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BIRDS
of the

**SAWTOOTH
NATIONAL
RECREATIONAL
AREA**

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Region

Sawtooth
National
Forest

BIRDS *of the* **SAWTOOTH** **NATIONAL RECREATION** **AREA**

INTRODUCTION

The Sawtooth National Recreation Area (NRA), located in central Idaho, contains the headwaters of three major river systems and includes some of the most beautiful mountain ranges in the state. The famous "River of No Return," the Salmon, originates in the northern portion of the Sawtooth NRA, the South Fork of the Payette drains the Sawtooths to the west, and the Big Wood River flows south past world-famous Sun Valley ski resort. Habitats vary with elevation from ancient stands of limber pine at over 11,000 feet, through forests of Douglas-fir, subalpine fir, lodgepole pine and aspen, to grassland and sagebrush at 5200 feet. These diverse habitats provide food and shelter for approximately 214 species of birds that can be found on the Sawtooth NRA either in migration or during the nesting season.

This list is intended to be used with a field guide to help identify and observe birds during your visit to the area. If you see any species not on the list or listed as endangered, please report the sighting to the Sawtooth NRA headquarters (eight miles north of Ketchum) or the Stanley Ranger Station. Need identification help? Feel free to stop by at either location for some friendly advice.

LEGEND

Abundance

- A = Abundant or common in large numbers
- C = Common in suitable habitat
- U = Uncommon (present in small numbers)
- O = Occasionally seen
- R = Rare (recorded less than 5 times)

Habitat

- 1 = Lakes
- 2 = Marshes
- 3 = Riparian areas / rivers and streams
- 4 = Grasslands / meadows
- 5 = Sagebrush / brushlands
- 6 = Coniferous forests
- 7 = Aspen / cottonwood forests
- 8 = Rocky areas and cliffs
- 9 = Buildings, towns
- 10 = Alpine rock and meadow

Season

- S = Spring—March to May
- S = Summer—June to August
- F = Fall—September to November
- W = Winter—December to February

Species in bold are endangered, threatened, or sensitive (a species exhibiting a downward trend in population or habitat loss). Please report any sightings of these species to the Sawtooth NRA Headquarters or the Stanley Ranger Station.

Name

LOONS

- _____ Red-throated Loon
- _____ **Common Loon**

GREBES

- _____ Pied-billed Grebe
- _____ Horned Grebe
- _____ Eared Grebe
- _____ Western Grebe
- _____ Clark's Grebe
- _____ Red-necked Grebe

PELICANS AND CORMORANTS

- _____ American White Pelican
- _____ Double-crested Cormorant

HERONS, BITTERNS, AND IBIS

- _____ American Bittern
- _____ Great Blue Heron
- _____ Cattle Egret
- _____ Black-crowned Night-Heron
- _____ White-faced Ibis

DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWANS

- _____ Tundra Swan
- _____ Snow Goose
- _____ Canada Goose
- _____ Wood Duck
- _____ Green-winged Teal
- _____ Mallard
- _____ Northern Pintail
- _____ Blue-winged Teal
- _____ Cinnamon Teal
- _____ Northern Shoveler
- _____ Gadwall
- _____ American Wigeon
- _____ Canvasback
- _____ Redhead
- _____ Ring-necked Duck
- _____ Lesser Scaup
- _____ **Harlequin Duck**
- _____ Surf Scoter
- _____ Common Goldeneye
- _____ Barrow's Goldeneye
- _____ Bufflehead
- _____ Hooded Merganser
- _____ Common Merganser
- _____ Ruddy Duck

Season				Habitat
S	S	F	W	

U	R	U		1
	R			1

U	U	U		1, 2
		U		1, 2
U	U	U		1, 2
C	C	C		1, 2
	R			1, 2
R		R		1, 2

		R		1
O	O			1

R	O	R		2
U	U	U	O	1, 2, 3
			R	1, 2, 3
O	O	O		1, 2, 3
R	R			1, 2, 3

U	R	C	R	1, 2, 3
O		O		1, 2, 3
C	U	C	O	1, 2, 3
U	U	R	R	1, 2, 3
C	C	C		1, 2, 3
A	A	A	U	1, 2, 3
U	O	O		1, 2, 3
O	R	O		1, 2, 3
C	C	U		1, 2, 3
U	U	U		1, 2, 3
U	U	U		1, 2, 3
C	U	C	R	1, 2, 3
O	R	O		1, 2, 3
O	R	O		1, 2, 3
U	U	U	R	1, 2, 3
U	O	O	O	1, 2, 3
R				3
R	R	R		1, 2, 3
C	C	C	U	1, 2, 3
O	O	U	O	1, 2, 3
O	O	O	O	1, 2, 3
R	R	R	R	1, 2, 3
C	C	C	C	1, 2, 3
U	U	U		1, 2, 3

Name

VULTURES

_____ Turkey Vulture

EAGLES, HAWKS, AND FALCONS

_____ Osprey

_____ **Bald Eagle**

_____ Northern Harrier

_____ Sharp-shinned Hawk

_____ Cooper's Hawk

_____ **Northern Goshawk**

_____ Swainson's Hawk

_____ Red-tailed Hawk

_____ Ferruginous Hawk

_____ Rough-legged Hawk

_____ Golden Eagle

_____ American Kestrel

_____ Merlin

_____ **Peregrine Falcon**

_____ Prairie Falco

GROUSE, PARTRIDGES, AND QUAIL

_____ Chukar

_____ Spruce Grouse

_____ Blue Grouse

_____ Ruffed Grouse

_____ Sage Grouse

_____ Turkey

RAILS, COOTS, AND CRANES

_____ Virginia Rail

_____ Sora

_____ American Coot

_____ Sandhill Crane

PLOVERS

_____ Semipalmated Plover

_____ Killdeer

STILTS AND AVOCETS

_____ Black-necked Stilt

_____ American Avocet

SANDPIPERS

_____ Greater Yellowlegs

_____ Lesser Yellowlegs

_____ Solitary Sandpiper

_____ Willet

_____ Spotted Sandpiper

Season				Habitat
S	S	F	W	
O	O	O		4, 5, 6, 7,8
C	C	C		1, 2, 3
O	R	O	U	1, 2, 3
C	C	C	O	1, 2, 3
U	U	U	U	1, 2, 3
U	U	U	U	1, 2, 3
O	O	O	U	6, 7
U	C	O		4, 5
C	C	U	R	4, 5, 6, 7
R		R		4, 5
U		U	U	4, 5
U	U	U	U	4, 5, 8
C	C	C	R	4, 5, 6, 7
	R	R	R	4, 5, 6, 7
R	R	R		2, 3, 8
U	U	U	R	4, 5, 8, 10
U	U	U	U	8
C	C	C	U	6
C	C	C	U	6, 7
U	U	U	R	6, 7
R	R	R	R	5
R	R	R	R	6, 7
U	U	U		2
C	C	C		2
O	O	U		1, 2, 3
C	C	C		2, 3, 4
R				1, 2
A	A	A	R	1, 2, 3, 4
O	O	O		1, 2
O	O	O		1, 2
O		O		1, 2
O		O		1, 2
R		R		2, 3
O	O	O		1, 2
C	C	C		1, 2, 3

Name

- _____ Long-billed Curlew
- _____ Western Sandpiper
- _____ Least Sandpiper
- _____ Baird's Sandpiper
- _____ Pectoral Sandpiper
- _____ Common Snipe
- _____ Wilson's Phalarope
- _____ Red-necked Phalarope

GULLS AND TERNS

- _____ Franklin's Gull
- _____ Ring-billed Gull
- _____ California Gull
- _____ Caspian Tern
- _____ Forster's Tern

PIGEONS AND DOVES

- _____ Rock Dove
- _____ Mourning Dove

OWLS

- _____ Barn Owl
- _____ **Flammulated Owl**
- _____ Western Screech Owl
- _____ Great Horned Owl
- _____ Snowy Owl
- _____ Northern Pygmy-Owl
- _____ **Great Gray Owl**
- _____ Long-eared Owl
- _____ Short-eared Owl
- _____ **Boreal Owl**
- _____ Northern Saw-whet Owl

GOATSUCKERS

- _____ Common Nighthawk
- _____ Common Poorwill

SWIFTS

- _____ Black Swift
- _____ Vaux's Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS

- _____ Black-chinned Hummingbird
- _____ Calliope Hummingbird
- _____ Broad-tailed Hummingbird
- _____ Rufous Hummingbird

KINGFISHERS

- _____ Belted Kingfisher

WOODPECKERS

- _____ Lewis' Woodpecker
- _____ Red-naped Sapsucker

Season				Habitat
S	S	F	W	

U	R	U		2, 4
R		R		1, 2
R	R	R		1, 2
	R	R		
		R		
C	C	C	U	2
C	C	O		1, 2
R		R		1, 2
R				1, 2, 3
C	C	O		1, 2, 3
C	C	C		1, 2, 3
R	R	R		1, 2, 3
R	R	R		1, 2, 3
O	O	O	O	8, 9
O	U	U		4, 5, 6, 7
R	R	R		2, 4, 9
R	R			6, 7
R	R	R		3
U	U	U	U	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
			R	2, 4
U	U	U	O	6, 7
R	R	R	R	6, 7
O	O	O		3, 6, 7
O	O	O		2, 4
R	R	R	R	6, 7
U	U	U	U	6, 7
U	C	C		4, 6, 7
R	O			6, 7, 8
R	R			8
O	O			6, 7
U	U	O		3, 4
C	C	U		3, 4
C	C	U		5, 6, 7
O	C	C		5, 6, 7
U	U	U	U	1, 2, 3
C	C	C		3
C	C	C		6, 7

Name

- _____ Red-naped Sapsucker
- _____ Williamson's Sapsucker
- _____ Downy Woodpecker
- _____ Hairy Woodpecker
- _____ **Three-toed Woodpecker**
- _____ Black-backed Woodpecker
- _____ Northern Flicker
- _____ Pileated Woodpecker

FLYCATCHERS

- _____ Olive-sided Flycatcher
- _____ Western Wood Pewee
- _____ Willow Flycatcher
- _____ Hammond's Flycatcher
- _____ Cordilleran Flycatcher
- _____ Say's Phoebe
- _____ Western Kingbird
- _____ Eastern Kingbird

LARKS

- _____ Horned Lark

SWALLOWS

- _____ Tree Swallow
- _____ Violet-green Swallow
- _____ Northern Rough-winged Swallow
- _____ Bank Swallow
- _____ Cliff Swallow
- _____ Barn Swallow

JAYS, MAGPIES, AND CROWS

- _____ Gray Jay
- _____ Steller's Jay
- _____ Clark's Nutcracker
- _____ Black-billed Magpie
- _____ American Crow
- _____ Common Raven

CHICKADEES

- _____ Black-capped Chickadee
- _____ Mountain Chickadee

NUTHATCHES

- _____ Red-breasted Nuthatch
- _____ White-breasted Nuthatch

CREEPERS

- _____ Brown Creeper

Season				Habitat
S	S	F	W	
C	C	C		6, 7
U	U	U		6
C	C	C	C	6, 7
C	C	C	C	6, 7
O	O	O		6
O	O	O		6
C	C	C	R	3, 6, 7
U	U	U	R	6, 7
U	U			6
C	C			3, 6, 7
U	U			3
C	C			6
C	C			6, 7
O	O			5, 8
U	U			3, 5
U	U			3
O	O	O	R	4, 5
C	C	O		1, 2, 3
C	C	O		1, 2, 3
U	U	O		1, 2, 3
O	O	O		1, 2, 3
A	A	O		1, 2, 3, 8
C	C	O		1, 2, 3, 9
U	U	U	U	6
U	U	U	U	6
C	C	C	C	6
C	C	C	C	3, 5, 7
O	O	O	R	6, 7, 9
U	U	C	C	4, 5, 6, 7, 8
C	C	C	C	6, 7
C	C	C	C	6
C	C	C	C	6, 7
U	U	U	U	6, 7
U	U	U	U	6, 7

Name

WRENS

- _____ Rock Wren
- _____ Canyon Wren
- _____ House Wren
- _____ Winter Wren

DIPPERS

- _____ American Dipper

THRUSHES

- _____ Golden-crowned Kinglet
- _____ Ruby-crowned Kinglet
- _____ Mountain Bluebird
- _____ Townsend's Solitaire
- _____ Swainson's Thrush
- _____ Hermit Thrush
- _____ American Robin
- _____ Varied Thrush

THRASHERS

- _____ Gray Catbird
- _____ Sage Thrasher

WATER PIPITS

- _____ American Pipit

WAXWINGS

- _____ Bohemian Waxwing
- _____ Cedar Waxwing

SHRIKES

- _____ Northern Shrike
- _____ Loggerhead Shrike

STARLINGS

- _____ European Starling

VIREOS

- _____ Solitary Vireo
- _____ Warbling Vireo

WOOD WARBLERS

- _____ Orange-crowned Warbler
- _____ Nashville Warbler
- _____ Yellow Warbler
- _____ Yellow-rumped Warbler
- _____ Townsend's Warbler
- _____ Northern Waterthrush
- _____ MacGillivray's Warbler
- _____ Common Yellowthroat
- _____ Wilson's Warbler

TANAGERS

- _____ Western Tanager

Season				Habitat
S	S	F	W	
U	U	U		8
O	O	O		8
C	C	U	R	6, 7
O	O	O	O	6
C	C	C	C	3
U	U	U	O	6
C	C	C	O	6, 7
C	C	C		4, 5, 7
C	C	C	O	5, 6, 10
C	C	C		6, 7
C	C	C		6, 7
A	C	C	O	3, 4, 5, 6, 7
U	O	O		6
U	U	U		3, 5
O	O	O		5
O	U	O		3, 4, 10
O	R	U	U	5, 6, 7
O	O	O	R	5, 6, 7
U	U	U	O	5, 6, 7
O	O	O		5, 6, 7
C	C	C	O	9
O	U	O		6, 7
C	C	C		3, 6, 7
O	O	O		3, 6, 7
R	R			5, 6, 7
C	C	C		3
C	C	C		6, 7
U	U	U		6
R	R	R		3
C	C	U		3
U	U	U		2, 3
U	U	U		3
C	C	C		6, 7

Name

GROSBEAKS, SPARROWS, AND BUNTINGS

- _____ Rose-breasted Grosbeak
- _____ Black-headed Grosbeak
- _____ Lazuli Bunting
- _____ Green-tailed Towhee
- _____ Rufous-sided Towhee
- _____ American Tree Sparrow
- _____ Chipping Sparrow
- _____ Brewer's Sparrow
- _____ Vesper Sparrow
- _____ Lark Sparrow
- _____ Sage Sparrow
- _____ Savannah Sparrow
- _____ Fox Sparrow
- _____ Song Sparrow
- _____ Lincoln's Sparrow
- _____ White-crowned Sparrow
- _____ Harris' Sparrow
- _____ Dark-eyed Junco
- _____ Snow Bunting

BLACKBIRDS, MEADOWLARKS, AND ORIOLES

- _____ Red-winged Blackbird
- _____ Western Meadowlark
- _____ Yellow-headed Blackbird
- _____ Brewer's Blackbird
- _____ Brown-headed Cowbird
- _____ Northern Oriole

FINCHES

- _____ Rosy Finch
- _____ Pine Grosbeak
- _____ Purple Finch
- _____ Cassin's Finch
- _____ House Finch
- _____ Red Crossbill
- _____ White-winged Crossbill
- _____ Common Redpoll
- _____ Pine Siskin
- _____ American Goldfinch
- _____ Evening Grosbeak

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

- _____ House Sparrow

Season				Habitat
S	S	F	W	
R	R	R		6, 7
C	C	C		3, 6, 7
C	C	C		3, 6, 7
O	O	O		5
C	U	U		3, 5
		O	O	3, 5
C	C	U		5
C	C	C		5
C	C	C		5
O	O	O		5
R	R	R		5
C	C	U		2, 4
U	U	U		3, 7
C	C	C	U	2, 3
C	C	U		2, 3
C	C	C		5, 6, 7
R		R	R	5, 6, 7
A	C	C	O	5, 6, 7
		R	U	4
A	A	A	O	2, 3
C	C	C		4, 5
O	O	O	R	2
A	A	A	R	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
C	C	C		5, 6, 7
U	U	U		3, 7
U	U	U	C	4, 8, 10
O	O	O	O	6
R				6, 7
A	A	C	U	6
R				5, 7
C	U	U	U	6, 7
	R	R	O	6, 7
O			U	5, 6, 7
C	C	C	C	6, 7
U	U	U	O	3, 5, 7
U	U	U		6, 7
O	O	O	O	9

Name

The following species are hypothetical or accidental. They do not normally occur on the Sawtooth NRA.

ACCIDENTALS

- _____ Gyrfalcon
- _____ Bonaparte's Gull
- _____ Black Tern
- _____ White-headed Woodpecker
- _____ Dusky Flycatcher
- _____ Chestnut-backed Chickadee
- _____ Marsh Wren
- _____ Western Bluebird
- _____ Red-eyed Vireo
- _____ Yellow-throated Vireo
- _____ Lark Bunting
- _____ Great-tailed Grackle
- _____ Common Grackle

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This list contains birds seen and recorded by Forest Service personnel, as well as Idaho Department of Fish and Game personnel and local birdwatchers.

Many thanks to Larry Barnes, Robin Garwood, Gary Gadwa, Cindy Hagas, Hadley Roberts, Louise Stands, Brian Sturges, and Jenny Taylor for their input and review of this list. Thanks to the Los Angeles Audubon Society for use of the bird silhouettes. Also, a special thanks to Louise Stands for allowing the use of her drawings of the American dipper and the sandhill crane.

NOTES

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NOTES

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