

4 Key Elements of a Wetland

Wetlands are VERY important, especially in Klamath and Lake Counties.

- 1) Wetlands are natural filters. Wetland plants clean water by trapping small particles into their root systems.
- 2) Wetlands act like sponges. Their soil holds water on the land for a longer time, which helps supply rivers and streams with water and prevents flooding. This allows more time to filter the water.
- 3) Like fingers, the roots of plants hold onto soil, preventing it from washing or blowing away. This helps reduce erosion.
- 4) Wetlands make excellent home for lots of plants and animals. Many types of wildlife lay eggs and raise their young in wetlands.

What are the sounds of these wetland animals?



Red-Winged Blackbird
(Male)
Size: 7.25 inches
Often seen in large flocks in marshes and fields



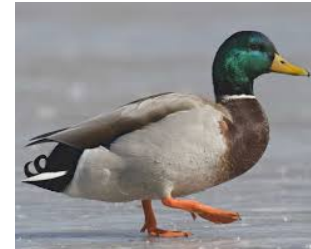
Killdeer
Size: 9 – 11 inches
Seen along shorelines and in fields; will mimic a crippled bird to protect its young



Pacific Tree Frog
Size: 2 inches
Found in places high in moisture—marshes, meadows, woodlands and brush. Often heard in movies



Bald Eagle
Size: 6-14 pounds
Wing span: 6-7 feet
Found all over North America wherever there are fish; can live over 20 years; national emblem of the United States since 1782



Mallard
Size: 20-26 inches
Seen near ponds, marshes, streams, and lakes; dabbling or surface-feeding, they eat plants, insects, invertebrates, and small fish



American Robin (male)
Size: 9 -11 inches
Seen in grasslands and woodlands all over North America; known for its red breast and getting worms in the early morning