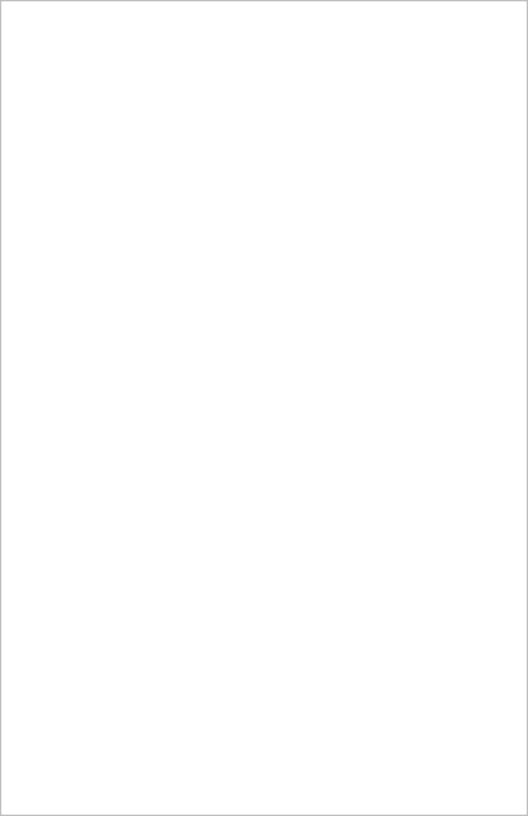
LOWER WALKER RIVER

BIRD FINDING GUIDE AND

CHECKLIST





LOWER WALKER RIVER BIRD FINDING GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

The Walker River flows out of the Sierra Nevada in California and enters Nevada as the East and West Forks before merging in Mason Valley, and flowing through the Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area (WMA), and the Walker River Paiute Reservation and ending in Walker Lake.

Walker Lake is a terminal lake, meaning a lake with no natural outlet. Walker Lake is a remnant of Pleistocene Lake Lahontan, a lake that covered 8,610 square miles of Nevada 9,000–15,000 years ago. Since the 1850s, it has shrunk considerably, primarily due to upstream diversion to support agriculture. The lake's volume decreased from 10 million to less than 2 million acrefeet, a loss of over 2.6 trillion gallons, while its salinity level has risen dramatically to over 23,000 mg/l by early 2014. The result is a profound change in the lake's ecosystem, including the loss of Lahontan cutthroat trout and other species like tui chub, common loon, western and Clark's grebes on the verge of largely disappearing.

Thanks to a significant public investment from the Bureau of Reclamation's Desert Terminal Lakes Program, water rights and important riverine lands are being purchased from willing sellers in an effort to improve the health of the Walker River and Walker Lake. Through a series of purchases by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) the entire 63 miles of the lower Walker River, from below Yerington down to Walker Lake, is now under the management of the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW), the Walker River Paiute Tribe (WRPT), and the NFWF. This ownership pattern and the commitment by the landowners to manage the corridor for the benefit of a natural river for wildlife and public benefit is an extraordinary opportunity. The US-

FWS has been working with NDOW and the WRPT to do restoration planning for this river corridor and has identified pilot restoration projects that will help create a more dynamic river channel, improve cottonwood-willow vegetation and improve river and floodplain management. This work will be all the more successful due to efforts by NFWF to transfer water rights downstream thereby yielding more flow in the segment of the Walker River below the Yerington weir.

This checklist and bird-finding guide is an invitation to birders to get out and spend more time along the lower Walker River. This area features some of the best cottonwood-willow streamside forest left in northern Nevada. Nevada rarities such as the scissor-tailed flycatcher and yellow-billed cuckoo have been previously recorded but much can still be learned about bird species that nest and visit the lower Walker River. Please consider this bird list our best understanding of the birds along the Walker River at this time. We know it can be improved by "crowd sourcing" and getting your reports over the next couple of years. Consider uploading your bird sightings onto ebird (www.ebird.com) so that we can stay current on new sightings. We welcome your help in learning more about lower Walker River birdlife.

MASON VALLEY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

The Mason Valley WMA is located in Mason Valley in Lyon County, about 75 miles southeast of Reno via Interstate 80 and U.S. Alternate 95. The Mason Valley WMA now totals 17,426 acres. The area includes a diversity of habitats including alkali or salt desert shrub, wet meadow, ponds, cotton-wood-willow forest, and extensive stands of buffaloberry. The Walker River meanders through 9 miles of the Mason Valley WMA and largely remains in a natural condition.

WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBE RESERVATION

The lower Walker River meanders 35 miles through the Walker River Paiute Reservation, starting at the river's northernmost point and extending downstream to Walker Lake. Except around the community of Schurz, this is a remote and little traveled section of river. Extensive stands of coyote willow, buffaloberry, Fremont cottonwood, and other types of native shrub and riparian vegetation are located adjacent to salt desert scrub plant communities. The reservation covers about 325,000 acres in a river valley surrounded by high desert and a number of mountain ranges. A major feature on the river

is Weber Reservoir that lies just above the community of Schurz and serves as a source of irrigation water for agriculture. The reservoir also provides open water and wetland habitat for numerous water birds. The proximity of multiple habitat types allows for greater bird diversity. At the river's terminus, the declining lake level has exposed a significant and changing delta zone that often attracts large numbers of water birds, but it is difficult to access.

FINDING BIRDS

Mason Valley WMA

There are two primary access points to the Mason Valley WMA from Hwy 95A.

- (1) MILLER LANE: From Hwy 95A, about 3.5 mi. north of Yerington, turn right (east) onto Miller Lane. Drive 3 miles to the intersection with Lux Lane. There are 2 driving options at this point.
- (a) Walker River Nature Trail—Opposite the main entrance (Lux Lane) and about 100 feet east, turn right (south) and drive about 1 mile to a parking area. From the parking area follow the signs to the nature trail along a segment of restored river channel, including a footbridge over the river (expected to be completed in fall 2014). Look for riparian birds such as grosbeaks, orioles, towhees, and bluebirds and water birds along the river.
- (b) *Ponds and Wetlands*—Turn north (left) onto Lux Lane, into the Mason Valley WMA. Drive about 2.5 mi. north on Lux Lane following the river toward Mason Valley WMA headquarters, Hinkson Slough, and pond areas. Water is maintained in Hinkson Slough, Bass Pond, and North Pond, and other pond cells are filled for waterfowl starting in the spring. Access to Hinkson Slough and the ponds is by a graded dirt road near the campground and headquarters area (look for brown signs). Hinkson Slough and Cinnamon Pond are located behind the fish hatchery building. Look for osprey platforms nearby. Access to North Pond is via Konda Road heading north from the Lux Lane turnoff. Drive about 2.5 mi. Follow this road to North Pond or alternately turn left onto the dirt road near the powerline to access the river. A railroad footbridge crosses the river and you can walk along either river bank. Look for cliff swallows nesting under the bridge in the summer.
- (2) SIERRA WAY: From Hwy 95A approaching from the north and about a mile south of Wabuska, turn left (east) onto Sierra Way. Some of these sites are closed during waterfowl hunting season (roughly mid-October through mid-January) and it is important to check in regarding access. Drive about

1.5 mi. and turn right onto Lux Lane. There is a marshy area at 1.6 mi. Birding opportunities include Millers Marsh, the Fort Churchill power plant cooling pond, and riparian zone. Lux Lane eventually leads back to the river bridge by the headquarters, and ultimately, the Miller Lane main entrance area. Even while some of the areas are closed, you can bird from Lux Lane.

Walker River Paiute Reservation

WEBER DAM: Drive south from Fallon on Hwy 95 to Schurz. Stop at the Four Seasons Smoke Shop and Gas Station to pick up a \$5 day pass. Then drive north about 6.7 mi. along Hwy 95A toward Yerington and turn right to access Weber Reservoir (there is a sign). This road will lead you to the access dam road and south end of the reservoir. Caution: roads adjacent to the reservoir can be sandy in spots.

WEBER RESERVOIR: Once you reach the road crossing the dam, stop and view the open water for water birds and look downstream to the small wetland and river course below the dam. There are several options to further explore from the dam.

EASTERN SIDE OF WEBER DAM AND WALKER RIVER: From the dam continue east for about 0.7 mi. Turn left onto a wide dirt road (this leads to Julian Lane, which you can drive on to bird along the river in good weather). There are numerous roads or dirt tracks, including at least one that will take you to the reservoir edge. In summer this site will provide a view of a sizeable bank swallow colony on the west (opposite) shore. Continuing north the road will skirt the reservoir and river providing views and access (by foot) to wetlands at the upper end of the reservoir and willow-cottonwood habitat along the river. This road will eventually lead to Hwy 95A near the community of Wabuska.

DOWNSTREAM OF WEBER DAM: Back on the western or southern side of the dam, take the right fork (dirt road) to bird the cottonwoods along the river as you drive downstream. This road follows the river, then loops back to Hwy 95A, though there are lots of small dirt roads that can be explored with some caution due to the risk of getting stuck.

NORTH ACCESS TO THE WALKER RIVER PAIUTE RESERVATION: At about 1.3 mi. north of the community of Wabuska on Hwy 95A, turn northeast onto Julian Lane. Take the left fork (away from the steaming ponds), drive about 3mi. and take the right fork. Drive about 2.6 mi. and turn left onto a rougher dirt road leading around the Stanley Ranch (currently owned by NFWF).

Follow the road through a wire cattle gate (please close) along the river. There is a cottonwood grove just past the wire cattle gate. Check for owls and woodpeckers. Julian Lane follows the river downstream and you may drive and bird the river down to Weber. Yellow warblers, western kingbirds, and spotted towhees are common summer residents. Close to Weber Reservoir, the river widens and becomes marshy. Wading birds may be found here. Eventually Julian Road will lead to the unmarked turn to Weber Dam and back to Hwy 95A.

LOWER RIVER (SCHURZ) ACCESS: From Schurz take Hwy 95S. Turn left onto a dirt road next to Schurz elementary school (white building with red roof) just after the Hwy 95/95A junction. Follow the dirt road east toward the river. You can drive the main dirt road and walk into the river to bird the cottonwoods. Some spur dirt roads get sandy and are not driveable. Please respect private (farmed) inholdings in this area. Park/bird only along natural river areas.

GUIDELINES FOR VISITORS

Once you leave the Mason Valley following the Walker River downstream, you are entering more remote country with no gas, food, or lodging until you reach the town of Schurz. You should travel prepared with emergency supplies, a full tank of gas, and be cautious if it has snowed or rained as the roads at the north end of the Walker River Paiute Reservation can become impassable for most vehicles.

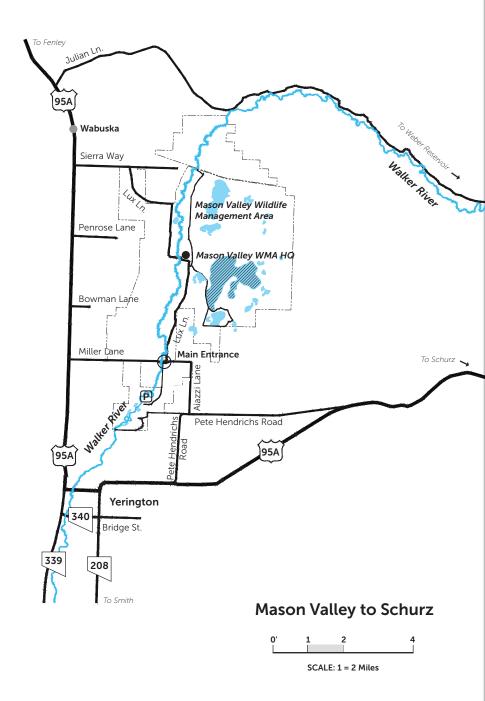
There are gas stations and motels in Yerington and a small convenience store and gas station in Schurz. Camping is allowed at designated sites on both the Mason Valley WMA and Weber Reservoir on the Walker River Paiute Reservation.

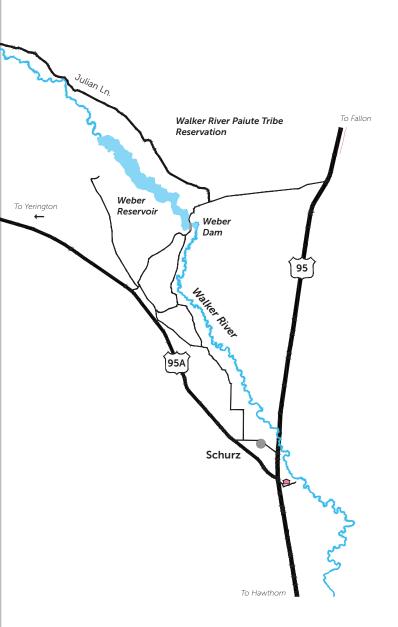
MASON VALLEY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Visitors are welcome to visit the Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area with no restriction hours or entrance fee. Due to the area's active hunting program, portions of the WMA are closed during the hunting season. In addition, portions of the ponds and wetlands are also closed during the waterfowl breeding season (February 15 through August 15). For more information visit NDOW's website: http://www.ndow.org/Nevada_Wildlife/Wildlife_Management_Areas/ or call 775-463-2741.

WALKER RIVER PAIUTE TRIBAL RESERVATION

The WRPT welcomes visitors and asks birders to stop at the Four Seasons Smoke Shop and Gas Station just south of Schurz along Highway 95 to pick up a day-use permit (\$5) prior to leaving the public highway to explore the reservation. There are private inholdings in the reservation and residences and visitors are asked to respect the privacy of residents.











LOWER WALKER RIVER BIRD CHECKLIST

KEY

Season

Sp Spring (March – May)

Su Summer (June – July)

F Fall (August – November)

W Winter (December – February)

Abundance

- **a** Abundant (likely to be seen in large numbers)
- **c** Common (present in suitable habitats)
- **u** Uncommon (present but not certain to be seen)
- r Rare (rarely seen in a season and sometimes not every year)
- Accidental (only recorded one to a few times)
- ? Occurs in nearby watersheds (Truckee/Carson) but data is lacking for the Walker River

Habitat

- W open water
- S shoreline/mudflats/playa
- M marsh
- A agricultural field/wet meadow
- R riparian woodland
- D desert shrubland
- C cliffs/rocks
- P pinyon-juniper
- F montane forest/aspen/ woodland-shrub (Birds associated with these habitats may disperse/migrate through other habitats along the lower river)
- **U** urban
- * known to nest locally
- *? indicates probable breeder
- > introduced species

Dat	e:	Habitat	Sp	Su	F	W	#
	ANSERIFORMES						
	Anatidae — Geese, Swans and	Ducks					
0	Greater White-fronted Goose	WM	r	-	r		
0	Snow Goose	WM	u	-	u	u	
0	Ross's Goose	WM	r	-	r	-	
0	Cackling Goose	MW	r?	-	r?	r?	
0	Canada Goose*	MW	С	С	С	а	
0	Tundra Swan	MW	С	-	u	С	
0	Wood Duck*	R	u	u	u	u	
0	Gadwall*	MW	С	С	С	С	
0	American Wigeon	MW	u	-	u	u	
0	Mallard*	MW	а	С	а	а	
0	Blue-winged Teal	MW	r	-	-	-	
0	Cinnamon Teal*	M W	С	С	С	r	
0	Northern Shoveler*	M W	С	u	С	u	
0	Northern Pintail*	MW	С	r	С	u	
0	Green-winged Teal*?	MWR	С	r	С	u	
0	Canvasback*	M W	С	r	С	u	
0	Redhead*	M W	С	С	С	С	
0	Ring-necked Duck	W M	u	r	u	r	
0	Greater Scaup	M W	r	-	r	r	
О	Lesser Scaup	MW	С	-	u	u	
0	Surf Scoter	W	-	-	Χ	-	
О	Bufflehead	W	С	-	u	С	
О	Common Goldeneye	R W	u	-	u	u	
О	Barrow's Goldeneye	R W	r	-	r	r	
О	Hooded Merganser	R W	r	-	r	r	
О	Common Merganser	R W	С	r	u	С	
О	Ruddy Duck*	M W	а	u	С	С	

Dat	to:	Habitat	Sp	Su	F	W	#
Dai		Habitat	эþ	- Su	-	V V	#
	GALLIFORMES						
	Odontophoridae — Quail						
0	California Quail*	RDA	С	С	С	С	
	Phasianidae — Chukar, Pheas		ırkeys				
0	Chukar ^{>}	CD	u	u	u	u	
0	Ring-necked Pheasant*>	R A	r	r	r	r	
0	Wild Turkey*>	RA	u	u	u	u	
	GAVIFORMES						
	Gaviidae — Loons						
0	Common Loon	W	r	-	r	-	
	PODICIPEDIFORMES						
	Podicipedidae — Grebes						
0	Pied-billed Grebe*	ΜW	u	u	u	u	
0	Horned Grebe	W M	r	-	r	r	
О	Eared Grebe*	WM	С	u	С	u	
0	Western Grebe*	WM	u	u	u	u	
0	Clark's Grebe*	WM	u	u	u	u	
	SULIFORMES						
	Phalacrocoracidae — Cormo	rants					
0	Double-crested Cormorant	W M	С	u	С	u	
	PELICANIFORMES						
	Pelecanidae — Pelicans						
О	American White Pelican	W	u	u	u	-	
	Ardeidae — Bitterns, Herons,	Egrets, and	Nigh	t-Hero	ons		
0	American Bittern	М	u	u	u	u	
0	Great Blue Heron*	R M	u	u	u	u	
0	Great Egret*	MR	u	u	u	u	
О	Snowy Egret*?	MR	u	u	u	-	

Dat	re:	Habitat	Sp	Su	F	W	#
0	Cattle Egret	А	Х	Х	Х	-	
0	Black-crowned Night-Heron*?	R M	u	u	u	u	
	Threskiornithidae — Ibis						
О	White-faced Ibis*	МА	u	С	u	-	
	ACCIPITRIFORMES						
	Cathartidae — Vultures						
0	Turkey Vulture	DR	u	u	u	-	
	Pandionidae — Osprey						
0	Osprey*	WR	u	u	u	-	
	Accipitridae — Hawks and Eag	les					
0	Bald Eagle	WR	r	-	r	r	
0	Northern Harrier*	MAD	u	u	u	u	
0	Sharp-shinned Hawk	FR	r	-	r	r	
О	Cooper's Hawk*	RPF	u	u	u	u	
0	Red-shouldered Hawk	R			r?		
0	Swainson's Hawk*	RAD	u	u	r	-	
0	Red-tailed Hawk*	RDA	С	С	С	С	
0	Ferruginous Hawk	DΡ	r	-	u	u	
0	Rough-legged Hawk	Α	r	-	r	r	
0	Golden Eagle	CD	r	r	r	r	
	GRUIIFORMES						
	Rallidae — Rails, Gallinules and	d Coots					
0	Virginia Rail*?	М	u	u	u	u	
0	Sora*?	М	u	u	u	u	
0	Common Gallinule*?	М	r	r	r	r	
0	American Coot*	W M	а	а	а	а	
	Gruiidae — Cranes						
0	Sandhill Crane	АМ	r	-	-	Х	

Dat	re:	Habitat	Sp	Su	F	W	#						
	CHARADRIIFORMES												
	Recurvirostridae — Stilts and A	Avocets											
0	Black-necked Stilt*	S	u	С	u	-							
0	American Avocet*	S	u	u	u	-							
	Charadriidae — Plovers												
0	Black-bellied Plover	S	r	-	r	-							
0	Semipalmated Plover	S	r?	-	r?	-							
0	Killdeer*	RSAU	С	С	С	С							
	Scolopacidae – Shorebirds an	d Phalarop	es										
0	Spotted Sandpiper*	RS	u	u	u	-							
0	Solitary Sandpiper	S	r	-	r?	-							
0	Greater Yellowlegs	S	u	r	u	r							
0	Willet	SAM	u?	r	u?	-							
0	Lesser Yellowlegs	SAM	r?	r?	r?	-							
0	Long-billed Curlew	SA	r	r?	r	-							
0	Marbled Godwit	SM	r?	r	r?	-							
0	Dunlin	MS	r?	-	r?								
0	Baird's Sandpiper	S	-	-	r	-							
0	Least Sandpiper	S	С	u	С	r							
0	Western Sandpiper	S	u	u	С	-							
0	Short-billed Dowitcher	S	-	-	r	-							
0	Long-billed Dowitcher	S M	С	u	С	-							
0	Wilson's Snipe	MAR	r	r	u	r							
0	Wilson's Phalarope	MW	u	С	u	-							
0	Red-necked Phalarope	W	u	r?	u	-							
	Laridae — Gulls and Terns												
0	Bonaparte's Gull	WM	r	r	r	r							
0	Franklin's Gull	W	r	-	-	-							
0	Mew Gull	WM	Х	-	-	-							
0	Ring-billed Gull	WRU	u	u?	u	u?							

Dat	te:	Habitat	Sp	Su	F	W	#
0	California Gull	WRU	u	u	u	u?	
0	Least Tern	WM	-	Х	-	-	
0	Caspian Tern	WMR	u	u	u	-	
0	Black Tern*	MW	u	u	u	-	
0	Common Tern	WM	-	-	r	-	
О	Forster's Tern*	WMR	u	u	u		
	COLUMBIFORMES						
	Columbidae — Pigeons and D	oves					
0	Rock Pigeon*>	CU	r	r	r	r	
0	Eurasian Collared-Dove*>	RU	С	С	С	С	
О	Mourning Dove*	RUD	С	С	С	С	
	CUCULIFORMES						
	Cuculidae — Cuckoos						
О	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	R	-	Х	-	-	
	STRIGIFORMES						
	Tytonidae — Barn Owls						
0	Barn Owl*	RA	u	u	u	u	
	Strigidae — Owls						
0	Western Screech Owl*?	R	r	r	r	r	
0	Great Horned Owl*	RA	u	u	u	u	
0	Burrowing Owl	D	r	r	r	r	
0	Long-eared Owl	RΡ	r?	-	r?	r	
О	Short-eared Owl*	А	r	r	r	r	
	CAPRIMULGIFORMES						
	CAPRIMULGIFORMES Caprimulgidae — Nighthawks						
		D P	u	С	u	-	

Dat	te:	Habitat	Sp	Su	F	W	#
	APODIFORMES						
	Apodidae — Swifts						
0	White-throated Swift*	C R	u	u	u	-	
	Trochilidae — Hummingbirds						
О	Black-chinned Hummingbird*	R	u	u	u	-	
0	Rufous Hummingbird	RF	-	u?	u?	-	
	CORACIFORMES						
	Alcedinidae — Kingfishers						
0	Belted Kingfisher*	R	u	u	u	u	
	PICIFORMES						
	Picidae — Woodpeckers						
О	Lewis's Woodpecker	FR	r	-	r	-	
0	Downy Woodpecker*	R	С	С	С	С	
О	Hairy Woodpecker*	FRP	u	u	u	u	
0	Northern Flicker*	RP	С	С	С	С	
	FALCONIFORMES						
	Falconidae — Falcons						
0	American Kestrel*	RDA	С	С	С	С	
О	Merlin	R M	-	-	-	r	
0	Peregrine Falcon	CW	r	-	r	r	
0	Prairie Falcon	CD	r	r	r	r	
	PASSERIFORMES						
	Tyrannidae — Flycatchers						
0	Olive-sided Flycatcher Western Wood-Pewee*	F	u	u	u	-	
0		FR	u	С	u	-	
0	Willow Flycatcher	R	u	r	u	-	
0	Hammond's Flycatcher	F	-	-	Х	-	
0	Gray Flycatcher	PD	u	-	u	-	

Dat	e:	Habitat	Sp	Su	F	W	#
0	Dusky Flycatcher	R	u	-	u	-	
0	Western Flycatcher (Pacific-slope/Cordilleran)	F	r	-	r	-	
0	Black Phoebe*	R	u	u	u	u	
0	Say's Phoebe*	D	u	u	u	u	
О	Ash-throated Flycatcher*	RPD	u	С	u	-	
О	Western Kingbird*	RAD	С	С	С	-	
0	Eastern Kingbird	RA	-	Х	-	-	
0	Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	Α	-	-	Х	-	
	Laniidae — Shrikes						
О	Loggerhead Shrike*	D	u	u	u	u	
О	Northern Shrike	D	Х	-	-	r	
	Vireonidae — Vireos						
0	Plumbeous Vireo	FR	u?	-	u?	-	
0	Cassin's Vireo	FR	u?	-	u?	-	
О	Warbling Vireo*	R	u	u	u	-	
	Corvidae — Jays, Magpies, Cro	ows and Ra	evens				
0	Pinyon Jay	Р	u	u	u	u	
0	Steller's Jay	FP	-	Х	Х	-	
0	Western Scrub-Jay	PU	x?	x?	x?	x?	
0	Clark's Nutcracker	F	-	-	Х	-	
О	Black-billed Magpie*	RA	С	С	С	С	
0	American Crow*	RA	u	u	u	u	
0	Common Raven*	DR	u	u	u	u	
	Alaudidae — Larks						
0	Horned Lark*?	DA	С	С	С	а	
	Hirundinidae — Swallows						
0	Tree Swallow*	R	С	u	u	r	
0	Violet-green Swallow*	R	u	u	u	-	
0	Northern Rough-winged Swallow*	R	u	u	u	-	
0	Bank Swallow*	R C	С	а	С	-	

O Cliff Swallow* R U C a c - O Barn Swallow* R U C C c r Paridae — Chickadees F u - u u O Mountain Chickadee F u - u u Aegithalidae — Bushtits PR u c u u Sittidae — Nuthatches S - x	Dat	re:	Habitat	Sp	Su	F	W	#
Paridae — Chickadees F u - u	0	Cliff Swallow*	R U	С	а	С	-	
O Mountain Chickadee F u - u u Aegithalidae − Bushtits PR u c u u O Bushtit* PR u c u u Sittidae − Nuthatches F x - x x O Red-breasted Nuthatch F - x? x? <th< td=""><td>0</td><td>Barn Swallow*</td><td>R U</td><td>С</td><td>С</td><td>С</td><td>r</td><td></td></th<>	0	Barn Swallow*	R U	С	С	С	r	
Aegithalidae — Bushtits O Bushtit* PR u c u u u Sittidae — Nuthatches O Red-breasted Nuthatch F x x - x x O White-breasted Nuthatch F - x? x? x? O Certhiidae - Creepers O Brown Creeper F r? Troglodytidae — Wrens O Rock Wren* C r r r r? r? O House Wren* RU u c u - O Marsh Wren* RPD c c c c u Bewick's Wren* RPD c c c c c Polioptilidae — Gnatcatchers O Blue-gray Gnatcatcher* PR u u u - Regulidae — Kinglets O Golden-crowned Kinglet F - r r? r? O Ruby-crowned Kinglet FR u - u u Turdidae — Thrushes O Western Bluebird* RP u u u u - O Mountain Bluebird PFR u - u u O Townsend's Solitaire F - u? r? O Hermit Thrush RF r? - r? - O Hermit Thrush RF r? - r? - O American Robin* RU c c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? r? x?		Paridae — Chickadees						
O Bushtit* PR u c u u Sittidae — Nuthatches O Red-breasted Nuthatch F x - x x O White-breasted Nuthatch F - x? x? x? O Certhiidae - Creepers - - - - r? O Brown Creeper F - - - r? Troglodytidae — Wrens R U u c u - O Rock Wren* R R U u c u - O Marsh Wren* M c c c u u - O Bewick's Wren* R P D u u u - c	0	Mountain Chickadee	F	u	-	u	u	
Sittidae — Nuthatches Red-breasted Nuthatch F X X X X White-breasted Nuthatch F X X X X Certhiidae - Creepers Brown Creeper F Troglodytidae — Wrens Rock Wren* R U W C Warsh Wren* R C R R C R R C R R R C R R R R R R R		Aegithalidae — Bushtits						
O Red-breasted Nuthatch F x - x x x O White-breasted Nuthatch F - x? x? x? x? O Certhiidae - Creepers O Brown Creeper F r? Troglodytidae — Wrens O Rock Wren* C r r r r? r? O House Wren* RU u c u - O Marsh Wren* RPD c c c c u O Bewick's Wren* RPD c c c c c Polioptilidae — Gnatcatchers O Blue-gray Gnatcatcher* PR u u u - Regulidae — Kinglets O Golden-crowned Kinglet F - r? r? O Ruby-crowned Kinglet FR u - u u Turdidae — Thrushes O Western Bluebird* RP u u u - O Mountain Bluebird PFR u - u u O Townsend's Solitaire F - r? r? - O Swainson's Thrush RF r? - r? - O Hermit Thrush RF u? - u? r O American Robin* RU c c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	Bushtit*	PR	u	С	u	u	
O White-breasted Nuthatch F - x? x? x? x? O Certhiidae - Creepers O Brown Creeper F r? Troglodytidae - Wrens O Rock Wren* C r r r r? r? O House Wren* R U u c u - O Marsh Wren* R P D c c c c c Polioptilidae - Gnatcatchers O Blue-gray Gnatcatcher* P R u u u - Regulidae - Kinglets O Golden-crowned Kinglet F - r? r? Ruby-crowned Kinglet F u - u u Turdidae - Thrushes O Western Bluebird* R P R u u u - Mountain Bluebird P F u u u u - Mountain Bluebird P F r? r? r? Swainson's Thrush F r? - r? r? American Robin* R U c c c u Mimidae - Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? r? x?		Sittidae — Nuthatches						
O Certhiidae - Creepers Brown Creeper F r? Troglodytidae — Wrens Rock Wren* C r r r r? r? House Wren* RU u c u - Marsh Wren* RPD c c c c u Bewick's Wren* PR u u u - Regulidae — Gnatcatchers Blue-gray Gnatcatcher* PR u u u - Regulidae — Kinglets Golden-crowned Kinglet FR u - u u Turdidae — Thrushes Western Bluebird* RP u u u u - Mountain Bluebird PFR u - u u Townsend's Solitaire F - u? r Swainson's Thrush RF u? - r? - Hermit Thrush RF u? - u? r American Robin* RU c c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? r? x?	0	Red-breasted Nuthatch	F	Х	-	Х	Х	
O Brown Creeper F r? Troglodytidae - Wrens O Rock Wren* C r r r r? r? O House Wren* R U u c u - O Marsh Wren* M c c c c u Bewick's Wren* R P D c c c c Polioptilidae - Gnatcatchers O Blue-gray Gnatcatcher* P R u u u - Regulidae - Kinglets O Golden-crowned Kinglet F r? r? O Ruby-crowned Kinglet F R u - u u Turdidae - Thrushes O Western Bluebird* R P R u u u u - Mountain Bluebird P F R u u u u r O Mountain Bluebird P F R u - u r O Hermit Thrush F r? - r? - O Hermit Thrush R F u? - u? r O American Robin* R U c c c u Mimidae - Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? r? x?	0	White-breasted Nuthatch	F	-	x?	x?	x?	
Troglodytidae — Wrens O Rock Wren* C r r r r? r? House Wren* R U u c u - Marsh Wren* R P D c c c c u Bewick's Wren* PR u u u - Regulidae — Gnatcatchers Blue-gray Gnatcatcher* Golden-crowned Kinglet F r? r? Ruby-crowned Kinglet FR u - u u Turdidae — Thrushes Western Bluebird* R P U u u - Mountain Bluebird PFR u - u u Townsend's Solitaire F r? - r? - Merrican Robin* R U c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	Certhiidae - Creepers						
O Rock Wren* C r r r? r? O House Wren* R U u c u - O Marsh Wren* R P D c c c c u O Bewick's Wren* R P D c c c c c Polioptilidae − Gnatcatchers O Blue-gray Gnatcatcher* P R u u u − Regulidae − Kinglets O Golden-crowned Kinglet F R u - u u Turdidae − Thrushes O Western Bluebird* R P R u u u u − O Mountain Bluebird P F R u - u u O Townsend's Solitaire F r? - r? - O Hermit Thrush R F u? - u? r O American Robin* R U c c c u Mimidae − Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	Brown Creeper	F	-	-	-	r?	
O House Wren* RU u c u - O Marsh Wren* M c c c c u O Bewick's Wren* RPD c c c c c Polioptilidae — Gnatcatchers O Blue-gray Gnatcatcher* PR u u u u - Regulidae — Kinglets O Golden-crowned Kinglet F - r? r? O Ruby-crowned Kinglet FR u - u u Turdidae — Thrushes O Western Bluebird* RP u u u u - O Mountain Bluebird PFR u - u u O Townsend's Solitaire F - u? r O Swainson's Thrush F r? - r? - O Hermit Thrush RF u? - u? r O American Robin* RU c c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?		Troglodytidae — Wrens						
O Marsh Wren*	0	Rock Wren*	С	r	r	r?	r?	
O Bewick's Wren* RPD c c c c c Polioptilidae — Gnatcatchers O Blue-gray Gnatcatcher* PR u u u u - Regulidae — Kinglets O Golden-crowned Kinglet F r? r? O Ruby-crowned Kinglet FR u - u u Turdidae — Thrushes O Western Bluebird* RP u u u u - O Mountain Bluebird PFR u - u u O Townsend's Solitaire F - u? r O Swainson's Thrush F r? - r? - O Hermit Thrush RF u? - u? r O American Robin* RU c c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	House Wren*	RU	u	С	u	-	
Polioptilidae — Gnatcatchers Description: Blue-gray Gnatcatcher* PR u u u u - Regulidae — Kinglets Golden-crowned Kinglet FR u - r? r? Ruby-crowned Kinglet FR u - u u Turdidae — Thrushes Western Bluebird* RP u u u u - Mountain Bluebird PFR u - u u Townsend's Solitaire Fr - u? r Swainson's Thrush RF r? - r? - Hermit Thrush RF u? - u? r American Robin* RU c c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	Marsh Wren*	Μ	С	С	С	u	
O Blue-gray Gnatcatcher* PR u u u u - Regulidae — Kinglets O Golden-crowned Kinglet F r? r? O Ruby-crowned Kinglet FR u - u u Turdidae — Thrushes O Western Bluebird* RP u u u u - O Mountain Bluebird PFR u - u u O Townsend's Solitaire F - u? r O Swainson's Thrush F r? - r? - O Hermit Thrush RF u? - u? r O American Robin* RU c c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	Bewick's Wren*	RPD	С	С	С	С	
Regulidae — Kinglets O Golden-crowned Kinglet F r? r? Nuby-crowned Kinglet F R u - u u Turdidae — Thrushes O Western Bluebird* R P U u u u Mountain Bluebird P F R u - u u Townsend's Solitaire F - u? r Swainson's Thrush F r? - r? - Hermit Thrush R F u? - u? r American Robin* R U C C C u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?		${\bf Polioptilidae-Gnatcatchers}$						
O Golden-crowned Kinglet F r? r? Number rowned Kinglet F R u - u u Turdidae — Thrushes Western Bluebird* R P u u u u Mountain Bluebird P F R u - u u Townsend's Solitaire F - u? r Swainson's Thrush F r? - r? - Hermit Thrush R F u? - u? r American Robin* R U c c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	PR	u	u	u	-	
O Ruby-crowned Kinglet FR u - u u Turdidae — Thrushes O Western Bluebird* RP u u u u - O Mountain Bluebird PFR u - u u O Townsend's Solitaire F - u? r O Swainson's Thrush F r? - r? - O Hermit Thrush RF u? - u? r O American Robin* RU c c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?		Regulidae — Kinglets						
Turdidae — Thrushes O Western Bluebird* R P u u u u - O Mountain Bluebird P F R u - u u O Townsend's Solitaire F - u? r O Swainson's Thrush F r? - r? - O Hermit Thrush R F u? - u? r O American Robin* R U c c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	Golden-crowned Kinglet	F	-	-	r?	r?	
O Western Bluebird* R P u u u u - O Mountain Bluebird P F R u - u u O Townsend's Solitaire F u? r O Swainson's Thrush F r? - r? - O Hermit Thrush R F u? - u? r O American Robin* R U c c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	FR	u	-	u	u	
O Mountain Bluebird PFR u - u u O Townsend's Solitaire F u? r O Swainson's Thrush F r? - r? - O Hermit Thrush RF u? - u? r O American Robin* RU c c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?		Turdidae — Thrushes						
O Townsend's Solitaire F u? r O Swainson's Thrush F r? - r? - O Hermit Thrush R F u? - u? r O American Robin* R U C C C u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	Western Bluebird*	RP	u	u	u	-	
O Swainson's Thrush F r? - r? - O Hermit Thrush R F u? - u? r O American Robin* R U c c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	Mountain Bluebird	PFR	u	-	u	u	
O Hermit Thrush R F u? - u? r O American Robin* R U c c c u Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	Townsend's Solitaire	F	-	-	u?	r	
O American Robin* R U C C C U Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	Swainson's Thrush	F	r?	-	r?	-	
Mimidae — Thrashers and Mockingbirds O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	Hermit Thrush	RF	u?	-	u?	r	
O Sage Thrasher*? D r? r? r? x?	0	American Robin*	RU	С	С	С	u	
		Mimidae — Thrashers and Mod	ckingbirds					
O Northern Mockingbird* PDU u u u u	0	Sage Thrasher*?	D	r?	r?	r?	x?	
	0	Northern Mockingbird*	PDU	u	u	u	u	

Dat	re:	Habitat	Sp	Su	F	W	#
	Sturnidae — Starlings						
0	European Starling*>	RAU	С	С	С	а	
	Motacilliae — Pipits						
0	American pipit	S A	r	-	r?	r	
	Bombycillidae — Waxwings						
0	Cedar Waxwing	R	u	-	u	u	
	Ptilogonatidae — Silky Flycato	hers					
0	Phainopepla	R	-	-	Х	-	
	Parulidae – Wood Warblers						
0	Black-and-white Warbler	F	-	X	-	-	
0	Orange-crowned Warbler	RF	u	-	u	r?	
0	Nashville Warbler	R	r?	-	r?	-	
0	Virginia's Warbler	PRF	r?	-	r?	-	
0	MacGillivray's Warbler	FRP	u	-	u	-	
0	Common Yellowthroat*?	MR	u	u	u	-	
0	American Redstart	F	r?	-	r?	-	
0	Yellow Warbler*	R	u	С	u	-	
0	Chestnut-sided Warbler	F	-	-	Χ	-	
0	Yellow-rumped Warbler	FR	С	-	С	С	
0	Black-throated Gray Warbler	Р	r?	-	r?	-	
0	Townsend's Warbler	FR	u	-	u	-	
О	Wilson's Warbler	R	u	-	u	-	
О	Yellow-breasted Chat*	R	r	u	r	-	
	Emberizidae — Towhees, Spar	rows and 3	Junco	s			
О	Green-tailed Towhee	RPD	x?	-	x?	_	
О	Spotted Towhee*	PRD	u	С	u	r	
О	Chipping Sparrow	RF	u	-	u	-	
О	Brewer's Sparrow*	D	u	u	u	-	
О	Vesper Sparrow	А	r	-	r	-	
О	Lark Sparrow*	PD	u	С	u	-	

Dat	e:	Habitat	Sp	Su	F	W	#
0	Black-throated Sparrow*	D	u	u	u	-	
0	Sagebrush Sparrow*	D	u	u	u	u	
0	Lark Bunting	DA	-	Х	-	-	
0	Savannah Sparrow*	А	u	u	u	u	
0	Fox Sparrow	F	r	-	r	-	
0	Song Sparrow*	R	u	С	u	u	
0	Lincoln's Sparrow	R	u	-	u	r	
0	White-crowned Sparrow	RU	С	-	С	а	
0	Golden-crowned Sparrow	RU	r	-	r	r	
0	Dark-eyed Junco	FR	u	-	u	u	
	Cardinalidae — Tanagers, Gro	sbeaks and	d Bunt	ings			
0	Western Tanager	FR	u	u	u	-	
0	Black-headed Grosbeak*	RP	u	С	u	-	
0	Blue Grosbeak*	R	u	u	r	-	
0	Lazuli Bunting*	R	u	С	u	-	
	Icteridae — Blackbirds, Cowb	irds and O	rioles				
0	Red-winged Blackbird*	MRA	С	С	С	С	
0	Western Meadowlark*	DA	С	С	С	С	
0	Yellow-headed Blackbird*	МА	С	С	С	r	
0	Brewer's Blackbird*	RAU	С	С	С	С	
0	Great Tailed Grackle*	RU	u	u	u	u	
0	Bullock's Oriole*	R A	u	С	u	-	
0	Brown-headed Cowbird*	R A	u	С	u	u	
	Fringillidae — Finches						
0	House Finch*	UPR	С	С	С	С	
0	Cassin's Finch	F	-	-	-	r	
0	Pine Siskin	F U	r?	-	r?	?	
0	Lesser Goldfinch*	RU	u	u	u	u	
0	American Goldfinch	RU	u	r	u	u	

Da	Date:										1	٦ć	an	υı	aı	ι		2 h)		2	u		ı	_			۷۱	/		1	H										
	Passeridae — Old World Sparro												rc	W	/S																											
0	Н	House Sparrow*>												U u				u u				ı			u																	
AD	DI	ΤI	0	N	ΑI	L :	SI	PE	EC	:1	ES	S:																														
		-			-	-	-	_				_	_	-	-	-	-	-	_	_					-	_	-	-			_	-	-	-	-	_		 			-	-
		-		-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-	-		-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	 			-	-
		-		-	-	-	-	_			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_		-			-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	_		 			-	-
		-		-	-	-	-	-				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-			-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	 			-	-
		-		-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		-			-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-		 			-	-
		-			-	-	-	-				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					-	_	-	-			-	-	-	-	-	-		 			-	-

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Bird Guide and Checklist benefited from the support and input of numerous parties, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Lahontan National Fish Hatchery Complex, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Walker River Paiute Tribe, Otis Bay Ecological Consultants, Great Basin Bird Observatory, Lahontan Audubon Society and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, as well as review and input from Rob Lowry, Martin Meyers, and Dennis Serdehely. The checklist was built on information gleaned from extensive bird surveys conducted by the Great Basin Bird Observatory with funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and supplemented by bird surveys completed by Otis Bay Ecological Consultants, sightings submitted to eBird by birders, data provided by the Nevada Department of Wildlife from its years of managing the Mason Valley Wildlife Management Area, and postings from the Nevada Birds List Server by individual birders. Special thanks to Graham Chisholm for coordinating this effort and bringing this project along, and to Diane Wong-Kone for combing through various data sources, personal experience conducting surveys and careful compilation and review of the bird checklist.

SUGGESTED CITATION

Otis Bay, Inc. and Great Basin Bird Observatory. 2014. Lower Walker River Bird Checklist. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Gardnerville, NV. 24 pp.







SUSAN MORTENSON















