



TEXAS HILL COUNTRY & BIG BEND

APRIL 21-29 2018

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[NEXT TRIP: 18-27 APRIL 2019](#)

The Texas Hill Country and Big Bend National Park are known for both their stunning natural beauty and their great birds. This trip was incredibly successful on the birding front, while we also enjoyed the landscapes, animals, and experiences of central and west Texas. Our bird list included the litany of highly sought after birds: **Golden-cheeked Warbler, Black-capped Vireo, Colima Warbler, Lucifer Hummingbird, Varied Bunting, Gray Vireo, Common Black-Hawk, and Zone-tailed and Gray Hawks**, plus **Green Kingfisher, Elf Owl, Black-chinned Sparrow, Crissal Thrasher, Hudsonian Godwit, Hepatic Tanager, Lewis's Woodpecker**, and an excellent diversity of **migrants**. We found a total of 201 species. We had astounding luck with mammals, too, getting great views of **Bobcat, Gray Fox**, and a **Black Bear** family that included a very young cub, not to mention the spectacle of millions of **Mexican Free-tailed Bats** leaving their roosting cave in the evening. It was a great group and a great trip, one I look forward to guiding again next year.

TOP 5 BIRDS

1 (tie). Colima Warbler & Golden-cheeked Warbler
3. Black-capped Vireo
4 (tie). Elf Owl, Scaled Quail, Lewis's Woodpecker, & Lazuli Bunting



Golden-cheeked Warbler in the Hill Country.

Day 1: Arrival; San Antonio to Concan

The group easily met at the airport and we headed off. With plenty of the day left we stopped in at Mitchell Lake Audubon Center. Especially given how scarce waterbirds are on this trip, it was a great stop. We picked up 10 species of shorebirds with outstanding looks at all of them, including several beautiful **Hudsonian Godwits** and many stunning breeding plumaged **Wilson's Phalaropes**, **Long-billed Dowitchers**, and **American Avocets**. **Cinnamon Teal** was a nice find and we watched in awe as a squadron of hundreds of pelicans materialized out of nowhere and flew over our heads. We made a quick stop by the visitors' center on our way out where a **Bewick's Wren** was singing and a **Curve-billed Thrasher** sat up nicely.

Heading west, we made a couple of emergency birding stops when we spotted birds by the roadside. It was in this way that we had views of a multicolored male **Painting Bunting** and a soaring **Zone-tailed Hawk**.

Day 2: Hill Country

Today was going to be a big day: we were looking for two of the trip's star birds: **Golden-cheeked Warbler** and **Black-capped Vireo**, both endangered Hill Country specialties. We set out for Lost Mounds early, arrived in good time, and almost immediately heard **Golden-cheeked Warbler** singing. We didn't see that one, but while we ate breakfast in a picnic area we had our first views. It was the first of several times we would see this beautiful little warbler, including some stunning views. **Black-capped Vireo** proved tougher to find. It took a hike up to the ridgetop before Vicky spotted one as we looked for something else. It was the first of several, and eventually the whole group got excellent looks.

Even though those two species were our focus, we of course found plenty of other great birds, too. We had nice views of **Summer Tanager**, **Yellow-throated** and **Hutton's Vireo**, **Yellow-throated Warbler**, **Blue Grosbeak**, **Black-chinned Hummingbird**, **Clay-colored** and **Rufous-crowned Sparrow**, another **Zone-tailed Hawk**, **Sharp-shinned Hawk**, and more.

After a well-deserved afternoon rest and early dinner, we visited one of the world's great wildlife spectacles, the emergence of millions of **Mexican Free-tailed Bats** from the roosting cave. It started early this night, so while we were waiting for the ranch gate to be opened we could see incredible groups of them flying in the distance. When we made it to the cave, they were still pouring out, thousands after thousands after thousands. We learned about the bats while also watching **Cave Swallows** and **Swainson's Hawks** on a beautiful evening. As we left the ranch, Cindy spotted a **Bobcat** in a field, which just sat and watched us watching it, a beautiful way to end the day.

Day 3: Uvalde area

We headed southwest for the day, to Uvalde and the surrounding area. Along the way we found a **Harris's Hawk** on a power line, an auspicious start to the day. Starting on the bank of the Nueces

River, birds were everywhere as we tried eating breakfast—among them were **Hooded and Orchard Orioles**, **Great Kiskadee**, **Couch’s Kingbird**, **Brown-crested Flycatcher**, **Summer Tanager**, hordes or **Cedar Waxwings**, **Cactus Wren**, **Ladder-backed Woodpecker**, and **Bell’s Vireo**. We took a walk around the riverside, finding many **Yellow-breasted Chats**, **Olive Sparrow**, and a **Northern Bobwhite** walked across the path in front of us.



Mexican Free-tailed Bats.

We then birded wetlands around Uvalde, with a stop for lunch at a local café. We added a few ducks to the list, including excellent views of the goofy-looking **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**. A **Green Kingfisher** showed nicely for most of the group and we had great views of a **Greater Roadrunner**, which we later heard singing its cooing song. We stopped to pish at a likely-looking spot and had a succession of birds come in to check us out, including **Olive Sparrow**, **Long-billed Thrasher**, and **Painted Bunting**. After dinner at our lodge, we went out at dusk and found **Chuck-wills-widow** and **Eastern Screech Owl**.

Day 4: Concan to Big Bend National Park

After an early breakfast, we took a nice walk around the lodge grounds. We had great looks at **Golden-fronted Woodpecker**, **Carolina Chickadee**, and brief looks at **Black Phoebe** and **Northern Parula**, before settling in at the “Birders’ Station” to watch feeders and a water drip. It was a

good show, with **Rufous-crowned Sparrow**, **Nashville Warbler**, **Black-crested Titmouse**, and **Lesser Goldfinch** among the visitors, but the biggest surprise was a **Gray Fox** that trotted through the station. Afterwards, we packed up and made the long drive to Big Bend, stopping for a picnic along the way overlooking the beautiful Pecos River, where a **Rock Wren** ate our crumbs.

We made it to Big Bend in the evening and settled in to our rooms. After dinner in the restaurant, we couldn't make it back to the rooms because there were too many birds, not to mention an absolutely stunning sunset. As the sun set over the mountains, we saw **Scott's Oriole**, **Hepatic Tanager**, **Say's Phoebe**, and **Townsend's Solitaire**, and amazingly, another **Gray Fox**! It was a tremendous "Welcome to Big Bend" moment.



Mexican Jay in Big Bend.

Days 5-7: Big Bend

After a hearty breakfast we took our first real walk in the Chisos Basin, the heart of Big Bend National Park. It was cool and breezy, so it took a little while for birds to get active. But once they did, we found some great ones. Among them were outstanding views of **Crissal Thrasher** and **Gray Vireo**. We also found a lingering **Gray-headed** form of **Dark-eyed Junco** and a migrant **MacGillivray's Warbler** that played hide-and-seek with us. We enjoyed watching a **Greater Roadrunner** singing from a small bush while holding a large grasshopper in its bill.



Male Varied Bunting

Returning to the parking area, we set out on another walk, this time to an area with a small water outflow. It was incredible watching the parade of birds come in to drink and bathe, among them **Black-chinned Sparrow**, **White-throated Sparrow**, **Spotted Towhee**, **Acorn Woodpecker**, **Blue Grosbeak**, **Indigo Bunting**, and **Cassin's Finch**, a vagrant to Texas. The chief highlight made us sweat, but after several brief and unsatisfying looks, we eventually got incredible looks at a male **Varied Bunting** as it sat preening after its bath, not minding us at all.

After lunch and a rest, we headed down to the Rio Grande on the east side of the park. The wind was blowing something fierce when we got down there, so we didn't have high hopes. But things turned out much better than expected. Sparrows were abundant; we had had great studies of a mixed flock of **Chipping**, **Clay-colored**, and **Brewer's Sparrows**, along with **Lark Sparrow**, **Vesper Sparrow**, and a single **Lark Bunting**. A beautiful male **Lazuli Bunting** showed perfectly, though the **Black-tailed Gnatcatcher** nearby was less cooperative. Best of all was our #1 target. It took three passes and help from the whole group, but we got tremendous views of a perched **Common Black-Hawk** near its nest.

Our second day in Big Bend was reserved for the much-anticipated Colima Warbler hike, a long, beautiful, steep hike into the Chisos Mountains, the only place in the country where birders can see Colima Warbler. We started in the cool morning, slowly and steadily climbing in elevation.

We stopped for a few birds as we climbed, including a **Crissal Thrasher**. At the three-mile mark, a **Colima Warbler** was singing. We rushed up and patiently waited for it to come in to view. And come into view it did, with everybody in the group eventually getting very good looks at this rare warbler. Some people saw a **Townsend's Warbler** at the same spot. Elated, we forged on. We heard a few more Colimas during the rest of the hike, and also saw **Gray Flycatcher**, **Spotted Towhee**, **Hutton's Vireo**, and **White-throated Swift**. We made it back, tired, sweaty, and proud, for a shower, dinner, and a well-deserved drink.



Lucifer Hummingbird

Our third and final full day in Big Bend started with another breakfast at the lodge, after which we made our way down in elevation to the Rio Grande on the west side of the park. The campground was very birdy and it didn't take long to find our two top target birds for the morning, getting good views of **Lucy's Warbler** and prolonged scope views of **Gray Hawk**. Migrants were also pretty numerous. Among them we found **Bullock's Oriole**, **Western Tanager**, **Brewer's Sparrow**, **Summer Tanager**, and **Black-and-white Warbler**. Our picnic lunch was punctuated by a flock of **Yellow-headed Blackbirds**. We also stopped in at the main visitor center, and returning to our lodge we pulled over for a listen and got lucky with looks at an exuberantly displaying **Cassin's Sparrow**.

We had a long afternoon rest and early dinner so that we could set out again after dinner for some owling. We hadn't heard a peep from owls around the lodge, so we headed back to the

river. We arrived with some daylight left (after stopping for an impressive **tarantula** crossing the road) and birded around the area, finding **American Pipits** with a sparrow flock, and a flyover **Gray Hawk**. We also found our first **Black-tailed Jackrabbit** and **Javelina**. It was an extraordinarily pleasant evening, with mild temperatures and only a slight breeze. **Lesser Nighthawks** were flying around as we waited for **Elf Owl** to emerge. We got a tip about exactly where to find the owl, and sure enough, there it was poking its head out of its hole. We waited and got to hear it calling excitingly and saw two of the tiny owls flying between the hole and an adjacent tree. We then drove slowly around the area, eventually finding a **Common Poorwill** on the roadside. Very happy with our efforts, we headed home in the darkness of Big Bend.



Common Black-Hawk

Day 8: Big Bend to Fort Davis

We said goodbye to Big Bend this morning, another beautiful morning framed by surrounding mountains. On our way out, someone at a roadside pullout got our attention by pointing to a hillside—we looked up and saw a **Black Bear**! We piled out of the car and it turned out to be three Black Bears including an incredibly adorable and very young cub trying to keep up with mom as they climbed up the steep, rocky slope.

Our next stop was Christmas Mountain Oasis, a remote private reserve with an outstanding feeder setup. We soon saw our main target there, **Lucifer Hummingbird**. We also got excellent looks at **Scaled Quail**, **Black-tailed Gnatcatcher**, a bathing **Varied Bunting**, and an exquisite **Bell's Vireo** nest with an incubating vireo. We continued north, stopping in a funky shop in Alpine for tacos, and eventually made it to Fort Davis. We had gotten some advice about a lingering **Lewis's Woodpecker** not far from town, so we started our afternoon with a successful search for this pink-and-green beauty. We ended at the nearby state park, watching the fantastic feeder setups with **Blue Grosbeak**, **Summer Tanager**, **Black-headed Grosbeak**, and **Green-tailed Towhee** in attendance. Our final night's dinner was at a lovely restaurant in Marfa where we reminisced about our incredible trip.

Day 9: Fort Davis to El Paso; Departure

We only had a short time to bird this morning before heading to El Paso for our departure. We drove back to the state park to look for **Montezuma Quail**. We were excited and a bit surprised to hear them at two different places, but they never showed themselves. It was a beautiful morning and we took in the views (and our first **Eastern Meadowlark** of the trip) from the park's viewpoint before returning to the hotel, where breakfast and a **Canyon Wren** awaited us. It was time to head out. We dropped a couple people off at the airport in El Paso, and the remaining participants spent an hour birding urban parks, where we picked up a couple of real rarities that were new for the trip: **Canada Goose** and **Mallard**. We also had nice looks at a flock of **American Avocets**, **Inca Dove**, and **Neotropic Cormorant**. It was time to head home after a truly great trip.

BIRD LIST. 201 species (200 seen, 1 heard only). Taxonomy follows the Clements/eBird Checklist, 2017 update. For recent splits, older names are in parentheses. IUCN Red List status is listed for threatened and near-threatened species: CR=Critically Endangered, EN=Endangered, VU=Vulnerable, NT=Near-threatened. The **FAMILY NAME** precedes the list of birds observed in each family.

ANATIDAE (DUCKS, GEESE, AND WATERFOWL)

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck - *Dendrocygna autumnalis*
 Canada Goose - *Branta canadensis*
 Blue-winged Teal - *Spatula discors*
 Cinnamon Teal - *Spatula cyanoptera*
 Northern Shoveler - *Spatula clypeata*
 Gadwall - *Mareca strepera*
 American Wigeon - *Mareca americana*
 Mallard - *Anas platyrhynchos*
 Green-winged Teal - *Anas crecca*
 Ruddy Duck - *Oxyura jamaicensis*

ODONTOPHORIDAE (NEW WORLD QUAIL)

Northern Bobwhite (NT) - *Colinus virginianus*

Scaled Quail - *Callipepla squamata*

Montezuma Quail - *Cyrtonyx montezumae* (Heard only)

PHASIANIDAE (PHEASANTS, GROUSE, AND ALLIES)

Wild Turkey - *Meleagris gallopavo*

PODICIPEDIDAE (GREBES)

Pied-billed Grebe - *Podilymbus podiceps*

PHALACROCORACIDAE (CORMORANTS AND SHAGS)

Neotropic Cormorant - *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*

Double-crested Cormorant - *Phalacrocorax auritus*

PELECANIDAE (PELICANS)

American White Pelican - *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*

ARDEIDAE (HERONS, EGRETS, AND BITTERNS)

Great blue heron - *Ardea herodias*

Snowy Egret - *Egretta thula*

Cattle Egret - *Bubulcus ibis*

Green Heron - *Butorides virescens*

THRESKIORNITHIDAE (IBISES AND SPOONBILLS)

White-faced Ibis - *Plegadis chihi*

CATHARTIDAE (NEW WORLD VULTURES)

Black Vulture - *Coragyps atratus*

Turkey Vulture - *Cathartes aura*

ACCIPITRIDAE (HAWKS, EAGLES, AND KITES)

Mississippi Kite - *Ictinia mississippiensis*

Northern Harrier - *Circus hudsonius*

Sharp-shinned Hawk - *Accipiter striatus*

Cooper's Hawk - *Accipiter cooperii*

Common Black Hawk - *Buteogallus anthracinus*

Harris's Hawk - *Parabuteo unicinctus*

Gray Hawk - *Buteo plagiatus*

Red-shouldered Hawk - *Buteo lineatus*

Swainson's Hawk - *Buteo swainsoni*

Zone-tailed Hawk - *Buteo albonotatus*

Red-tailed Hawk - *Buteo jamaicensis*

CATHARTIDAE (NEW WORLD VULTURES)

Common Gallinule (Moorhen) - *Gallinula galeata*

American Coot - *Fulica americana*

RECURVIROSTRIDAE (STILTS AND AVOCETS)

Black-necked Stilt - *Himantopus mexicanus*

American Avocet - *Recurvirostra americana*

CHARADRIIDAE (PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS)

Killdeer - *Charadrius vociferus*

SCOLOPACIDAE (SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES)

Hudsonian Godwit - *Limosa haemastica*

Stilt Sandpiper - *Calidris himantopus*

Baird's Sandpiper - *Calidris bairdii*

Least Sandpiper - *Calidris minutilla*

Pectoral Sandpiper - *Calidris melanotos*

Long-billed Dowitcher - *Limnodromus scolopaceus*

Wilson's Phalarope - *Phalaropus tricolor*

Spotted Sandpiper - *Actitis macularius*

Solitary Sandpiper - *Tringa solitaria*

Lesser Yellowlegs - *Tringa flavipes*

COLUMBIDAE (PIGEONS AND DOVES)

Rock Pigeon - *Columba livia*

Eurasian Collared-Dove - *Streptopelia decaocto*

Inca Dove - *Columbina inca*

Common Ground-Dove - *Columbina passerina*

White-tipped Dove - *Leptotila verreauxi*

White-winged Dove - *Zenaida asiatica*

Mourning Dove - *Zenaida macroura*

CUCULIDAE (CUCKOOS)

Greater Roadrunner - *Geococcyx californianus*

STRIGIDAE (OWLS)

Eastern Screech-Owl - *Megascops asio*

Elf Owl - *Micrathene whitneyi*

CAPRIMULGIDAE (NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES)

Lesser Nighthawk - *Chordeiles acutipennis*

Common Poorwill - *Phalaenoptilus nuttallii*

Chuck-will's-widow - *Antrostomus carolinensis*

APODIDAE (SWIFTS)

Chimney Swift (NT) - *Chaetura pelagica*

TROCHILIDAE (HUMMINGBIRDS)

Lucifer Hummingbird - *Calothorax lucifer*

Ruby-throated Hummingbird - *Archilochus colubris*

Black-chinned Hummingbird - *Archilochus alexandri*

ALCEDINIDAE (KINGFISHERS)

Green Kingfisher - *Chloroceryle americana*

PICIDAE (WOODPECKERS)

Lewis's Woodpecker - *Melanerpes lewis*

Acorn Woodpecker - *Melanerpes formicivorus*
Golden-fronted Woodpecker - *Melanerpes aurifrons*
Ladder-backed Woodpecker - *Picoides scalaris*
Downy Woodpecker - *Picoides pubescens*

FALCONIDAE (FALCONS AND CARACARAS)

Crested Caracara - *Caracara cheriway*
American Kestrel - *Falco sparverius*

TYRANNIDAE (TYRANT FLYCATCHERS)

Western Wood-Pewee - *Contopus sordidulus*
Eastern Wood-Pewee - *Contopus virens*
Gray Flycatcher - *Empidonax wrightii*
Black Phoebe - *Sayornis nigricans*
Eastern Phoebe - *Sayornis phoebe*
Say's Phoebe - *Sayornis saya*
Vermilion Flycatcher - *Pyrocephalus rubinus*
Ash-throated Flycatcher - *Myiarchus cinerascens*
Brown-crested Flycatcher - *Myiarchus tyrannulus*
Great Kiskadee - *Pitangus sulphuratus*
Couch's Kingbird - *Tyrannus couchii*
Cassin's Kingbird - *Tyrannus vociferans*
Western Kingbird - *Tyrannus verticalis*
Eastern Kingbird - *Tyrannus tyrannus*
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - *Tyrannus forficatus*

LANIIDAE (SHRIKES)

Loggerhead Shrike (NT) - *Lanius ludovicianus*

VIREONIDAE (VIREOS, SHRIKE-BABLERS, AND ERPORNIS)

Black-capped Vireo (VU) - *Vireo atricapilla*
White-eyed Vireo - *Vireo griseus*
Bell's Vireo (NT) - *Vireo bellii*
Gray Vireo - *Vireo vicinior*
Hutton's Vireo - *Vireo huttoni*
Yellow-throated Vireo - *Vireo flavifrons*
Blue-headed (Solitary) Vireo - *Vireo solitarius*
Plumbeous Vireo - *Vireo plumbeus*
Red-eyed Vireo - *Vireo olivaceus*

CORVIDAE (CROWS, JAYS, AND MAGPIES)

Woodhouse's (Western) Scrub-Jay - *Aphelocoma woodhouseii*
Mexican Jay - *Aphelocoma wollweberi*
Common Raven - *Corvus corax*

ALAUDIDAE (LARKS)

Horned Lark - *Eremophila alpestris*

HIRUNDINIDAE (SWALLOWS)

Northern Rough-winged Swallow - *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*

Purple Martin - *Progne subis*

Violet-green Swallow - *Tachycineta thalassina*

Barn Swallow - *Hirundo rustica*

Cliff Swallow - *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*

Cave Swallow - *Petrochelidon fulva*

PARIDAE (TITS, CHICKADEES, AND TITMICE)

Carolina Chickadee - *Poecile carolinensis*

Black-crested (Tufted) Titmouse - *Baeolophus atricristatus*

REMIZIDAE (PENDULINE-TITS)

Verdin - *Auriparus flaviceps*

AEGITHALIDAE (LONG-TAILED TITS)

Bushtit - *Psaltriparus minimus*

Red-breasted Nuthatch - *Sitta canadensis*

White-breasted Nuthatch - *Sitta carolinensis*

TROGLODYTIDAE (WRENS)

Rock Wren - *Salpinctes obsoletus*

Canyon Wren - *Catherpes mexicanus*

House Wren - *Troglodytes aedon*

Carolina Wren - *Thryothorus ludovicianus*

Bewick's Wren - *Thryomanes bewickii*

Cactus Wren - *Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus*

POLIOPTILIDAE (GNATCATCHERS)

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - *Polioptila caerulea*

Black-tailed Gnatcatcher - *Polioptila melanura*

REGULIDAE (KINGLETS)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet - *Regulus calendula*

TURDIDAE (THRUSHES AND ALLIES)

Eastern Bluebird - *Sialia sialis*

Townsend's Solitaire - *Myadestes townsendi*

Hermit Thrush - *Catharus guttatus*

MIMIDAE (MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS)

Curve-billed Thrasher - *Toxostoma curvirostre*

Brown Thrasher - *Toxostoma rufum*

Long-billed Thrasher - *Toxostoma longirostre*

Crissal Thrasher - *Toxostoma crissale*

Northern Mockingbird - *Mimus polyglottos*

STURNIDAE (STARLINGS)

European Starling - *Sturnus vulgaris*

MOTACILLIDAE (WAGTAILS AND PIPITS)

American Pipit - *Anthus rubescens*

BOMBYCILLIDAE (WAXWINGS)

Cedar Waxwing - *Bombycilla cedrorum*

PARULIDAE (NEW WORLD WARBLERS)

Louisiana Waterthrush - *Parkesia motacilla*

Black-and-white Warbler - *Mniotilta varia*

Orange-crowned Warbler - *Oreothlypis celata*

Colima Warbler - *Oreothlypis crissalis*

Lucy's Warbler - *Oreothlypis luciae*

Nashville Warbler - *Oreothlypis ruficapilla*

MacGillivray's Warbler - *Geothlypis tolmiei*

Common Yellowthroat - *Geothlypis trichas*

Northern Parula - *Setophaga americana*

Yellow Warbler - *Setophaga petechia*

Yellow-rumped Warbler - *Setophaga coronate* (both "Myrtle" and "Audubon's" subspecies)

Yellow-throated Warbler - *Setophaga dominica*

Townsend's Warbler - *Setophaga townsendi*

Golden-cheeked Warbler (EN) - *Setophaga chrysoparia*

Wilson's Warbler - *Cardellina pusilla*

PASSERELLIDAE (NEW WORLD BUNTINGS AND SPARROWS)

Grasshopper Sparrow - *Ammodramus savannarum*

Olive Sparrow - *Arremonops rufivirgatus*

Chipping Sparrow - *Spizella passerina*

Clay-colored Sparrow - *Spizella pallida*

Black-chinned Sparrow - *Spizella atrogularis*

Brewer's Sparrow - *Spizella breweri*

Black-throated Sparrow - *Amphispiza bilineata*

Lark Sparrow - *Chondestes grammacus*

Lark Bunting - *Calamospiza melanocorys*

Dark-eyed Junco - *Junco hyemalis* ("Gray-headed" subspecies)

White-crowned Sparrow - *Zonotrichia leucophrys*

White-throated Sparrow - *Zonotrichia albicollis*

Vesper Sparrow - *Pooecetes gramineus*

Savannah Sparrow - *Passerculus sandwichensis*

Lincoln's Sparrow - *Melospiza lincolnii*

Canyon (Brown) Towhee - *Melospiza fusca*

Rufous-crowned Sparrow - *Aimophila ruficeps*
Green-tailed Towhee - *Pipilo chlorurus*
Spotted (Rufous-sided) Towhee - *Pipilo maculatus*

ICTERIIDAE (YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT)

Yellow-breasted Chat - *Icteria virens*

CARDINALIDAE (CARDINALS AND ALLIES)

Hepatic Tanager - *Piranga flava*
Summer Tanager - *Piranga rubra*
Western Tanager - *Piranga ludoviciana*
Northern Cardinal - *Cardinalis cardinalis*
Pyrrhuloxia - *Cardinalis sinuatus*
Black-headed Grosbeak - *Pheucticus melanocephalus*
Blue Grosbeak - *Passerina caerulea*
Lazuli Bunting - *Passerina amoena*
Indigo Bunting - *Passerina cyanea*
Varied Bunting - *Passerina versicolor*
Painted Bunting (NT) - *Passerina ciris*

ICTERIDAE (TROUPIALS AND ALLIES)

Yellow-headed Blackbird - *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*
Western Meadowlark - *Sturnella neglecta*
Eastern Meadowlark - *Sturnella magna*
Orchard Oriole - *Icterus spurius*
Hooded Oriole - *Icterus cucullatus*
Bullock's (Northern) Oriole - *Icterus bullockii*
Scott's Oriole - *Icterus parisorum*
Red-winged Blackbird - *Agelaius phoeniceus*
Bronzed Cowbird - *Molothrus aeneus*
Brown-headed Cowbird - *Molothrus ater*
Brewer's Blackbird - *Euphagus cyanocephalus*
Great-tailed Grackle - *Quiscalus mexicanus*

FRINGILLIDAE (FINCHES, EUPHONIAS, AND ALLIES)

House Finch - *Haemorhous mexicanus*
Cassin's Finch (NT) - *Haemorhous cassinii*
Pine Siskin - *Spinus pinus*
Lesser Goldfinch - *Spinus psaltria*

PASSERIDAE (OLD WORLD SPARROWS)

House Sparrow - *Passer domesticus*

MAMMAL LIST

Mexican free-tailed bat - *Tadarida brasiliensis*

Coyote - *Canis latrans*

American black bear - *Ursus americanus*

Gray Fox - *Urocyon cinereoargenteus*

Bobcat – *Lynx rufus*

Collared peccary (Javelina) - *Pecari tajacu*

Mule Deer - *Odocoileus hemionus*

White-tailed deer - *Odocoileus virginianus*

Pronghorn - *Antilocapra americana*

Black-tailed jackrabbit - *Lepus californicus*

Desert cottontail - *Sylvilagus audubonni*

Fox squirrel - *Sciurus niger*

Rock squirrel - *Spermophilus variegatus*



Black Bear and cub



Acorn Woodpecker



Sunset in Big Ben. Photo by Cindy Madson.