**American Kestrel**

The American Kestrel, our smallest falcon, is often seen at Arroyo Hondo Preserve. Kestrels perch on the wires over the first meadow or in the sycamore trees over the bridge. They are usually seen alone or in pairs. You can easily spot a kestrel as it pumps its tail while roosting. These birds hunt for insects and small mammals. I have seen them with lizards also. Kestrels have somewhat variable, but very distinctive coloration. They nest in tree cavities or crevices in buildings. It is common to see them annoying red-tailed hawks in flight.

