

Portals to Parks



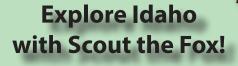
American White Pelican

(Pelecanus erythrorhynchos)





They are usually silent. If noise is made it grunts or croaks. The nestlings bark.





How to Identify:

- American White Pelicans are one of the largest birds in North America.
- Powerful and graceful flyers,
 American White Pelicans have a
 9-foot wingspan.
- They are all white except for black flight feathers only visible when their wings are spread.
- They have a long beak with a large throat pouch, it is yellow/ orange as well as their legs.

Habitat:

- American White Pelicans are mostly inland birds, especially in breeding season.
- It feeds in shallow lakes and marshes.
- American White Pelicans nest on isolated islands in lakes.



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American White Pelican

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More Fun Facts!

- The American White Pelicans can feed miles from its nesting ground.
- They often feed with cooperative feeding. Pelicans will form a line and drive schools of fish towards the shore where escaping is difficult.
- During breeding season, it does most of its foraging at night, relying on touch through frequent dipping of its bill.
- The American White Pelican is a migratory bird. They migrate to winter in the southwest and southeast costal lowlands.





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Help Protect the American White Pelican

- Volunteer at a wildlife refuge.
- Follow local fishing laws.
- Recycle old fishing lines.
- If you see a pelican with wing tags, report the sighting to reportband.gov. Be sure to include the color of the tag.
- Pack it in, pack it out

ACTIVITY TIME

Research the Brown Pelican. Name at least three differences in habitate and behavior you can find compared to the American White Pelican.
Name three things pelicans eat.