

Frequent Flyers of the Presidio

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Presidio of San Francisco
Golden Gate National Recreation Area

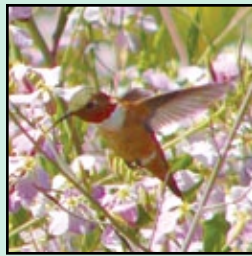


The Presidio of San Francisco has one of the greatest diversity of birds of any urban park in the world, with over 200 species identified here. A number of factors create this diversity, including the exceptionally wide variety of habitats found here—from open water and protected bay, to rocky and sandy shoreline, to tidal marshes, coastal scrub, grasslands, mixed woodlands and ornamental areas. Because the Presidio lies on a major bird migratory route, the Pacific flyway, it also hosts a variety of transient birds that stop over to rest and feed on their journey to and from places as far away as South America and the Canadian arctic. This combination of factors makes the Presidio a birder's paradise with many different species to see throughout the year.



Red-shouldered Hawk (juvenile)

Woodland & scrub
Common year-round



Allen's Hummingbird

Woodland & scrub
Common spring & summer



Chestnut-backed Chickadee

Woodland
Common year-round



Black Phoebe

All terrestrial habitats
Common year-round



Hermit Thrush

Oak & scrub
Fairly common fall–spring



Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Woodland
Common fall & winter



Townsend's Warbler

Oak & Willow
Fairly common fall–spring



California Towhee

Oak & scrub
Fairly common year-round



American Goldfinch

Willow, scrub, grassland
Fairly common year-round

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Habitats

- Native Oak & Willow
- Dune, Scrub & Grasslands
- Planted Forest & Ornamental
- Water and Wetland
- Trail

Changing Habitats

Bird diversity at the Presidio has shifted over the years as its habitats have changed. When Europeans arrived in the 1770s, the area was mostly dune scrub with few trees. The army planted the Presidio's forest in the 1890s and a much greater variety of forest dwelling birds moved in. During the same period, the marshes along the bay were filled throughout the Bay Area, leading to a decline in shorebirds and waterfowl. The recreated tidal lagoon and marsh at Crissy Field has attracted those birds back to the Presidio. Egrets, Herons, Kingfishers and other water birds are commonplace once again.

(rev. 9/11)



Barn Swallow

All terrestrial habitats
Common spring-fall



Scrub Jay

Scrub and willow
Common year-round



Northern Mockingbird

Scrub
Common year-round



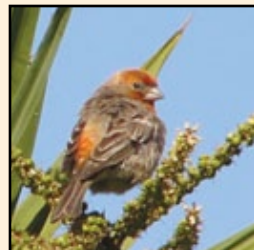
White-crowned Sparrow

Oak, willow, scrub, grassland
Common year-round



Song Sparrow

Low dense scrub and willows
Fairly common year-round



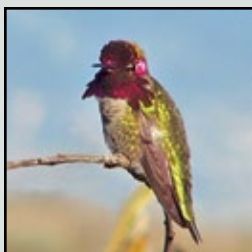
House Finch

All terrestrial habitats
Common year-round



Red-tailed Hawk

All terrestrial habitats
Common year-round



Anna's Hummingbird

All terrestrial habitats
Common year-round



Dark-eyed Junco

Willow, oak, scrub, grasslands
Common year-round



Common Raven

All terrestrial habitats
Common year-round



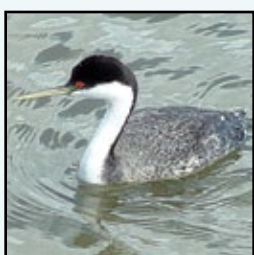
Hooded Oriole

Willow, palms, landscaped areas
Fairly common spring-summer



American Robin

All terrestrial habitats
Common year-round



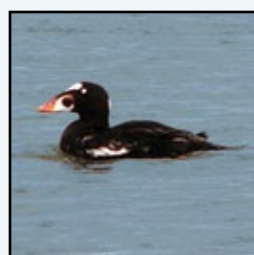
Western Grebe

Open salt water
Common fall-spring



Double-crested Cormorant

Salt & fresh water
Fairly common year-round



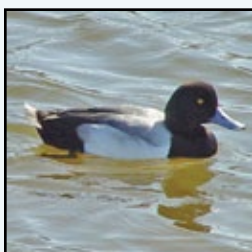
Surf Scoter

Open salt water
Common fall-spring



Mallard

Tidal & fresh water
Common year-round



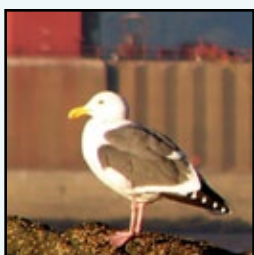
Greater Scaup

Tidal & fresh water
Fairly common fall-winter



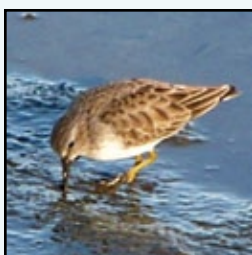
Caspian Tern

Salt, tidal & fresh water
Fairly common spring-fall



Western Gull

Salt & fresh water
Common year-round



Least Sandpiper

Salt & tidal water
Fairly common fall-spring



Willet

Salt & tidal water
Common fall-spring



Killdeer

Fresh water, grasslands
Fairly common year-round



Great Blue Heron

Tidal & fresh water
Fairly common year-round



Great Egret

Tidal & fresh water
Fairly common year-round



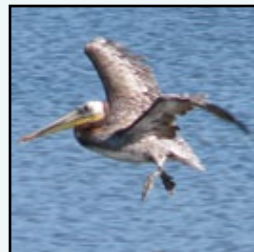
Snowy Egret

Tidal & fresh water
Fairly common spring-fall



Black-crowned Night Heron (juvenile)

Tidal & fresh water
Fairly common year-round



Brown Pelican

Open salt water
Common spring-fall