

Buenos Aires

National Wildlife Refuge

Watchable Wildlife List



In southeastern Arizona, the mix of deserts, mountains, grasslands, elevation changes, and the northern limits of many subtropical species make this geographic area one of the most biologically rich regions of the world. Some species are here because the core of their distribution is in the nearby Sonoran Desert, the Sierra Madre mountain range to the south, or the Rocky Mountains to the north. A number of birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians are here at the northern edge of their range and are found nowhere else in the U.S. Some exist only in isolated sites within this region.

Located in southern Arizona, Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge was established 1985 for the reintroduction of masked bobwhite quail and for restoration of natural landscapes and their native wildlife. The refuge features several distinct groups of interdependent plants and animals, or biotic communities. These are semi-desert grassland, the cottonwood/willow riparian area, and Brown Canyon's sycamore/walnut community with adjacent evergreen oak woodland. This rich combination of grassland, wetland, and sycamore/oak canyon supports a wide array of wildlife.

Listed here are mammals, reptiles, and amphibians recorded on the refuge and where they may be found. Birds are on a separate checklist. The refuge has not been thoroughly studied, and other species and locations may be present.

- AC Arivaca Cienega or Creek (wetland & riparian)
- GR Grasslands (including ponds)
- BC Brown Canyon
- (SC) Species of special concern; status may be imperiled

MAMMALS

Shrews

Desert Shrew

Notiosorex crawfordi

AC GR BC

AC GR BC



Bats

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----|----|
| Mexican Long-tongued Bat (SC) | GR | BC |
| <i>Choeronycteris mexicana</i> | | |
| Lesser Long-nosed Bat (endangered) | | BC |
| <i>Leptonycteris curusoae</i> | | |
| Cave Myotis (SC) | GR | BC |
| <i>Myotis velifer</i> | | |
| Fringed Myotis (SC) | GR | BC |
| <i>Myotis thysanodes</i> | | |
| California Myotis | GR | BC |
| <i>Myotis californicus</i> | | |
| Western Pipistrelle | GR | BC |
| <i>Pipistrellus hesperus</i> | | |
| Big Brown Bat | GR | BC |
| <i>Eptesicus fuscus</i> | | |
| Western Red Bat | GR | |
| <i>Lasiurus blossevillii</i> | | |
| Western Yellow Bat | GR | |
| <i>Lasiurus xanthinus</i> | | |
| Pallid Bat | GR | BC |
| <i>Antrozous pallidus</i> | | |
| Brazilian Free-tailed Bat | GR | |
| <i>Tadarida brasiliensis</i> | | |
| Pocketed Free-tailed Bat | GR | |
| <i>Nyctinomops femorosaccus</i> | | |
| Underwood's Mastiff Bat (SC) | GR | |
| <i>Eumops underwoodi</i> | | |

Rabbits and Hares

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Desert Cottontail | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Sylvilagus audubonii</i> | | | |
| Eastern Cottontail | | GR | |
| <i>Sylvilagus floridanus</i> | | | |
| Black-tailed Jackrabbit | | GR | |
| <i>Lepus californicus</i> | | | |
| Antelope Jackrabbit | | GR | |
| <i>Lepus alleni</i> | | | |

Rodents

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Harris Antelope Squirrel | | GR | |
| <i>Ammospermophilus harrisi</i> | | | |
| Southern Grasshopper Mouse | AC | GR | |
| <i>Onychomys torridus</i> | | | |
| Rock Squirrel | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Spermophilus variegatus</i> | | | |
| Spotted Ground Squirrel | | GR | |
| <i>Spermophilus spilosoma</i> | | | |
| Round-tailed Ground Squirrel | | GR | |
| <i>Spermophilus tereticaudus</i> | | | |
| Botta's Pocket Gopher | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Thomomys bottae</i> | | | |
| Rock Pocket Mouse | | GR | |
| <i>Chaetodipus intermedius</i> | | | |
| Desert Pocket Mouse | | GR | |
| <i>Chaetodipus penicillatus</i> | | | |

| | | | |
|--|----|-------------------------|----|
| Bailey's Pocket Mouse <i>Chaetodipus baileyi</i> | | GR | |
| Arizona Pocket Mouse <i>Perognathus amplus</i> | | GR | |
| Silky Pocket Mouse <i>Perognathus flavus</i> | | GR | |
| Banner-tailed Kangaroo Rat <i>Dipodomys spectabilis</i> | | GR | |
| Merriam's Kangaroo Rat <i>Dipodomys merriami</i> | | GR | |
| Ord's Kangaroo Rat <i>Dipodomys ordi</i> | | GR | |
| Cactus Mouse <i>Peromyscus eremicus</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| White-footed Mouse <i>Peromyscus leucopus</i> | AC | GR | |
| Brush Mouse <i>Peromyscus boylei</i> | | GR | BC |
| Deer Mouse <i>Peromyscus maniculatus</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Mesquite Mouse <i>Peromyscus merriami</i> | | GR | |
| Western Harvest Mouse <i>Reithrodontomys megalotis</i> | | GR | |
| Fulvous Harvest Mouse <i>Reithrodontomys fulvescens</i> | | GR | |
| Arizona Cotton Rat <i>Sigmodon arizonae</i> | | GR | |
| Yellow-nosed Cotton Rat <i>Sigmodon ochrognathus</i> | | GR | |
| White-throated Wood Rat <i>Neotoma albigula</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Porcupine <i>Erethizon dorsatum</i> | | GR | BC |
| Carnivores | | | |
| Coyote <i>Canis latrans</i> | AC | GR | |
| Mexican Wolf (endangered) <i>Canis lupus</i> | | <i>historic records</i> | |
| Gray Fox <i>Urocyon cinereoargenteus</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Kit Fox <i>Vulpes macrotis</i> | AC | GR | |
| Raccoon <i>Procyon lotor</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Ringtail <i>Bassariscus astutus</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Coati <i>Nasua nasua</i> | AC | | BC |
| Badger <i>Taxidea taxus</i> | AC | GR | |

| | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Western Spotted Skunk <i>Spilogale gracilis</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Striped Skunk <i>Mephitis mephitis</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Hooded Skunk <i>Mephitis macroura</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Hog-nosed Skunk <i>Conepatus mesoleucus</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Mountain Lion <i>Felis concolor</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Jaguar (endangered) <i>Panthera onca</i> | | | BC |
| Bobcat <i>Felis rufus</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Hoofed Mammals | | | |
| Collared Peccary (Javelina) <i>Tayassu tajacu</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Mule Deer <i>Odocoileus hemionus</i> | AC | GR | |
| Coues White-tailed Deer <i>Odocoileus virginianus couesi</i> | AC | | BC |
| Pronghorn <i>Antilocapra americana</i> | | GR | |
| Marsupials | | | |
| Mexican Opossum <i>Didelphis virginiana californica</i> | AC | | BC |
| AMPHIBIANS | | | |
| Barred Tiger Salamander <i>Ambystoma mavortium</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Couch's Spadefoot <i>Scaphiopus couchii</i> | AC | GR | |
| Mexican Spadefoot <i>Spea multiplicata</i> | AC | GR | |
| Sonoran Green Toad <i>Anaxyrus retiformis</i> | | GR | |
| Red-spotted Toad <i>Anaxyrus punctatus</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Great Plains Toad <i>Anaxyrus cognatus</i> | | GR | |
| Sonoran Desert Toad (SC) <i>Ollotis alvaria</i> | AC | GR | |
| Western Narrow-mouthed Toad (SC) <i>Gastrophryne olivacea</i> | | GR | |
| Lowland Burrowing Treefrog <i>Smilisca fodiens</i> | | GR | |
| Canyon Treefrog <i>Hyla arenicolor</i> | | | BC |
| Chiricahua Leopard Frog (threatened) <i>Lithobates chiricahuensis</i> | | GR | |
| American Bullfrog <i>Lithobates catesbeianus</i> | AC | GR | |

| REPTILES | AC | GR | BC |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Turtles | | | |
| Ornate Box Turtle <i>Terrapene ornata</i> | AC | GR | |
| Arizona Mud Turtle <i>Kinosternon arizonense</i> | AC | GR | |
| Sonoran Mud Turtle <i>Kinosternon sonoriense</i> | AC | GR | |
| Desert Tortoise (SC) <i>Gopherus agassizii</i> | | GR | BC |
| Lizards | | | |
| Eastern Collared Lizard <i>Crotaphytus collaris</i> | | GR | |
| Long-nosed Leopard Lizard <i>Gambelia wislizenii</i> | AC | GR | |
| Zebra-tailed Lizard <i>Callisaurus draconoides</i> | AC | GR | |
| Elegant Earless Lizard <i>Holbrookia elegans</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Ornate Tree Lizard <i>Urosaurus ornatus</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Southwestern Fence Lizard <i>Sceloporus cowlesi</i> | AC | GR | |
| Desert Spiny Lizard <i>Sceloporus magister</i> | AC | GR | |
| Clark's Spiny Lizard <i>Sceloporus clarkii</i> | AC | GR | |
| Yarrow's Spiny Lizard <i>Sceloporus jarrovi</i> | | | BC |
| Regal Horned Lizard <i>Phrynosoma solare</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Sonoran Spotted Whiptail <i>Aspidoscelis sonorae</i> | AC | GR | BC |
| Desert Grassland Whiptail <i>Aspidoscelis uniparens</i> | AC | GR | |
| Canyon Spotted Whiptail <i>Aspidoscelis burtti</i> | AC | GR | |
| Tiger Whiptail <i>Aspidoscelis tigris</i> | | GR | BC |
| Mountain Skink <i>Plestiodon callicephalus</i> | | | BC |
| Great Plains Skink <i>Plestiodon obsoletus</i> | | | BC |
| Madrean Alligator Lizard <i>Elgaria kingii</i> | | GR | BC |
| Western Banded Gecko <i>Coleonyx variegatus</i> | | GR | BC |
| Gila Monster <i>Heloderma suspectum</i> | AC | GR | BC |

Snakes

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Western Threadsnake | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Leptotyphlops humilis</i> | | | |
| Sonoran Coralsnake | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Micruroides euryxanthus</i> | | | |
| Variable Sandsnake | | GR | |
| <i>Chilomeniscus stramineus</i> | | | |
| Smith's Black-headed Snake | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Tantilla hobartsmithi</i> | | | |
| Ring-necked Snake | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Diadophis punctatus</i> | | | |
| Desert Nightsnake | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Hypsiglena chlorophaea</i> | | | |
| Western Lyresnake | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Trimorphodon lambda</i> | | | |
| Gophersnake | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Pituophis catenifer</i> | | | |
| Arizona Glossy Snake | | GR | |
| <i>Arizona elegans</i> | | | |
| Saddled Leaf-nosed Snake | | GR | |
| <i>Phyllorhynchus browni</i> | | | |
| Brown Vinesnake | | | BC |
| <i>Oxybelis aeneus</i> | | | |
| Eastern Patch-nosed Snake | | | BC |
| <i>Salvadora grahamiae</i> | | | |
| Western Patch-nosed Snake | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Salvadora hexalepis</i> | | | |
| Green Ratsnake | AC | | BC |
| <i>Senticolis triaspis</i> | | | |
| Sonoran Whipsnake | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Coluber bilineatus</i> | | | |
| Coachwhip | | GR | |
| <i>Coluber flagellum</i> | | | |
| Long-nosed Snake | | GR | |
| <i>Rhinocheilus lecontei</i> | | | |
| Common Kingsnake | AC | GR | |
| <i>Lampropeltis getula</i> | | | |
| Sonoran Mountain Kingsnake | | | BC |
| <i>Lampropeltis pyromelana</i> | | | |
| Black-necked Gartersnake | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Thamnophis cyrtopsis</i> | | | |
| Mexican Gartersnake (SC) | AC | | |
| <i>Thamnophis eques</i> | | | |
| Checkered Gartersnake | AC | GR | |
| <i>Thamnophis marcianus</i> | | | |
| W. Diamond-backed Rattlesnake | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Crotalus atrox</i> | | | |
| Mohave Rattlesnake | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Crotalus scutulatus</i> | | | |
| Black-tailed Rattlesnake | AC | GR | BC |
| <i>Crotalus molossus</i> | | | |
| Tiger Rattlesnake | | GR | BC |
| <i>Crotalus tigris</i> | | | |

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/>

For Refuge Information
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Arizona State Relay System
1 800/367-8939

Pronghorn Buck

Illustrations courtesy of the Arizona Antelope Foundation
and artist Bonnie Swarbrick

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