

ELDERCOLLEGE



Photos ©R. Rudland

ELDERCOLLEGE 2022

SUNSHINE COAST BIRDING – ID TIPS

JACK POPE

TONY GREENFIELD

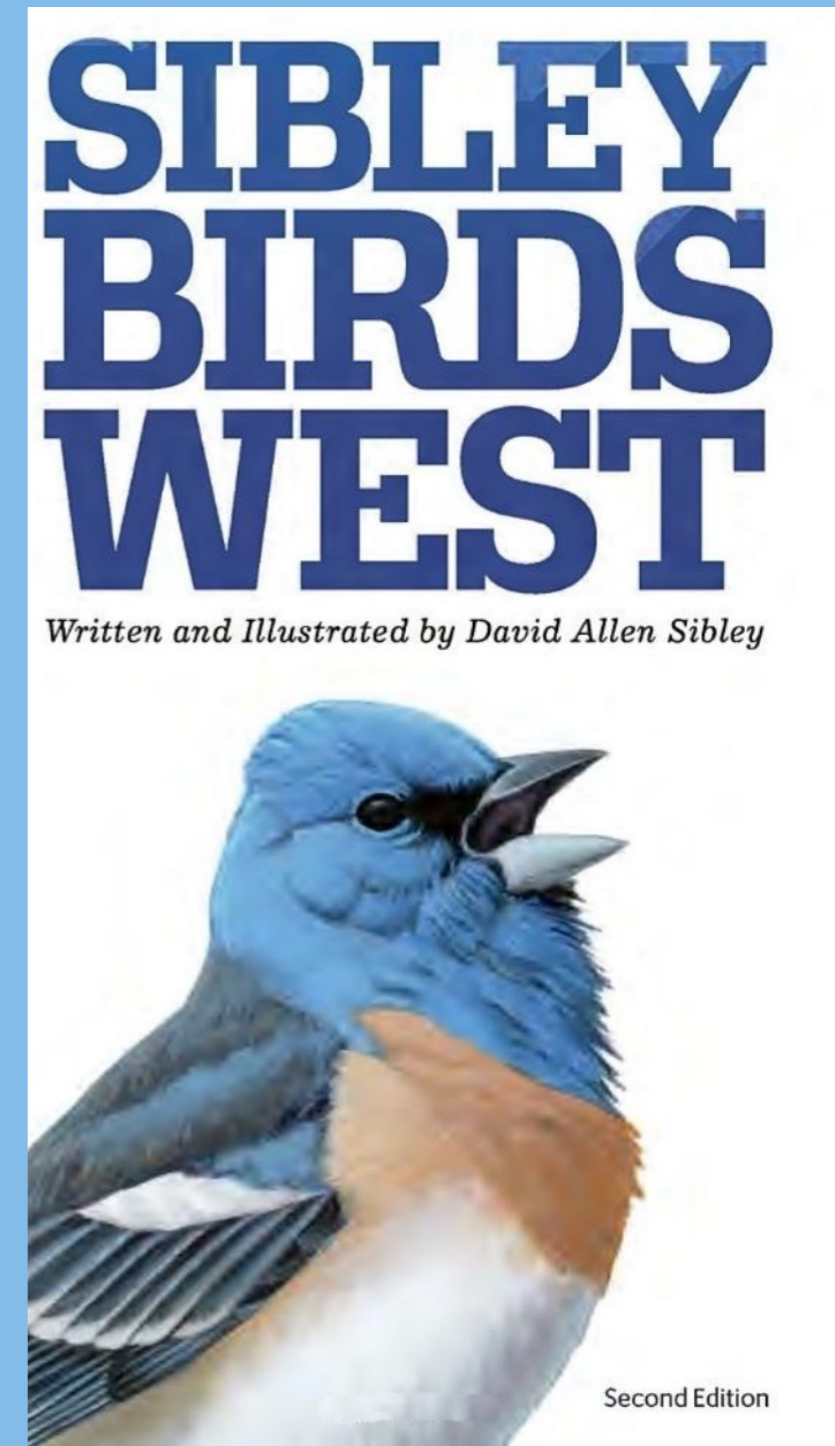
JOHN HODGES

RAND RUDLAND

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- Field Guides
- Internet Resources
 - Macaulay Library
 - Xeno-Canto sound library
 - Listing Apps – eBird / iNaturalist
- Equipment
 - Binoculars
 - Scopes
 - Recording / Playback Devices
- Identification Process

Books



Smartphone Field Guides

The Sibley eGuide to Birds App



iBird Pro Birds North America

Mitch Waite Group2 Books & Reference

★★★★★ 5,209

Everyone

Offers in-app purchases

You don't have any devices

Add to wishlist

\$14.99 Buy

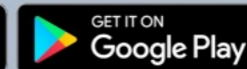
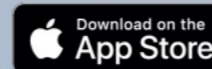
The Cornell Lab

Merlin

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Identify every bird you see

Free, instant bird ID help for the birds of North and South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia.



The Story



Bird Packs



Download

Bird ID Wizard—Step-by-step

Answer three simple questions about a bird you are trying to identify and Merlin will come up with a list of possible matches. Merlin offers quick identification help for all levels of bird watchers to learn about the birds across the Americas, Europe, Asia, Africa and Oceania. [Learn about all the regions Merlin covers.](#)

Internet Resources

- Xeno-Canto sound library
- <https://www.xeno-canto.org>

xeno-canto
Sharing bird sounds from around the world

Search recordings... Search Advanced Search Tips

About Explore Upload Sounds Forum Mysteries Articles Log in / Register

Say's Phoebe · *Sayornis saya* · (Bonaparte, 1825)
Order: PASSERIFORMES Family: Tyrannidae (Tyrant Flycatchers, Calyptura) Genus: *Sayornis* Species: *saya*

Map Satellite

Say's Phoebe · *Sayornis saya* · (Bonaparte, 1825)
Order: PASSERIFORMES Family: Tyrannidae (Tyrant Flycatchers, Calyptura) Genus: *Sayornis* Species: *saya*

Map Satellite

XC509625 [CC BY-NC]

0:00 1:20

Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) · adult, s...
Ken Hall
Deep Lake (Sun Lake), Washington, United S...

Map Legend

Subspecies

- *quiescens* · Grinnell, 1926
- *saya* · (Bonaparte, 1825)

Unclassified

- No subspecies specified
- In background of another recording

Credits

Ranges shown based on **BirdLife International and NatureServe (2011)**, now curated and maintained by Xeno-canto.

Other Resources

- Avibase
- GBIF
- IBC | HBW
- Birdlife datazone
- Macaulay Library
- AVoCet
- Wikipedia
- EnjoyNature

Note: Xeno-canto follows the IOC taxonomy. External sites may use a

Filter results

of *Sayornis saya* . Total recording duration 1:36:06.

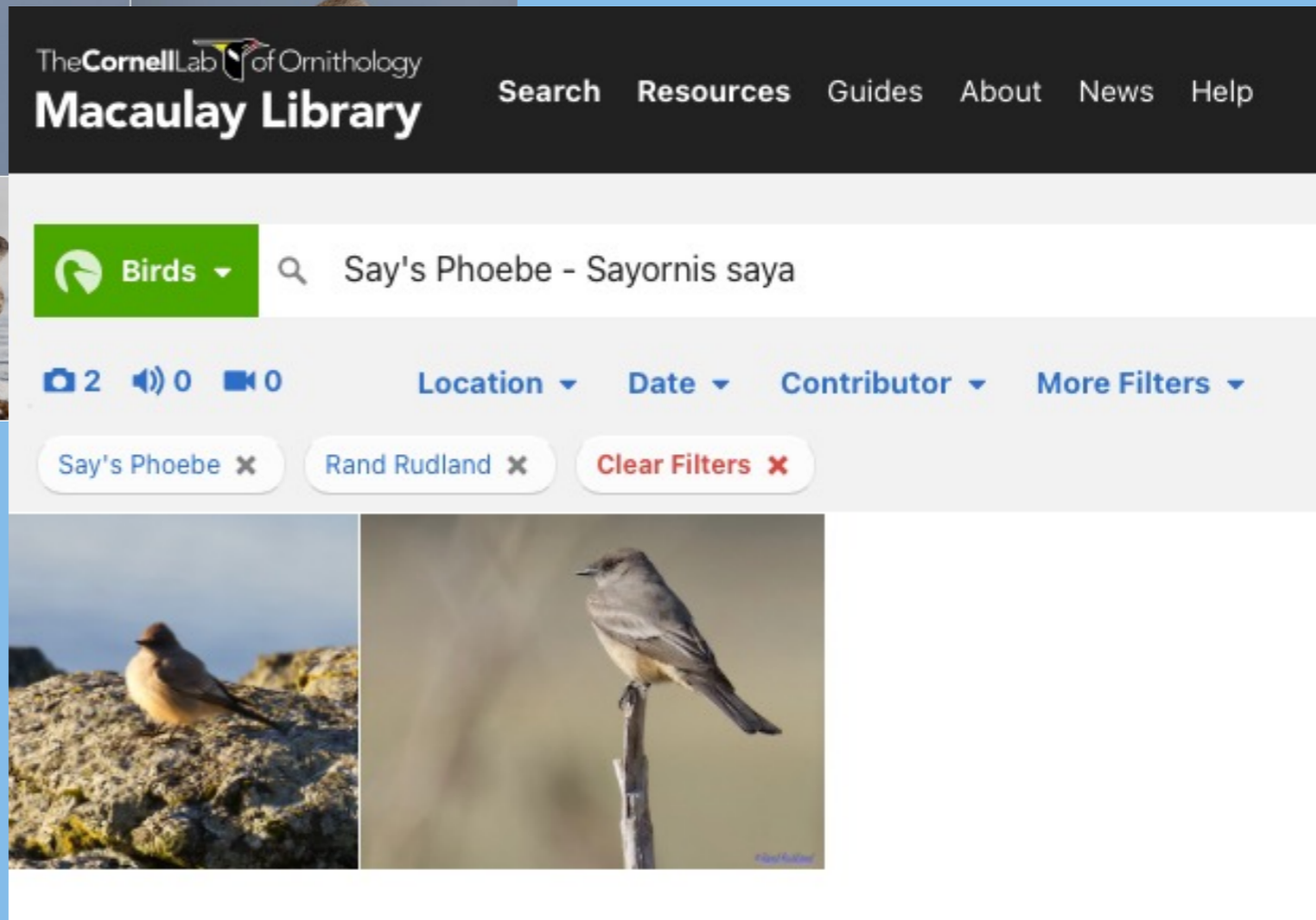
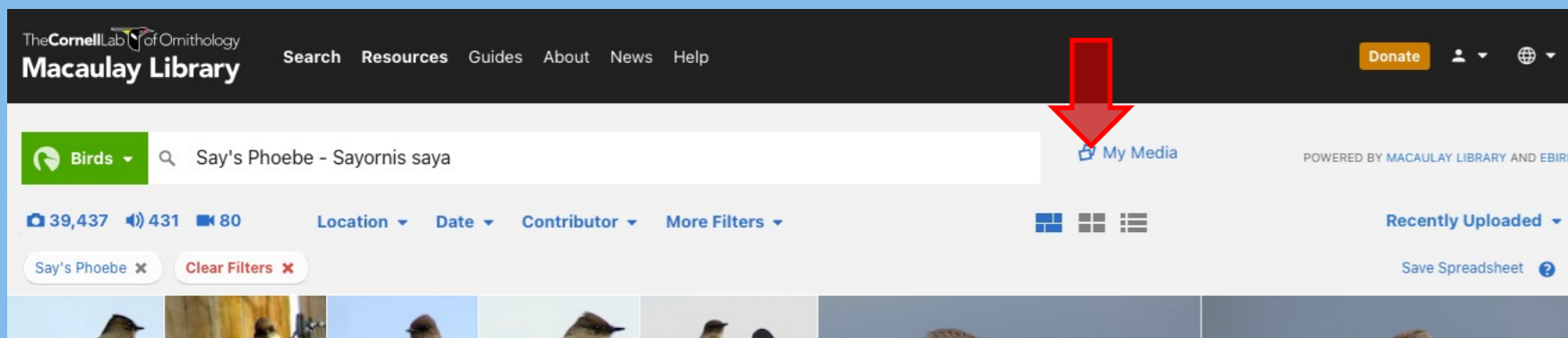
1 2 3 4 Next >

Common name / Scientific	Length	Recordist	Date	Time	Country	Location	Elev. (m)	Type	Remarks	Actions	Cat.nr.
Say's Phoebe (<i>Sayornis saya</i>)	0:34	Ron Overholtz	2020-05-26	09:30	United States	Mt. Whitney Fish Hatchery, Inyo County, California	1300	adult, call, male	Tascam DR-05 Audacity bird-seen:yes playback-used:no [also] [sono]	[Download] [Comment] [A] [B] [C] [D] [E]	XC562439 [CC]
Say's Phoebe (<i>Sayornis saya</i>)	0:21	Jarrod Swackhamer	2020-03-30	07:00	United States	Blythe, Riverside County, California	80	song	bird-seen:yes playback-used:no	[Download] [Comment] [A] [B] [C] [D] [E]	XC540017 [CC]



Internet Resources

- Macaulay Library/eBird <https://search.macaulaylibrary.org/catalog>



Listing Apps


- eBird eBird.org

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology Donate Rand Rudland (HMB-birder)

eBird [Submit](#) [Explore](#) [My eBird](#) [Science](#) [About](#) [News](#) [Help](#)

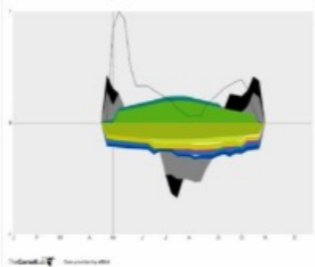
MY STATS WORLD My eBird

3,587 Species observed	807 Complete checklists 975 Total
230 Species with photos 432 Observations	2 Species with audio 3 Observations
2 Days of checklist streak Best streak: 60 days	



Crested Tit *Lophophanes cristatus* © Manu Álvarez Macaulay Library eBird


RECENT NEWS [View all](#)



Habitat regional charts return highlighting habitat associations for 649 species for every week of the year

By Kathi Borgmann | March 31, 2021

When birdwatchers head out to find their favorite species, they don't go to just any spot, they head to specific habitat types such as grasslands or evergreen forests where the species is frequently found. Information on where to expect certain species has often been generalized across a species' entire range or a broad period in [...]



Seeing beyond

Listing Apps

iNaturalist

The screenshot displays the iNaturalist website interface. At the top, the iNaturalist logo is on the left, followed by a search bar and navigation links: Explore, Your Observations, Community, Identify, and More. On the right, there are buttons for Upload, a notification bell with '0', a speech bubble with '8', and a user profile icon. Below the navigation is a section titled 'Observations' with a search bar for 'Species' and a location filter set to 'Sunshine Coast, BC, Canada'. A 'Go' button and a 'Filters' button with a '2' notification are also present. A summary bar shows 'Bounding Box' (highlighted with a red box), '4,374 OBSERVATIONS', '1,011 SPECIES', '755 IDENTIFIERS', and '1 OBSERVER'. Below this, there are tabs for 'Map', 'Grid', and 'List'. The main content area shows a grid of eight observation cards, each featuring a photo of a bird, its name, scientific name, research grade, and a small profile icon. The cards are: Hairy Woodpecker (*Dryobates villosus*), Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*), Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*), Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*), Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*), Audubon's Warbler (*Setophaga coronata auduboni*), Hairy Woodpecker (*Dryobates villosus*), and Red-breasted Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus ruber*).

Equipment










- Binoculars

<https://www.peleewings.ca/inventory/listings/optics?department=5>

- 8.5X or 10X

- \$ → \$\$\$

Search ✕

<p>PW Pick</p>  <p>Celestron Nature DX ED 10x42 This versatile, all-around binocular</p> <p>CA\$253.00</p>	 <p>Celestron Trailseeker 8x42 Ergonomic Design</p> <p>CA\$345.00</p>	 <p>Celestron Trailseeker 10x42 Ergonomic Design</p> <p>CA\$358.00</p>
 <p>Celestron Skymaster Pro 15x70 Massive Objective Lenses</p> <p>CA\$252.00</p>	 <p>Swarovski EL Range 10x42 with Field Pro Package</p> <p>MSRP: CA\$4,621.00</p> <p>TEXT FOR PRICE 226-286-0593</p>	 <p>Nikon Monarch HG 8x42 Field & Stream Best of the test 2017</p> <p>MSRP: CA\$1,449.95</p> <p>TEXT FOR PRICE 226-286-0593</p>
<p>NEW</p>  <p>Kowa BD II XD 8x42</p> <p>MSRP: CA\$650.00</p> <p>TEXT FOR PRICE 226-286-0593</p>	 <p>EL Range with Tracking Assistant 8x42</p> <p>MSRP: CA\$4,810.00</p> <p>TEXT FOR PRICE 226-286-0593</p>	<p>NEW</p>  <p>NL Pure 10X42 Power of a 10X, Field of view and brightness of an 8X</p> <p>MSRP: CA\$4,143.00</p> <p>TEXT FOR PRICE 226-286-0593</p>

Equipment

- **Scopes**

<https://www.peleewings.ca/inventory/listings/optics?department=6>

- **Straight or angled**

- **\$ → \$\$\$**

The screenshot shows a search results page for scopes. At the top, there is a search bar with a hamburger menu icon on the left and a close icon on the right. Below the search bar is a grid of nine product listings. Each listing includes an image of the scope, its name, and its price. Some listings also include a 'TEXT FOR PRICE' button with a phone number. The products are:

Product Name	Price	Additional Info
Vortex Razor HD 11-33x50 Straight or Angled Scope	CA\$1,039.00	
Zeiss Victory Harpia 95mm Angled Scope	MSRP: CA\$5,899.99	TEXT FOR PRICE 226-286-0593
Nikon Prostaff 5 82mm Fieldscope	CA\$509.00	
Zeiss Victory Harpia 85mm Angled Scope	MSRP: CA\$5,299.99	TEXT FOR PRICE 226-286-0593
Celestron Trailseeker 80mm Straight Scope	MSRP: CA\$495.95	CA\$420.00
Vortex Viper 65mm 15-45x Straight or Angled Scope	CA\$1,049.00	
Nikon Monarch 60mm ED Spotting Scope	MSRP: CA\$1,799.95	60ED straight/angled with MEP 20-60x Eyepiece
Vortex Viper 85mm20-60x Straight or Angled Scope		
Nikon Prostaff 5 60mm Fieldscope	CA\$250.00	

Equipment

- Tripods/heads

<https://www.peleewings.ca/inventory/listings/optics?department=40>

- Weight considerations
- Use for scope or scope + camera

The screenshot displays a grid of nine camera tripods and heads. Each item is shown with a product image, a title, a price, and a 'TEXT FOR PRICE' button with the phone number 226-286-0593. The items are:

Product Name	Price	MSRP
Manfrotto Befree Carbon Tripod with ball head	CA\$467.00	
Vanguard Alta Pro 2 263AV	CA\$289.00	
Manfrotto 290Xtra Carbon with 128RC head		MSRP: CA\$538.00
Manfrotto MT 290 XTC3 Carbon Tripod	CA\$349.00	
Manfrotto 128 RC Tripod Head	CA\$139.00	
Manfrotto Befree Live Aluminum Tripod w/Fluid Head	CA\$299.00	
Manfrotto Befree Fluid Head	CA\$129.00	
Manfrotto MT290XTA2W Tripod w/ 128 RC Head	CA\$289.00	
PCT Professional Carbon Tripod		MSRP: CA\$1,299.00

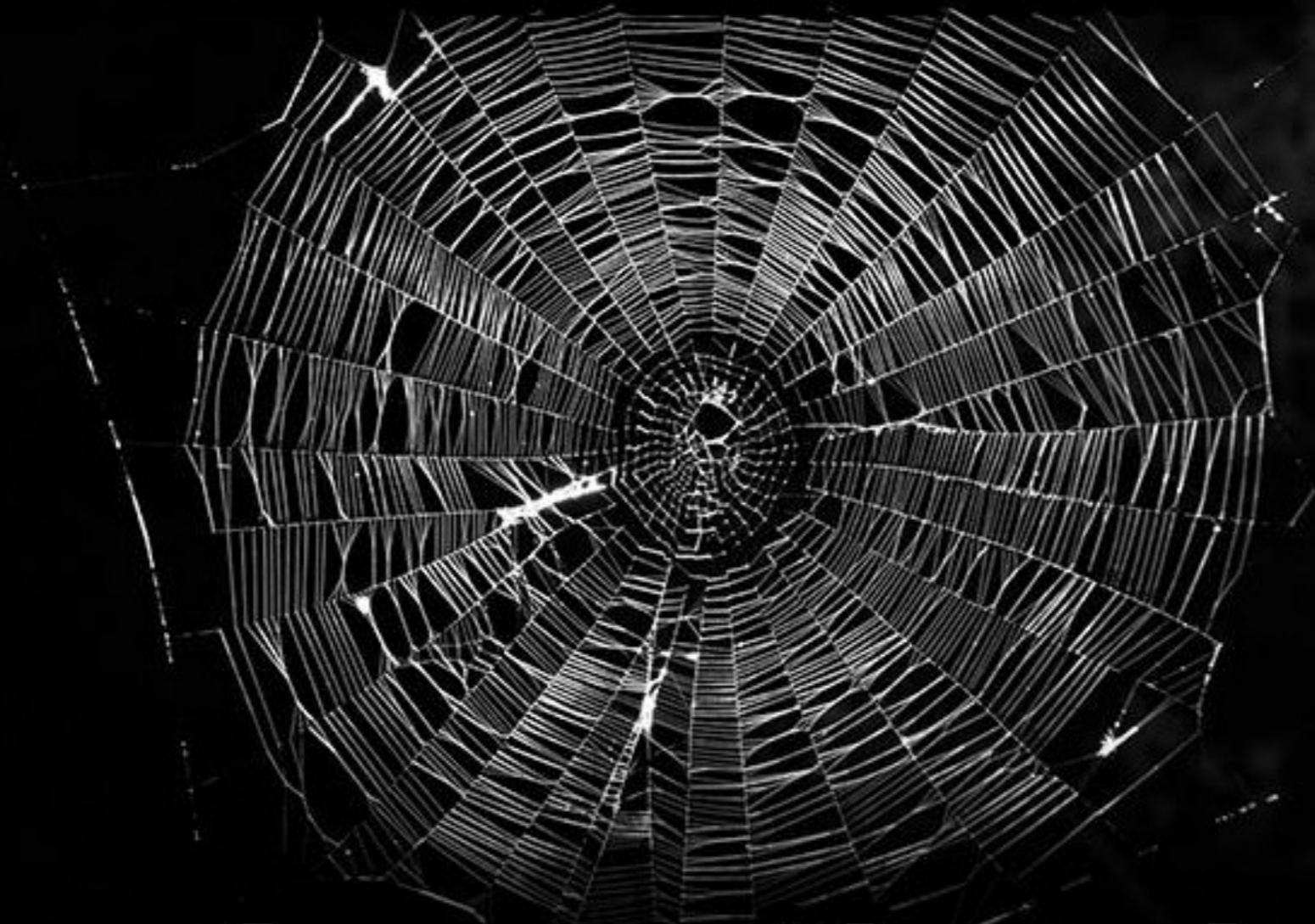
Equipment

- Recording / Playback Devices

- iPhone
- USB speaker
- Ethics



**There's no better
karate instructor**



**than a spiderweb
in your face.**

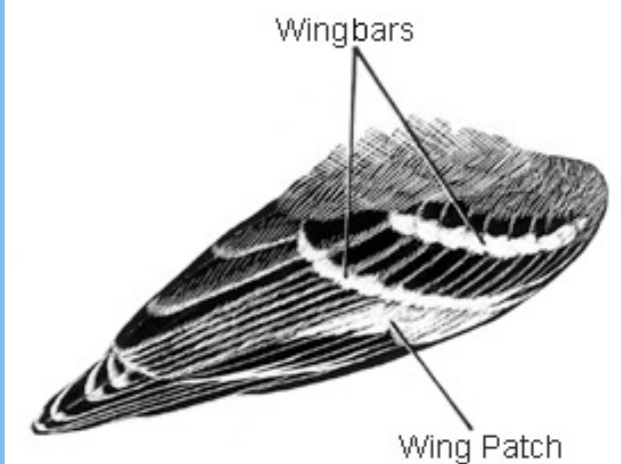
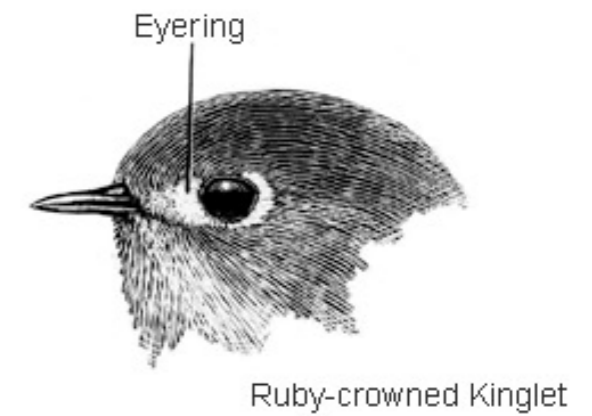
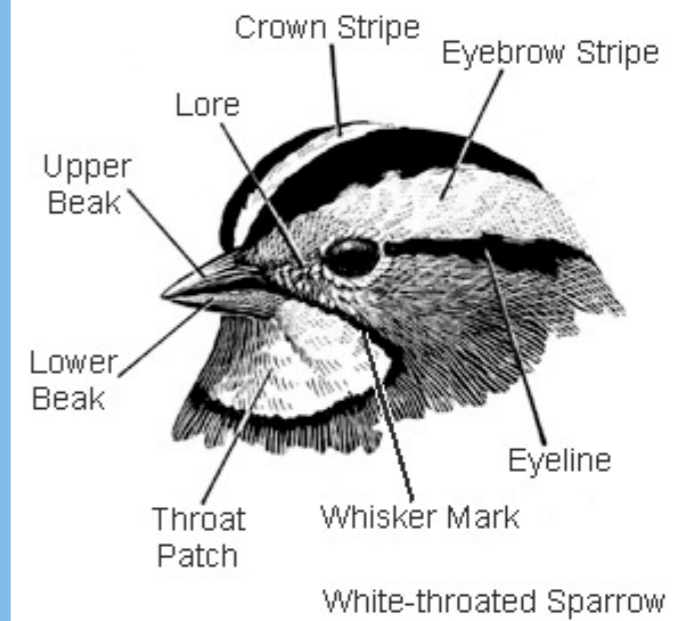
IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

- TOPOGRAPHY – NAMES FOR THE PARTS OF A BIRD
- SIZE
 - RELATIVE TO ANOTHER BIRD/OBJECT
- OVERALL COLOUR
- HEAD SHAPE/PATTERNS/SILHOUETTES
- WING SHAPE/COLOUR
- UNDERSIDE COLOUR/PATTERNS
- STANCE
- FLIGHT PATTERNS
- HABITAT

IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

- **HABITAT**
- TOPOGRAPHY
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- STANCE
- FLIGHT PATTERNS

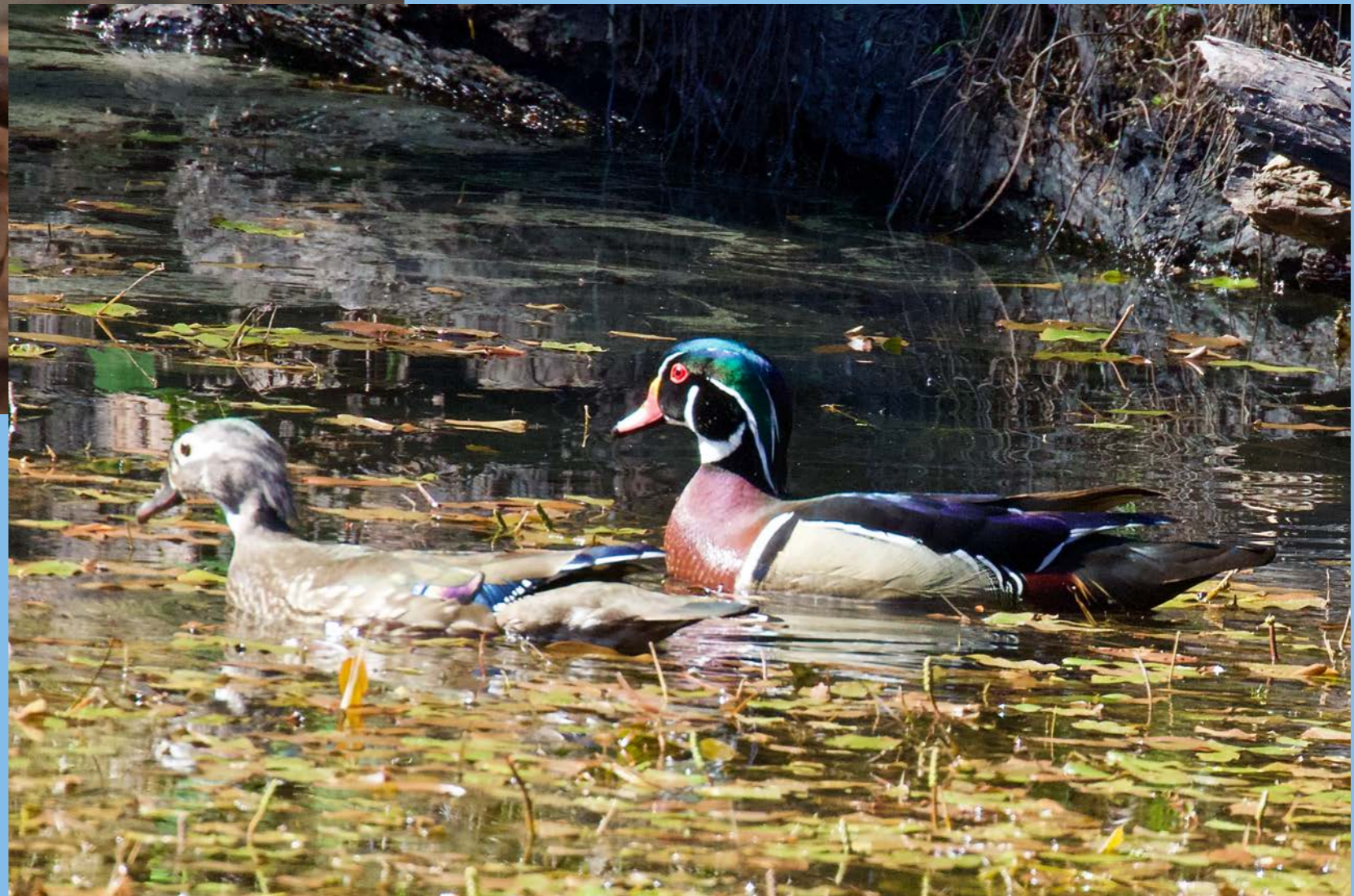
THE LANGUAGE



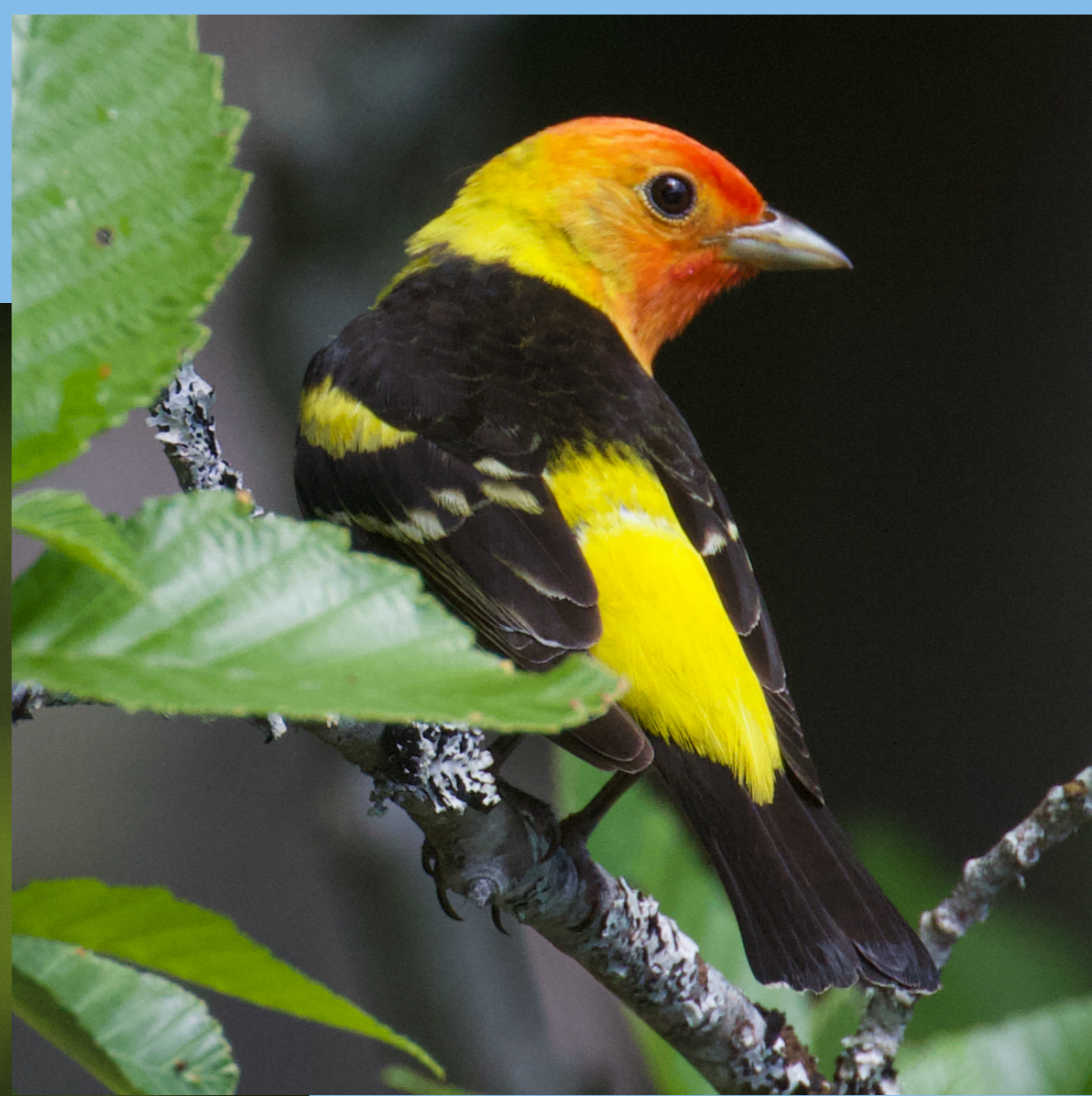
(LACK OF) COLOUR

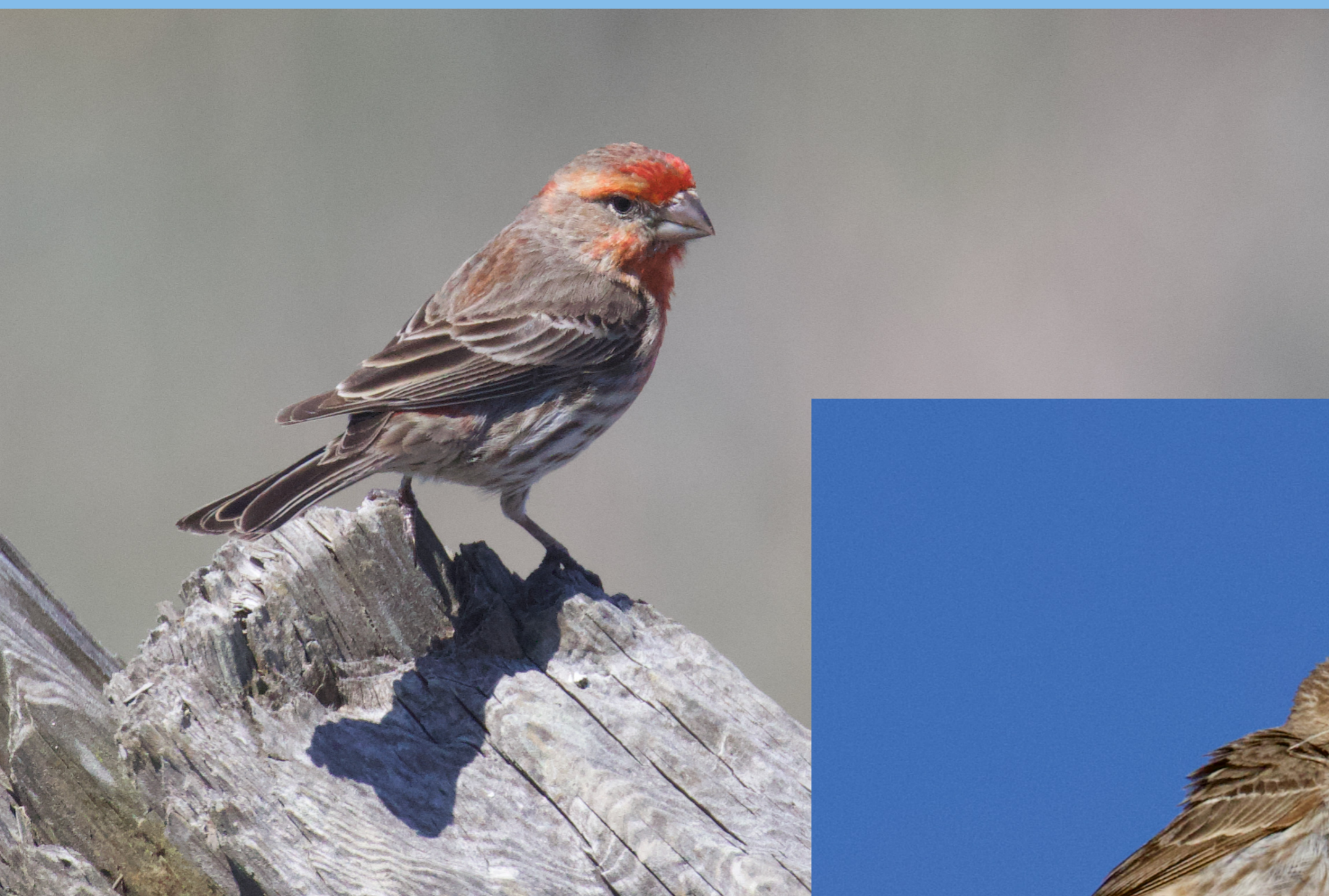


COLOUR



SEXUAL DIMORPHISM







LIGHT EFFECTS







Float Level



SIZE COMPARISONS



House Sparrow



Downy Woodpecker



American Robin



American Crow



Pileated Woodpecker



House Sparrow



American Goldfinch



American Robin



Evening Grosbeak



American Crow

RELATIVE SIZE



SIZE

GREATER & LESSER YELLOWLEGS



PERCH POSITION & SILHOUETTES



Vertical Posture: Flycatcher



Horizontal Posture: Vireo



Red-tailed Hawk



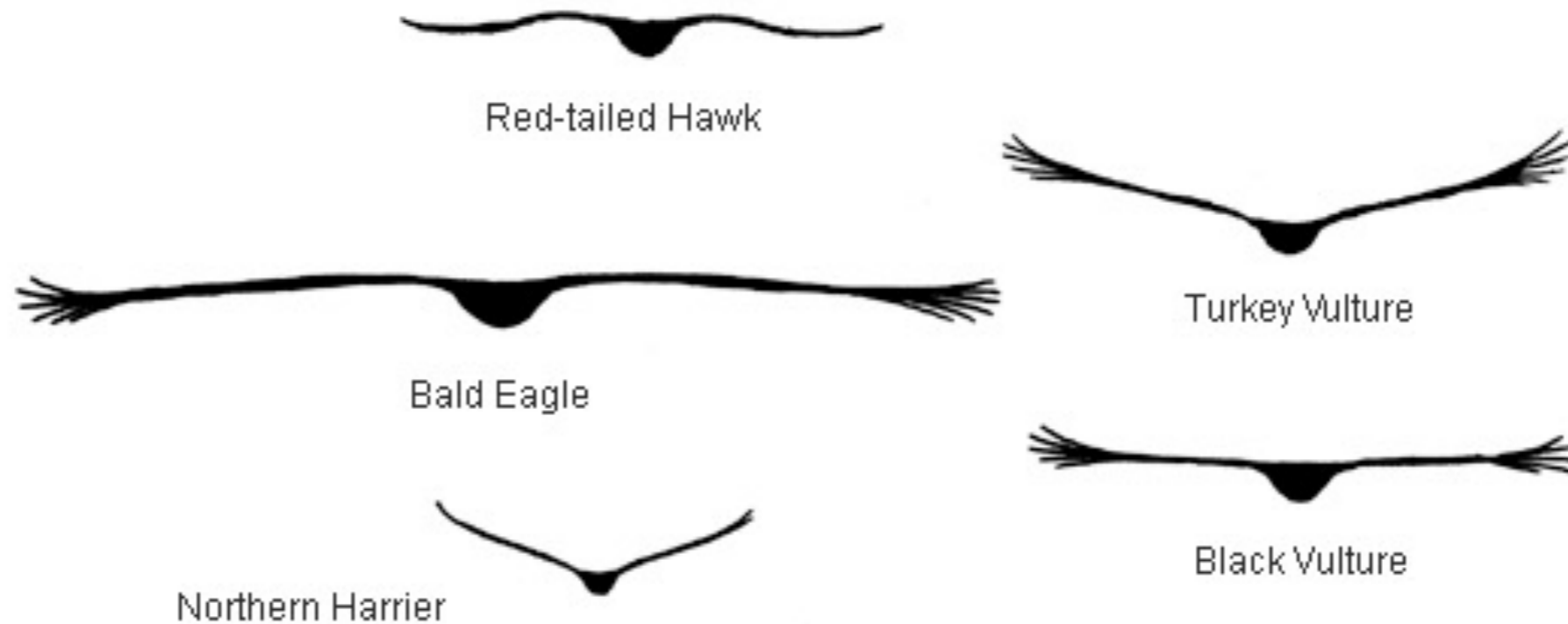
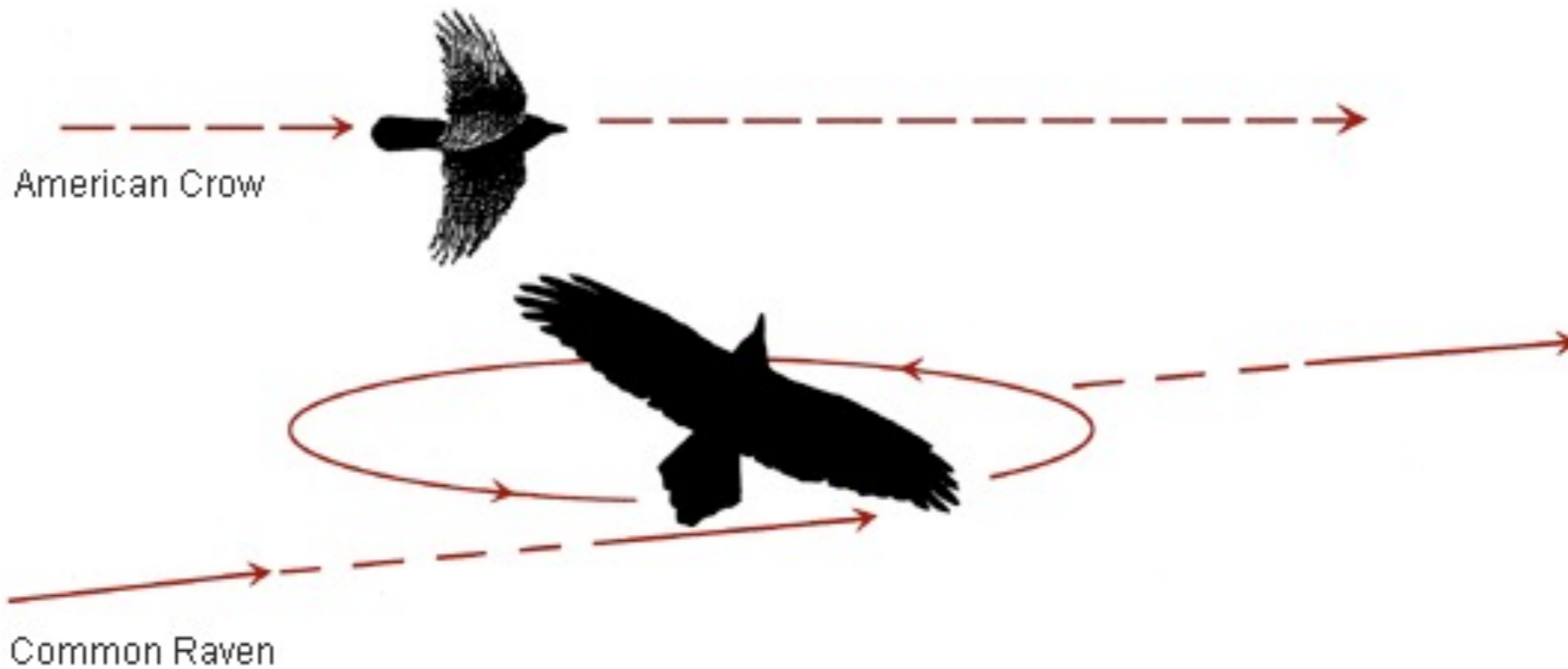
American Crow



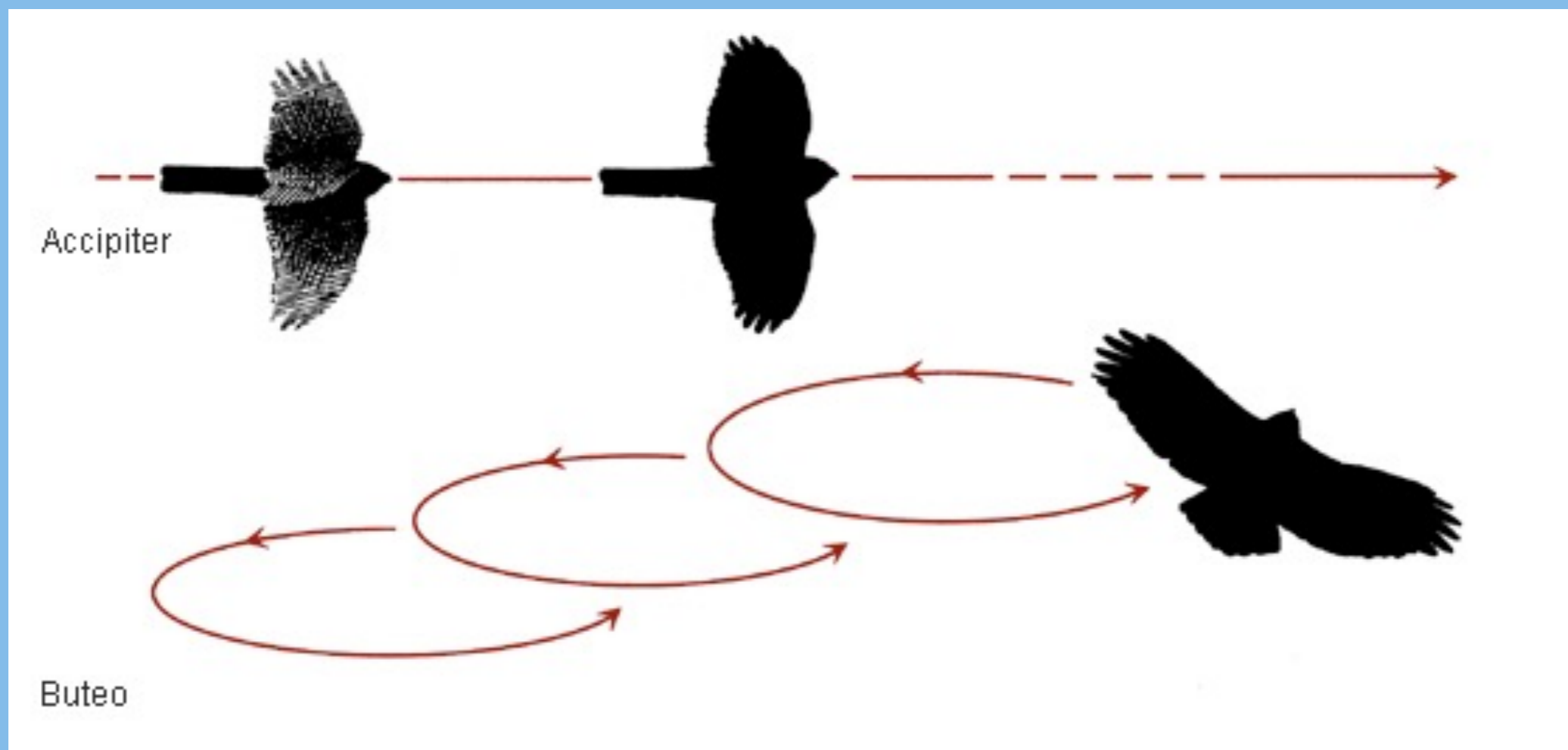
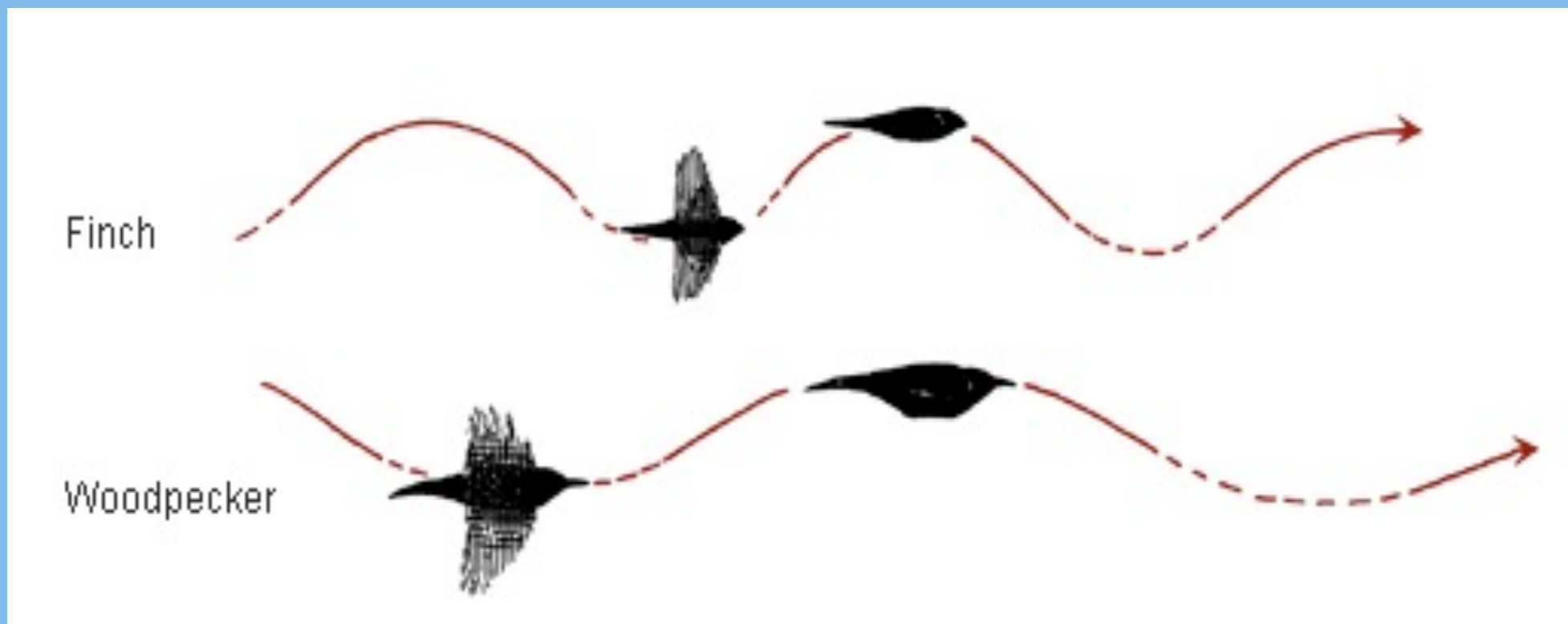




FLIGHT PATTERNS & PROFILES



FLIGHT PATTERNS & PROFILES



HOW TO DESCRIBE THE LOCATION OF A BIRD

Distance – near/far

Tree type or species
evergreen?
deciduous?
snag?

On the horizon

Below/above/within
the clouds

12-Hour Clock



SUMMARY

- 1 – Majority of IDs can be made by close examination of:
 - head shape & colour patterns
 - bill shape & colour
- 2 – Habitat determines your species mix: you won't find a Sandpiper in Kinnikinnick Park!
- 3 – For learning vocalizations, start with the common species, and for migrants, start early in the spring
- 4 – Get it to family.

