

B13 WESTERN MEADOWLARK

Length 9”

TRAITS: Small chunky bird with yellow breast marked with black V. Bill pointed.

HABITATS: Permanent resident. Lives in wet prairie and upland prairie; also oak savanna. Requires large open prairie areas to nest.

FOODS: Seeds, grasses and forbs, beetles, caterpillars, grasshoppers, spiders, and snails.

THREATS: Adults eaten by hawks, young eaten by snakes, foxes, and cats. Fragmentation and development of remaining open prairies.

“GEE WHIZ”: Oregon state bird. Chosen by school children in 1927. Forms large winter flocks.



B14 WESTERN SCRUB-JAY Length 12”

TRAITS: Blue head (with no crest), wings, and tail. Bluish-gray back.

HABITATS: Permanent resident. Lives in thickets and in deciduous woodlands. Nests in trees.

FOODS: Eggs or young of other birds, wasps, bees, moths, grasshoppers, seeds, and acorns.

THREATS: Unknown

“GEE WHIZ”: Buries acorns that help to replant oak forests destroyed by fire or drought.



B15 VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW Length 5”

TRAITS: Metallic blue-green upper parts with a violet rump and tail. White underside.

HABITATS: Present during the spring and summer. Wet prairie, emergent wetlands.

FOODS: Beetles, wasps, ants, and flies.

THREATS: Deforestation in winter range.

“GEE WHIZ”: Nest in cavities in trees; also will use nesting boxes over open water. Rarely eats insects on the ground.



B16 SHORT-EARED OWL

Length 15"

TRAITS: Brownish colored, boldly streaked breast, belly paler. Ear tufts barely visible.

HABITATS: Winters on the wet prairie and upland prairie.

FOODS: Mice, voles, sparrows, meadowlarks, and shorebirds.

THREATS: Great horned owls. Foxes will eat eggs and the young.

“GEE WHIZ”: Roosts on the ground. Hunts mainly at dawn and dusk.



B17 WESTERN KINGBIRD

Length 9"

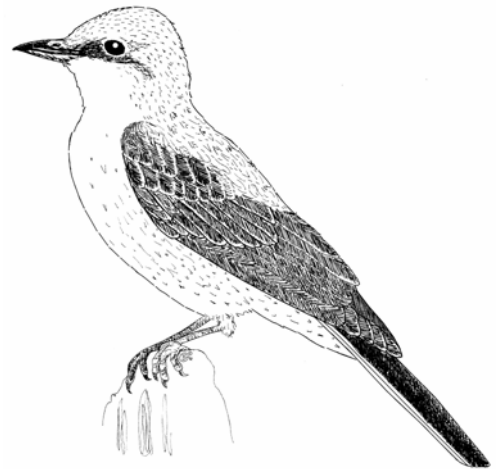
TRAITS: Head, neck and upper breast gray, back darker gray. Long black tail. Lower breast and belly yellow.

HABITATS: Present in spring and summer. Wet prairies, upland prairies, and shrubs.

FOODS: Flying insects caught in flight.

THREATS: Unknown.

“GEE WHIZ”: These flycatchers will attack larger birds, such as crows and hawks, when they trespass near their nests.



B18 GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW

Length 7"

TRAITS: Small bird with stout bill. Yellow patch on black crown. Brown back streaked with dark brown. Belly whitish.

HABITATS: Present in winter. Wet prairies, upland prairies, and shrubs.

FOODS: Insects, seeds, flowers, and seedlings.

THREATS: Short-Eared Owl and Northern Harrier.

Squirrels and crows prey on eggs and young. Many killed from striking patio and picture windows.

“GEE WHIZ”: Sparrows often use feathers from other birds to line their nests.

