

BLM STUDY REVIEW of HELLS CANYON COMPLEX STUDIES

Spring Distribution and Relative Abundance Of Upland Birds in Hells Canyon

3.2-3

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1. INTRODUCTION

This study objective was to document upland bird species, relative population levels, cover types used and spatial distribution.

2. CONCLUSION

“Seven species of upland birds were observed with chukar and morning dove most common and they were distributed over the entire study area. Abundance of these birds declined as one travels north below Hells Canyon Dam.” This is as expected. Vertical walls hold little habitat.

3. STUDY ADEQUACY

This is a one year survey that may be adequate for its purpose. It most likely lists all the upland species present. Relative abundance may have been portrayed differently with three-year data, but the information shows upland birds present in Hells Canyon Complex.

4. BLM CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS

CONCLUSION

This paper gives good information on numbers and distribution, but little coverage on habitat quality and quantity.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Habitat quality limits bird numbers. Therefore if habitat quality is improved and maintained at a high level, bird populations would be expected to increase. Development of island and riparian habitat would aid upland bird nesting success.