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Abstract:

We conducted Mexican Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis lucida*) surveys at Walnut Canyon National Monument in 2009. Following the standardized protocol recommended by USFWS (USFWS 2003), we targeted our surveys during the Mexican Spotted Owl breeding season (1 March – 30 July). In 2009, we conducted four nighttime visits, and had spotted owl detections during two night visits and one incidental detection during an avian inventory survey. We conducted three day time follow up visits, yet we had no spotted owl detections during these visits. No spotted owl breeding (nests, juveniles) was detected during night-time or daytime visits. During our spotted owl surveys we also detected two additional species of owls, which included Great-horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) and Western Screech-Owl (*Otus kennicottii*).