

# PASSERIFORMES

(Songbirds)

## Old-World Sparrows



# Family PASSERIDAE

(Old-World Sparrows)

## House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)



Valley of Fire SP; NV



Hualapai Plateau; Grand Canyon; AZ



Hualapai Plateau; AZ



Bosque del Apache NWR; NM



Dolan Springs, AZ

### Measurements:

Length: 6" Wing Span: 9" Average Weight: 1 oz

### Distinguishing Field Characteristics:

small size; stocky, full chested; large rounded head; short tail; stout, dark bill; dark eyes; (m) rufous above, gray below; **gray crown** and cheeks, chestnut brown nape; black **mask, throat, bib**; small white wingbar; (f) mottled buff-brown overall, paler below; light brown crown; dark eyeline and **distinct buffy eyebrow**; less distinct wingbar

### Notes:

common; gregarious and very active; originally from Eurasia, now cosmopolitan, and naturalized throughout NA usually associated with human habitations (cities, parks, farms, etc.); most widely dispersed wild bird species; at least 12 subspecies; not related to **Passerellidae** sparrows; forages mostly on the ground mainly for seeds, some insects, but opportunistic for just about anything edible



Dolan Springs, AZ

**Mojave presence:** year-round

### Comments:

This ubiquitous colonizer can be found in any habitat that provides food, water, and shelter . . . in otherwords, almost everywhere! The problem is, they outcompete native species for resources, including at bird feeders.



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