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# BIRDS OF SOUTHEAST ALASKA

AN ANNOTATED LIST FROM

ICY BAY

SOUTH TO

DIXON ENTRANCE



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2010 EDITION



Alaska  
Geographic

[www.alaskageographic.org](http://www.alaskageographic.org)

A total of 487 species of birds, documented by specimens, photographs, or recordings, have been found in Alaska, as of January 2009 (see [www.uaf.edu/museum/collections/bird/projects/checklist.pdf](http://www.uaf.edu/museum/collections/bird/projects/checklist.pdf)). The seasonal status of 356 of these species in Southeast Alaska is outlined in this checklist. Two additional species, Rock Pigeon and Eurasian Collared-Dove, are also included here, and 14 species that have been reported in Southeast Alaska but have not been substantiated in Alaska by specimen or photograph are listed in an appended "unsubstantiated list." This checklist is designed to help narrow the identification possibilities in specific habitats at various seasons. Field guides available in most bookstores have illustrations or photos of all these birds.

Southeast Alaska extends approximately 850 km between Icy Bay on the north and Dixon Entrance on the south. Major features of this region include the more than 1000 largely mountainous islands that constitute the Alexander Archipelago, the sheltered fjords and inlets of the Inside Passage, and a narrow strip of the mainland, separated along its length from the interior of the continent by the rugged Coast Mountains. Coniferous forest, interspersed with muskeg bogs, is the dominant habitat of the region. Large tracts of deciduous riparian woodland and extensive estuarine meadows and tide flats are limited primarily to large mainland river valleys, some of which transect the Coast Mountains.

Many of the more common or widespread species are typical of the coastal rainforest, including the Sooty Grouse, Bald Eagle, Marbled Murrelet, Rufous Hummingbird, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Steller's Jay, Common Raven, Northwestern Crow, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Winter Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Hermit Thrush, Varied Thrush, Townsend's Warbler, Dark-eyed Junco, Red Crossbill, and Pine Siskin. These species are found throughout most of the region.

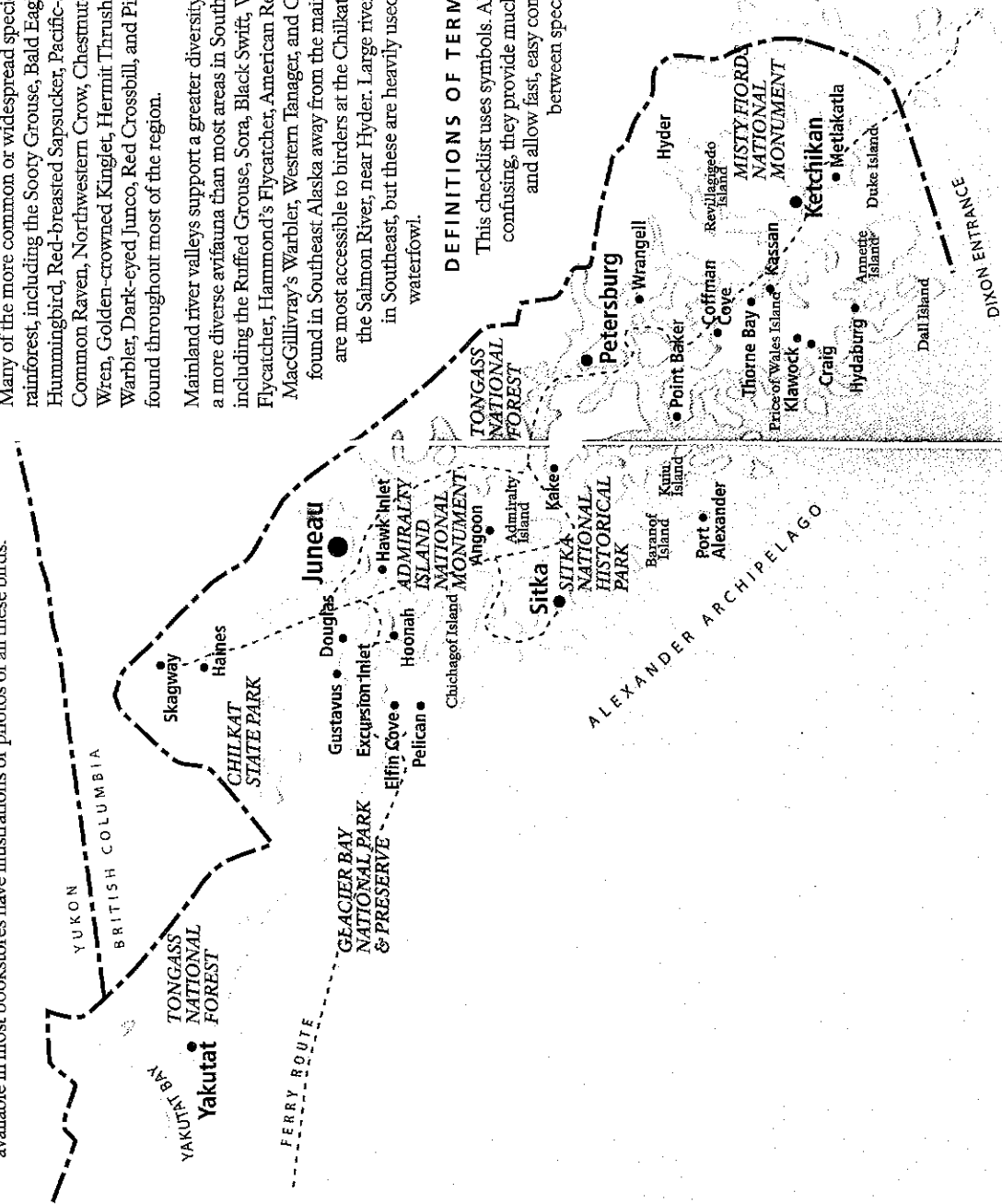
Mainland river valleys support a greater diversity of habitats and, therefore, a more diverse avifauna than most areas in Southeast Alaska. A suite of birds, including the Ruffed Grouse, Sora, Black Swift, Western Wood-Pewee, Alder Flycatcher, Hammond's Flycatcher, American Redstart, Northern Waterthrush, MacGillivray's Warbler, Western Tanager, and Chipping Sparrow, are seldom found in Southeast Alaska away from the mainland rivers. These species are most accessible to birders at the Chilkat River, near Haines, and at the Salmon River, near Hyder. Large river-delta tidal marshes are few in Southeast, but these are heavily used by migrating shorebirds and waterfowl.

#### DEFINITIONS OF TERMS AND SYMBOLS

This checklist uses symbols. Although these may at first seem confusing, they provide much information in little space and allow fast, easy comparisons between seasons and between species.

#### SEASONS

- Spring - March through May
- Summer - June and July
- Fall - August through November
- Winter - December through February



## FREQUENCY CLASSIFICATION

The following symbols are used for frequency classification:

\* = SPECIES KNOWN TO BREED, OR PROBABLY BREEDS.

- C = Common:** Occurs in essentially all suitable habitats during appropriate seasons, with certain species at times abundant; species should be easy to find.
- F = Fairly common:** Occurs in some or most suitable habitats during appropriate seasons, but less abundant and at times few in number; species often found.
- U = Uncommon:** Occurs in relatively small numbers; species not observed regularly even in proper habitats.
- R = Rare:** Either found in very restricted habitat, or presumed to occur most years in very small numbers; species may be difficult to find.
- V = Very Rare:** A species beyond its normal range that may occur intermittently over a period of years and in very small numbers.
- + = Accidental:** Only one or two historical records to date.

Although this list suggests a general abundance of birds in Southeast Alaska, one frequently has the impression in all seasons that birds are few and far between. For example, a bird listed as fairly common may occur in numbers in one cove and be found nowhere else for many miles. It may be everywhere one spring and rarely seen the next. In addition, attributing status for the entire region works well for some species (such as the Common Raven) but is more difficult for species whose status varies tremendously from one end of the region to the other (such as the California Gull). Thus, the allocation of symbols is arbitrary at best, purely the results of impressions gained by careful observers familiar with the region. They do not represent numerical status but rather the frequency that a given species is seen in relation to related species, unrelated species, or both, using similar habitats. For example, the bald eagle and common raven are both listed as common, even though ravens occur in much greater numbers. A bird listed as rare is seen every year but in very small numbers. Often it is a highly specialized species for which very limited habitat exists.

## HABITAT

The habitat section of the checklist suggests where the various birds may be. But, as with catching fish, it takes a certain knack to find them. The habitat classifications do not represent all the habitats in which a given species might occur, but they give, in general terms, the type in which that species is most likely to occur.

*Habitat symbols and their meaning:*

- a** = alpine - open areas above timberline.
- c** = coniferous forest - predominately western hemlock and Sitka spruce.
- d** = deciduous woodlands and shrub - predominately cottonwood, alder and willow. Also includes early successional forest openings of blueberry and other shrubs.

- f** = freshwater - includes lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams.
- m** = marshes - fresh and brackish water vegetated wetlands. Includes wetlands above regular tidal influence, wet meadows, marshy shorelines of lakes and rivers, and muskegs.
- s** = saltwater - all inshore and offshore marine waters.
- t** = tidelands - all habitat subject to regular tidal inundations, including sandy and pebbly beaches; tide flats of silt, mud, rock and sand mixtures; and shorelines of rock, rubble and reefs. Also includes rocky cliff and scree areas immediately above the tidal zone.

## MORE INFORMATION

A number of bird finding guides and bird checklists have been developed for select areas in Southeast. These can be of great help in further narrowing your identification choices and finding certain species. On the spot inquiries in each area you visit are the best way to determine their availability. Public libraries, visitor centers, U.S. Forest Service, and local bookstores and chambers of commerce are good places to begin looking.

## ■ BIRD FINDING GUIDES:

- Armstrong, Robert and Richard Gordon. *Finding Birds in Juneau*. U.S. Forest Service, 1995.
- Canterbury, Jackie. *Finding Birds in Southeast Alaska*. Ketchikan. Juneau Audubon Society and U.S. Forest Service, 1997.
- Kogut, Thomas. *Finding Birds on Prince of Wales Island*. U.S. Forest Service, 1984.
- Robertson, Peg. *Finding Birds in Southeast Alaska*. Wrangell Island and the Stikine River. Juneau Audubon Society, U.S. Forest Service and City of Wrangell, 1998.
- Ward, Marge and Mariys Tedin. *Finding Birds in Southeast Alaska*. Sitka. Juneau Audubon Society and U.S. Forest Service.
- West, George C. *A Birder's Guide to Alaska*. American Birding Association, 2008.
- CHECKLISTS:
- Tedin, Mariys E. and Marjorie L. Ward. *Birds of Sitka National Historical Park*. Department of the Interior. National Park Service. 2000.
- Armstrong, Robert, Frank Glass and Rich Gordon. *A Checklist of the Birds of the Mendenhall Wetlands and Float Plane Basin Area*, 1998.
- Bertsch, Daniel. *Birds of the Chilkat Valley*. A Checklist. The Haines Visitor Bureau and Alaska Division of Tourism.
- Dillman, M. *Birds of Prince of Wales Island*. A Checklist. U.S. Forest Service, 1991.
- Heisl, Steve and Andy Piston. Checklist. *Birds of the Ketchikan Area, Alaska*, 2008.
- Paige, Bruce. *Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve. Bird Checklist*. Department of Interior, National Park Service, 1998.
- van Vliet, Gus, Mark Schwan, Richard Gordon, and Steve Zimmerman. *Birds of Juneau, Alaska, Checklist*. Juneau Audubon Society, 2007.
- Walsh, Peter J. *Checklist of the Birds of Mitkof Island, Southeast Alaska*. 1995.

**SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS**

	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	HABITAT
Greater White-fronted Goose	F	V	U	V	s,t
Emperor Goose	V	+	+	+	s,t
Snow Goose	U	+	U	+	s,t
Ross's Goose	+	-	-	-	t
Brant (Black)	U	R	R	V	s,t
Cackling Goose	U	V	U	V	s,t
Canada Goose*	C	F	C	F	a,c,f,m,s,t
Trumpeter Swan*	U	R	U	U	f,s,t
Tundra Swan	U	U	U	V	f,s,t
Wood Duck	V	+	V	V	f
Gadwall*	U	R	U	R	f,m,s,t
Eurasian Wigeon	R	V	V	V	f,m,s,t
American Wigeon*	C	U	C	U	f,m,s,t
American Black Duck	+	-	-	+	s,t
Mallard*	C	C	C	C	f,m,s,t
Blue-winged Teal*	U	U	U	-	f,m,t
Cinnamon Teal	R	R	-	-	f,m,t
Northern Shoveler*	F	U	F	V	f,m,s,t
Northern Pintail*	C	U	C	U	f,m,s,t
Green-winged Teal*	C	U	C	U	f,m,s,t
Canvasback	R	V	R	V	f,s
Redhead*	R	V	R	V	f,s
Ring-necked Duck*	U	R	U	R	f,s
Tufted Duck	-	-	+	+	s
Greater Scaup*	C	R	C	F	f,s,t
Lesser Scaup*	F	R	F	R	f,s
Steller's Eider	V	+	V	V	s
King Eider	V	+	+	V	s
Common Eider*	V	V	V	V	s,t
Harlequin Duck*	F	F	F	F	f,s,t
Surf Scoter	C	F	C	C	s
White-winged Scoter	C	F	C	C	s
Black Scoter	U	R	U	U	s
Long-tailed Duck*	F	R	F	C	s
Bufflehead	C	V	C	C	f,s,t
Common Goldeneye*	F	R	F	F	f,s,t
Barrow's Goldeneye*	C	U	C	C	f,s,t
Hooded Merganser*	U	R	U	U	f,s,t
Common Merganser*	C	F	C	F	f,s,t
Red-breasted Merganser*	F	U	F	F	f,s,t
Ruddy Duck	+	-	V	+	s

Large numbers of geese and swans occur in migration on the Stikine River delta and Yakutat forelands. Snow and White-fronted quite local though common at certain sites. Brant migrate mostly offshore, but is generally more numerous than indicated in the Glacier Bay area. Cackling Goose, only recently split from the Canada Goose, is an uncommon migrant.

Trumpeter Swans can be closely observed from November to April at Blind Slough near Petersburg and nest in the Yakutat forelands and Chilkat Valley. Wood Duck occurring with increasing frequency.

Look for Eurasian Wigeon amidst flocks of American Wigeon, particularly in spring.

Dabbling ducks, Gadwall through Green-winged Teal, are more frequently found in salt and freshwater marshes whereas the bay ducks, Canvasback through scaup, are found on lakes, ponds, and saltwater bays.

The Eurasian form of the Green-winged Teal is a very rare migrant.

Redhead rarer than Canvasback.

Ring-necked Duck found locally but apparently increasing.

Common Eider formerly nested at Glacier Bay, but not found there in many years.

Harlequin Duck, Long-tailed Duck, and scoters are readily observed from ferries and along coastal roads throughout the region.

Both goldeneyes and bufflehead are among the most frequently observed ducks on lakes and sheltered coastal waters from October to April.

Hooded Merganser more numerous southward. Look for Hooded Merganser on ponds and small lakes. Common Merganser nests on lakes, streams, rivers and their deltas, and both Common and Red-breasted mergansers can be seen on saltwater.

**GROUSE, PTARMIGAN**

Ruffed Grouse*	R	R	R	R	d
Spruce Grouse*	R	R	R	R	c,d
Willow Ptarmigan*	F	F	F	F	a,d

Ruffed Grouse restricted to the river valleys of the Taku, Stikine, Umuk and at Hyder. Spruce Grouse restricted to Prince of Wales Island and islands to the west, and the Haines-Skegway area.

	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	HABITAT
Rock Ptarmigan*	C	C	C	C	a
White-tailed Ptarmigan*	U	U	U	U	a
Sooty Grouse*	C	C	C	C	a,c,m,
<b>LOONS</b>					
Red-throated Loon*	F	F	F	R	f,s
Pacific Loon	C	U	F	F	s
Common Loon*	F	U	F	U	f,s
Yellow-billed Loon	U	R	U	U	s
<b>GREBES</b>					
Pied-billed Grebe*	V	+	R	V	f,s
Horned Grebe	F	V	F	F	s
Red-necked Grebe*	F	R	F	F	s
Eared Grebe	+	-	-	-	s
Western Grebe	U	V	U	U	s
<b>ALBATROSSES</b>					
Laysan Albatross	R	V	+	-	s
Black-footed Albatross	F	F	F	-	s
Short-tailed Albatross	+	-	-	-	s
<b>SHEARWATERS, PETRELS, AND FULMARS</b>					
Northern Fulmar	U	U	U	U	s
Mottled Petrel	R	R	R	-	s
Pink-footed Shearwater	R	R	R	-	s
Buller's Shearwater	R	R	R	-	s
Sooty Shearwater	C	C	C	-	s
Short-tailed Shearwater	R	R	R	-	s
Manx Shearwater	+	+	+	-	s
<b>STORM-PETRELS</b>					
Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel*	C	C	C	R	s
Leach's Storm-Petrel*	U	F	F	+	s
<b>PELICANS</b>					
American White Pelican	-	+	-	-	s
Brown Pelican	+	-	+	+	s
<b>CORMORANTS AND FRIGATEBIRDS</b>					
Brandt's Cormorant*	R	R	R	R	s,t
Double-crested Cormorant*	U	R	U	U	f,s,t
Red-faced Cormorant	-	-	-	+	s,t
Pelagic Cormorant*	C	F	C	C	s,t
Magnificent Frigatebird	-	-	+	-	s
<b>HERONS, BITTERNS</b>					
American Bittern*	V	R	V	-	f,m
Great Blue Heron*	F	F	F	U	c,f,m,t
Great Egret	+	+	+	+	t
Tricolored Heron	+	-	-	-	f
Cattle Egret	-	-	V	+	t
Green Heron	-	+	-	-	m
Black-crowned Night-Heron	+	+	-	-	f,t

White-tailed restricted to mainland.  
Hooting of male Sooty Grouse can be heard in forested areas from March to July.

Red-throated Loon numbers may be decreasing. In summer look for Red-throated and Common loons on lakes where they nest. All loons can be seen on saltwater.

Only grebe likely to be seen on freshwater.

Western Grebe is more numerous in southern part of region from mid-Sept to early May; rare in northern part of region.

Albatrosses occur offshore in the Gulf of Alaska. Most sightings are at or beyond the Continental Slope. Black-footed follows ships.

Fulmars, petrels, and shearwaters occur offshore in the Gulf of Alaska and status of many species is poorly known. If enroute to Alaska by ferry look for various species of these oceanic birds in Queen Charlotte Sound, British Columbia, and Dixon Entrance. Mottled Petrel occurs far offshore around upwellings.

Both storm-petrels breed abundantly on Forrester and Saint Lazaria islands in burrows. Only Fork-tailed is regularly observed near shore.

All cormorants are more numerous along the outer coast. Cormorants often sit on piers and pilings near coastal towns with their wings spread out to dry. Brandt's Cormorants occur only in southern Southeast.

American Bittern restricted to mainland rivers of southern Southeast.

Great Blue Heron only member of the family regularly observed year round throughout the region in fresh and salt water habitats. It nests and roosts in trees. A sighting of any other member of the heron family is noteworthy.

	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	HABITAT
<b>AMERICAN VULTURES</b>					
Turkey Vulture	+	-	+	-	
<b>HAWKS, EAGLES, HARRIERS, OSPREY</b>					
Osprey*	R	R	R	-	c, f, s, t
Bald Eagle*	C	C	C	C	a, c, d, f, m, s, t
Steller's Sea-Eagle	+	+	+	+	a, c, d, f, m, s, t
Northern Harrier*	U	V	U	V	a, m, t
Sharp-shinned Hawk*	F	U	F	R	a, c, d, m, t
Northern Goshawk*	U	U	U	U	c, d
Swainson's Hawk	U	-	V	-	d
Red-tailed Hawk*	U	U	U	V	c, d, m
Rough-legged Hawk	R	+	R	V	a, m, t
Golden Eagle*	R	R	R	R	a
<b>FALCONS</b>					
American Kestrel*	U	V	U	V	a, c, d, m, t
Merlin*	U	R	U	R	a, c, d, m, t
Gyr Falcon	V	-	V	V	a, m, t
Peregrine Falcon*	R	R	R	V	a, m, t
<b>RAILS, COOTS</b>					
Virginia Rail	V	V	+	+	m
Sora*	R	R	R	+	f, m, t
American Coot	R	+	R	R	f, s, t
<b>CRANES</b>					
Sandhill Crane*	U	R	U	V	m, t
<b>PLOVERS</b>					
Black-bellied Plover	F	R	F	+	t
European Golden-Plover	-	-	-	+	t
American Golden-Plover	U	R	U	-	t
Pacific Golden-Plover	U	-	U	-	t
Semipalmated Plover*	F	F	F	+	t
Killdeer*	U	U	U	R	t
<b>OYSTERCATCHERS</b>					
Black Oystercatcher*	U	U	U	R	t
<b>AVOCETS</b>					
American Avocet	-	+	-	-	t
<b>SANDPIPERS</b>					
Spotted Sandpiper*	F	F	F	+	f, m, t
Solitary Sandpiper*	R	R	R	-	d, f, m, t
Wandering Tattler	U	U	U	-	t
Greater Yellowlegs*	C	F	C	V	f, m, t
Lesser Yellowlegs*	U	U	F	-	f, m, t
Upland Sandpiper	V	V	V	-	m
Whimbrel	U	R	U	-	m, t
Bristle-thighed Curlew	+	-	-	-	t
Hudsonian Godwit	R	R	V	-	t
Bar-tailed Godwit	V	+	V	-	t

From the ferry look for the numerous white heads of Bald Eagles dotting the coniferous trees. In some areas there is one nest per mile of shoreline. During Oct. Nov. and Dec. world's largest concentration, up to 3,500, occurs in Chilkat Valley, near Haines. Northern Goshawk more prevalent in northern Southeast. Northern Harrier forages in marsh and other open areas, flying back and forth a few feet above the ground, more prevalent over large marshes.

All falcons are most frequently seen over open areas of salt and freshwater marshes and tidal flats.

Peregrines nest in small numbers along the outer coast and feed on seabirds.

Sora found primarily on the mainland.

Large flocks occur during migration at Yakutat, Gustavus, and Stikine River delta.

Black-bellied Plovers occur on mud flats in migration, all other plovers can be found in open habitats of gravel and low vegetation usually near water. Semipalmated Plover nests on extensive gravel flats, as near glaciers or along river bars.

Seen on small rocky islands from April to October. More numerous on outer coast and Glacier Bay.

Seen along rocky beaches during migration and more prevalent on outer coast. Both yellowlegs often occur together in migration. Greater occurs widely as a nesting bird in muskeg areas.

On the Mendenhall Wetlands near Juneau several thousand shorebirds may pass through between about April 26 and May 23. Forty shorebird species have been identified on these wetlands.

	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	HABITAT
Marbled Godwit	R	+	V	-	t
Ruddy Turnstone	F	U	F	-	t
Black Turnstone	F	R	F	F	t
Surf-bird	U	R	U	R	t
Red Knot	R	+	V	-	t
Sanderling	U	R	U	R	t
Semipalmated Sandpiper	U	R	U	-	t
Western Sandpiper	C	U	C	-	t
Red-necked Stint	-	+	+	-	t
Long-toed Stint	+	-	-	-	t
Least Sandpiper*	C	U	C	-	m,t
White-rumped Sandpiper	+	+	+	-	t
Baird's Sandpiper	U	R	U	-	t
Pectoral Sandpiper	F	R	F	-	m,t
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	V	-	R	-	m,t
Rock Sandpiper	F	+	F	F	t
Dunlin	C	+	U	U	t
Curlew Sandpiper	+	-	+	-	t
Silt Sandpiper	V	V	R	-	m,t
Buff-breasted sandpiper	+	-	V	-	t
Ruff	V	-	V	-	t
Short-billed Dowitcher*	F	R	F	-	m,t
Long-billed Dowitcher	U	R	U	+	t
Wilson's Snipe*	F	F	F	R	m,t
Wilson's Phalarope	V	V	V	-	ft
Red-necked Phalarope*	C	U	C	+	f,m,s,t
Red Phalarope	R	V	R	+	s
<b>GULLS, TERNS</b>					
Black-legged Kittiwake*	F	U	F	R	s,t
Ivory Gull	-	+	+	-	s,t
Sabine's Gull	R	V	R	-	s,t
Bonaparte's Gull*	C	F	C	V	f,m,s,t
Black-headed Gull	-	+	+	-	s,t
Little Gull	V	-	+	-	s,t
Ross's Gull	-	-	+	-	s
Franklin's Gull	+	V	V	-	s,t
Black-tailed Gull	-	+	+	-	s,t
Heermann's Gull	-	-	V	-	s,t
Mew Gull*	C	C	C	C	f,m,s,t
Ring-billed Gull	R	R	R	V	f,m,s,t
Western Gull	V	+	R	V	s,t
California Gull	R	R	U	+	s,t
Herring Gull*	C	F	C	F	f,m,s,t
Thayer's Gull	F	R	F	U	s,t
Lesser Black-backed Gull	+	+	+	+	s,t
Slaty-backed Gull	V	-	V	V	s,t

Both turnstones and Surf-bird frequent rocky coastal areas. Small flocks of Black Turnstones and Surf-birds occur in winter.

Small numbers of Sanderlings winter at Gustavus.

Most small sandpipers (peeps) occur in flocks, often mixed, during migration in spring and late summer. Western Sandpiper and Dunlin are the most numerous.

Red-necked Stint and Long-toed Stint are casual visitors from Asia.

Pectoral and Sharp-tailed use vegetated margins of wetlands.

Rock Sandpiper found along rocky beaches in winter, often with Black Turnstones.

Coastal visitor from Asia.

Dowitchers found on mudflats.

Wilson's Snipe are found in wetland high grasses and sedges.

Wilson's casual visitor from interior Canada. Red-necked frequently observed in migration, breeds Yakutat forelands. Red migrates offshore at sea.

Kittiwake most numerous in summer on outer coast and Glacier Bay.

Sabine's Gull found mainly on ocean and outer channels.

Bonaparte's breed in some northern portions of Southeast. During summer non-breeders are found throughout the region.

California Gull is more frequent than indicated in the southern part of Southeast but increasing in the Juneau area.

	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	HABITAT
Glaucous-winged Gull*	C	C	C	C	f,m,s,t
Glaucous Gull	R	V	R	R	f,s,t
Aleutian Tern*	R	R	+	-	f,m,s,t
Caspian Tern*	R	R	R	-	s,t
Black Tern	+	-	+	-	s,t
Arctic Tern*	F	F	F	-	f,m,s,t
<b>JAEGERS</b>					
South Polar Skua	-	+	+	-	s
Pomarine Jaeger	V	R	U	-	s
Parasitic Jaeger*	U	U	U	-	f,m,s,t
Long-tailed Jaeger	R	R	R	-	s
<b>ALCIDS</b>					
Common Murre*	C	F	C	C	s,t
Thick-billed Murre*	R	R	R	R	s,t
Pigeon Guillemot*	C	C	U	U	s,t
Marbled Murrelet*	C	C	C	C	c,s
Kirtlitz's Murrelet*	F	F	U	V	a,s
Ancient Murrelet*	F	F	F	U	s,t
Cassin's Auklet*	U	U	U	U	s,t
Parakeet Auklet*	R	+	+	+	s
Rhinoceros Auklet*	F	F	F	V	c,s,t
Horned Puffin*	R	R	R	V	s,t
Tufted Puffin*	U	U	U	V	s,t
<b>PIGEONS, DOVES</b>					
Rock Pigeon*	F	F	F	F	t
Band-tailed Pigeon*	R	R	R	-	c,d
Eurasian Collared-Dove	V	V	V	+	d
White-winged Dove	-	-	+	-	d
Mourning Dove	V	V	R	+	d,m,t
<b>CUCKOOS</b>					
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	-	+	+	-	d
<b>OWLS</b>					
Western Screech-Owl*	R	R	R	R	c,d
Great Horned Owl*	U	U	U	U	c,d
Snowy Owl	+	-	V	V	m,t
Northern Hawk Owl*	R	V	R	R	c,d
Northern Pygmy-Owl*	R	R	R	R	c,d
Barn Owl*	U	U	U	U	c,d
Great Gray Owl*	V	V	V	V	c,d
Long-eared Owl	+	-	+	+	c,d
Short-eared Owl*	U	V	F	R	m,t
Boreal Owl	V	V	V	R	c,d
Northern Saw-whet Owl*	R	R	R	R	c,d
<b>NIGHTHAWKS</b>					
Common Nighthawk*	-	R	R	-	d,m,t
Whip-poor-will	-	-	+	-	d

Glaucous-winged Gull is the common "seagull" of Southeast Alaska.

Aleutian Tern only found in Yakutat and Glacier Bay areas.

Caspian Tern uncommon at Icy Bay and Glacier Bay-Gustavus area - recently found breeding at Icy Bay and Jaku Inlet.

Look for Arctic Tern at the mouths of mainland rivers during June and July.

Jaegers are mostly seen offshore along the outer coast in migration.

Parasitic Jaeger nests at Glacier Bay and Yakutat forelands.

Murres can be seen along outer coast in summer and in straits and fiords in winter.

Marbled is the most common murrelet along inside waters. Kirtlitz's restricted to vicinity of tidewater glaciers, primarily along Yakutat forelands and in Glacier Bay.

Ancient Murrelet, Cassin's Auklet and Rhinoceros Auklet most numerous along outer coast.

Rhinoceros Auklet breeds primarily on Saint Lazaria and Forrester islands. A few Horned Puffins are found in Cross Sound and Glacier Bay. Look for Tufted Puffin along outer coast and in Glacier Bay.

Rock Pigeon is found only in cities and towns. Band-tailed Pigeon regular only in southern Southeast, preferred habitat is on the edge of forest/clear-cut areas. Eurasian Collared-Dove introduced to Bahamas in 1970s, now found across North America and occurring with increasing frequency in Southeast Alaska.

Small nocturnal owls, Western Screech and Northern Saw-whet, probably more numerous than indicated.

Hawk-Owl is more common in northern areas especially at the edge of alpine and open spruce woodlands of the Yakutat Forelands.

Short-eared Owl is the most often observed owl. It hunts during day over tidal flats and marshes.

Common Nighthawk occurs primarily as a fall migrant near mouths of mainland rivers from mid-August through mid-September.



	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	HABITAT
<b>SWIFTS</b>					
Black Swift*	+	R	R	-	a,f,m,t
Vaux's Swift*	U	U	U	-	d,f,m,t
<b>HUMMINGBIRDS</b>					
Anna's Hummingbird	V	V	R	R	c,d
Costa's Hummingbird	-	-	+	-	c,d
Rufous Hummingbird*	C	C	U	+	a,c,d,m
<b>KINGFISHERS</b>					
Belted Kingfisher*	F	F	F	F	f,m,s,t
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>					
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	-	-	+	c,d
Red-breasted Sapsucker*	F	F	F	R	c,d
Downy Woodpecker*	R	R	R	R	c,d
Hairy Woodpecker*	U	U	U	U	c,d
American Three-toed Woodpecker*	R	R	R	R	c,d
Black-backed Woodpecker	V	V	V	-	c,d
Northern Flicker					
Yellow-shafted subspecies*	R	R	R	V	c,d
Red-shafted subspecies*	U	U	U	R	c,d
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>					
Olive-sided Flycatcher*	U	U	U	-	c,d
Western Wood-Pewee*	U	U	U	-	c,d
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	-	V	-	-	c,d
Alder Flycatcher*	R	U	U	-	c,d,m
Willow Flycatcher	-	V	-	-	d
Least Flycatcher	+	V	-	-	d
Hammond's Flycatcher*	R	R	R	-	c,d
Dusky Flycatcher	+	-	+	-	d
Pacific-slope Flycatcher*	C	C	C	-	c,d
Eastern Phoebe	+	+	-	-	d
Say's Phoebe*	R	R	R	+	a
Tropical Kingbird	-	-	V	-	d
Western Kingbird	+	V	+	-	d,t
Eastern Kingbird	-	V	V	-	c,d,t
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	-	V	-	-	t
<b>SHRIKES</b>					
Brown Shrike	-	-	+	-	d
Northern Shrike	U	-	U	R	d,m,t
<b>VIREOS</b>					
Cassin's Vireo*	V	V	+	-	d
Warbling Vireo*	F	F	F	-	d
Red-eyed Vireo*	V	R	R	-	d
<b>JAYS, CROWS</b>					
Gray Jay	V	V	R	R	a,c,d
Steller's Jay*	C	C	C	C	c,d
Clark's Nutcracker	V	+	V	V	a,c

Black Swift occurs along mainland from Stikine River south. Vaux's Swift occurs all along the mainland.

Anna's Hummingbird most frequently observed in fall, often attempts overwintering. Rufous Hummingbirds are abundant from April to August and regularly visit sugar water feeders.

Kingfishers are conspicuous near rivers, lakes and along marine shores.

The Red-breasted Sapsucker is the most frequently observed woodpecker. Hairy and Downy woodpeckers are easily attracted to suet or peanut butter feeders.

Look for flickers in open forests, they often feed on the ground and are sometimes seen on roadsides. The two subspecies often interbreed. Yellow-shafted mainly to northward; Red-shafted mainly to southward, but recently increasing in Juneau.

Olive-sided Flycatcher apparently decreasing throughout its range.

Pacific-slope Flycatcher is the only member of this family that breeds commonly throughout Southeast. Most other species are found primarily near large mainland rivers.

Say's Phoebe occurs primarily on northern mainland, especially in mountains north of Skagway and upstream on major rivers.

Look for shrikes on the tops of small trees next to open areas.

Vireos are found primarily in mainland river valleys. Red-eyed found only in southern Southeast. Cassin's Vireo occurring with increasing frequency over past 10 years.

Gray Jay is mostly restricted to the Chilkat River valley. Steller's Jay is the common "blue jay" and regularly frequents bird feeders.

	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	HABITAT
Black-billed Magpie*	U	R	F	F	a,c,d,m,t
American Crow*	R	R	R	R	d,m,t
Northwestern Crow*	C	C	C	C	c,d,m,t
Common Raven*	C	C	C	C	a,c,d,m,t
<b>LARKS</b>					
Horned Lark	R	V	R	V	at
<b>SWALLOWS</b>					
Purple Martin	+	-	+	-	d
Tree Swallow*	F	F	F	-	d,f,m,t
Violet-green Swallow*	F	U	U	-	d,f,m,t
Northern Rough-winged Swallow*	R	R	V	-	f,m,t
Bank Swallow*	U	U	U	-	f,m,t
Cliff Swallow*	R	R	R	-	f,m,t
Barn Swallow*	F	F	F	-	f,m,t
<b>CHICKADEES</b>					
Black-capped Chickadee*	R	R	R	R	c,d
Mountain Chickadee	V	+	V	V	c,d
Chestnut-backed Chickadee*	C	C	C	C	c,d
Boreal Chickadee	+	-	V	V	c,d
<b>NUTHATCHES</b>					
Red-breasted Nuthatch*	U	U	U	R	c,d
<b>CREEPERS</b>					
Brown Creeper*	U	U	U	U	c,d
<b>WRENS</b>					
Winter Wren*	C	C	C	U	c,d,t
<b>DIPPERS</b>					
American Dipper*	F	F	F	F	ft
<b>KINGLETS</b>					
Golden-crowned Kinglet*	C	C	C	C	c,d
Ruby-crowned Kinglet*	C	C	C	V	c,d
<b>THRUSHES</b>					
Northern Wheatear	+	-	V	-	at
Mountain Bluebird	R	V	V	V	d,m,t
Townsend's Solitaire*	R	R	R	+	a,c,d
Veery	+	+	-	-	-
Gray-cheeked Thrush*	R	R	R	-	c,d
Swainson's Thrush*	C	C	C	-	c,d
Hermit Thrush*	C	C	C	V	c,d
Dusky Thrush	+	-	+	-	-
American Robin*	C	C	C	R	a,c,d,m,t
Varied Thrush*	C	C	C	U	a,c,d,m
<b>MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS</b>					
Gray Catbird	-	+	-	-	d
Northern Mockingbird	+	+	+	+	d

Black-billed Magpie found mostly in northern Southeast.

American Crow has been found only at Hydet.

Northwestern Crows and Ravens are abundant about the port cities of Southeast.

Look for Horned Lark during migration on tidal flats and glacial moraines.

Swallows are numerous in mixed flocks during migration over marshes, ponds and lakes. Tree and Barn swallows are the most common swallows about towns and villages. Rough-winged found on and near the mainland.

Black-capped restricted to deciduous forests along northern mainland.

Chestnut-backed Chickadee is the common chickadee found throughout spruce hemlock forests. Mountain and Boreal are casual visitors from Interior Canada.

Nuthatches are irregular in abundance, usually most numerous in fall.

Widespread but inconspicuous in deciduous, coniferous woodlands with large trees.

Most streams in Southeast Alaska have resident dippers.

Golden-crowned Kinglet is one of the most numerous birds of the hemlock/spruce forest.

Mountain Bluebirds are usually seen in open and scrub habitats near water along the mainland in migration. Townsend's Solitaire observed mostly in northern Southeast.

Swainson's and Hermit thrushes are more frequently heard than they are observed. Gray-cheeked frequents deciduous scrub in northern part of region.

Robins and Varied Thrushes are among the earliest migrants, arriving in March. The song of the Varied Thrush (buzzy whistled notes) is among the most commonly heard bird songs in the coniferous forest.

	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	HABITAT
<b>STARLINGS</b>					
European Starling*	U	U	U	U	d,m,t
Starlings, like Rock Pigeons, are found exclusively in towns and cities.					
<b>ACCENTORS</b>					
Siberian Accentor	-	-	+	-	d
<b>WAGTAILS, PIPITS</b>					
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	-	+	+	-	t
White Wagtail	+	+	+	+	t
Red-throated Pipit	-	-	V	-	m,t
American Pipit*	C	F	C	V	a,m,t
American Pipits are found in open wet areas in migration.					
<b>WAXWINGS</b>					
Bohemian Waxwing*	U	R	U	U	c,d
Cedar Waxwing*	V	U	R	V	d
Cedar Waxwing most numerous in southern Southeast. Bohemian occurs in large flocks in late fall and early winter.					
<b>WARBLERS</b>					
Tennessee Warbler*	V	R	V	-	d
Orange-crowned Warbler*	C	C	C	+	c,d
Nashville Warbler	-	-	+	-	d
Yellow Warbler*	C	C	C	+	d
Chestnut-sided Warbler	-	+	-	-	d
Magnolia Warbler	+	V	+	-	d
Cape May Warbler	+	-	+	-	c
Black-throated Blue Warbler	-	-	+	-	d
Yellow-rumped Warbler*					
Largest diversity of warblers occurs in deciduous habitats along the mainland rivers. Yellow-rumped and Townsend's are the common coniferous forest warblers. Tennessee mostly northern mainland. Orange-crowned, Yellow and Wilson's are the common yellowish warblers and the most frequent in brush and shrub habitats.					
Myrtle subspecies*	C	F	C	V	c,d
Audubon's subspecies*	U	U	U	-	c,d
Audubon subspecies most common in southern Southeast. Myrtle subspecies breeds in northern and central portions. The two subspecies interbreed.					
Black-throated Green Warbler	-	+	-	-	c
Townsend's Warbler*	C	C	C	-	c,d
Prairie Warbler	-	-	+	-	d
Palm Warbler	+	-	V	+	d
Blackpoll Warbler*	V	R	V	-	d
Blackpoll Warbler found most often on northern mainland.					
Black-and-white Warbler	+	+	-	-	d
American Redstart*	U	U	U	-	d
Ovenbird	-	+	-	-	d
Redstart and Northern Waterthrush found primarily in wet deciduous growth near mainland rivers.					
Northern Waterthrush*	U	U	U	-	d
Mourning Warbler	-	+	-	-	d
MacGillivray's Warbler*	U	U	U	-	d
MacGillivray's Warbler skulks in dense deciduous brush along mainland.					
Common Yellowthroat*	U	U	U	-	d,m
Wilson's Warbler*	F	F	F	-	c,d
<b>TANAGERS</b>					
Western Tanager*	U	U	U	-	c,d
Found at edge of hemlock/spruce forests of mainland rivers.					
<b>SPARROWS</b>					
Spotted Towhee	+	-	+	V	c,d
American Tree Sparrow	U	+	U	R	d,m,t
Chipping Sparrow*	R	R	R	V	c,d,m
Clay-colored Sparrow	+	-	+	-	d
Brewer's Sparrow	+	+	+	-	d
Vesper Sparrow	-	+	-	-	t



Black-headed Grosbeak

	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	HABITAT
Lark Sparrow	-	-	+	-	p
Savannah Sparrow*	C	C	C	V	d,m,t
Fox Sparrow*	C	C	C	R	c,d
Song Sparrow*	F	F	F	U	d,m,t
Lincoln's Sparrow*	C	C	C	R	d,m,t
Swamp Sparrow	+	+	V	V	m
White-throated Sparrow	V	+	R	R	d
Harris's Sparrow	V	+	R	R	d
White-crowned Sparrow	U	V	U	R	c,d
Golden-crowned Sparrow*	F	U	U	R	a,c,d
Dark-eyed Junco*					
Slate-colored subspecies*	U	V	U	F	c,d,m,t
Oregon subspecies*	C	C	C	C	c,d,m,t
Lapland Longspur	U	-	U	V	a,t
Smith's Longspur	+	-	V	-	t
Rustic Bunting	-	-	+	-	d
Snow Bunting*	U	R	U	U	a,t
McKay's Bunting	-	-	-	+	t
<b>GROSBEAKS</b>					
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	+	-	d
Black-headed Grosbeak	+	V	V	-	d
Blue Grosbeak	-	-	+	-	d
Lazuli Bunting	-	+	+	-	d
Indigo Bunting	-	-	+	-	d
Dickcissel	+	-	-	-	d
<b>BLACKBIRDS</b>					
Bobolink	-	+	+	-	m
Red-winged Blackbird*	U	U	U	V	m,t
Western Meadowlark	+	-	V	V	m
Yellow-headed Blackbird	+	+	+	-	m
Rusty Blackbird*	U	R	U	R	d,m,t
Brewer's Blackbird	V	-	V	V	m
Common Grackle	+	-	+	+	m
Brown-headed Cowbird*	R	R	R	+	d,m,t
Orchard Oriole	-	-	+	-	d
Bullock's Oriole	+	-	+	-	d

Abundant in grassy meadow and coastal wetland habitats.

Rufous interior forms of the Fox Sparrow are rare migrants and winter visitors.

Song Sparrow, found along saltwater beaches, rarely ventures inland.

Abundant in grassy meadow and coastal wetland habitats.

White-throated and Harris's found primarily at bird feeders; White-throated found much more frequently than Harris's.

Golden-crowned a common breeder in upper Glacier Bay.

Only Oregon subspecies commonly breeds in region; slate-colored more numerous in the northern part.

Lapland Longspurs and Snow Buntings occur in flocks in open grassy areas. Snow Bunting breeds in Glacier Bay and high in northernmost Coast Range.

Black-headed Grosbeak occurring with increasing frequency.

Red-winged Blackbirds breed primarily on the mainland.

Occurs in a variety of wetland habitats, most often in riparian woodlands.

	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER	HABITAT
<b>FINCHES</b>					
Brambling	V	-	V	V	d, m, t
Gray-crowned Rosy Finch*	U	U	U	R	at
Pine Grosbeak*	U	U	F	F	c, d
Purple Finch	V	+	V	V	c, d
Cassin's Finch	-	-	+	-	d
House Finch	V	V	-	-	d
Red Crossbill*	F	F	F	F	c
White-winged Crossbill*	U	U	U	U	c
Common Redpoll*	F	U	F	F	c, d, m, t
Hoary Redpoll	V	-	-	R	c, d, m, t
Pine Siskin*	C	C	C	C	c, d
American Goldfinch	+	+	+	-	d
Eurasian Bullfinch	+	-	-	-	c, d
Evening Grosbeak	V	+	V	V	c, d
<b>OLD WORLD SPARROWS</b>					
House Sparrow*	+	+	V	V	d

<b>UNSUBSTANTIATED IN ALASKA</b>					
Clark's Grebe					
Flesh-footed Shearwater					
Snowy Egret					
Cooper's Hawk					
Yellow Rail					
Long-billed Curlew					
Laughing Gull					
Calliope Hummingbird					
Pileated Woodpecker					
Ash-throated Flycatcher					
Black-throated Gray Warbler					
Hermit Warbler					
Bay-breasted Warbler					
Chestnut-collared Longspur					

Brambling is the one Asian straggler of semi-regular occurrence.  
 Rosy finches sometimes found at sea level following spring snowstorms.  
 Large flocks attracted to Mountain Ash berries in late fall and early winter.

Numbers of finches vary considerably from year to year depending on food sources - particularly crossbills, which are dependent on hemlock/spruce cone crops. Look for both crossbills in the tops of conifers feeding on cone seeds.  
 Common Redpolls and Pine Siskins are often seen in large compact flocks.  
 Common Redpoll more numerous in northern areas and fairly common breeder in upper Glacier Bay; elsewhere very rare in summer.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The 2010 edition of the *Birds of Southeast Alaska* checklist was updated and revised by Steve Heintz, with the help of Nat Drumheller, Andy Piston, Mark Schwan, Paul Suchanek, Thede Tobish, and Gus van Vliet. The notes and records of Dr. Ralph B. Williams, Juneau, formed the basis of the first edition of this checklist, compiled by Bob Armstrong and Rich Gordon in 1993, and updated in 2001. Cover illustration by Lawrence Ormsby.

Published in cooperation with the Tongass National Forest.

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