



Birds of Central Oregon Wetlands

Western Northern Flicker
Colaptes auratus
"kwikwikwikwik"

Over 500 different bird species live in or visit the state of Oregon. Use this brochure to discover how you can identify birds with clues such as location, behavior, size, shape and field marks.

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This TRACK Trail is supported by the Central Oregon Health Council



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Field Marks

In addition to size, shape, location and behavior, field marks can be used to help identify birds. If you can't identify a bird on your hike, remembering what certain parts of the bird looked like can help you identify it when you get home. On your birding adventure, try to find a bird you don't know and see if it has any of the following field marks:

tail markings
Does the bird have white edges on its tail or a different color on the tip?

tail bars
Are there any stripes across the bird's tail?

wing bars
Does the bird have wing bars or patches?

nape
Is the bird's nape a different color?

eyestripe
Does the bird have a stripe through the eye?

crown
Does the bird have a colored "cap" or a crest on its head?

belly
What color is the bird's belly?

side
Does the bird have coloring on the sides?

breast
Does the breast have speckles or bands of color?

throat
Is the bird's throat a different color?

beak
What shape and color are the beak?

eyebrow
Does the bird have an eyebrow? What color?

Red-winged Blackbird
Agelaius phoeniceus
"Conk-la-reee!"

What kind of bird is that...

When trying to identify a bird, the first things to look for are location and behavior. Is the bird up high making noise or wading in the water? Next, think about size and shape. Is it big like an osprey or small like a goldfinch? Does it have pointy wings or a long tail? Finally, you can use field marks to identify birds – flip to the side panel to discover how.

Check off each bird you find on your hike today!

in the shrubs and trees?

The shrubs and trees at the wetlands provide food, perches and nest sites for many birds. These birds can be found sitting in the branches, scanning for insects or singing to attract mates. **Look into the trees and shrubs. How many different birds can you find? _____** **What parts of the tree or shrub are the birds using? _____**



Western Meadowlark
Sturnella neglecta
series of whistles
and warbles



Yellow Warbler
Setophaga petechia
“sweet sweet sweet,
I’m so sweet”



Dark-eyed Junco
Junco hyemalis
short, musical trill

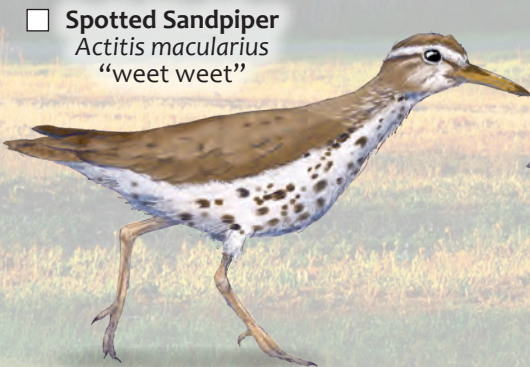


Mountain Bluebird
Siala currucoides
“tew” or “tink”

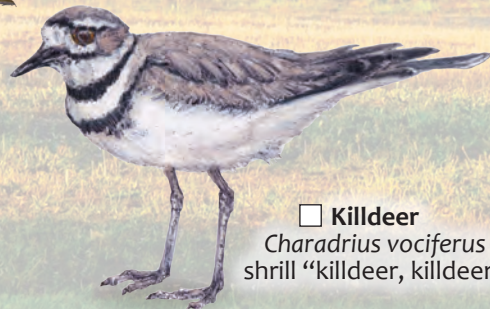
on the shore?

Birds that feed along the shore usually specialize in catching fish or invertebrates such as worms and snails. Birds like herons, sandpipers, and killdeers walk along the shore with long legs, stirring up the mud in search of food. **Look around the wetlands and lake shallows for shorebirds. _____**

How many different birds can you find? _____ **Can you tell what they are eating? _____**



Spotted Sandpiper
Actitis macularius
“weet weet”



Killdeer
Charadrius vociferus
shrill “killdeer, killdeer”



Great Blue Heron
Ardea herodias
squawks “frraahnk”



Gadwall
Mareca strepera
froggy “k-hep”



Mallard
Anas platyrhynchos
“quack quack”



American Coot
Fulica americana
“krrp or prik”

in the air?

Birds that spend a lot of time in the air use their strong eyesight to find food. These birds of prey often can be found perched, hovering or flying above the land and water as they search for their next meal. **Scan the sky over the wetlands and the branches of tall trees. _____** **Are there any large birds flying overhead? Are they flapping, hovering or gliding? _____**



Turkey Vulture
Cathartes aura
warning “hsssssss”



Osprey
Pandion haliaetus
“tewp, tewp, teelee, tewp”



American Kestrel
Falco sparverius
“kli kli kli kli kli kli”

in the water?

Wetlands are attractive to a variety of birds, making it a great place to find birds. Search near the edges of the water for birds like American coots. Look dabbling mallards and gadwalls swimming along, sifting out vegetation and insects near the surface of the water. _____

How many different types of water birds can you find? _____