

Appendix D

Wildlife and Bird Information

Spokane River Habitat and Ornithology

In an effort to increase the public involvement and to obtain more data on the ecological importance of the Spokane River to native plants and wildlife, URS and the City of Spokane Valley have sought the involvement of the Spokane Chapter of the Audubon Society (Spokane Audubon). Spokane Audubon has graciously provided the following information for inclusion in the Spokane Valley SMP.

Spokane Audubon Shoreline Notes provided by: Norma Trefry, Sylvia Wilson, Fran Haywood, and Katie Krauss.

All habitats along the shoreline of the Spokane River, through the valley, are important. Some locations receive less stress from noise and development and are large enough to provide food, nesting sites, and allow for protection from predators. These areas are the most important to protect and keep in their natural state. The Spokane River and the Centennial Trail are great assets to the City of Spokane Valley as they provide open space where all Spokane Valley residents can enjoy the river and associated wildlife.

The following narrative divides the Centennial Trail into sections beginning from a trailhead or easy access point.

East of Barker Road to the City Limits

This stretch of river provides some of the best habitat for birds. The residential development along the southern shore is set back enough from the river that a buffer has been established. This buffer consists of a grassy area with scattered shrubs and small trees between the development and the river. The area between the Centennial Trail and the river provides for a good mixed habitat. This area consists of grassy areas interspersed with shrubs, young and mature trees, as well as large woody debris. Noxious weeds and non-native trees and shrubs are not yet a problem. Several species of birds, such as: Yellow Warblers, Gray Catbirds, Eastern Kingbirds, and Cedar Waxwings use this area to raise their young. This area has also benefitted in that the residential development along the north shoreline has mainly adhered to the 200-foot shoreline buffer. This allows both sides of the river to be used by birds.

Island Trailhead on Upriver Drive, East of Plantess Ferry Park.

The mature deciduous trees and thick underbrush provide excellent bird habitat. Grassy places with scattered young and mature Pine Trees are located east of the pedestrian bridge. The large rock outcrops in the river are scenic and provide quiet places for waterfowl to rest. Spotted Towhees, Yellow Warblers, Orioles, and Chickadees, as well as others, are abundant in this location. This year a Northern Shrike is using this area as a wintering ground. The pedestrian bridge provides a great place to view this beautiful stretch of river.

Mission Trailhead to Barker Road

The evergreen and deciduous trees, as well as the fruit bearing shrubs offer excellent bird habitat. Bullock's Orioles, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Yellow Warblers, and Gray Catbirds, among others, are found in this area. Cliff Swallows nested under the old Barker Road Bridge and will hopefully nest under the new bridge. The bridge construction may be impacting an excellent habitat close to the bridge on the western side.

Mirabeau Park East Toward Sullivan Road

The habitat along the shoreline through this stretch of river is impacted by the number of people using the Centennial Trail and the park. Homeless people also camp in this area during warmer weather. Quail and migrating Sparrows, such as White-crowned Sparrows, can be found in the open spaces despite all the activity. Gray Catbirds, Cedar Waxwings, Yellow Warblers, Song Sparrows, and others use the shrubs along the river for food, shelter, and nesting. Common Mergansers nest in the trees in this area, and an Osprey nested across the river last summer. Nesting Meadowlarks can be found in the field to the south. This is one of the few places left where they can be found along the river. Bird activity decreases nearer to the Spokane Valley Mall. This is probably due to the noise and activity associated with the mall.

Mirabeau Park Headed West

The shoreline area near the waterfall provides attractive habitat in warmer weather. The uninterrupted open space between the river and Centerplace Park to the south and west allows movement between the shoreline and upland habitats. Woodpeckers, Pygmy and Red-breasted Nuthatches, and Chickadees utilize this connected open space. The steep bank further east is scattered with shrubs, Pine Trees, and deciduous trees. Mourning Doves like this area.

Sullivan Road East towards the Mission Trailhead

Habitat along this part of the shoreline is affected by its proximity to the roads, commercial development, and the Spokane Valley Mall to the south. The quality of the habitat increases to the east as the tree density increases, as does the bird activity.

Summary

The Spokane River and associated shorelines are important to Eagles, Osprey, Great Blue Heron, Spotted Sandpipers, and Swallows who use it for food, nesting, and perching. Migrating birds use the river corridor as a resting place during the fall and spring in route to their winter and summer territories. These birds include: Varied Thrushes, Yellow-rumped Warblers, White-crowned Sparrows, and Flycatchers among many others. The shoreline of the Spokane River is still in its natural state in many areas and is a treasure for the City of Spokane Valley and its residents.

The Audubon Society of Spokane
 Birds of the Spokane River within the City of Spokane Valley
 Includes habitat within 200 feet of the shoreline

Common (should see in proper habitat)	C
Uncommon (usually present in proper habitat, but might miss)	U
Occasional (usually a few reports each year, sometimes irruptive, may be local)	O
Rare (not seen most years, but more than 10 records for period since 1980)	R
Vagrant (fewer than 10 records since 1980)	V
Nests	N

Species	Season			Nests
	Spring/Fall	Summer	Winter	
American Coot	O	O	R	
American Crow	C	C	C	N
American Gold Finch	C	C	V	
American Kestrel	O	O	O	
American Robin	C	C	U	N
American Tree Sparrow			R	
American Wigeons	R		R	
Bald Eagle	U	O		
Bank Swallow	O	O		
Barrow's Goldeneye	O		R	
Belted Kingfisher	O	O	O	
Bewick's Wren	R		R	
Black-billed Magpie	C	C	C	N
Black-capped Chickadee	O	O	U	
Black-chinned Hummingbird	U			
Black-headed Grosbeak	U	U	U	N
Bohemian Waxwing			O	
Brown Creeper	O	O	O	
Brown-headed Cowbird	U	U		N
Bufflehead	U	U	U	
Bullock's Oriole	U	U		N
California Quail	C	C	C	N
Calliope Hummingbird	O			
Canada Goose	C	C	C	N
Cassin's Finch			R	
Cedar Waxwing	U	U	U	N
Cliff Swallow	U	U		N
Common Goldeneye	O		U	
Common Merganser	U	U	C	N
Common Raven	U	U	U	
Common Redpoll			R	
Common Yellowthroat	V			
Cooper's Hawk	O	O	O	
Dark-eyed Junco	U	U	U	N
Double-crested Cormorant	O	O	O	
Downy Woodpecker	U	U	U	N
Eastern Kingbird	U	U		N
European Starling	C	C	C	N
Evening Grosbeak	O		O	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	O		U	

Species	Season			
	Spring/Fall	Summer	Winter	Nests
Gray Catbird	U	U		N
Great Blue Herron	U	U	U	
Great Horned Owl	U	U	U	N
Hairy Woodpecker	O	O	O	
Hooded Merganser	O		O	
House Finch	C	C	C	N
House Sparrow	C	C	C	N
House Wren	O	O		
MacGillivray's Warbler	V			
Mallard	C	C	C	N
Merlin			O	
Mountain Chickadee	O	O	U	
Mourning Dove	C	C	C	N
Nashville Warbler	V			
Norhtern Goshawk			V	
Norhtern Rough-winged Swallow	U	O		
Northern Flicker	C	C	C	N
Northern Shrike			R	
Orange-crowned Warbler	V			
Osprey	U	U		N
Pied Bill Grebe	O	O	U	
Pine Siskin			O	
Pygmy Nuthatch	C	C	C	N
Red Crossbill	U	O	U	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	U	U	U	N
Red-tailed Hawk	C	C	C	N
Red-winged Blackbird	U	C		N
Ring-billed Gull	C	C	U	
Ring-necked Duck	O		R	
Ring-necked Pheasant	U	U	U	N
Rock Pigeon	C	C	C	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	R			
Rufous Hummingbird	U	U		
Saw Whet Owl			R	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U	U	U	
Snow Goose			V	
Song Sparrow	U	U	U	N
Spotted Sandpiper	U	U		N
Spotted Towhee	O	O		N
Townsend's Solitaire	R		O	
Tree Swallow	U	U		
Turkey Vulture	R			
Varied Thrush	R		R	
Violet-green Swallow	C	C		
Western Wood Peewee	U	U		
White-breasted Nuthatch	R		O	
White-crowned Sparrow	O		R	
Wild Turkey	R	R	R	
Willow Flycatcher	O	O		
Winter Wren			R	
Wood Duck	O		O	
Yellow Warbler	U	U		N

Spokane River Ornithology: Birds of the Spokane River in the Spokane Valley

Shoreline habitat along the Spokane River is very important to birds. At least 107 different species of birds have been observed along the Spokane River over the years. Some species nest here, some winter here, and some rest and feed here during migration. While all habitats are important, the best areas are those that are large enough to provide room to feed, nest, and shelter from predators.

Black-headed Grosbeak*



Habitat

The Black-headed Grosbeak breeds in a variety of deciduous and mixed forest habitats.

Food

Insects, seeds, and fruits.

Nesting

A loose, open cup of twigs, plant stems, rootlets, and pine needles, lined with fine stems, rootlets, hair, string, and some green material. Nests are placed in outer branches of small trees or shrubs, often near a stream.

Bullock's Oriole*



Habitat

Bullock's Orioles prefer riparian and open woodlands or woodlots with tall trees, including parklands. Winter habitat includes riparian woodlands and woodland edges, with some in pine, pine-oak, or fir forests.

Food

Caterpillars, fruits, insects, spiders, and nectar.

Nesting

Neatly woven hanging nests. Nests are placed in isolated trees, at edges of woodlands, along watercourses, in shelterbelts, and in urban parks, often near water.

Cedar Waxwing*



Habitat

Cedar Waxwings inhabit deciduous, coniferous, and mixed woodlands, particularly areas along streams. In winter, Cedar Waxwings are most abundant around fruiting plants in open woodlands, parks, gardens, forest edges, and second-growth forests.

Food

Fruits and insects.

Nesting

Female waxwings do almost all the nest building; males may do some construction for the second nest of a season. The female weaves twigs, grasses, cattail down, blossoms, string, horsehair, and similar materials into a bulky cup about 5 inches across and 3 inches high.

Common Merganser*



Habitat

The Common Merganser breeds along lakes and rivers bordered by forests, and winters on large lakes, rivers, coastal bays, and estuaries.

Food

Small fish, insects, mollusks, crustaceans, worms, frogs, small mammals, birds, and plants.

Nesting

Nest in tree cavity or nest box, lined with downy feathers from chest of female. Populations are declining due to a lack of large trees along the river (Spokane Audubon).

Eastern Kingbird*



Habitat

The Eastern Kingbird breeds in open environments with scattered perches, such as fields, orchards, shelterbelts, and forest edges, and winters in riparian habitats.

Food

Flying insects, fruits especially in winter.

Gray Catbird*



Habitat

Gray Catbirds live amid dense shrubs, vine tangles, and thickets of young trees in both summer and winter. The Gray Catbird is only found along the river in the Spokane Valley due to lack of habitat elsewhere along the river.

Food

In summer, Gray Catbirds eat mainly ants, beetles, grasshoppers, midges, caterpillars, and moths. When fruits are available, they also eat holly berries, cherries, elderberries, poison ivy, greenbrier, bay, and blackberries.

Nesting

Nests are a bulky, open cup made of twigs, straw, bark, mud, and sometimes pieces of trash. It has a finely woven inner lining of grass, hair, rootlets, and pine needles.

Yellow Warbler*



Habitat

The Yellow Warbler breeds in wet, deciduous thickets, especially in willows, as well as shrubby areas and old fields.

Food

Insects and other arthropods, occasionally fruit.

Nesting

Nests are deep cup of grasses and bark that are placed in upright forks of shrubs or trees.

Northern Saw-whet Owl*



Habitat

The Northern Saw-whet Owl breeds in all types of forests within its range, and winters in a variety of habitats with dense vegetation for roosting.

Food

Woodland mice. Occasionally some small birds and large insects.

Nesting

Nests in tree cavity, usually old woodpecker holes, and also uses nest boxes.

White-crowned Sparrow*



Habitat

White-crowned Sparrows breed in open or shrubby habitats. Patches of bare ground and grasses are important characteristics. During winter and on migration, these birds frequent thickets, weedy fields, agricultural fields, roadsides, and backyards.

Food

Seeds, grains, berries, and insects.

Nesting

Females build nests out of twigs, coarse grasses, pine needles, moss, bark, and dead leaves. They line the nest cup with fine grasses and hairs. The finished product is about 5 inches across and 2 inches deep.

Great Blue Heron*



Habitat

Found along calm freshwater and seacoasts. Usually nests in trees near water, but colonies can be found away from water.

Food

Fish, invertebrates, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and small mammals.

Nesting

Great Blue Herons nest in colonies, or sometimes as a lone pair. Nests are a large platform of sticks placed high in trees, or occasionally on the ground.

*Source: allaboutbirds.org – The Cornell Lab of Ornithology

Gravel Pit Habitat and Ornithology: Species Summary

The Central Pre-Mix ponds provide an interesting place for bird watching due to the variety of waterfowl and raptors that use the ponds and surrounding land. The central location of the ponds allows for an easy drive; however, viewing the birds is challenging due to the perimeter fence. Parts of the ponds are also difficult to view from the road. People are interested in viewing and photographing the birds in the ponds due to the presence of several rare birds for the area. A way to view the ponds from a place off the road and above the height of the fence would be greatly appreciated. (Spokane Audubon)

The surface mining of gravel throughout the Spokane Valley has created urban water bodies. These water bodies and associated shorelines provide habitat for at least 45 different bird species during winter and fall migrations. The most numerous in quantity are waterfowl. Most of these species of waterfowl are shallow divers and feed on aquatic flora and fauna. These various species of birds use the gravel pits as summer and winter habitat, as well as for refuge during migration. The greatest varieties of non-waterfowl species are present along the gravel pits during the summer months according to the bird count supplied by the Spokane Audubon Society.

The most numerous and common bird species present at the gravel pits are as follows:

Ring-billed Gulls

- The Spokane Valley is not included in the winter range for the Ring-billed Gull. However, they can be found at the gravel pits year-round. This is likely due to the availability of food in the parking lots of restaurants and stores (Spokane Audubon). The Ring-billed Gull is most abundant during the summer months after returning from their traditional coastal wintering grounds.

Mallard

- The Mallard is the most common species of duck. Mallards are present in the Spokane Valley gravel pits year-round. They are most numerous during the winter months.

American Coot

- The American Coot is most numerous during the winter months. The summer months see a drastic decline in numbers as they move to their summer habitat to the north and east.

Canada Goose

- The Spokane Valley is listed as being year-round habitat for the Canada Goose. Their presence at the gravel pits is most numerous during the winter.

Double-crested Cormorant

- While the Spokane Valley is along the migratory path of the Double-crested Cormorant, they are present at the gravel pits year-round. The Double-crested

Cormorant typically migrates south or to the Pacific Coast. The Double-crested Cormorant primarily eats fish.

Common Merganser

- The Spokane Valley is listed as year-round habitat for the Common Merganser. They are most abundant during the winter months. The Common Merganser feeds predominately on aquatic fauna.

All information on particular bird species was obtained from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology website, allaboutbirds.org. The bird count data for the Spokane Valley gravel pits in the following table was collected and provided by Norma Trefy of the Spokane Chapter of the Audubon Society. Note that in some instances, Norma used a quantity of “many” in her count. To provide a numerical estimate within the table, a value of 35 was provided for each occurrence of “many”. The species for which this occurs has been noted.

Spokane Valley Gravel Pit Bird Counts
Data supplied by Norma Trefry (Spokane Audubon)

Species	Year	2007			2008			2009			
	Season	Winter	Spring	Winter	Spring	Summer	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	
American Coot*		9	0	198	75	23	245	47	0	21	
American Crow		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	
American Kestrel		0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	
American Robin		0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	
American Wigeons		0	0	9	9	2	16	16	2	0	
Bufflehead		0	0	9	12	8	10	6	4	0	
California Gull		0	0	0	39	14	0	9	14	9	
Canada Goose*		13	18	131	123	34	102	28	74	10	
Caspian Tern		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Cedar Waxwing		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	
Cinnamon Teal		0	0	0	0	7	0	0	7	0	
Common Goldeneye		2	6	9	7	0	15	5	0	1	
Common Loon		0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	
Common Merganser		2	0	30	8	7	24	9	8	4	
Double-crested Cormorant		0	3	9	14	18	16	18	35	59	
Duck (sp)		7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Eared Grebes		0	0	0	0	11	0	0	11	0	
Gadwall		0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	
Great Blue Herron		0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Green-winged Teal		0	0	0	0	4	2	2	4	0	
Gull (sp)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	
Herring Gull		0	0	0	0	7	5	0	10	0	
Horned Grebe		0	0	0	11	11	0	0	0	0	
House Finch		0	0	0	7	0	0	21	0	0	
House Sparrow*		0	0	0	0	36	0	21	36	0	
Killdeer		0	0	1	2	6	0	0	13	2	
Lesser Scaup		0	0	0	2	6	2	2	6	0	
Mallard*		43	0	109	51	5	256	26	24	25	
Mourning Dove		0	0	0	1	12	5	5	37	2	
Northern Flicker		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Northern Pintail		0	0	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	
Northern Shoveler		0	14	0	2	12	0	0	10	0	
Osprey		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Pied Bill Grebe		0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	
Redhead		7	0	8	6	5	4	0	5	0	
Red-necked Grebe		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	
Red-tailed Hawk		0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	
Red-winged Blackbird		0	0	0	0	1	4	4	1	0	
Ring-billed Gull*		0	35	192	182	244	89	131	244	73	
Ring-necked Duck		4	0	19	15	4	1	1	2	0	
Ruddy Duck		0	0	0	0	8	0	0	8	0	
Snow Goose		0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	
Song Sparrow		0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	
Starling*		0	0	0	0	36	0	0	36	0	
Swallow (sp)*		0	0	0	0	35	0	35	35	0	
Tree Swallow		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Violet-green Swallow*		0	0	0	26	0	0	70	1	0	
Western Grebe		0	0	3	2	2	0	0	2	0	

* Value "many" used in count

Appendix D: Degree of Association Between Focal Wildlife Species and Focal Habitats for Breeding

Degree of association (● = close, ○ = general) for breeding between focal wildlife species and focal habitats of the Intermountain Province

Common Name	Scientific Name	Cliff	Wetland			Ripn	Steppe/Shrub-stpp					Upland Forest					
			Rock	lrpr	h		mc	ei	wg	eig	ss	wj	wlc	mm	eim	lp	pp
Amphibians																	
Coeur d'Alene salamander	<i>Plethodon vandykei idahoensis</i>	○		●	○	○											
Columbia spotted frog	<i>Rana lateralis</i>		●	●	○	○											
Long-toed salamander	<i>Ambystoma macrodactylum</i>		●	●	●	○											
Northern leopard frog	<i>Rana pipiens</i>		●	●	●	○											
Rough-skinned newt	<i>Taricha granulosa</i>		●	●	●	○											
Western toad	<i>Bufo boreas</i>		●	●	●	○											
Wood frog	<i>Rana sylvatica</i>		●	●	●	○											
Birds																	
American crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>																
American dipper	<i>Cinclus mexicanus</i>		●														
American kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	○															
American white pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>		●														
American wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>			●													
Bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>																
Barred owl	<i>Strix varia</i>																
Black tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>			●													
Black-backed woodpecker	<i>Picoides arcticus</i>																
Black-capped chickadee	<i>Parus atricapillus</i>																
Blue grouse	<i>Dendragapus obscurus</i>																
Boreal owl	<i>Aegolius funereus</i>																
California quail	<i>Callipepla californica</i>																
Canada goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	○		●													
Chukar	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>	○															
Common loon	<i>Garvia immer</i>		○	●													
Common merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>																
Double-crested cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>		●	○													
Downy woodpecker	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>																
Ferruginous hawk	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	○															
Flammulated owl	<i>Otus flammeolus</i>																
Golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	●															
Grasshopper sparrow	<i>Ammodramus saviannarum</i>																
Gray partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>																
Great blue heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>																
Great gray owl	<i>Strix nebulosa</i>																
Green-winged teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>			●													
Harlequin duck	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>																
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>		○	○													
Lewis' woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>																

Common Name	Scientific Name	Cliff		Wetland			Ripn		Steppe/Shrub-stipp					Upland Forest				
		Rock	Irpr	h	mc	ei	wg	ei	ss	wj	w/c	mm	eim	jp	pp	ua		
Loggerhead shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>																	
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>																	
Marsh wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>																	
Merrin	<i>Falco columbaris</i>																	
Mourning dove	<i>Zenaidura macroura</i>																	
Northern goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>																	
Northern pygmy owl	<i>Glaucidium gnoma</i>																	
Northern rough-winged swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>																	
Olive-sided flycatcher	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>																	
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>																	
Peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>																	
Pileated woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>																	
Pygmy nuthatch	<i>Sitta pygmaea</i>																	
Redhead	<i>Aythya americana</i>																	
Ring-billed gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>																	
Ring-necked pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>																	
Ruddy duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>																	
Ruffed grouse	<i>Bonasa umbellatus</i>																	
Rufous hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus rufus</i>																	
Sage grouse	<i>Centrocercus urophasianus</i>																	
Sage sparrow	<i>Amphispiza belli</i>																	
Sage thrasher	<i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>																	
Sandhill crane	<i>Grus canadensis</i>																	
Sharp-tailed grouse	<i>Tympanuchus phasianellus</i>																	
Spotted sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>																	
Spruce grouse	<i>Dendragapus canadensis</i>																	
Swamson's hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>																	
Three-toed woodpecker	<i>Picoides tridactylus</i>																	
Tundra swan	<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>																	
Upland sandpiper	<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>																	
Vaux's swift	<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>																	
Western burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>																	
Western grebe	<i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i>																	
Western meadowlark	<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>																	
Western tanager	<i>Piranga ludoviciana</i>																	
White-headed woodpecker	<i>Picoides albolarvatus</i>																	
Wild turkey	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>																	
Willow flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>																	
Yellow warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>																	

Reptiles												
Northern alligator lizard	<i>Elegania coerulea</i>											
Ringneck snake	<i>Diadolphus punctatus</i>											
Striped whipsnake	<i>Masticophis taeniatus</i>											

Cliff or Rock Outcrop:

Wetland: lrpr = lake, river, pond, and reservoir; h = herbaceous; mc = montane coniferous.

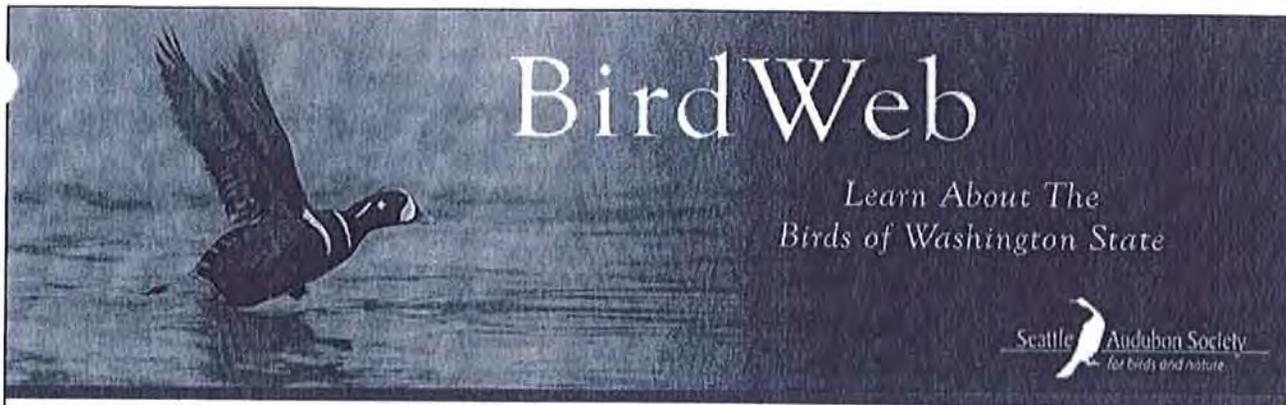
Riparian: ei = eastside (interior) riparian-wetland.

Steppe or Shrub-steppe: wg = westside grassland; eig = eastside (interior) grassland; ss = shrub-steppe.

Upland Forest: wj = western juniper and/or mountain mahogany; wlc = westside lowland conifer-hardwood; mm = montane mixed conifer; eim = eastside (interior) mixed conifer;

lp = lodgepole pine; pp = ponderosa pine; ua = upland aspen.

(Source: Adapted from Johnson and O'Neil 2001)



Species of Special Concern

Many birds in Washington are showing signs of decline due to habitat loss and other environmental threats. Some of these species are still relatively common and widespread while others have all but disappeared from the state. After careful scientific monitoring, various government agencies and non-governmental organizations formally designate those species deemed most at risk, placing them on special lists in order to provide protection and call attention to their status. Designations from four of the most important lists are compiled in the table below: the federal List of Threatened and Endangered Species (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service), the Audubon/American Bird Conservancy Watch List, the state Species of Concern list (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife), and the Audubon Washington Vulnerable Birds list. Click on the links at the left for further details about each list, or on a species' name on the table to go to its BirdWeb account.

	Federal Endangered Species List	Audubon/American Bird Conservancy Watch List	State Endangered Species List	Audubon Washington Vulnerable Birds List
Brant	--	--	--	Early Warning
Cackling Goose (Aleutian subspecies)	--	--	Monitored	Early Warning
Trumpeter Swan	--	Yellow List	--	High Concern
Canvasback	--	--	--	Early Warning
Redhead	--	--	--	Early Warning
Harlequin Duck	--	--	--	Early Warning
Barrow's Goldeneye	--	--	--	Early Warning
Hooded Merganser	--	--	--	Early Warning
Greater Sage-Grouse	Candidate	Yellow List	Threatened	Immediate Concern
Sooty Grouse	--	Red List	--	Early Warning
Sharp-tailed Grouse	--	--	Threatened	Immediate Concern
Mountain Quail	--	Yellow List	--	Early Warning
Common Loon	--	--	Sensitive	Early Warning
Yellow-billed Loon	--	Yellow List	--	--
Horned Grebe	--	--	Monitored	--
Red-necked Grebe	--	--	Monitored	--
Western Grebe	--	--	Candidate	High Concern
Clark's Grebe	--	Yellow List	Monitored	Early Warning
Laysan Albatross	--	Red List	--	--
Black-footed Albatross	--	Red List	--	Early Warning
Short-tailed Albatross	Endangered	Red List	Candidate	--
Pink-footed Shearwater	--	Red List	--	Early Warning
Buller's Shearwater	--	Yellow List	--	--
Sooty Shearwater	--	Yellow List	--	--
American White Pelican	--	--	Endangered	Early Warning
Brown Pelican	Endangered	--	Endangered	Early Warning
Brandt's Cormorant	--	--	Candidate	Early Warning
Pelagic Cormorant	--	--	--	Early Warning
American Bittern	--	--	--	Immediate Concern
Great Blue Heron	--	--	Monitored	--
Great Egret	--	--	Monitored	--
Green Heron	--	--	Monitored	--
Black-crowned Night-Heron	--	--	Monitored	--
Turkey Vulture	--	--	Monitored	--

Osprey	--	--	Monitored	--
Bald Eagle	Delisted - Recovered	--	Sensitive	Early Warning
Cooper's Hawk	--	--	--	Early Warning
Northern Goshawk	--	--	Candidate	Immediate Concern
Swainson's Hawk	--	Yellow List	Monitored	Early Warning
Ferruginous Hawk	--	--	Threatened	Immediate Concern
Golden Eagle	--	--	Candidate	High Concern
Merlin	--	--	Candidate	Early Warning
Gyr Falcon	--	--	Monitored	--
Peregrine Falcon	Delisted - Recovered	--	Sensitive	Early Warning
Prairie Falcon	--	--	Monitored	High Concern
Sandhill Crane	--	--	Endangered	Early Warning
American Golden-Plover	--	Yellow List	--	--
Snowy Plover (Western subspecies)	Threatened	Yellow List	Endangered	Immediate Concern
Black Oystercatcher	--	--	Monitored	Early Warning
Black-necked Stilt	--	--	Monitored	--
Wandering Tattler	--	Yellow List	--	--
Upland Sandpiper	--	--	Endangered	--
Whimbrel	--	--	--	Early Warning
Long-billed Curlew	--	Yellow List	Monitored	Immediate Concern
Bar-tailed Godwit	--	Yellow List	--	--
Marbled Godwit	--	Yellow List	--	Early Warning
Ruddy Turnstone	--	--	--	Early Warning
Black Turnstone	--	Yellow List	--	Early Warning
Surfbird	--	Yellow List	--	Early Warning
Red Knot	--	Yellow List	--	Immediate Concern
Sanderling	--	Yellow List	--	Early Warning
Semipalmated Sandpiper	--	Yellow List	--	--
Western Sandpiper	--	Yellow List	--	--
Rock Sandpiper	--	Red List	--	Early Warning
Stilt Sandpiper	--	Yellow List	--	--
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	--	Red List	--	--
Short-billed Dowitcher	--	--	--	Early Warning
Wilson's Phalarope	--	--	--	Early Warning
Heermann's Gull	--	Yellow List	--	Early Warning
	--	Yellow List	--	--

Thayer's Gull				
Western Gull	--	--	--	Early Warning
✓ Caspian Tern	--	--	Monitored	High Concern
Black Tern	--	--	Monitored	Early Warning
Arctic Tern	--	--	Monitored	Early Warning
Forster's Tern	--	--	Monitored	--
Elegant Tern	--	Yellow List	--	--
Common Murre	--	--	Candidate	Early Warning
Marbled Murrelet	Threatened	Yellow List	Threatened	Immediate Concern
Ancient Murrelet	--	Yellow List	--	--
Cassin's Auklet	--	--	Candidate	Early Warning
Tufted Puffin	--	--	Candidate	Early Warning
Band-tailed Pigeon	--	--	--	High Concern
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (Western population)	Candidate	--	Candidate	--
Flammulated Owl	--	Yellow List	Candidate	High Concern
Snowy Owl	--	--	Monitored	--
Burrowing Owl	--	--	Candidate	High Concern
Spotted Owl (Northern subspecies)	Threatened	Red List	Endangered	Immediate Concern
Great Gray Owl	--	--	Monitored	Early Warning
✓ Short-eared Owl	--	Yellow List	--	High Concern
Boreal Owl	--	--	Monitored	--
Black Swift	--	Yellow List	Monitored	Immediate Concern
Vaux's Swift	--	--	Candidate	Early Warning
White-throated Swift	--	--	--	Early Warning
Black-chinned Hummingbird	--	--	--	Early Warning
Calliope Hummingbird	--	Yellow List	--	Early Warning
Rufous Hummingbird	--	--	--	Early Warning
Lewis's Woodpecker	--	Red List	Candidate	High Concern
Acorn Woodpecker	--	--	Monitored	--
Williamson's Sapsucker	--	Yellow List	--	Early Warning
Red-naped Sapsucker	--	--	--	Early Warning
Red-breasted Sapsucker	--	--	--	Early Warning
White-headed Woodpecker	--	Yellow List	Candidate	Immediate Concern
American Three-toed Woodpecker	--	--	Monitored	--
Black-backed Woodpecker	--	--	Candidate	Early Warning
✓ Pileated Woodpecker	--	--	Candidate	Early Warning

Olive-sided Flycatcher	--	Yellow List	--	Immediate Concern
Willow Flycatcher	--	Yellow List	--	Early Warning
Hammond's Flycatcher	--	--	--	Early Warning
Gray Flycatcher	--	--	Monitored	--
Dusky Flycatcher	--	--	--	Early Warning
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	--	--	--	Early Warning
Ash-throated Flycatcher	--	--	Monitored	--
Loggerhead Shrike	--	--	Candidate	Immediate Concern
Cassin's Vireo	--	--	--	Early Warning
Horned Lark (Streaked subspecies)	Candidate	--	Endangered	Immediate Concern
Purple Martin	--	--	Candidate	High Concern
Boreal Chickadee	--	--	Monitored	--
White-breasted Nuthatch (Slender-billed subspecies)	--	--	Candidate	Early Warning
Pygmy Nuthatch	--	--	Monitored	Early Warning
Western Bluebird	--	--	Monitored	Early Warning
Varied Thrush	--	Yellow List	--	--
Gray Catbird	--	--	--	Early Warning
Sage Thrasher	--	--	Candidate	High Concern
Yellow Warbler	--	--	--	Early Warning
Black-throated Gray Warbler	--	--	--	Early Warning
Hermit Warbler	--	Yellow List	--	Early Warning
Northern Waterthrush	--	--	Monitored	--
MacGillivray's Warbler	--	--	--	Early Warning
Yellow-breasted Chat	--	--	--	Early Warning
Green-tailed Towhee	--	--	Monitored	--
Chipping Sparrow	--	--	--	Early Warning
Brewer's Sparrow	--	Yellow List	--	High Concern
Vesper Sparrow (Oregon subspecies)	--	--	Candidate	Immediate Concern
Sage Sparrow	--	Yellow List	Candidate	High Concern
Grasshopper Sparrow	--	--	Monitored	--
Lazuli Bunting	--	--	--	Early Warning
Bobolink	--	--	Monitored	--
Rusty Blackbird	--	Yellow List	--	--
Lesser Goldfinch	--	--	Monitored	--