

## RGNC BIRD NOTES: September 2013

*Information about bird walks and birds at the Rio Grande Nature Center plus whatever strikes Lefty's fancy*

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*January 2011 through September 2013*

### September adds two new species to the cumulative list

A gray catbird seen September 21 and a clay-colored sparrow recorded September 14 and 15 have been added to the cumulative list that I've kept for all Rio Grande Nature Center bird walks since January 2011. These two new species brings the 33-month cumulative list of birds to an impressive 184 species.

September 2013 also added another six species of birds to the 2013 year-to-date list: Northern pintail, American white pelican, calliope hummingbird, olive-sided flycatcher, Townsend's warbler, and lazuli bunting. The total number of bird species seen from January 2013 through September 2013 stands at 161. And here's another note about the September 2013 bird sightings: A total of 88 species were seen on nine walks, the second greatest monthly total after the 111 species reported in May 2013.

Here are the top 13 most-often reported birds during September 2013 (listed as a percentage of sightings for all nine walks):

1. Canada Goose	100%	8. White-breasted Nuthatch	100%
2. Wood Duck	100%	9. House Finch	100%
3. Mallard	100%	10. Snowy Egret	88.9%
4. Black-chinned Hummingbird	100%	11. American Coot	88.9%
5. Black Phoebe	100%	12. White-winged Dove	88.9%
6. Barn Swallow	100%	13. Mourning Dove	88.9%
7. Black-capped Chickadee	100%		

By the way, a total of 34 species were recorded only once during the September 2013 walks. In taxonomic order, they are:

1. Gadwall	13. Peregrine Falcon	25. Gray Catbird
2. Cinnamon Teal	14. Killdeer	26. European Starling
3. Northern Shoveler	15. Spotted Sandpiper	27. Orange-crowned Warbler
4. Green-winged Teal	16. Rock Pigeon	28. Virginia's Warbler
5. Redhead	17. Eurasian Collared-Dove	29. Black-throated Gray Warbler
6. Ring-necked Pheasant	18. Greater Roadrunner	30. Vesper Sparrow
7. Double-crested Cormorant	19. Calliope Hummingbird	31. Blue Grosbeak
8. American White Pelican	20. Ladder-backed Woodpecker	32. Red-winged Blackbird
9. White-faced Ibis	21. Olive-sided Flycatcher	33. American Goldfinch
10. Osprey	22. Western Scrub-Jay	34. House Sparrow
11. Northern Harrier	23. Violet-green Swallow	
12. Red-tailed Hawk	24. Hermit Thrush	