Common name	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Hab.	N
Blackbirds and Orioles														
Red-winged Blackbird	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	MG	N
Tricolored Blackbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	MG	N
Western Meadowlark	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	G	N
Yellow-headed Blackbird	—	—	—	—	•	•	•		•	•		—	MGE	
Brewer's Blackbird	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	GUM	N
Great-tailed Grackle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	GMU	N
Brown-headed Cowbird	—	—	—	■	■	■	■	—	—	—	—	—	UGW	N
Hooded Oriole	•	•	—	■	■	■	■	■	■			•	U	N
Bullock's Oriole				■	■	■	■	■	—				RUW	N
Finches and Old-world Sparrow														
Purple Finch	■	■	■	■	—	—	—	—	—	■	■	■	WC	N
House Finch	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	UWGC	N
Red Crossbill	•	•				•	•	•	•	•	•	•	UW	
Pine Siskin	—	—	—	—	•	•	•		—	—	—	—	GW	N
Lesser Goldfinch	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	GRCU	N
Lawrence's Goldfinch	•	•		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	GCR	N
American Goldfinch	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	GRC	N
Evening Grosbeak	•	•	•	•						•	•		UW	
House Sparrow	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	U	N

This list follows the taxonomic order of The American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds, 7th edition, with changes through the 50th Supplement, August, 2009.

Bars indicate relative abundance of species during each month of the year. Column headed N indicates a nesting record in Breeding Bird Atlas of Contra Costa County.

Habitats: A = Aerial (associated with habitat listed); B = San Francisco or Suisun Bay; C = Chaparral, brushland; E = predominantly in East County; G = Grassland, savannah (grass with scattered oak); K = Cliffs and rocky areas; M = Marsh, mudflat and shores; O = Open water of rivers, lakes and reservoirs; R = Riparian; W = Woodlands; U = Urban, suburban and city parks.

Abundance:

- ■ Can usually be found on a field trip in the appropriate habitat and season. Easily seen or in large numbers.
- ▬ Occurs regularly in the appropriate season, but in fewer numbers.
- ━ Uncommon species, or secretive species that seldom reveal themselves.
- — Occasional, irregular, but a few seen almost every year.
- • Individual sightings of casual or accidental species.

Mount Diablo Audubon Society
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www.diabloaudubon.com/index.php

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Checklist of the
BIRDS OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
Mount Diablo Audubon Society

May 2010 ©

This is a revision of the Checklist published in September 1982, which was prepared by the Mount Diablo Audubon Society Bird Population Study Committee: Sally Steller, Norah Bain, Elizabeth Dickey, Lynn D. Farrar, Tom Lee and Jean Richmond. We are grateful for their pioneering data compilation and evaluation, without which this edition would not be possible. The current work was coordinated by Paul Schorr, Jimm Edgar, Denise Wight, Maury Stern, Hugh Harvey and Steve Glover; design and preparation for publishing by Ellis Myers. California Quail illustration by Harry Adamson; Feather by Dana Gardner.

Common name	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Hab.	N
Geese, Swans and Ducks														
Greater White-fronted Goose													OG	
Snow Goose													MO	
Ross's Goose													MO	
Cackling Goose													OG	
Canada Goose													OG	N
Tundra Swan													O	
Wood Duck													RMO	N
Gadwall													MO	N
Eurasian Wigeon													MO	
American Wigeon													MO	
Mallard													MO	N
Blue-winged Teal													MO	N
Cinnamon Teal													MO	N
Northern Shoveler													MO	N
Northern Pintail													MO	N
Green-winged Teal													MO	N
Canvasback													O	
Redhead													MO	
Ring-necked Duck													OM	
Greater Scaup													OB	
Lesser Scaup													O	
Surf Scoter													OB	
White-winged Scoter													O	
Black Scoter													OB	
Bufflehead													O	
Common Goldeneye													O	
Barrow's Goldeneye													O	
Hooded Merganser													O	
Common Merganser													O	
Red-breasted Merganser													OB	
Ruddy Duck													OM	N
Pheasants, Turkeys and Quail														
Ring-necked Pheasant													G	N
Wild Turkey													GWU	N
California Quail													CGRW	N
Loons and Grebes														
Red-throated Loon													OB	
Pacific Loon													O	
Common Loon													OB	
Pied-billed Grebe													OM	N
Horned Grebe													O	
Red-necked Grebe													O	
Eared Grebe													O	
Western Grebe													O	N
Clark's Grebe													O	N
Pelicans														
American White Pelican													AO	
Brown Pelican													AOB	

Common name	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Hab.	N
Cormorants														
Brandt's Cormorant													AOB	
Double-crested Cormorant													O	N
Pelagic Cormorant													AOB	N
Bitterns, Herons and Allies														
American Bittern													M	N
Great Blue Heron													MO	N
Great Egret													M	N
Snowy Egret													MR	N
Cattle Egret													G	
Green Heron													RM	N
Black-crowned Night-Heron													M	N
Vulture														
Turkey Vulture													A	N
Hawks, Kites, Eagles and Falcons														
Osprey													AO	N
White-tailed Kite													AGM	N
Bald Eagle													AR	N
Northern Harrier													AGM	N
Sharp-shinned Hawk													AWRU	N
Cooper's Hawk													AWRU	N
Red-shouldered Hawk													RW	N
Swainson's Hawk													AE	N
Red-tailed Hawk													AGW	N
Ferruginous Hawk													AG	
Rough-legged Hawk													AGM	
Golden Eagle													AWG	N
American Kestrel													AGR	N
Merlin													AMW	
Peregrine Falcon													A	N
Prairie Falcon													A	N
Rails and Crane														
Black Rail													M	N
Clapper Rail													M	N
Virginia Rail													M	N
Sora													M	
Common Moorhen													M	N
American Coot													OM	N
Sandhill Crane													GME	
Plovers and Avocets														
Black-bellied Plover													MG	
Semipalmated Plover													M	
Killdeer													GM	N
Black Oystercatcher													M	N
Black-necked Stilt													M	N
American Avocet													M	N
Sandpipers and Phalaropes														
Greater Yellowlegs													M	
Lesser Yellowlegs													M	

Common name	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Hab.	N
Sandpipers and Phalaropes *(Continued)*														
Solitary Sandpiper				•	•		•	•					M	
Spotted Sandpiper	—	—	—	—	—	•	—	—	—	—	—	—	M	N
Willet	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	MB	
Whimbrel	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	GM	
Long-billed Curlew	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	GM	
Marbled Godwit	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	MB	
Ruddy Turnstone	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	MB	
Black Turnstone	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	MB	
Surfbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	MB	
Red Knot	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	OM	
Sanderling	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	M	
Western Sandpiper	—	—	—	—	—	•	—	—	—	—	—	—	M	
Least Sandpiper	—	—	—	—	—	•	—	—	—	—	—	—	M	
Baird's Sandpiper								•	•				MB	
Pectoral Sandpiper								•	•	•			M	
Dunlin	—	—	—	—						—	—	—	M	
Short-billed Dowitcher	—	—	—	—			—	—	—	—	—	—	M	
Long-billed Dowitcher	—	—	—	—			—	—	—	—	—	—	M	
Wilson's Snipe	—	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	MG	
Wilson's Phalarope				—	—	—	—	—	—				OM	
Red-necked Phalarope					—	—	—	—	—		•		OM	
Red Phalarope	•				•					•	•	•	OM	
Gulls and Terns														
Bonaparte's Gull	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	—	—	—	—	—	AOM	
Heermann's Gull							—	—	—	—			AOMB	
Mew Gull	—	—	—	—							—	—	AMO	
Ring-billed Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	AUMO	
Western Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	AMOB	N
California Gull	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	AUM	N
Herring Gull	—	—	—	—			•			—	—	—	AMO	
Thayer's Gull	—	—	—	—							—	—	AMO	
Glaucous-winged Gull	—	—	—	—	—			—	—	—	—	—	AMO	
Glaucous Gull	•	•		•							•	•	AMO	
Least Tern				—	—	—	—	—	—				AMO	N
Caspian Tern			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	AO	N
Black Tern					—				—	•			AMO	
Forster's Tern	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	AOM	
Black Skimmer				—	—	—	—	—	—	—			AMOB	N
Pigeons and Doves														
Rock Pigeon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	U	N
Band-tailed Pigeon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	WU	N
Eurasian Collared-Dove	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	GU	N
Mourning Dove	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	GU	N
Owls and Nighthawks														
Barn Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	UG	N
Western Screech Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	WU	N
Great Horned Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	WUR	N
Northern Pygmy-Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	W	N

Common name	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Hab.	N
Owls and Nighthawks														
Burrowing Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	G	N
Long-eared Owl	•		•			•						•	WG	N
Short-eared Owl	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	—	—	—	—	MG	N
Northern Saw-whet Owl	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	W	N
Lesser Nighthawk				—	—	—	—	—	—				A	N
Common Poorwill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	WC	N
Swifts														
Black Swift				•	•	•				•			A	
Vaux's Swift				—					—	—			A	
White-throated Swift	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	AK	N
Hummingbirds														
Black-chinned Hummingbird				—	—	—	—	—	—				UR	N
Anna's Hummingbird	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	UC	N
Costa's Hummingbird	—		•	—	—	—						•	U	
Calliope Hummingbird				—	—								UC	
Rufous Hummingbird				—	—	—	—	—	—	—			UC	
Allen's Hummingbird	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—				UC	N
Kingfisher														
Belted Kingfisher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	R	N
Woodpeckers														
Lewis's Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—					—	—	—	W	
Acorn Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	WGU	N
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	•	•	•									•	WRU	
Red-naped Sapsucker	•	•	•									•	W	
Red-breasted Sapsucker	—	—	—	—						—	—	—	W	
Nuttall's Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	WGU	N
Downy Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	RWU	N
Hairy Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	W	N
Northern Flicker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	WGU	N
Pileated Woodpecker	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	W	N
Flycatchers														
Olive-sided Flycatcher				—	—	—	—	—	—	—			W	N
Western Wood-Pewee					—	—	—	—	—	—			W	N
Willow Flycatcher						—	—			—			R	
Hammond's Flycatcher					—	—							W	
Gray Flycatcher					—	—							WR	
Dusky Flycatcher					—	—				•			W	
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	•			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	•	RW	N
Black Phoebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	RM	N
Say's Phoebe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	G	N
Ash-throated Flycatcher					—	—	—	—	—	—			WCR	N
Western Kingbird				—	—	—	—	—	—				G	N
Shrikes														
Loggerhead Shrike	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	G	N
Vireos														
Cassin's Vireo				—	—	—	—	—	—	—			W	N
Hutton's Vireo	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	W	N
Warbling Vireo				—	—	—	—	—	—	—			WR	N

Common name	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Hab.	N
Corvids														
Steller's Jay	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	W	N
Western Scrub-Jay	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	CWU	N
Yellow-billed Magpie	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	GUE	N
American Crow	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	GUW	N
Common Raven	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	AGU	N
Lark and Swallows														
Horned Lark	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	G	N
Purple Martin				•	•	•	•						A	
Tree Swallow	—	—	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	ARM	N
Violet-green Swallow			▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	—				AWK	N
Northern Rough-winged			▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬					AGM	N
Bank Swallow				•	•	•	•	•					AGM	
Cliff Swallow			—	—	—	—	—	—	—				AUK	N
Barn Swallow	•	•	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		•	•	AURM	N
Chickadees, Titmice, and Bushtit														
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	WU	N
Oak Titmouse	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	WU	N
Bushtit	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	WRC	N
Nuthatches and Creeper														
Red-breasted Nuthatch	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	W	N
White-breasted Nuthatch	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	WR	N
Pygmy Nuthatch	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	W	N
Brown Creeper	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	W	N
Wrens														
Rock Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	K	N
Canyon Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	K	N
Bewick's Wren	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	CRUW	N
House Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	WR	N
Winter Wren	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	R	N
Marsh Wren	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	M	N
Kinglets and Gnatcatchers														
Golden-crowned Kinglet	—	—	—	—						—	—	—	WR	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	▬	▬	▬	—						▬	▬	▬	WR	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	•	•	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	•	C	N
Thrushes														
Western Bluebird	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	G	N
Mountain Bluebird	—	—	—								—	—	GWE	
Townsend's Solitaire	—	—	—	—						—	—	—	W	
Swainson's Thrush				—	—	—	—	—	—				RW	N
Hermit Thrush	▬	▬	▬	▬	—	—	—	—		▬	▬	▬	WR	N
American Robin	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	U	N
Varied Thrush	▬	▬	▬	—						▬	▬	▬	WR	
Wrentit														
Wrentit	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	C	N
Mockingbirds and Thrashers														
Northern Mockingbird	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	U	N
Sage Thrasher	•	•	•	•						•	•	•	C	
California Thrasher	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	C	N

Common name	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Hab.	N
Starling, Pipit, Waxwing, Phainopepla														
European Starling	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	UWG	N
American Pipit	▬	▬	▬	—						—	—	▬	GM	
Cedar Waxwing	▬	▬	▬	▬	—	—	•	•	—	—	—	▬	WU	N
Phainopepla	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	RW	N
Warblers and Tanagers														
Orange-crowned Warbler	—	—	—	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	—	—	RW	N
Nashville Warbler					—	—			—	—			W	
Yellow Warbler	•	•			—	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	R	N
Yellow-rumped Warbler	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬					▬	▬	▬	RWGM	
Black-throated Gray Warbler	•	•		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	W	N
Townsend's Warbler	—	—	—	—	▬				•	▬	▬	▬	WR	
Hermit Warbler	•				▬				—	—	•	•	W	
Black-and-white Warbler					•					•	•		W	
American Redstart						•			•	•	•		RW	
MacGillivray's Warbler				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	•		RW	N
Common Yellowthroat	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	M	N
Wilson's Warbler	•	•		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	RWC	N
Yellow-breasted Chat					—	—	—	—	—				RE	N
Summer Tanager	•	•	•		•				•	•		•	W	
Western Tanager	•	•		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	•	•	W	N
Towhees and Sparrows														
Green-tailed Towhee	•				•					•		•	C	
Spotted Towhee	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	CRU	N
California Towhee	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	CRU	N
Rufous-crowned Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	C	N
Chipping Sparrow				—	—	—	—	—	—			•	WG	N
Brewer's Sparrow					•					•		•	G	
Black-chinned Sparrow				—	—	—							C	N
Vesper Sparrow	•	•									•	•	G	
Lark Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	G	N
Sage Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	C	N
Savannah Sparrow	▬	▬	▬	▬	—	—	—	—	—	▬	▬	▬	GM	N
Grasshopper Sparrow		•		—	—	—	—	—				•	G	N
Fox Sparrow	▬	▬	▬	▬						▬	▬	▬	WC	
Song Sparrow	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	RM	N
Lincoln's Sparrow	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬					▬	▬	▬	MR	
White-throated Sparrow	—	—	—	—	—					—	—	—	UR	
Harris's Sparrow	•	•	•	•							•	•	•	GW
White-crowned Sparrow	▬	▬	▬	▬	—	—	—	—	—	▬	▬	▬	GCRU	N
Golden-crowned Sparrow	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬					▬	▬	▬	CGRU	
Dark-eyed Junco	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	GWU	N
Grosbeaks														
Rose-breasted Grosbeak					•	•	•	•	•	•		•	W	
Black-headed Grosbeak				▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	▬	—			WR	N
Blue Grosbeak				—	—	—	—	—	—				RE	N
Buntings														
Lazuli Bunting	•			▬	▬	▬	—	—	—				CG	N
Indigo Bunting	•	•		•	•	•	•		•				CG	N