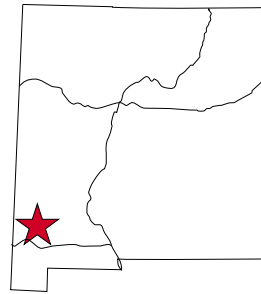
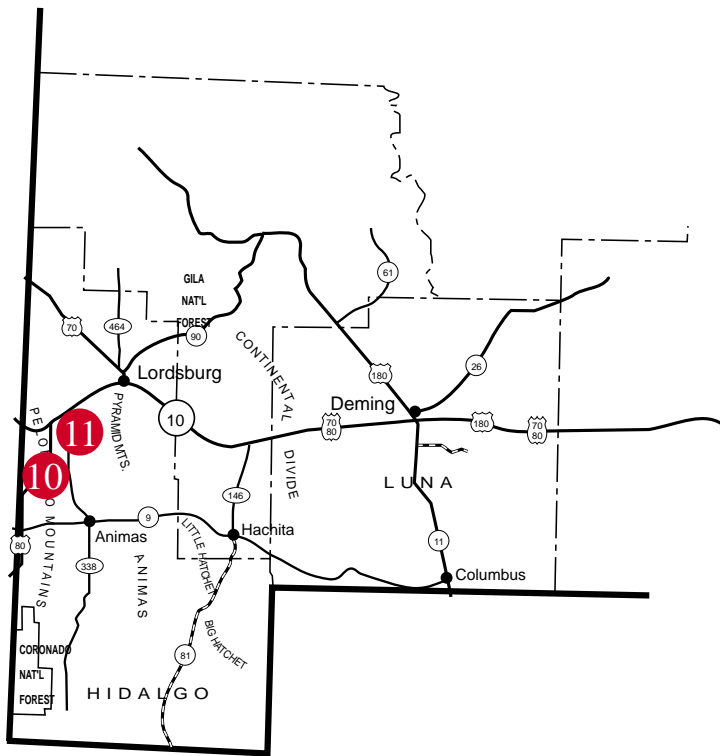




# Southwest New Mexico Birding Trail



south on NM 80 go 11 miles onto an unmarked dirt track, then turn right. At the entrance to the site is a wire gate. Be sure to close the gate after entering the property. Take the left fork, go about a half mile along the sandy road and park near the first large rock cluster. Do not drive past the cut in the rocks. The road is impassable in wet weather.

**Warning:** Bring water. The nearest gas station and water source is at Road Forks, 11 miles to the north.



## Site 11 - Lordsburg Playa

Private property. Bird from the public road only.

**Services:** Gasoline and food available about 5 miles away in Road Forks, and all services including motels can be found about 15 miles away in Lordsburg.

The Lordsburg Playa is a large alkaline lake 10 miles west of Lordsburg on I-10. Pull off the road on the west side of NM 338, south of the interstate. If there is water in the playa, scope the area. A number of shorebirds and waterfowl have been seen here.

**Habitat:** Very shallow, ephemeral, alkaline lake.

**Directions:** From Lordsburg go 10 miles west on I-10. Take Exit 11, turning on to NM 338. The playa will be visible just south of the interstate.



Rock Wren

## Site 10 - Granite Gap

Bureau of Land Management (505) 525-4300

**Services:** Gasoline, and food are in Road Forks, about 12 miles north, or Rodeo, about 18 miles south.

West of NM 80, some rock formations can be glimpsed at a distance. Seemingly insignificant when viewed from the road, up close these rock formations are a world unto themselves — 1,750 acres of boulders and ridges rising from the surrounding plains. Granite Gap is best in early spring/late fall. Early morning in summers can also be good. Birdlife includes Crissal and Bendire's Thrashers, Black-throated Sparrow; Cactus and Rock Wrens, Mockingbird, Verdin, Greater Roadrunner, hummingbird species, Gambel's Quail, and, in winter, Northern Harrier. Mule deer; ringtail, coyote, javelina, lizards, various snakes (including rattlesnakes), and a small herd of desert bighorn sheep are also seen here.

**Habitat:** Chihuahua desert scrub.

**Directions:** Go 15 miles west of Lordsburg on Interstate 10 and take Exit 5 (Road Forks). Drive



# Southwest New Mexico Birding Trail

## Check List

Black-throated Sparrow	<input type="radio"/>
Gambel's Quail	<input type="radio"/>
Greater Roadrunner	<input type="radio"/>
Hummingbird species	<input type="radio"/>
Mockingbird	<input type="radio"/>
Northern Harrier	<input type="radio"/>
<b>THRASHER</b>	
Bendire's Thrasher	<input type="radio"/>
Crissal Thrasher	<input type="radio"/>
Verdin	<input type="radio"/>
<b>WRENS</b>	
Cactus Wren	<input type="radio"/>
Rock Wren	<input type="radio"/>