

# Birding Checklist

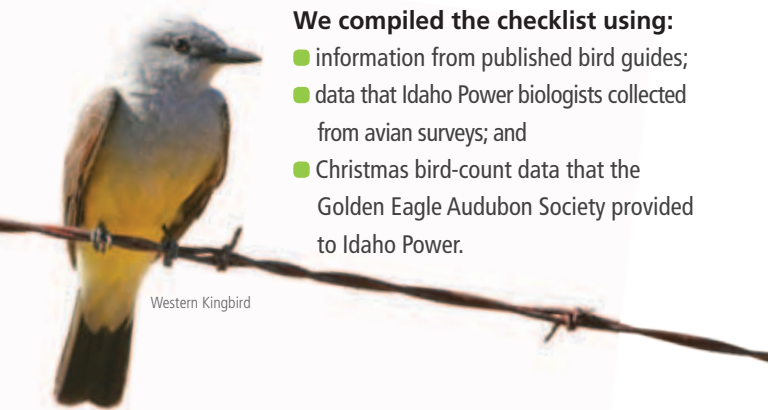
C.J. Strike



# Bird-Watcher's Checklist For C.J. Strike Area

Welcome to C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area (WMA). These publicly accessible lands are set aside for multipurpose recreational uses. They are managed by Idaho Power and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to provide and enhance habitat for game and nongame wildlife. At C.J. Strike WMA, you will experience the important ways in which Idaho Power manages wildlife habitat, cares for the environment, and partners with you.

Whether you're new to bird watching or a veteran of many seasons in the field, this checklist will be a useful tool during your visit to C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area. The checklist notes which birds are most likely to be observed during the year's seasons and in which habitats.



Western Kingbird

## **We compiled the checklist using:**

- information from published bird guides;
- data that Idaho Power biologists collected from avian surveys; and
- Christmas bird-count data that the Golden Eagle Audubon Society provided to Idaho Power.

## **Balancing Recreation And Resources**

We are committed to responsible environmental stewardship and to providing quality outdoor-recreation opportunities for anglers, hunters, campers and birding enthusiasts like you. Balanced management of more than 3,300 of the WMA's 13,508 acres is an obligation of our current federal license, issued in 2004, to operate the C.J. Strike Hydroelectric Project.

To accomplish these important goals, we are enhancing riparian areas and planting wildlife "shelter belts." We've improved and added recreational access points, day-use areas and camping facilities. About 40 acres of agricultural food plots are cultivated and managed for the benefit of wildlife and upland game-bird hunters. We have implemented these management activities to provide habitat to game and nongame birds and other wildlife at C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area, and to help assure that visitors like you have a rewarding and memorable experience.

C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area includes Idaho Power's C.J. Strike Reservoir and associated Idaho Power-owned lands, overlapping parts of the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area, other state and federal lands and the Snake River. The Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey Area provides opportunities to observe a variety of raptors, especially in spring and fall.

### **Access**

Various graveled roads lead to the reservoir from state Route 78, along the south side of the reservoir, and provide access to viewing areas.

### **Birds You'll See**

Waterfowl concentrate at C.J. Strike WMA in fall and winter. There are two particularly popular viewing locales at the dam, which is located at the west end of the reservoir. One is the spillway below the dam; the other is the park on the north side of the dam.

Diving ducks can be seen at the spillway. Bufflehead, common goldeneye, and the common merganser are regulars here. Red-breasted merganser, hooded merganser and Barrow's goldeneye are rarer. Waterfowl can be seen, often up close, at the reservoir's shallow east end.

Shorebirds may be found in early fall at the access provided by Jack's Creek Road. Access points on the north and south sides of the river at Loveridge Bridge, as well as the overlook at the Bruneau duck ponds, provide opportunities to watch shorebirds in spring and summer. American avocet, black-necked stilts, greater and lesser yellowlegs, great egrets and cattle egrets also are seen regularly in the Loveridge Bridge and Bruneau Duck Ponds areas.

Neo-tropical migrant songbirds can be seen and heard in riparian habitat at Idaho Power's Turner Ranch and Bruneau Floodplain properties. Both have access points. Spotted sandpipers are regulars on the Bruneau River shoreline. These areas are open to walk-in access from Aug. 1 through Jan. 31.

### **Closures**

Most Idaho Power land at C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area is open to the public for recreational use. Some areas are closed to the public for safety reasons. Other areas are closed seasonally, from Feb. 1 through July 31. The closures help us protect nesting waterfowl

and upland game birds. With these goals in mind, we ask visitors to comply with signs that mark the boundaries of closed areas.

**Please be aware that hunters regularly use this area from late September through Jan. 31.**

Since its earliest days, Idaho Power has embraced the philosophy of operating its projects for public benefit. We appreciate the trust the public has granted, and we recognize the important role we play as one of the many stewards of Idaho's natural resources.

To learn more about the recreational opportunities we provide, and Idaho Power's initiatives to protect our natural and cultural heritage, visit "Our Environment" online at:

**[www.idahopower.com](http://www.idahopower.com)**.

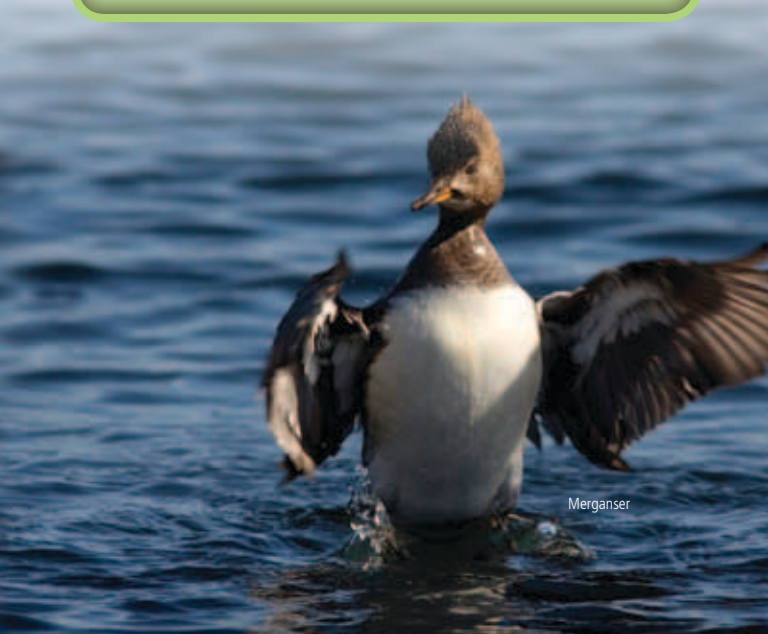


Western Tanager

## **Birding Etiquette**

- Stay on designated roads and trails
- Obey all laws, including those that apply to roads, trails and the rights of others
- Respect private property
- Be courteous to others
- Keep groups small (4-8 people)
- Minimize stress on birds by keeping your distance while viewing, photographing or filming
- Stay back from nests and display areas

# C.J. Strike Area Map



Merganser

## Common Name

Spring

Fall

Winter

Summer

A-Abundant, C-Common, U-Uncommon, R-Rare

**Loons**

__ Common Loon	R	R	R	R
__ Pacific Loon	R	R	R	R

**Grebes**

__ Pied-billed Grebe	R	U	R	C
__ Western Grebe	C	U		C
__ Clark's Grebe	R	R		C
__ Eared Grebe	R			R
__ Horned Grebe	R	R		R

**Pelicans**

__ American White Pelican	C	C	C	C
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**Cormorants**

__ Double-crested Cormorant	U	U	R	A
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**Hérons, Egrets, Ibis, Bitterns**

__ American Bittern	R			R
__ Great Blue Heron	C	U	U	C
__ Green Heron	R			R
__ Black-crowned Night Heron	U			U
__ Snowy Egret	R			R
__ Great Egret	R	R		R
__ Cattle Egret	R			R
__ White-faced Ibis	R			R

**Swans, Geese, Ducks**

__ Tundra Swan	R	R	R	
__ Trumpeter Swan	R			R
__ Canada Goose	C	A	A	C
__ Greater White-fronted Goose	R	R	U	
__ Ross's Goose	R			
__ Cackling Goose			R	
__ Snow Goose	R	R	R	
__ Mallard	A	A	A	A
__ Wood Duck	U	U	U	R
__ Northern Shoveler	U	R	U	
__ Green-winged Teal	U	C	C	U
__ Cinnamon Teal	C	U		U
__ Blue-winged Teal	U	U	R	
__ American Wigeon	C	C	A	U
__ Northern Pintail	R	R	R	
__ Gadwall	C	U	U	R
__ Common Goldeneye	U	C	C	U
__ Barrow's Goldeneye		U	U	
__ Bufflehead	R	R	U	
__ Common Merganser	U	U	C	U
__ Hooded Merganser			R	
__ Red-breasted Merganser	R		R	
__ Greater Scaup		R	R	
__ Lesser Scaup	R	U	R	
__ Ring-necked Duck	R	R	R	
__ Canvasback	R			
__ Redhead	U	R	R	

## Common Name

Spring

Fall

Winter

Summer

**Swans, Geese, Ducks (cont'd)**

__ Ruddy Duck	R	U	R	
__ White-winged Scoter			R	
__ Surf Scoter			R	

**Vultures**

__ Turkey Vulture	U	U		
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**Eagles, Hawks, Falcons**

__ Bald Eagle			R	
__ Golden Eagle	R	U	R	R
__ Red-tailed Hawk	U	U	U	U
__ Ferruginous Hawk	R	R	R	
__ Swainson's Hawk	U	U		U
__ Rough-legged Hawk		R	R	
__ Sharp-shinned Hawk	R	R	R	R
__ Cooper's Hawk	R	R	R	R
__ Northern Goshawk	R		R	
__ Northern Harrier	U	U	U	U
__ Osprey	U	R		R
__ American Kestrel	U	U	R	R
__ Merlin			R	
__ Prairie Falcon	U	U	R	U
__ Peregrine Falcon		R		

**Quail, Grouse, Partridge**

__ California Quail	C	C	C	C
__ Gray Partridge	U	U	U	U
__ Chukar	U	U	U	U

**Turkey, Pheasant**

__ Ring-necked Pheasant	U	U	U	U
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**Coots, Rails**

__ American Coot	C	C	C	C
__ Sora Rail	R			R
__ Virginia Rail	U	R	R	R

**Avocets, Stilts**

__ American Avocet	U			
__ Black-necked Stilt	R			R

**Plovers**

__ Semipalmated Plover		R		
__ Killdeer	U	U	R	U

**Sandpipers, Phalaropes**

__ Semipalmated Sandpiper	U	R		
__ Solitary Sandpiper	R	R		
__ Least Sandpiper		R	R	R
__ Spotted Sandpiper	U	R	R	U
__ Stilt Sandpiper	R	R		
__ Wilson's Phalarope	R			
__ Greater Yellowlegs	R	R		
__ Lesser Yellowlegs	R	R		

## Common Name

Spring

Fall

Winter

Summer

**Sandpipers, Phalaropes (cont'd)**

___ Long-billed Curlew	U	U		U
___ Wilson's Snipe	R	R	R	R
___ Western Sandpiper		R		R
___ Willet	R	R		
___ Long-billed Dowitcher	R	R		
___ Marbled Godwit	R			

**Gulls, Terns**

___ California Gull	C	C	C	C
___ Ring-billed Gull	R		R	
___ Franklin's Gull	R			
___ Bonaparte's Gull	R			
___ Herring Gull	R			
___ Glaucous-winged Gull	R		R	
___ Forster's Tern	U	U		U
___ Black Tern	R	R		R
___ Caspian Tern	U	U		U
___ Common Tern	R	R		R

**Doves**

___ Rock Dove	C	C	C	C
___ Mourning Dove	C	U	R	C
___ Eurasian Collared Dove	C	C	C	C

**Owls**

___ Barn Owl	R	R	R	R
___ Great Horned Owl	R	R	R	R
___ Western Screech Owl	R	R	R	R
___ Long-eared Owl	R	R	R	R
___ Short-eared Owl	R	R	R	R
___ Northern Saw-whet Owl	R	R	R	R
___ Burrowing Owl	R	R	R	R

**Nighthawks, Poorwills**

___ Common Nighthawk	U	C		C
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**Swifts**

___ White-throated Swift	U	R		R
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**Hummingbirds**

___ Calliope Hummingbird	R	R		
___ Black-chinned Hummingbird	R	R		

**Kingfishers**

___ Belted Kingfisher	U	U	R	C
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**Woodpeckers**

___ Downy Woodpecker	R	R	R	
___ Hairy Woodpecker	R	R	R	R
___ Northern Flicker	C	C	C	C
___ Lewis' Woodpecker	R			
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	R			R

## Common Name

Spring

Fall

Winter

Summer

**Kingbirds, Flycatchers**

__ Dusky Flycatcher	R	R		
__ Willow Flycatcher	R	R		
__ Gray Flycatcher	R	R		
__ Western Flycatcher	R	R		
__ Say's Phoebe	U	R		
__ Western Wood Pewee	R	R		
__ Western Kingbird	U	C		C
__ Eastern Kingbird	U	U		U

**Larks**

__ Horned Lark	R	U	R	U
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**Swallows**

__ Violet-green Swallow	C	C		C
__ Northern Rough-winged Swallow	C	U		C
__ Tree Swallow		R		R
__ Cliff Swallow	C	U		C
__ Barn Swallow	C	C		C
__ Bank Swallow	A	C		C

**Ravens, Crows, Jays**

__ Common Raven	C	C	U	C
__ American Crow	C	C	C	C
__ Black-billed Magpie	C	C	C	C

**Chickadees, Bushtits**

__ Black-capped Chickadee	U	R	R	U
__ Mountain Chickadee	R	R	R	

**Nuthatches, Creepers**

__ Red-breasted Nuthatch	R	R		R
__ Brown Creeper			R	

**Wrens**

__ Canyon Wren	U	U	U	C
__ Rock Wren	C	U	R	C
__ Marsh Wren	U	U	U	U
__ House Wren	U	R		U

**Thrushes**

__ Veery	R			
__ American Robin	U	U	A	U
__ Townsend's Solitaire			R	
__ Golden-crowned Kinglet	R	R		
__ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U	U		U
__ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	R			

**Thrashers**

__ Sage Thrasher	R	U		R
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## Common Name

Spring

Fall

Winter

Summer

**Pipits**

Common Name	Spring	Fall	Winter	Summer
<b>Pipits</b>				
___ American Pipit	R	R	R	R
<b>Waxwings</b>				
___ Bohemian Waxwing	U		U	
___ Cedar Waxwing	C	U	C	C
<b>Shrikes</b>				
___ Loggerhead Shrike	R	R		R
___ Northern Shrike	R		R	
<b>Starlings</b>				
___ European Starling	A	A	C	C
<b>Vireos</b>				
___ Warbling Vireo	R			
<b>Warblers</b>				
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	A	C		C
___ Yellow Warbler	C	U		U
___ Wilson's Warbler	U	U		U
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	R	R		
___ Nashville Warbler	U	R		U
___ Tennessee Warbler	R	R		
___ MacGillivray's Warbler	R	U	U	U
___ Common Yellowthroat	U	U		U
___ Yellow-breasted Chat	U	R		U
<b>Tanagers</b>				
___ Western Tanager	U	U		U
<b>Buntings, Grosbeaks</b>				
___ Lazuli Bunting	U	U		U
___ Black-headed Grosbeak	U	R		R
<b>Sparrows, Towhees</b>				
___ Song Sparrow	C	C	C	C
___ American Tree Sparrow	R	R	R	
___ Black-throated Sparrow	R			
___ Sage Sparrow	R			
___ Savannah Sparrow	R			
___ White-crowned Sparrow	C	A	A	C
___ Chipping Sparrow	U	A	C	C
___ Lark Sparrow	U	U		U
___ Brewer's Sparrow	R	R		R
___ Lincoln's Sparrow	R			
___ Fox Sparrow	R	R		
___ Golden-crowned Sparrow	R			
___ Grasshopper Sparrow	R			
___ Swamp Sparrow			R	
___ House Sparrow	U	U	U	U
___ Dark-eyed Junco	R	U	C	
___ Spotted Towhee	R	R		R

Common Name

Spring  
Fall  
Winter  
Summer

**Blackbirds, Orioles**

___ Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C	C
___ Yellow-headed Blackbird	C	U		C
___ Brewer's Blackbird	C	R		C
___ Brown-headed Cowbird	C	U		C
___ Western Meadowlark	C	U	U	C
___ Northern Oriole	C	R		C

**Finches**

___ American Goldfinch	U	U	C	U
___ Cassin's Finch	R	R		
___ House Finch	R	R	R	R
___ Evening Grosbeak	R	R	R	R

Bird species observed and their relative abundance, C.J. Strike Study Area, 1988-1994.

- A - Abundant (> 100 observations)
- C - Common (26-99 observations)
- U - Uncommon (6-25 observations)
- R - Rare (< 5 observations)

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Tree Swallow

