

Birds of the Mountain Parks and Mt. Evans Regions

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No less than 108 species have been recorded for Lookout Mountain and vicinity, to say nothing of the many species to be found at higher elevations, yet this brief list may serve to impress upon the reader the fact that Denver's Mountain Parks and the Mount Evans region offer a wealth of material and unlimited opportunities for the study of a phase of bird life unknown upon the plains.



An Annotated List of the Birds of the Mountain Parks and Mount Evans region by Robert B. Rockwell and Alexander Wetmore.

Shoveller Duck *Spatula clypeata* only one record Lookout Mountain.

American Avocet *Recurvirostra americana* only one record Lookout Mountain.

Spotted Sandpiper *Actitis macularia* only one record Lookout Mountain.

Killdeer *Oxyechus vociferus vociferus* only one record South Table Mountain.

Bobwhite *Colinus virginianus virginianus* Common resident west to Golden.

Ring-Necked Pheasant *Phasianus torquatus* A few wander to the top of Lookout Mountain.

Dusky Grouse *Dendragapus obscurus obscurus* Not uncommon resident.

White-tailed Ptarmigan *Lagopus leucurus* Resident above timberline on Mount Evans.

Western Mourning Dove *Zenaidura macroura marginella* Common summer resident.

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura septentrionalis* Occasional summer resident.

Sharp-shinned Hawk *Accipiter velox* Regular migrant probably occasional summer resident.

Western Red Tail *Buteo borealis calurus* Occasional summer resident.

Western Sparrow Hawk *Falco sparverius phalaena* Not uncommon summer resident.

Long-eared Owl *Asio wilsonianus* Not uncommon resident.

Saw-whet Owl *Cryptoglaux acadica* One of the few records of the state comes from Lookout Mountain resident.

Rocky Mountain Screech Owl *Otus asio maxwelliae* Common resident on the plains to the edge of the foothills.

Great Horned Owl *Bubo virginianus lagophonus* The second record of this subspecies for Colorado comes from North Table Mountain.

Rocky Mountain Hairy Woodpecker *Dryobates villosus monticola* Resident not uncommon.

Woodpecker *Dryobates pubescens homorus* resident not uncommon.

Red-naped Sapsucker *Sphyrapicus varius nuchalis* Common resident.

Williamson's sapsucker *Sphyrapicus throideus* resident not uncommon.

Red-headed Woodpecker *Melanerpes erythrocephalus* One record for Lookout Mountain. Common on the plains west of Golden.

Lewis' Woodpecker *Asyndesmus lewisi* Common summer resident wintering on the plains.

Red-shafted Flicker *Colaptes cafer collaris*

Common summer resident, wintering on the plains.

Poorwill *Phalaenoptilus nuttalli nuttalli*

Summer resident not common.

Western Nighthawk *Chordeiles henryi*

Summer resident fairly common.

White-throated Swift *Aeronautes*

melanolencus Summer resident, not uncommon.

Broad-tailed Humming Bird *Selasphorus*

platycerous Summer resident, common.

Arkansas Kingbird *Tyrannus verticalis*

Summer resident rather uncommon.

Say's Phoebe *Sayornis sayus* Summer resident, less common in mountains than on plains.

Olive-sided Flycatcher *Nuttalornis borealis*

Summer resident not common.

Western Wood Pewee *Myiochanes*

richardsoni richardsoni summer resident, not uncommon above 7,500 feet.

Wright's Flycatcher *Empidonax wrighti*

Summer resident rather rare.

Desert Horned Lark *Otocoris alpestris*

leucolaema Resident not uncommon.

Magpie *Pica pica hudsonia* Common

resident, a characteristic bird.

Long-Crested Jay *Cyanocitta Stelleri*

diademata Common summer resident. The most typical mountain parks bird.

Woodhouse Jay *Aphelocoma woodhousi*

Resident, rather uncommon.

Mountain Jay *Perisoreus canadensis capitalis*

Common resident around 10,000 feet.

Clarke's Nutcracker *Nucifraga columbiana*

Resident, not uncommon.

Pinon Jay *Cyanocephalus cyanocephalus*

Irregular visitor.

Cowbird *Molothrus ater ater* Summer

resident, not common.

Yellow Headed Blackbird *Xanthocephalus*

xanthocephalus Common summer resident on the plains, to the base of the foothills.

Red-winged Blackbird *Agelaius phoeniceus*

fortis Occasional summer resident in the

mountains, abundant on the plains.

Western Meadowlark *Sturnella neglecta*

Common summer resident, wintering sparingly on the plains.

Bullock's Oriole *Icterus bullocki* Not

uncommon summer resident in Golden.

Brewer's Blackbird *Euphagus cyanocephalus*

Summer resident, not uncommon.

Rocky Mountain Pine Grosbeak *Pinicola*

anucleator montana Only one record from Lookout Mountain.

Cassin's Purple Finch *Carpodacus cassinii*

Summer resident rather rare.

House Finch *Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis*

Resident, much more common in the plains than in the mountains.

Bendire's Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra bendirei*

Resident irregular visitor.

Redpoll *Acanthis linaria* Not uncommon in migration.

Goldfinch *Astragalinus tristis* Only one record from near Golden.

Arkansas Goldfinch *Astragalinus psaltria*

Common summer resident at Golden.

Pine Siskin *Spinus pinus* Summer resident, rather uncommon.

Brown-capped Leucosticte *Leucosticte*

australis Summer resident above timberline, winter resident above the plains.

Western Vesper Sparrow *Pooecetes*

gramineusconfinis Common summer resident.

Western Savannah Sparrow *Passercelus*

sandwichensis alaudinus Summer resident, not common.

Western Grasshopper Sparrow

Ammodramus savannarum bimaculatus Only one record from Lookout Mountain.

Western Lark Sparrow *Chondestes*

grammacus strigatus Summer resident, rather uncommon.

White-crowned Sparrow *Zonotrichia*

leucophrys Common summer resident in higher altitudes.

Gambel's Sparrow *Zonotrichia leucophrys*

gambeli Common In migration.

Western Tree Sparrow *Spizella monticola*

ochracea Common winter resident.

Brewer's Sparrow *Spizella breweri* Summer resident, not uncommon.

White-winged Junco *Junco aikeyi* Rather common, winter resident.

Slate colored Junco *Junco hyemalis* Only two records, from near Golden.

Shufeldt's Junco *Junco hyemalis montanus* Regular winter resident. Common migrant.

Montana Junco *Junco hyemalis montanus* Winter resident. The commonest winter Junco.

Pink-sided Junco *Junco hyemalis mearnsi* Winter resident. The commonest winter junco.

Gray-headed Junco *Junco phaeonotus caniceps* Summer resident, very common. The only regular summer Junco.

Mountain Song Sparrow *Melospiza melodia montana* Common resident, more abundant during migration.

Lincoln's Sparrow *Melospiza lincolni* Common in migration.

Spurred Towhee *Pipilo maculatus montanus* Summer resident. Very common.

Green-tailed Towhee *Oreospiza chlorura* Common summer resident, but not as abundant as the preceding species.

Black-headed Grosbeak *Zamelodia melanocephala* Summer resident. More common on the plains than in the mountains.

Western Blue Grosbeak *Guiraca cerulea lazula* One record from Morrison.

Indigo Bunting *Passerina cyanea* Very rare. One record from Golden.

Lazuli Bunting *Passerina amoena* Summer resident, fairly common.

Lark Bunting *Calamospiza melanocorys* Not uncommon in migration.

Western Tanager *Piranga ludoviciana* Summer resident, not uncommon.

Cliff Swallow *Petrochelidon lunifrons* Common summer resident.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo erythrogastra* Common summer resident.

Northern Violet Green Swallow *Tachycineta thalassina lopida* Common summer resident.

Bohemian Waxwing *Bombicilla garrula*

Erratic winter visitor.

Northern Shrike *Lanius borealis* Occasional winter visitor.

Western Warbling Vireo *Vireosylva silva swainsoni* Summer resident. Not common.

Cassin's Vireo *Vireo solitarius cassinii* One of the few state records comes from Cresswell.

Virginia's Warbler *Vermivora virginiae* Summer resident, common.

Orange-crowned Warbler *Vermivora celata* Not uncommon in migration.

Lutescent Warbler *Vermivora celata lutescens* Not uncommon in migration.

Yellow Warbler *Dendroica aestiva* Common summer resident.

Myrtle Warbler *Dendroica coronata* Regular spring migrant.

Audubon's Warbler *Dendroica auduboni* Common during migration.

MacGillivray's Warbler *Oporornis tolmiei* Common summer resident.

Western Yellowthroat *Geothlypis trichas occidentalis* Summer resident. Common in vicinity of Golden.

Long-Tailed Chat *Icteria virans longicauda* Summer resident. Common along Clear Creek as far west as Golden.

American Pippit *Anthus rubescens* Common in migration at lower altitudes.

American Dipper *Cinclus mexicana* Common resident along streams.

Sage Thrasher *Oreoscoptes montanus* Not uncommon in migration.

Catbird *Dumetella carolinensis* Summer resident, rather uncommon west of Golden.

Rock Wren *Salpinctes obsoletus* Common summer resident in rocky hillsides.

Canon Wren *Catherpes mexicanus conspersus* Summer resident, not common.

Western House Wren *Troglodytes aedon parkmani* Abundant summer resident.

Rocky Mountain Creeper *Certhia familiaris montana* Summer resident in higher elevations, winter resident in lower.

Rocky Mountain Nuthatch *Sitta carolinensis nelsoni* Common resident.

Red-Breasted Nuthatch *Sitta canadensis*

Resident not common.

Pygmy Nuthatch *Sitta pygmaea* Abundant resident.

Long-tailed Chickadee *Penthestes atricapillus septentrionalis* Resident. More common in winter than in summer.

Mountain Chickadee *Penthestes gambeli* Abundant resident.

Ruby Crowned Kinglet *Regulus calendula* Summer resident in higher elevations.

Golden Crowned Kinglet *Regulus satrapa olivaceus* Occasional migrant.

Townsend's Solitaire *Myadestes townsendi* Resident. Rather common.

Olive-backed Thrush *Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni* Common spring migrant.

Western Robin *Planesticus migratorius propinquus* Abundant summer resident.

Eastern Bluebird *Sialia sialis* one record from near Golden.

Chestnut-backed Bluebird *Sialias mexicana bairdi* One record of nesting birds on Colorow Point.

Mountain Bluebird *Sialia sarrcoides* Common summer resident.

See also **accompanying article**.

Note: Be aware that many species names, both common and scientific, have changed since 1919. This species list and the accompanying article were taken from a copy transcribed in 1934; both are in the process of being checked against the originals to determine the historical spellings as originally published (e.g., "chicadee") and eliminate any errors introduced in transcription. Italics added for scientific names.