



Other Popular Birding Sites (Part 2)

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Allred's Pond

Directions: Take UT 73 (Main Street) west of Lehi about 2 miles, and turning north on 10400 West just past the Jordan River crossing. The pond is on the right side of the road about 1/2 mile north.

Alpine Loop

Directions: The Alpine Loop can be accessed from either Provo Canyon (taking the road to Sundance) or American Fork Canyon.

From Provo Canyon: About 6 miles from the mouth of Provo Canyon, take the Sundance turnoff to the left. The road goes by Sundance Ski Resort, through Aspen Grove, over the summit (where a road to Cascade Springs

takes off to the east), then continues through American Fork Canyon to its mouth near the city of Highland.

From American Fork Canyon: Of course you go the opposite way as in the instruction above, but make sure to bear right about 6 miles up the canyon where the road to Tibble Fork takes off to the left. If you go in the morning, it might be best to come from the Provo Canyon side so the sun will be mostly at your back and if you start in the afternoon, coming from American Fork Canyon would be better for the same reason.

Anderson Park, Pleasant Grove

Directions: Go east on 200

South (Battle Creek Dr.) in Pleasant Grove. When you get to 950 East, turn left (north) and go about a block and a half to the park.

Specialty Birds:

Yellow-breasted Chat, Western Screech-owl, Kinglets, White-throated Sparrow (sometimes).

Bicentennial Park, (Provo)

Directions: From the intersection of 300 South and 700 East in Provo, go south (southeast) on State Street about 1 mile to 1440 South and turn left (east). There's a gas station on the corner right next to a Chinese restaurant "First Wok". Go a couple of block straight east into the parking lot.

Big Spring Hollow, (South Fork, Provo Canyon)

Directions: At the mouth of Provo Canyon, take US 189 going up the canyon about 5 miles to Vivian Park. Turn right across the bridge and railroad tracks, through Vivian Park and continue up South Fork Road about 3 1/2 miles and turn right at the National Forest access sign. (They should be putting up a sign pretty soon, for the new park at the mouth of Big Spring Hollow)

Birds: (spring and summer) Swainson's and Hermit Thrushes, Gray Catbird, Western Tanager, Mountain Bluebird, Lazuli Bunting

Botany Pond--BYU Campus

Directions: From University Avenue in Provo, turn east on 800 North Street. The Botany Pond and area of trees and grass is located between 200 East and 500 East. (The Botany Pond area is connected to trails the go through an area of thick bushes and trees along a canal that skirt the BYU campus and is a good area for birding).

Bridal Veil Falls

Directions: Take the 800 North, Orem exit of I-15 (exit #272) going east on UT 52. After about 4 miles bear left at the US 189 intersection going up Provo Canyon. After about 2 1/2 miles you can turn off at the Bridal Veil Falls/Nunn's Park parking lot to access the Provo River Trail or continue about a half mile to the Bridal Veil Falls overlook which is directly in front of the falls..

Description: The double falls on the east side of Provo Canyon is one of the few know places that Black Swifts can sometimes be found. The trail at the bottom of the falls along the Provo River provides a good riparian habitat for

birds, especially upstream towards Vivian Park.

Birding: The Black Swifts nest behind the water fall on the rock ledges, but when not on the nest, they are usually on the wing all day looking for food. The swifts can best be observed from the overlook immediately in front of the falls early in the morning or in the evening when they are return to the falls.

Specialty Birds: (falls: in the spring) Black Swift; (trail) American Dipper, Belted Kingfisher (tail: spring) Gray Catbird, Fox Sparrow, Hermit Thrush (tail: winter) Winter Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet

Chimney Rock Road

Directions: From Elberta, go north on UT 68. At mile marker 7 turn west on Chimney Rock Road (also known as the road to Allen's Ranch) and drive until you can see Chimney Rock. Bird the sagebrush slopes along the road.

Specialty Birds: Black-throated Sparrow, Sage Sparrow

East Bay

Directions: From the University Exit (Exit 266) of I-15 in south Provo, go east on 1860 South (the street just south of the tall Novell building). Go through two stoplights and turn right at 700 East (Industrial Parkway -- signed only on the north of the intersection) which has signs indicating access to Kuhni Road and 1910 South. This road turns immediately into 1920 South and skirts around the east side of the East Bay Golf Course along 950 East which becomes Kuhni Road and leads to another good birding area, Provo (Kuhni) Wetlands..

Description: The ponds, islands and mudflats between the golf course and the industrial park can

provide some nice birding. The parking lot areas make good observation places all along the ponds. At the end of the industrial park there is a road (2260 South) which ends in a to a cul-de-sac. This is a very good place to observe the denser vegetation along the water and the islands (the large one is know to birders as Night-Herons Island). The areas near the golf course club house and towards the Novell buildings have some stream and pond areas which are also good to check out.

Specialty Birds: Black-crowned Night-Heron, Peregrine Falcon, Great-tailed Grackle, waterfowl and shorebirds (summer) American White Pelican, [golfers that scare away the birds] (winter) American and rarely Eurasian Wigeon, Ring-necked Duck, Greater White-fronted Goose, Snow Goose, Ross's Goose, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs

Goshen Bay Road

(Extension of Center Street going north from Goshen)

Directions: Go north on Center Street in Goshen (this becomes Goshen Bay Road). In about a mile the paved road (14000 South) goes off to the left. The Goshen Bay Road continues to the north for about 1 1/2 miles.

Specialty Birds: Bobolink, Golden Eagle (nest in the large Cottonwood trees), Short-eared Owl, Long-billed Curlew

Green's Pond, [Secret Pond]

Directions: 1. Go north on Center Street in Goshen (this becomes Goshen Bay Road). In about a mile turn left on the paved road which is 14000 South. Go about 3/4 of a mile to the gate to Phil Green's farm. There's a small pond on the south side of the road and a larger one on the other side

of the fence. Phil Green is a nice fellow, please respect his property.

2. Go west of Goshen on US 6 a little less than 1/2 mile and turn right (north) on 11130 West. Go less than a mile to the "T" in the road and go left (west) to the gate as mentioned above.

Hobble Creek Parkway

Directions: Take the southernmost Springville Exit of I-15 (#260) (3900 South Utah County / 400 South Springville) and go to 1300 East (and 400 South) in Springville and turn right on Canyon Dr. Go about 2 miles (the road will be going south and then curve eastward) to the mouth of Hobble Creek Canyon and a catch-basin dam. Go one mile past the dam and turn right at the "Hobble Creek Parkway" road sign. The parking lot is several hundred feet down the road.

Birding: You can bird along the paved trail in either direction and find birds in the riparian habitat along Hobble Creek. There's a good dirt path that takes off in an upstream direction as you cross the bridge going south. Especially check the few juniper trees for kinglets, creepers and chickadees.

Specialty Birds: (Fall)
Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Brown Creeper, Downy Woodpecker, Black-capped Chickadee, Northern Flicker

Jones' Ranch, (Payson Canyon)

Directions: Take 600 East Street in Payson to the canyon road. Go about 10 miles up Payson Canyon about 1/4 mile past the second Payson Lakes turnoff (just before the turn off to the Payson Lakes Guard Station. The house and coral to the west is Jones' Ranch and the stream running through the riparian area is

on Jone's Ranch Flat.

Specialty Birds: Red-naped Sapsucker, Lincoln's Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, MacGuillivray's Warbler

LeBarron Point

On the east side of the south end of Utah Lake, west of West Mountain, LeBarron Point sticks out into the lake, N 40 02.972' W 111 52.319. The road to the point passes through a large group of trees that are a migrant trap in the spring and fall for migrating warblers and often have nesting raptors. A Great Horned Owl is commonly seen here. The road winds down to a point where it crosses a marsh where Marsh Wren, Savannah Sparrow, Common Yellowthroat, Sora and Virginia Rail are found. Access is from Lincoln Beach Road, turning west toward the lake at the edge of the Genola orchards where the road crosses a cattle guard. Near here, the west side of West Mountain often has Chukar on the rocky outcrops. A good road to drive up to find Chukar is 1.1 miles north of the LeBarron turn-off at N 40° 03.892' W 111° 51.337'. Drive to the top, then listen, Chukar are noisy. ~ *Robin Tuck*

Lincoln Beach

Directions: (These directions take you through a good birding route, see Lincoln Point direction below for the direct, easy route) Take Exit 260 (I-15) at Springville (southernmost of 2 exits), and go west on UT 77 (4000 South). After a little over 4 miles, you'll come to a T in the road -- turn right and cross the bridge over the Spanish Fork River. In less than 1/4 of a mile take the main road left (south) onto 3200 West. Go about 1 mile and turn right on 5200 South. Go about 1.5 miles to a T and turn left. Go about 0.5 miles to another T

and turn right (on 5400 S). In about 0.5 miles you'll come to 4800 West -- turn left and go to 6300 South and turn right. Go about 2 miles to where the road takes a right turn (in a grove of large trees) and goes north. Go about 1.9 miles to the entrance to Lincoln Beach.

Lincoln Point

Directions: (These are directions for the direct, easy route to Lincoln Point, see Lincoln Beach above for directions through an excellent birding route) Take Exit 260 (I-15) and go south on Spanish Fork Main Street to 400 North. Turn right and go west about 5 miles on what becomes 7300 South to 5600 West. Jog right to 7200 South and go left (west) four blocks where the road turns right and goes to 6400 South. Turn left on 6400 South and follow the road as it turn right and goes about 2 miles, just past Lincoln Beach, and curves left around Lincoln Point.

Manning Canyon

Directions: Go west from Fairfield on UT 73 about 1 1/2 miles. Turn right on the dirt road and go about a mile to the canyon.

Mount Timpanogos Trail

Directions: Go east from Exit 272 (I-15) in Orem on UT 52 (800 North) to the mouth of Provo Canyon. Follow the road left on US 189 and go up the canyon about 6 miles and turn north on UT 92 going toward the Sundance Resort. Go about 5 miles, just past Aspen Grove to the Mount Timpanogos Trailhead.

Oxbow, Provo River Parkway

Directions: Take Exit 265(B) (I-15) in Provo and go about 2 miles west towards Utah Lake

State Park. Just before you get to the fee station for the state park, turn right and go about a block and turn right on Boat Harbor Road. Go about a mile to a parking lot that's right next to the road. Take the trail going up stream for about 100 feet where the tails splits and goes around the oxbow.

Payson Lakes, Payson Canyon

Directions: Take 600 East Street in Payson to the canyon road. Go about 9 miles up Payson Canyon. There are two roads going to the lakes. The first road goes to two smaller lakes and the second road goes to the large one.

Specialty Birds: Red-naped Sapsucker, MacGuillivray's Warbler, Hairy Woodpecker, Hermit Thrush, Western Tanager

Payson Lakes Guard Station

Directions: Take 600 East Street in Payson to the canyon road. Go about 9 miles up Payson Canyon. There are two roads going to the lakes. The first road goes to two smaller lakes and the second road goes to the large one.

Specialty Birds: Red-naped Sapsucker, MacGuillivray's Warbler, Hairy Woodpecker, Hermit Thrush, Western Tanager

Powell Slough

Description: Powell Slough is a large marshy area near the Orem Water Treatment Plant, with a number of waterways winding through the reeds providing habitat for American Coots, Common Moorhen and other waterfowl. ~ Robin Tuck

Directions: Primary access is from the westmost end of University Parkway, off Geneva Road at 1000 South, Orem. Drive west through a new business park and park in the turn-around at the end of the road, N 40° 16.470' W°

111 44.343'. There is a gate (sometimes open for parking) providing foot access to the slough. Additional access is available week days, 6:00 am to 6:30 pm through the Orem Treatment Plant. Stop and inquire at the office. Please do not wear out our welcome. There is a large pond west of the treatment plant that is protected and may have Cormorants and other waterfowl. ~ Robin Tuck

Provo Airport Dike

Directions: To get to the Airport Dike, take the Provo Center Street west exit off I-15 (#265[B]). Continue west on Center Street towards the Provo Boat Harbor. The Airport road, 3110 West, runs south off Center street about one mile past the Geneva road intersection and is marked by a sign saying "Airport". Turn left here and go 0.9 miles to the beginning of the Provo Airport Dike, N 40 13.548' W 111 42.794'.

Birds: The birds commonly seen on this auto tour include several species of swallows, both Western and Eastern Kingbirds, Great Blue Herons, Black-crowned Night Herons, Snowy Egrets, Forster's and Caspian Terns, Marsh Wrens, Lazuli Buntings, Blue Grosbeaks, and several species of water fowl. (Sometimes, during spring and fall migrations, this area is one of the best places to find uncommon birds.) ~ Robin Tuck

Squaw Peak Trail

Directions: Go east from Exit 275 (I-15) in Orem on UT 52 (800 North) to the mouth of Provo Canyon. Follow the road left on US 189 and go up the canyon about 1.9 miles Turn right on the paved road. This road goes to the Squaw Peak overlook (overlooking Utah valley), to Hope campground,

at which point the pavement ends and a good graded road continues to Rock Canyon Campground. From here the road becomes rough as it continues to Hobble Creek Canyon.

Provo Bay [Mill Race]

Directions: Go west on Exit 261 (Springville exit). Where the road turns left to go on the frontage road, turn right and go past "The Forest of Camelot" to the dirt road along the east side of Provo Bay.

Provo City Cemetery

Descriptions & Directions: The Provo City Cemetery has a large number of old mature deciduous and coniferous trees which attracts a number of small birds. Daytime access is west of State Street (US Highway 89) at 800 South. Birding in the Cemetery is best in the winter.

Birds: (winter) Red Crossbill, Townsend's Solitaire, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Brown Creeper, Nuthatches, Chickadees, Waxwings

River Lane (Sandy Beach)

Directions: Take exit 260 (Springville) from I-15, and head west for about 4.5 miles to a "T" in the road. Turn right and go to the next road about a block away just before the road crosses the Spanish Fork River, and turn right onto River Lane.

Rock Canyon

2300 North in Provo goes a half mile past the Provo Temple to Rock Canyon Park. Park your vehicle and continue up the mouth of the canyon on foot. There are numerous paths winding around in the Gambel Oak providing the opportunity to see many species. About 500 feet up the main road on the right is an old cut with a

path at the end of it that continues around the hillside and out of the canyon. This path provides an excellent view of the canyon mouth and is a great place to see migrants in the spring. A trail continues up Rock Canyon for several miles connecting with the Squaw Peak Road that is of interest to hikers.

Silver Lake Flat Reservoir

Directions: From I-15 take exit 284 (Highland, Alpine) and go east about 7 miles to the mouth of American Fork Canyon. Proceed up the canyon about 6 miles, and turn left and go about 2 1/2 miles to Tibble Fork Reservoir. Take the road to the left going to Granite Flat and go about 3/4 of a mile and turn right on a small, steep, winding dirt road that leads to Silver Lake Flat a couple of miles away.

Hiking Trail: Going north from Silver Lake Flat, there is a pretty challenging trail, about 2 miles long, that leads to Silver Lake.

Birds: Some birds you might see on this trail are: McGrillivray's Warbler, Green-tailed Towhee and Fox Sparrow.

Skipper Bay Trail

Directions: Go west on Center Street in Provo until you cross the bridge across the Provo River (just before you enter Utah Lake State Park). Turn right immediately and go north about a block to the "T" where you turn left into a small parking lot. The trail goes north from the west end of this narrow parking lot.

Squaw Peak Trail

Directions: Go east from Exit 272 (I-15) in Orem on UT 52 (800 North) to the mouth of Provo Canyon. Follow the road left on US 189 and go up the canyon

about 1.9 miles Turn right on the paved road. This road goes to the Squaw Peak overlook (overlooking Utah valley), to Hope campground, at which point the pavement ends and a good graded road continues to Rock Canyon Campground. From here the road becomes rough as it continues to Hobble Creek Canyon.

Swede Lane

Directions: To get to Swede Lane take exit 260 from I-15 and head West. Stay on this road [US 77, 4000 W.] (it makes a few turns) until you pass a canal. There will be marshy habitat on your right. You will get to a point where the road makes a full turn to the South (left) [about 4 miles from I-15] instead of following the road to the South take the dirt road to the North [2750 W.]. If you look closely there is a faded street sign marking the road as Swede Lane. The dirt road extends to the North for one field then takes a Left. At the end of the next field the road makes a 'T' junction, stay right and just follow the road for great birding. (Instructions by Chad Jardine) [added information is in brackets]

Thistle Dam (the riparian area down stream)

Directions: Go about 8 miles up Spanish Fork Canyon on US 6 / 89. Go just past the Diamond Fork Canyon Road and turn right onto a dirt road the goes across the railroad tracks. Proceed up the road along the river until the road turns across a bridge to an old railroad grade. The birding is good along both sides of the river.

Specialty Birds: Yellow-breasted Chat, flycatchers, Lark Sparrows, Fox Sparrow, swallows and other riparian

Timpooneke Trail

Directions: From the mouth of American Fork Canyon, go 8.4 miles along the Alpine Loop road and turn right to the Timpooneke Campground. Go a short distance past the campground host trailer to a parking lot on the left and the Timpooneke Trailhead. The trail leads to the summit of Mt. Timpanogos about 9 miles away, but is a nice place to bird as far up as you'd like to go.

Vivian Park (Provo Canyon)

Directions: Take Exit 272 of I-15 in Orem and go east on 800 North (UT 52) about 3 miles to the mouth of Provo Canyon. Keep left and continue up the canyon on US 189. About 5 miles up the canyon turn right and cross the bridge to Vivian Park. (The Tail along the south side of the river, going downstream, has good riparian and marshy areas)

Specialty Birds: Gray Catbird, Swainson's Thrush, Fox Sparrow, American Dipper, Hermit Thrush, Belted Kingfisher

Warm Springs Wildlife Management Area

Directions: Go west from Exit 244 (I-15) in Sanatquin on US 6 about 4.4 miles. Turn left after the railroad tracks and go about 0.6 miles. Turn left over the railroad track and immediately go right to the parking lot.

“Part 1” is available in the Utah Birds Print Center
"Birds of Utah County"
booklet by Robin Tuck

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