

WildWings Colorado Grouse Leks Tour April 2013

Summary and species list by tour leader Dick Filby

Another wonderfully successful trip, with all the major target species seen, and seen well! The weather was interesting this April, with plenty of snow, but we managed to avoid the worst of that until the last – which rolled in just as we were looking for White-tailed Ptarmigans above the treeline. The triplist was the best yet, at some 192 birds and 26 mammals, with the latter providing perhaps the best sighting of the trip, cracking views of a Mountain Lion (Cougar/Puma) scoped at close range for several minutes.

Day by day, with selected highlights

Day 1

Everyone arrived in Denver in a timely fashion and we settled in for a good night's sleep.

Day 2

We departed after breakfast for the Pawnee Grasslands. A stop at a gravel pit en-route netted us four species of grebes, best of which for Colorado, were two Red-necked, but the Pied-billed, Western, and Horned (Slavonian), all in summer plumage, were much appreciated too, as were the Blue-winged Teal, Canvasbacks and Buffleheads. A splendid adult Bald Eagle caused chaos as it flew over, and several summer plumaged Franklin's and Bonaparte's Gulls flew through as they headed north. It was a great start!

Onto the grasslands, we enjoyed success with breeding plumaged Mountain Plovers at a spot where I rarely fail to find them, and better than average, we found eight which gave great scope views in nice light. Our first Mountain Bluebirds gave good views too, as did our first Loggerhead Shrike, and we were pleased to find some McCown's Longspurs on what turned into a fairly blustery day. We did however see no less than 10 Northern Harriers, the first of several two-digit days for this species. On the mammal front, not one but two Thirteen-lined Ground-Squirrels were a delight, and we saw plenty of Pronghorn (antelopes) and Black-tailed Prairie-Dogs too.

Day 3

Up early, we joined our guide to be taken to a private lek of Greater Prairie-Chickens. We settled into the comfortable hide and waited for it to get light. Our effort was rewarded handsomely, as we were soon thrilled by the displays of 17 males and 23 females for over two hours, with many fights and scraps between competitors enlivening the scene. Charging around behind them we saw a Black-tailed Jackrabbit or two. After breakfast we headed south toward the Comanche National Grasslands, pausing en-route a couple of times for some roadside birding. Early evening we headed out to the Lesser Prairie-Chicken lek site, but none were seen. We would have to return tomorrow for the, more reliable, morning show! Meanwhile we had seen our first Swainson's Hawks, had great views of a Prairie Falcon, and a Peregrine too, our first Wild Turkeys, some Long-billed Dowitchers and better, we saw three gorgeous Wilson's Phalaropes. Also, literally hundreds if not thousands of Horned Larks, our first Vesper and White-crowned Sparrows, another 100 or more McCown's Longspurs.

Day 4

We headed out to the lek early and as it started to get light we could hear Lesser Prairie-Chicken calls. We saw one male pretty soon afterwards, and watched it display on+off for almost an hour before it flew off. Lesser Prairie-Chickens are in serious decline and we shall need to visit a different lek next year for sure. After breakfast we birded the nearby ponds, getting great views of summer plumaged Eared (Black-necked) Grebes,

Killdeer, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Greater Yellowlegs, Least Sandpiper, and a splendid flock of 43 Wilson's Phalaropes, as well as yet more Franklin's and Bonaparte's Gulls and a Belted Kingfisher. Heading west into the Comanche Grasslands and to our ranch, we had excellent views of another Ferruginous Hawk, several Long-billed Curlews, Eastern Phoebes, several Chihuahuan Ravens, Rock Wrens, Townsend's Solitaires, several Loggerhead Shrikes, our first warblers – two Audubon's Yellow-rumped Warblers, Canyon Towhees, Vesper and Lark Sparrows, and a nice flock of around 30 Lark Buntings. Two Golden Eagles were the first for the trip, of what would be almost daily sightings for this splendid raptor. Great-tailed and Common Grackles provided a good comparison when we stopped at a cafe in a small town for lunch. After dark we went on a short drive in search of Western Screech-Owls and were not disappointed – finding two that showed very well. In addition on that drive we saw a Bobcat, Striped Skunk, and a Mountain Lion that all present managed to get great scope views of as it watched us from about 100 yards for several minutes, and then again as it slowly walked off. The large flashlight had proved its worth! We felt VERY PRIVILEGED indeed. This crowned an already splendid tally of mammals for the day which included Black-tailed Jackrabbit, Rock Squirrel, Black-tailed Prairie-Dog, Fox Squirrel, Ord's Kangaroo Rat, Elk, Mule Deer, White-tailed Deer, Pronghorn and Bighorn Sheep. What a day!

Day 5

A well-deserved 'lie-in' was in order this morning as the birding was right on the doorstep and no lek to get up very early for. Never-the-less, we were out at 6am, with Rufous-crowned Sparrow high on the hit-list, and one quickly obliged, giving us good views. Ladder-backed Woodpecker was another local speciality which we managed to find before breakfast, along with Hairy Woodpecker and several Say's Phoebe's as well as three Wood Ducks. Back at the ranch a pair of Curve-billed Thrashers fed around the cactus close to the house before we set off for Gunnison, our destination for the night. Two more Long-billed Curlews bade us goodbye to the grasslands.

Our last birding on the plains involved stopping by a reservoir that traditionally holds migrant waders and ducks. We were not disappointed and came away with quite a haul: Eared Grebes, Western Grebes, Bufflehead, Common Merganser, Ruddy Duck, Snowy Plovers, Semipalmated Plover, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Lesser Yellowlegs, Semipalmated, Least, Baird's, Stilt Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, and at least 200 Wilson's Phalaropes! Quite a sight!

Enroute to Gunnison roadside sightings included a Lewis's Woodpecker, 20 White-faced Ibis, and a covey of Scaled Quail, plus a single Scaled Quail bird which gave splendid views, a taiga race Merlin, and Gunnison Prairie-Dog.

Day 6

We headed out to the hide at the Gunnison Sage-Grouse lek before dawn, settled in and waited for first light. Sure enough, there were several males on the lek and through our scopes we were getting some pretty decent views. However, before too long, the birds, mindful of the chance of predation by Golden Eagles (one had already been killed earlier in the week), flew off, and we headed to breakfast. We then set off west, stopping by a reservoir and the dramatic Black Canyon National Park, then another reservoir and onto the Grand Mesa plateau and then onto our nice, spacious and warm condominiums for the night. Self catering for dinner and breakfast was quite a treat.

Lots of great birds and scenery as we travelled today, including plenty more Eared and Western Grebes, plus a Clarke's Grebe, American White Pelicans, a flock of Snow Geese, Cinnamon Teal, Osprey, Bald and Golden Eagles, 70 Sandhill Cranes, Black-necked Stilts, American Avocet, Willet (western subspecies), Wilson's

Phalaropes, California Gull, the bizarrely coloured Lewis's Woodpeckers, Clark's Nutcrackers, Mountain and Black-capped Chickadees, Red-breasted and White-breasted Nuthatches, Sage Thrasher, Mountain Bluebird, Spotted Towhee and Cassin's Finch.

We rounded the day off with a Northern Pygmy Owl, which showed very nicely in some leafless Aspen trees, just above us, giving great scope views. Mammals today included our first Chipmunk, Mountain Cottontail, White-tailed Prairie-Dogs, Coyote, and Mule Deer.

Of special note, at the Black Canyon there had been a few inches of fresh snow, which had only just stopped falling. We found some very fresh Mountain Lion tracks, of an animal that had crossed the road earlier in the morning, perhaps only minutes before! We looked around but it had disappeared – which they do so well, avoiding all contact with humans wherever possible. At another spot we found fresh tracks of a Bobcat. Meanwhile the Canyon looked even more spectacular than usual with all the fresh snow.

Day 7

Another morning “lie-in”, with an option for some to have a really extended lie-in and wait for breakfast. Most of us headed out early, and were not disappointed, with several high altitude birds including Red-naped Sapsuckers, an elusive American Three-toed Woodpecker, several Steller's and three Gray Jays, a splendid pair of Pine Grosbeaks, Cassin's Finch, and Red Crossbill.

We then headed to Colorado National Monument, another National Park with spectacular scenery, and different habitat. Here, and in the nearby vicinity, we enjoyed Gambel's Quail, White-throated Swifts, Green-tailed and Spotted Towhees, Black-throated Sparrow, and an early Broad-tailed Hummingbird whizzed by. A new mammal for the trip was the delightful White-tailed Antelope Squirrel.

Driving east, back into the higher mountains, we headed along the Colorado River, and then up the Roaring Fork River valley, spotting nine Bald Eagles including scope views right into the nest of one pair, and an Osprey already on its nest too.

Day 8

We started the day visiting friends' houses in Snowmass Village, a ski-resort at around 8,500 feet. It was a spectacular show, with around 500 Rosy Finches, of all three species (!), at the first house, where my wife Denise had been making the 40mile round trip almost daily to fill up the feeders whilst our friends were away. Pine Grosbeaks were here too, and at our other friends' house, where we saw more Pine Grosbeaks, which were also joined by Evening Grosbeaks, White-breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches, Mountain Chickadees and Steller's Jays. Our hosts treated us to tea and fresh baked cake. Nearby a Fox Sparrow sang from the top of a tree. Incredible views of all these birds made it a very worthwhile start to the day. We then headed to the local reservoir, in search of Barrow's Goldeneyes which regularly linger into the Spring at the site. A friend has access permission, so we met her at the gate and we were watching Barrow's, and in numbers too, with at least 20 (our best showing yet on the tour), as well as three Great Northern Divers, and an excellent suite of the other ducks and grebes. Denise treated us all to an excellent brunch at home before we set off north. Nearby we visited an active nest of American Dipper, built on a bridge beam, but the birds did not show whilst we were there, but we did see a chick on the Bald Eagles' nest just downvalley.

Later an albino Red-tailed Hawk sitting on a roadside post in a snowy landscape caused us a momentary flutter as we drove by with thoughts of possible Gyr Falcon. It was not to be! However some roadside Sandhill Cranes were a nice bonus. Mammals today included Golden-mantled Ground-Squirrel and Red Fox (both new for the trip) as well as scores of Elk and Mule Deer.

Day 9

We started the day in two hides at a private Sharp-tailed Grouse lek, and as the light grew we thrilled to one of the best spectacles of the entire trip. Just feet away, and almost at eye level, it was a truly amazing experience and yet one more reason why I never grow tired of doing these trips. About 20 birds (mostly males) did their crazy dance and sparring routines on a pristine snow covered hill top and at times the air was filled with the sound of the calls and action. A Northern Harrier spooked all the birds, but they soon returned and it was after 8.30am before we left. After leaving the hides we spotted a distant Dusky Grouse but it soon disappeared from view behind some bushes, not to reappear despite searching. Nearby we saw more Sandhill Cranes and a couple of Bald Eagles. White-tailed Jackrabbits, Yellow-bellied Marmots and Wyoming Ground Squirrels were all new mammals for the trip.

It had been a long morning, so we had a hearty brunch and it was early afternoon before we set off on the relatively short drive over Rabbit Ears pass and on into the intermontane plateau of North Park and the town of Hayden. The drive is one of my favourites of the trip, because, apart from being especially scenic, it is always good for raptors. Sometimes we see Rough-legged Hawk – they winter in Colorado and some linger into mid April, and today we were treated to no less than five, as well as another Prairie Falcon and the obligatory Red-tailed Hawks. In this remote northern part of the state the roads are very quiet too, with almost no traffic, so stopping for good views is often easy.

An early evening meal was followed by a brief, successful drive in search of Moose, and the bonus of a huge herd of Elk, around 300 or so.

Day 10

We headed out onto the sagebrush flats early to a private site where Greater Sage-Grouse lek. The males walk onto the lek before first light, so against the snow covered ground we were able to make out their shapes as they walked right past us in the half-dark, some pausing to start displaying only yards away. More and more arrived until there were over 120 birds on the lek, the vast majority of them males. Their lek is much more 'regal' and less frantic than the Sharp-tailed Grouse, but never-the-less, still an amazing spectacle and on this day it was to continue for a long while after sunrise. They often get the attention of the Golden Eagles and, once flushed, they do not return until the next session. With a backdrop of snow-capped peaks in every direction, this was a truly special morning. Afterwards we visited the local reservoir before breakfast, where, amongst the ice floes and on the islands, there was a wealth of wildlife. American White Pelicans and California Gulls were especially prominent, and the suite of diving and dabbling ducks was again impressive. In town we found some Common Redpolls at some feeders where I had seen them in the winter. There had been an unprecedented invasion this winter, in most years there are virtually none recorded in Colorado, so it was unsurprising that these were a new species for the tour this year.

After breakfast we set off through the mountains to reach Georgetown by early afternoon, pausing occasionally for some roadside birding and mammal observation – one of the first stops after leaving town was to watch another Moose, then American Dippers in a mountain stream, and at a reservoir where we found more Barrow's Goldeneyes, a Red-breasted Merganser and many other, by now familiar, ducks and grebes. There was also a flock of 150 Marbled Godwits there. Two Golden Eagles and yet another Prairie Falcon were amongst the raptor highlights of the drive.

Whilst there had been plenty of snowstorms around the state in the past 10 days, we had managed to avoid all of them - until now. We had left the highest part of the trip till last, White-tailed Ptarmigan are only found above the treeline and that means going to over 11,500 feet. The winds were getting up and the snow was starting to

fall (as was the temperature, now definitely below freezing) when we got out of the van to start our search. Flasks of hot drinks in the van ready for a warm up as soon as we needed them, which probably wasn't going to be long. The prospect of giving up before we had seen them, to return the next day seemed a likely result, but miraculously I spotted a group of ptarmigans just yards away from the van before everyone was even out in the field! We got terrific views before beating a hasty retreat and heading back down the hill and to a well deserved celebratory supper at the restaurant a few yards from the lodge. Good job it was a short walk (50 yards), because by the time we finished our meal, the snow lay deep and prospects of going anywhere by vehicle were diminishing by the minute.

Day 11

It doesn't happen often on the Grouse trip, but today we awoke to a winter wonderland, and decided that we would walk to a local restaurant in town for breakfast, to allow the snowploughs time to clear the roads. It was a wise move, and by the time we set off, the main Interstate was quite driveable (well, to someone who is used to driving on snow-packed roads) and we were soon birding in some Ponderosa forest in search of the specialities: Williamson's Sapsucker took some finding as we floundered through knee deep snow, but we succeeded eventually. The delightful Pygmy Nuthatches were easier, but Western Bluebirds were nowhere to be found. Undeterred, we drove lower down to a spot where bird-feeders were bound to provide some results. Sure enough the regular Golden-crowned Sparrow showed up, as well as a Lincoln's Sparrow and a couple of White-crowned Sparrows, and nearby, several Western and Mountain Bluebirds and some Hermit Thrushes. Continuing to a nearby series of ponds, we found four Hooded Mergansers, a Black-crowned Night-Heron, a Solitary Sandpiper showing very well, several Blue Jays, here at the western edge of their range, some more Hermit Thrushes, several Yellow-rumped Warblers of both forms (Audubon's and Myrtle) and, long overdue, Great Horned Owls – a family threesome.

Day 12

The weather was fine and warm again, and we enjoyed some final morning birding before the tour concluded at the airport. First off we headed out to find a Burrowing Owl at a Black-tailed Prairie-Dog town (colony) and then went to a local reservoir, where we found plenty of birds, including several new species for this trip, as well as three species never before recorded on the tour. The cold April of 2013 had kept some of the wintering gulls back, and we found Glaucous, Kumlien's and Thayer's Gulls, all of which had not been seen on the tour before. Another Clarke's Grebe was nice, as well as a couple of Snowy Egrets, White-faced Ibis, a smattering of ducks, Osprey, Bald Eagle, a Broad-winged Hawk, here at the extreme west of its range, giving nice views perched in the Cottonwood scrub, a couple more Swainson's Hawk and a late Rough-leg too, Semipalmated Plover, tens of American Avocets, Lesser Yellowlegs, a Spotted Sandpiper – all nice and spotty, Least Sandpiper, tens of American Herring Gulls, and some nice summer plumaged American (Buff-bellied) Pipits.

It was a great, relaxing way to round off a truly excellent trip.

The species mentioned above are just some of those we saw on the trip, the full bird and mammal species list can be found below.

If this trip report has inspired you, I hope to be able to welcome you on a Colorado Grouse trip in the future. The trip does not run every year, as some years I have other commitments. It is often booked up well in advance, limited to just 7 guests in a 15 passenger van.

Species list below

Species List Colorado 2013

Birds

GREAT NORTHERN DIVER

Gavia immer (Common Loon)

PIED-BILLED GREBE

Podilymbus podiceps

HORNED (Slavonian) GREBE

Podiceps auritus

EARED (Black-necked) GREBE

Podiceps nigricollis

RED-NECKED GREBE

Podiceps grisegenas

WESTERN GREBE

Aechmophorus occidentalis

CLARK'S GREBE

Aechmophorus clarkii

AMERICAN WHITE

PELICAN

Pelecanus erythrorhynchos

DOUBLE-CRESTED

CORMORANT

Phalacrocorax auritus

GREAT BLUE HERON

Ardea herodias

GREAT EGRET

Ardea alba

SNOWY EGRET

Egretta thula

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-

HERON *Nycticorax nycticorax*

WHITE-FACED IBIS

Plegadis chihi

SNOW GOOSE

Chen caerulescens

CANADA GOOSE

Branta canadensis

WOOD DUCK

Aix sponsa

GREEN-WINGED TEAL

Anas crecca

MALLARD

Anas platyrhynchos

NORTHERN PINTAIL

Anas acuta

BLUE-WINGED TEAL

Anas discors

NORTHERN SHOVELER

Anas clypeata

GADWALL

Anas strepera

CINNAMON TEAL

Anas cyanoptera

AMERICAN WIGEON

Anas americana

CANVASBACK

Aythya valisineria

REDHEAD

Aythya americana

RING-NECKED DUCK

Aythya collaris

GREATER SCAUP

Aythya marila

LESSER SCAUP

Aythya affinis

COMMON GOLDENEYE

Bucephala clangula

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE

Bucephala islandica

BUFFLEHEAD

Bucephala albeola

HOODED MERGANSER

Lophodytes cucullatus

COMMON MERGANSER

Mergus merganser americanus

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER

Mergus serrator

RUDDY DUCK

Oxyura jamaicensis

TURKEY VULTURE

Cathartes aura

OSPREY

Pandion haliaetus

BALD EAGLE

Haliaeetus leucocephalus

NORTHERN HARRIER

Circus cyaneus

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK

Accipiter striatus

COOPER'S HAWK

Accipiter cooperii

BROAD-TAILED HAWK

Buteo platypterus

SWAINSON'S HAWK

Buteo swainsoni

RED-TAILED HAWK

Buteo jamaicensis

FERRUGINOUS HAWK

Buteo regalis

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK

Buteo agopus (*R.-legged*

Buzzard)

GOLDEN EAGLE

Aquila chrysaetos

AMERICAN KESTREL

Falco sparverius

MERLIN

Falco columbarius

PRAIRIE FALCON

Falco mexicanus

PEREGRINE FALCON

Falco peregrinus

RING-NECKED PHEASANT

Phasianus colchicus

DUSKY GROUSE

Dendragapus obscurus

WHITE-TAILED

PTARMIGAN

Lagopus leucurus

GREATER SAGE-GROUSE

Centrocercus urophasianus

GUNNISON SAGE-GROUSE

Centrocercus minimus

GREATER PRAIRIE-

CHICKEN

Tympanuchus cupido

LESSER PRAIRIE-CHICKEN

Tympanuchus pallidicinctus

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE

Tympanuchus phasianellus

WILD TURKEY

Meleagris gallopavo

SCALED QUAIL

Callipepla squamata

GAMBEL'S QUAIL

Callipepla gambelli

AMERICAN COOT

Fulica americana

SANDHILL CRANE

Grus canadensis

SNOWY (KENTISH) PLOVER <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>	CALIFORNIA GULL <i>Larus californicus</i>	<i>Picoides villosus</i>
SEMIPALMATED PLOVER <i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	AMERICAN HERRING GULL <i>Larus (argentatus)</i> <i>smithsonianus</i>	AMERICAN THREE-TOED WOODPECKER <i>Picoides dorsalis</i>
KILLDEER <i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	THAYER'S GULL <i>Larus thayeri</i>	NORTHERN FLICKER <i>Colaptes auratus</i>
MOUNTAIN PLOVER <i>Charadrius montanus</i>	ICELAND (Kumlien's) GULL <i>Larus glaucoides</i>	EASTERN PHOEBE <i>Sayorni phoebe</i>
BLACK-NECKED STILT <i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	GLAUCOUS GULL <i>Larus hypoboreus</i>	SAY'S PHOEBE <i>Sayornis saya</i>
AMERICAN AVOCET <i>Recurvirostra americana</i>	FERAL (ROCK) DOVE <i>Columbia livia</i>	EASTERN KINGBIRD <i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>
GREATER YELLOWLEGS <i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	HORNED LARK (Shorelark) <i>Eremophila alpestris</i>
LESSER YELLOWLEGS <i>Tringa flavipes</i>	MOURNING DOVE <i>Zenaida macroura</i>	TREE SWALLOW <i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>
SOLITARY SANDPIPER <i>Tringa solitaria</i>	WESTERN SCREECH-OWL <i>Otus kennicotti</i>	VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW <i>Tachycineta thalassina</i>
WILLET <i>Catoptrophorus semipalmata</i>	GREAT HORNED OWL <i>Bubo virginianus</i>	NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW <i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>
SPOTTED SANDPIPER <i>Actitis macularius</i>	NORTHERN PYGMY OWL <i>Glaucidium gnoma</i>	BANK SWALLOW (Sand Martin) <i>Riparia riparia</i>
LONG-BILLED CURLEW <i>Numenius americanus</i>	BURROWING OWL <i>Athene cunicularia</i>	CLIFF SWALLOW <i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>
MARbled GODWIT <i>Limosa fedoa</i>	SHORT-EARED OWL <i>Asio flammeus</i>	BARN SWALLOW (Swallow) <i>Hirundo rustica</i>
SANDERLING <i>Calidris alba</i>	WHITE-THROATED SWIFT <i>Aeronautes saxatalis</i>	GRAY JAY <i>Perisoreus canadensis</i>
SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER <i>Calidris pusilla</i>	BROAD-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD <i>Selasphorus platycercus</i>	STELLER'S JAY <i>Cyanocitta stelleri</i>
LEAST SANDPIPER <i>Calidris mauri</i>	BELTED KINGFISHER <i>Ceryle alcyon</i>	BLUE JAY <i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>
BAIRD'S SANDPIPER <i>Calidris bairdii</i>	LEWIS' WOODPECKER <i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	WESTERN SCRUB-JAY <i>Aphelocoma californica</i>
STILT SANDPIPER <i>Calidris himantopus</i>	RED-NAPED SAPSUCKER <i>Sphyrapicus nuchalis</i>	CLARK'S NUTCRACKER <i>Nucifraga columbiana</i>
LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER <i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i>	WILLIAMSON'S SAPSUCKER <i>Sphyrapicus thyroideus</i>	BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE <i>Pica hudsonia</i>
WILSON'S PHALAROPE <i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>	LADDER-BACKED WOODPECKER <i>Picoides scalaris</i>	AMERICAN CROW <i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>
FRANKLIN'S GULL <i>Larus pipixican</i>	DOWNY WOODPECKER <i>Picoides pubescens</i>	CHIHUAHUAN RAVEN <i>Corvus cryptoleucus</i>
BONAPARTE'S GULL <i>Larus philadelphia</i>	HAIRY WOODPECKER <i>Picoides villosus</i>	(Common) RAVEN <i>Corvus corax</i>
RING-BILLED GULL <i>Larus delawarensis</i>		MOUNTAIN CHICKADEE <i>Poecile atricapillus</i>

Poecile gambeli
 BUSHTIT (heard only)
Psaltriparus minimus
 RED-BREASTED
 NUTHATCH
Sitta canadensis
 WHITE-BREASTED
 NUTHATCH
Sitta carolinensis
 PYGMY NUTHATCH
Sitta pygmaea
 ROCK WREN
Salpinctes obsoletus
 MARSH WREN (heard only)
Cistothorus palustris
 AMERICAN DIPPER
Cinclus mexicanus
 RUBY-CROWNED
 KINGLET
Regulus calendula
 WESTERN BLUEBIRD
Sialia mexicana bairdi
 MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD
Sialia currucoides
 TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE
Myadestes townsendi
 HERMIT THRUSH
Catharus guttatus
 AMERICAN ROBIN
Turdus migratorius
 SAGE THRASHER
Oreoscoptes montanus
 CURVE-BILLED
 THRASHER
Toxostoma curvirostre
 AMERICAN PIPIT
Anthus rubescens alticola
 CEDAR WAXWING
Bombycilla cedrorum
 LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE
Lanius ludovicianus
 (European) STARLING
Sturnus vulgaris
 YELLOW-RUMPED
 WARBLER
Dendroica coronata coronata
 (Myrtle)
 YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER

Dendroica coronata auduboni
 (Audubon's)
 GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE
Pipilo chlorurus
 SPOTTED TOWHEE
Pipilo maculatus
 CANYON TOWHEE
Pipilo fuscus
 RUFOUS-CROWNED
 SPARROW
Aimophila ruficeps
 VESPER SPARROW
Pooeectes gramineus
 LARK SPARROW
Chondestes grammacus
 BLACK-THROATED
 SPARROW
Amphispiza bilineata
 LARK BUNTING
Calamospiza melanocorys
 SAVANNAH SPARROW
Passerculus sandwichensis
 FOX SPARROW (Rocky Mtn
 form)
Passerella iliaca schistacea
 SONG SPARROW
Melospiza melodia
 LINCOLN'S SPARROW
Melospiza lincolni
 WHITE-CROWNED
 SPARROW
Zonotrychia leucophrys
 GOLDEN-CROWNED
 SPARROW
Zonotrychia atricapilla
 DARK-EYED JUNCO
Junco hyemalis
 MCCOWN'S LONGSPUR
Rhynchophanes mccownii
 RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD
Agelaius phoeniceus
 WESTERN MEADOWLARK
Sturnella neglecta
 BREWER'S BLACKBIRD
Euphagus cyanocephalus
 YELLOW-HEADED
 BLACKBIRD
Xanthocephalus
xanthocephalus

GREAT-TAILED GRACKLE
Quiscalus mexicanus
 COMMON GRACKLE
Quiscalus quiscula
 BROWN-HEADED
 COWBIRD
Molothrus ater
 GRAY-CROWNED ROSY-
 FINCH
Leucosticte tephroctis
 BLACK ROSY-FINCH
Leucosticte atrata
 BROWN-CAPPED ROSY-
 FINCH
Leucosticte australis
 PINE GROSBEAK
Pinicola enucleator
 CASSIN'S FINCH
Carpodacus cassinii
 HOUSE FINCH
Carpodacus mexicanus
 RED CROSSBILL
Loxia curvirostra
 COMMON REDPOLL
Acanthis flammea
 PINE SISKIN
Carduelis pinus
 LESSER GOLDFINCH
Carduelis psaltria
 AMERICAN GOLDFINCH
Carduelis tristis
 EVENING GROSBEAK
Coccothraustes vespertinus
 HOUSE SPARROW
Passer domesticus

MAMMALS

EASTERN COTTONTAIL
Sylvilagus floridanus
 MOUNTAIN COTTONTAIL
Sylvilagus nuttalli

BLACK-TAILED JACKRABBIT <i>Lepus californicus</i>	<i>Spermophilus variegates</i>	STRIPED SKUNK <i>Mephitis mephitis</i>
WHITE-TAILED JACKRABBIT <i>Lepus townsendii</i>	WHITE-TAILED ANTELOPE- SQUIRREL <i>Ammospermophilus leucurus</i>	MOUNTAIN LION <i>Felis concolor</i>
Least/Colorado Chipmunk spp <i>Tamias spp</i>	GUNNISON PRAIRIE-DOG <i>Cynomys gunnisoni</i>	BOBCAT <i>Lynx rufus</i>
YELLOW-BELLIED MARMOT <i>Marmota flaviventris</i>	WHITE-TAILED PRAIRIE- DOG <i>Cynomys leucurus</i>	ELK <i>Cervus elaphus</i>
WYOMING GROUND - SQUIRREL <i>Spermophilus elegans</i>	BLACK-TAILED PRAIRIE- DOG <i>Cynomys ludovicianus</i>	MULE DEER <i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>
GOLDEN-MANTLED GROUND- SQUIRREL <i>Spermophilus lateralis</i>	FOX SQUIRREL <i>Sciurus niger</i>	WHITE-TAILED DEER <i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>
THIRTEEN-LINED GROUND - SQUIRREL <i>Spermophilus tridecemlineatus</i>	ORD'S KANGAROO-RAT <i>Dipodomys ordii</i>	MOOSE <i>Alces alces</i>
ROCK SQUIRREL	COYOTE <i>Canis latrans</i>	PRONGHORN <i>Antilocapra americana</i>
	RED FOX <i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	MOUNTAIN SHEEP (Bighorn Sheep) <i>Ovis canadensis</i>