

# CASPER WILDLIFE VIEWING TOURS

Wyoming Game & Fish Department

# Introduction



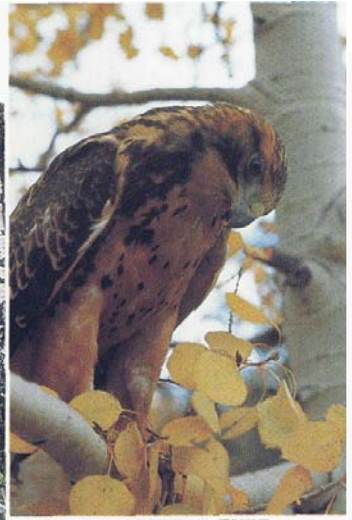
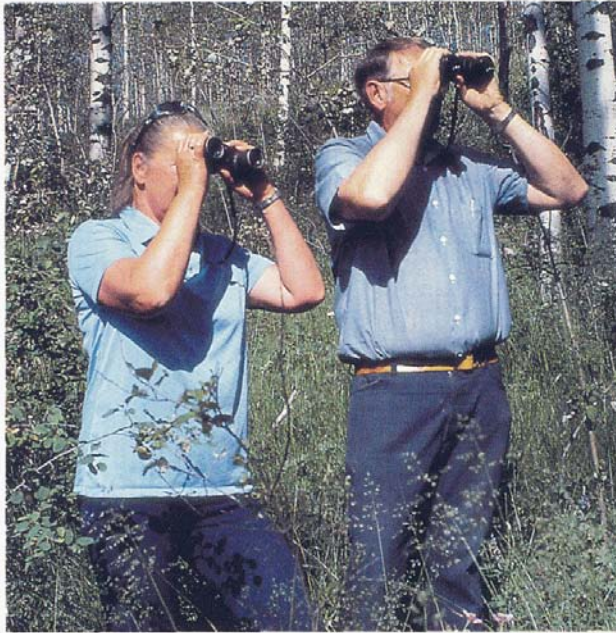
In the days of the Plains Indian and fur trapper, the land on which Casper, Wyoming, now lies was a sagebrush-grassland prairie dotted with bison and pronghorn antelope. To the south rose pine-forested mountains abounding with deer, mountain lion, elk, grizzly and black bear; to the southwest, the waters of the North Platte River, with sturgeon, catfish, sauger and paddlefish. Little had changed by the 1850s when 400,000 emigrants on the Oregon Trail crossed here, often protesting the stream's "almost" impassable channels, but noting the abundance of birds and wildlife along its banks. Following the decline of bison populations in the late 1800s, cattle kings, sheepmen and oilmen found wealth in the vast stretches of sagebrush-grassland. Great herds of cattle and sheep arrived to share the ranges with the pronghorn, while the discovery of oil brought businessmen to the land.

Despite the changes in landscape and **loss** of the grizzly, bison and wolf, the land around Casper still supports a diverse wildlife community. Casper Mountain, the valley streams, the sand dunes and prairie have created a richly varied environment in which over 250 different wildlife species have found a home.

This viewing tour may easily be completed in a matter of hours, or individual sites selected for a shorter drive. Binoculars, spotting scopes and cameras (200+ mm lenses) work well for birdwatching and photographing wildlife. Picnicking facilities are available at many of the sites. A lazy float down the North Platte River is highly recommended for a summer's day. The Casper Chamber of Commerce (500 N. Center St.—phone 307-234-5311) can offer canoe rental and boat launching information as well as accommodations information. For trips planned in advance, a travel accommodations directory can be acquired through the Division of Tourism/Marketing. Mornings and evenings are the best time to see wildlife. Most of the lands along these routes are private, **so** one must have permission to trespass.

The viewing tour proceeds south from the junction of the Casper Mountain Road (Highway 25) and Wyoming Boulevard (Highway 258).

# Positive Wildlife Viewing



Public interest in wildlife has never been greater. Bird watching alone has attracted nearly 30 million Americans, and every year over three million people travel to Wyoming to observe and photograph wildlife. This interest, however, can have its consequences. Although people are more conscious of preserving wildlife, critical habitat can receive increased pressure from humans and wildlife can be harassed unless common sense is used.

Some suggestions for wildlife viewing include:

- Confine your movements wherever possible to designated roads, trails and viewing areas. Do not leave trails to observe wildlife.
- Never chase or flush wildlife. When on a road or trail stop and allow the animal to move off at their own pace.
- Keep a respectable distance, for the animal's sake—and occasionally yours. Avoid direct movement toward wildlife.
- Wildlife have their young in spring and summer. If you happen to find a nest or a young animal please leave it alone and exit the area. Mother is generally nearby and will return when you leave.

Respect and good judgement by today's wildlife watchers are essential to the preservation of Wyoming's natural heritage for future generations.

To assist in wildlife identification we suggest acquiring the *field Guide to the Birds* and *field Guide to the Mammals* available at most bookstores. The "Wyoming Bird Checklist" and the "Wyoming Mammal Checklist" identify wildlife species found in central Wyoming. These checklists can be acquired free of charge at the Casper Chamber of Commerce and Wyoming Game and Fish Department offices.



Information on wildlife conservation, hunting and fishing can be obtained at the Wyoming Game and Fish Department office at 2800 Pheasant Drive in Casper. Maps of public lands can be acquired at the Bureau of Land Management office at 1701 East E. Street, Casper, WY 82601.

### DRIVER ALERT

Be courteous and cautious. Do not stop on the roadway or drive at excessively slow speeds. This is extremely hazardous and can result in a rear-end collision. Use only designated turnouts, parking areas and rest areas off of the road.



Wildlife viewing routes and areas are marked with this highway sign.

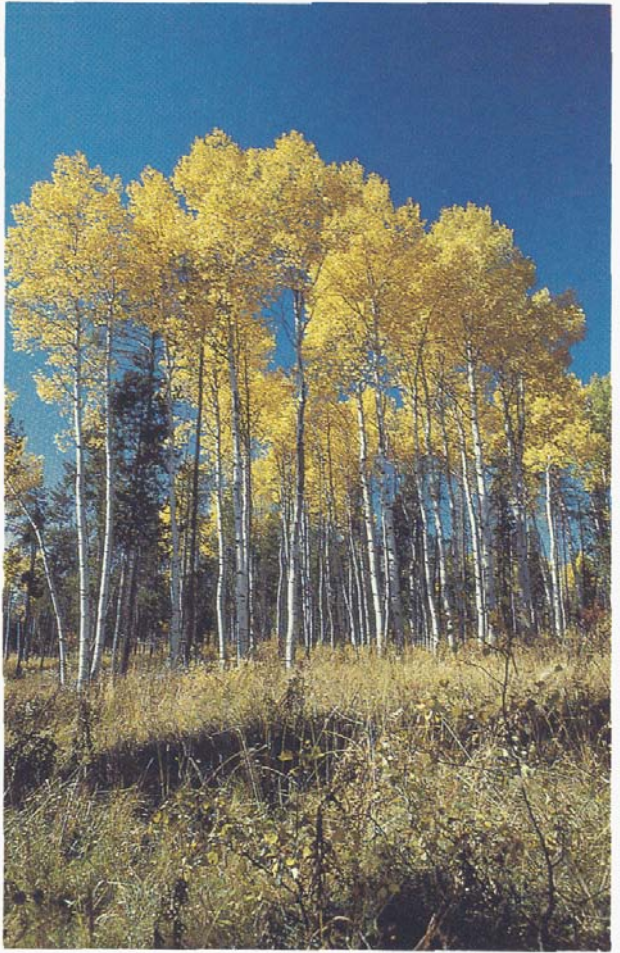
## Casper Mountain

Casper Mountain has abounded with wild game since prehistoric Indians inhabited its pine forested slopes 11,000 years ago. An important landmark to fur trappers and Oregon Trail emigrants, the mountain was first noted by Robert Stuart, an Astorian fur trader camped on the Platte River in the winter of 1812. Stuart described rocky bluffs traversed by bighorn sheep and thickly-wooded summits full of elk, mountain lions, black-tailed deer (mule deer) and “white bears”—grizzlies, whose silver-tipped hairs gave the appearance of white fur. The grizzly and bighorn sheep have retreated to ranges north and west of Casper, but the rich diversity of wildlife is much as it was in Stuart’s time.

Rising one and a half miles above sea level, Casper Mountain is the granite-cored northern extension of Wyoming’s Medicine Bow Range. As you travel up the mountain, note the changes in altitude, temperature and soil. Because thinner air holds less heat and higher altitudes receive more precipitation than the lower slopes, distinct vegetation “zones” are created; sagebrush-grassland on the lowlands; ponderosa pine on the rockier foothill soil; lodgepole pine on the higher slopes and top; Douglas fir and the cold resistant spruce-fir on the north facing slopes are the four major vegetative zones on Casper Mountain. Such dramatic changes in a relatively short time create a variety of contrasting habitats and provide “niches” in which each animal species can find its preferred food and cover.

## Viewing Area A

# Rotary Park and Garden Creek Falls



Found within this mix of ponderosa pine and lodgepole pine forest are stands of quaking aspen trees (slim white-barked trees with a fluttering canopy of leaves). The combination

of aspen trees and a productive understory attracts a diversity of wildlife species. The dense grasses and shrubs in the understory of the forest canopy provide birds with secure areas for nesting and mammals places to rear their young. The deer, elk, black bear and beaver feed on the bark and twigs of the aspen, while many songbirds utilize cavities excavated by woodpeckers in the soft wood of old or dead aspen trees for nesting purposes. The understory of vegetation also provides wildlife with cover from predators and shelter from adverse weather conditions.

Notice that most aspens are found together in closely-packed stands. An aspen sends out horizontal roots that "sucker" (sprout) new trees that are genetically identical to the parent tree. Rarely do aspen reproduce by seed dispersal. They rely on death of the parent tree through fire, disease and other means to stimulate root-sprouting of new trees.

## Viewing Area B

# Lookout Point

Near the top of Casper Mountain, Lookout Point provides an expansive view of Casper and the Platte River floodplain. Soda Lake lies directly north; the North Platte River flows from west to east. Oregon Trail emigrants followed the North Platte upstream on both banks before merging at Bessemer Bend and continuing on to the far side of the river.

To the northeast of Casper lie several white “strips” of sand dunes that have been in existence for about 12,000 years. The dunes, part of the longest sand dune field in Wyoming, stretch for over 400 square miles and are composed of particles that were once polished by glaciers over 13,000 years ago. Much of the field is stabilized with matted vegetation and grasses, but active dunes are moved by Wyoming winds and are continuously moving northeastward.

Until 200 years ago, the sand dunes were used as animal traps by prehistoric and plains hunters. Bison were driven into the blowout of a dune (a parabolic depression formed when loose sand is carried away by wind) and unable to gain footing in the sand, the heavy animals toppled and were quickly slain. Bones of a camel and 100 buffalo dating 10,000 years old were recently uncovered at an archaeological dig known as the Casper Site, and are on display at the Tate Mineralogical Museum in Casper.

Despite the seemingly desolate landscape of the sand field, wildlife that is well adapted to the moving sands and extreme temperatures thrives. The nocturnal kangaroo rat, named for its elongated tail and large hind feet, hops across the cool night sand, its cheek pouches bulging with seeds. The small animal does not drink water in the wild but instead reduces water loss by restricting its activities to night time, while a highly efficient kidney extracts the water it needs from the food ingested. Pronghorn antelope, snakes, coyotes, jackrabbits and desert birds also find a home among the prickly pear cactus and grasses that become established on the dunes.

Trace the path of the North Platte River from west to east by following the green “line” of trees. The stream developed its meandering characteristic when Tertiary rocks covered the region 60 million years ago. Originating high in the mountains of northern Colorado, the North Platte followed a pre-existing drainage on top of the Tertiary formation and wound through the soft sandstone until it ultimately carved through to the harder rocks below. Over time, the Tertiary cover was eroded away by wind and rains, exposing the rocky chasms that posed a hazard to Indians and pioneers attempting to cross. The Narrows, the westernmost tip of the mountain through which Wyoming Highway 220 runs and the river flows, is an example of a canyon cut by this superimposed stream.





## Viewing Area C

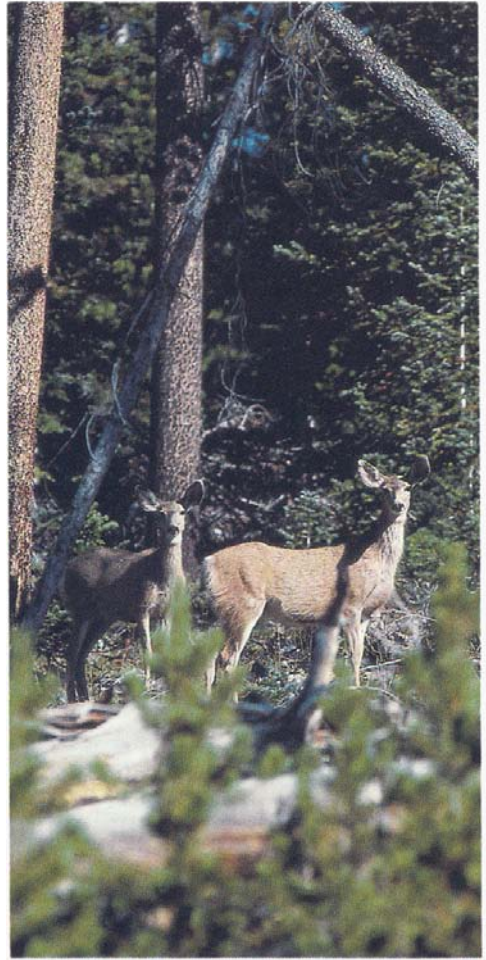
# Crimson Dawn Park

Lodgepole pine, **so** named because they made excellent tepee poles, are the predominant trees in Casper Mountain's forest. The tall, slender pine trees are easily recognized by the stiff yellow-green needles in bundles of two. Lower branches receive little sunlight and are often scarce. Closely packed lodgepole prevent the growth of a lush understory, and although big game animals do not graze in the densest stands, they often seek the cool, quiet shade in the summer's heat.

The lodgepole pine stands on Casper Mountain are referred to as "even aged," meaning all the trees are about the same age (80–100 years old). Lodgepole pines of this age are extremely susceptible to attack from the pine bark beetle, an insect that lays its eggs in holes it bores into the trees. The eggs metamorphose into larvae, which feed laterally around the tree, ultimately killing the tree by cutting off the water supply to the tree canopy. Red, skeleton-like stands of lodgepole pines are the result of bark beetles' work.

Mule deer browse young trees, while porcupines eat the bark of the lodgepole, often damaging the tree by "girdling" it and rendering it incapable of taking up water and nutrients through its bark. Birds like the Steller's jay and black-capped chickadee share the forest canopy with the northern goshawk, a short-winged bird of prey that easily maneuvers between the tree trunks hunting for small rodents and birds. The goshawk is often seen swooping through the trees or perched on a limb; a distinctive tuft of white feathers at the base of its legs makes the bird easily recognizable. Red squirrels, snowshoe hares, weasels, and numerous species of bats have also found their niche in the lodgepole pine forest.

Wyoming winds blend with the musical chirping of songbirds. Mule deer inhabit the forest edge and rough terrain. The forest is home to hundreds of creatures—quiet movements will be least disruptive to the wildlife and permit optimum viewing.



## Viewing Area D

### Rim Campground

In the valley between Casper and Muddy mountain, a belt of ponderosa pine trees can be seen above the sagebrush-grasslands, providing much needed shade on an otherwise sun-dried slope. The squat, irregularly shaped evergreens are common on lower slopes of eastern Wyoming mountain ranges and have long taproots that make them extremely drought resistant; even the needles are capable of taking in water from night dew. Like most conifers (cone-bearing trees), needles are modified leaves that remain on the tree year-round, a survival strategy adopted thousands of years ago to help conserve water and nutrients in climates with extreme temperature changes. Wildflowers like mountain bluebells and fleabane daisies prefer the cool soils under this tree and carpet the ponderosa hillsides in summer.

Red squirrels might be observed beneath the ponderosa pines, where active squirrels have hidden seeds and insects in a heap of discarded pinecone scales. The squirrels, which do not hibernate in the winter, dig tunnels beneath the snow to reach the midden and eat and sleep cozily under the insulating blanket of snow. Mule deer and porcupines feed on young ponderosa saplings, while pine jays and Clark's nutcrackers feast on ponderosa pinecone seeds during the summer and store them in subsoil caches for the winter.



## Viewing Area E

### Circle Drive Loop

The dry foothills of Casper Mountain and Muddy Mountain are dominated by big sagebrush and common juniper, an evergreen shrub of variable size with tiny overlapping leaves. Squirrels, chipmunks and songbirds eat the berrylike cones of the juniper and seek shelter under its branches in the heat of the day. Sunflowers, mountain lupine, Indian paintbrush and goatsbeard are found interspersed with the sagebrush and juniper.

The sunbeaten foothills and red buttes above them (iron in the soil colors the ground red) are criss-crossed with natural



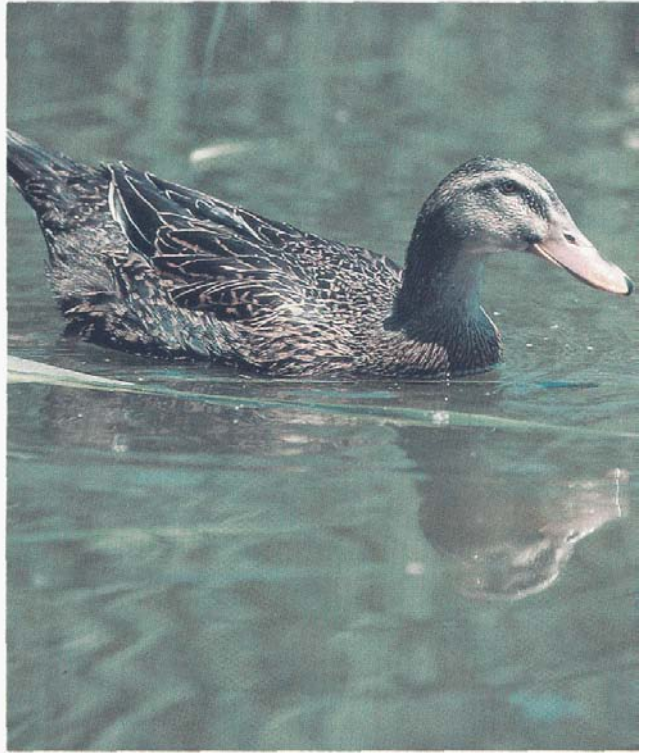


drainages created by rains and spring snowmelt. The moisture laden ravines crowded with aspens and ponderosa pines, produce multiple edges along the slope, and attract mule deer, badgers and yellow-bellied marmots. Watch for golden eagles, black-billed magpies and the western meadowlark, Wyoming's state bird, among the sagebrush. The meadowlarks clear, flute-like call can be heard for long distances, while the distinctive black "V" on its yellow breast makes it easy to recognize. The least chipmunk, Wyoming's smallest chipmunk, and the 13-lined ground squirrel may also be seen scampering through the rocks and grasses in summer.

## Viewing Area F

### Bessemer Bend

The North Platte River has long been an inseparable part of the lives of both man and animal along its valley. Cutting through arid sagebrush plains, the river provided water to herds of bison, pronghorn antelope, elk and mule deer. For centuries it has been a major stopover for millions of waterfowl migrating in North America's Central Flyway. Furt rappers and Shoshone Indians trapped beaver, river otter and mink along its banks

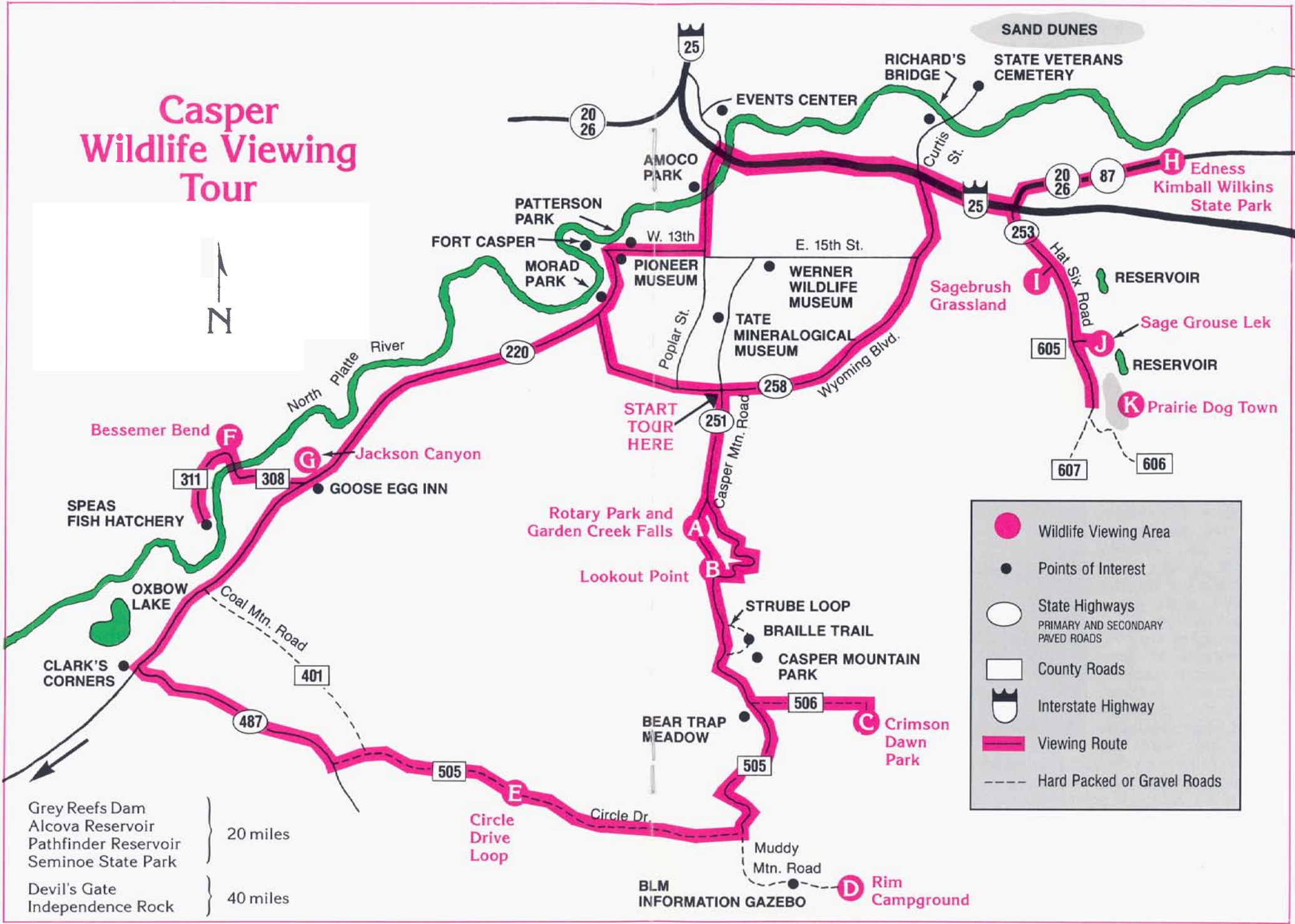


while emigrants on the Oregon and Mormon trails followed the natural corridor from Nebraska into Wyoming. The North Platte today supplies water for people and offers some of the finest "blue ribbon" fishing and recreational opportunities in North America.

Bessemer Bend, a popular ford and rest site during the western migration, is located on the Platte River floodplain. Before the construction of dams upstream in the 1800s, the river would swell with rains and meltwater in the spring to flood the level lands beyond its banks. Nutrient-laden materials carried in the floods were deposited along the plains and by the early 1880s, homesteaders were attempting to farm the rich soils in the valley, although sporadic floods and rains often made it difficult.

Woody trees and shrubs create vital shade and cover for fish such as rainbow and brown trout and cool watering holes for pronghorn antelope and white-tailed deer. The long tap roots of the cottonwood, help stabilize the river bank and reduce erosion. The roots access ground water even during periods of drought,

# Casper Wildlife Viewing Tour



- Wildlife Viewing Area
- Points of Interest
- State Highways  
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY PAVED ROADS
- County Roads
- Interstate Highway
- Viewing Route
- Hard Packed or Gravel Roads

Grey Reefs Dam  
 Alcova Reservoir  
 Pathfinder Reservoir  
 Seminole State Park  
 } 20 miles  
 Devil's Gate  
 Independence Rock  
 } 40 miles



assuring green grass for deer and antelope throughout the summer. Willows, too, attract wildlife to the Platte. The dense foliage of these tall shrubs provide excellent cover for songbirds such as warblers and northern oriole, while leaf-eating insects supply food for birds like the bank swallow and cliff swallow.

Early morning and evening are the best times to watch the activities of the birds and catch a glimpse of a white-tailed deer or raccoon along the river's banks.

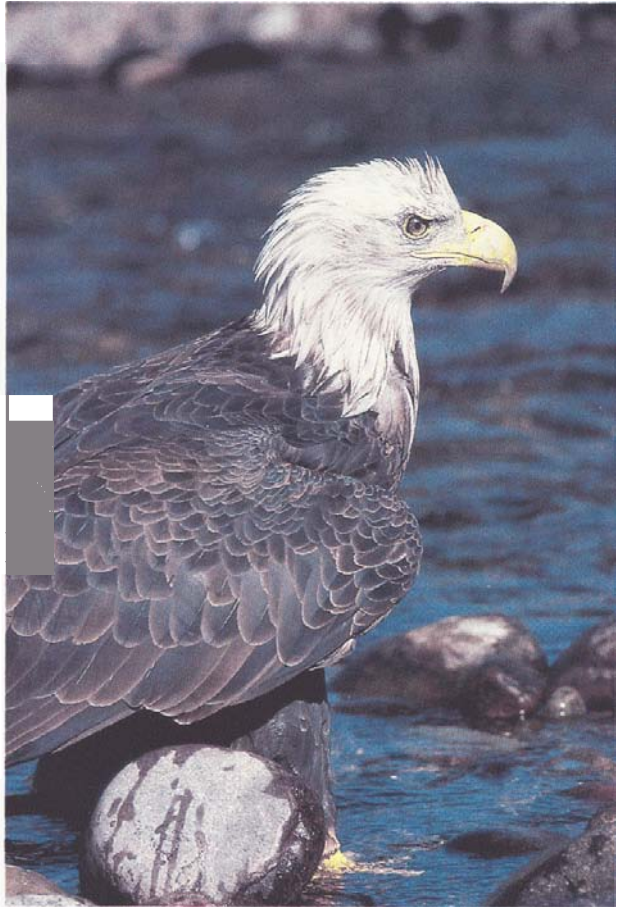
From the Bend take Road 311 to Speas Fish Hatchery. The hatchery is managed by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. Visitors can observe the hatchery facilities. Tours for groups must be scheduled in advance (phone 307-473-8890).

## Viewing Area G

# Jackson Canyon

William H. Jackson was a photographer for the Hayden/US Geological Survey expedition along the North Platte River valley in 1870. The cleft in the mountain directly across the highway was discovered by Jackson when the party was camped near here on the river. Once the campsite of prehistoric indians, the canyon has long been an important year-round golden eagle roost and is one of only four large bald eagle winter roosts in Wyoming.

Golden eagles are common residents of sagebrush-grassland habitats. The golden eagle, is closely related to the bald eagle. The bald eagle specializes in living near water and feeding on fish, the golden eagle specializes in living in open, treeless areas and feeding on jackrabbits, prairie dogs, ground squirrels, mule deer and pronghorn antelope. Although golden eagles typically nest in trees, when trees are present, here eagles more commonly nest on cliff ledges and small rock outcrops. Golden eagle nests are generally three feet across and up to several feet deep. Built primarily of sticks from sagebrush and nearby trees, the bowl, where the eggs are laid, is lined with feathers, grasses and sagebrush leaves. When the chicks are hatched, the adult eagles carry in sprigs from juniper trees to dry up any fecal material which might be on the edge of the nest. The adults bring food to the nest for the young. By the time the chicks are ready to fly, at





about 10 weeks of age, the nest bowl is level with the top of the nest. The whole process begins again the following year. This is how eagle nests attain their immense size.

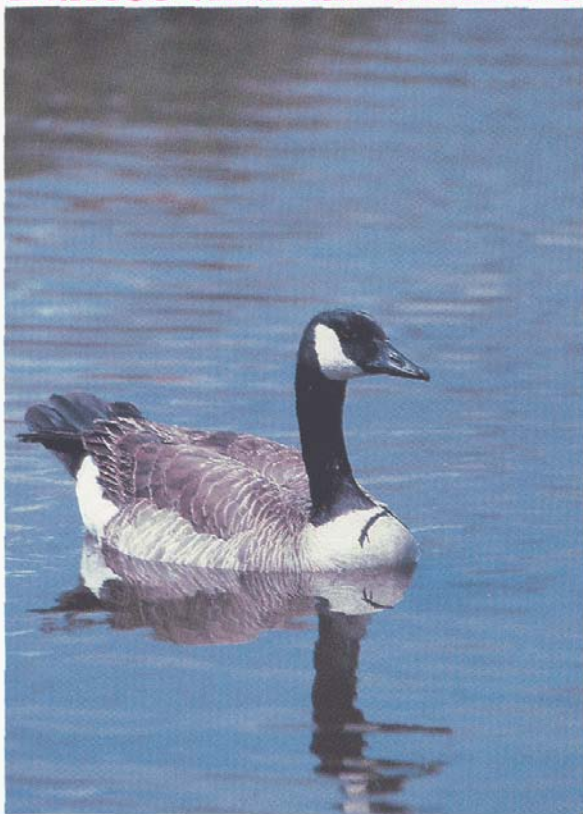
Golden eagles can range up to 100 square miles or more around their nest site. The home range size is largely dependent on the availability of food. Golden eagles often perch on telephone poles and fence posts in the morning and evening, scanning the prairie for prey.

Bald eagles are typically present in the Casper area during the winter. Jackson Canyon provides an excellent roost for the eagles. The rocky slopes and trees block the strong, cold winter winds. Wind chills in this area can get to 40 degrees below zero Fahrenheit. The roost is protected from disturbance by humans. The roost is very close to the North Platte River. During the winter, the eagles in this area feed primarily on fish from the river. Although, when fish numbers are low or the river freezes over, the eagles will feed on waterfowl, jackrabbits and carrion (dead animals).

The eagles typically come off the roost just before sunrise and perch on limbs overhanging the river and scan the water for shallow swimming fish. Upon spotting a fish an eagle will swoop down and pluck the fish out of the water with its talons, then fly back to shore or a tree to feed.

## Viewing Area H

### Edness Kimball Wilkins State Park



Edness Kimball Wilkins State Park is inhabited by many wildlife species. The riparian habitat (vegetation on both sides of the North Platte River) provides wildlife with nesting opportunities, shelter from adverse weather, cover from predators and a variety of foods. Mammals, birds, fish, reptiles and amphibians all benefit from the riparian community. Some of the more common wildlife observed in this stretch of river include the mule deer, white-tailed deer, songbirds, **cor**morants and Canada geese.

Mule deer, named for their large ears, have a brownish coat, white belly and black-tipped tail. Males (bucks) have branching "Y" antlers of calcium material that are shed in the winter and regrown during the spring and sum-

mer. Extremely sensitive hearing and smell give the deer an advantage over predators such as the mountain lion while their characteristic “bouncing” helps them negotiate the rocky terrain when running from danger.

The mule deer are inhabitants of the sagebrush-grasslands across Wyoming. Particularly attractive to the deer are the large expanses of sagebrush with interspersed wetlands (rivers, streams, ponds, etc.) where the deer can locate drinking water. The deer prefer the more rough and hilly terrain. The rougher topography helps block strong winds and gives the deer places to hide. Look for mule deer in the early morning or evening feeding on grasses and forbs in the drainage bottoms or along the riparian edges. In fall and winter the deer feed on woody plants.

White-tailed deer, a common species in the riparian habitat, can usually be observed feeding along the edges of the North Platte River in the morning and evening. Similar in **size** to the mule deer, the white-tailed deer can easily be distinguished from the mule deer by its characteristic white tail that stands erect while running. White-tailed deer males (bucks) antlers have one main beam with several smaller prongs protruding upwards. The white-tailed deer has more of a reddish colored hair compared to the mule deer.

We encourage you to take the “Wyoming’s Wildlife-Worth the Watching@” nature trail at the park. On this trail you can learn more about riparian habitat and see wildlife of the river up close.



## Viewing Area I

# Sagebrush Grassland



The silverygreen carpet of the sagebrush-grassland under the hot summer sun may appear to be devoid of activity, but a close examination reveals a great assemblage of wildlife. Pronghorn antelope, prairie rattlesnakes, ferruginous hawks, sage grouse and prairie dogs are among the inhabitants well-adapted to the arid conditions of the sagebrush community.

Some of the most expansive, uninterrupted land in North America is found in Wyoming. Over half of the state is covered in sagebrush—grassland, prime habitat for the wide-ranging pronghorn antelope and sage grouse. The plains before you are dominated by big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*), a species of evergreen shrub common to Wyoming that is the main diet of pronghorn, sage grouse and jackrabbits in winter. The leaves of the shrub terminate in three to four distinct lobes. Crush a leaf to discover why the pioneers gave it such a name. Sagebrush is especially well-adapted to the dry soils of Wyoming basins and valleys. Its silver-green leaves help to reflect the sun's rays and reduce water loss while the water-gathering capacity of the roots can extend 90 feet and exclude the establishment of other plants in that area.



One wildflower has cleverly taken advantage of the extensive root system of the sagebrush. The Indian paintbrush, Wyoming's state flower, is a tall plant spiked with red sepals (its actual flowers are tiny and colorless). Often found near sagebrush, it can "tap" into the shrub's roots to siphon the brush's food and water. Small white sego lilies, yellow sunflowers, plains lupine and lavender western spiderworts are also found here and supply seeds to hungry ground squirrels, prairie dogs and songbirds.



## Viewing Area J

# Sage Grouse Lek



Sage grouse are one of Wyoming's most spectacular ground nesting birds. Slightly larger than a chicken, the mottled gray and white sage grouse blends in well with its surroundings and except during the mating ceremony in the spring, may be difficult to see.

Sage grouse nest in the cover of sagebrush and dine year round on its buds and leaves. The succulent diet of insects and new green plants gives them the energy needed to participate in the courtship dance and laying of eggs in early spring. After hatching in May or June, the young require an abundance of insects, as insects are the only source of high amounts of protein and calcium required for rapid growth. Brisk Wyoming winds blow snow from the top of sagebrush and allow the grouse to feed continuously during winter when other birds are struggling to find food.

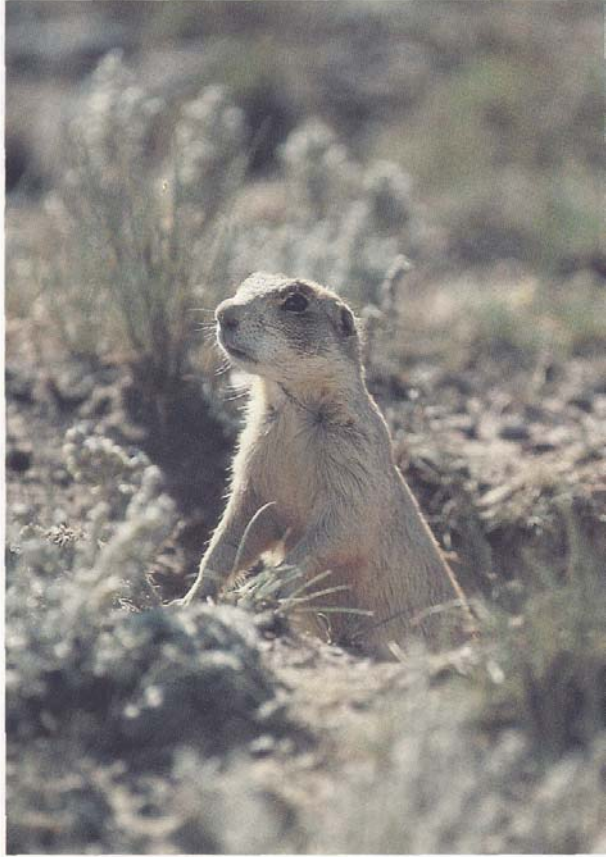
The sparsely vegetated flatland before you is an ancestral lek of the sage grouse—a strutting ground for courtship display from mid-March to mid-May. Male sage grouse arrive before dawn to establish territories and challenge other males to wing thrashing and feather pulling battles for the right to mate with the females. Most spectacular, however, is the courtship itself. Cooing and strutting with tail feathers fanned, the male sage grouse will attempt to impress the females by expanding and emptying air sacs on its white breast feathers. The strutting may last several hours until the females choose a mate. The dominant male will then breed with as many females as possible while the younger, less dominant males continue to display on the fringes of the lek.

Look for movement close to the ground and among the sagebrush plants to detect these birds. Sage grouse are most active at dawn and dusk, often resting during the hot sun of summer. Visible winter activity is restricted to midday, when the sun's warmth is greatest.

## Viewing Area K

# Prairie Dog Town

The prairie dog is not related to the dog family, but is a rodent. Prairie dogs got their name from early explorers who thought the “prairie dogs” warnings of an approaching predator sounded like a dog’s bark. Prairie dogs are highly social animals and live in dense colonies. Prairie dogs once inhabited over 600 million acres of North American prairie. Today, there are only about 100 million acres of prairie left. Most of the prairie was plowed and is used to produce cereal crops. Between 1920 and 1971, poisoning efforts occurred on over 98 percent of the prairie dogs range. Today, there are still efforts to exterminate prairie dogs on some lands. Prairie dog densities are highest on overgrazed lands. Poisoning efforts rarely kill all of the prairie dogs in a town and because the natural predators are killed or move-out following poisoning, the densities of prairie dogs usually expand to greater levels in years after poisoning.



Prairie dogs burrow under ground for up to 10 feet. The mound, which is the soil excavated from the tunnels, serves as a watch tower for potential predators. It also helps prevent water from running into the tunnels. The elaborate maze of tunnels provide the prairie dogs with chambers to sleep, hibernate, act as nurseries and escape from predators. Each burrow system usually has two or three holes to the outside. When a predator chases a prairie dog into one hole, the prairie dog can either escape through the elaborate maze of tunnels or out the other hole.

Prairie dogs are beneficial to other wildlife species of the grasslands. They pull nutrient rich soils to the surface from deep beneath, provide shelter and cover from the abandoned burrows, and food to prairie predators such as the badger, coyote, and golden eagle.

Prairie dogs typically have four to six young in early May, but they do not appear above ground until about mid-June. Prairie dogs eat parts of nearly all plants which grow in and around their towns. The main source of water for prairie dogs is the moisture in green plants and roots of perennial grasses.

Badgers, short-tailed weasels, Wyoming ground squirrels, burrowing owls, golden eagles, ferruginous hawks, horned larks and prairie rattlesnakes are all inhabitants of the prairie dog town complex. Golden eagles and ferruginous hawks will often perch on a nearby hill or telephone pole scanning the prairie dog town for a potential meal. The badgers, a nocturnal (nighttime) hunter will try and dig out prairie dogs. This is one reason prairie dogs “plug” their burrows before going to sleep at night. A plug is a pile of dirt the prairie dog brings up from a tunnel to block the burrow entrance from the inside. This will usually stop any intruders from entering the tunnels. Wyoming ground squirrels and rattlesnakes will use abandoned burrows for dens. If you walk through any prairie dog town, be careful, rattlesnakes will often be in the mouths of the burrows or in vegetation around the burrows.



## **SUPPLEMENTARY FIELD GUIDES AND SUGGESTED READING**

### **Mammals of Wyoming**

Tim W. Clark and Mark R. Stromberg  
University of Kansas, Museum of Natural History, 1987

### **Amphibians and Reptiles of Wyoming**

George T. Baxter and Michael D. Stone  
Wyoming Game and Fish Dept., 1985

### **Furbearers of Wyoming**

Wyoming Game and Fish Department, 1986

### **National Geographic Society**

#### **Field Guide to the Birds of North America**

2nd ed., National Geographic Society, Washington, D.C., 1987

#### **The Field Guide to Wildlife Habitats of the Western United States**

Janine M. Benyus  
Simon and Schuster, Inc., NY, 1989

#### **The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Wildflowers—Western Region**

Alfred A. Knopf, NY, 1988

#### **Audubon Society Nature Guides of: Western Forests Grasslands Wetlands**

Alfred A. Knopf, NY, 1987

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### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This wildlife viewing guide is the end product of a lot of time and effort by numerous individuals and organizations. We would especially like to thank Elaine Heim, Dick Keeney, Judith A. Hosafros, LuRay Parker, Dick Smith, Dave Lockman, Larry Pate, Terry Cleveland, Tom Varcalli, Sharon Ritter, Rich Guenzel, Bill Wichers, and Dorothy Perkins, as well as the Wyoming Game and Fish Department-Casper District Personnel, Casper Chapter of National Audubon Society, Bureau of Land Management, Natrona County Parks and Recreation, Casper Chamber of Commerce, Wyoming Highway Department and the Wyoming Recreation Commission.

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This project was funded by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department as part of the WYOMING S WILD-LIFE-Worth The Watching program. Monies for this program or grant from the Wildlife Trust Account which includes proceeds from the sale of conservation stamps, publications and products and gifts and donations.

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**WYOMING'S WILDLIFE**  
*Worth the Watching*