

## [Hummingbirds: Calls / Vocalizations and Sounds](#)

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[Hummingbird Information](#) ... [Species](#) (Listing as well as by Location)



**Black-throated Mango** (*Anthracothorax nigricollis*)

**Male**

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- [Finding a Nest or Chicks](#) (on the ground, injured or orphaned)
- [EXTREME Metabolism and Survival and Flight Adaptions](#) - Amazing Facts
- [Feeding and Attracting Hummers To Your Garden](#)



Tufted Coquette ( *Lophornis ornatus* )

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- **Sounds / Vocalizations** (please scroll down)



Amazilia Hummingbird  
(*Amazilia amazilia*)

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## Sounds / Vocalizations

Hummers produce two types of sounds - vocalizations and the sounds their wings or tails make.

### Vocalizations

Hummingbirds have relatively weak vocal cords and most species only make chirping and chattering sounds.

They have different calls / songs for when they are excited, defending their territory, wooing potential mates or simply when flying from flower to flower. Some hummingbird enthusiasts noted that they know what a hummer is doing just by the sound they are making at the time.

The males are generally more vocal than the females.

### Sounds the tails or wings make

Hummers were named for the low-pitched humming sound they make through the rapid movement of their wings, when they are in flight. The sounds differ depending on how fast it beats its wings.



**Bahama Woodstar (Calliphlox evelynae) - Male**

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The males of some species rely on their tail feathers to make chirping sounds during a high-speed display dive to attract females.

Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, conducted by two students (lead author Christopher J. Clark, a UC Berkeley graduate student in the Department of Integrative Biology), showed that the outer tail feathers vibrate like a reed in a clarinet. The hummingbird's split-second tail spread at dive speed produces a loud, brief burst that sounds like a chirp or beep.

Hummers that are known to make such "tail-feather chirps" are the [Anna's Hummingbirds](#) (and its relatives), the [Ruby-throats](#), the [Black-chinned Hummingbirds](#), the [Allen's Hummingbirds](#), the [Costa's Hummingbirds](#), the

[Rufous Hummingbirds](#), the Woodstar Hummingbirds, and the Cuban [Bee Hummingbirds](#) (the smallest birds in the world). (Ref.: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/01/080129191358.htm>)

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## **Metabolism and Survival and Flight Adaptions - Amazing Facts**

Species Research by [Sibylle Johnson](#)

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