



Field Guides Tour Report

ARIZONA'S SECOND SPRING II 2013

Aug 3, 2013 to Aug 12, 2013
Chris Benesh

For our tour description, itinerary, past triplists, dates, fees, and more, please [VISIT OUR TOUR PAGE](#).



Iconic Portal Peak, Chiricahua Mountains. (Photo by guide Chris Benesh)

This 2013 Arizona Second Spring trip was a big success with lots of interesting sightings. Bird highlights included a big slug of southeast Arizona specialties, with such delights as Montezuma Quail, Elegant Trogon, Painted Redstart, and Red-faced Warbler. The monsoon had really greened things up and there were plenty of sparrows singing. Along with all of the birds, there were some other interesting critters seen, including the Black Bear that Steve spotted in Cave Creek, several types of squirrels, as well as a small Gila Monster and a rare Tiger Rattlesnake!

Thanks to all of you for making the trip a treat for me. Until our paths cross again, good birding to all.

--Chris

KEYS FOR THIS LIST

One of the following keys may be shown in brackets for individual species as appropriate: * = heard only, I = introduced, E = endemic, N = nesting, a = austral migrant, b = boreal migrant

BIRDS

Anatidae (Ducks, Geese, and Waterfowl)

WOOD DUCK (*Aix sponsa*) – One hanging out at Sweetwater Wetlands was a treat.

AMERICAN WIGEON (*Anas americana*)

MALLARD (MEXICAN) (*Anas platyrhynchos diazi*)

CINNAMON TEAL (*Anas cyanoptera*)

NORTHERN SHOVELER (*Anas clypeata*)

GREEN-WINGED TEAL (AMERICAN) (*Anas crecca carolinensis*)

RING-NECKED DUCK (*Aythya collaris*)

RUDDY DUCK (*Oxyura jamaicensis*)

Odontophoridae (New World Quail)

SCALED QUAIL (*Callipepla squamata*)

GAMBEL'S QUAIL (*Callipepla gambelii*)

MONTEZUMA QUAIL (*Cyrtonyx montezumae*) – Phillip spotted our first of these wonderful quail.

Phasianidae (Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies)

WILD TURKEY (*Meleagris gallopavo*)

Podicipedidae (Grebes)

PIED-BILLED GREBE (*Podilymbus podiceps*)

Phalacrocoracidae (Cormorants and Shags)

NEOTROPIC CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*)

Ardeidae (Herons, Egrets, and Bitterns)

GREAT BLUE HERON (*Ardea herodias*) [*]

GREEN HERON (*Butorides virescens*)

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)

Threskiornithidae (Ibises and Spoonbills)

WHITE-FACED IBIS (*Plegadis chihi*)

Cathartidae (New World Vultures)

BLACK VULTURE (*Coragyps atratus*)

TURKEY VULTURE (*Cathartes aura*)

Accipitridae (Hawks, Eagles, and Kites)

MISSISSIPPI KITE (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) – A total of four of these seen wonderfully well in St. David. What graceful birds.

NORTHERN HARRIER (*Circus cyaneus*)

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK (*Accipiter striatus*)

COOPER'S HAWK (*Accipiter cooperii*)

HARRIS'S HAWK (*Parabuteo unicinctus*)

GRAY HAWK (*Buteo plagiatus*)

SWAINSON'S HAWK (*Buteo swainsoni*)

ZONE-TAILED HAWK (*Buteo albonotatus*) – What an amazing wonderful experience watching an adult bring food to an active nest. Horned Lizard was lunch.

RED-TAILED HAWK (*Buteo jamaicensis*)

Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules, and Coots)

COMMON GALLINULE (*Gallinula galeata*)

AMERICAN COOT (*Fulica americana*)

Charadriidae (Plovers and Lapwings)

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER (*Charadrius semipalmatus*)

KILLDEER (*Charadrius vociferus*)

Recurvirostridae (Stilts and Avocets)

BLACK-NECKED STILT (*Himantopus mexicanus*)

AMERICAN AVOCET (*Recurvirostra americana*)

Scolopacidae (Sandpipers and Allies)

SPOTTED SANDPIPER (*Actitis macularius*)

GREATER YELLOWLEGS (*Tringa melanoleuca*)

WILLET (*Tringa semipalmata*)

LESSER YELLOWLEGS (*Tringa flavipes*)

LONG-BILLED CURLEW (*Numenius americanus*)

WESTERN SANDPIPER (*Calidris mauri*)

LEAST SANDPIPER (*Calidris minutilla*)

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER (*Calidris bairdii*)

STILT SANDPIPER (*Calidris himantopus*)

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*)

WILSON'S PHALAROPE (*Phalaropus tricolor*)

Laridae (Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers)

RING-BILLED GULL (*Larus delawarensis*)

BLACK TERN (*Chlidonias niger*)

Columbidae (Pigeons and Doves)

ROCK PIGEON (*Columba livia*) [I]

BAND-TAILED PIGEON (*Patagioenas fasciata*)
EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE (*Streptopelia decaocto*) [H]
WHITE-WINGED DOVE (*Zenaida asiatica*)
MOURNING DOVE (*Zenaida macroura*)
INCA DOVE (*Columbina inca*)
COMMON GROUND-DOVE (*Columbina passerina*)

Cuculidae (Cuckoos)

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO (*Coccyzus americanus*) [*]
GREATER ROADRUNNER (*Geococcyx californianus*)

Strigidae (Owls)

WHISKERED SCREECH-OWL (*Megascops trichopsis*)
ELF OWL (*Micrathene whitneyi*)
BURROWING OWL (*Athene cunicularia*)
SPOTTED OWL (*Strix occidentalis*)

Caprimulgidae (Nightjars and Allies)

LESSER NIGHTHAWK (*Chordeiles acutipennis*)
COMMON POORWILL (*Phalaenoptilus nuttallii*)
MEXICAN WHIP-POOR-WILL (*Antrostomus arizonae arizonae*) [*]

Apodidae (Swifts)

WHITE-THROATED SWIFT (*Aeronautes saxatalis*)

Trochilidae (Hummingbirds)

MAGNIFICENT HUMMINGBIRD (*Eugenes fulgens*)
BLUE-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (*Lampornis clemenciae*)
LUCIFER HUMMINGBIRD (*Calothorax lucifer*) – Nice views of this species at Mary Jo's place along with an interesting looking hybrid Lucifer X Costa's hummer.
BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD (*Archilochus alexandri*)
ANNA'S HUMMINGBIRD (*Calypte anna*)
BROAD-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD (*Selasphorus platycercus*)
RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD (*Selasphorus rufus*)
BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD (*Cynanthus latirostris*)
BERYLLINE HUMMINGBIRD (*Amazilia beryllina*) – Seen by one or two folks in Madera Canyon.
VIOLET-CROWNED HUMMINGBIRD (*Amazilia violiceps*) – The highlight of our visit to the Paton's home in Patagonia.
WHITE-EARED HUMMINGBIRD (*Hylocharis leucotis*)

Trogonidae (Trogons)

ELEGANT TROGON (*Trogon elegans*) – Nice looks at this species in Madera Canyon on the first day of the trip.

Picidae (Woodpeckers)

ACORN WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes formicivorus*)
GILA WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes uropygialis*)
LADDER-BACKED WOODPECKER (*Picoides scalaris*)
HAIRY WOODPECKER (*Picoides villosus*)
ARIZONA WOODPECKER (*Picoides arizonae*)
NORTHERN FLICKER (RED-SHAFTED) (*Colaptes auratus cafer*)
GILDED FLICKER (*Colaptes chrysoides*)

Falconidae (Falcons and Caracaras)

AMERICAN KESTREL (*Falco sparverius*)
PEREGRINE FALCON (*Falco peregrinus*)

Tyrannidae (Tyrant Flycatchers)

NORTHERN BEARDLESS-TYRANULET (*Camptostoma imberbe*) – A couple of these were well seen at Patagonia Lake.
WESTERN WOOD-PEWEE (*Contopus sordidulus*)
GRAY FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax wrightii*)
PACIFIC-SLOPE FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax difficilis*)
CORDILLERAN FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax occidentalis*)
BUFF-BREASTED FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax fulvifrons*)
BLACK PHOEBE (*Sayornis nigricans*)
SAY'S PHOEBE (*Sayornis saya*)
VERMILION FLYCATCHER (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*)
DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus tuberculifer*)

ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus cinerascens*)
BROWN-CRESTED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus tyrannulus*)
SULPHUR-BELLIED FLYCATCHER (*Myiodynastes luteiventris*)
TROPICAL KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus melancholicus*)
CASSIN'S KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus vociferans*)
THICK-BILLED KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus crassirostris*)
WESTERN KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus verticalis*)

Laniidae (Shrikes)

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE (*Lanius ludovicianus*)

Vireonidae (Vireos)

BELL'S VIREO (*Vireo bellii*)
PLUMBEOUS VIREO (*Vireo plumbeus*)
HUTTON'S VIREO (*Vireo huttoni*)
WARBLING VIREO (*Vireo gilvus*)

Corvidae (Crows, Jays, and Magpies)

STELLER'S JAY (*Cyanocitta stelleri*)
WESTERN SCRUB-JAY (*Aphelocoma californica*)
MEXICAN JAY (*Aphelocoma wollweberi*)
CHIHUAHUAN RAVEN (*Corvus cryptoleucus*)
COMMON RAVEN (*Corvus corax*)

Hirundinidae (Swallows)

PURPLE MARTIN (*Progne subis*)
TREE SWALLOW (*Tachycineta bicolor*)
VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW (*Tachycineta thalassina*)
BARN SWALLOW (*Hirundo rustica*)
CLIFF SWALLOW (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) – It was a treat to see of the southwestern subspecies breeding south of Green Valley.

Paridae (Chickadees and Tits)

MEXICAN CHICKADEE (*Poecile sclateri*)
BRIDLED TITMOUSE (*Baeolophus wollweberi*)
JUNIPER TITMOUSE (*Baeolophus ridgwayi*)

Remizidae (Penduline-Tits)

VERDIN (*Auriparus flaviceps*)

Aegithalidae (Long-tailed Tits)

BUSHTIT (INTERIOR) (*Psaltriparus minimus plumbeus*)

Sittidae (Nuthatches)

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH (*Sitta canadensis*)
WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH (*Sitta carolinensis*)
PYGMY NUTHATCH (*Sitta pygmaea*)

Certhiidae (Treecreepers)

BROWN CREEPER (*Certhia americana*)

Troglodytidae (Wrens)

ROCK WREN (*Salpinctes obsoletus*)
CANYON WREN (*Catherpes mexicanus*)
HOUSE WREN (*Troglodytes aedon*)
BEWICK'S WREN (*Thryomanes bewickii*)
CACTUS WREN (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus*)

Poliophtilidae (Gnatcatchers)

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER (*Poliophtila caerulea*)
BLACK-TAILED GNATCATCHER (*Poliophtila melanura*)

Turdidae (Thrushes and Allies)

EASTERN BLUEBIRD (*Sialia sialis*)
WESTERN BLUEBIRD (*Sialia mexicana*)
HERMIT THRUSH (*Catharus guttatus*)
AMERICAN ROBIN (*Turdus migratorius*)

Mimidae (Mockingbirds and Thrashers)

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD (*Mimus polyglottos*)
CURVE-BILLED THRASHER (*Toxostoma curvirostre*)
CRISSAL THRASHER (*Toxostoma crissale*)

Sturnidae (Starlings)

EUROPEAN STARLING (*Sturnus vulgaris*) [I]

Ptilonotidae (Silky-flycatchers)

PHAINOPEPLA (*Phainopepla nitens*)

Peucedramidae (Olive Warbler)

OLIVE WARBLER (*Peucedramus taeniatus*)

Parulidae (New World Warblers)

LUCY'S WARBLER (*Oreothlypis luciae*)

NASHVILLE WARBLER (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*)

MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER (*Geothlypis tolmiei*)

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT (*Geothlypis trichas*)

YELLOW WARBLER (*Setophaga petechia*)

GRACE'S WARBLER (*Setophaga graciae*)

BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER (*Setophaga nigrescens*)

TOWNSEND'S WARBLER (*Setophaga townsendi*)

HERMIT WARBLER (*Setophaga occidentalis*)

WILSON'S WARBLER (*Cardellina pusilla*)

RED-FACED WARBLER (*Cardellina rubrifrons*) – Some great looks at this species in the Chiricahuas.

PAINTED REDSTART (*Myioborus pictus*) – Always a treat to see this colorful bird!

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (*Icteria virens*)

Emberizidae (Buntings and New World Sparrows)

SPOTTED TOWHEE (*Pipilo maculatus*)

RUFIOUS-CROWNED SPARROW (*Aimophila ruficeps*)

CANYON TOWHEE (*Melospiza fusca*)

ABERT'S TOWHEE (*Melospiza aberti*)

RUFIOUS-WINGED SPARROW (*Peucaea carpalis*)

BOTTERI'S SPARROW (*Peucaea botterii*)

CASSIN'S SPARROW (*Peucaea cassinii*)

CHIPPING SPARROW (*Spizella passerina*)

BLACK-CHINNED SPARROW (*Spizella atrogularis*)

LARK SPARROW (*Chondestes grammacus*)

FIVE-STRIPED SPARROW (*Amphispiza quinquestrata*) – One of the star performers, this species was enjoyed in California Gulch.

BLACK-THROATED SPARROW (*Amphispiza bilineata*)

SONG SPARROW (*Melospiza melodia*)

YELLOW-EYED JUNCO (*Junco phaeonotus*)

Cardinalidae (Cardinals and Allies)

HEPATIC TANAGER (*Piranga flava*)

SUMMER TANAGER (*Piranga rubra*)

WESTERN TANAGER (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

NORTHERN CARDINAL (*Cardinalis cardinalis*)

PYRRHULOXIA (*Cardinalis sinuatus*)

BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*)

BLUE GROSBEAK (*Passerina caerulea*)

LAZULI BUNTING (*Passerina amoena*)

INDIGO BUNTING (*Passerina cyanea*)

VARIED BUNTING (*Passerina versicolor*) – A stunning bird that is always a crowd pleaser.

Icteridae (Troupials and Allies)

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD (*Agelaius phoeniceus*)

EASTERN MEADOWLARK (LILIAN'S) (*Sturnella magna lilianae*)

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE (*Quiscalus mexicanus*)

BRONZED COWBIRD (*Molothrus aeneus*)

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD (*Molothrus ater*)

HOODED ORIOLE (*Icterus cucullatus*)

BULLOCK'S ORIOLE (*Icterus bullockii*)

SCOTT'S ORIOLE (*Icterus parisorum*)

Fringillidae (Siskins, Crossbills, and Allies)

HOUSE FINCH (*Haemorhous mexicanus*)

RED CROSSBILL (*Loxia curvirostra*) – We had one in the Chiricahuas, which is a Type 6 bird.

LESSER GOLDFINCH (*Spinus psaltria*)

Passeridae (Old World Sparrows)

HOUSE SPARROW (*Passer domesticus*) **[I]**

MAMMALS

BRAZILIAN FREE-TAILED BAT (*Tadarida brasiliensis*)

EASTERN COTTONTAIL (*Sylvilagus floridanus*)

DESERT COTTONTAIL (*Sylvilagus audubonii*)

BLACK-TAILED JACKRABBIT (*Lepus californicus*)

CLIFF CHIPMUNK (*Tamias dorsalis*)

HARRIS'S ANTELOPE SQUIRREL (*Ammospermophilus harrisi*)

ROCK SQUIRREL (*Spermophilus variegatus*)

ROUND-TAILED GROUND SQUIRREL (*Spermophilus tereticaudus*)

NAYARIT FOX SQUIRREL (*Sciurus nayaritensis*)

ARIZONA GRAY SQUIRREL (*Sciurus arizonensis*)

GRAY FOX (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*)

COYOTE (*Canis latrans*)

BLACK BEAR (*Ursus americanus*) – Great spotting Steve! A cinnamon-colored one along Cave Creek in the Chiricahuas.

WHITE-TAILED DEER (*Odocoileus virginianus*)

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Totals for the tour: 193 bird taxa and 14 mammal taxa