Clark’s nutcracker

( *Nucifraga columbiana* )

“This bird feeds on the seed of the pine and also on insects. It resides in the rocky mountains at all seasons of the year, and in many parts is the only bird to be found.”
Great horned owl

(*Bubo virginianus*)

“I saw two large Owls [6] with remarkable long feathers on the sides of the head which resembled ears; I take them to be the large hooting owl tho’ they are somewhat larger and their colours brighter than those common to the U’ States.” —Meriwether Lewis, 3 March 1806
Lewis’ woodpecker

( Melanerpes lewis )

“This bird in its actions when flying resembles the small redheaded woodpecker common to the Atlantic states; its note also somewhat resembles that bird.”

—Meriwether Lewis. May 27, 1806, near present day Idaho.
Common poorwill

(Phalaenoptilus nuttallii)

“a nocturnal bird, sings only in the night as does the whipperwill. — it’s weight — 1 oz 17”
—Meriwether Lewis. October 16, 1804.
Interior least tern

( Sterna antillarum )

The Corps of Discovery observed this species, the smallest tern in North America, along the Missouri River near present day Omaha, Nebraska. August 5, 1804.
Greater sage grouse

( *Centrocercus urophasianus*)

“The Heath Cock or cock of the Plains is found in the Plains of Columbia and are in great abundance from the enterance of Lewis’s river to the mountains which pass the Columbia between the Great falls and Rapids of that river.” —Meriwether Lewis. March 2, 1806.
Snow goose

(Anser caerulescens)

“The white brant is very common in this country particularly below tidewater where they remain in vast quantities during the winter. they feed like the swan gees &c on the grass roots and seeds which they find in the marshes.” —Meriwether Lewis. March 8, 1806. Fort Clatsop, present day Oregon