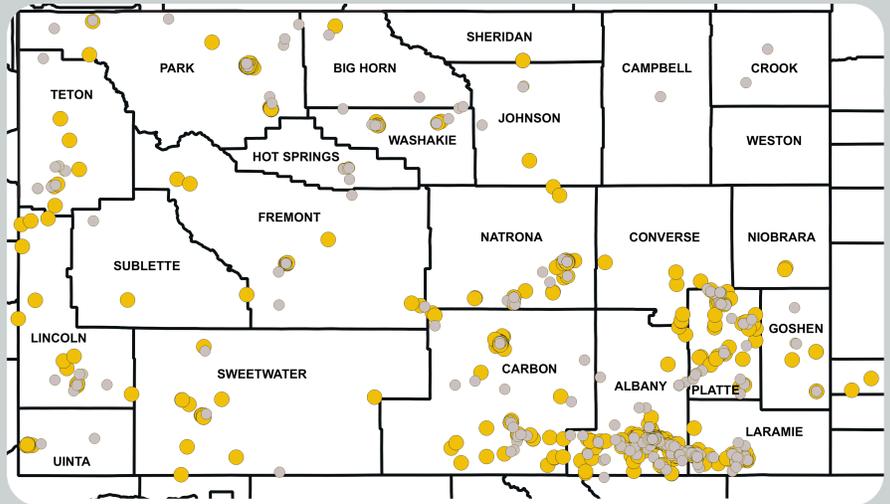


2025 REPORT

2025 was the second year of community data collection for Vulture Watch Wyoming. We saw a large increase in the number of observers collecting data about vultures across Wyoming, with 90 observers who submitted 764 Turkey Vulture observations. This nearly doubles our number of observers from our first year in 2024!

	2024	2025
Overall Birds	4,924	7,688
Aged Birds	2,061	5,077
Birds in Flight	552	848
Birds in Kettles	1,232	2,611



Vulture Watch 2024 
 Vulture Watch 2025 

90 Observers
764 Observations
7,688 Birds Observed

Thank you!



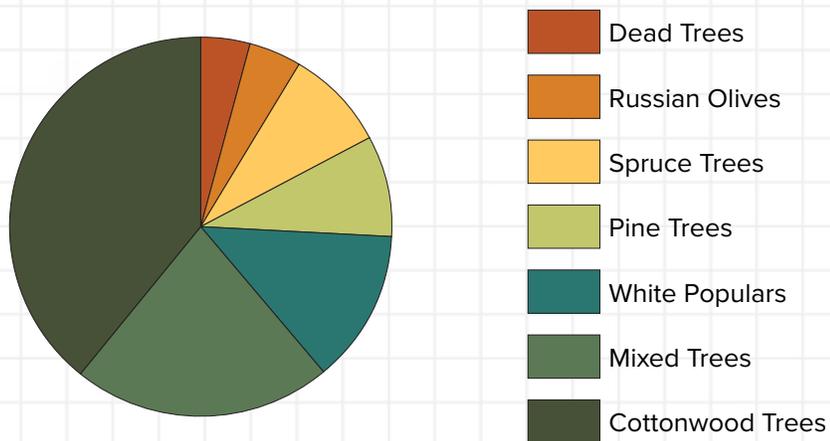
There were increases in all categories of data, with the largest increase in observations of birds seen in flight. Together we recorded sightings of over 7,000 birds across Wyoming, with 5,077 observations for birds which could be aged (adult versus juvenile). This represents a phenomenal increase in participation in Vulture Watch Wyoming.

Thank you for all your hard work this year!



ALL ABOUT ROOSTS

Roosting Tree Preferences



We did a great job this year finding new roosts! Many new roosts were found in both urban and rural areas across Wyoming.

Repeat observations were conducted at multiple roosts, including in Casper, Cody, Evanston, Lander, Meeteetse, and multiple rural roosts. The repeat observations at different roosts allowed us to see that vultures seem to use roosts throughout the spring and summer, but the largest numbers in 2025 were in September.

Roosts were found only in trees, and not on man-made structures. One roost was observed on a dead tree with suspected fire damage.

This year, we observed twenty-two roosts split evenly between urban and rural roosts. Out of the eleven urban roosts, the highest bird count for the year was seventy-six in Casper. Two new roosts were spotted in Laramie and three new ones were spotted in Cody!

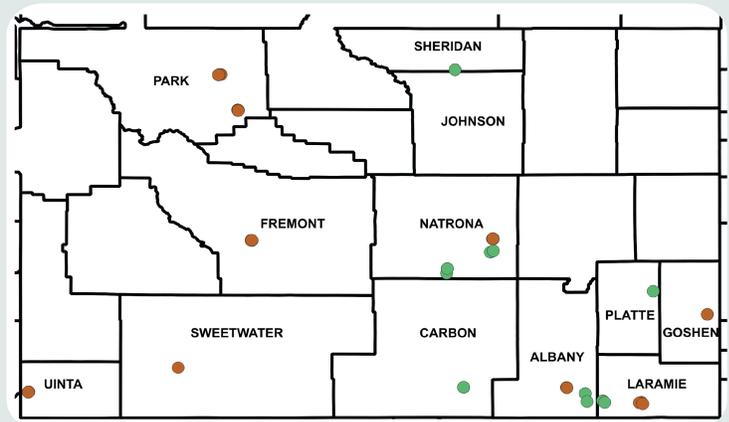
Out of the eleven rural roosts observed, the roost with the highest bird count for the year was fifty-eight at the Alcova Reservoir.



THE **CAMPUS** ROOST

The University of Wyoming campus roost was very active in 2025, and 10 observers helped track its growth. Bird numbers at the roost peaked at 297 birds on 12th of August and the 9th of September 2025. This was an increase from 201 roosting birds counted in 2024.

2025 Roost Map



Rural Roost 

Urban Roost 

We observed 19 juveniles at the campus roost this year!

The campus roost alone made up about half of this year's roost observations!

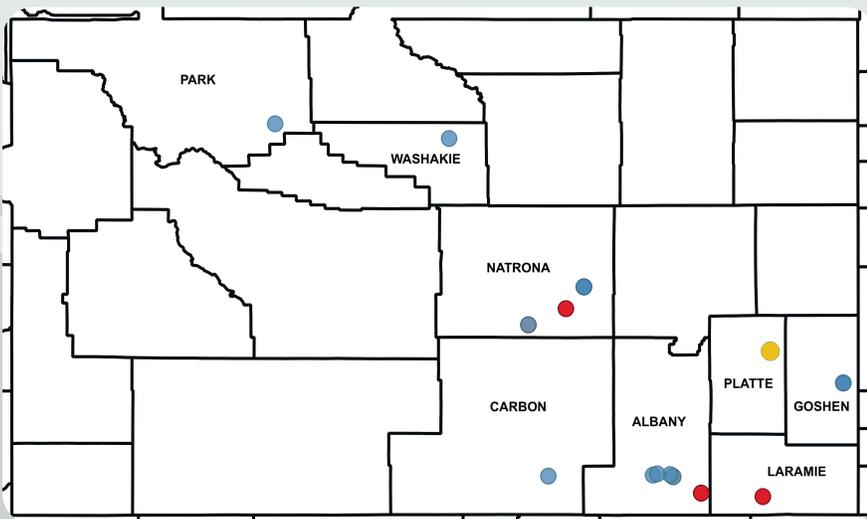
The most repeatedly surveyed roost outside of the campus roost was in Casper!

Overall, we were able to count 2,443 birds at the campus roost this year (compared to 2,060 birds in 2024).



JUVENILES & MORE

Juvenile Turkey Vultures were again observed in the state, with 58 spotted in roosts, sitting on fences, perching in trees, and feeding on carcasses. This is an increase in eleven juveniles from the total counted in 2024 (47). Several sites saw overlap in locations where juveniles were spotted, including the roosts in Casper and the roost on the University of Wyoming campus. One new potential nest site was identified in Platte County, and no new activity was recorded at the potential nest site seen in 2024 in Laramie County.



Turkey Vulture Juvenile Locations 2025



Turkey Vulture Possible Nest Locations 2025



Turkey Vulture Juvenile Locations 2024



Remember that tracking juveniles allows us to find and observe nests!

The number of juveniles we have been able to observe is still very small compared to the number of adults. The majority of our observations have been taken at roosts with few being observed outside of them.

We hope to increase the amount of juveniles recorded next year. Thank you for your hard work and dedication during 2025!



THANK YOU

And please join us for 2026!

We still have so many questions to answer...

What are the best times of the day to observe a roost?

How does weather correlate to roost use?

Can we identify places where juveniles are seen every year?

Are repeat observations possible for potential nest sites?

Thank you to all Vulture Watch Wyoming observers! We had a phenomenal second year of data collection. We have started to fill in our data gap for the southwestern portion of the state, with roosts identified in both Sweetwater and Uinta Counties. Observers also worked hard to take multiple observations from the same locality, which allowed us to collect data on how Turkey Vultures use different habitats throughout the spring, summer, and fall.

Vulture Watch Wyoming will be starting its third year of data collection in 2026, and we hope you will continue to join us in recording information about these unique birds. Our roost data observers did a fantastic job collecting data at both ephemeral and consistent roosts. Continuing these repeat observations will allow us to better understand how roosts are used in Wyoming. Repeat observations will also let us drill down into other data on roost behavior.

You can use the same **Survey123** app again this year and start recording data whenever you start seeing Turkey Vultures in Spring 2026. If you would like a refresher we are offering an in-person and virtual training on the **24th of March** at 5:30pm in the Berry Center on the UWYO campus.

Scan the QR code to learn more!

