

Mountain Home AFB

The primary mission of MHAFB is to support the Air Force's mission in providing decisive combat power worldwide, on demand. MHAFB is home to the 366th Fighter Wing and is an important element of the Air Force mission. MHAFB is located approximately 50 miles southeast of Boise, Idaho, and 8 miles southwest of Mountain Home, Idaho and encompasses approximately 9 square miles.

MHAFB is located adjacent to the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area and near the Snake River and C.J. Strike Reservoir.

MHAFB is in the western Snake River Plain which is a semi-arid desert, characterized by Sagebrush-Steppe ecosystem. Between 20 and 25 percent of the land on MHAFB is developed. Landscaped areas account for another 25 percent of MHAFB. The housing areas and golf course contain many mature trees and windbreaks. The remainder of the lands range from annual grasslands and stands of sagebrush to partially disturbed areas separating buildings and facilities. Most of the native sagebrush has converted to non-native cheatgrass.

MHAFB boasts of a wide variety of birds because of its unique location and diversity of habitats. Here you can find everything from large raptors and desert birds to urban forest species.



Juvenile Red-Tailed Hawk by Carl Rudeen

January 2009



HOME OF THE GUNFIGHTERS!

Field Notes:

*366 CES/CEAN
Mountain Home Air Force Base*



Carl Rudeen
Wildlife Biologist
1100 Liberator St., Bldg 1297
Mountain Home AFB, ID 83648
Phone: (208) 828-1785
Fax: (208) 828-2194
E-mail: Carl.Rudeen@MountainHome.af.mil



*Mountain Home
Air Force Base*



Ferruginous Hawk on No-Drop Target, by Judy Ferguson

Birding Checklist



Juvenile Burrowing Owl by Carl Rudeen

366th Natural Resources
Infrastructure Section

MHAFB



Legend:

SP = Spring C= Common
 S = Summer U = Uncommon
 F = Fall R = Rare
 W = Winter X= Accidental

Geese, Swans and Ducks	SP	S	F	W
Mallard (<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>)	C	C	C	C
Gadwall (<i>Anas strepera</i>)	U	-	-	-
American Wigeon (<i>Anas americana</i>)	C	C	C	C
Green-winged Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>)	C	C	U	U
Blue-winged Teal (<i>Anas discors</i>)	-	U	-	-
Cinnamon Teal (<i>Anas cyanoptera</i>)	U	U	U	U
Northern Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>)	U	U	U	U
Northern Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>)	C	C	C	C
Redhead (<i>Aythya americana</i>)	U	U	U	U
Lesser Scaup (<i>Aythya affinis</i>)	C	C	U	U
Common Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>)	C	C	C	C
Bufflehead (<i>Bucephala albeola</i>)	C	C	C	C
Ruddy Duck (<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>)	-	U	-	-
Snow Goose (<i>Chen caerulescens</i>)	-	-	C	C
Canada Goose (<i>Branta canadensis</i>)	C	U	C	C
Canvasback (<i>Aythya valisineria</i>)	U	U	U	U
Barrow's Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala islandica</i>)	U	U	U	U
Common Merganser (<i>Mergus merganser</i>)	U	U	U	U
Tundra Swan (<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>)	U	U	U	U
Pheasants and Quail				
Ring-necked Pheasant (<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>)	C	C	C	C
California Quail (<i>Callipepla californica</i>)	C	C	C	C
Gray Partridge (<i>Perdix perdix</i>)	U	U	U	U
Pelican, Ibis, Coot and Grebes				
American White Pelican (<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>)	U	U	-	-
White-faced Ibis (<i>Plegadis chihi</i>)	U	U	-	-
American Coot (<i>Fulica americana</i>)	C	C	C	C
Western Grebe (<i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i>)	U	U	U	U
Pied-billed Grebe (<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>)	U	U	U	U
Shorebirds				
Wilson's Phalarope (<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>)	C	C	-	-
American Avocet (<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>)	-	U	-	-
Spotted Sandpiper (<i>Actitis macularius</i>)	U	U	-	-
Long-billed Curlew (<i>Numenius americanus</i>)	C	C	C	C
Killdeer (<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>)	C	C	U	U
Vulture, Hawks and Eagles				
Turkey Vulture (<i>Cathartes aura</i>)	C	C	C	U
Northern Harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>)	C	C	C	C
Red-tailed Hawk (<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>)	C	C	C	C
Swainson's Hawk (<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>)	C	C	-	-
Rough-legged Hawk (<i>Buteo lagopus</i>)	C	-	-	C
Golden Eagle (<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>)	U	U	U	U
Prairie Falcon (<i>Falco mexicanus</i>)	C	C	C	C
American Kestrel (<i>Falco sparverius</i>)	C	C	C	C

Gulls	SP	S	F	W
California Gull (<i>Larus californicus</i>)	C	C	C	C
Ring-billed Gull (<i>Larus delawarensis</i>)	C	C	C	C
Pigeons, Doves				
Rock Pigeon (<i>Columba livia</i>)	C	C	C	C
Mourning Dove (<i>Zenaida macroura</i>)	C	C	C	U
Eurasian Collared Dove (<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>)	U	U	U	U
Owls				
Barn Owl (<i>Tyto alba</i>)	C	C	C	C
Great Horned Owl (<i>Bubo virginianus</i>)	C	C	C	C
Western Burrowing Owl (<i>Athene cunicularia hypugaea</i>)	C	C	U	R
Western Screech-owl (<i>Megascops kennicottii</i>)	U	U	U	U
Goatsuckers				
Common Nighthawk (<i>Chordeiles minor</i>)	C	C	-	-
Hummingbirds				
* Ruby-throated Hummingbird (<i>Archilochus colubris</i>)	-	X	-	-
Black-chinned Hummingbird (<i>Archilochus alexandri</i>)	C	C	C	-
Broad-tailed Hummingbird (<i>Selasphorus platycercus</i>)	-	U	-	-
Rufous Hummingbird (<i>Selasphorus rufus</i>)	U	C	U	-
Calliope Hummingbird (<i>Stellula calliope</i>)	C	C	C	-
Woodpeckers				
Northern Flicker (<i>Colaptes auratus</i>)	C	C	C	C
Tyrant Flycatchers				
Western Kingbird (<i>Tyrannus verticalis</i>)	C	C	-	-
Western Wood-pewee (<i>Contopus sordidulus</i>)	U	U	-	-
Hammond's Flycatcher (<i>Empidonax hammondi</i>)	U	U	-	-
Shrike and Corvids				
Loggerhead Shrike (<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>)	U	U	U	-
Black-billed Magpie (<i>Pica hudsonia</i>)	C	C	C	C
Common Raven (<i>Corvus corax</i>)	C	C	C	C
American Crow (<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>)	C	C	C	C
Lark and Swallows				
Horned Lark (<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>)	C	C	C	C
Barn Swallow (<i>Hirundo rustica</i>)	C	C	-	-
Bank Swallow (<i>Riparia riparia</i>)	C	C	-	-
Chickadees, Nuthatch and Wren				
Black-capped Chickadee (<i>Parus atricapillus</i>)	-	-	-	C
Mountain Chickadee (<i>Parus gambeli</i>)	-	-	U	U
Red-breasted Nuthatch (<i>Sitta canadensis</i>)	U	U	U	U
Rock Wren (<i>Salpinctes obsoletus</i>)	U	U	-	-
Thrush, Thrasher, Starling and Waxwing				
American Robin (<i>Turdus migratorius</i>)	C	C	C	C
Sage Thrasher (<i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>)	U	U	-	-
European Starling (<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>)	C	C	C	C
Cedar Waxwing (<i>Bombicilla cedrorum</i>)	-	-	-	C

* The only record of this species in the state of Idaho was recorded on MHAFB

Warbler and Tanager	SP	S	F	W
Yellow Warbler (<i>Dendroica petechia</i>)	U	U	-	-
Western Tanager (<i>Piranga ludoviciana</i>)	C	C	C	-
Sparrows				
Vesper Sparrow (<i>Poocetes gramineus</i>)	U	U	U	-
Lark Sparrow (<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>)	U	-	-	-
White-crowned Sparrow (<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>)	C	-	C	C
Chipping Sparrow (<i>Spizella passerina</i>)	C	C	-	-
Brewer's Sparrow (<i>Spizella breweri</i>)	C	C	C	C
Dark-eyed Junco (<i>Junco hyemalis</i>)	C	U	C	C
Savannah Sparrow (<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>)	-	U	U	-
Sage Sparrow (<i>Amphispiza belli</i>)	U	U	U	U
Grosbeak and Bunting				
Black-headed Grosbeak (<i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i>)	U	-	-	U
Lazuli Bunting (<i>Passerina amoena</i>)	U	U	-	-
Blackbirds and allies				
Bullock's Oriole (<i>Icterus bullockii</i>)	U	U	-	-
Brown-headed Cowbird (<i>Molothrus ater</i>)	C	C	C	-
Yellow-headed Blackbird (<i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i>)	U	U	-	-
Western Meadowlark (<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>)	C	C	C	C
Brewer's Blackbird (<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>)	C	C	C	-
Finches and allies				
House Finch (<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>)	C	C	C	C
American Goldfinch (<i>Carduelis tristis</i>)	C	C	C	C
Pine Siskin (<i>Carduelis pinus</i>)	C	-	-	C
Weaver Finch				
House Sparrow (<i>Passer domesticus</i>)	C	C	C	C



Female American Kestrel by Carl Rudeen

Every effort has been made to make this checklist complete, however omissions and errors may exist. This list is based on extensive field observations and local knowledge.