

Inyo County Bird Checklist

Guidelines For Submitting Inyo County Sightings To North American Birds

Subregional editors, Tom and Jo Heindel

This comprehensive list of Inyo County Birds is in the new 2010 taxonomic order. Those birds casual or rare enough to require a description are underlined and those on the California Bird Records Committee Review List are **underlined and bold**. Those species underlined fall into the following categories; vagrants, casual species recorded fewer than seven years per decade for each season(s) in which they occur, very rare species that are not recorded every year but are presumed to occur here, rare species that have similar look-alike species that are more expected (e.g., Greater Scaup), species experiencing a decline in numbers in the county (e.g., Cassin's Kingbird), species that have a history of being misidentified (e.g., Gray Vireo), hybrids, and rare species present in very small numbers.

Few species require lengthy descriptions, but the more rare the species or the more unexpected the species due to date, location, or number seen, the more detailed and convincing the description needs to be. When species not underlined are found out of season and/or out of known geographic distribution, they do require a description. Jon L. Dunn wrote up a Yellow-rumped (Audubon's) Warbler because he found it at Furnace Creek Ranch in Death Valley in late June. Steve N.G. Howell wrote a short description and a sketch of a Barn Swallow because he found it in the Owens Valley in late December. Both observers did so without being asked. Why? Because they recognized how unexpected the event was. If they can write up common species seen at uncommon times in unexpected locations so can the rest of us. We will send requests for more information on species not underlined that are reported away from known locations, outside known temporal limits, or in numbers that are near or exceed the highest count.

Minimally, we need date, location, distance between bird and birder, amount of time viewing the bird(s), whether through binoculars or a telescope, and a description of the relevant aspects of plumage, structure, vocalizations and behavior. Often it takes two to three sentences for a totally convincing write-up; occasionally, as many paragraphs might be necessary. And remember that a picture is worth a thousand words!

Numerous sightings of Inyo County birds, posted on the Internet without any descriptions, are not included in the Inyo County Seasonal Report to North American Birds or the county database. Other posts contained adequate descriptions and/or photographs and are included in both the report and the database.

The seasons are Spring – 1 March to 31 May, Summer – 1 June to 31 July, Fall – 1 August to 30 November, Winter – 1 December to 28 February. We must have reports by the tenth day following the end of each season and the species need to be in taxonomic order to facilitate collating all the reports. Please send them to tjheindel@gmail.com.

We are providing this information so observers know what is expected in order to turn a personal sighting into a county record that will stand the test of time. We cannot respond to observer's requests that we let them know which of their sightings need descriptions since we often have over fifty observers submitting reports. We ask that you send us all you have when you submit your sightings!

Thanks to all who have met and exceeded our requests in archiving a reliable database for Inyo County.

Inyo County Bird Checklist

- Fulvous Whistling-Duck
 - Greater White-fronted Goose
 - Snow Goose (Blue Phase)
 - Snow Goose (White Phase)
 - Ross's Goose
 - Brant
 - Cackling Goose
 - Canada Goose
 - Trumpeter Swan**
 - Tundra Swan

 - Wood Duck
 - Gadwall
 - Eurasian Wigeon
 - American Wigeon
 - Mallard
 - Blue-winged Teal
 - Cinnamon Teal
 - Blue-winged X Cinnamon Teal
 - Northern Shoveler
 - Northern Pintail
 - Garganey**
 - Green-winged (American) Teal
 - Green-winged (Eurasian) Teal
 - Canvasback
 - Redhead
 - Ring-necked Duck
 - Greater Scaup
 - Lesser Scaup
 - Surf Scoter
 - White-winged Scoter
 - American Scoter
 - Long-tailed Duck
 - Bufflehead
 - Common Goldeneye
 - Barrow's Goldeneye
 - Hooded Merganser
 - Common Merganser
 - Red-breasted Merganser
 - Ruddy Duck

 - Mountain Quail
 - California Quail
 - Gambel's Quail
 - Chukar
 - Ring-necked Pheasant
 - Greater Sage-Grouse
 - White-tailed Ptarmigan
 - Sooty Grouse

 - Red-throated Loon
 - Pacific Loon
 - Common Loon

 - Pied-billed Grebe
 - Horned Grebe
 - Red-necked Grebe
 - Eared Grebe
 - Western Grebe
 - Clark's Grebe

 - Wood Stork
- Magnificent Frigatebird**
 - Double-crested Cormorant

 - American White Pelican
 - Brown Pelican
 - American Bittern
 - Least Bittern
 - Great Blue Heron
 - Great Egret
 - Snowy Egret
 - Little Blue Heron
 - Reddish Egret
 - Cattle Egret
 - Green Heron
 - Black-crowned Night-Heron
 - Glossy Ibis**
 - White-faced Ibis

 - Turkey Vulture
 - Osprey
 - White-tailed Kite
 - Mississippi Kite**
 - Bald Eagle
 - Northern Harrier
 - Sharp-shinned Hawk
 - Cooper's Hawk
 - Northern Goshawk
 - Red-shouldered Hawk
 - Broad-winged Hawk
 - Swainson's Hawk
 - Zone-tailed Hawk
 - Red-tailed Hawk
 - Ferruginous Hawk
 - Rough-legged Hawk
 - Golden Eagle

 - Crested Caracara**
 - American Kestrel
 - Merlin
 - Peregrine Falcon
 - Prairie Falcon

 - Virginia Rail
 - Sora
 - Purple Gallinule**
 - Common Moorhen
 - American Coot
 - Sandhill Crane

 - Black-bellied Plover
 - American Golden-Plover
 - Pacific Golden-Plover
 - Snowy Plover
 - Semipalmated Plover
 - Killdeer
 - Mountain Plover

 - Black-necked Stilt
 - American Avocet

 - Spotted Sandpiper
 - Solitary Sandpiper
 - Greater Yellowlegs

Inyo County Bird Checklist

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Willet | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Flammulated Owl</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Yellowlegs | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Screech-Owl |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Upland Sandpiper</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Great Horned Owl |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Whimbrel</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Northern Pygmy-Owl</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long-billed Curlew | <input type="checkbox"/> Burrowing Owl |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marbled Godwit | <input type="checkbox"/> Long-eared Owl |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Ruddy Turnstone</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Short-eared Owl</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Black Turnstone</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Saw-whet Owl |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Red Knot</u> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Sanderling</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Nighthawk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Semipalmated Sandpiper</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Common Nighthawk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Western Sandpiper | <input type="checkbox"/> Common Poorwill |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Little Stint</u> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Least Sandpiper | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Black Swift</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Baird's Sandpiper</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Chimney Swift</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Pectoral Sandpiper</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Vaux's Swift |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dunlin | <input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Swift |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Stilt Sandpiper</u> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Buff-breasted Sandpiper</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Broad-billed Hummingbird</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ruff | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Ruby-throated Hummingbird</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Short-billed Dowitcher</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Black-chinned Hummingbird |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Long-billed Dowitcher | <input type="checkbox"/> Anna's Hummingbird |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wilson's Snipe | <input type="checkbox"/> Costa's Hummingbird |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wilson's Phalarope | <input type="checkbox"/> Calliope Hummingbird |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red-necked Phalarope | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Broad-tailed Hummingbird</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Red Phalarope | <input type="checkbox"/> Rufous Hummingbird |
| | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Sabine's Gull</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Belted Kingfisher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bonaparte's Gull | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Franklin's Gull</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Lewis's Woodpecker</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Heermann's Gull</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Acorn Woodpecker</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mew Gull | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Williamson's Sapsucker</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ring-billed Gull | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Yellow-bellied Sapsucker</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Western Gull | <input type="checkbox"/> Red-naped Sapsucker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Gull | <input type="checkbox"/> Red-breasted Sapsucker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Herring Gull</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Ladder-backed Woodpecker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Thayer's Gull</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Nuttall's Woodpecker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Lesser Black-backed Gull</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Downy Woodpecker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Glaucous-winged Gull</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Woodpecker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Glaucous Gull | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>White-headed Woodpecker</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Least Tern</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flicker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caspian Tern | <input type="checkbox"/> Northern (Red-shafted) Flicker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Tern | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Northern (Red-shafted X Yellow-shafted) Flicker</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Common Tern</u> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Tern | <input type="checkbox"/> Olive-sided Flycatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forster's Tern | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Wood-Pewee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Parasitic Jaeger</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Willow Flycatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Long-tailed Jaeger</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Least Flycatcher</u> |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Hammond's Flycatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Pigeon | <input type="checkbox"/> Gray Flycatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Band-tailed Pigeon</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Dusky Flycatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Oriental Turtle-Dove</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific-slope Flycatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eurasian Collared-Dove | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Cordilleran Flycatcher</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>White-winged Dove</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Flycatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove | <input type="checkbox"/> Black Phoebe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inca Dove | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Eastern Phoebe</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Common Ground-Dove</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> Say's Phoebe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Ruddy Ground-Dove</u> | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Vermilion Flycatcher</u> |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Dusky-capped Flycatcher</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-billed Cuckoo | <input type="checkbox"/> Ash-throated Flycatcher |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greater Roadrunner | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Brown-crested Flycatcher</u> |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Tropical Kingbird</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barn Owl | <input type="checkbox"/> <u>Cassin's Kingbird</u> |

Inyo County Bird Checklist

- Thick-billed Kingbird**
- Western Kingbird
- Eastern Kingbird
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

- Loggerhead Shrike
- Northern Shrike

- White-eyed Vireo**
- Bell's Vireo
- Gray Vireo
- Yellow-throated Vireo
- Plumbeous Vireo
- Cassin's Vireo
- Blue-headed Vireo**
- Hutton's Vireo
- Warbling Vireo
- Philadelphia Vireo
- Red-eyed Vireo

- Pinyon Jay
- Steller's Jay
- Blue Jay**
- Western Scrub-Jay
- Clark's Nutcracker
- Black-billed Magpie
- American Crow
- Common Raven

- Horned Lark

- Purple Martin
- Tree Swallow
- Violet-green Swallow
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow
- Bank Swallow
- Cliff Swallow
- Barn Swallow

- Mountain Chickadee
- Oak Titmouse
- Juniper Titmouse

- Verdin

- Bushtit

- Red-breasted Nuthatch
- White-breasted Nuthatch
- Pygmy Nuthatch

- Brown Creeper

- Cactus Wren
- Rock Wren
- Canyon Wren
- Bewick's Wren
- House Wren
- Pacific Wren
- Sedge Wren**
- Marsh Wren

- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

- Black-tailed Gnatcatcher

- American Dipper

- Golden-crowned Kinglet
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet

- Wrentit

- Western Bluebird
- Mountain Bluebird
- Townsend's Solitaire
- Veery**
- Swainson's Thrush
- Hermit Thrush
- Wood Thrush**
- Rufous-backed Robin**
- American Robin
- Varied Thrush

- Gray Catbird
- Northern Mockingbird
- Sage Thrasher
- Brown Thrasher
- Bendire's Thrasher
- Curve-billed Thrasher**
- California Thrasher
- Crissal Thrasher
- Le Conte's Thrasher

- European Starling

- White Wagtail**
- Red-throated Pipit
- American Pipit
- Sprague's Pipit

- Bohemian Waxwing
- Cedar Waxwing

- Phainopepla

- Lapland Longspur
- Chestnut-collared Longspur
- Smith's Longspur**
- Mccown's Longspur
- Snow Bunting**

- Blue-winged Warbler**
- Golden-winged Warbler**
- Tennessee Warbler
- Orange-crowned Warbler
- Nashville Warbler
- Virginia's Warbler
- Lucy's Warbler

- Northern Parula
- Yellow Warbler
- Chestnut-sided Warbler
- Magnolia Warbler
- Cape May Warbler
- Black-throated Blue Warbler
- Yellow-rumped (Audubon's) Warbler

Inyo County Bird Checklist

- Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler
- Black-throated Gray Warbler
- Black-throated Green Warbler
- Townsend's Warbler
- Hermit Warbler
- Townsend's X Hermit Warbler Hybrid
- Blackburnian Warbler
- Yellow-throated Warbler**
- Pine Warbler**
- Prairie Warbler
- Palm Warbler
- Bay-breasted Warbler
- Blackpoll Warbler
- Cerulean Warbler**
- Black-and-white Warbler
- American Redstart

- Prothonotary Warbler
- Worm-eating Warbler**
- Ovenbird
- Northern Waterthrush
- Louisiana Waterthrush**
- Kentucky Warbler
- Connecticut Warbler**
- Mourning Warbler**
- Macgillivray's Warbler
- Common Yellowthroat
- Hooded Warbler
- Wilson's Warbler
- Canada Warbler
- Red-faced Warbler**
- Painted Redstart
- Yellow-breasted Chat

- Green-tailed Towhee
- Spotted Towhee
- California Towhee
- Cassin's Sparrow**
- American Tree Sparrow
- Chipping Sparrow
- Clay-colored Sparrow
- Brewer's Sparrow
- Field Sparrow**
- Black-chinned Sparrow
- Vesper Sparrow
- Lark Sparrow
- Black-throated Sparrow
- Sage Sparrow
- Lark Bunting
- Savannah Sparrow
- Grasshopper Sparrow
- Le Conte's Sparrow**
- Nelson's Sparrow
- Fox Sparrow
- Fox (Red) Sparrow
- Fox (Sooty) Sparrow
- Fox (Thick-billed) Sparrow
- Fox (Slate-colored) Sparrow
- Song Sparrow
- Lincoln's Sparrow
- Swamp Sparrow

- White-throated Sparrow
- Harris's Sparrow
- White-crowned (Gambel's) Sparrow
- White-crowned (Mountain) Sparrow
- Golden-crowned Sparrow

- Dark-eyed (Pink-sided) Junco
- Dark-eyed (White-winged) Junco
- Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco
- Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco
- Dark-eyed (Gray-headed) Junco

- Hepatic Tanager
- Summer Tanager
- Scarlet Tanager
- Western Tanager
- Northern Cardinal
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak
- Black-headed Grosbeak
- Blue Grosbeak
- Lazuli Bunting
- Indigo Bunting
- Indigo X Lazuli Bunting Hybrid
- Varied Bunting**
- Painted Bunting
- Dickcissel

- Bobolink
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Tricolored Blackbird
- Western Meadowlark
- Yellow-headed Blackbird
- Rusty Blackbird**
- Brewer's Blackbird
- Common Grackle**
- Great-tailed Grackle
- Bronzed Cowbird
- Brown-headed Cowbird
- Orchard Oriole
- Hooded Oriole
- Streak-backed Oriole**
- Bullock's Oriole
- Baltimore Oriole
- Scott's Oriole

- Gray-crowned (Dawson's) Rosy-Finch
- Gray-crowned (Hepburn's) Rosy-Finch
- Black Rosy-Finch**
- Pine Grosbeak
- Purple Finch
- Cassin's Finch
- House Finch
- Red Crossbill
- Pine Siskin
- Lesser Goldfinch
- Lawrence's Goldfinch
- American Goldfinch
- Evening Grosbeak

- House Sparrow