SIGNATURE BIRDS OF ARIZONA’S SKY ISLANDS

These species are top attractions to birders in our area

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Legend:
*** Within the U.S., species generally limited in range to the Sky Islands of SE Arizona and for some, adjacent SW New Mexico. A few of these species are rare or local in West Texas.
** Within the U.S. these species may have a wider range than Signature designated species but still share a strong affinity with the Sky Islands or adjacent riparian or scrub habitats. Many are at the northern edge of their range.
+ TX These species are also regular breeders in the Sky Islands of West Texas.

Twenty-five SIGNATURE SPECIES:

Main Occurrence is in Pine Oak Woodland & Sycamore Canyons
1) Whiskered Screech-Owl
2) Broad-billed Hummingbird
3) White-eared Hummingbird
4) Berylline Hummingbird
5) Magnificent Hummingbird
6) Elegant Trogon
7) Arizona Woodpecker
8) Greater Pewee
9) Buff-breasted Flycatcher
10) Dusky-capped Flycatcher
11) Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher
12) Mexican Jay
13) Mexican Chickadee
14) Bridled Titmouse
15) Olive Warbler
16) Red-faced Warbler
17) Yellow-eyed Junco

Main Occurrence is in Drier and Lower Elevation Habitats
18) Buff-collared Nightjar
19) Violet-crowned Hummingbird
20) Thick-billed Kingbird
21) Tropical Kingbird
22) Rose-throated Becard
23) Black-capped Gnatcatcher
24) Five-striped Sparrow
25) Rufous-winged Sparrow

*** LOCAL in SEAZ, scrub
*** Scrub, riparian
*** Sycamore riparian & scrub
** Riparian, often by ponds
** Sycamore Riparian
*** LOCAL IN SEAZ, scrub
*** LOCAL in SEAZ, scrub
*** Scrub, grasslands
A Dozen Additional AFFINITY SPECIES

These species also attract birders to our region, but are not as limited within the US to SE Arizona & SW New Mexico. They are generally as common in Madrean Oak Woodland of the Sky Islands of West Texas and their associated habitats: riparian, grassland or scrub.

Pine Oak Woodland
1) Montezuma Quail ** +TX
2) Blue-throated Hummingbird ** +TX
3) Painted Redstart ** +TX

Grasslands, Scrub, & Associated Riparian & Aquatic Habitats
4) Black-bellied Whistling Duck ** + TX, aquatic
5) Common Black-Hawk ** + TX, riparian
6) Gray Hawk ** + TX, riparian
7) Lucifer Hummingbird ** + TX, scrub
8) Northern Beardless Tyranntulet ** + So. TX, scrub
9) Rose-throated Becard ** + TX, riparian
10) Baird’s Sparrow ** winter only, grasslands
11) Botteri’s Sparrow ** + TX, scrub, grasslands
12) Varied Bunting ** + TX, scrub

HIGHLY UNEXPECTED, BUT POSSIBLE:
1) Eared (Trogon) Quetzal VERY RARE
2) Thick-billed Parrot VERY RARE
3) Crescent-chested Warbler VERY RARE
4) Blue Mockingbird VERY RARE
5) Yellow Grosbeak VERY RARE

WATCH FOR THESE widely-recognized subspecies:
(Mexican) Mallard
(Apache) Goshawk
(Mexican) Whip-poor-will
(Mexican) Brown Creeper
(Brown-throated) House Wren

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