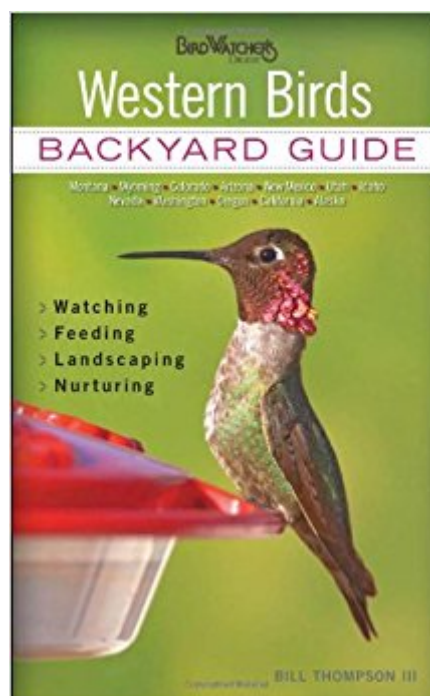




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# Western Birds: Backyard Guide - Watching - Feeding - Landscaping - Nurturing - Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona, New (Bird Watcher's Digest Backyard Guide)



## Synopsis

From the editor of the nation's premier birding magazine, a no-nonsense, no-fluff quick guide to the birds you see every day. Of all the classic American pastimes, perhaps none is as widely accessible as watching birds. Our unusually vast, diverse environmental landscape supports fascinating species and variations exclusive to each region of the country. But while birders often spend their efforts in search of the rarest creatures, some of the most beautiful and intriguing birds are the ones that frequent our backyards (or nearby) daily. For that reason, where other, larger volumes focus on bird types that the casual observer is never likely to encounter, *Western Birds* concisely celebrates those species living under our very noses. Written by Bill Thompson III, the editor and co-publisher of *Bird Watcher's Digest*, this portable 5"x8" book contains the same variety of entertaining and informative entries that make *Bird Watcher's Digest* the nation's most popular birding magazine. Inside, you'll find profiles of the 55 most common birds in the West, complete with large color photos, gender-specific physical descriptions, nesting and feeding information, bird call particulars, and interesting stories about each species. Thompson also introduces the reader to the basics of bird watching: essential gear, bird-friendly food and plantings, housing tips, and observational techniques. This guide covers Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Idaho, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, California, and Alaska. Look for our other backyard bird guides covering the Mid-Atlantic, South, Northeast, and Midwest regions of the United States.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Create a Bird Sanctuary in Your Own BackyardÂ Birding is one of Americaâ™s favorite hobbies, and with the help of *Western Birds: Backyard Guide* you can enjoy this fast-growing activity from the comfort of your own home and yard. Written by noted birding authority Bill Thompson III of *Bird Watcherâ™s Digest*, this convenient guidebook features all of the birds, both common and exotic, that you are likely to see in backyards anywhere in the West.Â â “ Large, full-color photos of featured birdsâ “ Tips for attracting the birds you want (and how to keep them hanging around)Â Whether you view birdwatching as a fun family activity or simply a way to make gazing out the window more interesting, this book is your key to a fascinating (and affordable) year-round hobby that can be enjoyed by people of all ages.

Bill Thompson III (Whipple, OH) is the editor and co-publisher of *Bird Watcher's Digest*. He's also a keen birder, the author of many books, a field trip leader, an ecotourism consultant, a guitar player, the host of the *This Birding Life* podcast, a regular speaker and performer on the birding festival circuit, a gentleman farmer, and a fungi to be around. His North American life list is somewhere between 673 and 675. His favorite bird is the red-headed woodpecker. His "spark bird" was a snowy owl. He has watched birds in 25 countries and 44 states, but his favorite place to watch is on the 80-acre farm he shares with his wife, artist and writer Julie Zickefoose. Some kind person once called Bill "the Pied Piper of Birding" and he has been trying to live up to that moniker ever since.<http://billofthebirds.blogspot.com>

A great resource for identifying birds that come to a backyard feeder, even when one knows little about birds except that some like suet and others the regular dry feed. This book helped me to identify the birds now visiting my back yard. It's fun to know something about those visitors and how each differs (even if slightly) from the others, especially the different jays that I've spotted and the woodpeckers, too. Some are tiny, others are downright gigantic compared with the smallest visitors who are regularly chased away by the big behemoths, some too big to really use the feeders, which makes them frustrated until they figure out how to swoop and grab.

Not only do you get a good description of each bird but you also get information on how habitat so you can attract different species and whether or not they will use a bird house. The book is limited to

the 55 most common birds so a bird that isn't quite as common, such as a yellow headed blackbird, might not be included.

Have only seen 1 or 2 species in this book, but at least a dozen I have seen, but are not in this book.

Great book for bird lovers. I bought this for my husband and it is a great help in identifying the birds in our part of the country.

Fun book for family birdwatching!

Great pictures which helps to illustrate the birds. The narratives are also very good. Both my wife and I enjoy this book very much.

Where's the Wyoming State Bird? Does the author even know what it might be? After attempting to use this book, I am completely disappointed.

Beautiful illustrations and a ton of information. Very pleased with this book!

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