



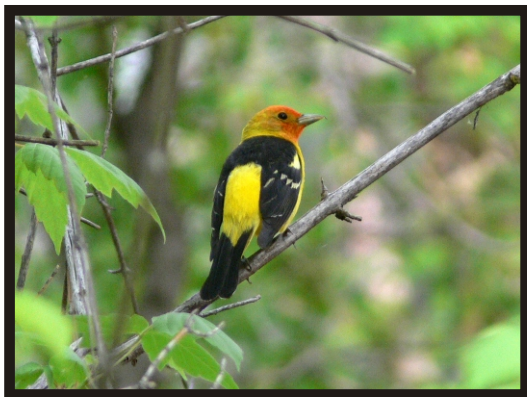
Western Tanager

Piranga ludoviciana

-Western Tanagers are summer birds in much of the western United States and Canada. They winter in Mexico and Central America.

-The main component of their diet is insects. In winter they often feed on fruit and berries as well.

-Western Tanager males are easy to recognize because of their bright red heads, lemon yellow breast and back, and black wings, shoulders, and tail.



-Nesting occurs in early summer. A clutch usually consists of 4 eggs. Both males and females participate in raising the chicks.

-Western Tanagers nest further north than any other tanagers, which tend to be neo-tropical birds.

Western Tanagers can occupy a wide range of ecosystems including riparian, mixed conifer, Ponderosa Forest, and even the backyard environment.

-Western Tanagers are smaller in size than American Robins (wingspan of 17"), with a wingspan of 11.5 inches.

-A shallow cup nest is usually built on a flat limb in a conifer tree.

-These birds have a relatively small, light-colored bill that is excellent either for eating fruit or insects.

