

Common Birds of Routt County in September



Photos by Yampa Valley Birding Club
& other local photographers

Note: Descriptions are of breeding males
(R): Resident; (M): Migratory



*Descriptions by Erin Birtwistle
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[www.coloradocranes.org]

PERCHING BIRDS	PERCHING BIRDS	PERCHING BIRDS	PERCHING BIRDS
<p> Brewer's Blackbird (M) glossy black overall, long tail, yellow eye fields, open areas</p> <p> Red-winged Blackbird (R) black overall with red wing patch marshes, wet fields</p> <p> Gray Catbird (M) gray overall with black cap rufous undertail coverts brushy understory of woods</p> <p> Mountain Bluebird (M) pale blue overall open areas with trees</p> <p> Black-capped Chickadee (R) black cap and throat, white cheeks, buffy flanks wooded areas</p> <p> American Crow (R) black overall open habitats</p> <p> Eurasian Collared-Dove (R) pale overall with dark collar suburban habitats</p> <p> American Dipper (R) dark grey overall, short tail mountain streams</p> <p> House Finch (R) orange-red cap, throat, breast; brownish back brushy, wooded areas</p> <p> Mourning Dove (M) gray-brown overall, long, pointed tail open areas</p>	<p> American Goldfinch (R) bright yellow overall, black wings and forehead orchards, overgrown fields</p> <p> Evening Grosbeak (R) large bill, yellow and black body mixed forests</p> <p> Lesser Goldfinch (M) yellow below, greenish above with black cap patchy open habitats</p> <p> Broad-tailed Hummingbird (M) rosy red throat, green body dry coniferous woods</p> <p> Stellar's Jay (R) dark blue body, black head, long crest coniferous and mixed woods</p> <p> Western Scrub Jay (R) dark blue above, whitish below; gray cheek and back oak-juniper woods</p> <p> Dark-eyed Junco (R) gray overall, black toes, rufous back open woods</p> <p> Western Kingbird (M) gray head, breast; yellow belly, black tail open habitats</p> <p> Horned Lark (R) brown above, dark breast band bold face pattern, dark mask mostly barren open areas</p> <p> Belted Kingfisher (R) blue-gray above, white below; dark breast band, shaggy crest sheltered open water</p>	<p> Black-billed Magpie (R) bold black and white long dark tail, white wing patches prairies, parks, scattered trees</p> <p> Rock Pigeon (R) gray overall; dark head neck, breast; black wing bars, widespread, various</p> <p> White-breasted Nuthatch (R) blue above, white below, white face, black crown wooded areas</p> <p> Common Raven (R) black; large bill, wedge-shaped tail various habitats</p> <p> American Robin (R) gray above, rusty below open woodlands</p> <p> Chipping Sparrow (M) brown above, gray below rufous crown, white eyebrow, dark eye-line open woodlands</p> <p> Pine Siskin (R) streaked brown with yellow on wings, chest, tail open forests</p> <p> House Sparrow (R) rufous-brown above, black throat and breast; gray head and belly cities, towns</p> <p> Lincoln's Sparrow (M) gray eyebrow, brown crown streaked yellow breast dense brushy areas</p>	<p> Savannah Sparrow (R) brown above, streaky breast dark mustache open grasslands, marshes</p> <p> European Starling (R) iridescent greenish-black overall, yellow bill common, various</p> <p> Barn Swallow (M) dark blue above, cinnamon below; rusty brown forehead and throat open areas, esp. near water</p> <p> Cliff Swallow (M) dark blue above, white below chestnut throat, white forehead open riparian areas</p> <p> Tree Swallow (M) dark metallic blue-green above, white below open fields near water</p> <p> Violet-green Swallow (M) dark violet-green above white face and below woodlands, urban areas</p> <p> Yellow Warbler (M) olive above, bright yellow below dense bushy habitats</p> <p> Wilson's Warbler (M) yellow overall olive above, black cap brushy woods</p> <p> Yellow-rumped Warbler (M) bluish overall; bright yellow throat, flanks, rump open forests and edges</p>

PERCHING BIRDS



☐ **Cedar Waxwing (R)**
silky brown with black mask; yellow-tipped tail, brown crest
bushy areas



☐ **House Wren (M)**
gray-brown overall
barring above; pale eyebrow
dense brushy habitats



☐ **Western Wood-pewee (M)**
gray overall, dark head
2 dull wing bars, dusky breast
mature forests and edges

WOODPECKERS



☐ **Red-shafted Flicker (R)**
Black breast band, barred back, spotted belly
wooded areas with openings



☐ **Downy Woodpecker (R)**
white back, white below
black wings, white and black stripes on head
wooded habitats



☐ **Red-naped Sapsucker (M)**
red crown and throat, white wing patch, belly, barred back
mixed woodlands



☐ **Hairy Woodpecker (R)**
Similar to Downy but much larger with larger bill
mature forests

WATERBIRDS



☐ **Sandhill Crane (M)**
gray overall, often rust-stained, red crown, white face
open meadows, marshes, fields



☐ **Great Blue Heron (M)**
large, gray overall, black crown stripe on whitish head
open habitats



☐ **Mallard (R)**
green head, yellow bill, brown chest, whitish body
ponds, lakes



☐ **Spotted Sandpiper (M)**
brown above, white below, spots on chest, teeters body constantly
ponds and streams



☐ **Greater Yellowlegs (M)**
brown above, dark bars c flanks, long yellow legs, long bill
mudflats, shallow water



☐ **Canada Goose (R)**
brown above, pale breast black neck, white cheek, dark bill
open ground near water



☐ **Killdeer (M)**
brown above, white below, dark double breast band, rufous rump and tail
open ground



☐ **Common Merganser (M)**
white; black back, dark green head, orange bill
deep lakes and rivers



☐ **Wilson's Snipe (R)**
brownish overall, cream-colored stripes on back
striped head, long bill
marshes, damp fields

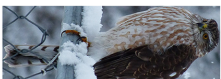
BIRDS OF PREY



☐ **Bald Eagle (R)**
white head and tail, brown body and wings
near lakes, rivers



☐ **Cooper's Hawk (M)**
blue-gray above, pale reddish below, long banded tail
woods and edges



☐ **Sharp-shinned Hawk (R)**
blue-gray above, reddish below; small wit short banded tail
mixed woodlands



☐ **Northern Harrier (R)**
gray above, whitish below, white rump, black wingtips
open country, wetlands



☐ **Red-Tailed Hawk (R)**
red tail, brown above, whitish belly with dark band
various habitats: edges



☐ **Swainson's Hawk (M)**
dark above; pale belly with dark breast; white face; white underside with dark flight feathers
open country

BIRDS OF PREY



☐ **American Kestrel (R)**
rufous above, blue-gray wings, 2 dark streaks on head
open country



☐ **Osprey (M)**
dark above, white below, white cap with dark eye-stripe
open water, lakes with fish



☐ **Great Horned Owl (R)**
grayish above, barred below, large ear tufts
nocturnal, various habitats



☐ **Turkey Vulture (M)**
dark above, two-toned wings below, bare head, wings held in dihedral
various habitats

