

- ___ Red-winged Blackbird R:WV
- ___ Hooded Oriole R:M
- ___ Bullock's Oriole C:SV (Br:Co)
- ___ Purple Finch O:WV
- ___ House Finch C:Res (Br:Co)
- ___ Red Crossbill R:WV
- ___ Pine Siskin R:WV
- ___ Lesser Goldfinch C:Res (Br:Co)
- ___ Lawrence's Goldfinch C:Res (Br:Co)
- ___ American Goldfinch U:WV
- ___ House Sparrow R:M (Br:Co 1972)

Abundance Codes

These codes are given for each species to indicate relative abundance. As with all populations of birds, general abundance can vary from year to year and season to season. They are, then intended to indicate which species are most likely seen on a given morning. The codes are **C**: common; **F**: frequent; **U**: uncommon; **O**: occasional; **R**: rare; **Vag**: vagrant. The latter code indicates a species that has been reported on fewer than 5 occasions during the last 30 years.

Status Codes

Status codes indicate the temporal occurrence and breeding biology of each species. Some species can be found in the canyon on a year-round basis, in which case they are coded as a resident (**Res**). Others are winter visitors, arriving in Fall and departing in Spring (**WV**). Still, others summer visitors (**SV**), arriving in late Spring, usually breeding in the canyons, and departing in Fall. The final category, migrants (**M**), are species that pass through the canyon on a migratory basis only- that is, they are observed here on their way to breeding habitat elsewhere during the Spring, and returning from their breeding areas in the Fall. Note that the status does not necessarily indicate a species breeds in the canyon.

Breeding Codes

These codes attempt to define breeding status of a particular species in the canyon. Any species suspected of breeding in the area is noted with a **Br** code. The level of confirmation is indicated by a **Po** for possibly breeding in the canyon; **Pr** for probable breeding status; **Co** for confirmed breeding evidence; and **H** for species that have historically bred in the canyon, but for which there has been no breeding evidence in the past 20 years. In some cases, the date of last known breeding is noted. Breeding activity varies, but usually consists of observing a singing male bird during the breeding season, a species pair, nest building activity, feeding young in a nest, and lastly directly observing a nest with eggs or young. 3/03/13 155 species.

Additional Notes:

Date _____

Start Time _____ End Time _____

Areas _____

Species Total _____

Weather _____

Observers _____

Los Angeles County
 Department of Parks and Recreation
PLACERITA CANYON
NATURAL AREA
BIRD LIST

Placerita Canyon is located at the western end of the San Gabriel Mountains 2 miles south of the Santa Clara River, between the San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valleys. The broad, expansive oak woodlands, chaparral covered hillsides, and lush riparian woodlands make the canyon a popular and diverse location for bird observation. During the spring migration, many species of warblers, vireos, and flycatchers, along with many resident species can be seen. In general, late April through May is the peak of bird migration through the area.

The list covers all species observed in the canyon from the Nature Center to Walker Ranch on either side of the canyon, including the pond on the north side of Placerita Canyon Road at mid-gate.

Any additions to this list, such as new breeding observations, new species for the canyon, or any corrections are welcomed and should be reported to the Nature Center. Names of birds listed in this checklist follow the National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America, 1999.

Placerita Canyon Nature Center
 19152 Placerita Canyon Road
 Newhall, California 91321-3213
 (661) 259-7721
 www.placerita.org

___ Great Blue Heron R:WV
___ Mallard O:WV
___ Turkey Vulture O:M
___ Northern Harrier R:M
___ White-tailed Kite O:Res (Br:Co)
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk F:WV
___ Cooper's Hawk F:Res (Br:Co)
___ Red-shouldered Hawk O:Res (Br:Co)
___ Swainson's Hawk R:M
___ Red-tailed Hawk C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Golden Eagle R:Res
___ American Kestrel O:Res (Br:Co)
___ Prairie Falcon R:Res (Br:Po)
___ California Quail C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Mountain Quail F:Res (Br:Co)
___ Killdeer R:M
___ Rock Dove O:Res
___ Band-tailed Pigeon F:WV (Br:H)
___ Mourning Dove C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Greater Roadrunner O:Res
___ Barn Owl C:Res (Br:Po)
___ Western Screech Owl F:Res (Br:Pr)
___ Spotted Owl R:Res (Br:Co)
___ Great Horned Owl C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Long-eared Owl R:Res (Br:H)
___ Northern Pygmy Owl O:WV (Br:Po, H)
___ Short-eared Owl R:WV
___ Lesser Nighthawk R:SV
___ Common Nighthawk R:SV
___ Common Poorwill R:Res (Br:Pr)
___ Vaux's Swift U: M
___ White-throated Swift C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Black-chinned Hummingbird U:SV (Br:Po)
___ Anna's Hummingbird C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Costa's Hummingbird U:SV (Br:Co)
___ Rufous Hummingbird U:M
___ Allen's Hummingbird U:M
___ Calliope Hummingbird R:M
___ Belted Kingfisher R:M
___ Lewis' Woodpecker R:WV
___ Acorn Woodpecker C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Nuttall's Woodpecker C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Downy Woodpecker U:Res
___ Hairy Woodpecker R:WV
___ Northern (Red-shafted) Flicker C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Red-breasted Sapsucker F:WV
___ Olive-sided Flycatcher U:M

___ Western Wood- Pewee C:SV (Br:Co)
___ Willow Flycatcher R:M
___ Hammond's Flycatcher R:M
___ Gray Flycatcher R:M
___ Pacific-slope Flycatcher C:SV
___ Black Phoebe F: Res (Br:Co)
___ Say's Phoebe U:WV (Br:?)
___ Ash-throated Flycatcher F:SV (Br:Co)
___ Cassin's Kingbird U:WV
___ Western Kingbird F:SV (Br:Co)
___ Horned Lark R: WV
___ Tree Swallow U:M
___ Violet-green Swallow C:M
___ No. Rough-winged Swallow C:SV (Br:Po)
___ Cliff Swallow F:SV (Br:Co)
___ Barn Swallow O:M
___ Steller's Jay F:Res (Br:Co)
___ Western Scrub-jay C:Res (Br:Co)
___ American Crow C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Common Raven C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Mountain Chickadee (R:WV)
___ Oak Titmouse C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Bushtit C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch R:WV
___ White-breasted Nuthatch F:Res (Br:Co)
___ Brown Creeper R:WV
___ Rock Wren R:Res
___ Canyon Wren O:Res (Br:Pr)
___ Bewick's Wren C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Mash Wren R:WV
___ House Wren C:SV (Br:Co)
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet C:WV
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet C:WV
___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher O:WV
___ California Gnatcatcher R:WV (1972.'99)
___ Western Bluebird F:Res (Br:Co)
___ Mountain Bluebird R:WV (1999)
___ Townsend's Solitaire O:WV
___ Swainson's Thrush F:M
___ Hermit Thrush C:WV
___ American Robin C:WV
___ Varied Thrush R:WV
___ American Dipper R:WV (1981)
___ American Pipit R:WV
___ Wrentit C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Northern Mockingbird O:Res (Br:Po)
___ California Thrasher C:Res (Br:Co)

___ Cedar Waxwing O:WV
___ Bohemian Waxwing R:WV
___ Phainopepla F:Res (Br:Co)
___ Loggerhead Shrike O:Res
___ European Starling C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Cassin's Vireo O:M
___ Hutton's Vireo U:M
___ Warbling Vireo O:M
___ Gray Vireo R:WV (circa 1979)
___ Bell's Vireo R:M (circa 1975)
___ Tennessee Warbler Vag
___ Orange-crowned Warbler C:M (Br:Po)
___ Nashville Warbler C:M
___ Virginia's Warbler Vag
___ Yellow Warbler F:M (Br:Po, H 1972)
___ Yellow-rumped (Audubon's) Warbler C:WV
___ Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler R:WV
___ Black-throated Gray Warbler O:M
___ Black-throated Green Warbler Vag
___ Townsend's Warbler F:M
___ Hermit Warbler F:M
___ MacGillivray's Warbler
___ Common Yellowthroat U:M
___ Wilson's Warbler C:M
___ Western Tanager U:SV (Br:Po)
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak Vag
___ Blue Grosbeak O:SV (Br:Po 1999)
___ Black-headed Grosbeak C:SV (Br:Co)
___ California Towhee C:Res (Br: Co)
___ Spotted Towhee C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Rufous-crowned Sparrow O:Res (Br:Pr)
___ Chipping Sparrow O:M
___ Lark Sparrow R:WV
___ Black-chinned Sparrow O:SV (Br:Co)
___ Bell's Sparrow O:M (Br:Pr)
___ Savannah Sparrow U:WV
___ Fox Sparrow O:WV
___ Song Sparrow C:Res (Br:Co)
___ Lincoln's Sparrow O:WV
___ White-throated Sparrow Vag
___ Golden-crowned Sparrow F:WV
___ White-crowned Sparrow C:WV
___ Harris' Sparrow R:WV
___ Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco C:WV/R:Res(Br:Co)
___ Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco R:WV
___ Western Meadowlark R:M
___ Brown-headed Cowbird U:SV (Br:Co)