

Volunteer to Survey our Winter Dippers

llarrywhite. 11/29/2020 :

Evergreen Audubon has been conducting breeding surveys for American Dippers on Upper Bear Creek for the past two years as summarized in the report published in the November eDipper. We plan to continue surveys this winter to determine the winter distribution and abundance of this amazing aquatic songbird in our watershed. Preliminary surveys last January suggested that most if not all dippers wintered downstream of Evergreen Lake all the way into Bear Creek Lake Park due to frozen conditions of the stream at higher elevations.

For our winter survey, we are dividing Bear Creek into nine reaches and assigning volunteers a reach (or reaches) to survey at least once a month from late December through early March. This would be a good opportunity to use your observation skills to focus on a single bird species, although additional observations could add to your watershed list.

If you would like to participate, please contact me at llarrywhite@msn.com for more information. Also consider which of the following reaches you may like to survey:

1. Downtown Evergreen from Dam to Meadow Drive
2. Downstream of Meadow Drive to Troublesome Gulch Rd.
3. Kittredge to Cold Springs Gulch Bridge
4. Lair O' The Bear Park Upstream of Parking Lot to Cold Springs Gulch
5. Lair O' The Bear Park Parking Lot downstream to Little Park
6. Idledale to Morrison Park (caution! – this may require some rigorous scrambles down to the Creek and depends on the opening of Highway 74)
7. Morrison Park to Bear Creek Lake Park Entrance
8. Bear Creek Lake Park
9. Downstream of Bear Creek Lake Park, to Platte River (good access along a bike trail)