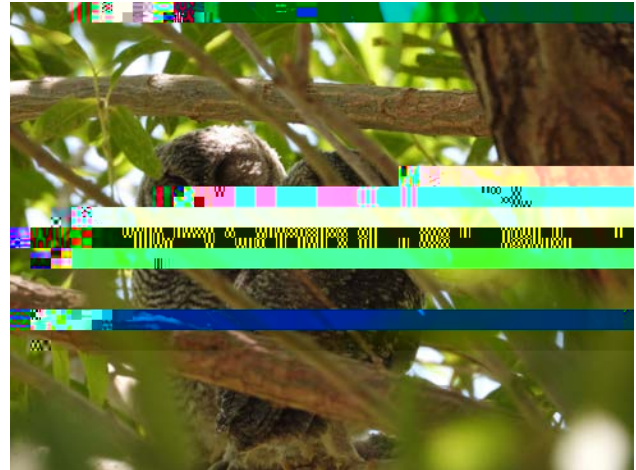


SUMMER BIRDS

Each year, as native river-valley habitats continue to develop at Rio Bosque Wetlands Park, we also see changes in the park's wildlife populations. Some of the best examples involve nesting birds. The park supports a fascinating mix of breeding species and is well worth a summer visit.

Many of the park's nesting bird species were already present before the launch of the wetland project at Rio Bosque in 1997. Some of these birds are year-round residents, including characteristic species of the desert southwest like Gambel's Quail, Greater Roadrunner, Harris's Hawk, Burrowing Owl, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Verdin and Crissal Thrasher. Others are birds that spend the winter south of us and annually migrate north to the Paso del Norte region to breed. Examples include Black-chinned Hummingbird, Swainson's Hawk, Western Kingbird, Yellow-breasted Chat, Blue Grosbeak and the impossibly colorful Painted Bunting.

More than 60 years after a bend of the Rio Grande that formerly wound through the site was cut off when the river was channelized, the wetland project brought water back to the Rio Bosque landscape. And that water, once available in summer, brought back as nesting species many water-associated birds, including Blue-winged and Cinnamon teal, Mexican



These two young Western Screech-Owls in a Goodding willow at Rio Bosque are not long out of the nest. (Photo: Peter Holder, June 6, 2019)

Duck, Common Gallinule, Black-necked Stilt, American Avo

Friends of the Rio Bosque		Membership Application	
Name:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Life Member.....	\$1,000
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wetlands Society.....	\$500-\$999
<i>Friends of the Rio Bosque</i> and mail to: Friends of the Rio Bosque, CERMUTEP, 500 W. University Ave., El Paso, TX 79968-0684.			



Next Meetings
Wed., July 24
Wed., Aug 28
Wed., Sep 25
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
206 Kelly Hall
UTEP
Info: 915 -747-8663

years when the pattern and amount of rainfall have been favorable.

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