

Some 8,000 feet above sea level a peregrine falcon cruises from its perch atop the high plateau of Zion National Park. A flock of band-tailed pigeons note its approach and bolt on noisy wings into a stand of ponderosa pines. The falcon careens over the edge of its looming sandstone world and drops roughly 2,000 feet along a sheer rock wall; white-throated swifts scatter to give it space. At the base of the cliffs the raptor's flight becomes more horizontal. From the pygmy forest of pinyon and juniper, pinyon jays squawk their disapproval, and further down, along the Virgin River, a black-headed grosbeak eyes the peregrine from the cover of a big cottonwood. Soon, the falcon's shadow is streaking across searing desert terrain, where a roadrunner abandons its pursuit of lizards to avoid becoming prey itself.

Amazingly, a peregrine falcon can be within a talon's grasp of each of Zion's major habitats during its short flight.

In Zion National Park, a diversity of environments is compressed into a relatively small space. While birdwatchers lack the peregrine falcon's speed of 100 mile per hour, you can still visit Zion's different habitats within a day.

Experience the varied landscapes of Zion to enjoy their stunning beauty and with the many bird species that occupy them.

This checklist contains 295 bird species.

Habitats

- D Desert sagebrush and blackbrush areas, including grassy canyon bottomlands like Huber Wash, Coalpits Wash, parts of Chinle Trail, and fields around Springdale.
- R Riparian woodlands along the Virgin River and its tributaries.
- P Pinyon-juniper woodlands, including the sloping sides of Zion Canyon, possibly with interspersed scrub oak thickets.
- E Evergreen woodlands—including fir, ponderosa pine, aspen, and associated vegetation—plus mountain meadows, side canyons, and canyon walls; such as the upper parts of the West Rim Trail, Potato Hollow, Hidden Canyon, and much of the Kolob Canyons area.
- W On or near water areas, including the Virgin River and tributaries, Kolob and Blue Springs Reservoirs, and Springdale Ponds.
- A Birds may be seen in almost any habitat type.

Abundance

- c Common, seen most days in correct season and habitat.
- u Uncommon, seen in low numbers in correct season and habitat
- r Rare, no more than a few sightings per year.
- s Sporadic, may be numerous in some years and entirely absent in other years.
- x Accidental, seen no more than a few times or reported but not well documented.
- Species not known to occur in this season or data not available.

* breeds in Zion

Conservation Status

LC Least Concern

VU Vulnerable

NT Nearly Threatened

CR Critically Endangered

EX Exotic Introduced

Swans, Geese & Ducks

☐ snow goose	LC	W	r	-	r	-
☐ canada goose	LC	W	u	c	u	u
☐ tundra swan	LC	W	-	-	-	x
☐ wood duck	LC	W	r	-	r	r
☐ blue-winged teal	LC	W	r	-	r	-
☐ cinnamon teal	LC	W	c	u	u	r
☐ northern shoveler	LC	W	u	-	u	r
☐ gadwall	LC	W	u	-	u	u
☐ american wigeon	LC	W	r	-	r	u
☐ mallard*	LC	W	c	c	c	c
☐ northern pintail	LC	W	u	-	u	u
☐ green-winged teal	LC	W	u	r	c	u
☐ canvasback	LC	W	u	-	u	u
☐ redhead	LC	W	u	-	u	r
☐ ring-necked duck	LC	W	c	-	c	u
☐ lesser scaup	LC	W	u	-	u	u
☐ surf scoter	LC	W	-	-	x	x
☐ white-winged scoted	LC	W	-	-	x	-
☐ long-tailed duck	VU	W	-	-	-	x
☐ bufflehead	LC	W	u	-	u	u
☐ common goldeneye	LC	W	u	-	u	u
☐ hooded merganser	LC	W	u	-	u	u
☐ common merganser*	LC	W	u	u	u	u
☐ red-breasted merganser	LC	W	r	-	r	r
☐ ruddy duck	LC	W	u	r	u	u

Pheasants, Grouse, Turkey & Quail

☐ Gambel's quail*	LC	DR	u	u	u	u
☐ wild turkey*	LC	ER	c	c	c	c
☐ dusky grouse*	LC	E	r	r	u	r
☐ ring-necked pheasant	EX	P	r	r	r	r
☐ chukar	EX	P	r	r	r	r

Grebes

☐ pied-billed grebe	LC	W	u	u	c	u
☐ horned grebe	VU	W	-	-	r	r
☐ eared grebe	LC	W	c	c	c	u
☐ western grebe	LC	W	u	r	u	r
☐ Clark's grebe	LC	W	r	r	r	-

Roadrunners & Cuckoos

☐ greater roadrunner*	LC	D	u	u	u	u
☐ yellow-billed cuckoo	LC	R	-	r	r	-

	Status	Habitat	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Pigeons & Doves						
☐ rock pigeon	LC	DR	r	r	r	r
☐ band-tailed pigeon*	LC	R	r	r	r	r
☐ Eurasian collared-dove*	EX	DRW	c	c	c	c
☐ Inca dove	LC	R	x	x	x	x
☐ white-winged dove	LC	R	x	-	-	x
☐ mourning dove*	LC	A	c	c	u	u
Goatsuckers						
☐ lesser nighthawk	LC	D	r	r	r	-
☐ common nighthawk	LC	A	u	u	u	-
☐ common poorwill*	LC	DEP	u	u	u	-
Swifts						
☐ black swift	VU	R	r	-	r	-
☐ Vaux's swift	LC	R	x	-	x	-
☐ white-throated swift	LC	A	c	c	c	r
Hummingbirds						
☐ Rivoli's hummingbird	LC	R	x	x	-	-
☐ black-chinned hummingbird*	LC	A	c	c	c	r
☐ Anna's hummingbird*	LC	DR	u	u	u	r
☐ Costa's hummingbird*	LC	D	r	r	r	-
☐ calliope hummingbird	LC	ER	r	-	r	-
☐ rufous hummingbird	NT	ER	-	u	c	-
☐ broad-tailed hummingbird*	LC	E	c	c	u	-
☐ broad-billed hummingbird	LC	R	-	-	x	-
Rails & Cranes						
☐ Virginia rail*	LC	W	r	r	r	r
☐ sora*	LC	W	r	r	r	r
☐ American coot*	LC	W	u	u	c	c
☐ sandhill crane	LC	W	-	-	x	x
Gulls & Terns						
☐ Bonaparte's gull	LC	W	x	-	x	-
☐ Franklin's gull	LC	W	x	-	-	-
☐ ring-billed gull	LC	W	r	x	r	r
☐ herring gull	LC	W	x	-	x	x
☐ California gull	LC	W	r	r	r	r
☐ caspian tern	LC	W	r	x	x	-
☐ black tern	LC	W	-	x	-	-
☐ Forster's tern	LC	W	r	x	x	-
Loons, Pelicans & Cormorants						
☐ common loon	LC	W	u	r	u	x
☐ double-crested cormorant	LC	W	r	x	x	-
☐ American white pelican	LC	W	r	-	r	x

	Status	Habitat	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Shorebirds						
☐ black-necked stilt	LC	W	u	r	x	-
☐ American avocet	LC	W	r	x	x	-
☐ black-bellied plover	LC	W	x	-	-	x
☐ killdeer	LC	DW	u	u	r	r
☐ semipalmated plover	LC	W	r	x	x	-
☐ long-billed curlew	LC	W	x	x	-	-
☐ marbled godwit	LC	W	x	-	-	-
☐ long-billed dowitcher	LC	W	r	x	x	-
☐ Wilson's snipe	LC	RW	u	x	u	u
☐ Wilson's phalarope	LC	W	r	x	r	-
☐ spotted sandpiper*	LC	W	x	-	-	-
☐ solitary sandpiper	LC	W	r	-	r	-
☐ lesser yellowlegs	LC	W	r	-	x	-
☐ willet	LC	W	r	-	-	-
☐ greater yellowlegs	LC	W	u	-	r	-
☐ sanderling	LC	W	x	-	-	-
☐ Baird's sandpiper	LC	W	x	-	x	-
☐ least sandpiper	LC	W	u	-	u	-
☐ pectoral sandpiper	LC	W	x	-	x	-
☐ western sandpiper	LC	W	u	-	u	-
Hérons, Ibises & Storks						
☐ American bittern	LC	W	x	-	x	-
☐ black-crowned night heron	LC	W	r	x	r	x
☐ snowy egret	LC	W	r	r	r	-
☐ green heron	LC	W	x	-	x	x
☐ western cattle egret	LC	W	x	-	x	-
☐ great egret	LC	W	r	x	r	-
☐ great blue heron*	LC	W	u	u	u	u
☐ white-faced ibis	LC	W	u	x	u	-
☐ wood stork	LC	W	-	x	-	-
Owls						
☐ flammulated owl*	LC	EP	r	r	r	-
☐ western screech-owl*	LC	ER	u	u	u	u
☐ great horned owl*	LC	A	u	u	u	u
☐ northern pygmy-owl*	LC	EPR	u	u	u	u
☐ Mexican spotted owl*	NT	E	c	c	c	c
☐ long-eared owl	LC	DP	x	x	-	-
☐ short-eared owl	LC	P	-	x	-	-
☐ northern saw-whet owl	LC	ER	s	s	s	s
☐ barn owl	LC	PR	r	r	r	r
Kingfishers						
☐ belted kingfisher*	LC	RW	u	u	u	u

	Status	Habitat	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Ospreys, Eagles, Hawks, & Falcons						
☐ osprey	LC	W	u	u	u	x
☐ golden eagle*	LC	DEP	u	u	u	u
☐ nothern harrier	LC	D	u	r	u	u
☐ sharp-shinned hawk*	LC	EPR	u	u	u	u
☐ Cooper's hawk*	LC	EPR	c	c	c	c
☐ American goshawk*	LC	E	r	r	r	r
☐ bald eagle	LC	W	u	u	u	u
☐ common black-hawk	LC	R	r	r	r	-
☐ red-shouldered hawk	LC	R	x	x	-	r
☐ broad-winged hawk	LC	R	x	-	x	-
☐ Swainson's hawk	LC	DE	r	r	r	-
☐ zone-tailed hawk	LC	R	r	r	r	-
☐ red-tailed hawk*	LC	A	c	c	c	c
☐ rough-legged hawk	LC	D	r	-	r	u
☐ ferruginous hawk	LC	DP	r	x	r	u
☐ American kestrel*	LC	DER	u	u	u	u
☐ merlin	LC	PR	r	-	r	r
☐ peregrine falcon*	LC	A	c	c	c	r
☐ prairie falcon	LC	DE	r	r	r	r
Vultures						
☐ California condor*	CR	A	c	c	c	c
☐ turkey vulture*	LC	A	c	c	c	x
Flycatchers & Shrikes						
☐ olive-sided flycatcher*	NT	E	u	u	r	-
☐ western wood-peewee*	LC	ER	u	c	u	-
☐ willow flycatcher*	LC	R	r	r	r	-
☐ Hammond's flycatcher	LC	ER	r	-	r	-
☐ gray flycatcher*	LC	P	r	r	r	-
☐ dusky flycatcher*	LC	EPR	u	u	r	-
☐ western flycatcher*	LC	ER	u	u	r	-
☐ black phoebe*	LC	R	c	c	c	u
☐ eastern phoebe	LC	R	x	-	x	x
☐ Say's phoebe*	LC	DR	c	c	c	u
☐ vermilion flycatcher	LC	R	x	x	-	-
☐ ash-throated flycatcher*	LC	EPR	u	c	r	-
☐ brown-crested flycatcher	LC	EPR	r	r	r	-
☐ Cassin's kingbird*	LC	PR	r	r	r	-
☐ western kingbird*	LC	DR	c	c	u	-
☐ eastern kingbird	LC	PR	x	-	x	-
☐ loggerhead shrike	NT	DE	r	r	r	r
☐ northern shrike	LC	D	-	-	-	r

	Status	Habitat	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Woodpeckers						
☐ Williamson's sapsucker	LC	EP	r	-	r	r
☐ red-breasted sapsucker	LC	E	-	-	-	r
☐ red-naped sapsucker*	LC	EPR	c	c	c	s
☐ Lewis's woodpecker	LC	E	s	s	s	s
☐ acorn woodpecker	LC	E	r	r	x	x
☐ American three-toed woodpecker	LC	P	-	-	-	x
☐ downy woodpecker	LC	EPR	c	c	c	c
☐ ladder-backed woodpecker	LC	DR	r	r	r	r
☐ hairy woodpecker*	LC	EPR	c	c	c	c
☐ northern flicker*	LC	EPR	c	c	c	c
Vireos						
☐ Bell's vireo*	LC	R	r	r	-	-
☐ gray vireo*	LC	P	u	u	-	x
☐ Cassin's vireo	LC		r	-	r	-
☐ plumbeous vireo*	LC	ER	c	c	c	-
☐ warbling vireo*	LC	ER	c	c	u	-
Jays & Crows						
☐ Canada jay	LC	P	-	-	-	x
☐ pinyon jay*	VU	P	u	u	u	u
☐ Steller's jay*	LC	EPR	c	c	c	c
☐ Woodhouse's scrub-jay*	LC	PR	c	c	c	c
☐ black-billed magpie	LC	DP	r	r	r	r
☐ Clark's nutcracker	LC	E	r	r	r	r
☐ American crow	LC	PR	r	r	r	r
☐ common raven*	LC	A	c	c	c	c
Chickadees, Titmice & Bushtits						
☐ black-capped chickadee*	LC	EPR	c	c	c	c
☐ mountain chickadee*	LC	EPR	c	c	c	c
☐ juniper titmouse*	LC	P	c	c	c	c
☐ verdin	LC	D	r	r	r	r
☐ bushtit*	LC	DEP	c	c	c	c
Larks						
☐ horned lark	LC	D	r	u	r	u
Swallows						
☐ bank swallow	LC	RW	r	u	r	-
☐ tree swallow*	LC	EW	c	c	r	-
☐ violet-green swallow*	LC	A	c	c	c	-
☐ northern rough-winged swallow*	LC	RW	u	u	u	-
☐ barn swallow	LC	DW	r	r	r	-
☐ cliff swallow*	LC	DW	u	u	u	-

	Status	Habitat	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Kinglets & Gnatcatchers						
☐ ruby-crowned kinglet	LC	EP	c	r	c	c
☐ golden-crowned kinglet	LC	EP	u	r	r	u
☐ blue-gray gnatcatcher*	LC	DP	c	c	u	r
Nuthatches & Creepers						
☐ white-breasted nuthatch*	LC	EP	u	u	u	u
☐ pygmy nuthatch*	LC	E	u	u	u	u
☐ red-breasted nuthatch*	LC	E	r	r	u	r
☐ brown creeper*	LC	DEP	u	r	r	u
Wrens & Dippers						
☐ rock wren*	LC	DP	c	c	c	u
☐ canyon wren*	LC	RP	c	c	c	c
☐ house wren*	LC	R	c	c	u	r
☐ pacific wren*	LC	R	r	r	r	u
☐ marsh wren*	LC	RW	r	-	u	r
☐ Bewick's wren*	LC	DP	c	c	c	u
☐ cactus wren	LC	D	r	r	r	r
☐ American dipper*	LC	W	c	c	c	c
Starlings						
☐ European starling*	LC	DR	u	u	u	u
Mockingbirds & Thrashers						
☐ gray catbird	LC	R	x	r	x	x
☐ brown thrasher	LC	R	x	-	-	x
☐ crissal thrasher	LC	DR	x	-	r	u
☐ sage thrasher	LC	D	r	-	r	-
☐ northern mockingbird*	LC	DP	u	u	u	r
Thrushes						
☐ eastern bluebird	LC	DEP	x	-	-	x
☐ western bluebird*	LC	DER	c	c	c	u
☐ mountain bluebird*	LC	DE	u	u	u	u
☐ Townsend's solitaire*	LC	EP	c	c	c	c
☐ varied thrush	LC	R	x	-	-	-
☐ Swainson's thrush	LC	E	r	-	r	x
☐ hermit thrush*	LC	ER	u	u	u	u
☐ American robin*	LC	A	c	c	c	c
☐ rufous-backed robin	LC	R	-	-	-	x
Pipits, Waxwings & Phainopepla						
☐ bohemian waxwing	LC	R	-	-	-	s
☐ cedar waxwing	LC	R	u	r	u	r
☐ phainopepla	LC	DPR	r	u	r	x
☐ American pipit	LC	D	r	-	r	u

	Status	Habitat	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Grosbeaks & Buntings						
☐ evening grosbeak	VU	ER	r	r	r	r
☐ pine grosbeak	LC	E	x	-	-	x
☐ chestnut-collared longspur	VU	D	-	-	x	-
☐ rose-breasted grosbeak	LC	R	r	-	-	-
☐ black-headed grosbeak*	LC	EPR	c	c	u	-
☐ blue grosbeak*	LC	PR	u	u	u	-
☐ lazuli bunting*	LC	PR	c	c	u	-
☐ indigo bunting*	LC	R	r	r	-	-
☐ snow bunting*	LC	P	-	-	-	x
Finches & Longspurs						
☐ black rosy-finch	LC	DP	-	-	-	x
☐ house finch*	LC	DPR	c	c	c	c
☐ Cassin's finch*	LC	DE	u	u	u	r
☐ red crossbill*	LC	E	r	r	r	x
☐ pine siskin*	LC	EPR	u	u	c	r
☐ lesser goldfinch*	LC	A	c	c	c	u
☐ American goldfinch*	LC	DR	u	-	u	u
☐ gray-crowned rosy-finch	LC	DP	-	-	-	x
Towhees, Sparrows & Juncos						
☐ Abert's towhee*	LC	R	r	r	r	r
☐ American tree sparrow	LC	DP	x	-	x	-
☐ black-chinned sparrow*	LC	DP	r	r	r	-
☐ black-throated sparrow*	LC	D	u	u	r	r
☐ Brewer's sparrow	LC	DE	r	r	r	r
☐ chipping sparrow*	LC	DEP	c	c	c	r
☐ dark-eyed junco*	LC	A	c	c	c	c
☐ fox sparrow	LC	DR	x	-	x	r
☐ golden-crowned sparrow	LC	DR	r	-	r	r
☐ green-tailed towhee*	LC	DER	u	u	u	u
☐ Harris's sparrow	NT	DR	-	-	-	x
☐ house sparrow	LC	DR	c	c	c	c
☐ lark sparrow*	LC	DR	u	u	r	x
☐ Lincoln's sparrow*	LC	DER	u	r	u	u
☐ rufous-crowned sparrow*	LC	DP	u	r	r	r
☐ sagebrush sparrow	LC	DP	r	r	r	r
☐ savannah sparrow	LC	D	u	r	u	r
☐ song sparrow*	LC	RW	c	c	c	c
☐ spotted towhee*	LC	EPR	c	c	c	c
☐ swamp sparrow	LC	R	x	-	-	-
☐ vesper sparrow*	LC	DE	u	c	c	x
☐ white-crowned sparrow	LC	A	c	u	c	c
☐ white-throated sparrow	LC	DR	r	-	r	r

Blackbirds, Meadowlarks & Orioles

☐ red-winged blackbird*	LC	RW	u	u	u	r
☐ brown-headed cowbird*	LC	A	c	c	r	-
☐ rusty blackbird	VU	W	-	x	-	-
☐ Brewer's blackbird*	LC	ER	u	u	u	r
☐ great-tailed grackle	LC	DR	u	u	r	-
☐ western meadowlark*	LC	D	u	r	r	u
☐ yellow-headed blackbird	LC	RW	r	r	r	-
☐ hooded oriole	LC	R	r	r	-	-
☐ Bullock's oriole*	LC	R	c	c	r	-
☐ Scott's oriole	LC	DP	r	r	-	-
☐ bobolink	LC	RW	x	-	-	-

Warblers & Chats

☐ American redstart	LC	R	x	x	x	-
☐ black-and-white warbler	LC	R	x	x	-	-
☐ black-throated blue warbler			-	-	x	-
☐ black-throated gray warbler*	LC	P	c	c	u	-
☐ common yellowthroat*	LC	R	r	r	r	-
☐ Grace's warbler*	LC	E	c	c	r	x
☐ hermit warbler	LC	R	-	-	r	-
☐ hooded warbler	LC	E	-	-	x	-
☐ Lucy's warbler*	LC	R	c	c	r	r
☐ MacGillivray's warbler	LC	DRE	u	u	r	-
☐ Nashville warbler	LC	R	r	-	r	-
☐ northern waterthrush	LC	R	x	-	x	-
☐ orange-crowned warbler*	LC	ER	u	u	r	r
☐ ovenbird	LC	R	x	-	-	-
☐ painted redstart*	LC	PR	u	r	-	-
☐ Townsend's warbler	LC	E	r	-	r	x
☐ Virginia's warbler*	LC	EPR	c	c	u	-
☐ Wilson's warbler	LC	R	u	-	u	x
☐ yellow warbler*	LC	R	c	c	c	-
☐ yellow-rumped warbler*	LC	ER	c	c	c	u
☐ yellow-throated warbler			-	-	-	x
☐ yellow-breasted chat*	LC	R	u	r	r	-

Tanagers

☐ summer tanager*	LC	R	u	u	r	-
☐ western tanager*	LC	ER	c	c	c	-

Do you have an interesting bird sighting? Records are lacking for numerous species. Your observations of uncommon or rare species, or of any birds exhibiting unusual behavior, can provide the National Park Service and the birding community with valuable data. Natural History Observation Cards are available at visitor centers or entrance stations. Below is a checklist of the information needed as a reminder while you are in the field. Please be specific.

Observation Checklist

Species:

Date:

Time:

Weather:

Location:

Description, habitat, behavior, number:

Observer (name, address, phone number):

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Zion National Park



Bird Checklist



Western Tanager
NPS Photo