

BEHAVIORAL TRAITS OF A COMMON RAVEN

Range and Habitat:

This raven is resident from the Aleutians, northern Alaska and northern Canada south throughout the western United States and to Minnesota, the Great Lakes, and northern New England; and in the Appalachians to northwestern Georgia. Preferred habitats include coniferous forests and rocky coasts. In the West, these ravens are also found in deserts and arid mountains.

Breeding and Nesting:

Four to seven dull green eggs, spotted with brown, are laid in a large mass of sticks containing a cup lined with fur, moss, and lichens, and placed on a cliff or in the top of a conifer. Incubation lasts from 18 to 21 days and is carried out by the female.

Foraging and Feeding:

Most food is taken from ground. This raven eats carrion and the insects that feed on it such as maggots and beetles. This raven will eat the afterbirth of ewes and other large mammals, small mammals, reptiles, frogs, young or wounded birds, and some invertebrates. Vegetable foods include grains, acorns, and cherries.

Readily Eats:

Bread Products, Peanuts

Vocalization:

The Common Raven makes a deep, varied, guttural croaking noise that sounds like a hollow wonk-wonk.

Similar Species:

The Chihuahuan Raven is similar, but smaller with somewhat different calls and occupies more arid habitats. Crows are smaller, but have squared-off tails and different calls.



Breeding Locations:

Forests, coniferous, Grassland with scattered trees, Mountains, Open landscapes, Rocky places

Breeding Type: Common

Breeding Population:

Forests, coniferous, Grassland with scattered trees, Mountains, Open landscapes, Rocky places

Egg Color: Green, Green Gray

Number of Eggs: 3 - 7

Incubation Days: 18 - 21

Egg Incubator: Female

Nest Material: Branches and twigs.

Migration: Nonmigratory