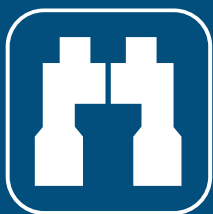


# Alamosa and Monte Vista

*National Wildlife  
Refuges*

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*Wildlife List*



## **Alamosa and Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuges**



*This goose designed by J.N. "Ding" Darling, has become the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.*

The San Luis Valley of south-central Colorado is home to three National Wildlife Refuges, Alamosa, Monte Vista, and Baca. Over the course of a year, these National Wildlife Refuges provide crucial feeding, resting, and breeding habitat for over 200 bird species and a variety of other wildlife.

Ninety-five percent of the Rocky Mountain population of greater sandhill cranes stop twice a year at Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). In spring, sandhill cranes, waterfowl, and other migrating birds stop at Monte Vista NWR to refuel on their journey to northern breeding grounds. As they migrate to southern wintering grounds in the fall, the cranes stop again at the Refuge to refuel. Refuge farm fields and privately-owned croplands provide essential feeding habitat in close proximity to safe roosting areas found on Monte Vista NWR.

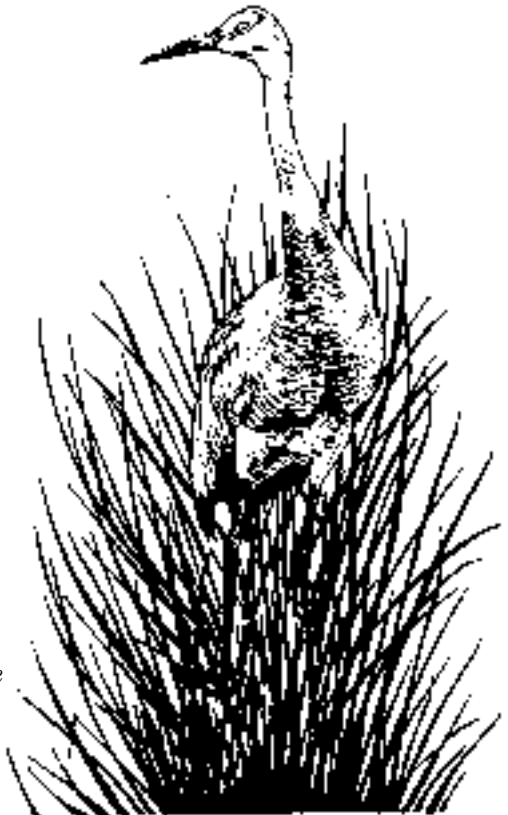
Many waterfowl species stay on the Refuge through the summer to breed and rear young. Monte Vista NWR is one of the most productive duck breeding wetlands in North America. Early summer also brings nesting shorebirds and water birds to all three Refuges. Throughout the summer, the riparian corridor along the Rio Grande at Alamosa NWR offers habitat for many species of songbirds, including the rare southwestern willow flycatcher.

When winter hits the valley, some waterfowl can be found, but raptors dominate the Refuges' landscape. Short-eared owls winter and breed on the refuges while bald eagles can be seen fishing and roosting along the Rio Grande at Alamosa NWR.

Elk, deer, coyotes, porcupines, and beaver are some of the other wildlife you may see while visiting the refuges. Resident deer and elk are found on the refuges year round, while migrating herds are seen in the fall and winter moving from higher elevations to the valley floor.

*Seasonal  
Abundance*

- a abundant - numerous and easily found in appropriate habitat
- c common - should be found in appropriate habitat with little search effort
- u uncommon - might see in appropriate habitat
- o occasional - seen only a few times during the season
- r rare - observed once or twice every 2 - 5 years
- Ac accidental - observed only a few times in the history of the Refuge



*Sandhill crane*  
USFWS

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Loons</b>				
— Pacific Loon	Ac			
— Common Loon	Ac			
<b>Grebes</b>				
• Pied-billed Grebe	c	c	c	
• Eared Grebe	u	u	u	
• Western Grebe	o	o		
— Clark's Grebe	o	o		
<b>Pelicans</b>				
— American White Pelican	o			
<b>Cormorants</b>				
— Double-crested Cormorant	r			
<b>Bitterns, Herons, and Egrets</b>				
• American Bittern	u	u	u	
— Least Bittern	Ac			
— Great Blue Heron	u	c	u	o
— Great Egret	o	o		
• Snowy Egret	c	a	a	
— Little Blue Heron		r		
• Cattle Egret	u	u	u	
— Green Heron	r		r	
• Black-crowned Night-Heron	c	a	c	
<b>Ibises and Spoonbills</b>				
• White-faced Ibis	c	a	c	
<b>Swans, Geese, and Ducks</b>				
— Greater White-fronted Goose	r		r	
— Snow Goose	o		o	o
— Ross' Goose	r		r	r
• Canada Goose	a	a	a	a
— Tundra Swan	r		r	
— Wood Duck	r	r	r	r
• Gadwall	a	a	a	o
• American Wigeon	c	u	u	r
• Mallard	a	a	a	a
• Blue-winged Teal	c	c	c	
• Cinnamon Teal	a	a	a	r
• Northern Shoveler	c	c	u	r
• Northern Pintail	a	c	c	c
• Green-winged Teal	a	a	c	u
— Canvasback	u	r	r	
• Redhead	c	c	c	
— Ring-necked Duck	u	r	r	
— Greater Scaup	r		r	
— Lesser Scaup	c	r	r	

<b>Common Bird Name</b>	<b>Sp</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>W</b>
Bufflehead	u		o	r
Common Goldeneye	o		o	r
Hooded Merganser	Ac			
Common Merganser	c		c	o
Red-breasted Merganser	Ac			
• Ruddy Duck	c	c	c	
<b>Osprey, Kites, Hawks, and Eagles</b>				
Osprey	o	r	r	
Bald Eagle	u		u	c
• Northern Harrier	c	c	c	c
Sharp-shinned Hawk	o		o	o
Cooper's Hawk	o		o	o
Northern Goshawk	Ac			
• Swainson's Hawk	c	c	c	o
• Red-tailed Hawk	c	c	c	c
Ferruginous Hawk	r	r	r	r
Rough-legged Hawk	o		c	c
Golden Eagle	u	u	u	u
<b>Falcons and Caracaras</b>				
• American Kestrel	c	c	c	o
Merlin	r	r	o	o
Peregrine Falcon	o	o	o	r
Prairie Falcon	u	u	u	u
<b>Gallinaceous Birds</b>				
• Ring-necked Pheasant	c	c	c	c
<b>Rails</b>				
• Virginia Rail	u	u	u	r
• Sora	u	u	u	
Purple Gallinule	Ac			
Common Moorhen	Ac			
• American Coot	a	a	a	
<b>Cranes</b>				
Sandhill Crane	a	o	a	r
Whooping Crane	u		u	
<b>Plovers</b>				
Black-bellied Plover	r		r	
Semipalmated Plover	o			
• Killdeer	a	a	a	o
Mountain Plover	r	r		
<b>Stilts and Avocets</b>				
• Black-necked Stilt	u	u	o	
• American Avocet	a	a	c	

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Sandpipers and Phalaropes</b>				
__ Greater Yellowlegs	u	u	u	
__ Lesser Yellowlegs	u	u	u	
__ Solitary Sandpiper	r	r	r	
__ Willet	o		o	
• Spotted Sandpiper	c	c	u	
__ Whimbrel	Ac			
__ Long-billed Curlew	o	o	o	
__ Marbled Godwit	u		o	
__ Sanderling	o		o	
__ Western Sandpiper	u	u	u	
__ Least Sandpiper	u	u	u	
__ Baird's Sandpiper	u	u	u	
__ Pectoral Sandpiper	o	o	o	
__ Stilt Sandpiper	o		o	
__ Long-billed Dowitcher	u	o	u	
• Common Snipe	c	c	c	o
• Wilson's Phalarope	a	a	u	
<b>Skuas, Jaegers, Gulls, and Terns</b>				
__ Franklin's Gull	u	o		
__ Bonaparte's Gull	r	r		
__ Ring-billed Gull	u	r		
__ Caspian Tern	Ac			
__ Common Tern	Ac			
__ Forster's Tern	o			
__ Least Tern	Ac			
• Black Tern	u	u	o	
<b>Pigeons and Doves</b>				
• Rock Dove	c	c	c	c
__ Band-tailed Pigeon	u	u	u	
• Mourning Dove	c	c	c	r
<b>Barn Owls</b>				
__ Barn Owl		r		
<b>Typical Owls</b>				
• Great Horned Owl	c	c	c	c
• Burrowing Owl	o	o	o	
__ Long-eared Owl			r	r
• Short-eared Owl	u	u	u	o
<b>Nightjars</b>				
• Common Nighthawk	o	u	u	
__ Common Poorwill			r	
<b>Swifts</b>				
__ White-throated Swift	r			

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Hummingbirds</b>				
__ Black-chinned Hummingbird	o	r	o	
__ Broad-tailed Hummingbird	u	u	u	
__ Rufous Hummingbird		u	u	
<b>Kingfishers</b>				
__ •Belted Kingfisher	u	u	u	r
<b>Woodpeckers</b>				
__ Lewis' Woodpecker	r			
__ Red-headed Woodpecker	Ac			
__ Williamson's Sapsucker			r	
__ Red-naped Sapsucker	u	o	o	
__ Downy Woodpecker	u	u	u	u
__ Hairy Woodpecker	u		u	
__ •Northern Flicker	c	c	c	u
<b>Tyrant Flycatchers</b>				
__ Olive-sided Flycatcher			r	
__ •Western Wood-Pewee	u	u		
__ •Willow Flycatcher	o	o	r	
__ •Say's Phoebe	u	u		
__ Vermilion Flycatcher	Ac			
__ Cassin's Kingbird	r	r		
__ •Western Kingbird	u	u	u	
__ Eastern Kingbird		o	r	
<b>Shrikes</b>				
__ •Loggerhead Shrike	u	u	o	r
__ Northern Shrike			o	o
<b>Vireos</b>				
__ Warbling Vireo	o	o		
<b>Crows, Jays, and Magpies</b>				
__ •Black-billed Magpie	a	a	a	a
__ American Crow	u	o	u	u
__ Common Raven	c	c	c	c
<b>Larks</b>				
__ •Horned Lark	c	c	c	c
<b>Swallows</b>				
__ Purple Martin	Ac			
__ •Tree Swallow	c	c	u	
__ Violet-green Swallow	u	o	u	
__ •Northern Rough-winged Swallow	u	u	u	
__ Bank Swallow	u	u	u	
__ •Cliff Swallow	a	c	u	
__ •Barn Swallow	a	a	c	

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Titmice and Chickadees</b>				
__ Black-capped Chickadee	u	u	u	u
__ Mountain Chickadee	o	r	o	o
<b>Nuthatches</b>				
__ White-breasted Nuthatch	o	r	o	
<b>Wrens</b>				
__ Rock Wren	r		o	
• House Wren	u	u	u	
• Marsh Wren	a	a	c	o
<b>Kinglets</b>				
__ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	o		o	
<b>Thrushes</b>				
__ Western Bluebird	o			
__ Mountain Bluebird	c	r	u	
__ Swainson's Thrush	r			
• American Robin	c	c	c	o
<b>Mimic Thrushes</b>				
__ Northern Mockingbird	u	u	u	
• Sage Thrasher	c	c	u	r
<b>Starlings</b>				
• European Starling	a	a	a	a
<b>Wagtails and Pipits</b>				
__ American (Water) Pipit	o		o	
<b>Wood Warblers</b>				
__ Orange-crowned Warbler	o			
• Yellow Warbler	c	c	u	
__ Yellow-rumped Warbler	c	u	c	
__ Townsend's Warbler			r	
__ Black-and-white Warbler	Ac			
__ Prothonotary Warbler	Ac			
__ Northern Waterthrush	o			
__ MacGillivray's Warbler	o	r	o	
• Common Yellowthroat	c	c	u	
__ Hooded Warbler	Ac			
__ Wilson's Warbler	u		u	
<b>Tanagers</b>				
__ Western Tanager		o	o	



Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Sparrows and Towhees</b>				
___ Green-tailed Towhee	u		u	
___ Spotted Towhee	r		r	
___ Cassin's Sparrow	r			
___ American Tree Sparrow	o		c	c
___ Chipping Sparrow	u	u	u	
• Brewer's Sparrow	c	c	u	
• Vesper Sparrow	c	c	u	r
___ Lark Sparrow	o	o	o	
___ Black-throated Sparrow	r	r		
___ Sage Sparrow	r	r		
___ Lark Bunting		o		
• Savannah Sparrow	c	c	c	
___ Grasshopper Sparrow		r		
• Song Sparrow	c	c	c	c
___ Swamp Sparrow	Ac			
• White-crowned Sparrow	c	c	c	o
___ Dark-eyed Junco	o		c	c
___ Lapland Longspur	Ac			
<b>Cardinals, Grosbeaks, and Allies</b>				
___ Black-headed Grosbeak	o	o		
___ Blue Grosbeak	o	o		
___ Indigo Bunting	Ac			
<b>Blackbirds and Orioles</b>				
___ Bobolink	r		r	
• Red-winged Blackbird	a	a	a	a
• Western Meadowlark	a	a	c	u
• Yellow-headed Blackbird	a	a	c	r
• Brewer's Blackbird	c	c	c	o
___ Great-tailed Grackle	o	o		o
• Brown-headed Cowbird	c	c	c	
___ Bullock's Oriole	u	u	u	
<b>Finches</b>				
___ Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch				r
___ Cassin's Finch	o	o	o	o
• House Finch	c	c	c	c
___ Pine Siskin	o	o	o	o
___ Lesser Goldfinch	o	o		
• American Goldfinch	u	u	u	
<b>Old World Sparrows</b>				
• House Sparrow	a	a	c	c

## Mammals

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Cinereus or Masked Shrew (*Sorex cinereus*)

Dusky or Montane Shrew (*Sorex monticolus*)

Common Water Shrew (*Sorex palustris*)

Western Small-footed Myotis (*Myotis ciliolabrum*)

Long-eared Myotis (*Myotis evotis*)

Little Brown Myotis (*Myotis lucifugus*)

Yuma Myotis (*Myotis yumanensis*)

Hoary Bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*)

Silver-haired Bat (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*)

Big Brown Bat (*Eptesicius fuscus*)

Townsend's Big-eared Bat (*Plecotus townsendii*)

Brazilian Free-tailed Bat (*Tadarida brasiliensis*)

Desert Cottontail (*Sylvilagus audubonii*)

Mountain Cottontail (*Sylvilagus nuttallii*)

White-tailed Jackrabbit (*Lepus townsendii*)

Least Chipmunk (*Tamias minimus*)

Yellow-bellied Marmot (*Marmota flaviventris*)

Thirteen-lined Ground Squirrel

(*Spermophilus tridecemlineatus*)

Gunnison's Prairie-dog (*Cynomys gunnisoni*)

Botta's Pocket Gopher (*Thomomys bottae*)

Northern Pocket Gopher (*Thomomys talpoides*)

Plains Pocket Mouse (*Perognathus flavescens*)

Silky Pocket Mouse (*Perognathus flavus*)

Ord's Kangaroo Rat (*Dipodomys ordii*)

American Beaver (*Castor canadensis*)

Western Harvest Mouse (*Reithrodontomys megalotis*)

Deer Mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*)

Northern Grasshopper Mouse (*Onychomys leucogaster*)

House Mouse (*Mus musculus*)

Long-tailed Vole (*Microtus longicaudus*)

Montane Vole (*Microtus montanus*)

Meadow Vole (*Microtus pennsylvanicus*)

Western Jumping Mouse (*Zapus princeps*)

Common Porcupine (*Erethizon dorsatum*)

Coyote (*Canis latrans*)

Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)

Common Gray Fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*)

Black Bear (*Ursus americanus*)

Common Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*)

Ermine (*Mustela erminea*)

Long-tailed Weasel (*Mustela frenata*)

American Mink (*Mustela vison*)

American Badger (*Taxidea taxus*)

Western Spotted Skunk (*Spilogale gracilis*)

Striped Skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*)

Mountain Lion (*Puma concolor*)

## **Mammals** *(continued)*

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\_\_\_ Bobcat (*Lynx rufus*)

\_\_\_ Wapiti or Elk (*Cervus elaphus*)

\_\_\_ Mule or Black-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*)

\_\_\_ White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)

\_\_\_ Pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*)

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## **Amphibians**

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\_\_\_ Tiger Salamander (*Ambystoma tigrinum*)

\_\_\_ Plains Spadefoot (*Scaphiopus bombifrons*)

\_\_\_ Western Frog (*Bufo boreas*)

\_\_\_ Great Plains Toad (*Bufo cognatus*)

\_\_\_ Woodhouse's Toad (*Bufo woodhousii*)

\_\_\_ Striped Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris triseriata*)

\_\_\_ Bullfrog (*Rana catesbeiana*)

\_\_\_ Northern Leopard Frog (*Rana pipiens*)

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## **Reptiles**

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\_\_\_ Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*)

\_\_\_ Short-horned Lizard (*Phrynosoma douglassii*)

\_\_\_ Eastern Fence Lizard (*Sceloporus undulatus*)

\_\_\_ Many-lined Skink (*Eumeces multivigratus*)

\_\_\_ Milk Snake (*Lampropeltis triangulum*)

\_\_\_ Bullsnake (*Pituophis melnoleucus*)

\_\_\_ Western Terrestrial Garter Snake (*Thamnophis elegans*)

\_\_\_ Western Rattlesnake (*Crotalus viridis*)

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Date \_\_\_\_\_

Total \_\_\_\_\_

Observers \_\_\_\_\_

Weather \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

## **Accessibility Information**

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and activities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of physical or mental ability. Dial 7-1-1 for a free connection to the State transfer relay service for TTY and voice calls to and from the speech and hearing impaired. For more information or to address accessibility needs, please contact the Refuge staff at 719 / 589 4021 or the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240

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**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**  
<http://www.fws.gov>

**For Refuge Information**  
1 800 / 344 WILD

**September 2003**



CELEBRATING A  
**CENTURY**  
of CONSERVATION