**Bird Survey** (Five Valleys Audubon Society)
**Location:** McGowan Ranch, Drummond MT
**Date:** 6-18-19 **Start Time:** 0900 **End Time:** 1300
**Observers by Area[1]:** Lower--Rose Leach, Wenfei Tong, Tarn Ream, Larry Weeks
Middle-- Andrea Stierle, Don Stierle, Poody McLaughlin, Jeff Ipsen, Lena Viall
Upper--Jim Brown, Roger Hogan, Gerhard Knudsen, Cathy Ream
**Weather:** cloudy to pc, 55-70°F

| **Species** | **Number observed** | | | | **Status[2]** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Low | Mid | Up | Tot | |
| Mallard | | | 1 | 1 | b |
| Blue-winged Teal | | | 2 | 2 | b |
| Swainson's Hawk* | 2 | | | 2 | b |
| Red-tailed Hawk | 1 | 1 | 5 | 7 | b |
| Golden Eagle | | 1 | | 1 | t |
| American Kestrel | 1 | | | 1 | b |
| Falcon spp. | 1 | | | 1 | t |
| Sora | | | 2 | 2 | b |
| Killdeer | 1 | 2 | | 3 | b |
| Long-billed Curlew* | 6 | | | 6 | b |
| Wilson's Snipe | | | 2 | 2 | b |
| Rock Pigeon | 2 | | | 2 | t |
| Northern Pygmy Owl | | 1 | | 1 | b |
| Common Nighthawk | 2 | | 3 | 5 | b |
| Williamson's Sapsucker* | | | 1 | 1 | b |
| Hairy Woodpecker | 1 | | | 1 | b |
| Northern Flicker (red-shafted) | 1 | | 1 | 2 | b |
| Pileated Woodpecker | | | 1 | 1 | b |
| Western Wood-Pewee | 2 | 7 | 2 | 11 | b |
| Hammond's Flycatcher | | 12 | | 12 | b |
| Dusky Flycatcher | 1 | 5 | 1 | 7 | b |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Eastern Kingbird | 2 | 2 | | 4 | b |
| Cassin's Vireo | | 3 | 1 | 4 | b |
| Warbling Vireo | | 10 | | 10 | b |
| Gray Jay | | | 4 | 4 | b |
| Clark's Nutcracker | 6 | | 3 | 9 | b |
| Black-billed Magpie | 4 | | | 4 | b |
| Common Raven | 5 | 2 | 3 | 10 | t |
| Horned Lark | | 2 | | 2 | b |
| Violet-green Swallow | | 1 | | 1 | t |
| Mountain Chickadee | 1 | 6 | | 7 | b |
| Red-breasted Nuthatch | 1 | 3 | | 4 | b |
| Rock Wren | 2 | | | 2 | b |
| House Wren | | 1 | | 1 | b |
| Ruby-crowned Kinglet | 5 | 16 | 35 | 56 | B |
| Mountain Bluebird | 1 | 2 | 3 | 6 | b |
| Townsend's Solitaire | | 7 | 2 | 9 | b |
| Swainson's Thrush | | 4 | | 4 | b |
| Hermit Thrush | | 1 | 1 | 2 | b |
| American Robin | 4 | 8 | 4 | 16 | b |
| European Starling | 2 | | | 2 | b |
| Cedar Waxwing | 2 | | | 2 | b |
| MacGillivray's Warbler | | 3 | | 3 | b |
| Yellow-rumped Warbler | 1 | 6 | | 7 | b |
| Chipping Sparrow | 3 | 15 | 25 | 43 | b |
| Clay-colored Sparrow | 4 | | | 4 | b |
| Brewer's Sparrow* | 12 | | | 12 | b |
| Vesper Sparrow | 26 | 20 | 25 | 71 | b |
| Savannah Sparrow | 1 | | | 1 | b |
| Song Sparrow | | 3 | | 3 | b |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dark-eyed Junco | 1 | | | 1 | b |
| Western Tanager | 3 | 4 | 4 | 11 | b |
| Red-winged Blackbird | | | 2 | 2 | b |
| Western Meadowlark | 7 | 4 | 2 | 13 | b |
| Brewer's Blackbird | 5 | | | 5 | b |
| Brown-headed Cowbird | 3 | 7 | 3 | 13 | b |
| Red Crossbill | | 1 | | 1 | b |
| Pine Siskin | | 3 | | 3 | b |

1. Township 10N, Range 14W: Lower--S12, W1/2; S11, N1/2 & SE 1/4. Middle--S2; S11, N1/2; S10, NE1/4. Upper--S3, N1/2. Representative latitude-longitude: Lower 46.6345/-113.3082, Middle 46.6421/-113.3336, Upper 46.6557/-113.3449.

2. Breeding Status:
B—direct evidence
1. Occupied nest—adults entering or leaving nest site; adult incubating or brooding.
2. Recently fledged young, incapable of flight or downy young of limited mobility.
3. Adults attending young—feeding, carrying food or fecal sac.
4. Used nest or eggshell found, evidence must be convincing.
5. Nest with clearly identifiable young.

b—indirect evidence
1. Singing males or territorial birds in suitable habitat during breeding season.
2. Courtship behavior or copulation
3. Adults visiting a probable nest site.
4. Agitation behavior, distraction display, or anxiety call from adult.
5. Nest building
6. Physiological evidence such as brood patch.

t—no evidence of breeding: transients, migrants or wide-ranging species.

**Notes:**
***** Denotes species of Conservation Concern according to USFWS for Northern Rocky Mountains and National Audubon Society Watchlist for North American Continent.

Several observations of the birds and plants indicated that the well managed grasslands were in good to excellent condition. The grasslands supported a large diversity of forbs and wild flowers including bitterroot. Common Ringlet and Common Alpine butterflies, both grass dependent species were abundant. Additionally the Square-dotted Blue butterfly was present. Its existence totally depends on presence of sulphur buckwheat, which was common and flowering. A significant number of Long-billed Curlews (species of concern), perhaps 3 breeding pair, were observed. They depend on healthy native prairie grasslands. A significant number of Brewer's Sparrows (species of concern) were present. They depend on areas of sagebrush for breeding.