



JEWEL CAVE NATIONAL MONUMENT 2014 RESOURCE BRIEF

LANDBIRD MONITORING

Overview: Jewel Cave National Monument is recognized as the third longest cave in the world. Above ground, the park's avifauna lives primarily in the ponderosa pine forest.

The Northern Great Plains Inventory and Monitoring Network assisted with development of a long-term bird monitoring protocol jointly with Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (RMBO). The 2014 breeding season was the second year of bird surveys for Jewel Cave National Monument.

RMBO technicians surveyed 63 points in June and July of 2014, and a total of 1,038 birds representing 57 species were recorded.

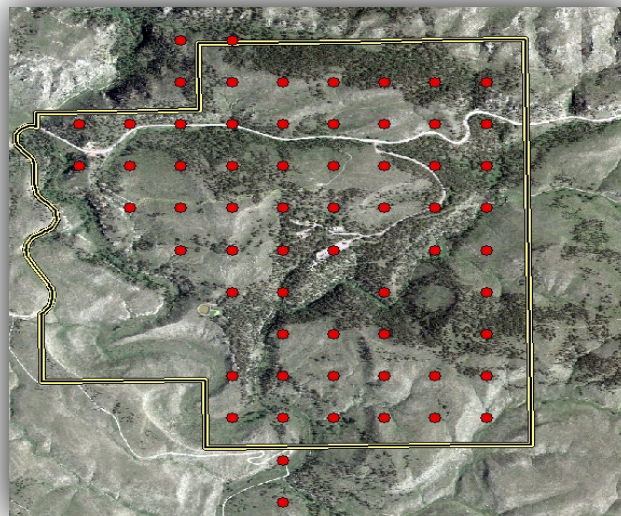
Highlights: The American Robin (12%) and House Wren (12%) were the most common detected species in the park

in 2014 (page 2). Other common species included the Western Wood-Pewee (10%), Chipping Sparrow (8%), Northern Flicker (6%), and Yellow-rumped Warbler (5%). In addition, the Loggerheaded Shrike and Red-naped Woodpecker were recorded as new species for the park.

Several species at Jewel Cave are listed as Species of Importance by Partners in Flight and the state of South Dakota (page 2). Most notable is the Lewis's Woodpecker. This woodpecker is of high conservation importance because of its sporadic distribution, its diet of adult-stage free-living insects, and its preference to nest in burned landscapes. According to the North American Breeding Bird Survey and the Christmas Bird Count, the Lewis's Woodpecker population may have declined by more than half between 1960 and 2005.



Above: The Lewis's Woodpecker was detected at Jewel Cave during the 2013 and 2014 field seasons, and is listed as a Species of Importance by Partners in Flight and the state of South Dakota.



Right: Point locations surveyed during the 2014 field season.



BIRD SPECIES DETECTED AT JEWEL CAVE NM

Common Name	2013	2014	Common Name	2013	2014
American Crow	10	2	Loggerhead Shrike *	0	1
American Goldfinch	28	42	MacGillivray's Warbler	2	2
American Kestrel	3	2	Mountain Bluebird	23	23
American Redstart	5	0	Mourning Dove	8	16
American Robin	84	124	Northern Flicker	51	62
Black-capped Chickadee	19	36	Northern Goshawk	1	1
Black-headed Grosbeak	4	3	Ovenbird	1	1
Blue Jay	0	1	Pine Siskin	0	4
Brown Creeper	2	3	Plumbeous Vireo	23	9
Brown-headed Cowbird	31	32	Pygmy Nuthatch	5	0
Cedar Waxwing	4	8	Red Crossbill	86	37
Chipping Sparrow	51	85	Red-breasted Nuthatch	21	7
Clark's Nutcracker	0	2	Red-eyed Vireo	2	5
Cliff Swallow	0	5	Red-headed Woodpecker	28	24
Common Nighthawk	7	1	Red-naped Sapsucker	0	2
Common Poorwill	1	0	Red-tailed Hawk	0	3
Cordilleran Flycatcher	1	15	Rock Wren	10	6
Dark-eyed Junco	18	17	Spotted Towhee	36	41
Downy Woodpecker	1	2	Townsend's Solitaire	3	7
Dusky Flycatcher	15	2	Turkey Vulture	2	3
Eastern Bluebird	9	0	Vesper Sparrow	26	24
Eastern Kingbird	2	10	Violet-green Swallow	12	8
Eurasian Collared-Dove	1	0	Warbling Vireo	7	3
European Starling	0	1	Western Kingbird	0	2
Gray Catbird	1	0	Western Meadowlark	1	0
Gray Jay	0	5	Western Tanager	33	29
Hairy Woodpecker	12	9	Western Wood-Pewee	73	105
House Wren	100	123	White-breasted Nuthatch	23	14
Lark Sparrow	0	1	White-throated Swift	1	6
Lazuli Bunting	0	4	Yellow Warbler	2	3
Least Flycatcher	6	1	Yellow-breasted Chat	0	1
Lewis's Woodpecker	5	2	Yellow-rumped Warbler	29	51

*Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory. 2014. The Rocky Mountain Avian Data Center. { web app}. Brighton, CO. <http://adc.rmbo.org>. (Accessed December 4, 2014).

*New Species for park

*Species of Importance:

Determined by Partners in Flight priority species list and State of South Dakota priority list.

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