

Western Washington Plants for Birds

Black Hawthorn

Crataegus douglasii



Photo by Mick Thompson, Eastside Audubon

Bewick's Wren

(Thryomanes bewickii)

Bewick's wrens are often seen flittering through tangles of branches and leaves searching for insects. Sometimes, they are even seen hanging upside down. The males are known for singing vigorously during breeding season. These birds are at home in gardens, residential areas, and in parks.

They are still quite common in the West, but have greatly declined in the East, coinciding with the increased range of the House wren.



Photo courtesy of NWplants.com

Black Hawthorn

Black hawthorn is a medium-sized shrub that grows up to 20 feet tall with dense branches and thorns. It produces purple to black fruits (July-August) and has sharp thorns. Thickets created by this plant are excellent cover and nesting sites for birds. Its berries are food for a variety of birds.

Black hawthorn grows best in full sunlight with sufficient moisture, although it can tolerate partial shade and drier sites. This plant is often used to help with erosion.

It is also known as Douglas hawthorn. Be sure you plant *Crataegus douglasii* with its duck-foot shaped leaves. Do not plant the similar *Crataegus monogyna*, English hawthorn, that has deeply lobbed leaves and is invasive.



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