U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge

Bird Checklist

The Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge consists of 8.6 million acres and encompasses the Yukon Flats basin. This basin is located along the Arctic Circle and is bordered by the Brooks Range to the north and the White Mountains to the south. It includes 300 miles of the Yukon River, North America's third longest river. An estimated 20,000 shallow lakes, ponds, and sloughs; and 7,000 miles of rivers and streams are within the Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge.

The rich wetlands of the Yukon Flats provide some of the most productive waterfowl breeding areas in North America. It is estimated that 1.5 million ducks breed here annually. The Yukon Flats also include a variety of other habitats such as white spruce, paper birch, and quaking aspen forests; black spruce bogs; willow and alder thickets; grasslands, meadows, and alpine tundra. These habitats are important to songbirds, waterbirds, raptors, and upland game birds.

The following checklist of 160 species has been compiled from Refuge observations and published records. If you have information that could be used to update this list, please contact:

Refuge Manager
Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge
101 12th Ave., Room 264
Fairbanks, AK 99701-6293
907/456 0440 or 800/531 0676
Email: yukonflats.fws.gov

USFWS

Barrow's Goldeneye

COMMON NAME	AB	ST
LOONS		
___ Red-throated Loon	U	B*
___ Pacific Loon	C	B*
___ Common Loon	C	B*
GREBES		
___ Horned Grebe	C	B*
___ Red-necked Grebe	C	B*
CORMORANTS		
___ Double-crested Cormorant	+	V
SWANS, GEESE, DUCKS		
___ Tundra Swan	R	M
___ Trumpeter Swan	C	B*
___ Greater White-fronted Goose	U	B*
___ Snow Goose	R	M
___ Brant	+	V
___ Canada Goose	U	B*
___ Green-winged Teal	C	B*
___ Mallard	C	B*
___ Northern Pintail	C	B*
___ Blue-winged Teal	R	B*
___ Nothern Shoveler	C	B*
___ Gadwall	U	B*
___ American Wigeon	A	B*
___ Canvasback	C	B*
___ Redhead	R	B*
___ Ring-necked Duck	C	B*
___ Greater Scaup	U	B*
___ Lesser Scaup	A	B*
___ King Eider	+	V
___ Harlequin Duck	R	B
___ Long-tailed Duck	R	B
___ Black Scoter	R	B*
___ Surf Scoter	U	B*
___ White-winged Scoter	C	B*
___ Common Goldeneye	U	B*
___ Barrow's Goldeneye	U	B*
___ Bufflehead	U	B*
___ Common Merganser	R	B
___ Red-breasted Merganser	U	B*
___ Ruddy Duck	U	B*

COMMON NAME	AB	ST
EAGLES, HAWKS		
___ Osprey	U	B*
___ Bald Eagle	U	B*
___ Northern Harrier	U	B*
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	U	B
___ Northern Goshawk	R	B*
___ Swainson's Hawk	O	B
___ Red-tailed Hawk	C	B*
___ Rough-legged Hawk	U	B
___ Golden Eagle	U	B*
FALCONS		
___ American Kestrel	U	B*
___ Merlin	R	B
___ Peregrine Falcon	U	B*
___ Gyrfalcon	O	B
GROUSE		
___ Spruce Grouse	C	Y*
___ Willow Ptarmigan	U	Y
___ Rock Ptarmigan	U	Y
___ Ruffed Grouse	C	Y*
___ Sharp-tailed Grouse	R	Y*
COOTS		
___ American Coot	O	V
CRANES		
___ Sandhill Crane	C	B*
PLOVERS		
___ Black-bellied Plover	R	M
___ American Golden-Plover	R	B*
___ Semipalmated Plover	C	B*
___ Killdeer	O	B*
SANDPIPERS		
___ Greater Yellowlegs	O	M
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	A	B*
___ Solitary Sandpiper	C	B*
___ Spotted Sandpiper	C	B*
___ Wandering Tattler	O	B
___ Upland Sandpiper	O	B*
___ Whimbrel	R	M
___ Hudsonian Godwit	O	M
___ Ruddy Turnstone	O	M
___ Surfbird	R	B

ABUNDANCE (AB)

A - Abundant; very numerous
C - Common; certain to be seen or heard in suitable habitat
U - Uncommon; locally distributed; or occurring in low numbers
R - Rare; species occurs regularly in the region but in very small numbers; sighting likelihood poor
O - Occasional; seen a few times in a five-year period
+ - Accidental; seen once or twice; may not be seen again

STATUS (ST)

Y - Year-round resident
B - Breeding species (migratory)
  * Breeding has been documented through observation of eggs, nests, or dependent (unfledged or recently fledged) young
M - Migrant; non-breeder traveling between summer and winter range
V - Visitor; outside its normal range

COMMON NAME	AB	ST
SANDPIPERS continued		
___ Sanderling	O	M
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper	U	M
___ Western Sandpiper	U	M
___ Least Sandpiper	U	B
___ Baird's Sandpiper	R	M
___ Pectoral Sandpiper	U	M
___ Dunlin	O	M
___ Stilt Sandpiper	O	M
___ Buff-breasted Sandpiper	O	M
___ Long-billed Dowitcher	R	M
___ Wilson's Snipe	A	B*
___ Wilson's Phalarope	+	B*
___ Red-necked Phalarope	U	B*
___ Red Phalarope	R	M
JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS		
___ Long-tailed Jaeger	R	B
___ Bonaparte's Gull	C	B*
___ Mew Gull	C	B*
___ Herring Gull	C	B*
___ Glaucous Gull	+	V
___ Arctic Tern	C	B*
PIGEONS, DOVES		
___ Rock Pigeon	O	V
___ Mourning Dove	+	V
OWLS		
___ Great Horned Owl	C	Y*
___ Snowy Owl	O	V
___ Northern Hawk Owl	U	Y*
___ Great Grey Owl	U	Y*
___ Short-eared Owl	U	B*
___ Boreal Owl	U	Y*
KINGFISHERS		
___ Belted Kingfisher	U	B
WOODPECKERS		
___ Downy Woodpecker	U	Y
___ Hairy Woodpecker	U	Y
___ American Three-toed Woodpecker	C	Y*

COMMON NAME	AB	ST
WOODPECKERS continud		
___ Black-backed Woodpecker	U	Y
___ Northern Flicker	C	B*
TYRANT FLYCATCHERS		
___ Olive-sided Flycatcher	U	B
___ Western Wood-Pewee	U	B*
___ Alder Flycatcher	C	B
___ Hammond's Flycatcher	R	B
___ Say's Phoebe	R	B
___ Eastern Kingbird	+	V
LARKS		
___ Horned Lark	U	B
SWALLOWS		
___ Tree Swallow	U	B*
___ Violet-green Swallow	U	B*
___ Bank Swallow	C	B*
___ Cliff Swallow	C	B*
JAYS, MAGPIES, CROWS		
___ Gray Jay	C	Y*
___ Black-billed Magpie	+	V
___ Common Raven	C	Y*
CHICKADEE		
___ Black-capped Chickadee	U	Y
___ Boreal Chickadee	C	Y*
___ Gray-headed Chickadee	R	Y
NUTHATCHES		
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch	O	V
DIPPERS		
___ American Dipper	R	B
KINGLETS		
___ Ruby- crowned Kinglet	U	B*
THRUSHES		
___ Northern Wheatear	R	B
___ Townsend's Solitaire	O	B
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush	U	B*
___ Swainson's Thrush	A	B*
___ Hermit Thrush	U	B
___ American Robin	C	B*
___ Varied Thrush	C	B

COMMON NAME	AB	ST
WAGTAILS, PIPITS		
___ White Wagtail	+	V
___ American Pipit	U	B
WAXWING		
___ Bohemian Waxwing	I	B*
SHRIKES		
___ Northern Shrike	R	B
STARLINGS		
___ European Starling	O	V
WOOD WARBLERS		
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	U	B*
___ Yellow Warbler	C	B*
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	C	B*
___ Blackpoll Warbler	U	B
___ Northern Waterthrush	C	B*
___ Wilson's Warbler	R	B
SPARROWS, BUNTINGS		
___ American Tree Sparrow	U	B*
___ Chipping Sparrow	R	B*
___ Savannah Sparrow	C	B*
___ Fox Sparrow	U	B*
___ Lincoln's Sparrow	U	B*
___ Golden-crowned Sparrow	O	M
___ White-crowned Sparrow	C	B*
___ Dark-eyed Junco	C	B*
___ Lapland Longspur	R	B
___ Smith's Longspur	O	B
___ Snow Bunting	U	M
BLACKBIRDS		
___ Red-winged Blackbird	U	B*
___ Rusty Blackbird	C	B*
FINCHES		
___ Gray-crowned Rosy Finch	U	B
___ Pine Grosbeak	U	Y
___ White-winged Crossbill	C	Y*
___ Common Redpoll	C	Y*
___ Hoary Redpoll	U	M

Original list complied by K. Sowl, USFWS and revised by N. Guldager and M. Bertram, USFWS in May 2007.

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Lesser Yellowlegs

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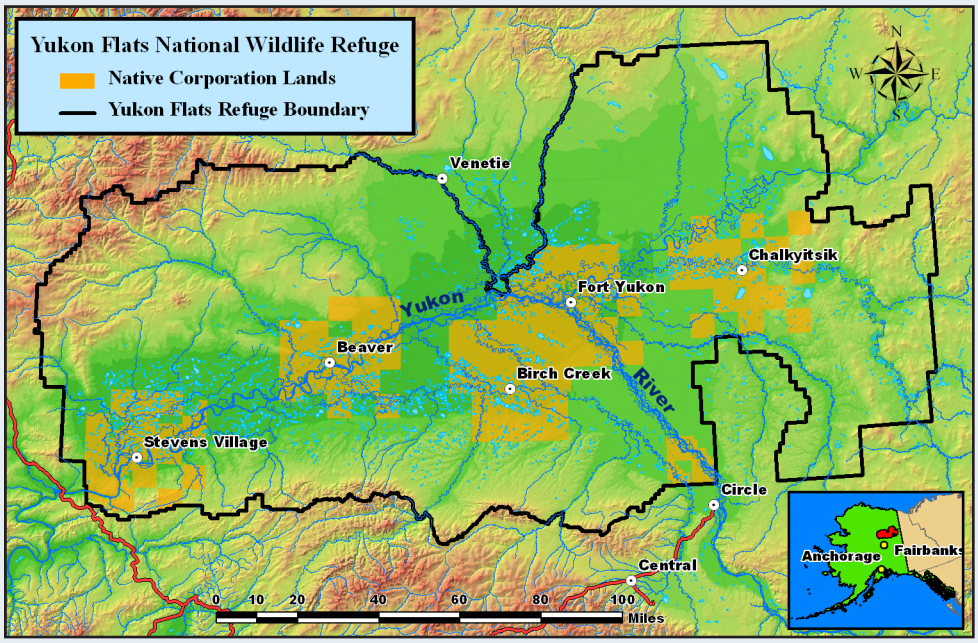

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