

# **Popular Birding Sites**

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#### **Albion Basin**

*Directions:* Take Exit 295 from I-15 in Sandy and go east on UT 209 toward the Snowbird and Alta ski resorts. Go 5 miles to the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon. Go up the canyon road (UT 210) about 11 miles to the end of the road and Albion Basin.

## **Big Cottonwood Canyon**

*Directions:* Take the 7200 South exit (Exit 297) on I-15 in Salt Lake City and go east about 5 miles on UT 48 to the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon.

## City Cemetery, Salt Lake City

*Directions:* In Salt Lake City, go north on B Street from Second Avenue (an extension of North Temple) to 11th Avenue. Turn right and go 1.2 miles to the entrance of the cemetery. The cemetery is bounded on the north by 11th Avenue, on the west by N Street, on

the east by U Street and on the south by Fourth Avenue.

#### **City Creek Canyon**

*Directions:* Directions: From Second Avenue (an extension of North Temple) in Salt Lake City, go north on B Street past the 11th Avenue intersection continuing another 0.7 miles. The road crosses City Creek at the mouth of the canyon.

Specialty Birds: Blue Grouse, Northern Pygmy-Owl, Western Screech-Owl, Common Poorwill, Steller's Jay, American Dipper, Townsend's Solitaire

## Cottonwood Park, Jordan River Parkway

**Directions**: Go west on North Temple Street in Salt Lake City 2 miles past the I-15 underpass and turn right on Redwood Road. Go 0.5 miles and turn right

on 300 North. The park surrounds the Department of Agriculture building and the Jordan River Parkway path follows the river.

## **Decker Lake** (N-40.42.731, W-111.56.991)

*Directions*: From Redwood Road (1700 West) in Salt Lake City and 2495 South, go west 0.7 miles. (This is Parkway Blvd.) Near the "Duck Crossing" sign, opposite the Franklin Covey Retail Outlet, is a good place to park.

**Description:** There is a trail that goes completely around the lake. Binoculars are usually adequate as the lake is not very large. Be sure to check the small mud flats area on the east central side for shorebirds and other waders.

~ Directions and Description submitted by Bruce Robinson

## **Desolation Trail, Mill Creek Canyon**

*Directions*: From Exit 3 of I-215 in Salt Lake City, go south on Wasatch Boulevard. Turn left on 3800 South and go to the fee station of Mill Creek Canyon. Desolation Trail is 2.6 miles up the canyon from the fee station.

## Draper/Riverton, Jordan River Parkway

*Directions*: From Draper/Riverton Exit of I-215 (Exit #291 -- 123rd South), go west about a mile and turn left (south) on the road just before the Jordan River bridge (on the east side of the river). Go several hundred feet to a parking lot.

## **Little Cottonwood Canyon**

*Directions*: Take Exit 298 from I-15 in Sandy and go east on UT 209 toward the Snowbird and Alta ski resorts. Go 5 miles to the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon.

## **Lee Kay Ponds** ~ Cathleen Caron

*Directions*: From Bangerter Hwy. in West Valley City, take California Ave. (about 1300 South) going west. to 6030 West. The ponds are located on Division of Wildlife Resources' property south of the Salt Lake Valley Solid Waste Facility. "Also you can take the 5600 West exits from either 21st South freeway (go north) or I80 (go south)."

*Information:* The auto loop road is open year-round, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays, excluding Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. For more information, call Walters at (801) 538-4771 or the Salt Lake Valley Solid Waste Facility at (801) 974-6902.

... someone asked the other day about the locked gates. I have asked about this, as they have always been locked when I've gone. I was told that although you can't drive around the pond, you are allowed to walk around past the gates. ~ Cathleen Caron

## **Liberty Park**

**Directions**: Liberty Park is located on an 8 square block area in Salt Lake City which extends from 9th to 13th South and from 5th to 7th East. (The Tracy Avery is in the south end of the park).

## **Little Cottonwood Canyon**

*Directions:* Take Exit 295 from I-15 in Sandy and go east on UT 209 toward the Snowbird and Alta ski resorts. Go 5 miles to the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon.

## Mill Creek Canyon

*Directions*: Depending on the direction your coming from take either the 3300 South or the 3900 South exit of I-215 in east Salt Lake City. Go east under the freeway and take Wasatch Boulevard to 3800 South. Turn east into the canyon.

Specialty Birds: Northern Pygmy-Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Flammulated Owl, Great-horned Owl

#### **Mehraban Wetlands Park** ~ *Keith Morlock*

**Description**: This is a recently rehabilitated wetlands area that has starting picking up many more migrants and permanent residents in the last few years. There are several walkways around various ponds and boggy areas. Worth a trip in the evenings, especially if you like the sound of hundreds of Red-Winged Blackbirds serenading you.

*Directions:* [Take the Draper/Riverton exit (#291) from I-15 and go east to 1000 East] Enter from 1000 East and 11815 South (Riparian Drive). From this intersection you go west about two blocks to a small parking lot at the bend in the road.

## **Memory Grove**

**Directions**: From Second Avenue (an extension of North Temple) in Salt Lake City, go north 0.3 miles on Canyon Road (120 East).

#### Murray, Jordan River Parkway

*Directions*: There are three good access points to the Murray section of the Jordan River Parkway. One is at 4800 South, another is at 5300 South and a third is at 6400 South or Winchester Blvd.

*Birds you might see*: Terry and Pam Sadler have prepared an excellent list of birds they have seen along this part of the Jordan River Parkway. (available on the utahbirds.org web site).

## Parley's Historic and Nature Area

*Directions*: Take the 2300 East Street exit (Exit 171) from I-80 in south Salt Lake City. Turn left on Heritage Way (2760 South) and go to 2700 East. You can use the parking lots for Parley's Historic and Nature Area or for Tanner Park.

## **Red Butte Gardens** ~ Carol Gwynn

*Directions:* Take Wakara Way (about 650 south) east off of Foothill Blvd. (an extension of 500 South that curves southeast) to Red Butte Gardens.

**Description:** There is an admission fee to the gardens, if you are not a U. of U. student/staff member. There is a series of trails east of the developed garden area that takes you up along the hillside.

## Riverside Park, Jordan River Parkway

*Directions*: Go west on North Temple St. in Salt Lake City 2 miles past the I-15 underpass and turn right on Redwood Rd. Go to 700 North and turn right, continuing a short distance to the park by the river.

## Riverton/Draper, Jordan River Parkway

*Directions:* From Draper/Riverton Exit of I-215 (Exit #291 -- 123rd South), go west about a mile and turn left (south) on the road just before the Jordan River bridge (on the east side of the river). Go several hundred feet to a parking lot.

#### Silver Lake Boardwalk

*Directions*: Take the 7200 South exit (Exit 297) on I-15 in Salt Lake City and go east about 5 miles on UT 48 to the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon. Go up the canyon 14 miles on UT 190 to Brighton. Silver Lake is behind the Nordic Center on the one-way loop at the end of the road.

# South Shore -- Great Salt Lake / GSL Marina / Saltair

*Directions*: Take I-80 going west from Salt Lake City to Exit 104 (Saltair). Take the frontage road heading northeast. From this point to Saltair (an old resort six mile down the road), there are points of access, mostly by foot to the mudflats of the Great Salt Lake.

Specialty Birds: (spring) Black-bellied Plover, Red Knot, Sanderling, Snowy Plover, Long-billed Curlews; (summer) Snowy Plover, Willet, Long-billed Curlew, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Wilson's Phalarope, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper; (fall and winter) Least Sandpiper, Red-necked Phalarope, Whimbrel, Franklin's Gull, Boneparte's Gull, Snow Bunting, Eared Grebe, Long-tailed Duck (Oldsquaw), White-winged, Surf and Black Scoter

## **Tanner's Flat Campground**

*Directions*: Take Exit 295 from I-15 in Sandy and go east on UT 209 toward the Snowbird and Alta ski resorts. Go 5 miles to the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon. Go up the canyon road (UT 210) about 4.5 miles. Tanner's Flat Campground will be on your right, south of the road.

#### **Tanner Park**

*Directions*: Take the 2300 East Street exit (Exit 171) from I-80 in south Salt Lake City. Turn left on Heritage Way (2760 South) and go to 2700 East. You can use the parking lots for Parley's Historic and Nature Area or for Tanner Park.

## The Spruces Campground

*Directions*: Take the 7200 South exit (Exit 297) on I-15 in Salt Lake City and go east about 5 miles on UT 48 to the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon. Go up the canyon 10 miles to the campground on the right.

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