

Common Los Vaqueros Birds



Alden M. Johnson, California Academy of Sciences

Western Bluebird *Siala mexicana*



Gerald and Buff Corsi, California Academy of Sciences

Great Blue Heron
Ardea herodias



Gerald and Buff Corsi, California Academy of Sciences

Snowy Egret *Egretta thula*

Some Other Birds You Might See at Los Vaqueros

- American Kestrel *Falco sparverius*
- Barn Owl *Tyto alba*
- Belted Kingfisher *Ceryle alcyon*
- Burrowing Owl *Athene cunicularia*
- California Quail *Callipepla californica*
- Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia*
- Cliff Swallow *Hirundo pyrrhonota*
- Common Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*
- Dark-eyed Junco *Junco hyemalis*
- Great Egret *Casmerodius albus*
- Loggerhead Shrike *Lanius ludovicianus*
- Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*
- Northern Flicker *Colaptes auratus*
- Red-winged Blackbird
Agelaius phoeniceus
- Western Kingbird *Tyrannus verticalis*
- Western Meadowlark *Sturnella neglecta*
- Western Scrub Jay
Aphelocoma coerulescens

GUIDE TO BIRDS



Los Vaqueros watershed



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Why Watch Birds?

An appreciation of our avian friends offers opportunities of delight and inspiration. For many of us birdwatching, or “birding” as it is commonly called, is a source of mental and physical activity that helps to reduce the continual stress of everyday urban life.

In the Los Vaqueros Watershed, you’ll find a variety of bird species, from raptors searching the grasslands for their next meal to waterfowl gracefully navigating the reservoir.

Unlike many other pastimes, birding is an easy hobby for beginners. You can start inexpensively, and there are many resources available, including clubs, field guides and websites on the internet.

Gaining a true familiarity with local bird species is a lifetime endeavor. Because birds fly and use body signals to communicate, individual birds can demonstrate a huge variety of poses and behaviors, providing ample challenges in identification for both expert and novice birders.

Good trails for birdwatching in the Los Vaqueros Watershed include the Kellogg Creek Trail in the northern watershed and the Los Vaqueros Trail along the water’s edge in the southern watershed. Both trails are fairly flat and easy for beginning hikers.



California Department of Water Resources

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*



Dr. Lloyd Glenn Ingles, California Academy of Sciences

Red-tailed Hawk *Buteo jamaicensis*



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Double-crested Cormorant
Phalacrocorax auritus



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Acorn Woodpecker
Melanerpes formicivorus



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Killdeer *Charadrius vociferus*



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Osprey *Pandion haliaetus*