

1992 BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKER REPORT
Crater Lake National Park

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The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife lists the black-backed woodpecker (Picoides arcticus) as a sensitive-critical species. This category is reserved for those species for which listing as threatened or endangered is pending; or those for which listing as threatened or endangered may be appropriate if immediate conservation actions are not taken.

In 1992 black-backed woodpeckers were observed in six different areas. Calling techniques were not used and no previous surveys were ever conducted. The following are the locations of the observations, as well as locations of possible habitat to survey in the spring.

SPHAGNUM BOG (T29S R5E SEC 33 SWSE)

July 08 - 1830 - Black-backed woodpecker seen off south side of trail .25 mile east of path leading directly to the bog, in semi-open lodgepole.

" (T29S R5E SEC 32 NENW)

July 15 - 1155 - Male black-backed observed off north side of trail pecking on log and other coarse woody debris, in mixed conifer: fir, hemlock, and few lodgepole.

BOUNDARY SPRINGS (T29S R5E SEC 9 NESW)

July 14 - 1015 - Black-backed woodpecker seen off west side of trail, in mixed conifer: lodgepole, hemlock, and fir.

CASTLE POINT (T31S R5E SEC 9 SWNW)

July 23 - 1930 - Three black-backed woodpeckers observed on both sides of trail in lodgepole stand.

CRATER PEAK (T31S R6E SEC 27 NESE)

August 15 - 1100 - Black-backed woodpecker seen off west side of trail pecking on a dead fir.

SOUTH ENTRANCE HGWY 62 (T32S R6E SEC 25 NWNE)

October 09 - 1200 - Black-backed woodpecker seen off east side of HGWY 62 just north of picnic area, pecking on a dead ponderosa pine.

Habitat Survey:

- (T31S R7 1/2E SEC 29 E) Just off the Pinnacles Road and early on Maklaks Crater trail lodgepole stand with evidence of black-backed woodpeckers.

- (T32S R6E SEC 25 E) Early on the Annie Creek trail in burned area black-backed evidence seen.

- (T31S R7 1/2E SEC 7 SW) Anderson Bluffs old fire road following creek south through lodgepole stand.

- (T31S R6E SEC 19) Black-backed evidence found in loop C of Mazama Campground.

Natural History Notes: The black-backed three-toed woodpecker makes holes in trees that are 1.5-2 inches wide, have a beveled bottom edge, and are usually only a few feet off the ground. Also, they often peel the bark off the tree around the hole. Eggs are laid mid-May to mid-June and they are vocally active and aggressive, responding well to taped black-backed drumming, during this time and just before.