

# 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



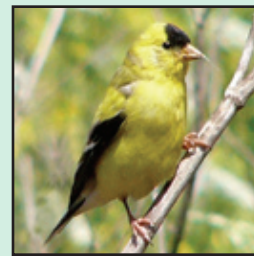
### Townsend's Warbler

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 recent creation of the tidal lagoon and marsh at Crissy Field is attracting those birds back to the Presidio. Egrets, Herons, Kingfishers and other water birds are commonplace once again.



**Barn Swallow**

All terrestrial habitats  
Common  
spring-fall



**Scrub Jay**

Scrub and willow  
Common  
year-round



**Northern Mockingbird**

Scrub  
Common  
year-round



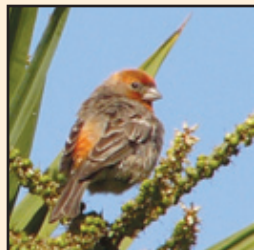
**White-crowned Sparrow**

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



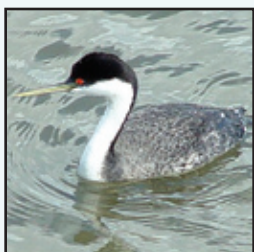
**Hooded Oriole**

Willow, palms, landscaped areas  
Fairly common  
spring-summer



**American Robin**

All terrestrial habitats  
Common  
year-round



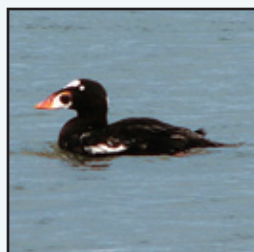
**Western Grebe**

Open salt water  
Common  
fall-spring



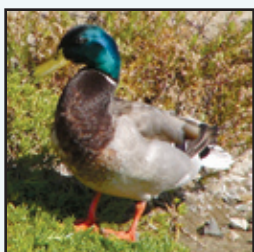
**Double-crested Cormorant**

Salt & fresh water  
Fairly common  
year-round



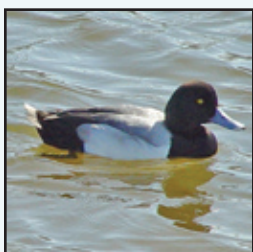
**Surf Scoter**

Open salt water  
Common  
fall -spring



**Mallard**

Tidal & fresh water  
Common  
year-round



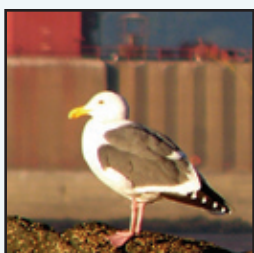
**Greater Scaup**

Tidal & fresh water  
Fairly common  
fall-winter



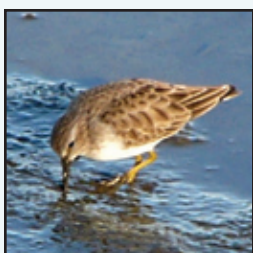
**Caspian Tern**

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



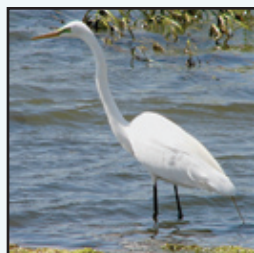
**Killdeer**

Fresh water, grasslands  
Fairly common  
year-round



**Great Blue Heron**

Tidal & fresh water  
Fairly common  
year-round



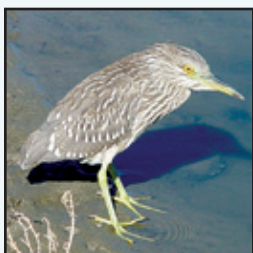
**Great Egret**

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