

Birds

of the

Upper Swan Valley



Swan Ecosystem Center
 6887 Highway 83 North, Condon, MT, 59826
 U.S.F.S. Condon Work Center,
 Flathead National Forest
 (406) 754-3137
 SwanEcosystemCenter.org

Species	Season-Abundance				Habitat
	Sp	S	F	W	
Swallow					
Tree Swallow *B	1	1			OW
Violet-Green Swallow B	1	1			OW
Northern Rough-Winged Swallow B	2	2			OW
Cliff Swallow B	1	1			OW
Barn Swallow B	1	1			OW
Jay-Crow-Raven					
Gray Jay B	1	1	1	1	All
Stellar's Jay *B	1	1	1	1	All
Blue Jay	3	3	3	3	All
Clark's Nutcracker B	3	3	3	3	A
Black-Billed Magpie	3	3	3	3	O
American Crow	3	3	3	3	FOW
Common Raven *B	1	1	1	1	All
Chickadee-Nuthatch					
Black-Capped Chickadee *B	1	1	1	1	All
Mountain Chickadee *B	1	1	1	1	All
Chestnut-Backed Chickadee	2	2	2	2	All
Red-Breasted Nuthatch *B	1	1	1	1	All
White-Breasted Nuthatch B	2	2	2	2	All
Pygmy Nuthatch * B	2	2	2	2	All
Brown Creeper B	2	2	2	2	F
Wren					
Marsh Wrens	3	3	3		W
Winter Wren B	1	1	1		AF
Dipper					
American Dipper B	1	1	1	1	W
Kinglet					
Golden-Crowned Kinglet *B	1	1	1	1	FW
Ruby-Crowned Kinglet * B	1	1	3		FW
Bluebird-Thrush					
Western Bluebird B	3	3	3		O
Mountain Bluebird B	1	1	1		O
Townsend's Solitaire B	2	2	2	2	AO

Species	Season-Abundance				Habitat
	Sp	S	F	W	
Swainson's Thrush *B	1	1	1		F
Hermit Thrush	3	3			W
American Robin	1	1	1	2	All
Varied Thrush	1	2	2		AFW
Waxwing					
Bohemian Waxwing	3	1			OW
Cedar Waxwing B	1	1	1	4	OW
Starling					
European Starling	2			2	O
Vireo					
Solitary Vireo	1	1			OW
Warbling Vireo B	1	1			OW
Red-Eyed Vireo * B	1	1			OW
Warbler					
Orange-Crowned Warbler	3	3			FO
Nashville Warbler *B	1	1			FW
Yellow Warbler B	1	1			W
Yellow-Rumped Warbler *B	1	1			FW
Townsend's Warbler *B	1	1			FW
American Redstart *B	1	1			FW
Northern Waterthrush *B	1	1			W
MacGillivray's Warbler *B	1	1			W
Common Yellowthroat *B	1	1			W
Wilson's Warbler			2		OW
Tanager-Grosbeak-Bunting					
Western Tanager B	1	1	2		AFW
Black-Headed Grosbeak B	3	3			FOW
Lazuli Bunting	4				O
Towhee-Sparrow					
Spotted (rufous-sided) Towhee	3	3			O
American Tree Sparrow		4			FO
Chipping Sparrow * B	1	1			FO
Lark Sparrow	4				O
Fox Sparrow B	2	2			W
Song Sparrow *B	1	1	1	3	W

Species	Season-Abundance				Habitat
	Sp	S	F	W	
Lincoln's Sparrow B	2	2	3	4	OW
White-Crowned Sparrow B	1	1	2	4	O
Dark-Eyed Junco *B	1	1	1	1	All
Snow Bunting				3	O
Blackbird-Oriole					
Red-Winged Blackbird B	1	1	2	2	W
Western Meadowlark B	3	3			O
Yellow-Headed Blackbird	3	3			W
Brewer's Blackbird	2				OW
Brown-Headed Cowbird B	1	1			O
Northern Oriole	4				O
Finch					
Grey-Crowned Rosy-Finch	3		3	3	O
Pine Grosbeak B	3	3	3	1	AFO
Cassin's Finch B	1	2	1	1	FO
House Finch	2	2			O
Red Crossbill *B	1	1	1	1	AF
White-Winged Crossbill *B	3	3	3	3	AF
Common Redpoll	2			2	OW
Hoary Redpoll	3			3	O
Pine Siskin *B	1	1	1	1	AFO
American Goldfinch	2	3	3	3	O
Evening Grosbeak *B	1	1	1	1	All

The Upper Swan Valley of Western Montana is located at the south end of the Swan River drainage between the 9,000 foot peaks of the Swan Range on the east side and the equally impressive Mission Mountains on the west side. This area comprises the upper headwaters portion of the 50-mile long valley.

Dozens of tributaries flow into the Swan River throughout the Upper Swan Valley. These riparian areas, together with both open and closed canopy forests, provide a rich mosaic of wildlife habitat. A variety of birds live here year round, and species such as warblers, hummingbirds, tanagers and common loons migrate here each spring.

The Swan Valley is also home to bull trout, westslope cutthroat trout, whitetail and mule deer, elk, moose, grizzly and black bear, mountain lion, lynx, and wolverine, in addition to small furbearers, rodents, reptiles, and amphibians.

This bird list includes species that have been observed in the Upper Swan Valley since the mid-1980s during ornithological activities and bird counts conducted in the Upper Swan Valley.

Wildlife viewing: If wildlife stops what it's doing, looks up at you, and moves off, you are too close. Please back away. Binoculars are highly recommended as are long lenses for cameras. Often, your vehicle will serve perfectly for a blind.

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS

SEASONS

Sp-Spring F-Fall
S-Summer W-Winter

ABUNDANCE

1-Likely to be seen or heard.
2-Present but less likely to be seen or heard.
3-Present but unlikely to be seen or heard.
4-Seldom present. Seldom seen or heard.

HABITAT

A-Alpine O-Open
F-Forest W-Wetland

B-Birds known to breed in the Upper Swan Valley

*Birds that have been seen at the Swan Ecosystem site

Species	Season-Abundance				Habitat	Species	Season-Abundance				Habitat	Species	Season-Abundance				Habitat	
	Sp	S	F	W			Sp	S	F	W			Sp	S	f	W		
Loon-Grebe						Rough-legged Hawk	3	3	3		O	Hummingbird						
Common Loon B	1	1	3		W	American Kestrel *B	1	1	1		O	Black-Chinned Hummingbird	3	3			All	
Red-necked Grebe B	1	1	2		W	Merlin	3	3	3	4	O	Broad-Tailed Hummingbird	4	4			All	
Bittern-Heron						Peregrine Falcon	4	4	4		O	Calliope Hummingbird B	1	1			All	
American Bittern B	3	3	3		W	Prairie Falcon	4	4	4		O	Rufous Hummingbird	1	1			All	
Great Blue Heron B	1	1	1	3	W	Grouse					Kingfisher							
Swan-Goose-Duck						Spruce Grouse B	2	2	2	2		AF	Belted Kingfisher * B	1	1	1		W
Tundra Swan	2	4	2		W	Blue Grouse B	3	3	3	3		AF	Woodpecker					
Snow Goose	2	4	2		W	Ruffed Grouse B	1	1	1	1		F	Lewis' Woodpecker B	3	3	3		FO
Canada Goose B	1	1	1		W	Coot					Red-Naped Sapsucker B							
Wood Duck * B	1	1	2		W	American Coot	1	1	2		W	Downy Woodpecker * B	1	1	1	1		All
Ring-Necked Duck B	1	1	2		W	Crane-Killdeer-Sandpiper-Snipe					Hairy Woodpecker * B							
Ruddy Duck	2		2		W	Sandhill Crane B	1	1	3		OW	Northern Three-Toed Woodpecker	3	3	3	3		All
Green-winged Teal	2	2			W	Killdeer B	1	1			OW	Northern Flicker * B	1	1	1	1		FOW
Blue-winged Teal	2	2			W	Spotted Sandpiper B	2	2			AW	Pileated Woodpecker * B	1	1	1	1		FOW
Mallard B	1	1	1		W	Solitary Sandpiper	4	4			W	Flycatcher						
Cinnamon Teal	1	1			W	Common Snipe B	1	1			OW	Olive-Sided Flycatcher B	2	2				AW
Common Merganser B	1	1	1		W	Dove					Western Wood Pewee B							
Hooded Merganser B	1	1	1		W	Mourning Dove	3	2	3		O	Willow Flycatcher B	1	1				FOW
Bufflehead B	1	1	2		W	Owl					Least Flycatcher B							
Barrow's Goldeneye B	1	1	2		W	Western Screech Owl	4	4	4	4		F	Hammond's Flycatcher B	2	2			FO
Common Goldeneye B	1	1	2		W	Great Horned Owl B	1	2	2	1		F	Dusky Flycatcher B	2	2			F
Northern Shoveler	1		3		W	Northern Pygmy Owl B	1	2	2	1		F	Cordilleran Flycatcher B	2	2			FO
American Wigeon	1		3		W	Barred Owl B	1	2	2	1		F	Western Kingbird	2	2			FOW
Redhead B	2	2			W	Great Gray Owl B	3	3	3	3		F	Eastern Kingbird B	2	2			OW
Lesser Scaup	4	4			W	Long-Eared Owl												OW
Vulture						Northern Saw-Whet Owl B	3	3	3	3		F	6/1/10					
Turkey Vulture	2	1	2		O	Nightjar					Common Nighthawk *B							
Osprey-Eagle-Hawk						Swift												
Osprey *B	1	1	2		W	Vaux's Swift *		3			OW							
Bald Eagle *	1	2	1	1	All													
Golden Eagle	1	4	2	1	O													
Northern Harrier B	1	1	2		OW													
Sharp-Shinned Hawk B	2	2	2	4	F													
Cooper's Hawk B	3	3	3		F													
Northern Goshawk * B	3	3	3	3	F													
Red-tailed Hawk * B	1	1	1		All													