

birds, using a variety of methods to locate and capture a large number of birds in a single day. I have also discovered that red-winged blackbirds are highly dependent on wetland habitat for their survival. Another fact that I discovered in my research is that red-winged blackbirds are targeted in agricultural areas through poisoning, shooting, or trapping to control damage to the crops. Red-winged blackbirds are omnivorous, but primarily feed on grains, such as corn and rice, and seeds.

In my community, which is surrounded by a high concentration of industrial agriculture, I have witnessed modern agricultural practices eroding wetland habitat. I used to walk through wetlands in a local park where abundant wetland-dependent species thrived. It was as if overnight, the trees were removed, grasses plowed over, and the area filled in with the remaining dirt. Since this event, I have seen very few red-winged black birds where I used to see many.

