Discover the diversity of birds, mammals, fish and more in Wyoming and around the world!

The Museum of Vertebrates houses scientific specimens that are used by researchers to explore the mysteries of the natural world. Specimens in our collections help scientists document and understand regional and global biodiversity, shed light on evolutionary history and ecological interactions, and provide critical clues for conservation.

The majority of our specimens were collected right here in Wyoming, however we’re beginning an ambitious growth phase that will concentrate on increasing our holdings from all across the New World. Although we have collections of all vertebrate groups, we will primarily focus on birds in the near future. Our current holdings include:

- **Mammals**: 6,300 specimens
- **Birds**: 2,500
- **Fish**: 1,400
- **Amphibians and reptiles**: 600

The Museum of Vertebrates consists of dry specimens in a climate-controlled room, wet specimens in an explosion-proof room, preparation rooms and frozen tissues in -80 degree freezers. Frozen tissues let scientists of the future study DNA, proteins, and more.

Many of the Vertebrate specimens are over 100 years old!