

The Birds of Pulpit Rock Trail and Elephant Mountain

While hiking up the pulpit rock trail and on past up to the flagpole, it is possible to encounter many different species of birds, depending on the time of year, and on the habitat. For example, some birds like more open habitat and are more likely to be found higher up, between Pulpit Rock and the flagpole. Some species spend most of their time on the wing, and are best seen from a clearing, flying overhead.

Of course, some birds are more common than others. For example, some birds make Elephant Mountain their home year 'round. While other birds, only return to the area to breed during the summer months and are best seen or heard from May to early September. By late fall, these birds are heading south to spend the winter in the tropics.

Birding takes patience ... and the willingness to be quiet to better absorb the natural sights and sounds of the woods. Human activity can make birds skittish, and loud talking makes it difficult to hear them as they call from the brush or high up in the trees. If a bird does flit by the trail, or above your head, or you happen to hear it calling, take a few moments to stop and listen. You may be able to identify it by its sound, or get a better glimpse of it.

Here's a list of species that may be encountered along the trail. To learn more about any given species, click on the link.

1. [Ruffed Grouse](#)
2. [Turkey Vulture](#)
3. [Osprey](#)
4. [Bald Eagle](#)
5. [Red-tailed Hawk](#)
6. [Cooper's Hawk](#)
7. [Northern Goshawk](#)
8. [Northern Pygmy-owl](#)
9. [Vaux's Swift](#)
10. [Black Swift](#)
11. [Rufous Hummingbird](#)
12. [Calliope Hummingbird](#)
13. [Red-naped Sapsucker](#)
14. [Hairy Woodpecker](#)
15. [Downy Woodpecker](#)
16. [Northern Flicker](#)
17. [Pileated Woodpecker](#)
18. [Merlin](#)
19. [Western Wood-pewee](#)
20. [Hammond's Flycatcher](#)
21. [Pacific-slope Flycatcher](#)
22. [Cassin's Vireo](#)
23. [Warbling Vireo](#)
24. [Red-eyed Vireo](#)
25. [Brown-headed Cowbird](#)
26. [Steller's Jay](#)
27. [Gray Jay](#)
28. [Common Raven](#)
29. [American Crow](#)
30. [Clark's Nutcracker](#)
31. [Violet-green Swallow](#)
32. [Tree Swallow](#)
33. [Black-capped Chickadee](#)
34. [Chestnut-backed Chickadee](#)
35. [Red-breasted Nuthatch](#)
36. [Brown Creeper](#)
37. [Pacific Wren](#)
38. [Golden-crowned Kinglet](#)
39. [Ruby-crowned Kinglet](#)
40. [Townsend's Solitaire](#)
41. [Swainson's Thrush](#)
42. [American Robin](#)
43. [Varied Thrush](#)
44. [Cedar Waxwing](#)
45. [Bohemian Waxwing](#)
46. [Nashville Warbler](#)
47. [Yellow-rumped Warbler](#)
48. [Townsend's Warbler](#)
49. [Wilson's Warbler](#)
50. [Spotted Towhee](#)
51. [Chipping Sparrow](#)
52. [White-crowned Sparrow](#)
53. [Song Sparrow](#)
54. [Dark-eyed Junco](#)
55. [Western Tanager](#)
56. [Lazuli Bunting](#)
57. [Black-headed Grosbeak](#)
58. [American Goldfinch](#)
59. [Red Crossbill](#)
60. [Pine Grosbeak](#)
61. [Common Redpoll](#)
62. [Pine Siskin](#)
63. [Evening Grosbeak](#)