CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Northern Flicker

Colaptes auratus

Colaptes auratus is a woodpecker that has largely given up on wood. It spends most of its time hopping on the ground digging into ant nests, and ants make up around half its diet — more than for any …

Quick facts

Classification: Bird
Family: Picidae
Habitat: Woodlands, forest edges, open fields, and urban parks
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 6-9 years
Weight: 110-160 g
Scientific name: Colaptes auratus

Did you know?

- Unlike most woodpeckers, Northern Flickers are frequently seen on the ground searching for ants, which make up to 45% of their diet.
- The white rump patch that flashes when a flicker flushes is one of the most reliable field marks in North America and is visible far longer than the …

What I learned

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