



Birdwatching at Palomarin

The Palomarin area is composed of grassland and coastal scrub (coyote brush and California sagebrush). Although you won't see any waterfowl here, this is a great place to watch songbirds and raptors.

The Point Reyes Bird Observatory, founded in 1965, is also located in the Palomarin area. The observatory works to conserve birds, other wildlife and their habitats through innovative scientific research and outreach. Stop by the Point Reyes Bird Observatory (PRBO) Visitor Center and Bird Banding Lab. From dawn to noon you may accompany field biologists as they check mist-nets for birds, and then watch bird banding in the lab. For specific dates and times to participate call PRBO (707-868-1221). Continue your exploration in the Visitor Center and stroll down the nature trail to learn more about local birds and their habitats in addition to PRBO's bird conservation projects throughout the west.

Resident Birds (Present all year - numbers vary)

Red-tailed Hawk
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Cooper's Hawk
American Kestrel
Northern Saw-whet Owl
Northern Spotted Owl
Anna's Hummingbird
Bewick's Wren
Winter Wren
Scrub Jay
Steller's Jay
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
American Robin
Western Bluebird

Resident Birds cont.

Black Phoebe
Brown Creeper
Red-breasted Nuthatch
Bushtit
Spotted Towhee
Wrentit
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Oregon Junco
California Towhee
House Finch
Purple Finch
Song Sparrow
Nuttall's Woodpecker
White-crowned Sparrow
Chestnut-backed Chickadee

Summer Birds

Rufous Hummingbird
Allen's Hummingbird
Red-breasted Sapsucker
Olive-sided Flycatcher
Pacific Slope Flycatcher
Warbling Vireo
Hutton's Vireo
Tree Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow
Swainson's Thrush
Wilson's Warbler
Orange-crowned Warbler
American Goldfinch
Black-headed Grosbeak

Winter Birds

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Hermit Thrush
Varied Thrush
Fox Sparrow
Golden-crowned Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
Townsend's Warbler
Pine Siskin

Migrants

Cassin's Vireo
House Wren
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Hermit Warbler
Black-throated Gray Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Yellow Warbler
Western Tanager
Lincoln's Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Lazuli Bunting



Birdwatching at Five Brooks

The pond at Five Brooks and the vegetation surrounding it offers excellent avian diversity. The pond is located about 100 yards from the parking lot. A trail encircles it, but hikers can also link up to three longer trails, which differ dramatically from one another. At the west-end of the pond, the Olema Valley Trail goes south through mature, mixed forest. The Stewart Trail goes northeast into old growth Douglas Fir (a magnificent Osprey nest about ¼ mile in) and the Rift Zone Trail leads north to open (cleared) meadowland and Olema Creek.

Resident Birds (Present all year - numbers vary)

Pied-billed Grebe
Double-crested Cormorant
Wood Duck
Belted Kingfisher
Gadwall
Turkey Vulture
Red-shouldered Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
California Quail
American Robin
Western Screech Owl
Saw-whet Owl
Band-tailed Pigeon
Anna's Hummingbird
Acorn Woodpecker
Pileated Woodpecker
Nuttall's Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pine Siskin
Scrub Jay
Steller's Jay
Chestnut-backed Chickadee
Bushtit
Wrentit
Winter Wren
Bewick's Wren
Hutton's Vireo
Brown Creeper
Black Phoebe
Song Sparrow
Spotted Towhee
California Towhee
Purple Finch
Pygmy Nuthatch

Summer Birds

Green Heron
Great-blue Heron
Barn Owl
Allen's Hummingbird
Olive-sided Flycatcher
Pacific slope Flycatcher
Western Wood-peewee
Purple Martin
Tree Swallow
Violet-green Swallow
Barn Swallow
Rough-winged Swallow
Swainson's Thrush
Warbling Vireo
Orange-crowned Warbler
Wilson's Warbler
Black-headed Grosbeak
American Goldfinch

Winter Birds

American Wigeon
Mallard
Ring-necked Duck
Bufflehead
Common Goldeneye
Cooper's Hawk
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Varied Thrush
Hermit Thrush
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Fox Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
Golden-crowned Sparrow

Migrants

Common Loon
Black-throated Gray Warbler
Cassin's Vireo
Hermit Warbler
Western Grebe