostoma imberbe— Two at Montosa Canyon

Greater Pewee Contopus pertinax— Two at Barfoot Park, one at Carr Canyon heard

Western Wood-Pewee *Contopus sordidulus*— Seen in small numbers at many of the stops during the tour

Cordilleran Flycatcher *Empidonax occidentalis*— One at South Fork of Cave Creek and a couple at Rustler Park

Buff-breasted Flycatcher *Empidonax fulvifrons*— Two at Carr Canyon in the Huachucas

Black Phoebe Sayornis nigricans— At Casa de San Pedro along the river

Say's Phoebe Sayornis saya— One at Willcox and one at Amado WTP

Vermilion Flycatcher *Pyrocephalus rubinus*— Seen regularly around Casa de San Pedro and a few along the birding trail at Patagonia Lake SP

Dusky-capped Flycatcher Myiarchus tuberculifer— Two up the trail at Miller Canyon

Brown-crested Flycatcher *Myiarchus tyrannulus*— Singles mostly around Cave Creek Canyon and a couple at Casa de San Pedro and the Paton Center

Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher *Myiodynastes luteiventris*— Best seen at South Fork of Cave Creek Canyon and Miller Canyon, a couple also at Madera Canyon

Tropical Kingbird *Tyrannus melancholicus* – Calling and foraging around the Tubac Golf Course during dinner

Cassin's Kingbird *Tyrannus vociferans*— A few around CCR and Casa de San Pedro, singles here and there elsewhere as well

Western Kingbird *Tyrannus verticalis*— Many at Willcox and a few along the road up to Portal from the grasslands

VIREOS: Vireonidae

Bell's Vireo *Vireo bellii* — Mostly heard, but a few seen with the best viewing opportunities had at Patagonia Lake SP and Montosa Canyon

Hutton's Vireo *Vireo huttoni*— One at Carr Canyon, a couple up Miller Canyon, and one calling at Madera

Plumbeous Vireo *Vireo plumbeus*— Mostly at the highest elevation spots like Barfoot, Pinery Canyon, Carr, etc.

Warbling Vireo Vireo gilvus— One at Carr Canyon and one at Montosa – both seen briefly

SHRIKES: Laniidae

Loggerhead Shrike *Lanius Iudovicianus*— One giving good scope views at Casa de San Pedro and one at Montosa Canyon along the drive

CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae

Steller's Jay Cyanocitta stelleri— Several at Barfoot Park at the top of the Chiricahuas Woodhouse's Scrub-Jay Aphelocoma woodhouseii— One at CCR and a few at Carr Canyon Mexican Jay Aphelocoma wollweberi— Many seen throughout the week, often in groups of 3-7 birds Chihuahuan Raven Corvus cryptoleucus— Seen along the drive in the Willcox area and at the golf course ponds

Common Raven *Corvus corax*— Mostly at the higher elevations, but a few around Paton's Center and Box Canyon

TITS AND CHICKADEES: Paridae

Mexican Chickadee Poecile sclateri— Good numbers in the Barfoot and Rustler Park area Bridled Titmouse Baeolophus wollweberi— Seen along the trail at many locations – first at South Fork of Cave Creek Canyon, also at Miller, Carr, Madera, etc.

PENDULINE TITS: Remizidae

Verdin Auriparus flaviceps — A couple at the birding trail of Patagonia Lake SP

SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae

Northern Rough-winged Swallow *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*— A couple at Willcox golf course ponds **Violet-green Swallow** *Tachycineta thalassina*— A small handful at Rustler Park

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*— Good numbers flying around the ponds at Willcox and smaller numbers around Patagonia

Cliff Swallow Petrochelidon pyrrhonota— Groups at Willcox and Casa de San Pedro

BUSHTITS: Aegithalidae

Bushtit *Psaltriparus minumus*— Flocks at the Southwest Research Station and Carr Canyon

NUTHATCHES: Sittidae

Red-breasted Nuthatch *Sitta canadensis*— One in the flock with Mexican Chickadees between Rustler and Barfoot

White-breasted Nuthatch Sitta carolinensis— Many seen throughout the week, often at feeding stations Pygmy Nuthatch Sitta pygmaea— A good sized flock in the Barfoot Park area and a couple at Carr Canyon

CREEPERS: Certhiidae

Brown Creeper *Certhia americana*— Seen and heard at the mid-high elevations such as South Fork of Cave Creek Canyon, Miller Canyon, Madera, etc.

GNATCATCHERS: Polioptilidae

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher *Polioptila caerulea*— In the Barfoot Park area at the high elevations of the Chiricahua Mountains

WRENS: Troglodytidae

Rock Wren Salpinctes obsoletus— One at Box and one at Montosa Canyons

Canyon Wren *Catherpes mexicanus*— Singles heard and briefly seen at a few locations, but most prolonged views at the Patagonia Roadside Rest Area

House Wren *Troglodytes aedon*— One at Barfoot Park

Bewick's Wren *Thryomanes bewickii*— One at CCR but mostly seen and heard in the Huachuca Mountains at several hotspots

Cactus Wren *Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus*— One at Willcox golf course, several at CCR, and a couple at Box Canyon

STARLINGS AND MYNAS: Sturnidae

European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* **(I)**— Most seen while driving through urban areas of Tucson and Sierra Vista

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS: Mimidae

Curve-billed Thrasher *Toxostoma curvirostre*— First seen at Willcox golf course, but also at Casa de San Pedro and other locations

Crissal Thrasher *Toxostoma crissale*— One briefly seen and heard up the cliff at Montosa Canyon **Northern Mockingbird** *Mimus polyglottos*— Two at Willcox golf course pond area and a couple while driving

THRUSHES: Turdidae

Western Bluebird *Sialia mexicana*— A few stunningly beautiful individuals at Carr Canyon **Hermit Thrush** *Catharus guttatus*— Heard and briefly seen at Pinery and Carr Canyons

American Robin *Turdus migratorius*— Most seen in the Chiricahua Mountains, especially Barfoot and South Fork, but also at Carr Canyon in the Huachucas

SILKY-FLYCATCHERS: Ptilogonatidae

Phainopepla *Phainopepla nitens*— Best seen at Patagonia Lake SP birding trail area, but small numbers seen elsewhere throughout the tour

OLIVE WARBLER: Peucedramidae

Olive Warbler *Peucedramus taeniatus*— Two at Barfoot Park were only moderately cooperative for views

OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae

House Sparrow Passer domesticus (I) — Most abundant at Casa de San Pedro

FINCHES: Fringillidae

House Finch *Haemorhous mexicanus*— Common around feeders throughout the week **Lesser Goldfinch** *Spinus psaltria*— Common around feeders throughout the week

NEW WORLD SPARROWS: Passerellidae

Rufous-winged Sparrow *Peucaea carpalis*— One singing on the way out of Montosa Canyon **Botteri's Sparrow** *Peucaea botterii*— One cooperative bird on the way into Madera Canyon **Cassin's Sparrow** *Peucaea cassinii*— Skylarking birds singing in the grasslands just below Portal on day one

Five-striped Sparrow *Amphispizopsis quinquestriata*— One cooperative bird in Box Canyon **Black-throated Sparrow** *Amphispiza bilineata*— A couple in the same area as the Cassin's Sparrow and a few more in Montosa Canyon

Lark Sparrow Chondestes grammacus— One at the Paton Center in Patagonia

Yellow-eyed Junco *Junco phaeonotus*— Several in the Barfoot Park area and a few at Carr Canyon **Song Sparrow** *Melospiza melodia*— Good numbers at the low elevation riparian areas around Casa de San Pedro and Patagonia

Canyon Towhee Melozone fusca— Singles at CCR, Ash Canyon, and Montosa Canyon

Abert's Towhee Melozone aberti— Good numbers at Patagonia Lake SP birding trail and a few at Casa de San Pedro

Rufous-crowned Sparrow *Aimophila ruficeps*— Two up the cliff at Montosa Canyon **Spotted Towhee** *Pipilo maculatus*—Most frequently heard, occasionally seen. Mid-high elevations in the Huachuca and Chiricahua Mountains

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: Icteriidae

Yellow-breasted Chat *Icteria virens*— Easily heard and occasionally seen along the San Pedro River and the Patagonia area

NEW WORLD BLACKBIRDS: Icteridae

Chihuahuan Meadowlark *Sturnella lilianae*— Was split into its own species (previously a subspecies of Eastern) just over a week after the conclusion of our tour! Two at Willcox golf course ponds and one in the grasslands below Portal with the Cassin's Sparrows

Hooded Oriole *Icterus cucullatus*— A pair was hanging out at CCR and one at Montosa Canyon **Scott's Oriole** *Icterus parisorum*— One at the Santa Rita Lodge feeders in Madera Canyon **Red-winged Blackbird** *Agelaius phoeniceus*— A small group at Willcox ponds **Bronzed Cowbird** *Molothrus aeneus*— One came to the feeder area at the Paton Center for Hummingbirds

Brown-headed Cowbird *Molothrus ater*— Several at Casa de San Pedro and the Patagonia area **Great-tailed Grackle** *Quiscalus mexicanus*— Lots at Patagonia Lake SP and others seen sporadically during the week

NEW WORLD WARBLERS: Parulidae

Lucy's Warbler *Leiothlypis luciae*— A couple at Patagonia Lake SP and the Paton Center **Virginia's Warbler** *Leiothlypis virginiae*— One seen briefly at Carr Canyon

Common Yellowthroat *Geothlypis trichas*— Mostly heard, briefly seen. At Willcox golf course pond, Casa de San Pedro, and Patagonia Lake SP

Yellow Warbler Setophaga petechia— Most abundant at Casa de San Pedro and Patagonia Grace's Warbler Setophaga graciae— Good views at both Barfoot Park and Carr Canyon Black-throated Gray Warbler Setophaga nigrescens— A few at Carr Canyon and one at Miller Red-faced Warbler Cardellina rubrifrons— One at Pinery Canyon

Painted Redstart Myioborus pictus— Best views at Miller Canyon but singles seen at other locations

CARDINAL-GROSBEAKS: Cardinalidae

Hepatic Tanager *Piranga flava*— First at South Fork, a couple in Carr Canyon gave great views thanks to a tip from a couple other birders

Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra*— Best views in Montosa Canyon but also at Casa de San Pedro and Patagonia Lake SP

Western Tanager *Piranga ludoviciana*— Generally uncooperative but seen briefly at CCR, Pinery Canyon, and Box Canyon

Northern Cardinal Cardinalis cardinalis — At many locations, often around feeders

Black-headed Grosbeak Pheucticus melanocephalus — At many locations, often around feeders

Blue Grosbeak Passerina caerulea — Coming to the feeders at Casa de San Pedro, also at Box Canyon,

Amado WTP, and Montosa Canyon

Lazuli Bunting *Passerina amoena*— One at Paton Center, and a few at Amado WTP from a distance **Varied Bunting** *Passerina versicolor*— One extraordinarily cooperative bird at Box Canyon, another at Montosa Canyon

Mammals (11 species)

White-tailed Deer (Coue's) Odocoileus virginianus— Seen every day of the tour, first at the Cave Creek Ranch (CCR) feeder area

Collared Peccary *Pecari tajacu*— A couple groups seen at CCR

Striped Skunk *Mephitis mephitis* – At the CCR feeder areas after sunset

Desert Cottontail *Sylvilagus audubonii*— Seen every day of the tour, often along a trail or at the edge of a bird feeding area

Black-tailed Jackrabbit *Lepus californicus*— Seen on the roads into Portal and Madera Canyon

Cliff Chipmunk *Tamias dorsalis*— Seen in South Fork of Cave Creek Canyon and at the Barfoot Park area **Rock Squirrel** *Otospermophilus variegatus*—Present in many areas during the tour, such as CCR and Ash Canyon

Arizona Gray Squirrel Sciurus arizonensis — Seen in the Patagonia area most easily

Mexican (Apache, Chiricahua) Fox Squirrel *Sciurus nayaritensis*— Seen in the Chiricahua Mountains only **Gray Fox** *Urocyon cinereoargenteus*— Seen in the road at night on our owling adventure in Cave Creek Canyon

Pocket Gopher sp. Thomomys sp. — Seen darting around the trail edges at Casa de San Pedro and Madera Canyon

Reptiles (5 species)

Yarrow's Spiny Lizard *Sceloporus jarrovii*— At Carr Canyon

Clark's Spiny Lizard Sceloporus clarkii— At Ash Canyon

Ornate Box Turtle Terrapene *ornata*— Seen on the road into Portal and around Casa de San Pedro along the road and one in the trail

Spadefoot Toad *Scaphiopus sp.* – Seen after the rains at Casa de San Pedro

Sonoran Desert Toad *Incilius alvarius* – One on the sidewalk as we were leaving dinner on day 6, many more hopping in the wet road the same night

Butterflies (30 species)

Papilionidae:

Pipevine Swallowtail (Battus philenor)-Seen throughout the trip at various locales. Many at the Casa de San Pedro hotel.

Two-tailed Tiger Swallowtail (Pterourus multicaudata)-Many seen at Cave Creek Canyon.

Western Giant Swallowtail (Heraclides rumiko)-Small numbers seen in low-lying areas during both trips.

Pieridae:

Mexican Yellow (Eurema mexicana)-One observed at Miller Canyon

Tailed Orange (Pyrisitia proterpia)-One observed in Patagonia Lake State Park

Orange Sulphur (Colias eurytheme)-Observed in large numbers in low-lying areas and lower numbers in mountainous areas

Dainty Sulphur (Nathalis iole)-One observed in Miller Canyon

Southern Dogface (Zerene cesonia)-Many observed in South Fork Canyon

Checkered White (Pontia protodice)-One observed in the Ash Canyon gardens

Nymphalidae:

Arizona Sister (Adelpha eulalia)-Many observed at most mountain locations.

Red Satyr (Megisto rubricata)-A few observed. One at Miller Canyon.

Red-spotted Purple (Limenitis arthemis)-Observed at most wooded lowland locations.

Mylitta Crescent (Phyciodes mylitta)-Small numbers seen around Rustler

Pearl Crescent (Phyciodes tharos)-One seen at Patagonia Lake State Park

Elada Checkerspot (Texola elada)-Many seen in Patagonia Lake State Park

Queen (Danaus gilippus)-Seen in the gardens at Casa San Pedro.

Riodinidae:

Palmer's Metalmark (Apodemia palmeri)-Several seen on a flowering shrub at Patagonia Lake State Park.

Fatal Metalmark (Calephelis nemesis)-One seen at Patagonia Lake State Park

Lycaenidae:

Southwestern Azure (Celastrina echo)-Frequently observed at most mountainous locations. **Gray Hairstreak** (Strymon melinus)-One observed at Patagonia Lake State Park

Hesperiidae:

Russet Skipperling (Piruna pirus)-One photographed at Rustler Park

Four-spotted Skipperling (Piruna polingii)-One photographed at Rustler Park

Dull Firetip (Apyrrothrix araxes)-Seen at the Southwest Research Station feeding on milkweed.

Sometimes observed feeding on blooming agaves at Miller Canyon.

Moon-marked Skipper (Atrytonopsis lunus)-One observed at Cave Creek Ranch

Toltec Roadside-Skipper (Amblyscirtes tolteca)-One observed at Ash Canyon feeding on Lantana

Orange-headed Roadside-Skipper (Amblyscirtes fimbriata)-One observed along South Fork Canyon as it fed on a flowering leguminous shrub

Northern Cloudywing (Cecropterus pylades)-Several seen feeding on milkweed at the Southwest Research Station

Desert Cloudywing (Cecropterus casica)-One seen at George Walker House

Common Sootywing (Pholisora catullus)-One seen at the Amado treatment ponds

Golden-banded Skipper (Telegonus cellus)-Numerous seen in South Fork Canyon