

Trekking the Marsh Journal



Brought to you by California Waterfowl Association

Name: _____

Date: _____

Field Site: _____

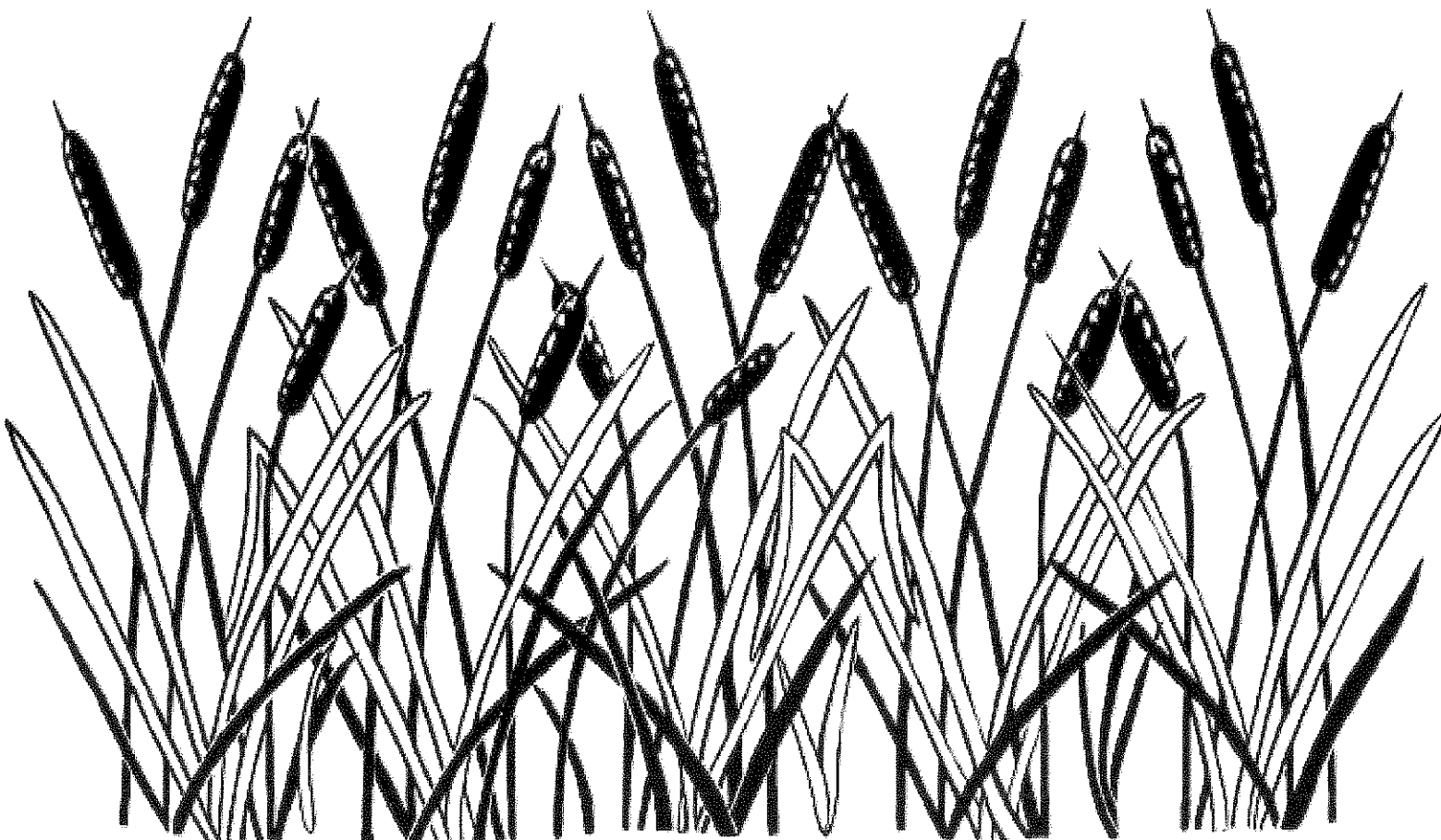


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Field Guide

Use this guide to help you identify the organisms you see on the walk. Keep in mind, even though you may not see animals out and about that doesn't mean that there are not animals at the site!

Some animals come out at different times of the day than you and I:

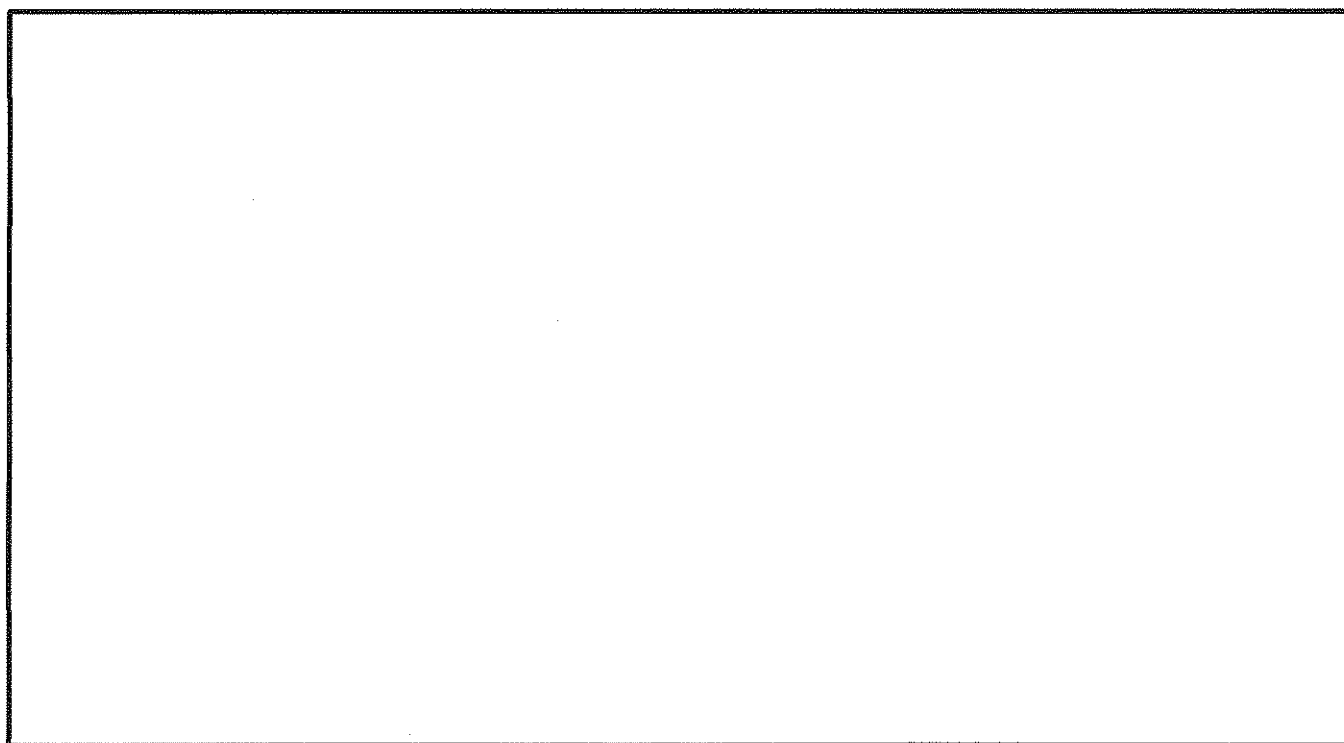
CREPESULAR Animals – Come out during dawn and at dusk

DIURNAL Animals – Come out during the day time

NOCTURNAL Animals – Come out at night

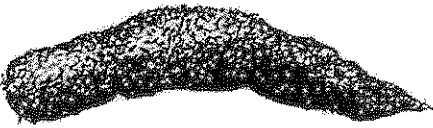
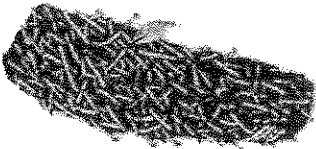
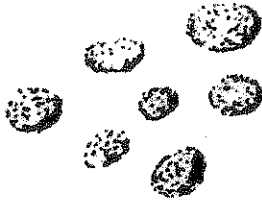



Most animals come out when it is dark out for protection. Look for evidence to help you figure out what animals were in the area you are exploring earlier!

As you go on the walk, write or sketch in the box below what EVIDENCE you found that shows animals were in the area you were exploring:




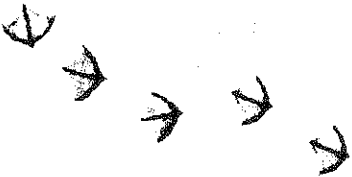
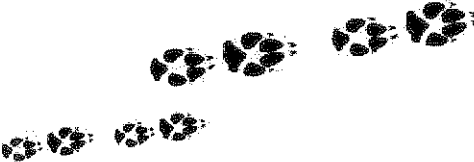



Scat Guide

Scat is the scientific word scientists use for animal poop or droppings. It may seem gross to study it, but it can actually be really helpful for identification!

<u>Scat Sketch</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Animal</u>
	Large, long, thin pieces, furry	Coyote
	Large piles, pieces have chunks of shellfish and plant matter, sometimes fur	River Otter
	Small brown round pellets in groups	Jack Rabbit
	Green and black thin pieces, dried white substance on outside	Canada Goose
	Small round pieces that have large chunks of various foods in them	Raccoon
	Medium size pieces, hairy looking, wood pieces	Beaver

Track Guide

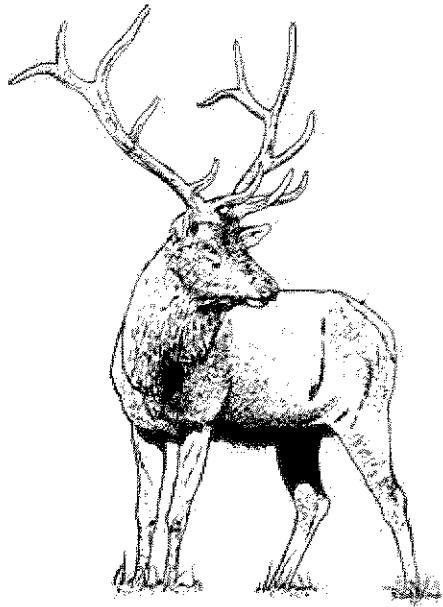
Tracks are footprints left behind by animals. Look closely at the toes! This will help you figure out who left them!

<u>Track Sketch</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Animal</u>
	Five toes, two print next to each other, long slender hands	Raccoon
	Three long toes with webbing marking	Mallard
	Four toes, similar to dog print, has nail marks	Coyote
	Long stretched out tracks with short four toed prints, small toes	Jackrabbit
	Three long toes in front, one short toe in back, long strides in between	Great Blue Heron
	Two long wedges in front, two short spots in back, long strides	Mule Deer

Mammal Guide



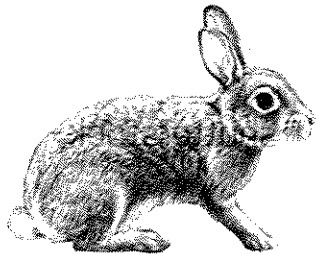
Beaver



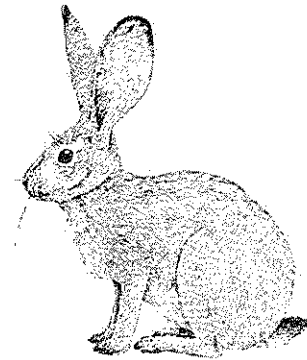
Tule Elk



Muskrat



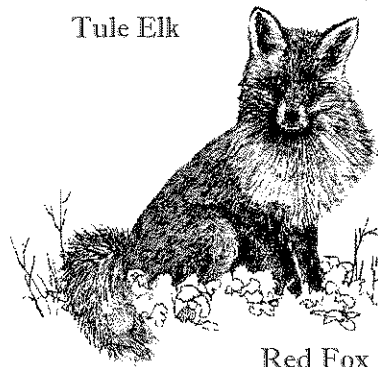
Cotton Tail



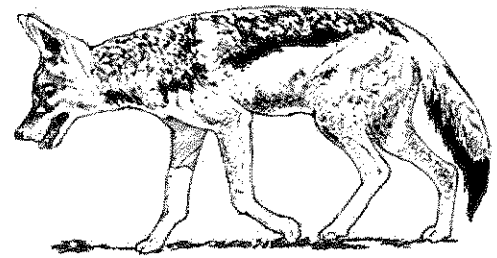
Black-Tailed Jack Rabbit



Raccoon



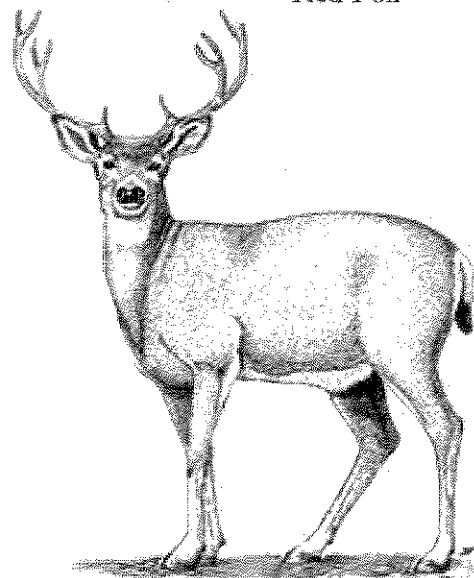
Red Fox



Coyote



River Otter



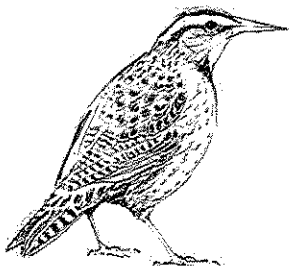
Mule Deer



Mink

Bird Guide

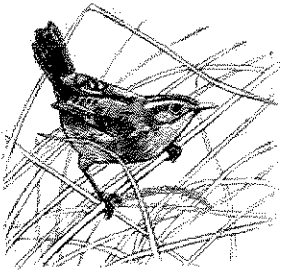
Passerines



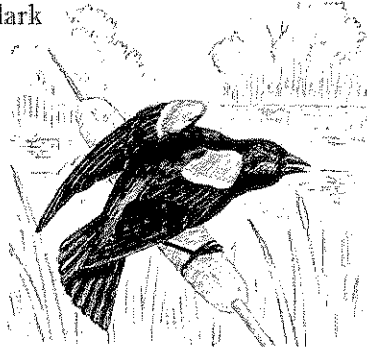
Western Meadowlark



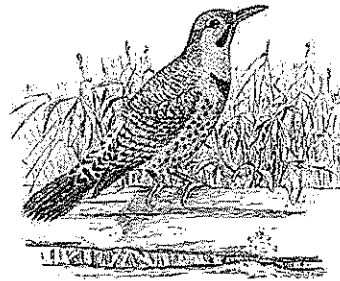
Western Scrub Jay



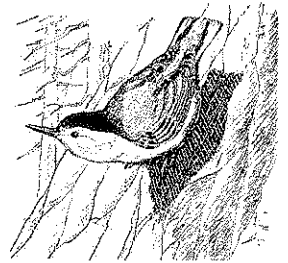
Marsh Wren



Red-Winged Blackbird

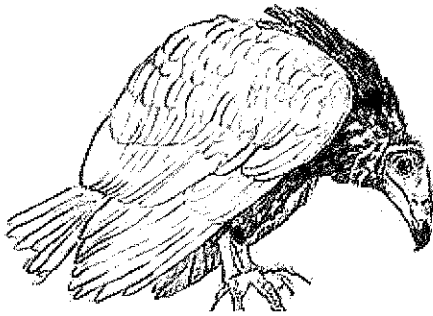


Red-Shafted Northern Flicker

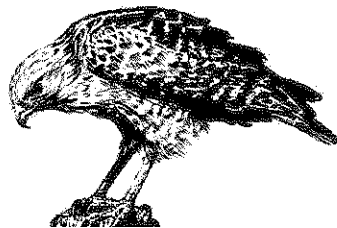


White-Breasted Nuthatch

Raptors



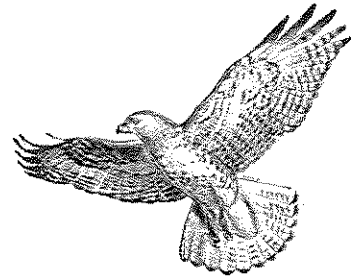
Turkey Vulture



Red Shouldered Hawk

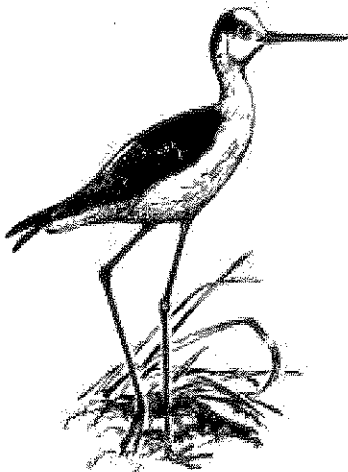


American Kestrel

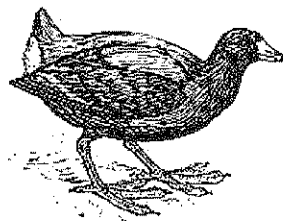


Red Tailed Hawk

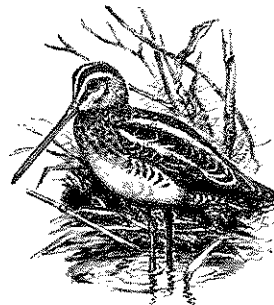
Shore Birds



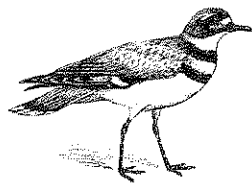
Black Neck Stilt



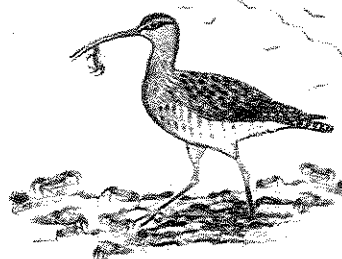
American Coot



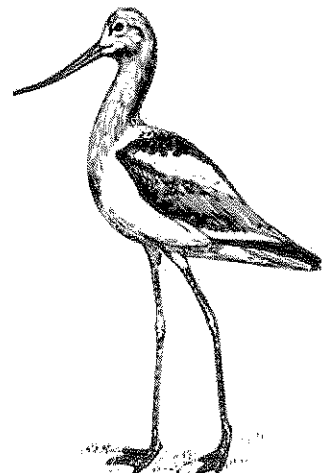
Snipe



Killdeer



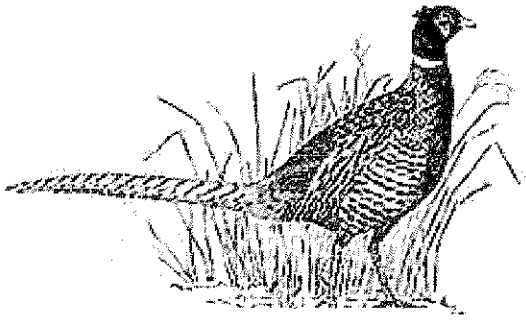
Whimbrel



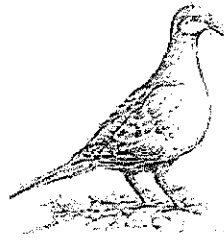
Curlew

Bird Guide

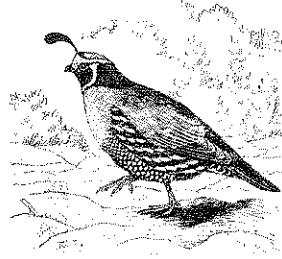
Upland Birds



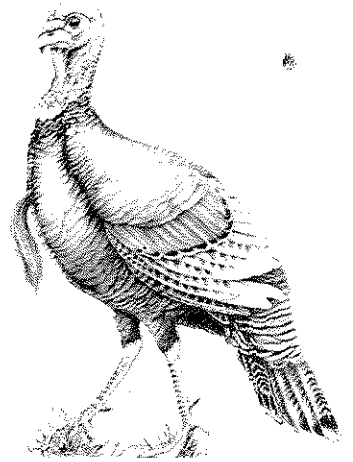
Ring Necked Pheasant



Mourning Dove



California Quail



Wild Turkey

Wading Birds



Sandhill Crane



Great Blue Heron

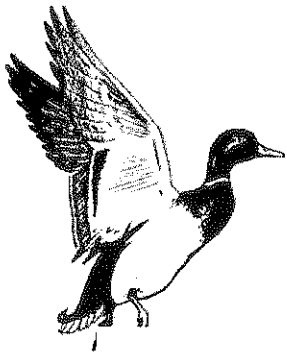


Great Egret

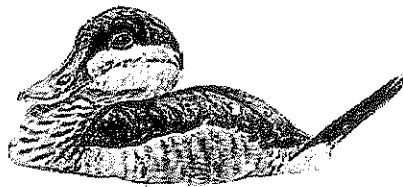


Snowy Egret

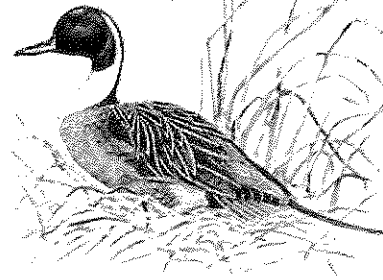
Waterfowl



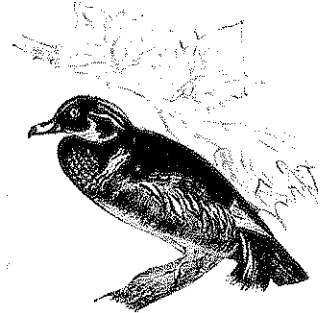
Mallard



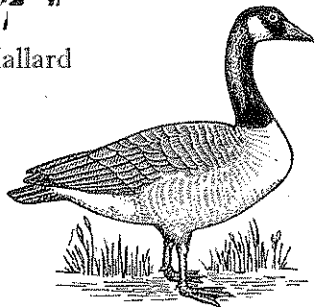
Ruddy Duck



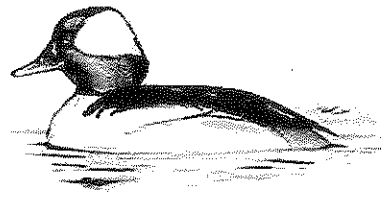
Pintail



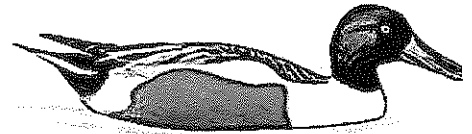
Wood Duck



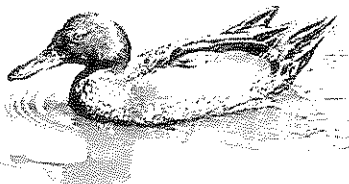
Canada Goose



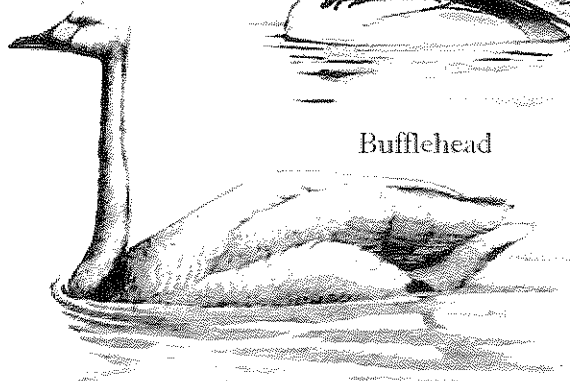
Bufflehead



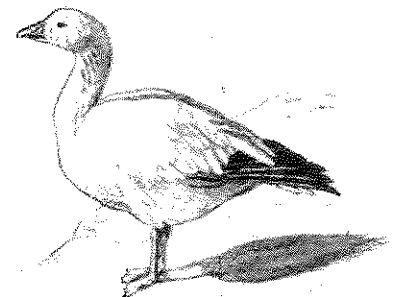
Northern Shoveler



Cinnamon Teal

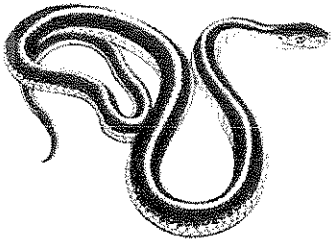


Tundra Swan

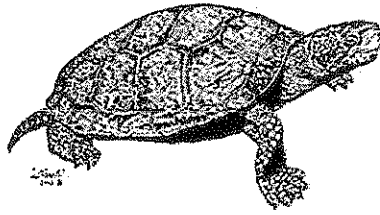


Snow Goose

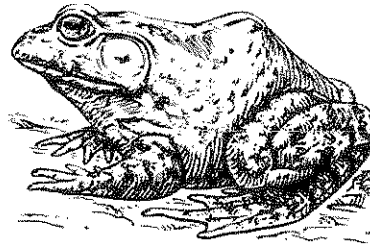
Reptile Guide



California Garter Snake



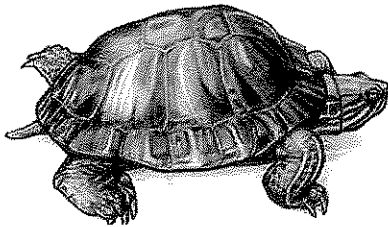
Western Pond Turtle



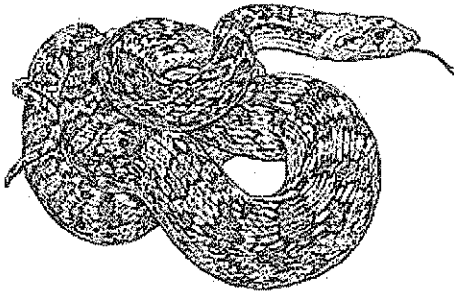
Bullfrog



Western Fence Lizard



Red-Eared Pond Slider

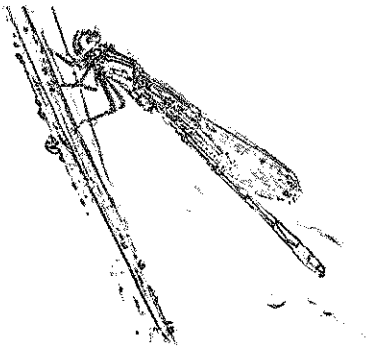


Gopher Snake

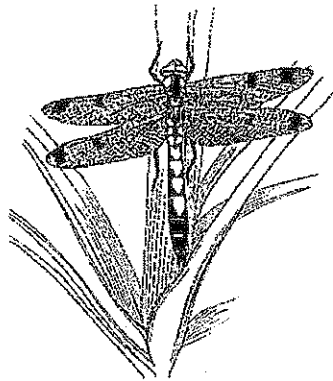


Gilbert's Skink

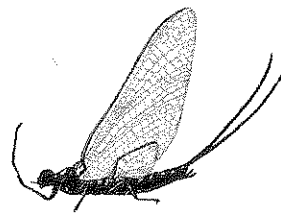
Insect Guide



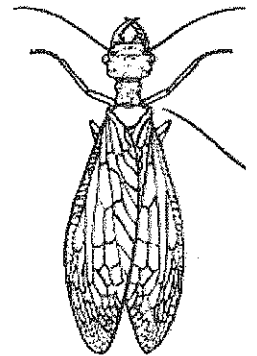
Damselfly



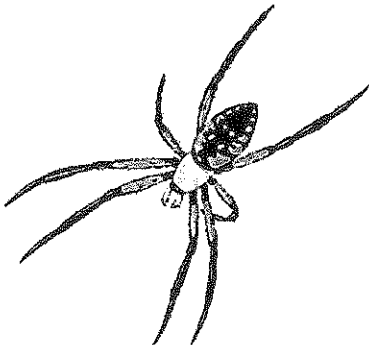
Dragonfly



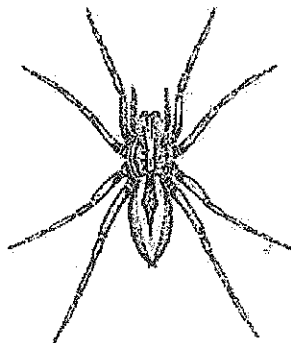
Mayfly



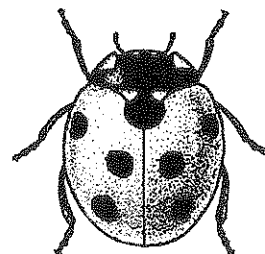
Dobsonfly



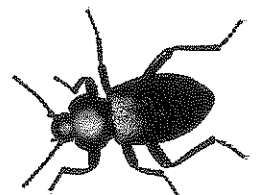
Garden Spider



Wolf Spider

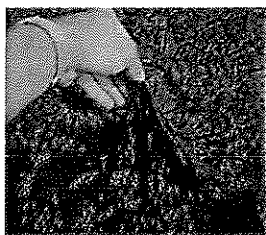


Ladybird Beetle



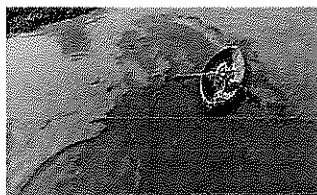
Carrion Beetle

Plant Guide

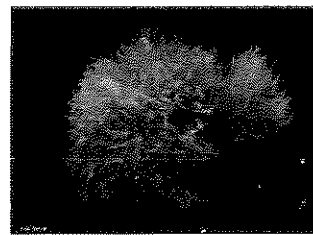


Filamentous- Matted Algae

Algae

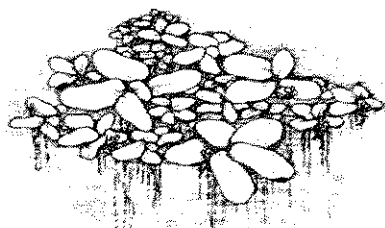


Planktonic-Pea Soup Algae

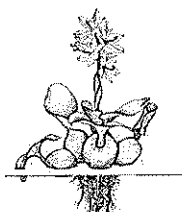


Chara- Branched Algae

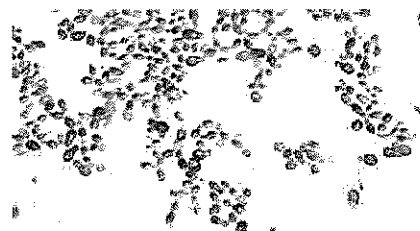
Aquatic



Duck Weed

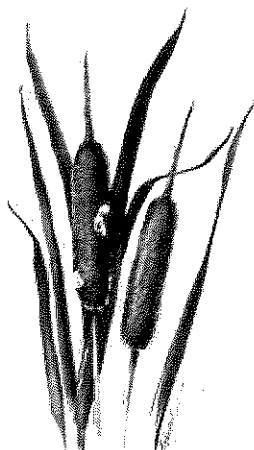


Water Hyacinth

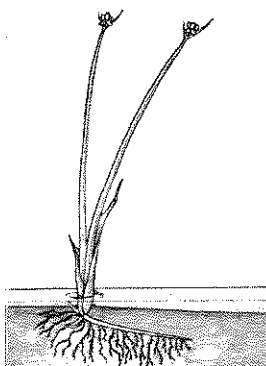


Water Meal

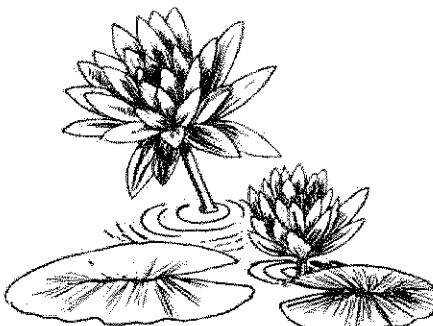
Riparian (Emergent)



Cattail



Tule

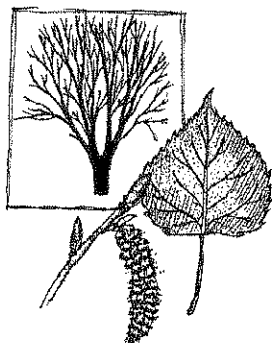


Water Lily



Bulrush

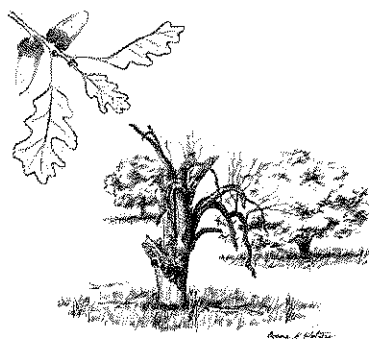
Woodland



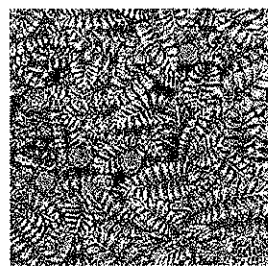
Cottonwood



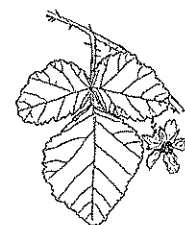
Live Oak



Valley Oak



Brass Buttons



Himalayan Blackber

Notes Pages

All good field biologists take notes. Sketching is important too. Use these pages to jot down notes and sketch some of the organisms you have seen and learned about today.

This booklet was made and paid for by:



California Waterfowl is an award winning 501(C)(3) nonprofit, hunter-supported conservation organization with a mission to conserve the state's waterfowl, wetlands, and hunting heritage. Since 1991 when the organization began, we've completed more than 800 individual projects to protect, restore, and enhance more than 370,000 acres, providing habitat for millions of birds and animals. Our Wood Duck Program has hatched more than 716,200 ducklings, while our Banding Programs have marked more than 183,000 waterfowl. Our Youth and Education Programs have reached more than 250,000 children and young adults to help to create a better understanding of biology, conservation, and outdoor heritage. All efforts are supported largely by donations and the work of over 1,500 dedicated and tireless volunteers. Visit us online at www.calwaterfowl.org.