

**MISSOURI-MADISON RIVER FUND
RECREATION PROJECT
APPLICATION FORM FY2019**

Project Name: **West Bank Park Wildlife Viewing Station**

Reservoir or River Segment: **Great Falls Area; Black Eagle Reservoir** County: **Cascade**

Site Name **River's Edge Trail**

Applicant Name and Agency- **Steffen Janikula- Great Falls Park & Recreation Department**

Position (if applicable) **_Trails Coordinator**

Address **P.O. Box 5021, Great Falls, MT 59403**

Phone # **(406)771-1265** E-mail: **sjanikula@greatfallsmt.net**

Project Sponsor:

A Project Sponsor is required in order to submit an application to the River Fund. Project sponsors serve as active members of Missouri-Madison Regional Working Groups, and include representatives of the U.S. Forest Service; Bureau of Land Management; Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks; local government; Madison, Gallatin, Broadwater, Chouteau, Lewis and Clark, or Cascade Counties; NorthWestern Energy and the Bureau of Reclamation. Visit www.missourimadison.com for a list of current Regional Working Group members.

Project Sponsor Name: **Patty Rearden**

Agency and Position: **City of Great Falls Park & Recreation, Deputy Director**

Address **___ P.O. Box 5021_Great Falls, MT 59403**

Telephone # **(406)771-1265** E-mail: **prearden@greatfallsmt.net**

Complete the financial section below by providing total project cost, contributions by applicant and cooperators, request for NorthWestern Energy match of agency funds (see detail on page 2 of this application), and River Fund Grant request. Document in-kind contributions by public agencies for determination of NorthWestern Energy match request. A description of funding sources and in-kind contributions should be included in the Project Description.

	<u>Financial Support</u>
Total Project Cost:	\$14,569
Applicant Contributions:	\$ 2,200
Other Contributions - Please list by source:	
River's Edge Trail Foundation	\$ 1,000
Upper Missouri Breaks Audubon Society (pending)	\$ 225
NorthWestern Energy Match Request:	<u>\$ 2,200</u>
River Fund Grant Request:	<u>\$ 8,944</u>
Proposed Project Implementation Period:	Fall- 2019

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1. Has this project been previously submitted for funding consideration by the River Fund Board, either as a separate project or part of another project? ___ Yes X No

If yes, please identify which years the application was submitted and, if the project was previously funded, list the amount funded by year.

2. Is the proposed project at one of the Project 2188 license sites identified in the Missouri-Madison MOU and listed on page A2-2 of the Comprehensive Recreation Plan? Yes X No

3. **Project Description:**

This project will construct an ADA accessible wildlife viewing station in Great Falls along the River's Edge Trail in West Bank Park, primarily for birding though beavers, deer and other scenery abounds. Year-round access will allow patrons an amenity to engage with wildlife and scenery in West Bank Park through two Seacoast Mark II 10 X 40 power binoculars.

Project will include:

- Repurposing the 10' x 14' foundation of an abandoned irrigation pump house.
- Concrete ADA ramp from existing trail to the viewing platform.
- ADA railing up ramp and around the platform.
- Two ADA Binocular viewers and base.
- 1" X 6" composite decking over concrete foundation. This is required to cover some steel that was left from the irrigation lines and manhole cover that could not be removed.
- Interpretive signage of bird species in the area.

In the last few years, West Bank Park has undergone a wonderful transformation. New restrooms, irrigation and landscaping, concrete trail, parking lot, playground and pavilion have taken it from an under-utilized park property to one of our premier park destinations. All amenities are ADA accessible. The restroom, some concrete trail segments and non-motorized boat dock were previous River Fund projects. Other upgrades were TIF, TA, CTEP and Kaboom (playground) grant projects as well as Park and Recreation, business, and citizen contributions.

This project will complement the ongoing efforts to improve a real gem in our park system.

Funding sources are available when needed and are as follows:

- City of Great Falls Park & Rec. Dept. - \$2,200 In-Kind labor and materials to construct the composite decking on the platform and project management.
- \$1,000 cash donation from the River's Edge Trail Foundation.
- \$200 from the Upper Missouri Breaks Audubon Society for interpretive signage, pending approval at the next Chapter meeting. Park and Rec. will absorb the \$200 if the Audubon Society cannot contribute.

Although not added into the project costs, local resident Mark O'Loughlin donated \$1,000 towards an exposed aggregate memorial park bench to be installed next to the viewing station for seating.

4. **Cultural Resource Management:**

Park & Rec. is currently working with Jim Shive of Legacy Consulting to complete CRM requirements prior to project commencing.

Scoring Criteria

5.1 Project is for operation and maintenance of an existing recreation site or an existing Project 2188 license site.

Currently, Park and Recreation Trails Division has a modest budget primarily used for day to day maintenance activities such as landscaping; weed spraying, trail maintenance, signage, and equipment upkeep. Routine maintenance is currently conducted by Park and Recreation Trails Division on proposed site. The proposed upgrade to the recreation site would not be possible without funding sources outside of our maintenance budget. Long term maintenance on the proposed amenity will be minimal, such as painting and tightening loose boards. Duties will be carried out annually by the Trails Division.

Currently there are similar binoculars in Warden Park and have proved to be very durable. The binoculars have seen no vandalism or breakage since they were installed in 2011.

5.2 Project involves collaboration with other agencies or organizations.

Along with Park and Recreation, all River's Edge Trail development is supported and carried out through strong partnerships with the 501(C) River's Edge Trail Foundation, MDT, City of Great Falls Planning and Community Development, City of Great Falls Engineering, Park and Recreation, Montana State Parks, Great Falls Bicycle Club, donors, and volunteers; all collaborating to provide the best trail system in the region. This project will partner Great Falls Park & Recreation, River's Edge Trail Foundation and the Audubon Society.

Strong partnerships are the backbone for the success of the River's Edge Trail, providing a "World Class" multi-use trail system in Great Falls.

The Audubon Society will provide information for the interpretive sign and cost, if approved.

Monthly Trails Working Group meetings provide a forum for River's Edge Trail partners and agencies to discuss trail issues and development.

5.3 Project provides a benefit to public recreation in the Project Area and addresses specific issues and goals of the Missouri-Madison Comprehensive Recreation Plan (CRP). Identify how the project provides a benefit to public recreation. Describe how specific issues and goals in Chapter 2-1 of the CRP would be supported.

The Wildlife Viewing Station will provide a year-round opportunity for park patrons to experience and view birds, river vistas, and land animals through high quality binoculars, thus, positively increasing the quality of user experiences at the park and ability to engage with nature.

As outlined in the CRP, this project will address the conditions and trends of:

- Protection of the natural resource – water quality, fisheries, wildlife, habitats, and cultural resources, in addition to recreation – is paramount in the continued support of a recreation system.
- Interaction of recreationists with the natural environment has implications related to public safety and responsible outdoor behavior, as well as universal accessibility, human health factors, and resource protection concerns.

The wildlife viewing station will support the CRP Vision and Goals to:

VISION STATEMENT: To maintain a wide spectrum of quality year-round recreational opportunities in the Project Area ranging from urban and motorized to primitive and non-motorized, consistent with established plans and policies and with protection of existing natural resources.

Goal:

To provide safe and well-managed recreation sites and dispersed use areas that provide enjoyable user experiences across a spectrum of opportunities and seasons.

This project directly correlates with the CRP **User Demands/Desires for Various Uses and Experiences of:**

- More developed interpretative and educational opportunities.
- More wildlife viewing opportunities.
- Universal accessibility.

Universal Access and Related Opportunities

Accessibility to recreation opportunities by all individuals including those with disabilities has received attention at the national level as well as locally in the Project Area. Physically challenged Americans desire opportunities to recreate and to experience the resources and amenities of the Project Area.

Goal:

Continue to improve and expand recreation opportunities that offer universal accessibility.

The Park and Rec. Dept. have universal access as a priority on all new construction as well as upgrading past projects to be fully ADA compliant.

The proposed viewing station should not promote any user conflict in the area. No noise, trespass, or demand/competition for recreational opportunity is anticipated.

5.4 Project responds to a clearly identified need.

Through conversations within the Park and Recreation Department, the River’s Edge Trail Foundation and local Audubon Society, this project was regarded as a merited project to seek funding for construction. If River Fund Grant is not awarded, Park & Rec. will seek out other avenues for partnerships and funding.

The 2016 Park and Recreation Master Plan also supports this type of project:

1.5.1 -Strong support exists for attracting recreation tourism dollars to Great Falls and constructing facilities that would attract tourism.

1.6: Action Plan-

Community Value 1: Community Mandates

Renovate and upgrade open spaces, parks, trails and recreational facilities to promote community interaction, healthy lifestyles and safety.

Community Value 5: Community Outreach and Partnerships/Sponsorships

Maximize resources through mutually acceptable partnerships that leverage parks, trails, and recreational facility development and program and service opportunities.

4.3.11 AGREEMENT WITH BENEFITS PROVIDED BY THE PARKS AND RECREATION SYSTEM

Agreement with Benefits: Based on the sum of households who either “strongly agrees” or “agree”, 87% agree that the parks and recreation system makes Great Falls a more desirable place to live. Other similar levels of agreement include: Provides aesthetically pleasing landscaping (76%), improves physical health & fitness (72%), and preserves open space & protects the environment (72%). This based on a statistically valid survey of over 3,000 residents in Great Falls. ETC Institute.

Adult participants were reported to have engaged in 7 billion outdoor outings in 2015, which equates to 74.9 average outings per participant. The charts below describe the most popular (rate) and favorite (frequency) outdoor activities for adults over the age of-24. (Nationwide)

Activity.	Outings per Participant	Total Adult Outings
Running, Jogging, Trail Running	87.1	2.8 billion
Bicycling (Road, Mountain, BMX)	54.2	1.4 billion
Fishing (Fresh, Salt, Fly)	20.1 6	21.5 million
Bird watching	40.6 4	22.3 million
Wildlife Viewing	26.4 4	13.4 million

According to the Visitor Study by Northwester Energy, the River’s Edge Trail continues to be one of the most visited recreation sites in the corridor.

5.5 Project design options have been considered, estimated, and a preferred design selected.

Materials were chosen to be the most durable and low maintenance. Competitive bidding is a requirement for City projects contracted out and will be implemented on the concrete, railing and decking material. No design changes or overages are anticipated. The straight-forward project was designed and will be carried out by the Park & Rec. Dept. Estimates are attached at the end of the application.

5.6 Project supports or protects other resources and is consistent with or supports resource plans in the Project Area.

The overarching goal of the CRP is to continue the strong collaborative public-private partnerships to help address public recreation needs in the Project Area over the term of the License. This project is another example of strong partnerships and fulfilling recreational needs within the corridor. The Viewing Station will be a unique feature in the corridor.

The West Bank Park Master Plan 2011 identifies the opportunity for wildlife and river viewing and adding trail features where practical (6.0-Phasing). The removal of the

abandoned irrigation pump house was included in the plan and carried out by the Trails Division in 2016.

West Bank Master Plan-

5.1.1 North - Passive Recreation

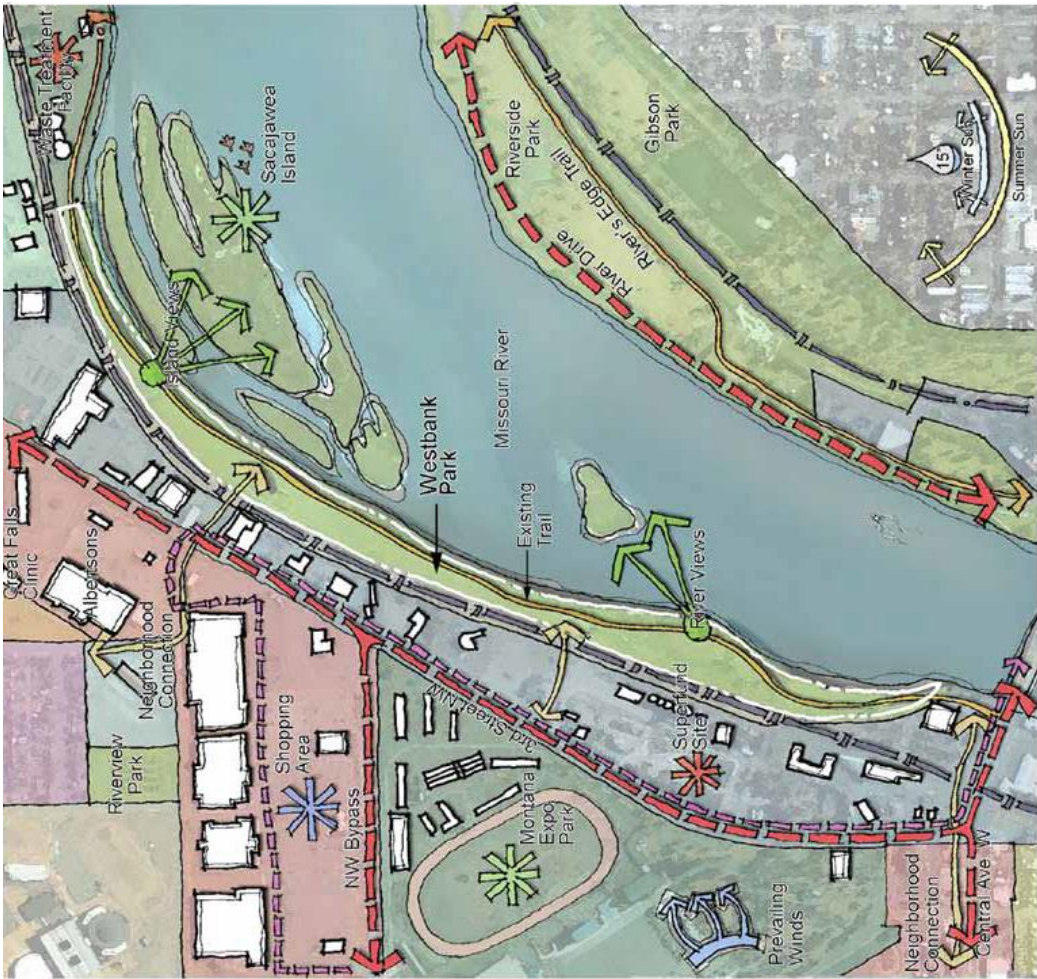
The northern section of the park is unique in Great Falls, particularly for Sacajawea Island, a nesting ground for a number of bird species. This nesting ground provides opportunities for park visitors to experience wildlife and nature in the middle of the City. Every effort has been made in this Master Plan to maintain the overall character of the northern section of the park.

This project will preserve a wonderful viewshed in West Bank Park, allowing future generations to engage with nature along the River's Edge Trail.

- 6. See attached map, photos, and cost estimates.
- 7.

Viewer site in West Bank Park







Shown in
Instrument Tan

Height: 58" (147.320 cm)

Weight: 55 Lbs. (24.947 kg)

Castings: 356 Alum. Alloy

Column: 2 1/2" Diameter

Standard Base: 9 inch diameter (25.400 cm diameter)

Binocular Width: 12 Inches (30.480 cm)

Binocular Length: 18 Inches (45.720 cm)

Housing Movement: 360° Rotation, 50° Up and 45° Down

Power: 10X40

Field of View: 366' at 1,000 Yards (111.862 meters at 914.400 meters)

Mark II
Dual ADA compliant base

SeeCoast Manufacturing Co., Inc.
744 Middle St.
Fairhope, AL 36532

SeeCoast

Manufacturing Company, Inc.
 744 Middle St., Fairhope, Alabama 36532
 Phone: (251) 928-8882 or (800) 343-8882
 Fax: (251) 928-8909
www.seecoast.com

QUOTE #18-166

Date: 7/10/2018

Sold To: City of Great Falls Parks & Recreation Dept.
 1700 River Drive N
 Great Falls, MT
 59401

Ship To: City of Great Falls Parks & Recreation Dept.
 1700 River Drive N
 Great Falls, MT
 59401

Phone: 406-791-8984
 Attn: Steffen Janikula
 Email: sjanikula@greatfallsmt.net

Phone: 406-791-8984
 Attn: Steffen Janikula
 Email: sjanikula@greatfallsmt.net

Ship Date:		Payment Terms:		Ship Via:	
TBA		Payment Prior to Shipping		N/A	
QTY	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	AMOUNT		
2	7100 Mark II Non Coin Operated Binocular Viewer Head	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 4,800.00		
1	7700-B Dual Base for Mark II Binoculars	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00		
	Standard Color Choices: Instrument Tan, Hammer Grey, Nitro Blue				
	Subtotal:		\$ 5,050.00		
	Shipping & Handling:		\$ 429.00		
	Total:		\$ 5,479.00		
<p>Payment Terms: We accept all major credit cards, checks and wire transfers (\$50.00 fee for wire transfers). 50% Deposit required to begin order, balance due before shipping. Net 30 available for State & Federal Agencies</p> <p>Quote expires: August 10, 2018 Production Lead Time: 5-7 weeks from receipt of order & payment</p> <p>Please call if you have any questions. Thank you! Sarah Jones, Sales & Marketing</p>					



ADA Railing and Sidewalk

Anderson Steel Supply, Inc 3811 River Drive North Great Falls, MT 59405 Phone: (406) 761-4354 Fax: (406) 761-6441		Customer Quote		Page 1 of 1 7/18/2018 2:07:41 PM Quote #: 000046 Salesman: Joseph Steed	
Customer Name: City of Great Falls Customer Contact: Stefan Janikula Job Description: Pond View Platform Railing Payment Terms: Net 30 days		Customer Code: City of Great Falls Phone: 406-771-1265 Shipping Method: Delivery - ASSI			
Ship To: Box 5021 1700 River Dr. N Great Falls, MT 59405		Bill To: Box 5021 1700 River Dr. N Great Falls, MT 59405			

Material

Qty	Dimensions	Length	Grade	Weight	Total
1	MI 3ft tall 2 rail ADA ramp railing Painted	24'-0	NONE	0#	\$1,200.00
1	MI 3ft tall 2 rail railing w/4" kicker gaurd Painted	43'-0	NONE	0#	\$2,150.00
				2	0# \$3,350.00

Charges

Type	Quantity	Total
Labor	1	\$1,340.00
Field Install		
Miscellaneous	1	\$150.00
Delivery		
		\$1,490.00

Sub-Total: \$4,840.00
Tax: \$0.00
Total: \$4,840.00

MRTE, Inc.
 P.O. Box 538
 Black Eagle, MT 59414
 Phone (406)761-5640

Quote

Date	Quote #
8/23/2018	37

Name / Address
City of Great Falls, MT ATTN Steffen Janikula P.O. Box 5021 Great Falls, MT 59403

Description	Qty	Total	Rep	Project
150 sf of monolithic sidewalk at Westbank Park. Bid includes all labor, equipment, materials and mobilization	150	1,575.00		
Total		\$1,575.00		

Phone #	Fax #
406-761-5640	406-453-5852

Amazing birds and habitat cannot be protected and preserved if no one knows about them. It is unexpected in the center of a city the size of Great Falls. Yet, 183 species of birds have been documented in the West Bank Park area. As reference — at least 420 species have been documented in the state of Montana.

West Bank Park is an underappreciated area for bird observation. This section of park borders the Missouri River but also has a large island (Sacajawea Island) covered in willows and cottonwoods with ever changing nooks and crannies that provide nesting, hiding and feeding areas for birds (and other wildlife). The river level fluctuates during the year exposing sand bars in the shallower areas that can attract large numbers of gulls, ducks, geese, sandpipers and uncommon birds, especially during migration. From the proposed scope site here have been times when one could see more than 100 Western Grebes or 1000 Canada Geese or 500 Ruddy Ducks or hundreds of Tree Swallows flitting over the river like so many mayflies during a hatch.

During April, May and September an evening walk has been offered that starts at the proposed site because it gives such a good overview of nearly a mile of river - from the Central Ave bridge to the 9th Street bridge including some of the east side of Sacajawea Island. A spotting scope is the only way some of the birds can be seen and identified. It might be a Great Horned Owl stalking or a family of Wood Ducks sneaking around under the overhanging trees along the island edge.

Many people walk the trail, especially early in the morning and evenings. An increase in visitors is expected with further development of the 3rd St NW corridor. Few realize how rich and important this section of river is to local resident birds and to the large number of migrant birds that use this area. A spotting scope would encourage them to look around and see things hidden from the naked eye.

Upper Missouri Breaks Audubon feels that it is important for people to realize the value of the West Bank Park area (all of the River's Edge Trail) habitat so it can be preserved appropriately. One way is the seasonal bird posters on the kiosks of the River's Edge Trail; another is offering a weekly bird walk at West Bank Park. A permanently mounted spotting scope would allow anyone to observe at anytime.

Beth Hill 21 August 2013

Beth Hill

Upper Missouri Breaks Audubon

Audobon Society bird sightings at West Bank Park

Snow Goose	Black-bellied Plover	Bald Eagle	American Coot
Ross's Goose	Semipalmated Plover	Swainson's Hawk	Black-necked Stilt
Greater White-fronted Goose	Killdeer	Red-tailed Hawk	American Avocet
Cackling Goose	Marbled Godwit	Rough-legged Hawk	Sharp-shinned Hawk
Canada Goose	Stilt Sandpiper	Great Horned Owl	Cooper's Hawk
Trumpeter Swan	Dunlin	Belted Kingfisher	Northern Goshawk
Tundra Swan	Baird's Sandpiper	Downy Woodpecker	Chipping Sparrow
Wood Duck	Least Sandpiper	Northern Flicker	Clay-colored Sparrow
Blue-winged Teal	Pectoral Sandpiper	American Kestrel	American Tree Sparrow
Cinnamon Teal	Semipalmated Sandpiper	Merlin	Fox Sparrow
Northern Shoveler	Western Sandpiper	Peregrine Falcon	Dark-eyed Junco
Gadwall	Short-billed Dowitcher	Prairie Falcon	White-crowned Sparrow
Eurasian Wigeon	Long-billed Dowitcher	Western Wood-Pewee	White-throated Sparrow
American Wigeon	Wilson's Snipe	Willow Flycatcher	Savannah Sparrow
Mallard	Wilson's Phalarope	Least Flycatcher	Song Sparrow
Northern Pintail	Red-necked Phalarope	Western Kingbird	Lincoln's Sparrow
Green-winged Teal	Spotted Sandpiper	Eastern Kingbird	Swamp Sparrow
Canvasback	Solitary Sandpiper	Northern Shrike	Spotted Towhee
Redhead	Greater Yellowlegs	Warbling Vireo	Yellow-headed Blackbird
Ring-necked Duck	Willet	Black-billed Magpie	Western Meadowlark
Greater Scaup	Lesser Yellowlegs	American Crow	Bullock's Oriole
Lesser Scaup	Sabine's Gull	Common Raven	Red-winged Blackbird
		Northern Rough-winged Swallow	Brown-headed Cowbird
Surf Scoter	Bonaparte's Gull	Tree Swallow	Rusty Blackbird
White-winged Scoter	Franklin's Gull	Violet-green Swallow	Brewer's Blackbird
Black Scoter	Mew Gull	Bank Swallow	Common Grackle
Long-tailed Duck	Ring-billed Gull	Barn Swallow	Northern Waterthrush
Bufflehead	California Gull	Cliff Swallow	Orange-crowned Warbler
Common Goldeneye	Herring Gull	Black-capped Chickadee	MacGillivray's Warbler
Barrow's Goldeneye	Iceland Gull	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Common Yellowthroat
Hooded Merganser	Lesser Black-backed Gull	House Wren	American Redstart
Common Merganser	Glaucous Gull	Marsh Wren	Yellow Warbler
Red-breasted Merganser	Caspian Tern	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Blackpoll Warbler
Ruddy Duck	Black Tern		Black-throated Blue Warbler
		Mountain Bluebird	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Northern Bobwhite	Common Tern	Townsend's Solitaire	Wilson's Warbler
Ring-necked Pheasant	Forster's Tern	Varied Thrush	Western Tanager
Sharp-tailed Grouse	Pacific Loon	Swainson's Thrush	Black-headed Grosbeak
Pied-billed Grebe	Common Loon	American Robin	House Sparrow
Horned Grebe	Yellow-billed Loon	Gray Catbird	
Red-necked Grebe	Double-crested Cormorant	European Starling	
Eared Grebe	American White Pelican	American Pipit	
Western Grebe	Great Blue Heron	Bohemian Waxwing	
Clark's Grebe	Cattle Egret	Cedar Waxwing	
Rock Pigeon	Green Heron		
	Black-crowned Night- Heron	House Finch	
Eurasian Collared-Dove	White-faced Ibis	Common Redpoll	
Mourning Dove	Turkey Vulture	Red Crossbill	
Common Nighthawk	Osprey	Pine Siskin	
White-throated Swift	Northern Harrier	American Goldfinch	
Sora			