



Whooping Crane (Grus americana)



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Federal status: Endangered
Colorado status: Endangered

This very tall, mainly white bird has a long neck, long legs, and red facial skin. Black primaries are evident in flight. Immatures are mainly white but have pale reddish-brown head and neck and similar color scattered elsewhere on the body. Adults are 50 to 56 inches tall and have a wingspan of up to 7.5 feet.

Habitat: This crane can be found in freshwater marshes and wet prairies, in migration and winter. It is also found in grain and stubble fields and on shallow lakes and lagoons. Depletions to the Platte River can adversely affect this crane's habitat downstream. The species can be found in 21 Colorado counties, mostly east of the Continental Divide.



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