



A Concise Guide to Beginning Wildlife Photography

HOW

Today's hi-tech digital cameras have amazing capabilities!
They make it all possible!



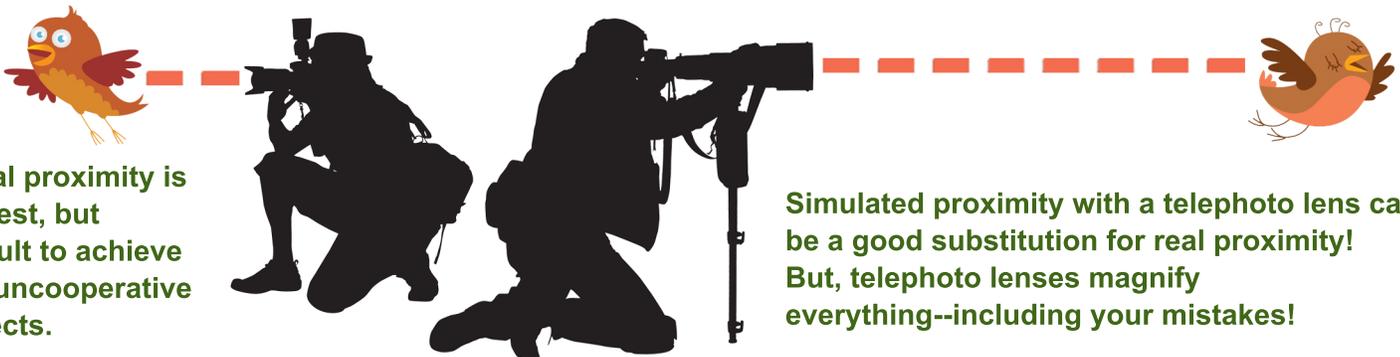
A good quality Digital SLR with at least a 200mm or 300mm telephoto lens works well for wildlife photography, but can be challenging to master. Prices start around \$500, but go up quickly with the quality of equipment.

**RECOMMENDED
FOR THE
BEGINNER!**



So-called "Bridge Cameras" like the Canon SX60 or the Nikon B700 offer a lot of capability for a reasonable price. Cameras like these are easy to use and work well for wildlife photography, but they have some important limitations.

Proximity is the key to successful wildlife photography!



Actual proximity is the best, but difficult to achieve with uncooperative subjects.

Simulated proximity with a telephoto lens can be a good substitution for real proximity! But, telephoto lenses magnify everything--including your mistakes!

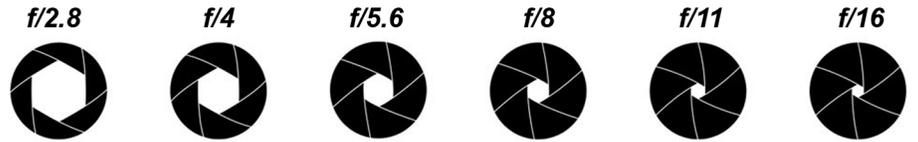
Aperture Priority is recommended for beginning wildlife photographers!

Aperture Priority allows the photographer to set the size of the aperture. The camera controls many other settings, including Shutter Speed.

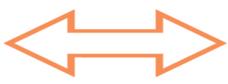


How does the aperture affect your pictures?

The size of the aperture (also known as the f-stop) controls *Depth of Field*, and affects how much of your photograph will be in focus.



- Shallow Depth of Field
- Admits Lots of Light
- Fast Shutter Speed



- Deep Depth of Field
- Admits Less Light
- Slower Shutter Speed

Other Suggested Settings

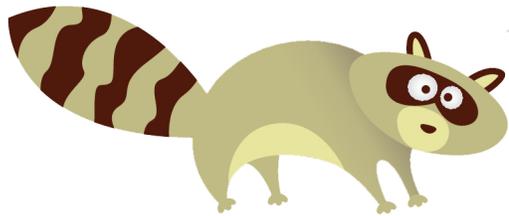
- Lens Auto Focus
- AF ONE SHOT
- Auto White Balance
- Spot Metering
- Single-point AF
- Auto ISO
- Continuous Shooting
- HI-RES JPEG



WHAT

There is a wide variety of wildlife living with us in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex!

67 species of Mammals



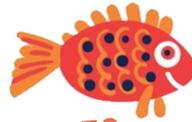
82 species of Reptiles



28 species of Amphibians



212 species of Spiders



58 species of Fish



78 species of Others

341 species of Birds



2532 species of Insects



*Numbers based on observations recorded on iNaturalist in the DFW Metroplex Place

WHEN

Mornings and evenings are the best times for wildlife photography!

Keep the sun at your back and point your shadow in the general direction of your subject.



Light is softer and more dramatic during day-night transitions. Wildlife is usually more active at these times as well!

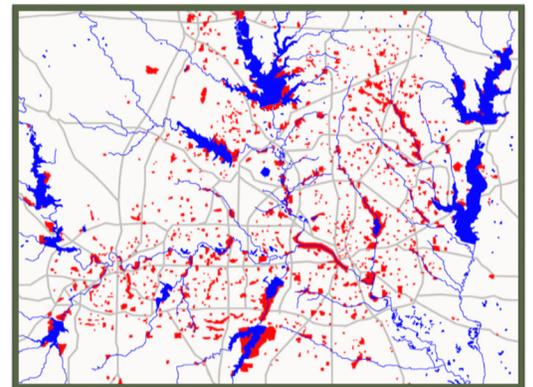
WHERE

The Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex has an abundance of great parks and nature preserves!

Almost anyplace can be a great location for observing and photographing urban wildlife! The metroplex has lots of great parks and preserves!

Your own backyard is a great place to start!

Well established neighborhoods, school campuses, business parks, and shopping centers can also be very productive places to pursue urban wildlife photography!



The red areas represent parks and nature preserves

A great place to share your wonderful wildlife photos and observations...



North Central Texas Wildlife Facebook Group

The premier urban wildlife facebook group for the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.



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