



Great Basin Wildlife Rescue

Rehabilitation & Education.

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Bird Watching in Utah

Summer is a great time to get out and bird watch. Whether you're an experienced bird watcher who can identify any type of bird or a beginner who doesn't know anything, Utah offers tons of places where you can spot all kinds of birds—whether you hope to see songbirds, waterfowl, or birds of prey.

The following are some good places in the state to go bird watching (more info on these locations can be found at <http://www.utahbirds.org/counties/MerrillsTop20.htm>):

- Antelope Island State Park and Causeway (Davis County)
- Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge (Box Elder County)
- Beaver Dam Wash (Washington County)
- Devil's Canyon Campground and Recapture Reservoir (San Juan County)
- Farmington Bay Waterfowl Management Area (Davis County)



Photo: Wikipedia, J. Kelly

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Northern_Pintails_in_Flight_%285197275166%29.jpg

- The High Uintas (Summit and Duchesne Counties)
- Quail Creek Reservoir, Grandpa's (Stratton's) Pond, and Hurricane Water Treatment Ponds (Washington County)
- Strawberry Valley (Wasatch County)
- Zion National Park (Washington, Iron, and Kane Counties)
- Diamond Fork Canyon (Utah County)
- Gunnison Bend Reservoir (Millard County)
- Maple Canyon (Sanpete County)
- Nebo Creek (Utah County)
- Nebo Scenic Loop (Utah and Juab Counties)
- Pelican Lake and Ouray National Wildlife Refuge (Uintah County)
- Pine Valley (Washington County)

- Sheep Creek Canyon (Utah County)
- Soapstone Basin (Wasatch County)
- South Willow Canyon (Tooele County)

Remember, when you go bird watching, be respectful of the birds and their habitat. Be as quiet and unobtrusive as you can, and make sure you don't leave any trash behind. Try using binoculars and spotting scopes so you can get a good look without getting too close. If you'd like to find out more about bird watching in Utah, <http://www.utahbirds.org> is a good place to start.

Raptor Sighting Checklist

Did you know that you can spot many different species of raptors in Utah? Next time you're out and about, especially if you're in a less populated area, look up—you never know what birds of prey you might see in the trees and sky.

Here are some of Utah's raptors that you can be on the lookout for:

- American kestrel
- Bald eagle
- Boreal owl
- Broad-winged hawk
- Burrowing owl
- California condor
- Common Blackhawk
- Cooper's hawk
- Ferruginous hawk
- Flammulated owl
- Golden eagle
- Great-horned owl
- Long-eared owl
- Merlin



Photo: Wikipedia, Jonathan Zander

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mountains_in_Zion_National_Park,_Utah.jpg

- Northern goshawk
- Northern harrier
- Northern pygmy-owl
- Northern saw-whet owl
- Osprey
- Peregrine falcon
- Prairie falcon
- Red-tailed hawk

- Rough-legged hawk
- Sharpshinned hawk
- Short-eared owl
- Spotted owl
- Swainson's hawk
- Turkey vulture
- Western screech-owl

But don't forget! It's illegal to catch, hurt, or kill a raptor. Possessing a raptor (even if it's dead) is illegal if you don't have the proper permits. If you find a hurt bird of prey, contact Great Basin Wildlife Rescue.

Volunteer Spotlight

Whitney has been volunteering at Great Basin Wildlife Rescue for 3 years. She works at Utah Valley Regional Medical Center as an EKG technician. She found out about Great Basin from a friend that volunteered there. Her favorite bird of prey is the short-eared owl because they are so cute! Her hobbies include reading, camping, hiking, and volunteering for Great Basin. Whitney feels that rehabilitation and conservation are very important if we want to take care of the world we live in.



Bear Cubs

Did you Great Basin Wildlife Rescue not only rehabilitates birds of prey but also rehabilitates black bear cubs? In March, Great Basin received two orphaned black bear

cubs who were only two months old. Koda and Whiskey stayed at Great Basin for two months where they were bottle fed and later given an omnivore diet of fish, bear pellets, and seasonal produce. The bear cubs were recently transferred to the National Wildlife Research Center's Predator Research Facility in Millville. The cubs will live at the new facility until they are ready to be released back into the wild.

