

## Marble Canyon and Vermillion Cliffs

IBA web pages	<a href="http://www.audubon.org/important-bird-areas/marble-canyon-and-vermillion-cliffs">http://www.audubon.org/important-bird-areas/marble-canyon-and-vermillion-cliffs</a> <a href="http://aziba.org/?page_id=476">http://aziba.org/?page_id=476</a>
Priority	Global
Qualifying Criteria	AI: Species of global conservation concern (California Condor)  DI: Site Important to Special Status Avian Species concern (Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Peregrine Falcon, California Condor, Bald Eagle, Mexican Spotted Owl, Northern Goshawk, Golden Eagle, Western Burrowing Owl, American Bittern, Ferruginous Hawk, Common Nighthawk, American Dipper, Yellow Warbler, Pinyon Jay, Lincoln's Sparrow, Pacific Wren)
IBA Polygon Center Point (Latitude, Longitude)	36.8656°N, 111.5848°W
Size	102,058 acres
County	Coconino
Local Communities	Page
Description	This IBA consists of 125 miles of the Colorado River corridor and adjacent side canyons from Glen Canyon Dam to the mouth of the Little Colorado River. It also contains the Vermillion Cliffs Wilderness Area.
Mission/Goals	To conserve avian species, including species of conservation concern and high densities of breeding and migratory raptors, within Marble Canyon and the Vermillion Cliffs Wilderness Area.
Current Habitat Conservation, Planning, and Management Activities	The Peregrine Fund is the lead organization for the restoration of California Condors at Grand Canyon. Current information is available at <a href="http://www.peregrinefund.org">http://www.peregrinefund.org</a> .  From 1996 to 2000 a research study was completed on the aquatic and riparian bird communities of the Colorado River from Glen Canyon Dam to upper Lake Mead.
Land Cover Type <sup>1</sup> (%) and Associated Priority <sup>2</sup> Birds  <sup>1</sup> Southwest Regional Gap Analysis modified to align with ABBA/SWAP habitat types  <sup>2</sup> AGFD SGCN and IBA Qualifying Species	40.23 Cold Temperate (Great Basin) Desert Scrub ( <i>California Condor</i> , <i>Golden Eagle</i> , <i>Western Burrowing Owl</i> , <i>Ferruginous Hawk</i> , <i>Common Nighthawk</i> )  31.73 Rock ( <i>Peregrine Falcon</i> , <i>California Condor</i> , <i>Mexican Spotted Owl</i> , <i>Golden Eagle</i> )

	<p>15.44 Cold Temperate (Great Basin)/Plains Grassland (<i>California Condor, Golden Eagle, Western Burrowing Owl, Ferruginous Hawk, Common Nighthawk</i>)</p> <p>6.62 Riparian (<i>Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Bald Eagle, American Dipper, Yellow Warbler, Lincoln's Sparrow</i>)</p> <p>3.09 Pinyon Pine-Juniper Woodland (<i>California Condor, Golden Eagle, Common Nighthawk, Pinyon Jay</i>)</p> <p>1.34 Wash</p> <p>1.55 Other (Sonoran Desertscrub: Lower Colorado River, Mohave Desertscrub, Urban/Residential, Sonoran/Mohave Desertscrub, Interior Chaparral, Ponderosa Pine Forest)</p>
<p>Related Habitat Accounts*</p>	<p>Cold Desertscrub High Grasslands Lowland Riparian Pinyon Juniper Pine</p>
<p>Biological Description</p>	<p>This IBA supports outstanding numbers of over-wintering waterfowl, up to 6000 birds total. In addition, the IBA is 20 miles from the release area for the re-introduced population of California Condors in Arizona, and provides a primary foraging and roosting habitat, along with the Grand Canyon National Park further downstream. Wild fledged condors are using the IBA as a travel and foraging corridor between the Vermilion Cliffs release site and the South Rim of the Grand Canyon.</p> <p>A Great Blue Heron colony (3-4 pairs) exists within the IBA. The riparian habitat provides the best migration corridor in northern Arizona, and supports substantial numbers of passerines, gulls, raptors (especially Osprey), and Belted Kingfisher.</p>
<p>Focal Bird Species</p>	<p><b><u>IBA Qualifying Species</u></b></p> <p>Global: California Condor</p> <p>State: Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Peregrine Falcon, California Condor, Bald Eagle, Mexican Spotted Owl, Northern Goshawk, Golden Eagle, Western Burrowing Owl, American Bittern, Ferruginous Hawk, Common Nighthawk, American Dipper, Yellow Warbler, Pinyon Jay, Lincoln's Sparrow, Pacific Wren</p> <p><b><u>AGFD Species of Greatest Conservation Need</u></b></p>

	<p>Tier a: Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Peregrine Falcon, California Condor, Bald Eagle, Mexican Spotted Owl</p> <p>Tier b: Northern Goshawk, Golden Eagle, Western Burrowing Owl, American Bittern, Ferruginous Hawk, Common Nighthawk, American Dipper, Yellow Warbler, Pinyon Jay, Lincoln's Sparrow, Pacific Wren</p> <p><b><u>Federal Threatened or Endangered Species</u></b></p> <p>California Condor, Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Mexican Spotted Owl</p> <p><b><u>USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern</u></b></p> <p>National – Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Mexican Spotted Owl, Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Loggerhead Shrike, Bell's Vireo, Gray Vireo, Pinyon Jay, Lucy's Warbler, Grace's Warbler</p> <p>USFWS Region – Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Burrowing Owl, Loggerhead Shrike, Bell's Vireo, Pinyon Jay, Lucy's Warbler, Grace's Warbler, Yellow Warbler</p>
NABCI Bird Conservation Region	I 6: Southern Rockies/Colorado Plateau
Ownership	National Park Service and Bureau of Land Management
Conservation Land Status**	Wilderness Area (Vermillion Cliffs) and National Recreation Area (Glenn Canyon)
Human Population Density	Rural
Legislative District(s)	Arizona Congressional District I and State Legislative District 7
NRCS Major Land Resource Area	45: Colorado Plateau
Visitation, main access, and permits needed	Lees Ferry and Navajo Bridge Interpretive Center is located on Highway 89A 45 miles southwest of Page Arizona and 62 miles southeast of the North Rim of Grand Canyon National Park. Lees Ferry is located seven miles down the Lees Ferry road from Navajo Bridge Interpretive Center. Vermillion Cliffs are located adjacent to U.S. Highway Alternate 89 (89A) for approximately 30 miles to the south and west. From Kanab, Utah, take U.S. Highway Alternate 89 (89A) south and then east from Jacob Lake to the cliffs.

\*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:**

Issue or Activity	Priority	Description	Actions
CBC	M	Glen Canyon	Extract IBA data
Bird Surveys	L	NPS Waterfowl Counts	Encourage eBird entries
IBA Signage	Done	Install signs identifying the site as an IBA	Signs delivered to NPS
IBA Dedication	Done	A formal recognition event	Included in GCNP Dedication Fall 2014

**Partners:**

Name	Role(s)	Contact Information	Actions
Glen Canyon NRA	Land Manager	PO Box 1507. Page, Arizona 86040 (928) 608-6200 7 am to 4 pm MST, Monday through Friday.	Coordinate with biology staff to get relevant avian data
Peregrine Fund	Condor Recovery	<a href="#">Contact Information:</a>  5668 West Flying Hawk Lane, Boise, Idaho 83709  208-362-3716	Coordinate with biology staff to get relevant avian data
BLM Vermilion Cliffs National Monument	Land Manager	Dixie/Arizona Strip Interpretive Association 345 East Riverside Drive St. George, UT 84790  435-688-3200	Coordinate with biology staff to get relevant avian data

**Conservation Targets:**

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

Conservation Target	Current Condition
Cold-Temperate Grasslands Birds	Good
Desert Scrub Birds	Very Good
Riparian Birds	Fair

<b>Conservation Target</b>	<b>Current Condition</b>
Cliff and Inner Canyon Birds	Very Good
Pinyon and Juniper Birds	Good

**Conservation Challenges:**

Conservation challenges are primarily human activities that immediately affect what we are trying to conserve. Through a Miradi process, it was found that ..... pose the greatest threats to birds within this IBA.

<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Grassland Birds</b>	<b>Desert Birds</b>	<b>Riparian Birds</b>	<b>Pinyon and Juniper Birds</b>	<b>Cliff and Canyon Interior Birds</b>	<b>Summary Rating</b>
Lead Poisoning	NA	NA	NA	NA	Medium	Low
Wild Fire	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Low	Low
Invasive Species	Medium	Low	High	Low	High	Medium
Tourism	NA	NA	Medium	NA	Low	Low
Summary Ratings:	High	High	High	Medium	High	High

<b>Marble Canyon and Vermillion Cliffs</b>				<b>Severity (1-3)</b>	<b>Scope (1-3)</b>	<b>Permanence (2-4)</b>
<b>Threats on National Database</b>						
Invasive species	Non-native plants	5		1	2	2
Tourism (Boats)		4		1	2	1
Pollution	Lead in the Environment	7		2	2	3