

Crow



Fan shaped tail and square feather tips

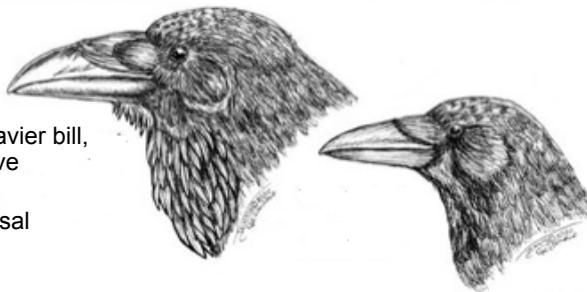


American Crow

How to avoid conflicts and identification: Crows vs. Ravens

Common Raven

American Crow



Larger heavier bill, with a curve

Longer nasal bristles

Neck feather ruff

Smaller straighter bill

Smoother neck

Raven

Crow



Jenifer Rees Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Although they may appear alike, crows and ravens have several different characterizations and behaviors.

Crows weight up to 1lbs., and have entirely black plumage, broad wings and a short, fan-shaped tail. Crows will fly in large groups for short distances, and flap their wings much more than ravens do.

Crow Calls: The crow call is a loud "caw, caw" or "awk."

Ravens weigh up to 2.6 lbs., have entirely black plumage, a heavy bill, long narrow wings, and wedged shaped tail that is easily recognized while in flight. Ravens will soar for long periods and even do aerial acrobatics.

Raven Calls: The common raven call may include: "croooaak," "cr-r-ruck," "tok," and "wonk-wonk."

The American crow is common throughout Utah. They can be found in open habitats, such as agricultural areas and towns. Crows eat a variety of food items, including small animals, insects, plant matter and carrion. Nesting usually occurs from February to May. Crows are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and are managed in Utah through a limited hunting season.

Tips for reducing crow damage:

For small gardens: nylon or plastic netting affixed over plants, or placing a paper sack or cup over ripened corn ears.

Thin roosting trees: to decrease perching.

Deflector Lines: used historically to protect fields from crows by stretching cord or fine wire at intervals across the field at heights about 6 to 8 feet above the ground. Aluminum, cloth strips or aluminum pie pans can be tied to the wires.

Frightening devices: sprinklers, noisemakers, lights, clappers, battery operated alarms, or mylar tape.

Decoys: animated owls, scarecrows, and snakes.

(Internet Center for Wildlife Damage Management Ron Johnson Extension Wildlife Specialist Dept. of Fisheries and Wildlife University of Nebraska-Lincoln)

If you have a problem with crows that cannot be resolved by following these tips, contact the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources office near you.

Cedar City (435) 865-6100

Ogden (801) 476-2740

Price (435) 613-3700

Salt Lake City (801) 538-4700

Springville (801) 491-5678

Vernal (435) 781-9453

