# Wildlife Identification Guide



## Protected Species: These species are protected and cannot be hunted in the state of Idaho.

### **Pygmy Rabbit**





Courtesy of H. Ulmschneider

Smallest rabbit in North America; gray fur; relatively small, rounded ears; small gray-brown tail.



Habitat and Habits:
Lives in tall, dense stands of sagebrush. Herbivorous. One to six young per litter; two to three litters per year.

#### **Mountain Quail**



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Brown back with gray head, neck, and chest; rust-colored throat; rust-colored sides with white stripes; long, straight, black head feathers.



Habitat and Habits: Lives in mountainous timber and brushy country. Makes a loud "kyork" or "woook"

call. Nests in hidden depressions; an average of 10 light red eggs.

#### **North Idaho Ground Squirrel**



© Bruce Haak, used with permission

Reddish-brown back with faint light spots; cream-colored belly. Protected species that is listed as Threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act.



Habitat and Habits: Found only in Adams and Valley counties at elevations between 3,250 and 5,600 feet between Hell's Canyon, the Seven Devil's Mountains, and

Cuddy Mountain east to Long Valley. Prefers mountain meadows surrounded by ponderosa pine or Douglas-fir forests.

# **Protected Species**

#### **Long-Billed Curlew**



Courtesy of Liz Urban

Buffy, brown color with plain crown; extremely long, down-curved bill. Habitat and Habits:
Mar.—Aug. nests in open short grass and mixed prairies; forages in farm fields for insects. Parents are aggressive in defense of nests and young; calling

aggressively and

dive-bombing anything that threatens the nest or chicks; 4 creamy-brown to greenish-colored eggs with greenish-brown or purplish-gray markings.

#### **American White Pelican**





Large with white body; large orange bill and throat pouch. Immature has gray bill and pouch.

Habitat and Habits:
In summer found on marshes and lakes; in winter on coastal areas.
Usually quiet.
Nests in depressions near water; 1–3 white eggs.

## **Bald Eagle**



Courtesy of Gary Kramer

Large, dark bird with white head and tail; yellow bill. Immature: Brownish speckled with more white under wings and belly.

Habitat and Habits:
Found on lakes, rivers, and coastal areas. Makes a loud screech.
Nests on cliffs or in trees; 1–3 dull white eggs.



summer range

winter range

all-year range

not present

# **Protected Species**

## **Golden Eagle**



Courtesy of Texas Parks & Wildlife



Large, dark bird. Immature: Dark with white patches under wings and on tail. Habitat and Habits:

Found in mountains, foothills, sagebrush plains, grasslands, and open woodlands. Mostly quiet. Nests on cliffs, on ground, or in trees; 1–4 speckled eggs.

# **Northern Harrier (Marsh Hawk)**



Male is grayish-brown with lighter underside. Female is larger and brown with streaked underside. Both have white patch on rump.



Habitat and Habits: Found in fields, grasslands, and marshes. Generally quiet unless alarmed. Nests on ground; 4–5 dull white eggs.

not present