

### Anderson Mesa

IBA web pages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="http://www.audubon.org/important-bird-areas/anderson-mesa-coconino-national-forest">http://www.audubon.org/important-bird-areas/anderson-mesa-coconino-national-forest</a></li> <li>- <a href="http://aziba.org/?page_id=770">http://aziba.org/?page_id=770</a></li> </ul>
Priority	Global
Qualifying Criteria	<p>A1 Site Important to Special Status Avian Species (Pinyon Jay)</p> <p>D1 Site Important to Special Status Avian Species (Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Mexican Spotted Owl, Northern Goshawk, Golden Eagle, American Bittern, Ferruginous Hawk, Common Nighthawk, Evening Grosbeak, Northern Pygmy Owl, Pinyon Jay, Lincoln's Sparrow, MacGillivray's Warbler, Savannah Sparrow)</p> <p>D4ii Waterfowl concentrations &gt; 2000 at one time (Ruddy Duck, Gadwall, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Bufflehead)</p> <p><b>eBird Checklist:</b> <a href="https://ebird.org/barchart?byr=1900&amp;eyr=2020&amp;bmo=1&amp;emo=12&amp;r=US-AZ_1229">https://ebird.org/barchart?byr=1900&amp;eyr=2020&amp;bmo=1&amp;emo=12&amp;r=US-AZ_1229</a></p>
IBA Polygon Center Point (Latitude, Longitude)	35.01700, -111.40000
Size	167,510 Acres
County	Coconino
Local Communities	Flagstaff
Description	Lake complex, including permanent and semi-permanent lakes and wetlands, ephemeral wetlands, grasslands, pinyon-juniper and coniferous forests. Anderson Mesa begins about 9 miles southeast of Flagstaff, continuing as a gently sloping tableland for approximately 25 miles to the southeast. The northern lakes are Marshall, Lower and Upper Mary, and Mormon. Ashurst and Kinnikinck Lakes are more central. The southern lakes are Long, Soldiers', Soldiers' Annex, Tremaine and Hay. Along the length of the mesa are many ephemeral wetlands of varying sizes. Low bluffs outline part of the western edge. Lakes Mary & Mormon are below the bluffs. Mormon Mountain stands on the west of Mormon Lake. Various habitats are coniferous & deciduous trees, shrubs, small canyons, open grasslands, seasonal marsh wetlands, shallow wet meadows and lacustrine.
Mission/Goals	Conservation of a major wetlands complex that is a significant migration stop over for waterfowl, water birds, and wading birds and provides habitat for nesting waterfowl. Conserving the pinyon pine upland forests as globally significant habitat for pinyon jays.
Current Habitat Conservation,	Research/Conservation Projects: A large conservation project is the

<p>Planning, and Management Activities</p>	<p>restoration of Hay Lake, filling in the drainage canals and channels so that 1200 acres will naturally retain water as it historically did. Lakebed grasses from Mormon Lake were planted (October 2003) along mid-shoreline of Tremaine Lake to help restore native lake grasses (spike grass). A conservation project at Horse Lake repaired/replaced existing fencing (a priority project of the Northern Arizona Bird Conservation Committee/Intermountain West Joint Venture).</p>
<p>Land Cover Type<sup>1</sup> (%) and Associated Priority<sup>2</sup> Birds</p> <p><sup>1</sup>Southwest Regional Gap Analysis modified to align with ABBA/SWAP habitat types</p> <p><sup>2</sup>AGFD SGCN and IBA Qualifying Species</p>	<p>47.19 Pinyon Pine-Juniper Woodland (<i>Pinyon Jay, Mexican Spotted Owl, Ferruginous Hawk, Common Nighthawk</i>)</p> <p>25.76 Ponderosa Pine Forest (<i>Mexican Spotted Owl, Common Nighthawk, Northern Pygmy Owl, Evening Grosbeak, Lewis's Woodpecker</i>)</p> <p>12.42 Cold-temperate (Great Basin)/Plains Grassland (<i>Golden Eagle, Ferruginous Hawk, Common Nighthawk, Savannah Sparrow</i>)</p> <p>8.18 Montane Meadow/Subalpine Grasslands (<i>Golden Eagle, Ferruginous Hawk, Common Nighthawk, Savannah Sparrow</i>)</p> <p>3.94 Riparian (<i>Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, American Bittern, Lincoln's Sparrow, Ruddy Duck, Gadwall, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Bufflehead</i>)</p> <p>1.26 Interior Chaparral (<i>Ferruginous Hawk, Common Nighthawk</i>)</p> <p>1.25 Other (Sonoran Desertscrub: Lower Colorado River, Agriculture, Mixed-Conifer Forest, Ponderosa Pine-Gambel's Oak Forest, Urban/Residential) (<i>Mexican Spotted Owl, Northern Goshawk, Common Nighthawk, Evening Grosbeak, Northern Pygmy Owl, MacGillivray's Warbler</i>)</p>
<p>Related Habitat Accounts*</p>	<p>Pinyon Juniper Pine High grassland Montane riparian Conifer forest</p>
<p>Biological Description</p>	<p>From a landscape perspective, Anderson Mesa contains the only major wetland complex between Lake Roosevelt to the south and Lake Powell to the north. Habitat types include coniferous &amp; deciduous trees, shrubs, small canyons, open grasslands, seasonal marsh wetlands, shallow wet meadows and lacustrine.</p>
<p>Focal Bird Species</p>	<p><b><u>IBA Qualifying Species</u></b></p>

	<p><b>Global:</b> Pinyon jay</p> <p><b>State:</b> Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Mexican Spotted Owl, Northern Goshawk, Golden Eagle, American Bittern, Ferruginous Hawk, Common Nighthawk, Evening Grosbeak, Northern Pygmy Owl, Lincoln’s Sparrow, MacGillivray’s Warbler, Savannah Sparrow, Ruddy Duck, Gadwall, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Bufflehead</p> <p><b><u>AGFD Species of Greatest Conservation Need</u></b></p> <p>Tier 1a: Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Mexican Spotted Owl</p> <p>Tier 1b: Northern Goshawk, Golden Eagle, American Bittern, Ferruginous Hawk, Common Nighthawk, Evening Grosbeak, Northern Pygmy Owl, Pinyon Jay, Lincoln’s Sparrow, MacGillivray’s Warbler, Savannah Sparrow</p> <p><b><u>Federal Threatened or Endangered Species</u></b></p> <p>Mexican Spotted Owl</p> <p><b><u>USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern</u></b></p> <p>National: Peregrine Falcon, Flammulated Owl, Lewis’s Woodpecker, Pinyon Jay, Virginia’s Warbler, Red-faced Warbler, Brewer’s Sparrow USFWS Region – Peregrine Falcon, Lewis’s Woodpecker, Pinyon Jay, Red-faced Warbler</p>
NABCI Bird Conservation Region	34: Sierra Madre Occidental
Ownership	Ownership status determined through GIS analysis. Ownership is 96% USDA Coconino National Forest, Mormon Lake Ranger District and 3.9% private land. There are 14 hectares of State Trust Lands that are less than one percent of the land ownership for this IBA. The Arizona Trail crosses the Important Bird Area on the west side of Mormon Lake and Kinnickinick Lake.
Conservation Land Status**	Designated USFS wetlands management area
Human Population Density	Rural
Legislative District(s)	Arizona Congressional District 1 and State Legislative District 6 and 7
NRCS Major Land Resource Area	35: Colorado Plateau
Visitation, main access, and permits needed	Located 20 miles southeast of Flagstaff on public US Forest land, take the Lake Mary Road exit and travel east on Forest Road 3. Mormon Lake Lodge is located on the south side of Mormon Lake. There

	are overlooks, trails and two-track roads throughout. Winter road restrictions.
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\*References available written narratives (located on the SJV website) for general habitat types occurring within the IBA.

\*\*Identifies whether the IBA or portions of the IBA have a special land management designation such as: wilderness, primitive area, wildlife area, refuge, park, monument, designated conservation area, conservation easement, or other similar designation

**IBA Activities:**

<b>Issue or Activity</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Actions</b>
Bird Monitoring	M	eBird	Monitor eBird data. Organize periodic Pinyon Jay survey efforts using eBird
Christmas Bird Count	H	Anderson Mesa CBC	Monitor CBC
Bird Monitoring	H	Pinyon Jay Surveys	NAAS Pilot program began in 2021
Bird Monitoring	M	Marsh Bird Surveys May-June	Add data to IBA database as available
IBA Signage	M	Small IBA signs	Install signs identifying site as an IBA
IBA Dedication Event	M	A formal recognition event	Coordinate with Coconino NF and Mormon Lake Lodge
Updated	June 2021		

**Partners:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role(s)</b>	<b>Contact Information</b>	<b>Actions</b>
Coconino National Forest	Land Manager	<a href="#">Flagstaff Ranger District</a>	Managed under the Coconino National Forest's <i>Forest, Land, and Resource Management Plan</i>
Northern Arizona Audubon Society	Site Steward and volunteer surveyors	<a href="#">Northern Arizona Audubon Society</a>	Organize annual CBC and Pinyon Jay survey efforts. Volunteer marsh bird surveyors. Participate in northern Arizona ABCI committee.
Arizona Game and Fish Department	Marsh Bird Annual Surveys	<a href="#">Arizona Game and Fish Department, Nongame Bird Program</a>	Annual coordination for marsh bird surveys
Diablo Trust	Collaborative grassroots land management team	<a href="#">Diablo Trust</a>	Participate as appropriate

**Conservation Targets:**

<b>Conservation Target</b>	<b>Current Condition</b>
Wetlands Restoration/Protection (wetland birds)	Good
Healthy Forest Management (Pinyon jay)	Very Good

These are species, communities, or ecological systems that represent and encompass the full array of biodiversity found in this IBA.

**Conservation Challenges:**

Conservation challenges are primarily human activities that immediately affect what we are trying to conserve. Although we identified (through a Miradi process) several main challenges, one, the drying of wetlands, was determined to be the most serious and in need of immediate action.

<b>Challenge</b>	<b>Wetland Birds</b>	<b>Pinyon Jay</b>	<b>Priority</b>
Overgrazing	Medium	Low	Low
Drying of Wetlands	High	NA	Medium
Wild Fire	Low	Medium	Low
Pine Bark Beetle	NA	Medium	Low

<b>Anderson Mesa, Coconino National Forest</b>	<b>Severity (1-3)</b>	<b>Scope (1-3)</b>	<b>Permanence (2-4)</b>
<b>Threats on National Database</b>			
Forest Grazing 5	1	3	1
Natural events 8	3	2	3
Recreation/tourism 3	1	1	1