

Birding Checklist

Hagerman Valley



Bird-Watcher's Checklist for the Hagerman Valley

Southern Idaho's Hagerman Valley provides many excellent bird-watching opportunities for birding enthusiasts. Within the Hagerman Valley many areas are open to the public for multipurpose recreational uses including bird-watching. A variety of public access areas exist in the valley. Many are managed by state or federal agencies. This publication focuses on areas owned and managed by Idaho Power that are open to the public. In these areas, you can experience the ways in which Idaho Power manages wildlife habitat, cares for the environment, and partners with you to make it accessible.

Whether you are new to bird-watching or an experienced bird-watcher, this checklist provides information on what you can expect to see during different times of the year, the likelihood of encountering certain bird species and Idaho Power properties you may want to visit. This bird-watcher's checklist is intended to serve as an index to birds calling the Hagerman Valley home no matter where you go to see them.

This list was compiled using:

- Information from published bird identification guides
- Bird surveys conducted by Idaho Power over the past 20 years
- Christmas bird-count data from the Prairie Falcon Audubon Society
- National Park Service resource information

Balancing Recreation And Resources

Idaho Power is 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 925 acres of Idaho Power wildlife habitat land in the Hagerman Valley is one of the requirements to operate our federally licensed hydroelectric power plants in the Hagerman Valley.

Our management goals are to protect and enhance upland and riparian habitats important to the area's wildlife. We have also improved and added recreation access points, day-use areas and informational and educational kiosks to help ensure visitors like you have a safe, rewarding and memorable experience.



Chukar

Birds You'll See

Waterfowl migrate through and concentrate in the Hagerman Valley's reservoirs, lakes and ponds each fall and winter. Many bird species are residents and nest in the Hagerman Valley.

Banbury Springs provides an excellent viewpoint to observe a variety of bird species. From here, a bird-watcher can view the spring-fed Morgan Lake and the Snake River below. Common waterfowl seen from this location include Canada goose, mallard, northern shoveler, green-winged teal, American widgeon, gadwall, common goldeneye, scaup and ring-necked duck. Bald eagles are also common winter visitors to this area and roost in the large trees lining the river. Great blue heron, great egret and black-crowned night heron can also be observed.

Tuana Gulch provides a mix of upland and riparian habitats in which a variety of birds can be found. Upland species, such as ring-necked pheasant, California quail and occasionally chukar and gray partridge, can be seen in the shrublands. The riparian habitat along the river hosts a variety of neotropical migrants during the spring and summer months. Wood ducks are commonly seen in the beaver ponds along Tuana Creek.

At the lower end of the valley near the town of Glens Ferry, Idaho Power's Bancroft Springs property straddles the Snake River. Here, common nighthawks cruise the skies, and lark sparrows sing from the sage. Pay attention to the large basalt bluffs on the east side of the river, and you may spot a golden eagle, great horned owl or barn owl nesting in the cliffs. American white pelicans and double-crested cormorants commonly rest on the rocks along the river.

Please be aware that hunters regularly use this area from September through January.

Since its earliest days, Idaho Power has embraced the philosophy of operating its project lands 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 the Hagerman Valley's natural resources.

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

www.idahopower.com.

Access to Idaho Power Managed Lands

Idaho Power lands in the Hagerman Valley are adjacent to the Snake River and reservoirs created by the Upper and Lower Salmon Falls and Bliss hydroelectric projects. These properties are accessible by foot.

Banbury Springs — The area is for day-use only. No overnight camping is allowed. Parking is available at the top of the grade. Access the area by walking the road into the canyon where there is a well-defined trail around the lake. The walk from the parking area to Banbury Springs/Morgan Lake is relatively strenuous. The hillside springs have healthy populations of poison ivy and stinging nettle and should be avoided. To learn more about Banbury Springs, visit www.idahopower.com/OurEnvironment/WildlifeHabitat/hagermanHabitat/banbury.cfm.

Tuana Gulch — Park along the canal road to access day-use only areas on the south side of the Snake River. Overnight camping is prohibited. Areas behind the walk-overs are designated foot access only. An Idaho Power road provides vehicle access to a boat ramp on the north side of the Snake River. To learn more about Tuana Gulch, visit www.idahopower.com/OurEnvironment/WildlifeHabitat/hagermanHabitat/tuana.cfm.

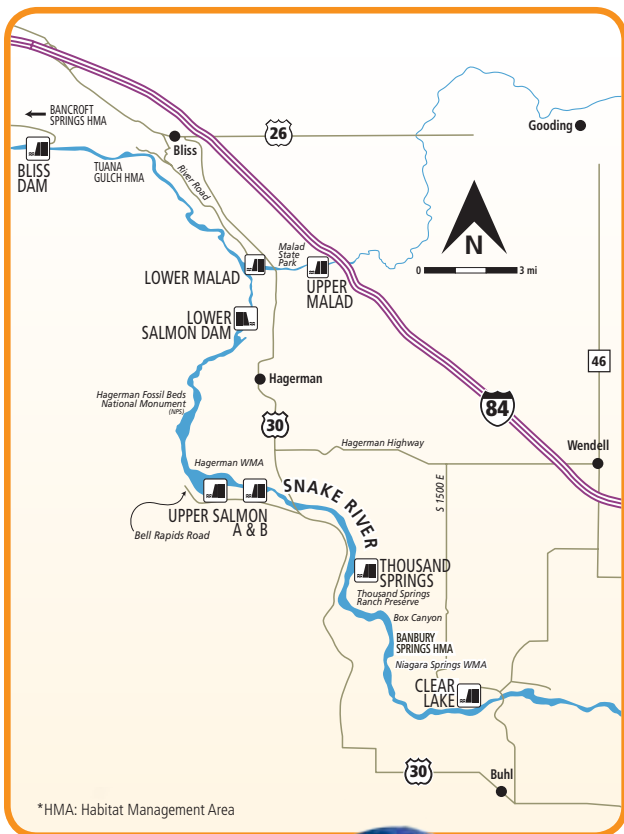
Bancroft Springs — No overnight camping is allowed except in the graveled area at the boat ramp. Property boundaries are marked with Idaho Power boundary marker signs. To learn more about Bancroft Springs, visit www.idahopower.com/OurEnvironment/WildlifeHabitat/hagermanHabitat/bancroft.cfm.

Visitors should adhere to all federal, state and county rules and regulations. Hunting and fishing regulations are determined by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. A Gooding County ordinance prohibits use of firearms other than a shotgun anywhere within the Banbury Springs day-use area, including the canyon rim.

Birding Etiquette

- Keep vehicles on designated roads.
- 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.

Hagerman Valley Area Map



Black-crowned Night Heron

Common Name

Spring

Fall

Winter

Summer

(N) Nesting, A-Abundant, C-Common, U-Uncommon, R-Rare

Loons

__ Common Loon

R

R

R

Grebes

__ Pied-billed Grebe (N)

U

U

U

U

__ Western Grebe (N)

C

U

U

C

__ Clark's Grebe

R

R

U

R

__ Eared Grebe

R

R

U

R

__ Horned Grebe

R

Pelicans

__ American White Pelican

C

U

R

C

Cormorants

__ Double-crested Cormorant (N)

C

C

U

C

Hérons, Egrets, Ibis, Bitterns

__ American Bittern

R

__ Great Blue Heron (N)

C

C

C

C

__ Black-crowned Night Heron (N)

U

U

__ Snowy Egret (N)

R

R

R

R

__ Great Egret

R

U

__ Cattle Egret

R

R

R

__ White-faced Ibis

R

R

U

Swans, Geese, Ducks

__ Tundra Swan

R

__ Trumpeter Swan

R

R

__ Whooper Swan

V

__ Mute Swan*

R

__ Canada Goose (N)

C

C

C

C

__ Greater White-fronted Goose

R

R

__ Ross's Goose

R

__ Cackling Goose

R

R

__ Snow Goose

R

__ Mallard (N)

A

A

A

A

__ Wood Duck (N)

U

U

U

U

__ Northern Shoveler (N)

U

U

U

R

__ Green-winged Teal

C

C

C

U

__ Cinnamon Teal (N)

C

C

U

C

__ Blue-winged Teal

U

U

R

R

__ American Wigeon

C

C

A

C

__ Northern Pintail

U

U

U

R

__ Gadwall (N)

C

C

C

C

__ Common Goldeneye

U

C

A

R

__ Barrow's Goldeneye

R

R

__ Bufflehead

C

C

C

R

__ Common Merganser (N)

U

U

C

U

__ Hooded Merganser

R

R

__ Red-breasted Merganser

R

R

__ Greater Scaup

R

__ Lesser Scaup

R

U

__ Ring-necked Duck

U

U

U

U

__ Canvasback

R

R

__ Redhead

C

C

U

C

Common Name

Spring

Fall

Winter

Summer

Swans, Geese, Ducks (cont'd)

__ Ruddy Duck	U	U	C	U
__ White-winged Scoter			R	
__ Tufted Duck	U	U	U	U
__ Oldsquaw		R	R	

Vultures

__ Turkey Vulture	U	U		U
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Eagles, Hawks, Falcons

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

Quail, Grouse, Partridge

__ California Quail (N)	C	C	C	C
__ Gray Partridge (N)*	R	R	R	R
__ Chukar (N)*	U	U	U	U
__ Northern Bobwhite*	R	R	R	R
__ Ruffed Grouse		R		
__ Greater Sage Grouse			R	

Turkey, Pheasant

__ Wild Turkey*	R			R
__ Ring-necked Pheasant (N)*	C	C	C	C

Cranes

__ Sandhill Crane	R	R		
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Plovers, Stilts, Avocets

__ Semipalmated Plover	R	R		
__ Killdeer (N)	C	C	U	C
__ Black-necked Stilt (N)	R			R
__ American Avocet (N)	U	U		U

Sandpipers, Phalaropes

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

Common Name

Spring

Fall

Winter

Summer

Sandpipers, Phalaropes (cont'd)

__ Greater Yellowlegs	R			
__ Lesser Yellowlegs	R			
__ Long-billed Curlew	U			U
__ Wilson's Snipe (N)	U	U	U	U
__ Western Sandpiper	R	R		
__ Willet	R			
__ Long-billed Dowitcher	R	R		R
__ Short-billed Dowitcher	R	R		
__ Marbled Godwit	R	R		

Gulls, Terns

__ California Gull	C	C	C	C
__ Ring-billed Gull	C	C	C	C
__ Franklin's Gull	R			
__ Bonaparte's Gull	R	R		
__ Herring Gull	R			
__ Glaucous-winged Gull	R			
__ Glaucous Gull			R	
__ Thayer's Gull			R	
__ Mew Gull	V		V	
__ Lesser Black-backed Gull			V	
__ Forster's Tern	U	U		
__ Black Tern				R
__ Caspian Tern	C	R		C
__ Common Tern	U			

Doves

__ Rock Dove (N)*	A	A	A	A
__ Mourning Dove (N)	C	C	R	C
__ Eurasian Collared Dove (N)*	C	C	C	C

Owls

__ Common Barn Owl (N)	U	U	U	U
__ Great Horned Owl (N)	U	U	U	U
__ Western Screech Owl	U	U	U	U
__ Long-eared Owl	U	U	U	U
__ Short-eared Owl	R			R
__ Northern Saw-whet Owl			R	
__ Burrowing Owl (N)	R			R
__ Northern Pygmy Owl			R	
__ Great Grey Owl			R	
__ Boreal Owl			R	

Nighthawks, Poorwills

__ Common Nighthawk (N)	U			C
__ Common Poorwill	U	U		

Swifts

__ White-throated Swift	R			
__ Vaux's Swift				R

Larks

__ Horned Lark (N)	U	U	R	R
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Common Name

Spring

Fall

Winter

Summer

Hummingbirds

__ Calliope Hummingbird	R			
__ Black-chinned Hummingbird (N)	R			
__ Broad-tailed Hummingbird	R			R
__ Rufous Hummingbird	R			R

Kingfishers

__ Belted Kingfisher (N)	C	C	C	C
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Woodpeckers

__ Downy Woodpecker (N)	U	R	R	U
__ Hairy Woodpecker	R	R	R	R
__ Northern Flicker (N)	C	C	C	C
__ Lewis' Woodpecker	R			R
__ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	R			
__ Pileated Woodpecker			R	

Kingbirds, Flycatchers

__ Dusky Flycatcher	R	R		R
__ Willow Flycatcher	R	R		R
__ Gray Flycatcher	R			R
__ Western Flycatcher	R			
__ Hammond's Flycatcher	R	R		
__ Cordilleran Flycatcher	R	R		
__ Ash-throated Flycatcher	R	R		
__ Say's Phoebe (N)	U			U
__ Western Wood Pewee (N)	R			
__ Western Kingbird (N)	C	U		C
__ Eastern Kingbird (N)	U	U		U

Swallows

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

Ravens, Crows, Jays

__ Common Raven (N)	U	U	U	U
__ American Crow (N)	U	U	U	U
__ Black-billed Magpie (N)	A	A	A	A
__ Gray Jay			R	
__ Steller's Jay			R	
__ Blue Jay			R	
__ Western Scrub Jay			R	
__ Pinyon Jay			R	
__ Clark's Nutcracker			R	

Chickadees, Titmice, Bushtits

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

Common Name

Spring

Fall

Winter

Summer

Chickadees, Titmice, Bushtits (cont'd)

__ Chestnut-backed Chickadee			R	
__ Juniper Titmouse		R		
__ Bushtit (N)	R	R		R

Nuthatches, Creepers

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

Dippers

__ American Dipper	R	R	R	R
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Wrens

__ Canyon Wren (N)	U	U	U	U
__ Rock Wren (N)	U			C
__ Marsh Wren (N)	U	U	U	U
__ House Wren (N)	R	R	R	R
__ Winter Wren (N)	R		R	
__ Bewick's Wren			R	

Kinglets, Gnatchers

__ Golden-crowned Kinglet	R	R		R
__ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U	U	R	U
__ Blue-gray Gnatcher	R			

Thrushes, Thrashers

__ Veery		R		
__ American Robin (N)	C	C	C	C
__ Townsend's Solitaire	R	R		R
__ Hermit Thrush	R	R	R	
__ Varied Thrush		U	R	
__ Mountain Bluebird (N)		R		
__ Sage Thrasher (N)	R	R		

Pipits

__ American Pipit			R	
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Waxwings

__ Bohemian Waxwing		R	R	
__ Cedar Waxwing (N)	U	U	R	R

Shrikes

__ Loggerhead Shrike			R	
__ Northern Shrike		R	R	

Starlings

__ European Starling (N)*	A	A	A	A
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Vireos

__ Warbling Vireo	R	R		
__ Solitary Vireo	R			
__ Red-eyed Vireo	R			

Common Name

Spring

Fall

Winter

Summer

Warblers

___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	C	C	R	R
___ Yellow Warbler (N)	C	C		C
___ Wilson's Warbler	U	U		U
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	R		R	
___ Nashville Warbler	R			
___ Tennessee Warbler	R			
___ MacGillivray's Warbler	R	R		R
___ Black-throated Warbler				
___ Gray Warbler	R			
___ Townsend's Warbler	R			
___ Common Yellowthroat (N)	C	C		C
___ Yellow-breasted Chat (N)	U	R		U

Tanagers

___ Western Tanager	U	U		U
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Buntings, Grosbeaks, Crossbills

___ Lazuli Bunting (N)	U	R		U
___ Snow Bunting			R	
___ Black-headed Grosbeak	R	R	R	R
___ Pine Grosbeak			R	
___ Evening Grosbeak		R	R	
___ Red Crossbill			R	

Sparrows, Towhees

___ Song Sparrow (N)	C	C	C	C
___ American Tree Sparrow		R		
___ Black-throated Sparrow				R
___ Vesper Sparrow (N)	R			
___ Savannah Sparrow	R	R		
___ White-crowned Sparrow	C	C	C	C
___ Chipping Sparrow	C	C	U	C
___ Lark Sparrow (N)	R	U		U
___ Brewer's Sparrow (N)				R
___ Lincoln's Sparrow	R		R	
___ Fox Sparrow (N)	R	R	R	
___ Golden-crowned Sparrow	R			
___ Grasshopper Sparrow	R			
___ Swamp Sparrow		R	R	
___ White-throated Sparrow			R	
___ Harris' Sparrow	R		R	
___ House Sparrow* (N)	U	U	U	U
___ Dark-eyed Junco	U	U	C	R
___ Green-tailed Towhee	R			
___ Spotted Towhee	U	U		U

Blackbirds, Orioles

___ Red-winged Blackbird (N)	C	C	U	A
___ Yellow-headed Blackbird (N)	C	U	U	C
___ Brewer's Blackbird (N)	U	R		U
___ Brown-headed Cowbird (N)	C	U	R	C
___ Western Meadowlark (N)	C	C	C	C
___ Bullock's Oriole (N)	C	U		C

