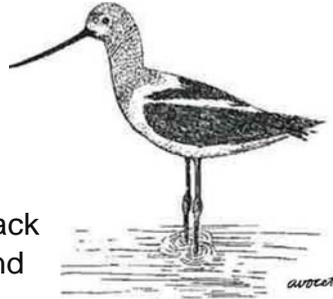


shallow coastal bays and fresh water marshes. It forages in shallow water for insects, crustaceans, mollusks and other aquatic invertebrates.

American Avocet

Recurvirostra americana

A common to abundant resident bird, the American Avocet can be distinguished by the black and white body and their slender upturned bill and rusty neck and head during breeding season.



Avocets feed in freshwater marshes by sweeping the bill through water or soupy mud, searching for aquatic insects, crustaceans, snails, worms and occasionally seeds of aquatic plants.

Long-billed Curlew

Numenius americanus

One of the largest shorebirds in the Yolo Bypass (20 to 26 inches high), the Long-billed Curlew has a very long beak that curves down. Coloring is

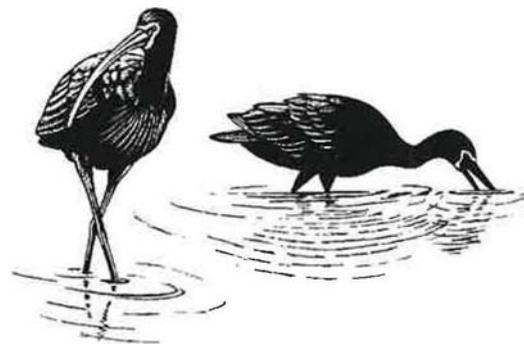


mottled reddish-brown, darker above and lighter below. Curlew beaks are made for catching insects and burrowing crustaceans, and marine invertebrates in the mud flats and marshes.

White-faced Ibis

Plegadis chihi

The White-faced Ibis is a resident species. It is found in marshes and feeds by probing deep in mud with their long bills for earthworms, insects, crustaceans, amphibians, and small fish. This species prefers to nest in dense marsh vegetation near foraging areas in shallow water or muddy fields. The "white face" refers to a white border at the base of the bill.



Sandhill Crane

Grus canadensis

Flocks of Sandhill Cranes are often seen and heard flying over the Yolo Bypass from fall through spring, as thousands winter in the Central Valley. Three to four feet high, these large, grey



birds fly with their long legs and neck extended. Cranes eat practically everything the wetlands have to offer from aquatic invertebrates, grains, worms and insects, to small birds and mammals. Nesting practices include "infanticide" where the second of two hatchlings will be killed or abandoned by the parents.

Birds of the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area

Shorebirds & Waders



Produced by Yolo Basin Foundation & CA Department of Fish and Wildlife
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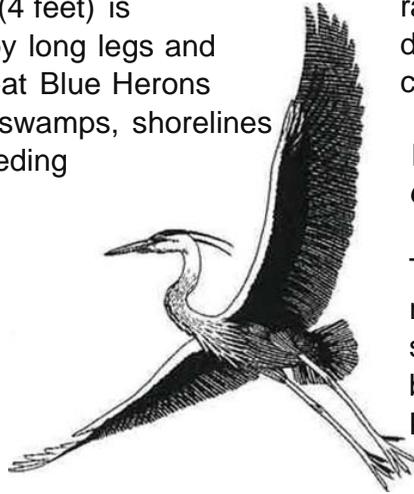
Thanks to the Thornton S. and Katrina D. Glide Foundation

Revised CDFW/WLB 4/2018

Great Blue Heron

Ardea herodias

Great Blue Herons are a common species throughout the Central Valley. Their great size (4 feet) is complemented by long legs and a long neck. Great Blue Herons live in marshes, swamps, shorelines and tide flats, feeding mainly on fish. They also consume rodents, amphibians, snakes, lizards, insects, crustaceans and occasionally small birds. The Great Blue Heron has one of the widest ranges of any North American heron due to its varied diet.



Great Egret

Ardea alba

The Great Egret is a yearlong resident of California. It is a large, all white heron with a yellow bill and black legs. In breeding season it has long lacy plumes on the back. Like many herons, its diet consists mainly of fish but also amphibians, snakes, snails, crustaceans, insects, and small mammals. At the turn of the century, the Great Egret was almost extinct due



to extensive hunting to collect the magnificent breeding plumes. The National Audubon Society worked to ban this hunting and the Great Egret has reclaimed nearly all of its original range. However, present-day destruction of wetlands poses a current threat.

Killdeer

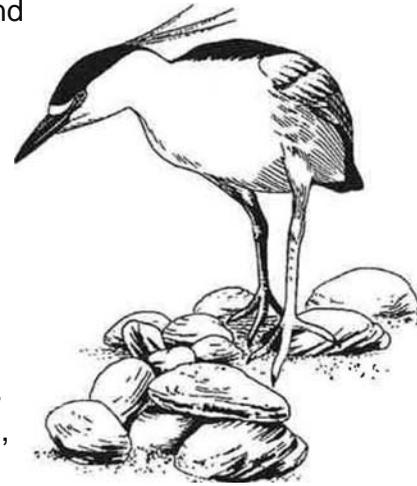
Charadrius vociferus

The Killdeer is a widespread, year-round resident of California. It is a small shorebird distinguished by two black bands across the breast. The Killdeer forages in a typical plover manner of quickly running forward, stopping and suddenly seizing prey from the surface. It eats a variety of invertebrates, especially beetles and grasshoppers. One special characteristic of the Killdeer is its "broken wing" display. If a predator approaches, a nesting Killdeer will perform a conspicuous distraction display, dragging itself as if mortally wounded, which is effective in luring the predator away from the eggs or young.

Black-crowned Night Heron

Nycticorax nycticorax

The Black-crowned Night Heron is a medium size, stocky, short-necked bird with a black crown and back and is fairly common to the Central Valley. This species of heron lives in marshes, swamps, and wooded streams feeding on fish, crustaceans, aquatic invertebrates, amphibians and reptiles, and young birds. It is a patient hunter, standing quietly for long periods of time, waiting for prey to pass by.

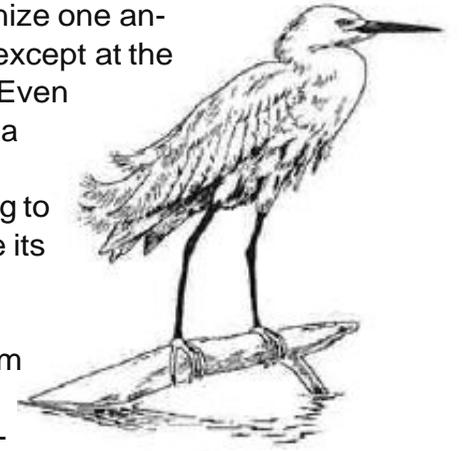


Snowy Egret

Egretta thula

The Snowy Egret is a common resident of wetlands. Smaller than the Great Egret, it has a slender black bill, black legs and yellow feet, sometimes called "golden slippers." They are found in marshes, ponds, swamps and mudflats. Their diet consists of small fish, crustaceans and large insects, but they also

eat amphibians, reptiles, worms, snails and small mammals. Evidence suggests that members of a pair of snowy egrets cannot recognize one another except at the nest. Even there, a bird arriving to relieve its mate must perform an elaborate greeting ceremony to avoid being attacked as an intruder.



Black-necked Stilt

Himantopus mexicanus

The Black-necked Stilt is a common, yearlong resident in the Central Valley. It has a slender body with long pinkish legs, a black back and white belly. The Black-necked Stilt prefers

