

PINE GROSBEAK

For more information on Alaska bird festivals and birding maps for Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Kodiak, contact Audubon Alaska at www.AudubonAlaska.org or 907-276-7034.

For more information on birding in Alaska, visit www.birding.alaska.gov

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#### Contributors







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FRONT COVER: TRUMPETER SWAN

# Anchorage Coastal Audubon Important Bird Area and State Wildlife Refuge BIRD CHECKLIST

Including Potter Marsh



**REVISED 2017** 

# ACCIDENTAL, CASUAL, UNSUBSTANTIATED KEY

- Casual: Occasionally seen, but not every year
- Accidental: Only one or two ever seen here
- x Unsubstantiated: no photographic or sample evidence to support sighting
- w Listed on the Audubon Alaska WatchList of declining or threatened species
- PM Documented in Potter Marsh; may be seen elsewhere in checklist area

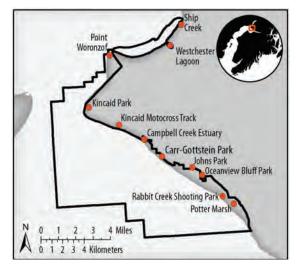
Spring: March 16–May 31

Summer: June 1–July 31 Fall: August 1–November 30

Winter: December 1–March 15

	SPECIES	PRING	UMMER	FALL	VINTER		S
$\square$	Emperor Goose W	2	S		~	П	Fra
H	Cinnamon Teal PM		_			$\square$	Ri
	Tufted Duck					$\square$	Ca
H	Steller's Eider W					$\square$	Po
H	Common Eider w						Pa
	Pied-billed Grebe PM						Co
	Sooty/Short-tailed Shearwater						Rł
	Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel PM						Sr
	Pelagic Cormorant						Rı
	Red-faced Cormorant w						BI
	Double-crested Cormorant PM						Ar
	Great Blue Heron PM						Sa
	American Coot PM						W
	Sora PM						No
	Black Oystercatcher						Ho
	Killdeer PM						Cł
	Terek Sandpiper PM						Pa
	Marbled Godwit W						Si
	Bar-tailed Godwit W						No
	Red Knot W						To
	Red-necked Stint						Te
	Ruddy Turnstone PM					Ц	Na
	White-rumped Sandpiper						Co
	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper PM						Pa
	Stilt Sandpiper						Sv
	Buff-breasted Sandpiper W					$\square$	La
	Ruff PM		_			$\square$	Ye
	Wilson's Phalarope					$\square$	Br
$\mid$	Red Phalarope					$\square$	Gr
Н	Ivory Gull w					$\mid\mid$	Re
$\mid$	Little Gull					$\mid$	Ro
$\mid$	Sabine's Gull					$\mid$	Ga
	Black-headed Gull						Re

	PRING	JMMER	<b>VIL</b>	INTER
SPECIES	S	SI	7	3
Franklin's Gull				
Ring-billed Gull				
Caspian Tern				
Pomarine Jaeger				
Parasitic Jaeger PM				
Common Murre	_			
Rhinoceros Auklet				
Snowy Owl				
Rufous Hummingbird				
Black-backed Woodpecker				
American Kestrel PM				
Say's Phoebe PM				
Western Kingbird				
Northwestern Crow				
Horned Lark				
Chestnut-backed Chickadee				
Pacific Wren PM				
Siberian Stonechat				
Northern Wheatear				
Townsend's Solitaire				
Tennessee Warbler				
Nashville Warbler				
Common Yellowthroat PM				
Palm Warbler				
Swamp Sparrow PM				
Lazuli Bunting				
Yellow-headed Blackbird PM				
Brown-headed Cowbird PM				
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch				
Red Crossbill PM				
Ross's Goose PM	X			
Garganey PM			X	
Red-throated Pipit			X	



ANCHORAGE COASTAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AND IMPORTANT BIRD AREA ACCESS POINTS

Strung between the Ship Creek industrial center downtown and the busy Seward Highway south of the city is the incredibly rich Anchorage Coastal Important Bird Area (IBA). It spans a 20-mile strip of coastal area including Ship Creek, Westchester Lagoon, Point Woronzof, Campbell Creek, south Anchorage, and Potter Marsh. It contains extensive tidal flats, marsh communities, and alder-bog forests. The southern three-quarters of this area lie within the Anchorage Coastal State Wildlife Refuge, managed by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to protect wildlife habitat and allow for compatible public uses. Limited hunting is allowed on parts of the refuge (Potter Marsh is excluded), so take note if you are birding in the fall. Visit www.refuges.adfg.alaska.gov for more information on the refuge.

This narrow strip of valuable habitat along Cook Inlet supports some of the greatest numbers and diversity of birds in the Anchorage area. Bird enthusiasts have recorded approximately 220 species, of which about 160 occur annually either as migrants or breeders.

The Anchorage Coastal IBA was established for the large numbers of Sandhill Cranes, Snow Geese, Hudsonian Godwits, and Short-billed Dowitchers that stop during migration. Visit www.AudubonAlaska.org for more information about IBAs. Audubon Alaska uses science to identify and conserve important habitat for birds across Alaska, emphasizing public lands and waters. Potter Marsh, at the southern end of the IBA, is one of Anchorage's most popular spots for photographers and local birders, offering seasonal spectacles such as majestic Trumpeter Swans and one of Alaska's most accessible Arctic Tern colonies.

# CHECKLIST KEY

- Very Common: Easily found in the right habitat and season
- **Common:** Found in the right habitat and season
- **Uncommon:** Found, with persistence, every year in the right habitat and season
- Rare: Seen in most years, but in small numbers
- Casual: Occasionally seen, but not every year
- PM Documented in Potter Marsh; may be seen elsewhere in checklist area
- N Documented nesting
- w Listed on the Audubon Alaska WatchList of declining or threatened species

WATERFOWL	J	F	Μ	Α	Μ	J	J	Α	S	0	Ν	D
Grtr. White-fronted Goose* PM W						-						
Snow Goose PM				-	-			_	-			
Brant w							_					
Cackling Goose PM			-								-	
Canada Goose PM N			-								-	
Trumpeter Swan PM N											-	
Tundra Swan PM									_			
Gadwall PM N			-									
Eurasian Wigeon PM				_								
American Wigeon PM N			-									
Mallard PM N												
Blue-winged Teal PM												
Northern Shoveler PM				-							-	
Northern Pintail PM N			-	_							-	
Green-winged Teal PM N			-								-	
Canvasback PM N				-								
Redhead PM				-								
Ring-necked Duck PM N				-								
Greater Scaup PM N				-								
Lesser Scaup PM N				-							-	
Harlequin Duck			_								-	
Surf Scoter					-	-						
White-winged Scoter PM					-	-				-		
Black Scoter PM W					-				-			
Long-tailed Duck PM						-						
Bufflehead PM								_			-	
Common Goldeneye PM N		-										
Barrow's Goldeneye PM			_								_	_
Common Merganser PM												
Red-breasted Merganser PM			-									
GROUSE	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Willow Ptarmigan PM												
Spruce Grouse PM												
LOONS AND GREBES												

#### LOONS AND GREBES

Red-throated Loon PM W							
Pacific Loon PM							
Common Loon PM							

\*Tule subspecies is on the WatchList, other subspecies are not.

#### LOONS AND GREBES

CONTINUED	~	JF	Μ	Α	Μ	J	J	Α	S	0	Ν	D
Horned Grebe PM N				-								
Red-necked Grebe PM N				-								

#### HAWKS AND EAGLES

Osprey PM				-								
Golden Eagle PM			_					-				
Northern Harrier PM N												
Sharp-shinned Hawk PM N												
Northern Goshawk PM N												
Bald Eagle PM N												
Red-tailed Hawk* PM N										-		
Rough-legged Hawk PM				-	-			•			-	
CRANES												
Sandhill Crane PM N				-						-		
PLOVERS												
Black-bellied Plover PM							_					
American Golden-Plover PM W								_	_			
Pacific Golden-Plover PM							_					
Semipalmated Plover PM N				-					-			
SANDPIPERS	J	F	Μ	Α	Μ	J	J	Α	S	0	Ν	D
Spotted Sandpiper PM N					_				-			
Solitary Sandpiper PM N W					-				-			
Wandering Tattler PM W					-			_				
Greater Yellowlegs PM N										-		
Lesser Yellowlegs PM N W				-					-			
Whimbrel PM W									-			
Hudsonian Godwit PM W				-					<b>_</b>			
Black Turnstone PM W												
Surfbird PM W					-			-				
Sanderling PM						-			<b>_</b>			
Semipalmated Sandpiper PM					-	-						
Western Sandpiper PM					-	-						
Least Sandpiper PM N												
Baird's Sandpiper PM								_				
Pectoral Sandpiper PM					-					_		
Rock Sandpiper w		-		<u>†</u>								
Dunlin PM W						-						
Short-billed Dowitcher PMN W									-			
Long-billed Dowitcher PM						-						
Wilson's Snipe PM N										_		
Red-necked Phalarope PM N				-				-				

### **GULLS, TERNS, JAEGERS**

Black-legged Kittiwake PM							
Bonaparte's Gull PM			-				
Mew Gull PM N		-					
Herring Gull** PM N		-					
Thayer's Gull PM			-		_		
Glaucous-winged Gull** PM N		-					

\*Most Red-tailed Hawks are Harlan's subspecies in this range.

\*\*Most Glaucous-winged and Herring Gulls are hybrids in this range.

#### **GULLS, TERNS, JAEGERS**

	TINUED	J	M	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N	D
Gl	aucous Gull PM											
Ar	rctic Tern PM N											
Lo	ong-tailed Jaeger PM						_					

#### **PIGEONS**

Rock Pigeon (Introduced) PM

#### **OWLS**

Great Horned Owl PM N						
Northern Hawk Owl PM						
Great Gray Owl PM						
Short-eared Owl PM N						
Boreal Owl PM						
Northern Saw-whet Owl PM N						

#### **KINGFISHERS**

Belted Kingfisher PM N

#### WOODPECKERS

Downy Woodpecker PM N												
Hairy Woodpecker PM N												
American Three-toed Woodpecker PM N												
Northern Flicker PM N				_					-			
ALCONS	J	F	М	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	Ν	D

F/	ALCONS	J	E.	M	Α	M	J	J	Α	S	0	N
	Merlin PM N											
	Gyrfalcon PM									-		
	Peregrine Falcon PM											

#### **FLYCATCHERS**

Olive-sided Flycatcher PM W						
Western Wood-Pewee PM N		_				
Alder Flycatcher PM N		-				

#### SHRIKES

Nauthaun Chuilea au						
Northern Shrike PM						

# JAYS, CROWS, RAVENS

Gray Jay PM						
· · ·		 	 			
Steller's Jay PM N	-	 	 			_
Black-billed Magpie PM N						
C D						
Common Raven PM N		 		_		

# SWALLOWS

١	WALLOWS	J	F	M	Α	Μ	J	J	Α	S	0	Ν	D
	Tree Swallow PM N												
	Violet-green Swallow PM N				-				-				
	Bank Swallow PM N								-				
	Barn Swallow PM					_							
	Cliff Swallow PM N					-			-				

#### **CHICKADEES**

Black-	capped	Chickadee PM N

#### Boreal Chickadee PM N

## NUTHATCHES, CREEPERS, DIPPERS

N 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1												
Red-breasted Nuthatch PM N Brown Creeper PM N												
neu breusteu nuthuten mit												
Rrown Croonor DM N		-					_					
DIOWII CIECHEI PIIN												
Amorican Dinnor M												
American Dipper Ph												
		Brown Creeper PM N										

Κ	INGLETS	J	F	Μ	Α	Μ	J	J	Α	S	0	Ν	D
	Golden-crowned Kinglet PM												
	Ruby-crowned Kinglet PM N												
TI	HRUSHES												
	Gray-cheeked Thrush PM					-	_			_			
	Swainson's Thrush PM N					-							
	Hermit Thrush PM N				-								
	American Robin PM N												
	Varied Thrush PM N W				-								
S	TARLINGS												
	European Starling PM N												
P	PITS												
	American Pipit PM						-		_				
W	/AXWINGS												
	Bohemian Waxwing PM												
B	UNTINGS												
	Lapland Longspur PM			_					-				
	Snow Bunting PM												
W	ARBLERS	J	F	Μ	Α	М	J	J	Α	S	0	Ν	D
	Northern Waterthrush PM N					-							
	Orange-crowned Warbler PM N				-								
	Yellow Warbler PM N					-				_			
	Blackpoll Warbler PM N W					-				_			
	Yellow-rumped Warbler PM N				-					_	-		
	Townsend's Warbler PM					-							
	Wilson's Warbler PM N					-					-		
SI	PARROWS												
	American Tree Sparrow PM						_						
	Savannah Sparrow PM N									-			
	Fox Sparrow PM N				-								
	Song Sparrow PM N												
	Lincoln's Sparrow PM N												
	White-crowned Sparrow PM N				-					-	_		
	Golden-crowned Sparrow PM					-							
	Dark-eyed Junco PM N												
B	LACKBIRDS												
	Red-winged Blackbird PM N				-								
	Rusty Blackbird PM N W											-	
FI	NCHES												
	Pine Grosbeak PM				_								
	White-winged Crossbill PM												
	Common Redpoll PM N												
	Hoary Redpoll												
	Dina Cickin puru		-					1	-				

Pine Siskin PM N