

California Wildlife Habitat Relationships System
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Interagency Wildlife Task Group

SPOTTED DOVE

Streptopelia chinensis

Family: COLUMBIDAE
B253

Order: COLUMBIFORMES

Class: AVES

Written by: M. Green
Reviewed by: L. Mewaldt
Edited by: D. Winkler

DISTRIBUTION, ABUNDANCE, AND SEASONALITY

Common yearlong resident in southern California (Garrett and Dunn 1981). An introduced species; well established in urban habitat in southern California, ranging north to Fresno (McCaskie et al. 1979). Uncommon in southern California deserts, but may be found locally in desert riparian habitat. Inhabits sparse to moderately wooded parks and residential areas in urban and suburban communities.

SPECIFIC HABITAT REQUIREMENTS

Feeding: Eats seeds and grains. Forages on the ground.

Cover: Trees and shrubs in urban and desert riparian habitats provide cover.

Reproduction: Nest is a stick platform in a tree or on a building, often quite low.

Water: No data found. Very likely drinks frequently, as do other doves and pigeons.

Pattern: Roosts and nests in trees. Feeds on the ground in treeless to moderately wooded areas.

SPECIES LIFE HISTORY

Activity Patterns: Yearlong, diurnal activity.

Seasonal Movements/Migration: Resident in southern California. Recently expanded range northward in the interior to Fresno (McCaskie et al. 1979).

Home Range: No data found. Fairly localized in activity, not straying far in search of food or water as do mourning and white-winged doves.

Territory: No data found.

Reproduction: May nest all year. Pair apparently nests solitarily. Clutch of 2 incubated by both parents for 14 days. Young altricial and cared for by both parents (Harrison 1978); presumably fed crop milk initially.

Niche: Apparently preyed upon by accipiters, domestic cats, and other small mammals.

REFERENCES

Garrett, K., and J. Dunn. 1981. Birds of southern California. Los Angeles Audubon Soc. 408pp.

- Harrison, C. 1978. A field guide to the nests, eggs and nestlings of north American birds. W. Collins Sons and Co., Cleveland, OH. 416pp.
- McCaskie, G., P. De Benedictis, R. Erickson, and J. Morlan. 1979. Birds of northern California, an annotated field list. 2nd ed. Golden Gate Audubon Soc., Berkeley. 84pp.

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Life history accounts for species in the California Wildlife Habitat Relationships (CWHR) System were originally published in: Zeiner, D.C., W.F.Laudenslayer, Jr., K.E. Mayer, and M. White, eds. 1988-1990. California's Wildlife. Vol. I-III. California Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, California. Updates are noted in accounts that have been added or edited since original publication.