

B25 RUDDY DUCK

Length 15”

TRAITS: Chunky diving duck with a broad dark gray bill. Dark wings and cap. Brownish neck and body, long tail.

HABITATS: Present in winter. Emergent wetlands, lakes, and ponds.

FOODS: Aquatic insect larvae, other invertebrates, and aquatic plants. Strains animals from soft bottom ooze.

THREATS: Foxes and raptors. Raccoons and opossum eat the eggs.

“GEE WHIZ”: Uses long, stiff tail feathers as a rudder. When alarmed these ducks often dive under water instead of flying away.

Illustration unavailable at this time.

B26 DUNLIN

Length 9”

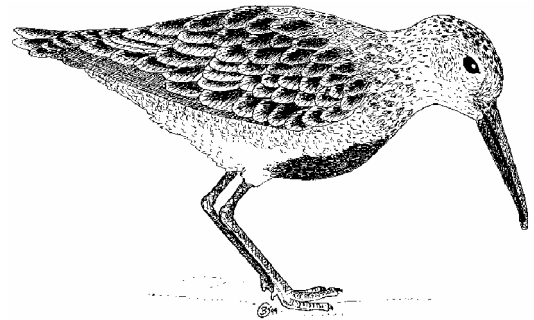
TRAITS: Shorebirds with grayish-brown upper parts. Faintly streaked breast and white belly. Narrow sturdy bill curved at tip.

HABITATS: Present in winter. Edges of water areas on exposed mudflats.

FOODS: Worms, aquatic insects, mosquitoes, flies, and seeds.

THREATS: Unknown.

“GEE WHIZ”: These sandpipers are usually in large flocks.



B27 RED-TAILED HAWK

TRAITS: Large brown bird with rounded tail and wings, tail reddish, hooked bill; long, curved talons.

HABITATS: Permanent resident. Usually nests in old trees; hunts in wet prairies and upland prairies.

FOODS: Voles, mice, squirrels, and other small mammals. Will sometimes eat snakes, toads, frogs, and salamanders.

EATEN BY: Great horned owls; eggs may be taken by ravens.

“GEE WHIZ” Often soars in wide circles above trees or mountain ridges, and perches on dead limbs or atop branches of tall trees.

