



FEBRUARY ECO-BLITZ CHALLENGE

GILDED FLICKER



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GILDED FLICKER



Gilded Flicker (*Colaptes chrysoides*)

Gilded Flicker, a woodpecker dependent on Saguaros and other large cacti. Here are some key facts:

- Gilded Flickers and Gila Woodpeckers use Saguaro cactus for nesting and roosting, but the Flicker is less adapted to using adjacent large trees in riparian or urban areas.
- With yellow flight and tail feathers, brown/gray head, brown/black barring on the back, and a black bib. If you see a Flicker perched on a Saguaro, it is surely a Gilded. The Gila Woodpecker looks similar but has an all coffee brown head and chest, and black and white barring on the back.
- Flickers specialize in eating ants on the ground, using their long tongues to get into the ant hill tunnels.

Sources:

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology, All About Birds, Gilded Flicker Identification - https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Gilded_Flicker/id



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