

Discover the Fauna of Our Campus

Middle Spotted Woodpecker -*Dendrocoptes medius*

Kingdom: Animals
Phylum: Chordates
Class: Birds
Order: Woodpeckers
Family: Woodpeckers
Genus: Woodpecker
Species: Middle Spotted Woodpecker

This species is distinguished by its bright colors. The top of its head is completely red, its face is white, and its wings have black-and-white patterns. The lower part of the belly has a pinkish-red shade, while the flanks contain dark streaks. Unlike many other woodpeckers, it prefers searching for food on the thinner branches and branch tips of trees.



They mainly inhabit old broad-leaved forests, especially areas dominated by oak trees. Their diet consists of insects and larvae hidden under tree bark. Around Mingachevir State University, they can be found in parks with old trees, forest belts along the Kura River, and old gardens within the city. On the campus, their characteristic drumming sounds can often be heard on thick tree trunks while they peck holes into the bark.

This bird is important as a “forest doctor.” It cleans trees from harmful insects, and the nesting holes it creates are later used by many other bird species. The presence of the Middle Spotted Woodpecker is considered an indicator of the biological health of a habitat.