

SOUTHERN ARIZONA

Further filling in the missing US species, on Mexico's doorstep.

09 UNTIL 22-05-2016



(Mexican) Spotted Owl and Olive Warbler, both "flagships" of the trip.

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Legenda:

***AAAA** = New (Holarctic) Species **(39)**

AAAAA = Good species for the trip or for me (because not often seen)

The list order is conform the AOU checklist with the recent changes on the splitting and lumping issue mainly based on publications in the "important magazines". Subspecies is only mentioned when thought to be important and really visible in the field. The totals of birds per species are just a total of the birds I saw to give an idea how many of a species you encounter during a trip. Only species seen are mentioned, and heard when no lifer (with one exception).

On this trip the weather was good with almost no rain, mostly sunny with (dry) temperatures above the 20 C and no wind, except two days which gave a bit of a problem with finding passerines but for the rest very good birding weather.



Sorry I love selfies with bird(spots), left at Patagonia with the spot for Violet-Crowned H, right with the leaning tree with the Spotted Owl

Itinerary

- 09-05** Flew in the afternoon from Amsterdam via Minneapolis to Phoenix and spend the night there.
- 10-05** Birded Ramsey Canyon in the morning (lucky to get permission to go in since it was closed), later visited Ash Canyon feeders at the B&B, Hunter Canyon and Miller Road.
- 11-05** Dipped at the Sinaloa Wren place at Huachuca Mountains (**H**), later on birded at Hunter Canyon.
- 12-05** In the morning birded at Hunter Canyon. Later on met the Fieldguides group and birded in the afternoon at the Madera Canyon along Proctor road, Madera Kubo, the "Whitehouse" picnic area and Proctor Road. We did some owling in the early evening.
- 13-05** Drove to Portal and birded along the way at Santa Cruz River Park, Sweetwater Wetlands, Tucson Mountain Park, Bentson, Willcox, and Pinery Canyon and arrived in the evening at The Chiricahua Mountains (**C**).
- 14-05** C, all day, visited Southfork Road (quite a hike), Portland village and the Rodriguez feeders. And did owling in the evening.
- 15-05** C all day, Southfork Road, Rustler Park road and Rodriguez and Dave Jesper feeders. In the evening a very successful owling trip.
- 16-05** In the morning birded the Stateline Road, Sulpher Canyon Road, Paradise Road, Willcox again and the Bentson Sewage Ponds, ended the day at Ash Canyon in the Huachuca Mountains (**H**)
- 17-05** H all day, Miller Canyon, Brown Canyon ranch and the lower Hunter Canyon.
- 18-05** H in the morning with Carr Canyon, later on that morning we drove with birding stops to the Patagonia area (**P**), We birded at Las Caynegeo and the Patens (in **P**)

19-05 The whole day at P, Patagonia Lake in the morning, Blue Haven Road and Sonoita Creek, and in the afternoon and evening (owling) at California Gulch. We were happy and lucky to visit this last place, despite the big "Sierra fire".

20-05 Birded around the Esplendor Resort where we spend the night later on visited Palo Duro ponds, Anza Trail near Tubac, the Amado Sewage Ponds, Florida Canyon and the feeders at Madera Canyon.

21-05 Took a coach back to Phoenix and flew back via Minneapolis to Amsterdam.



Hunter Canyon and a young, viper, crossing the road.



Map of the area's visited

THE BIRD SPECIES

01. **Gadwall – *Anas strepera***
20-05
1 female at Palo Duro Ponds.
02. **American Wigeon – *Anas americana***
13-05
3 ex. at Willcox, eclips birds.
16-05
1 male at a golfcourse pond we visited.
03. **Mallard – *Anas platyrhynchos***
Quite common on the visited water places.

04. **Mexican Mallard – Anas platyrhynchos ssp: diazi**

A total of 20 birds seen spread over the trip, often in pairs and only pure looking birds considered

05. **Cinnamon Teal – Anas cyanoptera**

13-05

3 ex. in eclips together, at Willcox.

16-05

3 ex. an adult pair again at Willcox.

19-05

again after quite some years.

1 adult male at Patagonia Lake. Great to see adult males

06. **Northern Shoveler – Anas clypeata**

13-05

2 ex. together, at Willcox.

16-05

4 ex. again at Willcox.

07. **Green-winged Teal – Anas crecca**

13-05

2 ex. in together, at Willcox.

08. **Lesser Scaup – Aythya affinis**

13-05

2 ex. , a pair at Willcox.

16-05

4 ex. at a visited golf course.



09. **Ruddy Duck – Oxyura jamaicensis**

The most common encountered duck species in small flocks.

10. **Scaled Quail – Callipepla squamata**

16-05

1 ex. along the Stateline Road, nice views.

18-05

1 ex. along the road.



Surprisingly scarce, but seen well

11. **Gambell's Quail - Callipepla gambelii**

The most common Quail species encountered, seen daily in quite big numbers.

12. **Montezuma Quail – *Cyrtonyx montezumae***

A total of 11 birds encountered, but only twice seen well, some only heard.



Finally seen well at the end of the trip in the California Gulch

13. **Wild Turkey – *Meleagris gallopavo***

A total of 11 birds seen spread over the trip, sometimes in small family groups.

14. **Pied-billed Grebe – *Podilymbus podiceps***

A total of 6 seen spread over the trip, one time with chicks.

15. **Eared Grebe – *Podiceps nigricollis***

13-05 2 ex. at Willcox.

19-05 4 ex. at Patagonia Lake. All in summer plumage.

16. **Neotropic Cormorant – *Phalacrocorax brasilianus***

19-05 15 ex. at Patagonia Lake.

17. **Double-crested Cormorant – *Phalacrocorax auritus***

19-05 1 ex. seen well (with orange throat skin) at Patagonia Lake.

18. **Great Blue Heron – *Ardea herodias***

13-05 1 ex. at Willcox.

19-05 2 ex. at Patagonia Lake.

19. **Great Egret – *Ardea alba***

13-05 1 ex. at Willcox

20. **(Western) Cattle Egret - *Bubulcus ibis***

13-05 1 ex. at Willcox

20-05 1 ex. at the Paulo Duro ponds.

21. **Green Heron – *Butorides virescens***

13-05 2 ex. at Willcox.

19-05 3 ex. at Patagonia Lake. All adults in breeding plumage.

22. **Black-Crowned Night-Heron – *Nycticorax nycticorax***

19-05 1 ex. at Patagonia Lake.

20-05 2 ex. at Paulo Duro ponds.

23. **White-faced Ibis – *Plegadis chihi***

A total of 45 seen, mostly at Willcox, mostly adult summers.

24. **Black Vulture – *Coragyps atratus***

A total of 7 seen in the Patagonia area.

25. **Turkey Vulture – Cathartes aura**

Common throughout the trip.

26. **Golden Eagle – Aquila chrysaetos**

16-05

1 adult bird flying low along the Stateline Road. Rare in this season.

27. **Sharp-shinned Hawk – Accipiter striatus**

17-05

1 ex. in flight, past us at Miller Road.

28. **Cooper’s Hawk – Accipiter cooperii**

A total of 9 seen spread over the trip, the most common raptor.

29. **Gray Hawk – Buteo plagiatus**

A total of 8 seen spread over the locations, some in or near nests. One immature (first summer?).



This species is spreading in the (southern) US

30. **Swainson’s Hawk – Buteo swainsoni**

A total of 10 birds seen spread over the days.

31. **Zone-tailed Hawk – Buteo albonotatus**

18-05

1 ex. very nicely in flight at close range hunting, while trying for Montezuma Quail

32. **Red-Tailed Hawk – Buteo jamaicensis**

A total of 9 seen spread over the trip.

33. **American Coot – Fulica americana**

Quite common on the visited water places, also with young.

34. **Black-Necked Stilt – Himantopus (himantopus) mexicanus**

13+16-05

2 ex. at Willcox.

35. **American Avocet – Recurvirostra americana**

13-05

40 ex. in pairs at Willcox

16-05

20 ex. again at Willcox.

36. **Kildeer – Charadrius vociferous**

The most common wader encountered, seen on many “green” places.

37. **Spotted Sandpiper – Actitis macularius**

Quite commonly seen, mainly at Willcox, all in breeding plumage.

38. **Greater Yellowlegs – Tringa melanoleuca**

16-05

1 ex. in summer plumage at Willcox.

39. **Western Sandpiper – Calidris mauri**

13-05

7 ex. in summer plumage at Willcox.

16-05

15 ex. again at Willcox.

40. **Sanderling – Calidris alba**

13+16-05

1 ex. the same in summer plumage Willcox.

41. **Wilson’s Phalarope – Phalaropus tricolor**

13-05

20 ex. in (partly) summer plumage at Willcox.

16-05

10 ex. again at Willcox.



42. **Red-necked Phalarope – Phalaropus lobatus**

16-05

7 ex. in one flock at Willcox.



The flock by Dave Stejskal

43. **Franklin’s Gull – Leucophaeus pipixcan**

13+16-05

1 ex. the same in summer plumage Willcox.

44. **Ring-billed Gull – Larus delawarensis**

13-05

10 ex. in summer plumage at Willcox.

16-05

1 ex. again at Willcox.

45. **California Gull – Larus californicus**

16-06

1 first summer (?) bird at Willcox.



A very knowledgeable bird by Dave Stejskal

46. **Eurasian Collared-Dove – *Streptopelia decaoto***

The commonest encountered dove, most likely introduced in the states.

47. **Inca Dove – *Columbina inca***

A total of 18 seen spread over the trip. Nice to see this species again after many years.

48. **Common Ground-dove – *Columbina passerina***

18-05

1 ex. at Patagonina, the only one seen on the trip (strange).

49. **White-winged Dove – *Zenaida asiatica***

Together with Mourning, commonly seen during the trip.

50. **Mourning Dove – *Zenaida macroura***

Together with White-winged, commonly seen during the trip.

51. **Greater Roadrunner – *Geococcyx californianus***

A total of 12 seen spread over the trip, giving superb views.

52. **(American) Barn Owl – *Tyto (alba) furcata* ssp: *pratincola***

16-05

1 ex. flushed from a tree at Willcox and perched. Great views,
a very white bird. Only my second ever.



The bird by Dave Stejskal

53. ***FLAMMULATED OWL – *Psiloscopus flammeolus***

14-05

1 ex. heard at parking lot at C, but not seen.

15-05

1 ex. seen very well high up Rustler Road, great views, of a calling bird, very large dark eyes and reddish parts in the head mask.



Very happy with this hard to see species, photo by Doris Atkinson.

54. **Western Screech Owl – *Megascops kennicottii***

12-05

1 ex. seen and heard well at the entrance of Madera Canyon.



Great views!

55. ***WHISKERED SCREECH OWL – *Megascops trichopsis***

12-05

1 ex. seen and heard well at the entrance of Madera Canyon.

Obvious green bill, the call was soft and inconspicuous.



Again great views, just minutes before the Western Screech.

56. ***MOUNTAIN (NORTHERN) PYGMY OWL – *Glaucidium (californicum) gnoma***

17-05

1 ex. seen and heard very well at Miller Canyon.

18-05

1 ex. in the Patagonia area. Calling and seen.

Not very different from other *Glaucidium* owls I have seen, ID on call.



On the right the Miller canyon bird, on the left the Patagonia area bird.

57. **Elf Owl – *Micrathene whitneyi***

12-05

2 ex. at a nesting hole, giving great views and sounds

15-05

1 ex. heard during the owling trip, great to see this species

after so many years.

58. **Burrowing Owl – *Athenecunicularia***

13-05

1 ex. at an artificial nesting site near Tucson, sitting on a stick.

59. ***(MEXICAN) SPOTTED OWL – *Strix occidentalis ssp: lucida***

17-05

1 ex. seen very well in daylight in a roosting tree.



Bird of the trip?, what a feast to see this species like this.

60. **Lesser Nighthawk – *Chordeiles acutipennis***

A total of 16 birds seen at dusk spread over the trip, I think they are everywhere.

61. ***COMMON POORWILL – *phalaenoptilus nuttallii***

14-05

6 ex. near the sleeping place we stayed at C. great views

eventually at short distance of one of the birds, calling from the road.



Tiny, small short-tailed nightjar with a large white throat.

62. ***BUFF-COLLARED NIGHTJAR – *Antrostomus ridgwayi***

19-05

3 ex, seen and heard very well at California Gulch, Started calling already around 19.00 hours. Two birds seen in courtship flying together. One birds seen sitting calling from a branch, with the buff color seen well.



Two pictures Jeff Shenot (left) and Stanton Hunter taken from e-bird of the birds I saw.

63. ***MEXICAN WHIP-POOR-WILL – *Antrostomus arizonae ssp: arizonae***

Heard every evening with a maximum of 5 birds at C. Seen very well on the night of 15-05 along the upper Rustler Park Road, calling from a branch in the spotlight. Seen in full view, an elongated nightjar with a lot of white in the tail end, seen while perched. There call is loud and easy to locate.

64. **White-throated Swift – *Aeronautes saxatalis***

Seen on most days in small flocks along cliffs, mainly common in C. Great views.

65. **Magnificent Hummingbird – *Eugenes fulgens***

A total of 12 “Maggie’s” seen on the trip, when males are seen in the right light there name comes through.



One of the nice “Maggie’s” by Dave Stejskal

66. ***PLAIN-CAPPED STARHROAT – Heliomaster constantii**

20-05

1 near adult male seen very well at the feeders of Madera Canyon, feeding and sitting on a branch. A big hummer (maggie size), with reddish on the throat. According to literature this could be more intensive than on this bird). Great view.



A great tour end, photo's by Dave Stejskal

67. ***BLUE-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD – Lampornis clemenciae**

10-05

2 ex. at the feeders near the entrance of Ramsey Canyon.

14-05

1 ex. seen briefly (with a lot of white in the tail ends) at the

Rodriquez feeders

15-05

3 ex. seen spread over the day, with one female on a nest.

A big hummer (maggie size), with blue throat (not easy to see), with a lot of white in the tail tips.

68. ***LUCIFER HUMMINGBIRD – Calothorax lucifer**

10+16-05

1 (most likely the same) at a feeder at the Ash Canyon B&B.

Great views. The curved bill is a good feature between the Black-chinned.



The Lucifer at the feeder.

69. **Black-chinned Hummingbird – Archilochus alexandri**

A total of 19 seen spread over the trip, one of the common hummers

70. **Anna's Hummingbird – Calypte anna**

A total of 8 birds seen spread over the visited feeders during the trip, some in breeding plumage.

71. **Broad-Tailed Hummingbird – Selasphorus platycercus**

A total of 13 birds seen at the visited feeders spread over the trip. Also some nice males.

72. ***BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD – Cynanthus latirostris**

The most common hummer of the trip, great birds with there red bill

73. ***VIOLET-CROWNED HUMMINGBIRD – *Amazilia violiceps* ssp: *elliotti***

18-05

1 ex. I think an adult at the famous feeder in Patagonia, giving

great views of this quite big hummer.



74. **COPPERY-TAILED (Elegant) TROGON – *Trogon ambiguous (elegans)* ssp: *goldmani***

10-05

2 ex. seen and heard, near a nesting hole at Ramsey Canyon.

14-05

3 ex. seen and heard well along the Southfork Road, also

displaying.



The bird of 10-05 near its nest.

75. **Acorn Woodpecker – *Melanerpes formicivorus***

The commonest woodpecker encountered during the trip, with daily sightings.

76. **Gila Woodpecker – *Melanerpes uropygialis***

Seen almost daily with the mostly in the C. section of the trip.

77. **Red-naped Sapsucker – *Sphyrapicus nuchalis***

14-05

1 ex. seen well in a wintering tree (where it was present for months). Great views, at Southfork road.

78. **Ladder-Backed Woodpecker – *Picoides scalaris***

A total of 6 seen spread over the trip. Some at feeders.

79. **Hairy Woodpecker – Picoides villosus**

14-05 2 ex. seen well in a nesting tree along the trail at Southfork Road.

80. ***ARIZONA WOODPECKER – Picoides arizonae**

10-05 1 ex. at Ramsey Canyon.

11-05 1 ex seen very close at the Sinaloa wren place.

14-05 1 ex. along the trail at Southfork Road.



Slightly out of focus but close at the Sinaloa Wren spot.

81. **Northern (Red-Shafted) Flicker – Colaptes auratus ssp: cafer**

A total of 6 birds seen in the C. part of the trip.

82. **Gilded Flicker – Colaptes chrysoides**

13-05 2 ex. seen and heard well west of Tucson. I think I had this species by mistake on my life list.



This species is becoming rarer but with tape we found a couple.

83. **American Kestrel – Falco sparverius**

A total of 4 birds seen well during the trip.

84. **Peregrine Falcon – Falco peregrines**

16-05 1 ex. in flight along the way.

85. ***NORTHERN BEARDLESS TYRANNULET – Camptostoma imberbe**

18-05 1 ex. seen very well at Patagonia in Harshaw Canyon

19-05 3 ex. near a nesting site along Blue Haven road.

Finally after a lot of searching in the early nineties in Texas, I saw this species. There distinctive call is more spectacular than there plumage.



Doris Atkinson, was just a little quicker with her camera.

86. **(Mexican) Tufted Flycatcher – *Mitrephanes phaeocercus* ssp: *tenuirostris***

10-05

2 ex. seen very well near a nesting site in (upper) Ramsey

Canyon. Also defending the nesting site. Great views.



Photo's from e-bird of the pair from the period I saw the birds.

87. **Olive-sided Flycatcher – *contopus cooperi***

A total of 4 seen spread over the trip. All migrants



A nice pic of one of the birds on 17-05

88. ***GREATER PEWEE – *Contopus pertinax***

10-05 2 ex. at the entrance of Ramsey Canyon.
11-05 1 ex. at Hunter Canyon.
18-05 2 ex. at Carr Canyon.

Nice, easy to recognize birds with an obvious pale bill base.

89. **Western Wood-Pewee – *Contopus sordidulus***

Seen daily with a maximum of 4 birds. They seem to be all migrants.

90. ***HAMMOND'S FLYCATCHER – *Empidonax hammondii***

10-05 1 ex. at the parking lot of Ramsey Canyon.
15-05 3 ex. seen well along Rustler Park Road.
18-05 1 ex. seen very well at the upper part of Carr Canyon.

A small sized empy with a short bill and round head. Great views and differently looking from Dusky.

91. ***DUSKY FLYCATCHER – *Empidonax oberholseri***

10-05 2 ex. at the entrance of Ramsey Canyon.
13-05 1 ex. at Pinery Canyon while waiting for the redstart.
15-05 1 ex. at Southfork Road.

Longer billed and more dusky on the breast and throat than Hammonds.

92. **Pacific-Slope Flycatcher – *Empidonax difficillis***

18-05 2 ex. at Las Caynegeo in Patagonia.
20-05 2 ex. along the Anza Trail. Like Cordilleran but ID on call (by Dave) and lowland migrants are without exception Pacific.

93. ***CORDILLERAN FLYCATCHER – *Empidonax occidentalis***

15-05 1 ex. at Rustler Park Road.
17-05 2 ex. at Miller Canyon. Like Pacific, ID on call and habitat (mountains)



Not totally in focus, but a lifer..

94. ***BUFF-BREASTED FLYCATCHER – *Empidonax fulvifrons***

11-05 1 ex. at (upper) Hunter Canyon.
17-05 1 ex. at Miller Canyon.
18-05 5 ex. at (upper) Carr Canyon. This is an easy (very local) empy that even I can recognize.

95. **Black Phoebe – *Sayornis nigricans***

A total of 10 seen spread over the trip.

96. **Say's Phoebe – *Sayornis saya***

A total of 8 birds seen spread over the trip

97. **Vermilion Flycatcher – *Pyrocephalus rubinus***
Quite common in the second half of the trip, mainly in the Patagonia area.
98. **Dusky-capped Flycatcher – *Myiarchus cinerascens* ssp: *olivascens***
A total of 13 birds encountered spread over the trip. This is the smallest Myiarchus.
99. **Ash-Throated Flycatcher – *Myiarchus cinerascens***
A total of 17 encountered during the trip, often in pairs, larger and paler (on the throat), medium sized.
100. **Brown-Crested Flycatcher – *Myiarchus Tyrannulus***
A total of 10 of these big rufous winged flycatchers encountered during the trip, mainly in the second part of the trip.
101. **Sulpher-Bellied Flycatcher – *Myiodynastes luteiventris***
17-05 2 ex. seen very well during the walk up the Miller Canyon.
Spectacular late migrant flycatcher.
102. **Tropical Kingbird – *Tyrannus melancholicus***
13-05 5 ex. seen at Willcox,
20-05 10 ex. near Nogalis at a visited swamp. Quite doable from
Western, with a larger bill different head structure and grey/blue head color.
103. **Cassin's Kingbird - *Tyrannus vociferans***
Quite common in small groups (pairs), mainly in the second part of the trip.
104. ***THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD - *Tyrannus crassirostris***
14-05 1 ex. a worn adult (less yellow on the underparts) was
present in Portal. Stubby kingbird with a big bill.
105. **Western Kingbird – *Tyrannus verticalis***
Quite common and seen on most days during the trip.
106. **Loggerhead Shrike – *Lanius ludovicianus***
16-05 3 ex. seen along the Stateline road.
107. **Bell's Vireo – *Vireo belli* ssp: *arizonae***
A total of 15 recorded spread over the trip. All quite dull (western looking) birds. Easy to find if you know the call/song.
108. ***PLUMBOUS VIREO – *Vireo plumbeus***
A total of 14 birds seen spread over the trip. A quite common breeder in the mountains.
109. ***CASSIN'S VIREO – *Vireo cassinii***
A total 21 birds, all migrants, seen spread over thr trip. Mostly in the beginning of the trip. Relatively easy to ID from Plumbous, being far less colorful.
110. **Hutton's Vireo – *Vireo huttoni* ssp: *stephensi***
A common breeder and encountered on most days of the trip even found a nest.
111. **Warbling Vireo – *Vireo gilvus* ssp: *brewsteri* (??)**
A total of 7 migrants seen during the trip, quite dull birds compared to the eastern birds.
112. **Steller's Jay – *Cyanocitta stelleri***
A total of 7 birds seen spread over the trip.
113. ***WOODHOUSE'S SCRUB JAY – *Aphelocoma woodhouseii***
15-05 2 ex. at Roderiques feeders.
16-05 3 ex. at Ash canyon

18-05 1 ex. at Carr Canyon. All good views of this recently split species.

114. **Mexican Jay – *Aphelocoma wollweberi***

One of the commonest encountered birds of the trip.

115. **Chihuahuan Raven – *Corvus cryptoleucus***

16-05 2 ex. seen well in flight, these were the only birds we saw, surprisingly. Much smaller than Common Raven.

116. **Common Raven – *Corvus corax***

Commonly seen on almost all days.

117. **Horned Lark – *Eremophila alpestris* ssp: *adusta***

Common at Willcox

18-05 3 ex. at a visited grassland along the way.

118. **American (Buff-bellied) Pipit – *Anthus rubescens***

13-05 1 ex. in summer plumage seen well at Willcox.

119. **Northern Rough-winged Swallow – *Stelgidopteryx serripennis***

A total of 20 birds seen spread over the trip.

120. **Violet-Green Swallow - *Tachycineta thalassina***

Quite commonly seen mainly around cliffs.

121. **Bank Swallow – *Riparia riparia***

Quite common in suitable areas

122. **Barn Swallow – *Hirundo rustica* ssp: *erythrogater***

Commonly seen, mostly birds on passage.

123. **Cliff Swallow – *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* ssp: *melanogaster***

A total of 20 seen with the most on 17-05 (a small colony), All birds with the reddish forehead.

124. ***MEXICAN CHICKADEE – *Poecile sclateri***

15-05 2 ex. seen and heard well on the upper part of Southfork Road. This is the only place in the US to see this species.



Giving great views, pic by Dave Stejskal

125. ***BRIDLED TITMOUSE – *Baeolophus wollweberi***

Common, sometimes in small flocks on most days of the trip.

126. ***JUNIPER TITMOUSE – *Baeolophus ridgwayi***

16-05 1 ex. seen very well along Sulpher Canyon Road, a very dull titmouse but a lifer.

127. **Verdin – *Auriparus flaviceps***

Quite commonly seen on this trip, also near settlements.

128. **Bushtit – *Psaltriparus minimus* ssp: *plumbeus***

A total of 38 recorded during the trip sometimes in small flocks. Very plain looking birds compared to the brown capped coastal birds I have seen.

129. **Red-Breasted Nuthatch – *Sitta Canadensis***

15-05 1 ex. along the highest part of Rustler Park Road.

130. **White-Breasted Nuthatch – *Sitta carolinensis* ssp: *nelsoni***

A total of 25 recorded. Good to see this for missing group (interior) subspecies.

131. **Pygmy Nuthatch – *Sitta pygmaea***

15-05 10 ex. in one flock at one of the higher parts along Rustler Park Road.

132. **Brown Creeper – *Certhia americana* ssp: *albescens***

A total of 16 recorded, surprisingly common mainly along Southfork Road. Another good subspecies to have seen.

133. **Rock Wren – *Salpinctes obsoletus***

17-05 2 ex. seen in the garden of mister Beatty in Miller canyon, great views.

134. **Canyon Wren – *Catherpes mexicanus***

A total of 4 birds seen and heard.



A very nice bird seen near Patagonia.

135. **House Wren – *Troglodytes aedon* ssp: *cahooni***

Common all belonging to the “Brown-throated” birds seen in Arizona. Sometimes seen as a different species (HBW).

136. **Bewick’s Wren – *Thryomanes bewickii* ssp: *eremophilus***

Common throughout the trip, all very plain birds, again a good subspecies to have seen.



See how plain grey they are..

137. **Cactus Wren – *Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus***

A total of 12 recorded during the trip, more heard.

138. **Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher – *Polioptila caerulea***

A total of 4 seen, all in the beginning of the trip around Tucson.

139. **Black-Tailed Gnatcatcher – *Polioptila melanura***

13-05

2 ex. seen well west of Tucson. The only ones we saw.

140. ***BLACK-CAPPED GNATCATCHER – *Polioptila nigriceps***

12-05

1 male seen well at Procter Road. The bird of the pic.

19-05

1 male seen well at Pategonia Lake. Giving good views with the obvious black cap. Often found on call.



One of the star attractions of the trip, not as rare as I thought.. Pic by Dave Dave Stejskal

141. **Eastern Bluebird – *Sialia sialis* ssp: *fulva***

19-08

2 male seen well on our way to California Gulch.



The race Fulva from Mexico.

142. **Swainson's Thrush – Catharus ustulatus ssp: swainsoni (most likely)**

18+19-05

3 birds in total in the Patagonia area, migrants.

143. **Hermit Thrush – Catharus guttatus**

A total of 19 birds seen, all breeders.

144. **American Robin – Turdus migratorius**

Common throughout the trip, sometimes in small flocks.

145. **Curve-Billed Thrasher – Toxostoma curvirostre ssp: celsum**

The most common thrasher encountered and seen daily.

146. ***BENDIRE'S THRASHER – toxostoma bendirei**

16-05

1 seen well along the road going for a nesting place, along Stateline Road. Like a smaller, duller and less curved bill Curve-billed.

147. **Crissal Thrasher – Toxostoma crissale**

16-05

3 ex. seen along the Stateline Road. Pale grey thrasher, with a moustachal stripe and what a bill!!!

148. **Nothern Mockingbird – Mimus polyglottos**

A total of 8 seen spread over the trip.

149. **European Starling – Sturnus vulgaris**

Quite common near settlements, introduced.

150. **Cedar Waxwing – Bombycilla cedrorum**

A total of 27 seen spread over the trip, sometimes in small flocks.

151. **Phainopepla – Phainopepla nitens**

Quite common during the trip, with the most in the Patagonia area.

152. ***OLIVE WARBLER – Peucedramus taeniatus**

18-05

5 ex, two pairs and a lose male in the highest part of Carr Canyon. The birds were found on their typical call and performed very well. The male was stunning, quite big. The female looked a bit like a washed out Hermit Warbler. The bird species of the trip for me!



The best photograph of the first pair we saw was by Dave Stejskal.

153. Northern Waterthrush – *Parkesia noveboracensis*

- 13-05 1 ex. in Sweetwater Wetlands.
- 14-05 1 ex. in Portal along the stream, both late migrants.

154. Orange-Crowned Warbler – *Oreothlypis celata*

- 15-05 2 ex. along Rustler Park Road in a feeding songbird flock.

155. Lucy's Warbler – *Oreothlypis luciae*

The commonest warbler species encountered. Seen and heard almost daily.

156. *VIRGINIA'S WARBLER – *Oreothlypis virginiae*

- 15-05 1 ex. along Rustler Park Road.
- 18-05 2 ex, seen and heard well, one of my last new warbler species. The red on the crown was seen once.



Again Dave Stejskal made the best pic of one of the birds at upper Carr Canyon.

157. **Macgillivray's Warbler – Geothlypis tolmiei**

13-05 1 female (?) seen well at Sweetwater Wetlands, feeding low along the track. The bird was a little bit less well marked, so maybe a female?

158. **Common Yellowthroat – Geothlypis trichas**

13-05 2 ex. seen well at Sweetwater Wetlands.

159. **Yellow Warbler – Setophaga graciae**

A total of 23 seen during the trip, one of the commonest encountered warblers, mainly in the lowlands.

160. **Yellow-Rumped Warbler – Setophaga coronate ssp: auduboni**

15-05 5 ex. along Rustler Park road.

16-05 2 ex. at Sulpher Canyon Road, all birds in not breeding plumage.

161. ***GRACE'S WARBLER – Setophaga graciae**

14-05 3 ex. along Southfork Road.

18-05 1 ex. seen very well, singing at upper Carr Canyon. Nice warbler, seen and heard well. Resembles a bit Olive-capped Warbler, seen last year on the Bahamas.

162. **Black-Throated Grey Warbler – Setophaga nigrescens**

14-05 5 in total seen at along Southfork Road.

163. **Townsend Warbler - Setophaga townsendi**

A total of 5 birds seen spread over the trip, some very nice views. All northbound migrants.

164. **Hermit Warbler - Setophaga occidentalis**

18-05 1 female at Upper Carr Canyon gave nice views, a migrant.

165. **Wilson's Warbler – Cardellina pusilla**

A total of 20 seen spread over the trip, all northbound migrants.

166. ***RED-FACED WARBLER – Cardellina rubrifrons**

Common in Ramsey canyon and 5 birds seen in total in other canyons. Great birds easy to find when you know the simple song.



Both "red beauties" of the trip, luckily not difficult to find.

167. ***PAINTED REDSTART – Myioborus pictus**

Commonly seen on most days of the trip, also easy to find on its simple song.

168. **Slate-throated Redstart – Myioborus miniatus ssp: miniatus**

12-05 1 female? Near a ground nesting site. I saw this species in Costa Rica, but the red bellied Mexican subspecies is the Holarctic one.



One of the biggest surprises of the trip, by Dave Stejskal

169. Yellow-Breasted Chat – Icteria virens ssp: auricollis

A total of 5 birds seen spread over the trip, often surprisingly good at feeders.



One of the birds at the Patagonia feeder

170. Rufous-Capped Warbler – Basileuterus rufifrons ssp: caudatus

12-05

3 ex., at Hunter Canyon, seen and heard very well also singing. I saw the yellow bellied race in Costa Rica so this was a good addition,



Left an ebird picture from one of the birds I saw, right my own proof picture

171. ***RUFIOUS-WINGED SPARROW – Peucaea carpalis**

- 12-05 2 seen and heard well along Proctor Road.
14-05 1 ex. seen at Portland (very far east for the species)
19-05 1 ex at Patagonia. Nice sparrow, with an easy to see red shoulder.



Nice views at one of the Portland feeders, with White-crowned. A nice first Botteri for me.

172. ***BOTTERI'S SPARROW – Peucaea botterii**

- 12-05 1 seen and heard well along Proctor Road.
18-05 20 seen well in the Patagonia area. Great sparrow with many delicate details in its plumage.

173. **Grasshopper Sparrow – Ammodramus savannarum ssp: ammolagus**

- 18-05 1 ex. seen well while singing from a bush in the Patagonia area. Not very different from the subspecies I have seen.

174. **Chipping Sparrow – Spizella passerine**

A total of 3 birds seen spread over the trip.

175. **Brewer's Sparrow – Spizella breweri**

- 13-05 1 ex. near Tucson, a late winterer.

176. **Black-Throated Sparrow – Amphispiza bilineata**

Common throughout the trip



As common as Black-Throated is as rare is Five Striped, sorry for the records shot of the last.

177. ***FIVE STRIPED SPARROW – Amphispiza quinquestrata**

- 19-05 1 ex. seen very well feeding on the ground while entering California Gulch. A big dark sparrow with the particular head pattern. The dark breast spot was not seen in the field (but on the pic)

178. **Lark Sparrow – Chondestes grammacus**

A total of 35 seen spread over the trip. Great views.

179. **Lark Bunting – Calamospiza melanocorys**

18-05 25 seen well in one flock in the Patagonia area. One bird was almost in breeding plumage.

180. **Dark-eyed Junco – Junco hyemalis ssp: caniceps**

14-05 1 male feeding on the path of Southfork Trail. A late winter bird.

181. ***YELLOW-EYED JUNCO – Junco phaeonotus**

Quite common in small flocks mainly in the C. and Carr Canyon. Always a scary looking face expression.

182. **White-crowned Sparrow – Zonotrichia leucophrys ssp: oriantha**

A total of 17 seen mainly at the visited feeders, in small flocks. A good subspecies to see.

183. **Savannah Sparrow – Passerculus sandwichensis ssp: ??**

13-05 1 ex. feeding on the grass at Willcox. Looked quite normal. A late migrant.

184. **Song Sparrow – Melospiza melodia ssp: fallax**

13-05 4 ex. singing at the visited wet places on the day
17-05 3 ex. at a marsh near Patagonia.

185. **Lincoln's Sparrow – Melospiza lincolni**

11-05 3 ex. at the Sinaloa Wren place in the H.
15-05 1 ex. at a stream along Rustler Park Road.

186. **Canyon Towhee – Melozone fusca**

A total of 11 seen spread over the trip.

187. **Abert's Towhee – Melozone alberti**

A total 10 seen spread over the trip

188. **Rufous-crowned Sparrow – Aimophila ruficeps**

A total of 8 seen spread over the trip. Great views of this nice sparrow

189. ***GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE – Pipilo chlorurus**

11-05 1 ex. at the Sinaloa Wren place in the H.
18-05 1 ex. at the visited feeders at Patagonia. Nice close up prolonged views. Finally caught up with quite common US species after missing it on many trips.

190. **Spotted Towhee – Pipilo maculatus**

One of the most common bird species encountered on the trip. Singing and holding territory.

191. ***HEPATIC TANAGER – Piranga flava**

A total of 15 seen spread over the forested areas, the different red color than Summer but easier the dark ear pattern and darker wings make the easiest ID characters from Summer.

192. **Summer Tanager – Piranga rubra**

A total of 8 birds seen, more intense red with the males was a good ID feature.

193. **Western Tanager – Piranga ludoviciana**

Common, sometimes in pairs and most likely northbound migrants.

194. **Northern Cardinal – Cardinalis cardinalis ssp: superbus**

A total of 15 seen spread over the trip. Slightly longer crested than the eastern subspecies.

195. **Pyrrhuloxia – Cardinalis sinuatus**

A total of 13 seen spread over the trip often singing.

196. **Rose-Breasted Grosbeak – Pheucticus melanocephalus**

18-05

1 ad. mannetje at Paton's yard in Patagonia, giving nice views. This is a rarity in Arizona.

197. **Black-Headed Grosbeak – Pheucticus melanocephalus**

One of the commonest birds seen on the trip.



198. **Blue Grosbeak – Passerina caerulea**

A total of 16 seen spread over the trip, they were arriving more and more as the trip endured.

199. **Lazuli Bunting – Passerina amoena**

A total of five seen on the trip, with two males (14-05, Southfork Road), all northbound migrants.



Blue Grosbeak at Madera Canyon and for me a most wanted Varied Bunting at Florida Canyon.

200. ***VARIED BUNTING – Passerina versicolor ssp: dickeyae**

19-05

2 males at California Gulch.

20-05

1 male at Florida Canyon. Finally I saw this extremely nice "Bunting". They are late arriving birds from Mexico so I had to wait till the end of the trip.

201. **Red-winged Blackbird – Agelaius phoeniceus**

A total of 10 recorded at the marshes visited.

202. **Lilian's (Eastern) Meadowlark – Sturnella magna ssp: lilianae**

A total of 25 seen, mainly at lowland grassy fields. I did not pay attention to the ID, this was based on range.

203. **Great-tailed Grackle – *Quiscalus mexicanus***

Common during the trip.

204. **Bronzed Cowbird – *Molothrus aeneus***

12-05 1 female seen along the way.
19-05 1 male at Anza trail, near Tubac.
20-05 1 male at the hotel we had spent the night. The red eye was the easy “catch”

205. **Brown-headed Cowbird – *Molothrus ater***

Common throughout the trip.

206. **Hooded Oriole – *Icterus cucullatus***

A total of 7 seen often at feeders and giving superb views.

207. **Bullock’s Oriole – *Icterus bullockii***

A total of 7 seen, some very nice males.

208. **Baltimore Oriole – *Icterus galbula***

15-05 1 immature male at one of the Portal feeders was a rarity.

209. **Scott’s Oriole – *Icterus parisorum***

Common in Ramsey Canyon (11-05) and a total of 7 birds seen at the rest of the trip.

210. **House Finch – *Haemorhous mexicanus***

Very commonly seen daily on the trip.

211. **Purple Finch – *Haemorhous purpureus***

11-05 1 female seen at the entrance feeders of Ramsey Canyon.
14-05 1 female seen well with the House Sparrows at Portal, quite a rare species there I heard.

212. **Red Crossbill – *Loxia curvirostra* ssp: *stricklandi***

15-05 2 ex. seen briefly at Rustler Park Road.

213. **Pine Siskin – *Spinus tristis***

Quite common and almost seen daily. Many were late winter birds.

214. **Lesser Goldfinch – *Spinus psaltria***

Commonly and daily seen on this trips, also in small flocks

215. **House Sparrow – *Passer domesticus***

A few seen (mainly in Portal) of this introduced “Black throated brown”...

MAMMALS

EASTERN COTTONTAIL (*Sylvilagus floridanus*) – These were found in the pine and oak woodland of the mountains above the hot, flat desert below.

DESERT COTTONTAIL (*Sylvilagus audubonii*) – The species that occupies the hot deserts.

BLACK-TAILED JACKRABBIT (*Lepus californicus*) – Black ear tips and a black tail separate this from the next species. Range is also useful - the Antelope Jackrabbit is only found in south-central Arizona.

ANTELOPE JACKRABBIT (*Lepus alleni*) – Our best looks were on the way out of California Gulch near the end of the tour. Only White-sided Jackrabbit in New Mexico is larger.

CLIFF CHIPMUNK (*Tamias dorsalis*) – The only species of chipmunk along our route.

HARRIS'S ANTELOPE SQUIRREL (*Ammospermophilus harrisi*) – Very chipmunk-like, but without the striped face.

SPOTTED GROUND SQUIRREL (*Spermophilus spilosoma*) – Rhea spotted this one at the Willcox golf course on our second visit. Similar to, and closely related to the Round-tailed Ground Squirrel.

ROCK SQUIRREL (*Spermophilus variegatus*) – Recorded daily and the most common and widespread of the bushy-tailed 'squirrels' in the state.

ROUND-TAILED GROUND SQUIRREL (*Spermophilus tereticaudus*) – We had some incredibly cute family groups in the parking lot of Sweetwater Wetlands in Tucson on Day 2.

MEXICAN FOX SQUIRREL (*Sciurus nayaritensis*) – Very local within the U.S. and only seen easily in the Chiricahuas.

ARIZONA GRAY SQUIRREL (*Sciurus arizonensis*) – Similar to the Eastern Gray Squirrel that many folks know well.

ARIZONA COTTON RAT (*Sigmodon arizonae*) – We had a couple of these at feeding stations (Chiricahuas and Patagonia).

GRAY FOX (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) – A couple of decent looks at this small canid in the Chiricahuas.

WHITE-NOSED COATI (*Nasua narica*) – Crossing the road in front of our van high in Carr Canyon in the Huachucas.

STRIPED SKUNK (*Mephitis mephitis*) – At least one of the skunks that some of us saw in the Chiricahuas was this species - the other was likely a Hooded Skunk.

BOBCAT (*Lynx rufus*) – Max saw this one cross the road and we were able to relocate it sitting a short distance off of the pavement - just casually watching us! Beautiful!

COLLARED PECCARY (*Tayassu tajacu*) – We had a couple of encounters with this one, a.k.a the Javalina.

MULE DEER (*Odocoileus hemionus*) – Only a few of these big-eared deer with black tail tips (also called Black-tailed Deer)

WHITE-TAILED DEER (*Odocoileus virginianus*) – Quite common, especially in the Chiricahuas. This form, known as Coues's White-tailed Deer, is the second smallest race of White-tailed Deer in N. America (Key Deer is smaller).



