
NEWS FOR THE DEDICATED ZOOLOGIST

Featured Animal Northern Flicker

The northern flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) is truly a beautiful specimen. With their tan, black spotted feathers, light brown and blue head, and the characteristic red spot at the neck area. Northern flickers are part of the family *Picidae*, which includes different genera of woodpeckers. Many members of this family can often be spotted perching in trees, but northern flickers prefer to spend more of their time on the ground.

Northern flickers generally live in spacious habitat near trees, such as woodlands and parks. In the western United States, Northern flickers can commonly be seen in mountain forests and deserts.

There are regional differences among the northern flicker species. Northern flickers inhabiting the eastern United States are characterized by a streak of yellow under their tail feathers, hence the name “yellow-shafted northern flickers”. Meanwhile, in the western parts of the United States the underside of the northern flicker’s tail feathers are a burnt Sienna color and are called “red-shafted northern flickers”. Male yellow-shafted northern flickers have a streak of black on their face, while red-shafted have a red streak. Hybrids of the two ecotypes are not uncommon where they diverge.



Yellow-shafted



Red-shafted

Global Warming Insight: Melting Glaciers = the Release of Ancient Greenhouse Gases and Other Concerns

We are probably all aware that as global climate change continues, glaciers and the environments they create are at stake too. But wait, there's more to the story!

Glaciers have been around for millions of years. During their formation, glaciers will trap carbon dioxide. Now, carbon dioxide from millions of years ago is released as glaciers melt, further contributing to climate change!

As glaciers melt, the water adds to our ocean, and therefore rises the sea level. This means coastal regions of the world may one day be engulfed by water. Beaches may disappear, and that means no mating and nesting ground for many species. Sea turtles for example, rely on beaches for their nesting sites, and with the many struggles that the species face, we can't afford for their beaches to disappear too.

The list continues. The release of greenhouse gases spawn so many chain reactions. The only way we can stop these reactions is to be more aware of what we are doing and how we are doing it.



Backyard Sightings

Dana Gaskell, California

- Black-headed grosbeak
- Western fence lizard
- California towhee
- Honey bee
- Acorn woodpecker
- Mourning dove
- California scrub jay

Pete Gaskell, Hawai'i

- Common myna
- Spotted dove
- Brown anole
- Red-crested cardinal
- Northern cardinal

Join the Adventure at:

<https://forms.gle/qnM8fyGatc6wP8j8A>

National Park Spotlight

Channel Islands National Park

Channel Islands National Park is located off the coast of California and encompasses 175 miles of pristine coastline and five islands. Those islands are Anacapa, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, San Miguel, and Santa Barbara, each posing different struggles and wonders. Channel Islands is home to many endemic and endangered species, such as the island fox, brown pelicans, northern elephant seals, and a large variety of plants and marine life. Here, you can explore what California used to be, from its beaches and mountains, to its kelp forests and underwater habitat. Channel Islands National Park is a jewel of California.

Interesting Reads

Seven Endangered Species That Could (Almost) Fit in a Single Train Carriage

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/gallery/2018/sep/17/endangered-species-on-a-train>

The Deep Sea

<https://neal.fun/deep-sea/>

Web Rangers (National Park Service)

<https://www.nps.gov/kids/webrangers.htm>

Don't Miss:

The National Geographic Museum's Jane Goodall exhibit

<https://blog.nationalgeographic.org/2020/04/03/the-national-geographic-museum-releases-a-virtual-tour-of-its-current-exhibition-becoming-jane-the-evolution-of-dr-jane-goodall/>

Games

South American Animal Word Search

J E J A V K B E Z I F K U O K B D X S Q
 P G L V H Z Y Y Z Q M I Z O B L N J C R
 T H O T E L G A E Y P R A H N A A H A E
 T O A L J P V A R V F H A I O C N T R D
 E A R K D A Q F T M A I H D D K D O L E
 B T A L S E E G O H D S A R O C E L E Y
 U Z M B A Y N Y D W N L U U N A A S T E
 O I N Z R Z X L D Y O N D N E I N D M D
 J N A J R R T F I W C N U V L M T E A T
 A E I W O J U E C O A A P W O A A O C R
 K A N B Y O Z U U C N C M X S N P T A E
 N W O L N C W V U Q A T R A S V I E W E
 I V G B B E F O Z N N J A T L E R E X F
 K L A Y J L T K T C E Q M M O L M R G R
 J I T F M O C E L A E J Y K A Q Q H H O
 X U A T C T V B H P R E J U W R E T L G
 X M P O R A U G A J G R V C P B I P N H
 J W T J U I K T L S O F W G Y I I N C Q
 J X N W I H O W L E R M O N K E Y Z H T
 S P M X C M R R I V E R D O L P H I N V

Kinkajou
 Scarlet Macaw
 Hoatzin
 Toco Toucan
 Quetzal
 Jaguar
 Three Toed Sloth

BlackCaiman
 AndeanTapir
 Llama
 Pudu
 Patagonian Mara
 Solenodon
 Golden Lion
 Tamarin

HowlerMonkey
 RedEyedTreeFrog
 Ocelot
 RiverDolphin
 HarpyEagle
 Golden Lion
 Tamarin
 HarpyEagle

Nature Poll

Which animal is your favorite pollinator?

- Bats
- Butterflies
- Bees
- Moths
- Hummingbirds



What animal is this?

See bottom of page for answer.

Something to
 color for your
 enjoyment



Remy G.

Get ready for the next
 quarantine issue of *News For
 the Dedicated Zoologist!*
 Website Coming Soon at
dedicatedzoologist.com

Stay tuned and stay safe!