

# Birds of Hamilton Pool Preserve

## A Field Checklist

### INTRODUCTION

Hamilton Pool Preserve is located in the far western edge of Travis County, at the confluence of the Pedernales River and Hamilton Creek. This unique natural area includes dry uplands of Live Oak and Ashe Juniper, steep fern-covered cliffs and a lush, densely vegetated canyon. The two-mile trail system offers birders access to these various ecosystems.

The present list contains 180 species. Common year-round species include Western Scrub-Jays, Belted Kingfishers, Tufted Titmice, Ladder-backed Woodpeckers, and Canyon Wrens. Cliff Swallows, Red-eyed Vireos, Painted Buntings, Spotted Towhees and Scissor-tailed Flycatchers are a few of the many migrant species. Out-of-state birders would take special interest in the Golden-fronted Woodpecker, Vermilion Flycatcher and the Green Kingfisher. From the end of March through June the endangered Golden-cheeked Warbler may be observed along the Canyon Trail.

\* The use of playback tapes of bird songs is not allowed. Please help us protect the natural bird communities in the preserve by not disrupting normal bird activity patterns. All visitors are required to stay on trail at all times.

This checklist was compiled from staff records, volunteer sightings and the Westcave Preserve bird list. *Please help us update our checklist by providing sighting data to preserve staff.*

#### LEGEND

A – Abundant  
 C – Common  
 U – Uncommon  
 R – Rare  
 V – Very rare or unconfirmed

SP – Spring (Mar. – May)  
 SU – Summer (June – Aug.)  
 FA – Fall (Sept. – Nov.)  
 WI – Winter (Dec. – Feb.)

\* - Seen adjacent to preserve  
 ^ - Only seen flying over the preserve  
 + Nests or has nested in the area

Common and scientific names and sequence follow the Checklist of North American Birds, 7<sup>th</sup> ed. (A.O.U. 1998) through the 44<sup>th</sup> supplement.

	SP	SU	FA	WI
<b>Grebes</b>				
<b>PODICIPEDIDAE</b>				
Eared Grebe	V			
<b>Pelicans</b>				
<b>PELECANIDAE</b>				
American White Pelican ^	V			
<b>Cormorants</b>				
<b>PHALACROCORACIDAE</b>				
Double-crested Cormorant	U	R	U	U
<b>Hérons, Egrets</b>				
<b>ARDEIDAE</b>				
Great Blue Heron	C	C	C	C
Little Blue Heron	R			
Green Heron	U	U	U	
Snowy Egret	R			
Cattle Egret	V			
<b>Ducks, Geese</b>				
<b>ANATIDAE</b>				
Canadian Goose ^				R
Snow Goose ^			V	
Wood Duck	U	U	U	U
Mallard				R
Gadwall				R
Green-winged Teal	U		U	
Northern Pintail	V			
Blue-winged Teal	U		U	
Redhead				R
Ring-necked Duck				R
Lesser Scaup				R
<b>Vultures</b>				
<b>CATHARTIDAE</b>				
Black Vulture +	C	C	C	C
Turkey Vulture +	A	A	A	A
<b>Hawks, Kites, Ospreys</b>				
<b>ACCIPITRIDAE</b>				
Osprey	C		C	C
White Tailed Kite	R			
Mississippi Kite		R	R	
Bald Eagle	R			R
Northern Harrier			C	R
Sharp-shinned Hawk +			R	R
Cooper's Hawk	R		R	R
Zone-tailed Hawk	V			
Red-shoulded Hawk +	C	R	R	R
Broad-winged Hawk	R			R
Swainson's Hawk	R			
Red-tailed Hawk +	C	R	C	C
<b>Kestrels, Caracara</b>				
<b>FALCONIDAE</b>				
Crested Caracars				R
American Kestrel	R		C	C
<b>Turkeys, Quail</b>				
<b>PHASIANIDAE</b>				
Wild Turkey +	C	C	U	U
Northern Bobwhite +	C	C	U	U

	SP	SU	FA	WI
<b>Cranes</b>				
<b>GRUIDAE</b>				
Sandhill Crane ^	U		U	U
Whooping Crane ^				V
<b>Plovers</b>				
<b>CHARADRIIDAE</b>				
Killdeer	U	R	R	R
<b>Sandpipers, Woodcocks</b>				
<b>SCOLOPACIDAE</b>				
Greater Yellowlegs	R			
Spotted Sandpiper	C	U	U	R
Long-billed Curlew	R			
American Woodcock		V		R
<b>Gulls</b>				
<b>LARIIDAE</b>				
Franklin's Gull	U			
<b>Doves</b>				
<b>COLUMBIDAE</b>				
White-winged Dove	R			
Mourning Dove +	A	A	A	A
Common Ground Dove	R			
Inca Dove +	U		U	
<b>Roadrunners, Cuckoos</b>				
<b>CUCULIDAE</b>				
Yellow-billed Cuckoo +	C	C		
Black-billed Cuckoo	R			
Greater Roadrunner +	C	C	C	U
<b>Owls</b>				
<b>STRIGIDAE</b>				
Eastern Screech Owl +	U	U	U	U
Great Horned Owl	U	R		U
Barred Owl	C	U	C	
<b>Nightjars</b>				
<b>CAPRIMULGIDAE</b>				
Common Nighthawk	R	U	U	
Common Poorwill *	U	U	U	R
Chuck-will's-widow	V			
Whip-poor-will			V	
<b>Swifts</b>				
<b>APODIDAE</b>				
Chimney Swift	U	U	U	
<b>Hummingbirds</b>				
<b>TROCHILIDAE</b>				
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	U		U	
Black-chinned Hummingbird +	A	C	C	
<b>Kingfishers</b>				
<b>ALCEDINIDAE</b>				
Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C	C
Green Kingfisher	R			R
<b>Woodpeckers</b>				
<b>PICIDAE</b>				
Golden-fronted Woodpecker	R	R	R	R
Red-bellied Woodpecker	R		R	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	R		U	R
Ladder-backed Woodpecker +	C	C	C	C
Downy Woodpecker	R	R	R	R
Hairy Woodpecker	R			
Northern Flicker			U	R

	SP	SU	FA	WI
<b>Flycatchers, Phoebes</b>				
<b>TYRANNIDAE</b>				
Olive-sided Flycatcher *	C		C	
Eastern Wood-pewee	U			
Acadian Flycatcher +	C	C	U	
Least Flycatcher	R			
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		R		
Empidonax species	U	R	U	
Eastern Phoebe +	A	C	C	C
Vermillion Flycatcher	R		R	
Ash-throated Flycatcher +	C	C	R	
Great Crested Flycatcher +	C	C	R	
Western Kingbird	R	R		
Eastern Kingbird	U		U	
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	C	U	U	
<b>Shrikes</b>				
<b>LANIIDAE</b>				
Loggerhead Shrike	U		C	U
<b>Vireos</b>				
<b>VIREONIDAE</b>				
White-eyed Vireo +	C	C	U	
Yellow-throated Vireo +	C	C	R	
Bell's Vireo	R			
Blue-headed Vireo +	R		R	
Red-eyed Vireo +	C	U		
Warbling Vireo			R	
<b>Swallows, Martins</b>				
<b>HIRUNDINIDAE</b>				
Purple Martin	R	R		
Cliff Swallow +	A	A		
Barn Swallow			R	
N. Rough-winged Swallow	R			
<b>Jays, Crows, Ravens</b>				
<b>CORVIDAE</b>				
Blue Jay		R	U	
Western Scrub-Jay +	A	A	A	A
American Crow	R		R	R
Common Raven +	C	R	C	U
<b>Titmice, Chickadees</b>				
<b>PARIDAE</b>				
Carolina Chickadee +	A	A	A	A
Black-crested Titmouse +	A	A	A	A
<b>Bushtits</b>				
<b>AEGITHALIDAE</b>				
Bushtits	R	R		
<b>Nuthatches</b>				
<b>SITTIDAE</b>				
Red-breasted Nuthatch	R		R	R

	SP	SU	FA	WI
<b>Brown Creepers CERTHIIDAE</b>				
Brown Creeper				R
<b>Wren TROGLODYTIDAE</b>				
Rock Wren	R			
Canyon Wren	A	A	A	A
Carolina Wren	A	C	C	C
Bewick's Wren	A	C	C	C
House Wren	R		R	
Winter Wren	R		R	U
Sedge Wren			R	
<b>Kinglets REGULIDAE</b>				
Golden-crowned Kinglet	U		U	U
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C	C
<b>Gnatcatchers SYLVIIDAE</b>				
Blue-gray Gnatcatchers +	A	C	U	
<b>Thrushes TURDIDAE</b>				
American Robin	R		C	A
Eastern Bluebird	U		U	U
Swainson's Thrush	R			
Hermit Thrush	U		U	U
<b>Mockingbirds, Thrashers MIMIDAE</b>				
Gray Catbird	R			
Northern Mockingbird +	A	A	A	A
Brown Thrasher		R		
<b>Waxwings BOMBYCILLIDAE</b>				
Cedar Waxwing	A		U	A
<b>Warbler PARULIDAE</b>				
Prothonotary Warbler	R			
Tennessee Warbler	R			
Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U	R
Nashville Warbler	C		C	
Northern Parula +	C			
Chestnut-sided Warbler	R			
Magnolia Warbler	R			
Yellow-rumped Warbler	U			C
Black-and-White Warbler	U	R	R	
Black-throated Gray Warbler			R	
Black-throated Green Warbler	U		R	
Golden-cheeked Warbler +	C	C		
Yellow Warbler	U	U	U	
Mourning Warbler	R		R	
Canada Warbler	R			
Wilson's Warbler	U			
Louisiana Waterthrush +	U	U		
Northern Waterthrush	U			
Common Yellowthroat	U		R	
Yellow Breasted Chat	R		U	
American Redstart	R		R	

	SP	SU	FA	WI
<b>Tanagers THRAUPIDAE</b>				
Summer Tanager +	C	C	C	
<b>Cardinals CARDINALIDAE</b>				
Northern Cardinal +	A	A	A	A
Blue Grosbeak +	U	U	R	
Indigo Bunting +	U	U		
Painted Bunting +	C	C	U	
Dickcissel +	R			
<b>Emberizids EMBERIZIDAE</b>				
Canyon Towhee	R	R	U	R
Eastern Towhee	R			
Spotted Towhee	U		C	C
Rufous-crowned Sparrow +	C	C	C	C
Chipping Sparrow	C		C	C
Field Sparrow +	A	A	C	C
Vesper Sparrow			R	U
Lark Sparrow +	C	C	U	R
Grasshopper Sparrow	U			
Savannah Sparrow			U	U
Le Conte's Sparrow	R			
Song Sparrow	U		R	U
Lincoln's Sparrow	C		R	C
White-throated Sparrow	U		U	U
White-crowned Sparrow	U		C	U
Harris' Sparrow	U			U
Dark-eyed Junco	U		U	C
<b>Blackbirds ICTERIDAE</b>				
meadowlark, species	U	U	U	U
Red-winged Blackbird	R			
Common Grackle	C			
Great-tailed Grackle	U			
Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	U	U
Bronzed Cowbird	R			
Orchard Oriole *	U	R	U	
Bullock's Oriole	R		U	
<b>Finches FRINGILLIDAE</b>				
Purple Finch				R
House Finch +	C	C	C	C
Pine Siskin	U		C	U
Lesser Goldfinch +	C	U	U	U
American Goldfinch	C		U	C
<b>Old World Sparrow PASSERIDAE</b>				
House Sparrow * +	R	R	R	R

**Citation**

Fushille, Paul and Michael Brewster, compilers. 2003. Birds of Hamilton Pool Preserve: a Field Checklist. TNR/ Travis County