

Sinks Canyon has a wide diversity of habitat making it ideal for over 94 species of birds.

Many of the birds in the canyon live in the streamside, or riparian, habitat. The Yellow Warbler, MacGillivray's Warbler, Song Sparrow and American Dipper all use dense shrub habitat for foraging for seeds or insects and nesting. Snags or downed trees of different sizes and stages of deterioration are used by various woodpeckers. Later other birds use the abandoned woodpecker holes for nests. Birds that nest in holes are called cavity nesters and include the Saw-whet Owl, Tree Swallow and Mountain Bluebird. Each of these species requires holes of different sizes in varying heights above the ground and in different kinds of habitats. The rocky canyon rim is the home to Golden Eagles and Cliff Swallows. The stands of sagebrush and bitterbrush are home to the Rock Wren, American Kestrel, and the Green-tailed Towhee.

Because of the species-specific needs of each bird, we must conserve the different types of habitat in the canyon. For example, if we cut down streamside shrubs or remove snags from the river because they are unsightly we eliminate homes or food for birds, hurting their populations.

In the summer the most abundant species are the Warbling Vireo, Lazuli Bunting, Western Tanager, Grey Catbird, Broad-tailed Hummingbird and Green-tailed Towhee. Many birds migrate from the area in the winter but year round residents include birds like the Townsend's Solitaire, Black-billed Magpie, Golden Eagle, Northern Flicker and Mountain Chickadee. The canyon is winter habitat for some species that nest higher in the mountains like the Gray Jay, Stellar's Jay and the Gray-crowned Rosy Finch.

Please use this brochure to identify different birds in the canyon. Wild birds are among Wyoming's most viewable and spectacular wildlife. Use your ears as well, you will often hear birds before you see them as their songs and calls ring out.

Additional Species

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Please attach detailed description if rare for this area.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Observers:

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Weather

Temperature \_\_\_\_\_

Cloud Cover \_\_\_\_\_

Wind Speed: \_\_\_\_\_

Direction \_\_\_\_\_

Precipitation \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

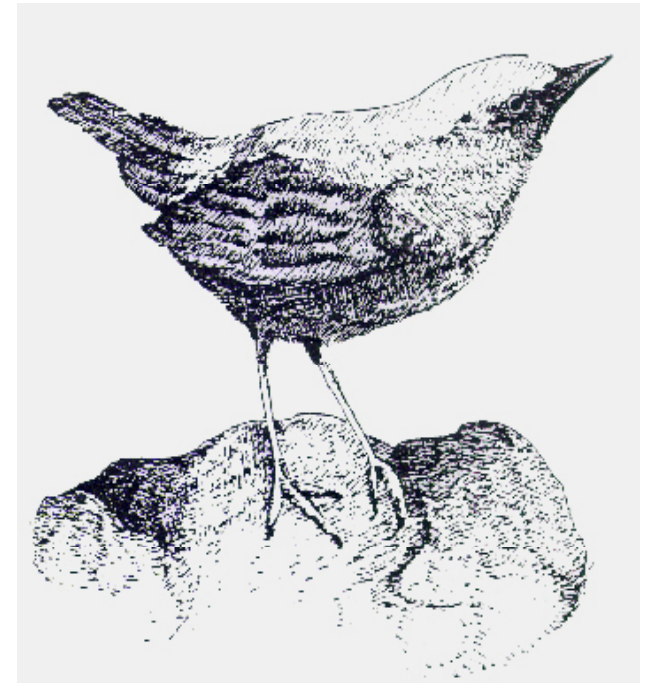
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For more information on birds in this area contact the

Red Desert Audubon Society  
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# Birds of Sinks Canyon



American Dipper