

OWLS

- ___ **Great Horned Owl** – Uncommon permanent resident on south side, where it may breed (*).
- ___ **Snowy Owl** – Annual populations vary. Uncommon to common permanent resident and occasional rare breeder on coastal plain. Breeding occurs in years of high lemming populations. Rare visitor in Brooks Range.
- ___ **Northern Hawk-Owl** – Uncommon permanent resident on south side.
- ___ **Great Grey Owl** – Rare permanent resident on south side, where it may breed (*).
- ___ **Short-eared Owl** – Uncommon to common breeder on coastal plain. Breeding occurs in years of high lemming populations. Fairly common in Brooks Range. Rare summer visitor on south side, where it may breed (*).
- ___ **Boreal Owl** – Uncommon permanent resident on south side, where it may breed (*).

GOATSUCKERS

- ___ **Common Nighthawk** – Casual visitor on coastal plain.

HUMMINGBIRDS

- ___ **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** – Accidental visitor in Brooks Range.
- ___ **Rufous Hummingbird** – Accidental visitor on coastal plain.

KINGFISHERS

- ___ **Belted Kingfisher** – Casual visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon summer resident on south side, where it may breed (*).

WOODPECKERS

- ___ **Downy Woodpecker** – Rare permanent resident on south side, where it may breed (*).
- ___ **Hairy Woodpecker** – Rare permanent resident on south side, where it may breed (*).
- ___ **American Three-toed Woodpecker** – Uncommon breeder on south side.
- ___ **Black-backed Woodpecker** – Rare permanent resident on south side, where it may breed (*).
- ___ **Northern Flicker** – Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range and on south side.

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

- ___ **Olive-sided Flycatcher** – Uncommon breeder on south side.
- ___ **Western Wood-Pewee** – Rare on south side, where it may breed (*).
- ___ **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** – Casual visitor on south side.
- ___ **Alder Flycatcher** – Common breeder on south side.
- ___ **Hammond's Flycatcher** – Accidental visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon on south side, where it may breed (*).
- ___ **Eastern Phoebe** – Accidental visitor on coastal plain.
- ___ **Say's Phoebe** – Rare visitor on coastal plain. Fairly common breeder in Brooks Range.
- ___ **Eastern Kingbird** – Accidental visitor on coastal plain and in Brooks Range.

SHRIKES

- ___ **Northern Shrike** – Rare visitor on inland coastal plain, where it may breed (*). Fairly common breeder in Brooks Range and on south side.

CORVIDS

- ___ **Gray Jay** – Casual visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range. Common permanent resident on south side.
- ___ **Common Raven** – Uncommon permanent resident and possible rare breeder (*) on coastal plain. Uncommon permanent resident in Brooks Range and on south side, where it may breed (*).

LARKS

- ___ **Horned Lark** – Rare breeder inland and visitor elsewhere on coastal plain. Fairly common breeder in Brooks Range. Rare visitor on south side.

SWALLOWS

- ___ **Tree Swallow** – Casual visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon on south side, where it may breed (*).
- ___ **Violet-green Swallow** – Casual visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range and on south side.
- ___ **Bank Swallow** – Casual visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range and on south side.
- ___ **Cliff Swallow** – Rare visitor on coastal plain, where it may breed (*). Fairly common breeder in Brooks Range and on south side.
- ___ **Barn Swallow** – Casual visitor on coastal plain.

CHICKADEES

- ___ **Black-capped Chickadee** – Uncommon permanent resident on south side.
- ___ **Boreal Chickadee** – Rare visitor in Brooks Range. Uncommon permanent resident on south side.
- ___ **Gray-headed Chickadee** – Uncommon permanent resident in Brooks Range and on south side.

NUTHATCHES

- ___ **Red-breasted Nuthatch** – Casual visitor on south side.

DIPPERS

- ___ **American Dipper** – Uncommon permanent resident throughout Refuge, except along coast.

KINGLETS, OLD WORLD WARBLERS, AND THRUSHES

- ___ **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** – Uncommon visitor in Brooks Range. Common breeder on south side.
- ___ **Arctic Warbler** – Rare in Brooks Range, where it may breed (*). Uncommon breeder on south side.
- ___ **Bluethroat** – Rare breeder on inland coastal plain and in Brooks Range.
- ___ **Northern Wheatear** – Rare visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range.



- ___ **Mountain Bluebird** – Rare breeder in recent burns on south side.
- ___ **Townsend's Solitaire** – Uncommon visitor in Brooks Range. Uncommon breeder on south side.
- ___ **Gray-cheeked Thrush** – Rare visitor on coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Common breeder on south side.
- ___ **Swainson's Thrush** – Common breeder on south side.
- ___ **Hermit Thrush** – Accidental visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon on south side, where it may breed (*).
- ___ **American Robin** – Rare visitor to coast. Uncommon breeder on inland coastal plain. Common breeder in Brooks Range. Abundant breeder on south side.
- ___ **Varied Thrush** – Casual visitor on coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Common breeder on south side.

WAGTAILS, PIPITS

- ___ **Eastern Yellow Wagtail** – Fairly common breeder on coastal plain. Rare visitor on south side.
- ___ **American Pipit** – Rare breeder and uncommon fall migrant on coastal plain. Abundant breeder in Brooks Range.

WAXWINGS

- ___ **Bohemian Waxwing** – Casual visitor in Brooks Range. Fairly common summer resident on south side, where it may breed (*).
- ___ **Cedar Waxwing** – Accidental visitor on coastal plain.

WOOD WARBLERS, SPARROWS, BUNTINGS, BLACKBIRDS

- ___ **Lapland Longspur** – Abundant breeder on coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Uncommon migrant on south side.
- ___ **Smith's Longspur** – Rare visitor on coastal plain. Fairly common breeder in Brooks Range and on south side.
- ___ **Snow Bunting** – Common breeder along coast and in Brooks Range.
- ___ **Tennessee Warbler** – Casual visitor on south side.
- ___ **Orange-crowned Warbler** – Casual visitor on coastal plain. Fairly common breeder on south side.
- ___ **Yellow Warbler** – Rare visitor to coast. Rare breeder on inland coastal plain. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range. Fairly common breeder on south side.
- ___ **Yellow-rumped Warbler** – Casual visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon in Brooks Range. Common breeder on south side.
- ___ **Blackpoll Warbler** – Uncommon on south side, where it may breed (*). Rare visitor in Brooks Range.
- ___ **Northern Waterthrush** – Casual visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon breeder on south side.
- ___ **Wilson's Warbler** – Rare visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range and on south side.
- ___ **American Tree Sparrow** – Rare visitor to coast. Common breeder on inland coastal plain. Abundant breeder in Brooks Range and on south side.
- ___ **Chipping Sparrow** – Casual visitor on coastal plain. Rare on south side, where it may breed (*).
- ___ **Clay-colored Sparrow** – Accidental visitor on coastal plain.
- ___ **Savannah Sparrow** – Common breeder on coastal plain, in Brooks Range and on south side.
- ___ **Fox Sparrow** – Rare visitor to coast. Rare breeder on inland coastal plain. Common breeder in Brooks Range and on south side.
- ___ **Lincoln's Sparrow** – Rare breeder on south side.
- ___ **White-throated Sparrow** – Casual visitor on coastal plain.
- ___ **White-crowned Sparrow** – Rare visitor along coast. Uncommon breeder on inland coastal plain. Common breeder in Brooks Range. Abundant breeder on south side.
- ___ **Golden-crowned Sparrow** – Rare in Brooks Range, where it may breed (*). Uncommon breeder on south side.
- ___ **Dark-eyed Junco** – Rare visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range. Abundant breeder on south side.
- ___ **Western Tanager** – Accidental visitor in Brooks Range.
- ___ **Red-winged Blackbird** – Casual visitor on coastal plain and in Brooks Range.
- ___ **Rusty Blackbird** – Casual visitor on coastal plain. Rare visitor in Brooks Range. Uncommon breeder on south side
- ___ **Brown-headed Cowbird** – Casual visitor on coastal plain.

FINCHES

- ___ **Gray-crowned Rosy-finch** – Fairly common breeder in Brooks Range. Uncommon summer resident on south side, where it may breed (*).
- ___ **Pine Grosbeak** – Uncommon permanent resident on south side, where it may breed (*).
- ___ **White-winged Crossbill** – Common permanent resident on south side.
- ___ **Common Redpoll** – Common breeder on coastal plain, in Brooks Range and on south side. Permanent resident on south side.
- ___ **Hoary Redpoll** – Common breeder on coastal plain, in Brooks Range and on south side. Permanent resident on south side.
- ___ **Pine Siskin** – Casual visitor on coastal plain. Rare visitor on south side.

You can help us keep this check list current by sending information of any unusual sightings to <arctic_refuge@fws.gov>. Information about species not on the list, or those that have abundance or status listed as not documented, would be especially valuable. A photograph is the best way to document an usual sighting. To help you record bird sightings, daily observation sheets are available on our website at <<http://arctic.fws.gov/birdobs.htm>>.



Arctic National Wildlife Refuge Bird List



201 bird species have been recorded on the Arctic Refuge. This list describes their status and abundance. Many birds migrate outside of the Refuge in the winter, so unless otherwise noted the information is for spring, summer or fall.

REGIONS OF THE REFUGE

- Coastal Plain** – The area between the coast and the Brooks Range. This area is sometimes split in to the **coast** (the lagoons, barrier islands and Beaufort Sea areas) and **inland** (upland areas near the foothills of the Brooks Range).
- Brooks Range** – The mountains, valleys, and foothills north and south of the continental divide.
- South Side** – The foothills, taiga and boreal forest south of the Brooks Range.

STATUS

- Permanent Resident** – Present throughout the year and breeds in the area.
- Summer Resident** – Only present during the period from May to September.
- Migrant** – Travels through on the way to wintering or breeding areas.
- Breeder** – Documented as a breeding species.
- Visitor** – Present as a non-breeding species.
- *** – Not Documented.

ABUNDANCE

- Abundant** – Very numerous in suitable habitats.
- Common** – Very likely to be seen or heard in suitable habitats.
- Fairly Common** – Numerous but not always present in suitable habitats.
- Uncommon** – Occurs regularly, but not always observed either because of lower abundance or secretive behaviors.
- Rare** – Occurs regularly but in very small numbers so not commonly observed.
- Casual** – Beyond its normal range but irregularly observed.
- Accidental** – Far from its normal range. Further observations unlikely.

GEESE, SWANS, DUCKS

___ **Greater White-fronted Goose** – Common spring/fall migrant and uncommon breeder on coastal plain. Rare migrant in Brooks Range. Common spring migrant on south side.

___ **Snow Goose** – Common spring migrant, rare summer visitor and abundant fall migrant on coastal plain. Uncommon spring migrant on south side.

___ **Ross’s Goose** – Casual spring migrant on coastal plain. Hypothetical fall migrant (*).

___ **Brant** – Uncommon breeder and common migrant to coast.

___ **Cackling Goose** (formerly a subspecies of Canada Goose) – Common breeder and migrant on coastal plain.

___ **Canada Goose** – Uncommon breeder on south side. Rare migrant in Brooks Range.

___ **Trumpeter Swan** – Casual breeder and visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon on south side, where it may breed (*).

___ **Tundra Swan** – Common breeder on coastal plain. Uncommon migrant on south side.

___ **Gadwall** – Casual visitor on coastal plain.

___ **Eurasian Wigeon** – Casual visitor on coastal plain.

___ **American Wigeon** – Uncommon migrant on coastal plain. Uncommon in Brooks Range, where it may breed (*). Common breeder on south side.

___ **Mallard** – Rare breeder on inland coastal plain. Uncommon elsewhere on coastal plain, in Brooks Range and on south side.

___ **Northern Shoveler** – Uncommon visitor on coastal plain and south side. May breed in these areas (*). Rare visitor in Brooks Range.

___ **Northern Pintail** – Common breeder and migrant on coastal plain and on south side. Rare visitor in Brooks Range.

___ **Green-winged Teal** – Uncommon breeder on inland coastal plain. Rare breeder and migrant along coast. Common in Brooks Range, where it may breed (*). Uncommon breeder on south side.

___ **Canvasback** – Casual visitor on coastal plain and south side.

___ **Redhead** – Casual visitor on south side.

___ **Ring-necked Duck** – Casual visitor in Brooks Range. Likely rare visitor on south side (*).

___ **Greater Scaup** – Uncommon migrant and visitor along coast. Rare breeder on inland coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Common visitor on south side.

___ **Lesser Scaup** – Rare breeder and visitor on inland areas of coastal plain. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range. Common summer resident on south side, where it likely breeds (*).

___ **Steller’s Eider** – Rare visitor along coast.

___ **Spectacled Eider** – Rare breeder and uncommon visitor along coast.

___ **King Eider** – Fairly common breeder and uncommon migrant along coast.

___ **Common Eider** – Common breeder on coastal islands. Common migrant along coast.

___ **Harlequin Duck** – Rare breeder on inland coastal plain. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range. Rare visitor on south side.

___ **Surf Scoter** – Uncommon migrant along coast. Uncommon on the inland coastal plain and south side. May breed in both areas (*).

___ **White-winged Scoter** – Rare on inland lakes of coastal plain. Common migrant along coast. Rare visitor in Brooks Range. Common visitor on south side. May breed in all areas (*).

___ **Black Scoter** – Uncommon migrant along coast.

___ **Long-tailed Duck** – Common breeder on coastal plain. Abundant fall migrant along coast. Uncommon in Brooks Range, where it may breed (*). Common visitor and uncommon breeder on south side.

___ **Bufflehead** – Rare visitor to Brooks Range and south side.

___ **Common Goldeneye** – Rare visitor to all areas. May breed on south side (*).

___ **Barrow’s Goldeneye** – Casual visitor on south side.

___ **Smew** – Accidental visitor on coastal plain.

___ **Common Merganser** – Casual visitor on coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Uncommon visitor on south side.

___ **Red-breasted Merganser** – Rare breeder and fairly common migrant on coast. Fairly common breeder on inland coastal plain. Fairly common breeder in Brooks Range. Common on south side, where it may breed (*).

GROUSE, PTARMIGAN

___ **Ruffed Grouse** – Rare permanent resident on south side, where it may breed (*).

___ **Spruce Grouse** – Uncommon permanent resident on south side.

___ **Willow Ptarmigan** – Uncommon permanent resident along coast.

___ Common to abundant permanent resident elsewhere on Refuge.

___ **Rock Ptarmigan** – Common permanent resident in all areas of Refuge.

___ **Sharp-tailed Grouse** – Annual populations vary. Uncommon permanent resident on south side, where it may breed (*).

LOONS

___ **Red-throated Loon** – Fairly common breeder and migrant along coast. Rare breeder in Brooks Range and on south side.

___ **Pacific Loon** – Common breeder on coastal plain and south side. Common migrant along coast. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range.

___ **Common Loon** – Rare visitor along coast. Rare on south side, where it may breed (*).

___ **Yellow-billed Loon** – Uncommon migrant to coast. Rare migrant on inland coastal plain. Rare visitor in Brooks Range and rare breeder on larger lakes in this area.

GREBES

___ **Horned Grebe** – Casual visitor on coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Uncommon on inland coastal plain and south side. May breed in both areas (*).

___ **Red-necked Grebe** – Casual visitor on coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Rare on south side, where it may breed (*).

FULMARS, SHEARWATERS

___ **Northern Fulmar** – Rare offshore visitor.

___ **Short-tailed Shearwater** – Rare visitor to coast, mostly offshore.

RAPTORS

___ **Osprey** – Accidental visitor on coastal plain. Rare visitor in Brooks Range and on south side.

___ **Bald Eagle** – Casual visitor on coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Uncommon breeder on south side.

___ **Northern Harrier** – Uncommon summer resident on coastal plain. May breed on inland coastal plain (*). Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range. Uncommon visitor on south side.

___ **Sharp-shinned Hawk** – Casual visitor on coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Uncommon on south side, where it may breed (*).

___ **Northern Goshawk** – Casual visitor on inland coastal plain.

___ Uncommon breeder on south side.

___ **Swainson’s Hawk** – Casual breeder on south side.

___ **Red-tailed Hawk** – Rare visitor on south side, where it may breed (*).

___ **Rough-legged Hawk** – Rare visitor along coast. Uncommon breeder on inland areas of coastal plain. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range. Rare breeder on south side.

___ **Golden Eagle** – Fairly common visitor on coastal plain. Rare breeder on inland coastal plain. Fairly common breeder in Brooks Range. Uncommon breeder on south side.

FALCONS

___ **American Kestrel** – Casual visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range. Common breeder on south side.

___ **Merlin** – Rare visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon in Brooks Range and on south side. May breed in all areas (*).

___ **Gyrfalcon** – Uncommon permanent resident on inland coastal plain, in Brooks Range and on south side. Rare visitor to coast.

___ **Peregrine Falcon** – Rare breeder and uncommon visitor on coastal plain. Fairly common breeder in Brooks Range and on south side.

COOTS, RAILS

___ **American Coot** – Rare visitor on south side.

CRANES

___ **Sandhill Crane** – Rare breeder and uncommon summer resident on coastal plain. Rare visitor in Brooks Range. Uncommon on south side, where it may breed (*).

SHOREBIRDS

___ **Black-bellied Plover** – Rare breeder and migrant on coastal plain. Fairly common fall migrant along coast. Rare visitor in Brooks Range.

___ **American Golden-Plover** – Common breeder on coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Rare visitor on south side.

___ **Semipalmated Plover** – Uncommon breeder on coastal islands. Fairly common breeder on inland coastal plain. Rare visitor elsewhere on coastal plain. Common breeder in Brooks Range and on south side.

___ **Killdeer** – Casual visitor on coastal plain.

___ **Eurasian Dotterel** – Casual visitor on coastal plain.

___ **Spotted Sandpiper** – Uncommon breeder on inland coastal plain. Common breeder in Brooks Range and on south side.

___ **Solitary Sandpiper** – Rare in Brooks Range, where it may breed (*). Uncommon breeder on south side.

___ **Wandering Tattler** – Uncommon breeder on inland coastal plain. Common breeder in Brooks Range. Fairly common breeder on south side.

___ **Lesser Yellowlegs** – Casual visitor along coast. Uncommon in Brooks Range, where it may breed (*). Common breeder on south side.

___ **Upland Sandpiper** – Fairly common breeder on inland coastal plain, Brooks Range and on south side.

___ **Whimbrel** – Uncommon visitor to coast and in Brooks Range. Rare breeder on inland coastal plain. Rare visitor and breeder on south side.

___ **Black-tailed Godwit** – Accidental visitor to coast.

___ **Hudsonian Godwit** – Casual visitor on coastal plain.

___ **Bar-tailed Godwit** – Uncommon on coastal plain, where it may breed (*).

___ **Ruddy Turnstone** – Fairly common breeder on coast and uncommon breeder on inland coastal plain. Rare visitor in Brooks Range.

___ **Surfbird** – Rare breeder in Brooks Range.

___ **Red Knot** – Rare migrant along coast.

___ **Sanderling** – Rare breeder on coastal plain. Rare spring and uncommon fall migrant along coast. Casual visitor on south side.

___ **Semipalmated Sandpiper** – Abundant breeder in coastal areas and common breeder on inland coastal plain. Common fall migrant along coast. Rare visitor in Brooks Range and on south side.

___ **Western Sandpiper** – Rare on coastal plain, where it may breed (*). Uncommon fall migrant along coast.

___ **Red-necked Stint** – Casual visitor on coast.

___ **Least Sandpiper** – Rare visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range. Common breeder on south side.

___ **White-rumped Sandpiper** – Rare breeder and spring migrant, and uncommon fall migrant, on coastal plain. Casual visitor on south side.

___ **Baird’s Sandpiper** – Uncommon breeder on coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Common migrant on south side.

___ **Pectoral Sandpiper** – Abundant breeder on coastal plain. Abundant fall migrant along coast. Fairly common migrant in Brooks Range and on south side.

___ **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** – Casual migrant on coast.

___ **Dunlin** – Uncommon breeder and fall migrant along coast. Rare migrant on south side.

___ **Stilt Sandpiper** – Uncommon breeder and fall migrant on coastal plain.

___ **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** – Uncommon breeder and migrant on coastal plain. Rare visitor in Brooks Range.

___ **Ruff** – Casual visitor on coastal plain.

___ **Long-billed Dowitcher** – Uncommon breeder and fairly common summer visitor on coastal plain. Common fall migrant along coast. Uncommon migrant on south side.

___ **Wilson’s Snipe** – Rare visitor on coastal plain. Fairly common in Brooks Range. May breed in both these areas (*). Common breeder on south side.

___ **Wilson’s Phalarope** – Accidental visitor on coastal plain and in Brooks Range.

___ **Red-necked Phalarope** – Common breeder on coastal plain and south side. Common to abundant fall migrant along coast. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range.



Red-necked Phalarope

USFWS

___ **Red Phalarope** – Fairly common breeder in coastal areas, east to Jago Delta. Uncommon elsewhere on coastal plain. Uncommon fall migrant along coast.

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS

___ **Black-legged Kittiwake** – Rare visitor along coast, mostly offshore.

___ **Ivory Gull** – Rare migrant along coast.

___ **Sabine’s Gull** – Uncommon breeder and migrant along coast.

___ **Bonaparte’s Gull** – Casual visitor on coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Uncommon visitor on south side, where it may breed (*).

___ **Ross’ Gull** – Rare migrant along coast.

___ **Mew Gull** – Rare visitor and breeder on coastal plain. Common breeder in Brooks Range and on south side.

___ **Herring Gull** – Rare migrant and visitor on coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Uncommon breeder on south side.

___ **Thayer’s Gull** – Rare visitor on coastal plain.

___ **Slaty-backed Gull** – Casual visitor along coast.

___ **Glaucous-winged Gull** – Casual visitor in Brooks Range and on coast.

___ **Glaucous Gull** – Common breeder and abundant summer resident along coast. Uncommon breeder on inland coastal plain. Common breeder in Brooks Range.

___ **Caspian Tern** – Accidental visitor on coast.

___ **Arctic Tern** – Uncommon breeder on coast. Rare breeder on inland coastal plain. Common summer resident on coastal plain and Brooks Range (breeding not documented). Uncommon visitor on south side.

___ **Pomarine Jaeger** – Common spring migrant, summer visitor, and occasional common breeder on coast. Breeding occurs in years of high lemming populations. Common migrant in Brooks Range.

___ **Parasitic Jaeger** – Common summer resident and uncommon breeder on coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Uncommon migrant on south side, where it may breed (*).

___ **Long-tailed Jaeger** – Fairly common breeder on inland coastal plain. Common summer resident and rare breeder along coast. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range. Rare visitor to south side.

ALCIDS

___ **Thick-billed Murre** – Rare migrant along coast.

___ **Black Guillemot** – Uncommon summer resident and rare breeder along coast.

___ **Least Auklet** – Casual visitor along coast.

___ **Horned Puffin** – Rare visitor along coast.

___ **Tufted Puffin** – Casual visitor along coast.