

Quivira National Wildlife Refuge  
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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
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For Refuge Information  
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PAM FITT

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# Quivira

*National Wildlife  
Refuge*

*Bird List*





## About the Refuge

Quivira National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is located in south-central Kansas within the transition zone of the Great Plains. In this zone, the relatively lush vegetation of the eastern prairie blends with the more arid grasslands of the western prairie. The blend of varied plant communities and the presence of the Big and Little Salt Marshes, major water features on the Refuge, attract birds common to both eastern and western North America. Over 300 species of birds have been observed in the marshes, grasslands, farmlands, and low sandhills of Quivira NWR.

## Seasonal Highlights

### *Fall Flights and Winter Visitors*

From September to December, up to 500,000 Canada geese and ducks pass through Quivira NWR on their way to wintering grounds along the Gulf Coast and in Mexico. Other migratory birds, such as sandhill cranes and shorebirds, can also be seen. Endangered whooping cranes may make a brief visit as they move along the Central Flyway. Both bald and golden eagles winter on Quivira NWR from November until March.

### *Spring Staging*

During March and April, Quivira NWR becomes a staging area for over 200,000 ducks and geese. Shorebirds, American white pelicans, gulls, and other migrants can also be seen. The majority of these birds stopover on their way to traditional nesting grounds in the prairie potholes of the north-central United States and Canada.

### *Spring and Summer Residents*

Snowy plovers, American avocets, black-necked stilts, and white-faced ibis are some of the more common nesting species found on the Refuge. A colony of endangered interior least terns use the salt flats on the north end of Quivira NWR as nesting habitat. Swainson's hawks and Mississippi kites are common during the summer months, while northern harriers, American kestrels, and red-tailed hawks are commonly seen throughout the year. Look for ring-necked pheasants and bobwhite quail in

the grasslands and grain fields. Wild turkey can be seen along the edge of tree groves and shelter belts where they often look for food and shelter.

## Watching Wildlife

Spring and fall are the best seasons to visit Quivira NWR since wildlife, especially waterfowl, is abundant and more easily viewed during these times. Try to schedule your visit early or late in the day when wildlife is most active and more frequently seen. Take a drive through the Refuge and along its boundaries; the best viewing is along the scenic tour route and the Wildlife Drive. See the Refuge general information leaflet for a map and more information.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service seeks to afford persons with disabilities full accessibility or reasonable accommodation. Contact Refuge staff for information or to address accessibility needs. For the hearing impaired, use your State Relay System for the Deaf.

## About this Checklist

This list of 311 birds follows the format of the Seventh A. O. U. Checklist (1998). Accidental species appear at the end of the checklist. Since most birds are migratory, their seasonal occurrence and relative abundance are coded as follows:

<i>Seasons:</i>	Sp	Spring (March-May)
	Su	Summer (June-August)
	F	Fall (September-November)
	W	Winter (December-February)
<i>Seasonal Abundance:</i>	a	abundant—a common species which is numerous
	c	common—a species certain to be seen in suitable habitat
	u	uncommon—a species which is present but not certain to be seen
	o	occasional—a species seen only a few times during the season
	r	rare—a species seen at intervals of 2 to 5 years
<i>Other Codes</i>	•	birds that nest on the Refuge
		<i>italicized name</i> = endangered species in the United States

	Sp	Su	F	W
<b>Loons</b>				
Common Loon	o	r	o	r
<b>Grebes</b>				
• Pied-billed Grebe	c	c	c	o
Horned Grebe	u		u	o
• Eared Grebe	c	u	c	r
Western Grebe	r	r	o	o
<b>Pelicans</b>				
American White Pelican	a	a	a	o
<b>Cormorants</b>				
Neotropic Cormorant	o	o		
• Double-crested Cormorant	a	c	a	u
<b>Hérons</b>				
• American Bittern	u	u	u	o
• Least Bittern	o	u	o	
• Great Blue Heron	c	c	c	u
• Great Egret	c	c	c	
• Snowy Egret	c	c	c	
• Little Blue Heron	c	c	u	
Tricolored Heron	r	r		
• Cattle Egret	a	a	c	
• Green Heron	u	u	o	
• Black-crowned Night-Heron	c	c	c	
• Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	u	u	u	
<b>Ibises</b>				
White Ibis	r	r	r	
Glossy Ibis	r	r	r	
• White-faced Ibis	c	c	c	
<b>Vultures</b>				
Turkey Vulture	c	u	u	
<b>Whistling Ducks</b>				
Black-bellied Whistling Duck		r		
<b>Geese</b>				
Greater White-fronted Goose	c	r	a	a
Snow Goose	c		u	c
Ross' Goose	o		u	u
• Canada Goose	c	c	a	a
Brant	r		r	r
<b>Swans</b>				
Trumpeter Swan			r	r
Tundra Swan	o		o	r

	Sp	Su	F	W
<b>Ducks</b>				
• Wood Duck	c	u	u	o
• Gadwall	a	u	c	c
• American Wigeon	a	u	c	c
American Black Duck	r		r	r
• Mallard	a	c	a	a
Mottled Duck	r	r		
• Blue-winged Teal	a	c	a	
• Cinnamon Teal	u	o	o	o
• Northern Shoveler	a	u	a	c
• Northern Pintail	a	u	c	a
• Green-winged Teal	a	o	a	c
• Canvasback	c	o	c	c
• Redhead	a	c	c	a
Ring-necked Duck	c	r	c	u
Greater Scaup	o			o
• Lesser Scaup	c	o	c	c
Oldsquaw	r		o	r
Bufflehead	c		c	c
Common Goldeneye	c	r	c	c
• Hooded Merganser	u	o	u	o
Common Merganser	u			c
Red-breasted Merganser	r	r	o	
• Ruddy Duck	a	c	a	u
<b>Hawks, Kites, Eagles</b>				
Osprey	o	r	o	
• Mississippi Kite	u	u		
Bald Eagle	u		u	u
• Northern Harrier	c	o	c	c
Sharp-shinned Hawk	u		o	u
• Cooper's Hawk	u	o	u	u
Northern Goshawk			r	r
Red-shouldered Hawk			r	
Broad-winged Hawk			r	
• Swainson's Hawk	c	c	u	
• Red-tailed Hawk	c	c	c	c
Ferruginous Hawk	o		o	o
Rough-legged Hawk	u			u
Golden Eagle	o		o	o
<b>Falcons</b>				
• American Kestrel	c	u	c	u
Merlin	o	r	o	o
Peregrine Falcon	o	o	o	o
Prairie Falcon	o	r	o	o

	Sp	Su	F	W
<b>Gallinaceous Birds</b>				
— • Ring-necked Pheasant .....	c	c	c	c
— • Greater Prairie-Chicken .....	r	r	r	r
— • Wild Turkey .....	c	c	c	c
— • Northern Bobwhite .....	c	c	c	c
<b>Rails, Gallinules</b>				
— • Black Rail .....	u	u		
— • King Rail .....	u	u	o	
— • Virginia Rail .....	c	c	o	
— • Sora .....	u	u	o	
— • Common Moorhen .....	o	u	o	
— • American Coot .....	a	c	a	u
<b>Cranes</b>				
— Sandhill Crane .....	a		a	o
— Whooping Crane .....	o		o	r
<b>Plovers</b>				
— Black-bellied Plover.....	u	u	u	r
— American Golden Plover.....	u	o	o	
— • Snowy Plover .....	c	c	c	
— Semipalmated Plover.....	c	c	u	
— Piping Plover .....	u	o	o	
— • Killdeer .....	c	c	c	o
— Mountain Plover.....	r		r	
<b>Stilts, Avocets</b>				
— • Black-necked Stilt .....	c	c	u	
— • American Avocet .....	c	c	c	
<b>Sandpipers</b>				
— Greater Yellowlegs.....	c	c	c	o
— Lesser Yellowlegs.....	a	c	a	r
— Solitary Sandpiper.....	u	u	u	
— Willet .....	u	u	u	
— Spotted Sandpiper .....	c	c	u	
— • Upland Sandpiper .....	c	u	u	
— Whimbrel .....	o	o	o	
— Long-billed Curlew .....	o	o	o	
— Hudsonian Godwit .....	u	r		
— Marbled Godwit .....	u	u	u	
— Ruddy Turnstone .....	o	o	o	
— Red Knot.....	o	o	o	
— Sanderling.....	c	o	c	
— Semipalmated Sandpiper .....	a	c	a	
— Western Sandpiper .....	c	c	c	
— Least Sandpiper .....	a	c	a	
— White-rumped Sandpiper .....	a	a	o	

	Sp	Su	F	W
— Baird's Sandpiper .....	a	c	a	
— Pectoral Sandpiper.....	c	c	c	
— Dunlin .....	u	o	u	r
— Stilt Sandpiper .....	a	c	a	
— Buff-breasted Sandpiper.....	o	r	o	
— Ruff.....	r	r		
— Short-billed Dowitcher .....	u	u	o	
— Long-billed Dowitcher.....	c	c	c	
— Common Snipe .....	u	o	u	
— American Woodcock.....	r		r	
<b>Phalaropes</b>				
— • Wilson's Phalarope .....	a	c	a	
— Red-necked Phalarope .....	o	r	o	
— Red Phalarope .....	r		r	
<b>Jaegers</b>				
— Parasitic Jaeger .....		r	r	
<b>Gulls</b>				
— Laughing Gull.....	r	o		
— Franklin's Gull .....	a	u	a	
— Bonaparte's Gull.....	r	r	o	o
— Ring-billed Gull .....	c	u	c	u
— Herring Gull .....	o		o	o
— Sabine's Gull .....		r	r	
<b>Terns</b>				
— Caspian Tern.....	r	o	r	
— Common Tern.....	o	o	o	
— • Forster's Tern.....	c	c	u	
— • Least Tern.....	u	u	o	
— • Black Tern.....	c	c	u	
<b>Pigeons, Doves</b>				
— • Rock Dove.....	u	u	u	u
— • Mourning Dove .....	a	a	a	o
<b>Cuckoos</b>				
— Black-billed Cuckoo.....	r	r		
— • Yellow-billed Cuckoo .....	o	u	r	
<b>Owls</b>				
— • Eastern Screech-Owl .....	u	o	o	o
— • Great Horned Owl .....	u	u	u	u
— Snowy Owl.....			r	r
— • Burrowing Owl .....	o	o		
— • Long-eared Owl .....	r	r	r	o
— Short-eared Owl.....	r		r	r

	Sp	Su	F	W
<b>Goatsuckers</b>				
__ • Common Nighthawk .....	u	c	u	
__ Common Poorwill .....	o	o		
__ • Chuck-will's-widow .....	o	o		
<b>Swifts</b>				
__ • Chimney Swift .....	u	u	u	
<b>Hummingbirds</b>				
__ Ruby-throated Hummingbird .....		r		
<b>Kingfishers</b>				
__ Belted Kingfisher .....	u	u	u	o
<b>Woodpeckers</b>				
__ • Red-headed Woodpecker .....	c	a	u	
__ • Red-bellied Woodpecker .....	u	u	u	u
__ • Downy Woodpecker .....	u	u	u	u
__ • Hairy Woodpecker .....	u	u	u	u
__ • Northern Flicker .....	c	c	c	c
<b>Flycatchers</b>				
__ Olive-sided Flycatcher .....	o		o	
__ • Eastern Wood-Pewee .....	u	u		
__ Willow Flycatcher .....	o		o	
__ Least Flycatcher .....	u		u	
__ • Eastern Phoebe .....	u	u		
__ Say's Phoebe .....	o		o	
__ • Great-Crested Flycatcher .....	u	u		
__ • Western Kingbird .....	c	c	o	
__ • Eastern Kingbird .....	c	c	o	
__ • Scissor-tailed Flycatcher .....	u	u		
<b>Shrikes</b>				
__ • Loggerhead Shrike .....	u	u	u	o
__ Northern Shrike .....	r		o	o
<b>Vireos</b>				
__ • Bell's Vireo .....	u	u		
__ • Warbling Vireo .....	u	u		
__ Red-eyed Vireo .....	o	o	r	
<b>Jays, Magpies, Crows</b>				
__ • Blue Jay .....	c	u	c	u
__ • Black-billed Magpie .....	o	o	o	o
__ • American Crow .....	c	u	c	u
<b>Larks</b>				
__ • Horned Lark .....	c	u	u	c
<b>Swallows</b>				
__ • Purple Martin .....	o	o		

	Sp	Su	F	W
__ • Tree Swallow .....	u	o	o	
__ • Northern Rough-winged Swallow .....	u	o	u	
__ • Bank Swallow .....	c	a	o	
__ • Cliff Swallow .....	a	a	o	
__ • Barn Swallow .....	a	a	c	
<b>Chickadees, Titmice</b>				
__ • Black-capped Chickadee .....	c	u	u	c
__ Tufted Titmouse .....			o	o
<b>Nuthatches</b>				
__ • White-breasted Nuthatch .....	u	o	o	o
<b>Creepers</b>				
__ Brown Creeper .....			o	o
<b>Wrens</b>				
__ Carolina Wren .....	o			o
__ • Bewick's Wren .....	o	o		
__ • House Wren .....	c	c	u	
__ Sedge Wren .....	o		o	
__ Marsh Wren .....	u		u	u
<b>Kinglets</b>				
__ Golden-crowned Kinglet .....	o			o
__ Ruby-crowned Kinglet .....	u		u	o
<b>Gnatcatchers</b>				
__ • Blue-gray Gnatcatcher .....	u	u	r	
<b>Thrushes, Bluebirds</b>				
__ • Eastern Bluebird .....	u	u	u	o
__ Mountain Bluebird .....				r
__ Townsend's Solitaire .....	r			o
__ Swainson's Thrush .....	o		o	
__ Wood Thrush .....	r			
__ • American Robin .....	c	c	c	u
<b>Thrashers</b>				
__ • Gray Catbird .....	c	u	o	
__ • Northern Mockingbird .....	u	u	u	o
__ • Brown Thrasher .....	c	c	o	r
<b>Starlings</b>				
__ • European Starling .....	c	c	c	c
<b>Pipits</b>				
__ American Pipit .....	u		u	
<b>Waxwings</b>				
__ Cedar Waxwing .....	r	o	o	o



Sp Su F W

**Warblers**

— Tennessee Warbler.....	r			
— Orange-crowned Warbler .....	u		u	
— Nashville Warbler .....	o		o	
— Yellow Warbler .....	u	r		
— Yellow-rumped Warbler.....	u	r	u	
— Palm Warbler .....	o			
— Blackpoll Warbler .....	r			
— Black-and-white Warbler .....	r		r	
— American Redstart .....	o		o	
— Northern Waterthrush .....	o			
• Common Yellowthroat.....	c	c	u	o
— Wilson's Warbler .....	o		o	
• Yellow-breasted Chat.....	o	r	r	

**Towhees, Sparrows**

— Spotted Towhee .....	u		c	u
— American Tree Sparrow .....	u		c	a
— Chipping Sparrow .....	c	r	c	
— Clay-colored Sparrow .....	c		o	
• Field Sparrow .....	c	u	u	u
— Vesper Sparrow .....	u	r	o	r
• Lark Sparrow .....	c	o	o	
— Lark Bunting .....	o	r		
— Savannah Sparrow.....	u	r	u	o
• Grasshopper Sparrow.....	u	u	o	
— LeConte's Sparrow .....	o		o	r
— Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow .....	o		o	
— Fox Sparrow .....	o		o	
— Song Sparrow .....	c		c	u
— Lincoln's Sparrow .....	o		u	
— Swamp Sparrow .....	u		u	u
— White-throated Sparrow.....	o		u	o
— Harris' Sparrow .....	c	r	c	c
— White-crowned Sparrow .....	u		u	o
— Dark-eyed Junco .....	c		e	e
— Lapland Longspur .....	r		o	u
— Chestnut-collared Longspur .....	r			r

**Grosbeaks, Buntings**

— • Northern Cardinal.....	c	u	u	c
— Rose-breasted Grosbeak.....	o			
• Black-headed Grosbeak .....	o	r		
• Blue Grosbeak .....	o	o		
— Lazuli Bunting .....	r			
• Indigo Bunting .....	u	o		
• Dickcissel .....	c	e	r	

Sp Su F W

**Blackbirds, Orioles**

— • Bobolink .....	u	u		
— • Red-winged Blackbird.....	a	a	a	a
— • Eastern Meadowlark.....	c	c	c	c
— • Western Meadowlark .....	c	c	u	c
— • Yellow-headed Blackbird.....	a	a	c	r
— Brewer's Blackbird .....	o	o	o	o
— • Common Grackle .....	c	c	c	o
— • Great-tailed Grackle .....	c	c	c	r
— • Brown-headed Cowbird .....	c	c	c	c
— • Orchard Oriole .....	u	u	o	
— • Baltimore Oriole.....	c	c	r	

**Finches**

— • House Finch .....	o	o	o	o
— Pine Siskin.....	o		o	u
— • American Goldfinch .....	c	o	u	c

**Old World Sparrows**

— • House Sparrow.....	c	u	u	u
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**Accidentals**

— Clark's Grebe	— Red-breasted Nuthatch
— Brown Pelican	— Rock Wren
— Greater Flamingo	— Winter Wren
— Fulvous Whistling Duck	— Veery
— Surf Scoter	— Gray-cheeked Thrush
— White-winged Scoter	— Sprague's Pipit
— Black Scoter	— Bohemian Waxwing
— Barrow's Goldeneye	— Golden-winged Warbler
— Curlew Sandpiper	— Magnolia Warbler
— Black-legged Kittiwake	— Blackburnian Warbler
— Gull-billed Tern	— Prothonotary Warbler
— Greater Roadrunner	— Worm-eating Warbler
— Groove-billed Ani	— Ovenbird
— Barn Owl	— Mourning Warbler
— Barred Owl	— Canada Warbler
— Northern Saw-whet Owl	— Summer Tanager
— Whip-poor-will	— Henslow's Sparrow
— Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	— McCown's Longspur
— Pileated Woodpecker	— Smith's Longspur
— Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	— Snow Bunting
— Yellow-throated Vireo	— Painted Bunting
— Philadelphia Vireo	— Rusty Blackbird
— Western Scrub Jay	— Bullock's Oriole
— Violet-green Swallow	— Purple Finch
— Carolina Chickadee	— Common Redpoll
	— Evening Grosbeak