

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

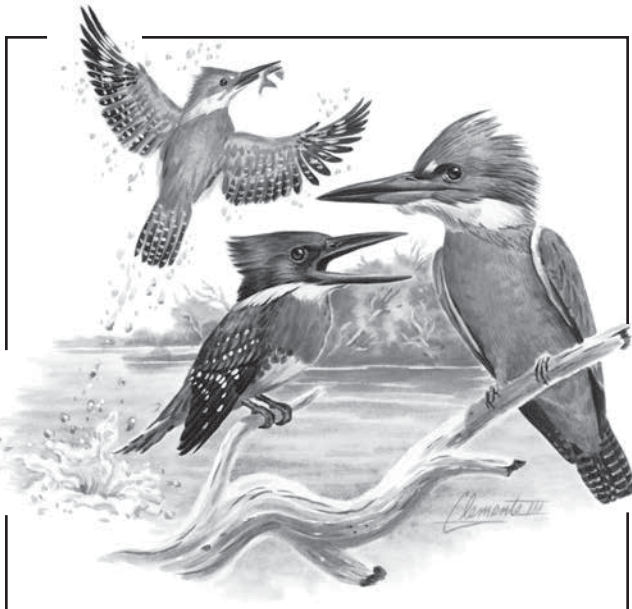
BIRDS

OF

ESTERO LLANO GRANDE

S T A T E P A R K

WORLD BIRDING CENTER



A FIELD CHECKLIST

2018

INTRODUCTION

Estero Llano Grande State Park, the Weslaco wing of the World Birding Center, encompasses approximately 250 acres of restored wetlands and subtropical thorn-scrub forest. The park is located in the heart of the subtropical Lower Rio Grande Valley, a four-county area that has unmatched biotic diversity, documenting over 500 species of birds, over 300 species of butterflies and over a thousand species of plants.

Estero Llano Grande State Park is seated at the geographic center of the World Birding Center network and is the site with the largest wetlands environment. A former agricultural field has been restored to thriving wetlands and flourishing woodlands through cooperative efforts from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, the World Birding Center, the City of Weslaco and Ducks Unlimited. Since its opening in June 2006, Estero Llano Grande State Park has documented 346 species of birds. Many of these birds are subtropical species typical of eastern Mexico and are not found north of the Lower Rio Grande Valley. Some of these “Specialty Birds” of the park include Black-bellied Whistling-Duck, Fulvous Whistling-Duck, Plain Chachalaca, Least Grebe, Neotropic Cormorant, Red-crowned Parrot, Groove-billed Ani, Green and Ringed Kingfishers, Great Kiskadee, Green Jay and Altamira Oriole.

This checklist, compiled by John Arvin and updated by park staff, is based on observations by numerous individuals and includes species which have been observed within or passing over the park. Nomenclature and organization for this checklist follow the American Ornithological Society Society Checklist of North American Birds as currently supplemented.

For information on how to contribute your sightings to a worldwide bird database, visit eBird online at www.ebird.org. We would greatly appreciate reports with details or photos of any bird designated as rare, accidental (x), or not on this list.

Estero Llano Grande State Park
154-A Lakeview Dr (mailing address)
3301 International Blvd (physical address)
Weslaco TX 78596
(956) 565-3919, fax (956) 565-2864
Or find us on Facebook

Please help us protect the natural avian communities in our parks by refraining from using playback tapes of bird songs. Frequent use of these tapes disrupts normal avian activity patterns and essential territorial behavior, and may lead to nest failure. Thank you for your cooperation.

LEGEND

- c – Common (Present, easy to find)
- f – Fairly common (Present, should see or hear)
- u – Uncommon (Present, harder to find)
- r – Rare (Present, hard to find, or may not occur every year)
- x – Accidental (not usually present, lost, result of an event)

- Sp – Spring (March, April, May)
- S – Summer (June, July, August)
- F – Fall (September, October, November)
- W – Winter (December, January, February)

Underlined birds indicate park specialties.

*Cover: Illustration of Belted, Green and Ringed Kingfishers
by Clemente Guzman.*

CHECKLIST

	Sp	S	F	W
Geese and Ducks				
_____ <u>Black-bellied Whistling-Duck</u>	c	c	c	c
_____ <u>Fulvous Whistling-Duck</u>	f	f	r	r
_____ <u>Snow Goose</u>			f	f
_____ <u>Ross's Goose</u>			u	u
_____ <u>Greater White-fronted Goose</u>			f	f
_____ <u>Canada Goose</u>		x		
_____ <u>Blue-winged Teal</u>	c	u	c	c
_____ <u>Cinnamon Teal</u>	c		c	c
_____ <u>Northern Shoveler</u>	c	u	c	c
_____ <u>Wood Duck</u>			r	r
_____ <u>Gadwall</u>	c		c	c
_____ <u>American Wigeon</u>	f		f	f
_____ <u>Mallard</u>	x	x	x	x
_____ <u>Mexican Duck (Mallard ssp.)</u>	u	u	u	u
_____ <u>Mottled Duck</u>	c	c	c	c
_____ <u>Northern Pintail</u>	c		c	c
_____ <u>Green-winged Teal</u>	c		c	c
_____ <u>Canvasback</u>	r		r	r
_____ <u>Redhead</u>	u		u	u
_____ <u>Ring-necked Duck</u>	c		c	c
_____ <u>Greater Scaup</u>	r		r	r
_____ <u>Lesser Scaup</u>	u		u	u
_____ <u>Bufflehead</u>	r		r	r
_____ <u>Hooded Merganser</u>	r		r	r
_____ <u>Red-breasted Merganser</u>				r
_____ <u>Masked Duck</u>	x			
_____ <u>Ruddy Duck</u>	c	r	c	c

	Sp	S	F	W
Upland Game Birds				
_____ <u>Plain Chachalaca</u>	c	c	c	c
_____ Northern Bobwhite	u	u	u	u
Grebes				
_____ <u>Least Grebe</u>	c	c	c	c
_____ Pied-billed Grebe.....	c	f	c	c
_____ Eared Grebe	r		r	r
Pigeons and Doves				
_____ Rock Pigeon	f	f	f	f
_____ Eurasian Collared-Dove	f	f	f	f
_____ Inca Dove	c	c	c	c
_____ Common Ground- Dove.....	c	c	c	c
_____ Ruddy Ground-Dove			x	
_____ <u>White-tipped Dove</u>	c	c	c	c
_____ White-winged Dove.....	c	c	c	u
_____ Mourning Dove.....	c	c	c	c
Cuckoos				
_____ Yellow-billed Cuckoo.....	c	c	c	
_____ Black-billed Cuckoo	u		u	
_____ Greater Roadrunner	x	x	x	x
_____ <u>Groove-billed Ani</u>	r	c	c	r
Goatsuckers				
_____ Lesser Nighthawk.....	c	c	c	
_____ Common Nighthawk	c	c	c	
_____ <u>Common Pauraque</u>	c	c	c	c
_____ Chuck-will's-widow.....	c		c	
_____ Eastern Whip-poor-will.....			x	
Swifts				
_____ Chimney Swift	c	c	c	
_____ White-throated Swift			x	

		Sp	S	F	W
Hummingbirds					
_____	Blue-throated Hummingbird.....			x	
_____	Ruby-throated Hummingbird.....c			c	c
_____	Black-chinned Hummingbirdc		c	f	c
_____	Anna's Hummingbird.....				x
_____	Broad-tailed Hummingbird.....				x
_____	Rufous Hummingbird.....			f	f
_____	Buff-bellied Hummingbird.....c		c	c	c
Rails, Gallinules, and Coots					
_____	Clapper Rail.....x				
_____	King Rail.....r			r	r
_____	Virginia Rail.....u			u	u
_____	Sora.....c			c	c
_____	Purple Gallinule.....r		r	r	
_____	Common Gallinule.....c		c	c	c
_____	American Coot.....c		f	c	c
Cranes					
_____	Sandhill Crane.....u			u	u
_____	Whooping Crane.....			x	
Stilts and Avocets					
_____	Black-necked Stilt.....c		c	c	c
_____	American Avocet.....c		u	c	c
Plovers					
_____	Black-bellied Ploverr			r	
_____	American Golden-Ploverr				
_____	Semipalmated Ploverr		r	r	
_____	Piping Plover.....x				
_____	Killdeer.....c		c	c	c
Jacanas					
_____	Northern Jacana.....		x	x	x

Sandpipers and Phalaropes

_____	Upland Sandpiper	u	u	
_____	Long-billed Curlew	u	u	u
_____	Hudsonian Godwit	u		
_____	Marbled Godwit		u	
_____	Stilt Sandpiper	c	c	c
_____	Dunlin	r	r	r
_____	Baird's Sandpiper	u	u	
_____	Least Sandpiper	c	c	c
_____	White-rumped Sandpiper	c		
_____	Buff-breasted Sandpiper	u	r	
_____	Pectoral Sandpiper	f	f	
_____	Semipalmated Sandpiper	f	f	
_____	Western Sandpiper	u	u	u
_____	Short-billed Dowitcher	r	r	r
_____	Long-billed Dowitcher	c	f	c
_____	American Woodcock		x	x
_____	Wilson's Snipe	c	c	c
_____	Spotted Sandpiper	c	c	c
_____	Solitary Sandpiper	f	f	f
_____	Lesser Yellowlegs	c	f	c
_____	Willet		x	
_____	Greater Yellowlegs	f	f	f
_____	Wilson's Phalarope	c	c	

Gulls and Terns

_____	Laughing Gull	c	f	c	f
_____	Franklin's Gull	f	f		
_____	Ring-billed Gull	r	r	r	r
_____	Herring Gull	x			
_____	Least Tern	c	f		
_____	Gull-Billed Tern	c	f		r

	Sp	S	F	W
_____ Caspian Tern.....	f	f	f	f
_____ Black Tern.....	f	f		
_____ Common Tern.....				x
_____ Forster's Tern	f	f	f	f
_____ Sandwich Tern		r		
_____ Black Skimmer.....	r	r	r	r
Loons				
_____ Common Loon.....				x
Storks, Frigatebirds				
_____ Wood Stork		u	f	r
_____ Magnificent Frigatebird.....			x	
Cormorants, Anhingas, Pelicans				
_____ <u>Neotropic Cormorant</u>	c	c	c	c
_____ Double-Crested Cormorant.....	c		f	c
_____ Anhinga.....	c	u	c	c
_____ American White Pelican.....	r	r	c	c
_____ Brown Pelican				x
Bitterns and Herons				
_____ American Bittern	u		u	u
_____ Least Bittern	f	f	u	r
_____ Great Blue Heron.....	c	c	c	c
_____ Great Egret	c	c	c	c
_____ Snowy Egret.....	c	c	c	c
_____ Little Blue Heron	c	c	c	c
_____ Tricolored Heron.....	c	c	c	c
_____ Reddish Egret.....	x			x
_____ Cattle Egret	f	f	f	f
_____ Green Heron.....	c	c	c	f
_____ Black-crowned Night-Heron	c	c	c	c
_____ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron.....	c	c	c	c

	Sp	S	F	W
Ibises and Spoonbills				
_____ White Ibis	c	c	c	c
_____ Glossy Ibis	r	r		
_____ White-faced Ibis.....	c	c	c	c
_____ Roseate Spoonbill.....	c	c	c	c
New World Vultures				
_____ Black Vulture.....	f	f	f	f
_____ Turkey Vulture	c	c	c	c
Kites and Hawks				
_____ Osprey.....	f	f	f	f
_____ Swallow-tailed Kite.....	r	r	r	
_____ White-tailed Kite	c	c	c	c
_____ Mississippi Kite.....	f	f	f	
_____ Northern Harrier	c		c	c
_____ Sharp-shinned Hawk	f		f	f
_____ Cooper's Hawk	c	u	c	c
_____ Harris's Hawk.....	c	c	c	c
_____ <u>White-tailed Hawk</u>	f	u	f	f
_____ <u>Gray Hawk</u>	u		u	u
_____ Red-shouldered Hawk	c		c	c
_____ Broad-winged Hawk	c		c	r
_____ Short-tailed Hawk.....			x	
_____ Swainson's Hawk	c	f	c	r
_____ Zone-tailed Hawk	r		r	r
_____ Red-tailed Hawk	u		c	c
Owls				
_____ Barn Owl.....	c	c	c	c
_____ Eastern Screech-Owl.....	c	c	c	c
_____ Great Horned Owl.....	c	c	c	c
_____ <u>Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl</u>				x
_____ Elf Owl		r		

	Sp	S	F	W
_____ Short-eared Owl				x
Kingfishers				
_____ Ringed Kingfisher	f	c	c	c
_____ Belted Kingfisher			c	c
_____ Green Kingfisher	c	c	c	c
Woodpeckers				
_____ Golden-fronted Woodpecker	c	c	c	c
_____ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	u		u	u
_____ Ladder-backed Woodpecker	c	c	c	c
_____ Northern Flicker			x	
Falcons				
_____ Crested Caracara	f	f	f	f
_____ American Kestrel	c		c	c
_____ Merlin	u		u	u
_____ Peregrine Falcon	f		c	c
_____ Prairie Falcon				x
Parrots and Parakeets				
_____ Green Parakeet	r	r	r	r
_____ Red-crowned Parrot	u	f	f	u
Tyrant Flycatchers, Becard				
_____ Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet	f	f	f	f
_____ Olive-sided Flycatcher	f		f	
_____ Eastern Wood-Pewee	c		c	
_____ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	f		f	
_____ Acadian Flycatcher	f		f	
_____ Alder Flycatcher	f		f	
_____ Willow Flycatcher	f		f	
_____ Least Flycatcher	c		c	u
_____ Hammond's Flycatcher				x
_____ Black Phoebe	r	r	r	r
_____ Eastern Phoebe			c	c

	Sp	S	F	W
_____ Say's Phoebe.....	X		X	X
_____ Vermilion Flycatcher.....	r		c	c
_____ Dusky-capped Flycatcher.....	X		X	
_____ Ash-throated Flycatcher.....	r		r	r
_____ Great-crested Flycatcher.....	c		c	
_____ Brown-crested Flycatcher.....	c	c		
_____ Great Kiskadee.....	c	c	c	c
_____ <u>Tropical Kingbird</u>	c	c	c	c
_____ <u>Couch's Kingbird</u>	c	c	c	c
_____ Western Kingbird.....	f	c		
_____ Eastern Kingbird.....	c		c	
_____ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher.....	c	c	c	r
_____ Rose-throated Becard.....	X	X	X	X
Shrikes				
_____ Loggerhead Shrike.....	f	f	f	f
Vireos				
_____ White-eyed Vireo.....	c	c	c	c
_____ Bell's Vireo.....	r		r	
_____ Yellow-throated Vireo.....	f		f	
_____ Cassin's Vireo.....				X
_____ Blue-headed Vireo.....	f		f	f
_____ Philadelphia Vireo.....	f		f	
_____ Warbling Vireo.....	f		f	
_____ Red-eyed Vireo.....	f		f	
Crows, Ravens and Jays				
_____ <u>Green Jay</u>	c	c	c	c
_____ Chihuahuan Raven.....		X		
Larks				
_____ Horned Lark.....	r	r	r	r
Swallows				
_____ Purple Martin.....	c	c	c	

	Sp	S	F	W
_____ Tree Swallow	c		u	c
_____ Violet-Green Swallow			x	
_____ Northern Rough-winged Swallow.....	c	f	c	u
_____ Bank Swallow	u	u	u	
_____ Cliff Swallow	c	c	c	
_____ Cave Swallow	c	c	c	c
_____ Barn Swallow.....	c	f	c	x
Titmice				
_____ <u>Black-crested Titmouse</u>	c	c	c	c
Penduline Tits				
_____ Verdin	u	u	u	u
Creepers				
_____ Brown Creeper				x
Wrens				
_____ House Wren	c		c	c
_____ Winter Wren				x
_____ Sedge Wren	r		r	r
_____ Marsh Wren	u		u	u
_____ Carolina Wren	c	c	c	c
_____ Bewick's Wren.....	f	f	f	f
_____ Cactus Wren	x	x	x	x
Gnatcatchers				
_____ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	c	r	c	c
Kinglets				
_____ Golden-crowned Kinglet			x	x
_____ Ruby-crowned Kinglet.....	c		c	c
Thrushes				
_____ Eastern Bluebird.....				r
_____ Veery	u		u	
_____ Gray-cheeked Thrush	f		f	
_____ Swainson's Thrush.....	f		f	

	Sp	S	F	W
_____ Hermit Thrush.....	u			u
_____ Wood Thrush	u			r
_____ <u>Clay-colored Thrush</u>	c	c	c	c
_____ <u>White-throated Thrush</u>				x
_____ American Robin.....				r
Mockingbirds and Thrashers				
_____ Gray Catbird	u		u	u
_____ Curve-billed Thrasher.....	c	c	c	c
_____ <u>Long-billed Thrasher</u>	c	c	c	c
_____ Sage Thrasher.....			x	x
_____ Northern Mockingbird.....	c	c	c	c
Starlings				
_____ European Starling.....	c	c	c	c
Waxwings				
_____ Cedar Waxwing.....	u			u
Old World Sparrows				
_____ House Sparrow.....	c	c	c	c
Pipits				
_____ American Pipit.....				f
_____ Sprague's Pipit.....				r
Finches				
_____ House Finch				x
_____ Pine Siskin.....	r			r
_____ Lesser Goldfinch.....	c	c	c	c
_____ American Goldfinch.....	u			u
Sparrows and Allies				
_____ <u>Olive Sparrow</u>	c	c	c	c
_____ Green-tailed Towhee.....			x	
_____ Spotted Towhee	r		r	r
_____ Cassin's Sparrow.....	x		x	x
_____ Chipping Sparrow.....	u		u	u

	Sp	S	F	W
_____ Clay-colored Sparrow	u		u	u
_____ Brewer's Sparrow				x
_____ Field Sparrow	u		u	u
_____ Vesper Sparrow	r			r
_____ Lark Sparrow.....	u	u	u	u
_____ Black-throated Sparrow.....	x			
_____ Lark Bunting.....	x			r
_____ Savannah Sparrow	c			c
_____ Grasshopper Sparrow.....	u		u	u
_____ LeConte's Sparrow	r		r	r
_____ Lincoln's Sparrow.....	c			c
_____ Swamp Sparrow.....	u			u
_____ White-throated Sparrow.....	x			x
_____ White-crowned Sparrow	x			x
_____ Dark-eyed Junco.....				x

Icteridae: Chat, Blackbirds, Orioles

_____ Yellow-breasted Chat	f		f	r
_____ Yellow-headed Blackbird.....	u		u	u
_____ Eastern Meadowlark.....	f	f	f	f
_____ Western Meadowlark.....				r
_____ Orchard Oriole.....	c		c	x
_____ Hooded Oriole.....	u	u	u	
_____ Bullock's Oriole.....	r		r	x
_____ <u>Altamira Oriole</u>	c	c	c	c
_____ <u>Audubon's Oriole</u>	x			x
_____ Baltimore Oriole.....	c		c	
_____ Scott's Oriole			x	
_____ Red-winged Blackbird	c	c	c	c
_____ <u>Bronzed Cowbird</u>	c	c	c	f
_____ Brown-headed Cowbird.....	u	u	u	f
_____ Brewer's Blackbird.....	r			r

	Sp	S	F	W
_____ Common Grackle.....				x
_____ Great-tailed Grackle.....	c	c	c	c
Wood Warblers				
_____ Ovenbird	u		u	u
_____ Worm-eating Warbler	u		u	
_____ Louisiana Waterthrush.....	f		f	
_____ Northern Waterthrush	f		f	r
_____ Golden-winged Warbler	u		u	
_____ Blue-winged Warbler.....	u		u	
_____ Black-and-white Warbler.....	c	r	c	c
_____ Prothonotary Warbler.....	u		u	
_____ Swainson's Warbler	u		u	
_____ Tennessee Warbler	f		f	
_____ Orange-crowned Warbler	c		c	c
_____ Nashville Warbler	f		f	f
_____ <u>Gray-crowned Yellowthroat</u>	x			
_____ MacGillivray's Warbler.....	u		u	
_____ Mourning Warbler.....	f		f	
_____ Kentucky Warbler	u		u	
_____ Common Yellowthroat	c	c	c	c
_____ Hooded Warbler	f		f	
_____ American Redstart	f		f	
_____ Cerulean Warbler	u		u	
_____ Northern Parula	f		f	f
_____ <u>Tropical Parula</u>	x	x	x	u
_____ Magnolia Warbler.....	f		f	
_____ Bay-breasted Warbler	f		r	
_____ Blackburnian Warbler	u		u	
_____ Yellow Warbler	c		c	
_____ Chestnut-sided Warbler	u		r	
_____ Blackpoll Warbler	u		r	
_____ Black-throated Blue Warbler	x		x	
_____ Pine Warbler	u		u	u

	Sp	S	F	W
_____ Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's).....			u	u
_____ Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle)	c		c	c
_____ Yellow-throated Warbler	u		u	u
_____ Prairie Warbler.....	r			
_____ Black-throated Gray Warbler	x		x	x
_____ Townsend's Warbler				x
_____ Black-throated Green Warbler.....	c		c	u
_____ Canada Warbler	u		u	
_____ Wilson's Warbler	c		c	u
Cardinals, Grosbeaks and Buntings				
_____ Summer Tanager	u	u	u	u
_____ Scarlet Tanager.....	u		r	
_____ Western Tanager	r		r	r
_____ <u>Crimson-collared Grosbeak</u>	x			x
_____ Northern Cardinal.....	c	c	c	c
_____ Pyrrhuloxia.....	r		r	r
_____ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	f		f	r
_____ Black-headed Grosbeak	r	r	r	r
_____ <u>Blue Bunting</u>				x
_____ Blue Grosbeak.....	u	u	u	
_____ Lazuli Bunting.....	x		x	
_____ Indigo Bunting.....	u		u	f
_____ Painted Bunting	f	r	f	
_____ Dickcissel.....	f	f	c	r
Honeycreepers				
_____ <u>Red-legged Honeycreeper</u>			x	
Exotics				
_____ Domestic Muscovy.....	r	r	r	r
_____ Budgerigar	r	r	r	r
_____ Yellow-headed Parrot	r	r	r	r
_____ Red-lored Parrot	r	r	r	r
_____ Black-throated Magpie-Jay.....	x	x	x	x

CITATION

Arvin, John. January 2018. Birds of Estero Llano Grande State Park: a field checklist. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Natural Resources Program, Austin, Texas.

In 1983, the Texas Legislature created the Special Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Fund. This fund may be used for nongame wildlife and endangered species research and conservation, habitat acquisition and development and dissemination of information pertaining to nongame management. Money for this fund is obtained through private donations and sale of nongame wildlife art prints and stamps. This fund now gives Texans a unique opportunity to help support this state's valuable and sensitive nongame resources. Your individual contributions and purchases of nongame art prints and stamps will help determine the level of nongame conservation activities in Texas. For more information call toll-free (1-800-792-1112) or contact: **Nongame and Endangered Species Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744.**

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Natural Resource Program
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, Texas 78744