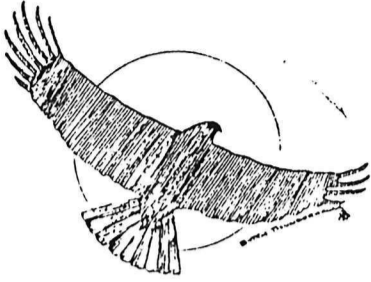


Big Hole

National Battlefield
Wisdom, Montana
(406) 689-3155

Bird Checklist



"The eagle, the hawk, the raven, and many other denizens of the air have a place in the Wyakin category... Wyakin is your faith in some strength to help you in dangers, in battle." ...Yellow Wolf

LOCATION

This list covers Big Hole National Battlefield, located in the western portion of the Big Hole Valley, ten miles west of Wisdom, Montana. The battlefield encompasses a variety of habitats ranging from floodplain to conifer forest. Of special interest are raptors, which can often be seen soaring over the battlefield. Sandhill cranes nest along the North Branch of the Big Hole River.

KEY

This checklist is based on information gathered by Walter Van Sickle during the summer of 1987. Birds not found on the battlefield during the summer of 1987, but which are potentially present, are numbered.

A - Abundant

C - Common

U - Uncommon

R - Rare

1 - Observed adjacent to the battlefield during the summer of 1987.

2 - Based on Bonham and Cooper's birds of west central Montana. Five Valleys Audubon Society, Missoula, Montana. 1986

3 - Based on Langridge and Burn's list of the birds of the Big Hole National Battlefield. 1960

CHECKLIST

LOONS

___ Common Loon 2

GREBES

___ Western Grebe 2
___ Red-necked Grebe 2
___ Horned Grebe 2
___ Eared Grebe 2
___ Pied-billed Grebe 1

PELICANS

___ American White Pelican 2

CORMORANTS

___ Double-crested Cormorant 2

SWANS

___ Tundra Swan 2
___ Trumpeter Swan 2

GEESE

___ Canada Goose U
___ Greater White-fronted Goose 2
___ Snow Goose 2
___ Ross' Goose 2

DUCKS

___ Mallard C
___ American Black Duck 2
___ Northern Pintail U
___ Gadwall 1
___ American Wigeon U
___ Northern Shoveler 1
___ Blue-winged Teal 1
___ Cinnamon Teal 1
___ Green-winged Teal C
___ Wood Duck 2

DUCKS CONT.

___ Redhead 1
___ Canvasback 2
___ Ring-necked Duck 2
___ Greater Scaup 2
___ Lesser Scaup 2
___ Common Goldeneye 2
___ Barrow's Goldeneye 2
___ Bufflehead 2
___ Harlequin Duck 2
___ Oldsquaw 2
___ White-winged Scoter 2
___ Hooded Merganser 2
___ Red-breasted Merganser 2
___ Common Merganser U
___ Ruddy Duck 1

VULTURES, HAWKS, EAGLES AND FALCONS

___ Turkey Vulture U
___ Northern Goshawk C
___ Cooper's Hawk R
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk R
___ Northern Harrier C
___ Rough-legged Hawk 3
___ Ferruginous Hawk U
___ Red-tailed Hawk C
___ Swainson's Hawk C
___ Golden Eagle R
___ Bald Eagle 3
___ Osprey 1
___ Gyrfalcon 2
___ Prairie Falcon U
___ Peregrine Falcon 2
___ Merlin 2
___ American Kestrel C

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS

___ Wild Turkey 2
___ Blue Grouse 2
___ Spruce Grouse C
___ Ruffed Grouse A
___ Sharp-tailed Grouse 2
___ White-tailed Ptarmigan 2
___ Chukar 2
___ Ring-necked Pheasant 2
___ Gray Partridge 2

HERONS

___ Great Egret 2
___ Great Blue Heron C
___ Black-crowned Night-heron 2
___ American Bittern 2

IBISES

___ White-faced Ibis 2

CRANES

___ Sandhill Crane C

RAILS AND COOTS

___ Virginia Rail 2
___ Sora 3
___ American Coot 1

SHOREBIRDS

___ American Avocet 2
___ Black-necked Stilt 2
___ Lesser Golden-Plover 2
___ Black-bellied Plover 2
___ Semipalmated Plover 2
___ Killdeer A
___ Marbled Godwit 2
___ Long-billed Curlew 2
___ Greater Yellowlegs 2
___ Lesser Yellowlegs 2

___ Solitary Sandpiper U
 ___ Upland Sandpiper 2
 ___ Spotted Sandpiper A
 ___ Long-billed Dowitcher 2
 ___ Wilson's Phalarope C
 ___ Red-necked Phalarope 2
 ___ Common Snipe A
 ___ Pectoral Sandpiper 2
 ___ Dunlin 2
 ___ Sanderling 2
 ___ Baird's Sandpiper 2
 ___ Least Sandpiper 2
 ___ Semipalmated Sandpiper 2
 ___ Western Sandpiper 2

GULLS AND TERNS

___ Herring Gull 2
 ___ California Gull 2
 ___ Ring-billed Gull 2
 ___ Franklin's Gull 2
 ___ Bonaparte's Gull 2
 ___ Common Tern 2
 ___ Forster's Tern 2
 ___ Caspian Tern 2
 ___ Black Tern 2

PIGEONS AND DOVES

___ Band-tailed Pigeon 2
 ___ Rock Dove 1
 ___ Mourning Dove U

CUCKOOS

___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo 2

OWLS

___ Western Screech-Owl R
 ___ Great Horned Owl U
 ___ Long-eared Owl 2
 ___ Short-eared Owl U
 ___ Snowy Owl 2
 ___ Barred Owl 2
 ___ Great Gray Owl 2
 ___ Burrowing Owl 2
 ___ Northern Saw-whet Owl 2
 ___ Northern Pygmy Owl 2

GOATSUCKERS

___ Common Poorwill 2
 ___ Common Nighthawk C

SWIFTS

___ Black Swift 2
 ___ Vaux's Swift 2
 ___ White-throated Swift 2

HUMMINGBIRDS

___ Calliope Hummingbird U
 ___ Black-chinned Hummingbird 2
 ___ Rufous Hummingbird C

KINGFISHERS

___ Belted Kingfisher C

WOODPECKERS

___ Common Flicker A
 ___ Pileated Woodpecker 2
 ___ Lewis' Woodpecker 1
 ___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker A
 ___ Williamson's Sapsucker U
 ___ Hairy Woodpecker C
 ___ Black-backed Woodpecker 2
 ___ Three-toed Woodpecker 2
 ___ Downy Woodpecker U

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

___ Eastern Kingbird C
 ___ Western Kingbird 1
 ___ Ash-throated Flycatcher 2
 ___ Say's Phoebe 2
 ___ Willow Flycatcher A

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS CONT.

___ Least Flycatcher 2
 ___ Hammond's Flycatcher 2
 ___ Dusky Flycatcher R
 ___ Western Flycatcher 2
 ___ Western Wood Pewee A
 ___ Olive-sided Flycatcher R

LARKS

___ Horned Lark 2

SWALLOWS

___ Barn Swallow A
 ___ Cliff Swallow A
 ___ Violet-green Swallow 2
 ___ Tree Swallow A
 ___ Bank Swallow 2
 ___ Northern Rough-winged Swallow 2

JAYS AND CROWS

___ Blue Jay 2
 ___ Steller's Jay 1
 ___ Pinyon Jay 2
 ___ Gray Jay A
 ___ Black-billed Magpie 3
 ___ Clark's Nutcracker A
 ___ Common Raven C
 ___ American Crow A

CHICKADEES

___ Black-capped Chickadee A
 ___ Mountain Chickadee U
 ___ Chestnut-backed Chickadee 2

DIPPERS

___ American Dipper 2

NUTHATCHES AND CREEPERS

___ White-breasted Nuthatch 2
 ___ Red-breasted Nuthatch U
 ___ Pygmy Nuthatch 2
 ___ Brown Creeper R

WRENS

___ House Wren 1
 ___ Winter Wren 2
 ___ Rock Wren U
 ___ Canyon Wren 2
 ___ Marsh Wren 2

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS

___ Gray Catbird 2
 ___ Sage Thrasher 2

THRUSHES, BLUEBIRDS AND SOLITAIRES

___ American Robin A
 ___ Varied Thrush 2
 ___ Townsend's Solitaire U
 ___ Hermit Thrush U
 ___ Swainson's Thrush U
 ___ Veery C
 ___ Western Bluebird 2
 ___ Mountain Bluebird A

KINGLETS

___ Golden-crowned Kinglet 2
 ___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet A

PIPITS

___ Water Pipit 2

WAXWINGS

___ Bohemian Waxwing 2
 ___ Cedar Waxwing U

SHRIKES

___ Northern Shrike 2
 ___ Loggerhead shrike 2

STARLINGS

___ European Starling U

VIREOS

___ Solitary Vireo U
 ___ Red-eyed Vireo 2
 ___ Philadelphia Vireo 2
 ___ Warbling Vireo A

WOOD WARBLERS

___ Tennessee Warbler 2
 ___ Orange-crowned Warbler 3
 ___ Nashville Warbler 2
 ___ Yellow Warbler A
 ___ Yellow-rumped Warbler C
 ___ Townsend's Warbler U
 ___ Northern Waterthrush U
 ___ Common Yellowthroat 3
 ___ Yellow-breasted Chat 2
 ___ MacGillivray's Warbler R
 ___ Wilson's Warbler 3
 ___ American Redstart 2

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

___ House Sparrow 1

BLACKBIRDS AND ORIOLES

___ Bobolink 2
 ___ Western Meadowlark 3
 ___ Yellow-headed Blackbird 1
 ___ Red-winged Blackbird U
 ___ Brewer's Blackbird A
 ___ Common Grackle 1
 ___ Brown-headed Cowbird U
 ___ Northern Oriole 2

TANAGERS

___ Western Tanager A

GROSBEAKS, FINCHES, SPARROWS AND BUNTINGS

___ Black-headed Grosbeak U
 ___ Evening Grosbeak U
 ___ Lazuli Bunting U
 ___ Purple Finch 2
 ___ Cassin's Finch 3
 ___ House Finch 2
 ___ Pine Grosbeak 2
 ___ Rosy Finch 2
 ___ Hoary Redpoll 2
 ___ Common Redpoll 2
 ___ Pine Siskin C
 ___ American Goldfinch U
 ___ Red Crossbill 3
 ___ White-winged Crossbill 2
 ___ Green-tailed Towhee 2
 ___ Rufous-sided Towhee 2
 ___ Savannah Sparrow C
 ___ Grasshopper Sparrow 2
 ___ Lark Bunting 2
 ___ Vesper Sparrow A
 ___ Lark Sparrow 2
 ___ Dark-eyed Junco A
 ___ American Tree Sparrow 2
 ___ Chipping Sparrow A
 ___ Clay-colored Sparrow 2
 ___ Brewer's Sparrow A
 ___ Harris' Sparrow 2
 ___ White-crowned Sparrow C
 ___ White-throated Sparrow 2
 ___ Fox Sparrow U
 ___ Swamp Sparrow 2
 ___ Song Sparrow U
 ___ Lapland Longspur 2
 ___ Snow Bunting 2

Names according to Robbins et. al., Birds of North America, 1983