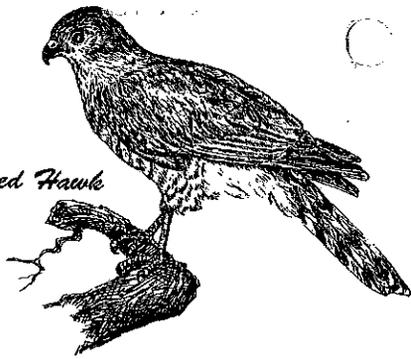


*Sharp-shinned Hawk*



Compiled by M. Dillman  
Biological Technician  
Craig Ranger District  
22 July 1991

JUNEAU  
RANGER DISTRICT

Acknowledgments:

JUL - 3 '92

Thanks to Tom Kogut for his *Birding on Prince of Wales* booklet.

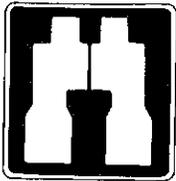
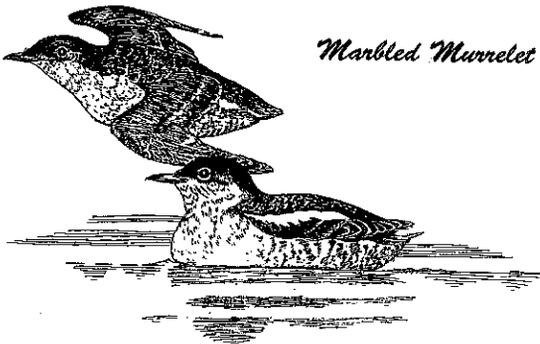
Illustrations by Sue Arthur

Craig Ranger District  
P.O. Box 500  
Craig, AK 99921  
(907) 826-3271

Thorne Bay Ranger District  
P.O. Box 1  
Thorne Bay, AK 99919  
(907) 828-3304

DISTRICT RANGER \_\_\_\_\_  
 DEPUTY RANGER \_\_\_\_\_  
 T / M \_\_\_\_\_  
 REC / LANDS \_\_\_\_\_  
 F & W \_\_\_\_\_  
 B M \_\_\_\_\_  
 VIS \_\_\_\_\_  
 MGVC PLANNER \_\_\_\_\_  
 ENGINEER \_\_\_\_\_

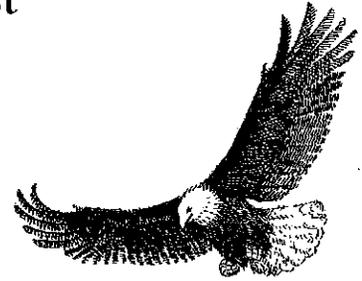
*Marbled Murrelet*



# Birds of Prince of Wales Island

## A Checklist

*Bald Eagle*

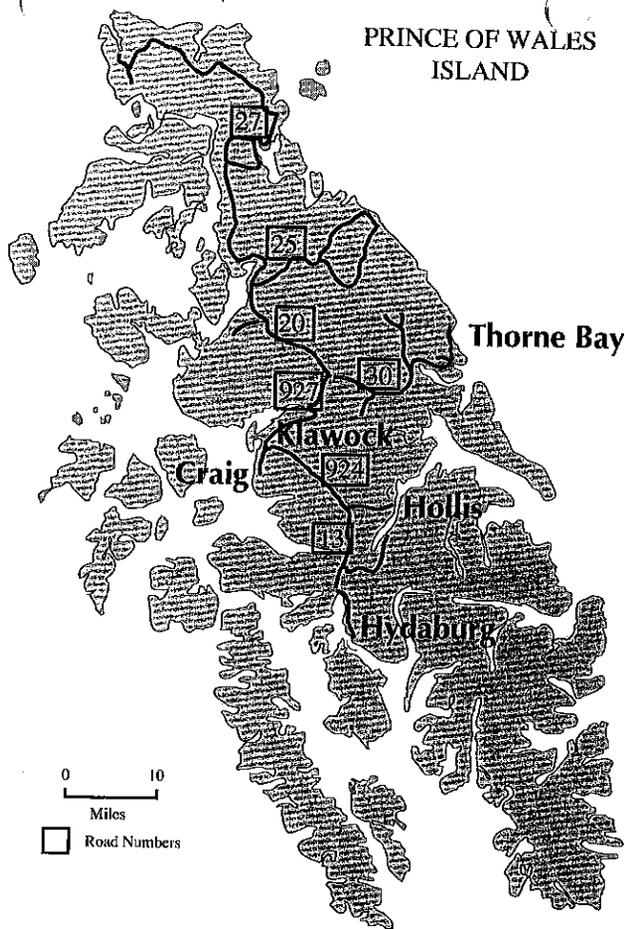


United States  
Department  
of Agriculture

PREPARED BY  
Forest  
Service

Alaska Region  
Leaflet  
R10-RG-41





Prince of Wales Island is an excellent place for viewing birds. The combination of an excellent road system with regularly scheduled floatplane and ferry service makes it unparalleled in accessibility to the major habitat types of Southeast Alaska. Due to major biogeographic barriers such as the Coast Range, Dixon Entrance and Clarence Strait, the number of resident species is low. However, migration in the spring and fall can be very productive, and many species over-winter in the area due to the mild winter climate. In addition, the island has one of the highest concentrations of Bald Eagles in all of Alaska.

Birds on Prince of Wales are dispersed among the wide variety of available habitats. Some of the major habitat types on the island are estuaries, salt and fresh water, forests, including clearcuts and muskegs, and towns and logging camps. This checklist is arranged according to broad habitat types, which should help you find the more uncommon birds on Prince of Wales

as well as the common species. You could spot yet other species, so there are a few blanks for them. Bring your binoculars and your interest in birds, and discover birding on Prince of Wales Island.

The four major communities on the island are Craig, Klawock, Thorne Bay and Hydaburg. A map of the road system can be picked up at the Forest Service office in either Craig or Thorne Bay for \$3.00. Birders can check at Ranger Districts for up-to-date access to birding sites.

**Definitions**

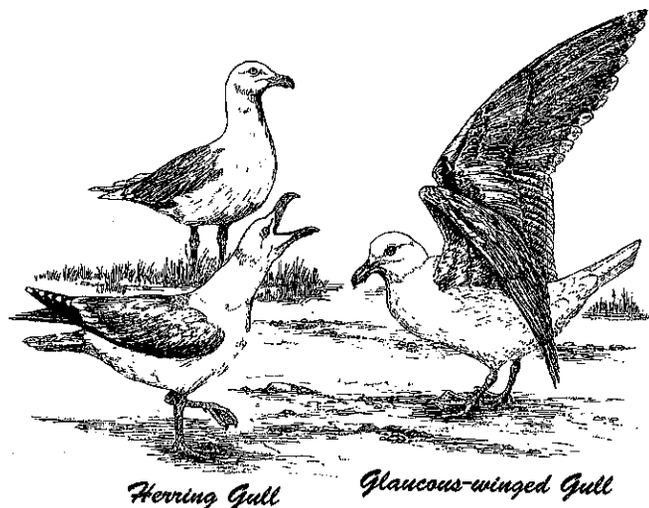
**Estuary:** Area where fresh and salt water mix, as at a river mouth, often bordered by grasses and mudflats.

**Muskeg:** Where water drainage is poor, muskegs occur. Characteristic vegetation includes mosses, sedges, lichens, and low shrubs.

**Clearcut:** Removal of all or most of the trees in an area leaves a clearcut. A sapling-stage clearcut contains even-aged trees less than 15 feet tall.

**Forest:** For the purpose of this field guide, forested areas include both old growth and second growth.

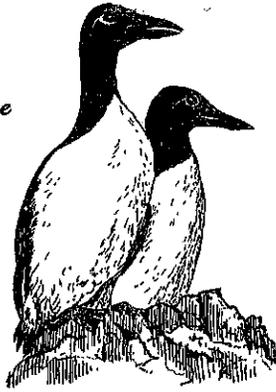
- S = Summer
- W = Winter
- M = Migrant; includes both spring and fall migrations.
- C = Common; birds that are commonly seen in this habitat at this time of year.
- U = Uncommon; birds are seen, but not as regularly.
- R = Rare; birds are sometimes seen.
- = Not known in this habitat at this time.



*Herring Gull*

*Glaucous-winged Gull*

*Common Murre*

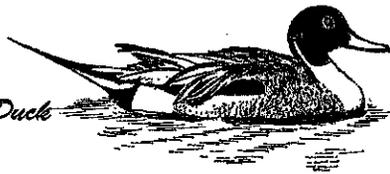


**Saltwater Habitats**

The Klawock-Craig area is one of the best for saltwater birding. Other good areas include Kasaan Bay, Hydaburg, Naukati, Coffman Cove, and Thorne Bay. Most of the birds listed under estuaries can be found here as well, but others include:

	S	W	M
___ Western Grebe	R	U	U
___ Harlequin Duck	C	C	C
___ Oldsquaw	U	C	C
___ Lesser Golden-Plover	R	R	U
___ Spotted Sandpiper	C	—	C
___ Wandering Tattler	R	—	U
___ Rock Sandpiper	—	C	C
___ Black-legged Kittiwake	U	U	U
___ Common Murre	C	C	C
___ Pigeon Guillemot	C	C	C
___ Marbled Murrelet	C	C	C
___ Ancient Murrelet	U	U	U
___ Rhinoceros Auklet	C	—	U

*Pintail Duck*

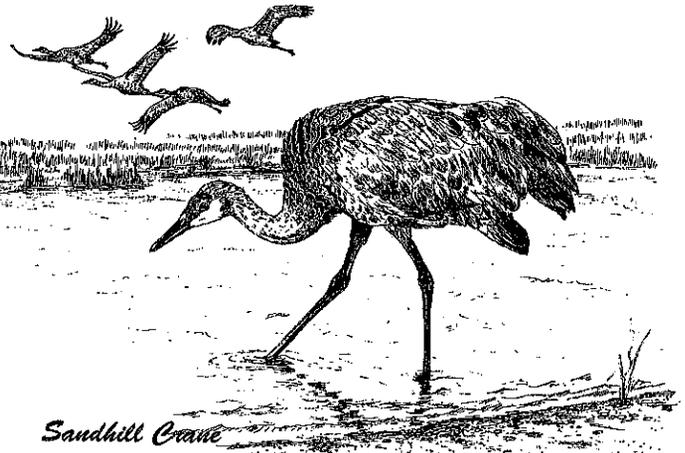


**Estuaries**

Shore areas accessible by the road system are Hollis, Big Salt Lake, Trocadero Bay, Hydaburg, Coffman Cove, Whale Pass, Crab Bay at Craig, and Klawock Inlet at Klawock.

	S	W	M
___ Common Loon	U	U	C
___ Arctic Loon	U	C	C
___ Red-throated Loon	C	U	C

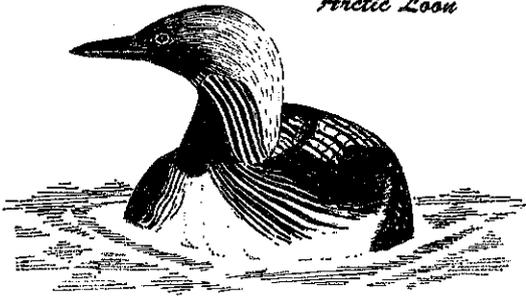
___ Horned Grebe	—	C	—
___ Red-necked Grebe	U	C	—
___ Double-crested Cormorant	U	U	U
___ Pelagic Cormorant	U	C	C
___ Great Blue Heron	C	C	U
___ Sandhill Crane	R	—	C
___ Trumpeter Swan	R	U	C
___ Canada Goose	C	C	C
___ Brant	R	R	R
___ Mallard	C	C	C
___ Green-winged Teal	U	U	C
___ American Wigeon	U	U	C
___ Pintail	U	U	C
___ Northern Shoveler	R	R	U
___ Greater Scaup	U	C	C
___ Black Scoter	U	U	C
___ White-winged Scoter	C	C	C
___ Surf Scoter	C	C	C
___ Barrow's Goldeneye	U	C	C
___ Common Goldeneye	U	C	C
___ Bufflehead	U	C	C
___ Common Merganser	C	C	C
___ Red-breasted Merganser	C	C	C
___ Hooded Merganser	U	U	U
___ Semipalmated Plover	C	—	C
___ Black-bellied Plover	—	—	C
___ Whimbrel	—	—	U
___ Greater Yellowlegs	C	—	C
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	R	—	C
___ Short-billed Dowitcher	—	—	C
___ Black Turnstone	R	R	C



*Sandhill Crane*

<input type="checkbox"/> Surfbird	R	R	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Dunlin	—	U	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Western Sandpiper	R	—	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Sandpiper	U	—	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Mew Gull	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Herring Gull	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Thayer's Gull	R	U	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Glaucous-winged Gull	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Northwestern Crow	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Raven	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Pipit	C	U	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Savannah Sparrow	C	U	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Song Sparrow	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden-crowned Sparrow	U	C	U

*Arctic Loon*

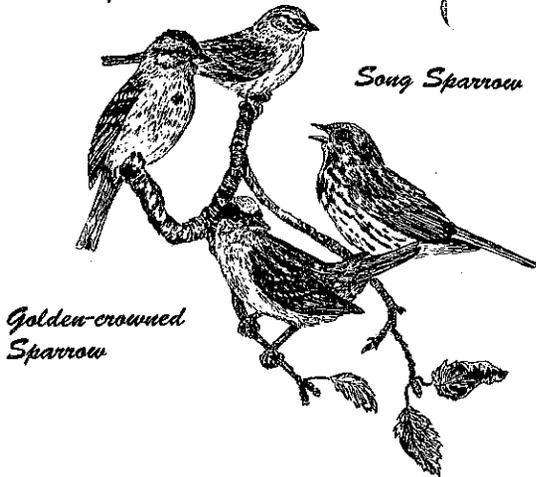


## Freshwater Habitats

Places to go to view birds in freshwater habitats include Klawock, Control, Sarkar, and Sweetwater Lakes. All of these areas are accessible from the road.

	<b>S</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>M</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Loon	U	U	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Trumpeter Swan	R	U	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Goose	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Mallard	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Duck	R	R	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Scaup	R	R	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Goldeneye	U	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Merganser	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle	C	C	C

American Tree Sparrow



**Forested Areas**

Although it may appear from the road that most of the island is clearcut, it actually consists of mainly old-growth forests with muskegs distributed throughout.

	S	W	M
___ Sandhill Crane	R	R	C
___ Greater Yellowlegs	C	—	C
___ Bald Eagle	C	C	C
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	U	U	C
___ Northern Goshawk	U	U	U
___ Red-tailed Hawk	U	R	U
___ Kestrel	R	R	C
___ Merlin	R	R	U
___ Spruce Grouse	R	R	R
___ Willow Ptarmigan	R	R	R
___ Great Horned Owl	C	C	C
___ Screech Owl	R	R	R
___ Northern Pygmy-Owl	R	R	R
___ Saw-whet Owl	R	R	R
___ Boreal Owl	R	U	R
___ Rufous Hummingbird	C	R	C
___ Red-breasted Sapsucker	U	R	U
___ Downy Woodpecker	U	U	U
___ Hairy Woodpecker	U	U	U
___ Western Flycatcher	C	—	C
___ Tree Swallow	C	—	C
___ Steller's Jay	C	C	C
___ Common Raven	C	C	C
___ Chestnut-backed Chickadee	C	C	C
___ American Dipper	C	C	C
___ Brown Creeper	U	U	U
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch	U	R	U
___ Winter Wren	C	C	C

___ Golden-crowned Kinglet	C	U	C
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C	R	C
___ Hermit Thrush	C	—	C
___ Swainson's Thrush	C	—	C
___ Varied Thrush	C	U	C
___ American Robin	C	R	C
___ Bohemian Waxwing	R	U	U
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	C	—	C
___ Townsend's Warbler	C	R	C
___ Yellow Warbler	C	R	C
___ Wilson's Warbler	C	—	C
___ Song Sparrow	C	C	C
___ Dark-eyed Junco	C	C	C
___ Fox Sparrow	C	R	C
___ Pine Grosbeak	U	C	C
___ Pine Siskin	C	C	C
___ Red Crossbill	C	C	C
___ White-winged Crossbill	C	C	C
___			
___			



Saw-whet Owl

**Towns and Logging Camps**

Several species are found exclusively, or in much greater numbers than elsewhere, in the towns and logging camps because they are attracted to buildings, lawns and deciduous shrubs. Many forest species are also attracted to human settlements.

	S	W	M
___ Rock Dove	C	C	C
___ Great Horned Owl	C	C	C
___ Tree Swallow	C	—	C
___ Barn Swallow	C	—	C
___ American Robin	C	R	C
___ Bohemian Waxwing	R	U	U
___ European Starling	U	U	U
___ Savannah Sparrow	C	U	C
___ Song Sparrow	C	C	C
___ Pine Siskin	C	C	C
___			
___			

## Alpine and Offshore Habitats

Most alpine areas and offshore waters are inaccessible to the average birder, although Josephine Lake can be accessed by floatplane. This alpine lake is equipped with a Forest Service cabin. Some of the offshore islands around Prince of Wales may be reached by avid kayakers and by boat. However, due to these islands' remote and hazardous location, offshore birding for shearwaters and puffins is left for only the most adventurous of visitors.



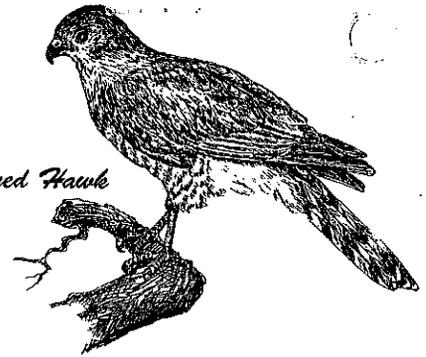
*Northwestern Crow*

## Clearcuts

To see songbirds common to Prince of Wales, drive the Hydaburg road or up to the north end of the island and walk down any old logging road on National Forest land.

	S	W	M
___ Red-tailed Hawk	U	R	U
___ Rufous Hummingbird	C	R	C
___ Steller's Jay	C	C	C
___ Northwestern Crow	C	C	C
___ Common Raven	C	C	C
___ Chestnut-backed Chickadee	C	C	C
___ Winter Wren	C	C	C
___ Swainson's Thrush	C	—	C
___ Hermit Thrush	C	—	C
___ Varied Thrush	C	U	C
___ American Robin	C	R	C
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	C	—	C
___ Yellow Warbler	C	—	C
___ Wilson's Warbler	C	—	C
___ Song Sparrow	C	C	C
___ Chipping Sparrow	C	R	C
___ Dark-eyed Junco	C	U	C
___ Fox Sparrow	C	R	C
___			
___			

*Sharp-shinned Hawk*



Compiled by M. Dillman  
Biological Technician  
Craig Ranger District  
22 July 1991

**JUNEAU  
RANGER DISTRICT**

### Acknowledgments:

Thanks to Tom Kogut for his Birding on Prince of Wales booklet.

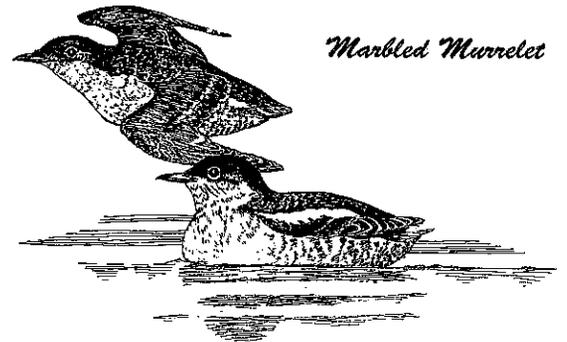
JUL - 8 '92

Illustrations by Sue Arthur

Craig Ranger District  
P.O. Box 500  
Craig, AK 99921  
(907) 826-3271

Thorne Bay Ranger District  
P.O. Box 1  
Thorne Bay, AK 99919  
(907) 828-3304

DISTRICT RANGER \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPUTY RANGER \_\_\_\_\_  
T / M \_\_\_\_\_  
REC / LANDS \_\_\_\_\_  
F & W \_\_\_\_\_  
B M \_\_\_\_\_  
VIS \_\_\_\_\_  
MGVC PLANNER \_\_\_\_\_  
ENGINEER \_\_\_\_\_



*Marbled Murrelet*

