

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Dungeness

*National Wildlife
Refuge*

Watchable Wildlife



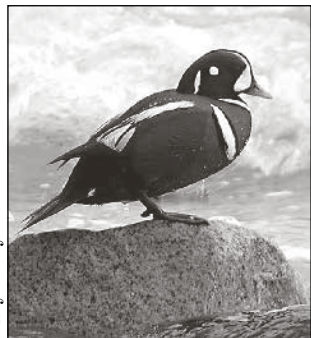
Introduction

Home for Wildlife

Dungeness National Wildlife Refuge was set aside by executive order in 1915 as a refuge, preserve, and breeding ground for native birds. Located in the northwest corner of Washington State on the Salish Sea, approximately 60 miles northwest of Seattle, it offers a diversified habitat of sand beaches, protected bay waters, seagrass beds, mudflats, and forested and grass uplands.

Good wildlife viewing opportunities occur throughout the year on the Refuge. In winter, the area is important to sea ducks and other waterfowl who feed and find storm shelter in the protected waters of Dungeness Bay.

The Bay remains an important migration stop and wintering ground for brant. Many shorebird species also feed on the shorelines and mudflats during the spring and fall migrations with a few species overwintering on the Refuge. Bald eagles and other raptors are commonly seen year round on the Refuge.



Harlequin duck

About this Checklist

Summer brings nesting songbirds to the forested and grass uplands and on to the spits. Often visitors see harbor seals swimming in the marine waters and hauling out on shore to rest and nurse their pups within the protection of the Refuge boundaries. Visitors have also spotted other marine mammals, such as orca and minke whales, in the Refuge waters.

The following fish and wildlife species list includes 244 species of birds, 29 species of mammals, 8 species of reptiles and amphibians, and 26 species of fish that are found on the Refuge. Since most birds are migratory, their seasonal occurrence and abundance, as well as associated habitats are coded. The list was prepared with the assistance of Bob Boekelheide, Rod Norvell and other knowledgeable birders. If you see something rare or unusual, please share the information with the Refuge biologist. We will periodically update this checklist with new information and we welcome your wildlife sightings on the Refuge.

Bird species are listed according to the seventh edition (1998) American Ornithologists' Union checklist and the 52nd supplement to that checklist (August 2011). Symbols used in this list are defined on the following page.

Wildlife List Key

Seasons

- Sp - Spring (March-May)
- S - Summer (June-July)
- F - Fall (August-November)
- W - Winter (December-February)

Seasonal Abundance

- a - abundant – occurring in large numbers in proper habitat
- c - common – likely to be seen or heard in proper habitat
- u - uncommon – present, but not certain to be seen
- o - occasional – present only a few times a season, but may be more common in habitat adjacent to the Refuge
- r - rare – may be present but not every year
- i - irruptive – occurs in large numbers some years, but is absent in others
- h - hypothetical – within normal range, but not recently documented
- x - accidental – outside of normal range

Habitat

A symbol (*) precedes species known to nest or breed on the Refuge. Threatened or endangered species are preceded by (✓) symbol.

The “H” column lists the habitat types that are found on the Refuge in which the listed bird species can be found. The habitat codes are as follows:

- f - mixed coniferous/deciduous forest
- g - grassland
- h - hedges/shrubs
- m - marsh/pond
- s - sand spit/strand
- t - tideflats/open mudflats
- b - bay marine
- o - open marine

Wildlife Watching Tips

Patience and Magnification

Viewing marine birds can be challenging. At first glance the waters appear empty, but slowly scan the area with binoculars or a scope for a closer look.

Natural Blinds

Some areas are closed to public entry to provide wildlife sanctuary. Watch for closed area signs and stay to the north, or strait-side, as you view wildlife from the cover of driftwood.

Nature's Soundtrack

Walk quietly in designated areas, being aware of sounds. Teach children quiet observation. Other wildlife watchers will appreciate your consideration.

Super Sleuthing

Be aware of animal sounds, smells, and signs. Tracks, scat, feathers, and nests left behind tell interesting stories.

Wild Diets

Don't share your food. Your lunch could disrupt wild digestive systems.

Family Ties

Leave all young animals alone. A parent is probably close by waiting for you to leave.



Bufflehead

Birds of Dungeness NWR

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Loons					
Red-throated Loon	ob	u		u	c
Pacific Loon	ob	c	o	c	c
Common Loon	ob	c	u	c	c
Yellow-billed Loon	ob	r		r	r
Grebes					
Pied-billed Grebe	mb	o	o	o	o
Horned Grebe	ob	c	r	c	c
Red-necked Grebe	ob	c	r	c	c
Eared Grebe	ob	o		o	o
Western Grebe	ob	u		u	u
Fulmars, Petrels and Shearwaters					
Northern Fulmar	o	r		r	r
Sooty Shearwater	o		r	r	
Short-tailed Shearwater	o			r	
Storm-Petrels					
Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel	o	r		r	r
Leach's Storm-Petrel	o			r	r
Pelicans					
Brown Pelican	ob		o	o	
Cormorants					
Brandt's Cormorant	ob	r	r	r	u
Double-crested Cormorant	bo	c	c	c	c
Pelagic Cormorant	bo	c	u	c	c
Bitterns, Herons and Egrets					
American Bittern	m	o	o	o	o
Great Blue Heron	tms	c	c	c	c
Green Heron	m		r		

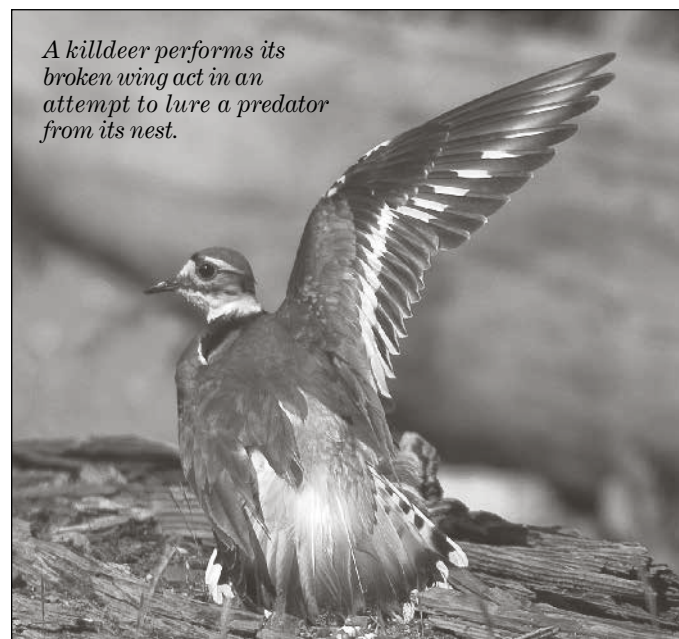
Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Swans, Geese and Ducks					
Greater White-fronted Goose	m	o		o	r
Snow Goose	bgm	r		r	r
Brant	bt	a	r	c	a
*Canada Goose	btgs	c	c	c	c
Mute Swan	b	x	x	x	x
Trumpeter Swan	gm	o		o	o
Tundra Swan	gm	r		r	r
Wood Duck	mf	o	o	o	o
Gadwall	mtb	o	o	o	u
Eurasian Wigeon	tbm	u		u	u
American Wigeon	tbm	c	o	a	a
*Mallard	tbm	c	o	a	a
Blue-winged Teal	m	r	r	r	
Cinnamon Teal	mt	r	r	r	
Northern Shoveler	tm	u	o	u	u
Northern Pintail	tbm	c	o	a	a
Green-winged Teal	tm	c	o	c	c
Canvasback	bm	r		r	r
Redhead	bm	r		r	r
Ring-necked Duck	bm	o	o	o	o
Greater Scaup	b	u	o	u	c
Lesser Scaup	bm	o		o	o
Harlequin Duck	bto	c	u	c	c
Surf Scoter	bo	c	u	c	a
White-winged Scoter	bo	c	u	c	a
Black Scoter	ob	u		u	u
Long-tailed Duck	ob	u		u	c
Bufflehead	bom	c	r	c	c
Common Goldeneye	bom	c	r	u	c
Barrow's Goldeneye	bom	o		o	o
Hooded Merganser	bm	o	o	o	o
Common Merganser	bm	o	o	u	o
Red-breasted Merganser	bot	c	o	c	c
Ruddy Duck	bm	r		r	o
New World Vultures					
Turkey Vulture	st	u	u	u	r



Surf scoter. ©Mike Baird

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Osprey, Kites, Hawks and Eagles					
Osprey	bf	u	u	o	r
Bald Eagle	sbtf	c	c	c	c
*Northern Harrier	gs	c	c	c	c
Sharp-shinned Hawk	f	u	o	u	u
*Cooper's Hawk	f	u	u	u	u
Northern Goshawk	f	r		r	r
*Red-tailed Hawk	fg	u	u	u	u
Rough-legged Hawk	g				r
Golden Eagle	fg	r		r	r
Falcons and Caracaras					
American Kestrel	gs	o		r	o
Merlin	tsf	o	r	o	u
Gyr Falcon	sb			r	o
Peregrine Falcon	stf	u	o	u	u
Prairie Falcon	sg			r	r
Gallinaceous Birds					
Ring-necked Pheasant	gh	o	o	u	u
*California Quail	gfh	c	c	c	c
Rails					
Virginia Rail	m	o	o	o	o
Sora	m	o	o	o	r
American Coot	mb	o	o	o	o
Plovers					
Black-bellied Plover	ts	c	u	a	a
American Golden-Plover	ts			o	
Pacific Golden-Plover	ts			o	
✓Snowy Plover	s	r	r		
Semipalmated Plover	st	u	u	c	r
*Killdeer	st	c	c	c	u
Oystercatchers					
*Black Oystercatcher	s	c	c	c	u
Sandpipers and Phalaropes					
Greater Yellowlegs	tm	u	r	u	r
Lesser Yellowlegs	tm	o		o	
Solitary Sandpiper	ms	r		r	
Willet	st			r	r
Wandering Tattler	s	r		r	
Spotted Sandpiper	st	o	o	o	r

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Whimbrel	ts	c	u	c	r
Long-billed Curlew	m	r			
Bar-tailed Godwit	t	r	r		
Marbled Godwit	t	o	r	o	o
Ruddy Turnstone	st	u	u	c	r
Black Turnstone	st	u	u	c	u
Surfbird	st	o		o	u
Red Knot	t	o		o	
Sanderling	st	c	u	c	c
Semipalmated Sandpiper	mt	r		r	
Western Sandpiper	ts	c	u	c	o
Least Sandpiper	ts	u	u	c	o
Baird's Sandpiper	ts	r		o	
Pectoral Sandpiper	mt	r		o	
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	mt			r	
Rock Sandpiper	s			r	r
Dunlin	tsm	c	r	c	a
Stilt Sandpiper	m			r	
Ruff	m			r	
Short-billed Dowitcher	tms	u	u	u	
Long-billed Dowitcher	tms	u	o	u	r
Wilson's Snipe	m	o		o	o
Wilson's Phalarope	o	r		r	
Red-necked Phalarope	o	o		o	
Red Phalarope	o	r		r	r



A killdeer performs its broken wing act in an attempt to lure a predator from its nest.

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Skuas, Jaegers, Gulls and Terns					
Parasitic Jaeger	ob	r		o	
Bonaparte's Gull	tbso	u	o	u	u
Heermann's Gull	sobt		a	c	r
Mew Gull	stbo	c	o	c	c
Ring-billed Gull	stbo	o	o	u	u
California Gull	stbo	o	c	c	u
Herring Gull	stbo	r		r	o
Thayer's Gull	stbo	o		o	u
Western Gull	stbo	u	o	u	u
*Glaucous-winged Gull	stbo	a	a	a	c
Glaucous Gull	st	r		r	o
*Glaucous-winged/Western Gull	stbo	a	c	a	a
Black-legged Kittiwake	os			r	r
*Caspian Tern	bos	u	c	c	
Elegant Tern	bos			r	
Common Tern	bos	o	u	u	
*Arctic Tern	bos			r	
Forster's Tern	bos			r	
Auks and Puffins					
Common Murre	o	o	u	u	u
*Pigeon Guillemot	o	c	c	c	c
✓Marbled Murrelet	o	u	u	u	o
Ancient Murrelet	o		r	o	o
Cassin's Auklet	o	r	r	r	r
Rhinoceros Auklet	o	u	c	c	o
Tufted Puffin	o	o	u		
Pigeons and Doves					
Rock Pigeon	gf	o	o	o	o
Band-tailed Pigeon	f	o	o	o	o
*Mourning Dove	fg	u	u	u	u
Barn Owls					
Barn Owl	g	o	o	o	o



Belted kingfisher
©Kevin Cole

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Typical Owls					
Western Screech-Owl	f	o	o	o	o
Great Horned Owl	sfg	o	o	o	o
Snowy Owl	sm	i		i	i
Northern Pygmy-Owl	f	r		r	r
Barred Owl	f	o	r	o	o
*Short-eared Owl	sg	u	u	u	u
Northern Saw-whet Owl	f	o	r	o	o
Nightjars					
Common Nighthawk	mfg	o	o	o	
Swifts					
Black Swift	mfb	o	o	o	
*Vaux's Swift	mfg	u	u	u	
Hummingbirds					
*Rufous Hummingbird	f	c	c	u	
Kingfishers					
*Belted Kingfisher	btms	c	c	u	u
Woodpeckers					
Red-breasted Sapsucker	f	o	o	o	o
*Downy Woodpecker	f	c	c	u	u
*Hairy Woodpecker	f	u	u	o	o
*Northern Flicker	fg	u	o	u	u
Pileated Woodpecker	f	o	r	r	r
Tyrant Flycatchers					
*Olive-sided Flycatcher	f	u	u	u	
Western Wood-Pewee	f	o	o	o	
Willow Flycatcher	f	o	o	o	
Hammond's Flycatcher	f	o	r	o	
*Pacific-slope Flycatcher	f	c	c	u	
Tropical Kingbird	g			x	
Western Kingbird	g	r			
Shrikes					
Northern Shrike	g	r		o	o
Vireos					
*Cassin's Vireo	f	u	u	u	
*Hutton's Vireo	f	u	u	u	u
Warbling Vireo	f	u	o	u	
Red-eyed Vireo	f	o	o		

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Crows, Jays and Magpies					
*Steller's Jay	f	u	u	u	u
American Crow	tf	u	u	u	u
Northwestern Crow	t	u	u	u	u
*Common Raven	f	c	c	c	u
Larks					
Sky Lark	sg	x			x
Horned Lark	s	r	h	h	
Swallows					
Purple Martin	bmtg	r	r		
*Tree Swallow	bmtgf	c	c	c	r
*Violet-green Swallow	bsmgf	c	c	c	
*Northern Rough-winged Swallow	bsmg	c	c	c	
*Cliff Swallow	bsmg	c	c	c	
*Barn Swallow	bsmg	c	c	c	
Titmice and Chickadees					
Black-capped Chickadee	f	u	u	u	u
Mountain Chickadee	f				x
*Chestnut-backed Chickadee	f	c	c	c	c
Bushtits					
*Bushtit	f	u	u	u	u
Nuthatches					
*Red-breasted Nuthatch	f	c	c	c	c
Creepers					
*Brown Creeper	f	u	u	u	u
Wrens					
*Bewick's Wren	fh	u	u	u	u
House Wren	f	o	o		
*Pacific Wren	f	c	c	c	c
*Marsh Wren	m	o	o	o	o

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Kinglets					
*Golden-crowned Kinglet	fh	c	c	c	c
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	fh	u	r	u	c
Thrushes					
Western Bluebird	g	r	r	r	
Mountain Bluebird	g				r
Townsend's Solitaire	f	o	r	o	r
*Swainson's Thrush	f	u	u	o	
Hermit Thrush	fh	o	r	o	r
*American Robin	fgm	c	c	c	u
*Varied Thrush	f	u	u	u	u
Starlings					
European Starling	gmts	u	u	u	c
Wagtails and Pipits					
American Pipit	sgt	o		u	r
Waxwings					
Bohemian Waxwing	f			r	
Cedar Waxwing	r	u	u	u	r
Wood Warblers					
*Orange-crowned Warbler	f	c	c	c	r
Nashville Warbler	f	r		r	
*Yellow Warbler	f	u	u	u	
*Yellow-rumped Warbler	f	u	u	u	o
Black-throated Gray Warbler	f	o	o	o	
*Townsend's Warbler	f	u	u	u	r
MacGillivray's Warbler	f	o	o	o	
*Common Yellowthroat	hmg	u	u	o	
*Wilson's Warbler	f	c	c	u	



Chestnut-backed chickadee

©Alan Vernon

Common Name	Habitat	Sp	S	F	W
Tanagers					
*Western Tanager	f	u	u	o	
Sparrows and Towhees					
*Spotted Towhee	f	c	c	c	c
Chipping Sparrow	f	o	o	o	
Vesper Sparrow	gs	h	h	r	r
*Savannah Sparrow	gs	c	c	c	
*Fox Sparrow	fh	c	u	c	c
*Song Sparrow	sgfh	c	c	c	c
Lincoln's Sparrow	g	o	r	o	r
*White-crowned Sparrow	hg	c	c	u	o
Golden-crowned Sparrow	hg	u	o	u	u
*Dark-eyed Junco	f	c	c	c	c
Lapland Longspur	sg			r	r
Snow Bunting	sg		r	r	r
Cardinals, Grosbeaks and Allies					
*Black-headed Grosbeak	f	u	u	u	
Blackbirds and Orioles					
Red-winged Blackbird	mgh	o	o	o	o
Western Meadowlark	gh	o	o	o	o
*Brewer's Blackbird	gm	u	u	o	o
*Brown-headed Cowbird	fg	u	u	o	r
Bullock's Oriole	fg	o	o	r	
Finches					
Purple Finch	fgh	o	o	o	r
*House Finch	g	o	o	o	o
Red Crossbill	f	i	i	i	i
White-winged Crossbill	f				r
Common Redpoll	hg			i	i
Hoary Redpoll	hg			i	i
*Pine Siskin	f	c	c	c	c
*American Goldfinch	gh	c	c	u	r
*Evening Grosbeak	f	i	i	i	
Old World Sparrows					
*House Sparrow	g	o	o	o	o



Mammals of Dungeness NWR

Terrestrial Mammals

Many mammals are difficult to observe due to their nocturnal or secretive behavior. Although they may not be seen, watch for evidence of their presence, such as fresh tracks, scat or a burrow hole.

Common Name

Abundance

Shrews and Moles

*Marsh Shrew

u

Pikas, Rabbits and Hares

Snowshoe Hare

o

Rodents

Aplodontia (Mountain Beaver)

u

Townsend's Chipmunk

u

*Douglas' Squirrel (Chickaree)

c

Northern Flying Squirrel

u

*Deer Mouse

u

*Southern Red-backed Vole

u

Townsend's Vole

u

*Creeping Vole

u

Carnivores

Northern Raccoon

u

*Short-tailed Weasel (Ermine)

u

*Long-tailed Weasel

u

Northern River Otter

u

*Striped Skunk

c

*Coyote

u

Red Fox

u

Hoofed Mammals

*Columbian Black-tailed Deer

c

*Columbian
black-tailed deer*
USFWS

Amphibians and Reptiles of Dungeness NWR

Common Name

Abundance

*Rough-skinned Newt

a

*Northwestern Salamander

u

*Western Toad

o

*Pacific Chorus Frog

u

*Red-legged Frog

u

Northern Alligator Lizard

u

*Northwestern Garter Snake

u

Common Garter Snake

o



Marine Wildlife of Dungeness NWR

Marine Mammals

Visitors often observe marine mammals in the waters around the spit. Only the harbor and elephant seals haul out (come out of the water) on the shoreline. Please report to Refuge staff any individual (single) seal or any other marine mammals observed on land.

Common Name

Abundance

✓Northern (Steller) Sea Lion	o
California Sea Lion	o
Northern Fur Seal	r
*Harbor Seal	a
Northern Elephant Seal	o
✓Orca (Killer Whale)	o
Harbor Porpoise	o
Dall's Porpoise	o
Gray Whale	o
Minke Whale	o
Sea Otter	r

Anadromous Fish, Shellfish and Others

The following is a selected sample of fish and shellfish that visitors might see in Dungeness Bay. Included are anadromous fish, that is a term used for fish that hatch in fresh water, migrate to sea, and return to fresh water to spawn.

Common Name

✓Chinook (King) Salmon	Cockle
Coho (Silver) Salmon	Butter Clam
Pink Salmon	Horse Clam
✓Chum Salmon	Geoduck
Sockeye Salmon	Softshell Clam
Steelhead	Pacific Oyster (commercial)
Cutthroat Trout (coastal)	Mussel
✓Bull Trout	Dungeness Crab
Pacific Sand Lance	Red Rock Crab
Pacific Herring	Oregon (Hairy) Shore Crab
Surf Smelt	Horse Shore Crab
Native Littleneck Clam	Hermit Shore Crab
Manila Littleneck Clam	Giant Pacific Octopus

Field Notes

Have you seen me lately?

If you find a rare, accidental or unlisted species, please share your observations with us. And remember, a picture is worth a thousand words.

Date & time

Observer

Weather

Species

Behavior

Comments

Date & time

Observer

Weather

Species

Behavior

Comments

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Refuge Information
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