



RED WING BLACKBIRD

AGELAIUS PHOENICEUS

HABITAT - One of the most abundant native birds in North America. They prefer marshy habitat and are often associated with cattails. Loss of wetland habitat is a concern for them. They eat insects and seeds, often feeding at the base of aquatic plants using their slender bill to pry open the plants to find insects inside.

IDENTIFICATION - Males have glossy black feathers with a red and yellow shoulder patch. Females are brown and streaked with white. They have an easily recognizable "oka-ree" call.

FUN FACTS - They are bold birds that will often attack larger birds, including hawks, to defend their territory. The males are easily spotted in the spring singing to attract females.



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