

CANYON WREN ECOLOGY, LOWER SALMON RIVER GORGE, IDAHO^{TWS}

Heather L. Johnston,
Helena, Montana 59601

John T. Ratti

Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, University of Idaho,
Moscow 83843

Canyon wrens (*Catherpes mexicanus*) are among the least-studied passerines in North America. These birds are residents of arid and semi-arid regions dominated by rock substrate from southern British Columbia, throughout the western United States, and into Mexico. To increase knowledge of canyon wrens and provide managers with baseline information for developing conservation strategies, we assessed wren dispersion, habitat-use patterns, and nest-cavity temperature regimes. We tested the hypothesis that canyon wren density was limited by availability of suitable-nesting cavities.