



Male Anna's Hummingbird

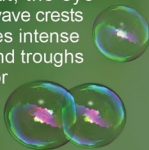


Male Rufous Hummingbird

Iridescence

The iridescent colors of feathers, like those of a soap bubble, result from light wave interference created by thin films.

The observer's location in relation to the bird and the angle of sunlight change what the viewer sees. If light wave crests and troughs meet and cancel each other out, the eye perceives black; if the wave crests meet, the eye perceives intense color; if wave crests and troughs partially meet, the color will be more dull.



Surviving Winter

Anna's Hummingbirds have expanded their range over the past few decades and now remain in the Pacific Northwest year-round, surviving cold winter days and nights.

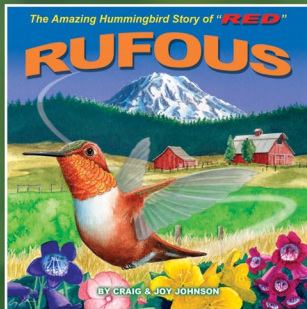
If food is scarce (insects and nectar), a hummingbird might not have enough "fuel" to regulate normal body functions. Hummingbirds will then use torpor to slow their heart rate and reduce body temperature, using up to 50 times less energy than when awake.



Male Anna's Hummingbird



A hummingbird's keel is much longer than in most birds, which aids in their remarkable flying abilities. Hummingbirds beat their wings an average of 40 times per second!



The Amazing Hummingbird Story of Red Rufous by Craig & Joy Johnson, is a true-to-life story about a Rufous Hummingbird's first year of life. Ages 3 to grandparents!

www.pugetsoundbackyardbirds.com

Photographs taken with a Canon PowerShot camera
by © Craig Johnson

Rufous & Anna's HUMMINGBIRDS

Creatures of Wonder



By
Craig & Joy Johnson