

Common Name	Status	Findability	Common Name	Status	Findability	Common Name	Status	Findability	Common Name	Status	Findability
Geese, Swans & Ducks			Cuckoos			Western Sandpiper			Common Name		
___ Snow Goose	M	1	___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Ac	5	___ Western Sandpiper	vr-rM	4	___ New World Vultures		
___ Ross's Goose	M	2	___ Black-billed Cuckoo	r-sB erratic	3/4	___ Short-billed Dowitcher	B	2/3	___ Black Vulture	Ac	5
___ Greater White-fronted Goose	M	1	Nighthawks			___ Long-billed Dowitcher	M	1	___ Turkey Vulture	sB incr	2/3
___ Tundra Bean-Goose	Ac	5	___ Common Nighthawk	B decl?	2	___ American Woodcock	Ac	5	Osprey, Eagles & Hawks		
___ Brant	Ac / V	4	___ Common Poorwill	V / vrB	3/4	___ Wilson's Snipe	B / w	2	___ Osprey	B	2
___ Cackling Goose	M	2	Swifts & Hummingbirds			___ Spotted Sandpiper	B	1	___ Golden Eagle	B / w	2
___ Canada Goose	B / w	1	___ Black Swift	rB (local)	3-4	___ Solitary Sandpiper	B	1/2	___ Northern Harrier	B / w	2
___ Trumpeter Swan	rB / M / w	2/3	___ Chimney Swift	Ac	5	___ Wandering Tattler	Ac	5	___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	B / w	2
___ Tundra Swan	M / w	1	___ Vaux's Swift	V	4	___ Lesser Yellowlegs	B	1	___ Cooper's Hawk	B (decl?) w	2
___ Wood Duck	rB / M / w	2	___ White-throated Swift	Ac	5	___ Willet	B	1	___ American Goshawk	B / w decl?	2
___ Garganey	Ac	5	___ Mexican Violetear	Ac	5	___ Spotted Redshank	Ac	5	___ Bald Eagle	B / w	2
___ Blue-winged Teal	B	1	___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird	B	2	___ Greater Yellowlegs	B	1	___ Broad-winged Hawk	B	2
___ Cinnamon Teal	B incr	1-2	___ Black-chinned Hummingbird	Ac	5	___ Wilson's Phalarope	B	2	___ Swainson's Hawk	B	1
___ Northern Shoveler	B	1	___ Anna's Hummingbird	Ac / V	4	___ Red-necked Phalarope	M / vrB	2	___ Red-tailed Hawk	B / w	1
___ Gadwall	B / w	1	___ Costa's Hummingbird	Ac	5	___ Red Phalarope	vrFM	4	___ Rough-legged Hawk	M / WV	1
___ Eurasian Wigeon	rSM / vrFM incr	2-3	___ Calliope Hummingbird	B	2/3	Jaegers			___ Ferruginous Hawk	B	2
___ American Wigeon	B / W	1	___ Rufous Hummingbird	B	2	___ Pomarine Jaeger	Ac	5	Owls		
___ Mallard	B / W	1	___ Broad-tailed Hummingbird	Ac	5	___ Parasitic Jaeger	vrSM / rFM	3	___ Barn Owl	Ac	5
___ American Black Duck	vrB / rM	4	___ Broad-billed Hummingbird	Ac	5	___ Long-tailed Jaeger	Ac	4	___ Flammulated Owl	Ac	5
___ Northern Pintail	B / w	1	Rails & Coots			Auks			___ Western Screech-Owl	Ac	5
___ Green-winged Teal	B / w	1	___ Virginia Rail	r-sB (local)	3	___ Black Guillemot	Ac	5	___ Eastern Screech-Owl	Ac / vrB (local)	4
___ Canvasback	B / w	1-2	___ Sora	B	2	___ Long-billed Murrelet	Ac	5	___ Great Horned Owl	PR	2
___ Redhead	B / w	1-2	___ Common Gallinule	Ac	5	___ Ancient Murrelet	Ac	5	___ Snowy Owl	M / WR	2
___ Ring-necked Duck	B / w	1-2	___ American Coot	B / w	1	Gulls & Terns			___ Northern Hawk Owl	sPR W erratic	2/3
___ Tufted Duck	Ac	5	___ Yellow Rail	rB (local)	3	___ Black-legged Kittiwake	Ac	5	___ Northern Pygmy-Owl	sPR (local)	2/3
___ Greater Scaup	rSM / vrFM / w	3	Cranes			___ Ivory Gull	Ac	5	___ Burrowing Owl	B decl?	2/3
___ Lesser Scaup	B / w	1	___ Sandhill Crane	B	2	___ Sabine's Gull	rM	3/4	___ Barred Owl	sPR (local)	2/3
___ King Eider	Ac	5	___ Common Crane	Ac	5	___ Bonaparte's Gull	B	1/2	___ Great Gray Owl	sPR (local), W erratic	2/3
___ Common Eider	Ac	5	___ Whooping Crane	rM / vrB	4	___ Black-headed Gull	Ac	5	___ Long-eared Owl	sB	3
___ Harlequin Duck	B / w	2	Stilts & Avocets			___ Little Gull	Ac	5	___ Short-eared Owl	B / w decl?	2/3
___ Surf Scoter	sB / uM	3	___ Black-necked Stilt	sB incr	2/3	___ Franklin's Gull	B	1	___ Boreal Owl	sB / w	2/3
___ White-winged Scoter	B	2	___ American Avocet	B	1	___ Short-billed Gull	sB / M	3	___ Northern Saw-whet Owl	B / w	2
___ Black Scoter	V	4	Plovers			___ Ring-billed Gull	B	1	Kingfishers		
___ Long-tailed Duck	rM / w	3	___ Black-bellied Plover	M	1	___ Western Gull	Ac	5	___ Belted Kingfisher	B / w	2
___ Bufflehead	B / w	1	___ American Golden-Plover	M	2	___ California Gull	B	1	Woodpeckers		
___ Common Goldeneye	B / W	1	___ Pacific Golden-Plover	Ac	5	___ Herring Gull	B	1/2	___ Lewis's Woodpecker	V / vrB?	4
___ Barrow's Goldeneye	B / w	2	___ Killdeer	B / w	1	___ Iceland Gull	vrSM / rFM	3	___ Red-headed Woodpecker	Ac / V / B?	4
___ Hooded Merganser	rB / uM / w incr	2-3	___ Semipalmated Plover	M / rB	2	___ Lesser Black-backed Gull	V	4	___ Acorn Woodpecker	Ac	5
___ Common Merganser	B / w	1	___ Piping Plover	rB (local)	3	___ Slaty-backed Gull	Ac	5	___ Red-bellied Woodpecker	Ac	5
___ Red-breasted Merganser	B	2	___ Lesser Sand-Plover	Ac	5	___ Glaucous-winged Gull	Ac / V	4	___ Williamson's Sapsucker	Ac	5
___ Ruddy Duck	B	1	___ Mountain Plover	vrB	4	___ Glaucous Gull	rM / WV	3	___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	B	1
Grouse & Pheasants			___ Snowy Plover	Ac	5	___ Great Black-backed Gull	Ac	5	___ Red-naped Sapsucker	B	2
___ Wild Turkey	Int PR (local)	3	Sandpipers			___ Least Tern	Ac	5	___ Red-breasted Sapsucker	Ac	5
___ Ruffed Grouse	PR	1	___ Upland Sandpiper	B decl?	2	___ Caspian Tern	rB / M incr?	3	___ American Three-toed Woodpecker	PR	2
___ Spruce Grouse	sPR	2/3	___ Whimbrel	r-sSM / vrFM	3	___ Black Tern	B	1	___ Black-backed Woodpecker	PR	3
___ Willow Ptarmigan	rB / sW	3	___ Eskimo Curlew	Extinct?	6	___ Common Tern	B decl	1	___ Downy Woodpecker	PR	1
___ Rock Ptarmigan	Ac	5	___ Long-billed Curlew	B decl?	2	___ Arctic Tern	vrB / M	4	___ Hairy Woodpecker	PR	1
___ White-tailed Ptarmigan	sPR	3	___ Bar-tailed Godwit	Ac	5	___ Forster's Tern	B	1/2	___ Northern Flicker	B / w	1
___ Greater Sage-Grouse	PR decl	3	___ Hudsonian Godwit	sSM / rFM	3	Loons			___ Pileated Woodpecker	PR	2
___ Dusky Grouse	sPR	2/3	___ Marbled Godwit	B	1	___ Red-throated Loon	vrB / M	4	Falcons		
___ Sharp-tailed Grouse	PR decl?	2/3	___ Ruddy Turnstone	sSM / rFM	2/3	___ Pacific Loon	vrB / SM / sFM / w	3	___ Crested Caracara	Ac	5
___ Greater Prairie-Chicken	Extirpated	6	___ Black Turnstone	Ac	5	___ Common Loon	B	1	___ American Kestrel	B / w	1
___ Gray Partridge	Int PR	1/2	___ Red Knot	sSM / rFM	2/3	___ Yellow-billed Loon	Ac / V	4	___ Merlin	B / w	2
___ Ring-necked Pheasant	Int PR	2	___ Surfbird	Ac	5	Cormorants & Pelicans			___ Gyrfalcon	rWV / WR	3
Grebes			___ Ruff	Ac	5	___ Double-crested Cormorant	B / w	1	___ Peregrine Falcon	B	2
___ Pied-billed Grebe	B	2	___ Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	Ac / V	4	___ American White Pelican	B	1	___ Prairie Falcon	B / w	2
___ Horned Grebe	B	1	___ Stilt Sandpiper	M	2	Hérons & Egrets			Flycatchers		
___ Red-necked Grebe	B	1	___ Curlew Sandpiper	Ac	5	___ American Bittern	B decl?	2	___ Ash-throated Flycatcher	Ac	5
___ Eared Grebe	B	1	___ Red-necked Stint	Ac	5	___ Great Blue Heron	B / w	1	___ Great Crested Flycatcher	sB (local)	3
___ Western Grebe	B	1	___ Sanderling	M	2	___ Great Egret	vrB / V	3	___ Western Kingbird	B	2
___ Clark's Grebe	vrB (local)	3	___ Dunlin	sSM / rFM	3	___ Snowy Egret	Ac / V	4	___ Eastern Kingbird	B	1
Pigeons & Doves			___ Purple Sandpiper	Ac	5	___ Little Blue Heron	Ac	5	___ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	Ac	5
___ Rock Pigeon	Int PR	1	___ Baird's Sandpiper	M	1/2	___ Tricolored Heron	Ac	5	___ Fork-tailed Flycatcher	Ac	5
___ Band-tailed Pigeon	Ac / V	4	___ Little Stint	Ac	5	___ Cattle Egret	Ac	5	___ Olive-sided Flycatcher	B decl?	2
___ Eurasian Collared-Dove	B incr	1	___ Least Sandpiper	M	1	___ Green Heron	Ac	5	___ Western Wood-Pewee	B	1
___ Passenger Pigeon	Extinct	6	___ White-rumped Sandpiper	sSM / vrFM	2/3	___ Black-crowned Night-Heron	B / w	2	___ Eastern Wood-Pewee	Ac	5
___ White-winged Dove	Ac	5	___ Buff-breasted Sandpiper	sSM / rFM	3	___ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	Ac	5	___ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	sB (local)	2/3
___ Mourning Dove	B	2	___ Pectoral Sandpiper	M	1	Ibises			___ Alder Flycatcher	B	1
			___ Semipalmated Sandpiper	M	1	___ Glossy Ibis	Ac	5	___ Willow Flycatcher	B (local)	2
						___ White-faced Ibis	rB incr?	3	___ Least Flycatcher	B	1

Classification: Protected A

Common Name	Status	Findability
___ Hammond's Flycatcher	sB (local)	2/3
___ Gray Flycatcher	Ac	5
___ Dusky Flycatcher	B	2
___ Western Flycatcher	B	2
___ Eastern Phoebe	B	1/2
___ Say's Phoebe	B	2
Vireos		
___ White-eyed Vireo	Ac	5
___ Yellow-throated Vireo	Ac	5
___ Cassin's Vireo	sB (local)	2
___ Blue-headed Vireo	B	2
___ Philadelphia Vireo	B	2
___ Warbling Vireo	B	1
___ Red-eyed Vireo	B	1
Shrikes		
___ Loggerhead Shrike	B decl	2/3
___ Northern Shrike	uM / WW / vrB	2
Crows & Jays		
___ Canada Jay	PR	2
___ Pinyon Jay	Ac	5
___ Steller's Jay	PR (local)	3
___ Blue Jay	PR	2
___ Clark's Nutcracker	PR / w	2
___ Black-billed Magpie	PR	1
___ American Crow	B / w	1
___ Common Raven	PR incr?	1
Chickadees		
___ Black-capped Chickadee	PR	1
___ Mountain Chickadee	PR	1/2
___ Chestnut-backed Chickadee	Ac	5
___ Boreal Chickadee	PR	2
Larks		
___ Horned Lark	B / M / w	1
Swallows		
___ Bank Swallow	B	1
___ Tree Swallow	B	1
___ Violet-green Swallow	B	2
___ Northern Rough-winged Swallow	B	2
___ Purple Martin	B	2
___ Barn Swallow	B decl?	1
___ Cliff Swallow	B	1
Kinglets		
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	B	1
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet	B / w	2
Waxwings		
___ Bohemian Waxwing	B / W	1/2
___ Cedar Waxwing	B	1
Nuthatches		
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch	B / w erratic	1
___ White-breasted Nuthatch	PR	1/2
___ Pygmy Nuthatch	Ac	5
Creepers		
___ Brown Creeper	B / w	2/3
Gnatcatchers		
___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Ac	5
Wrens		
___ Rock Wren	B	2/3
___ Carolina Wren	Ac	5
___ House Wren	B	1
___ Pacific Wren	B	2/3
___ Winter Wren	B	2/3
___ Sedge Wren	rB (local) erratic	3
___ Marsh Wren	B	1
Mockingbirds & Thrashers		
___ Gray Catbird	B	2
___ Curve-billed Thrasher	Ac	5
___ Brown Thrasher	B	2
___ Bendire's Thrasher	Ac	5
___ Sage Thrasher	V / vrB	4
___ Northern Mockingbird	V / vrB	4

Classification: Protected A

Common Name	Status	Findability
Starlings		
___ European Starling	Int B / w	1
Dippers		
___ American Dipper	B / w	2
Thrushes		
___ Eastern Bluebird	vrB incr?	4
___ Western Bluebird	vrB	4
___ Mountain Bluebird	B	1/2
___ Townsend's Solitaire	B / w	2
___ Veery	B	2
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush	vrB (local) / r-sM	3
___ Swainson's Thrush	B	1
___ Hermit Thrush	B	1/2
___ Wood Thrush	Ac	5
___ American Robin	B / w	1
___ Varied Thrush	B / w	2
___ Northern Wheatear	Ac	5
Accentors		
___ Siberian Accentor	Ac	5
Old World Sparrows		
___ House Sparrow	Int PR	1
___ Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Ac	5
Pipits		
___ Eastern Yellow Wagtail	Ac	5
___ American Pipit	B / M	1
___ Sprague's Pipit	B decl?	2
Finches & Crossbills		
___ Brambling	Ac	5
___ Evening Grosbeak	PR erratic	2
___ Pine Grosbeak	B / M / WW erratic	2
___ Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch	B / W	2/3
___ House Finch	B / W incr	1
___ Purple Finch	B / w	1/2
___ Cassin's Finch	sB (local)	2/3
___ Common Redpoll	M / W / vrB	1/2
___ Hoary Redpoll	rWV	2/3
___ Red Crossbill	PR erratic	2/3
___ White-winged Crossbill	PR erratic	2
___ Pine Siskin	B / w	1
___ Lesser Goldfinch	Ac	5
___ American Goldfinch	B / w	1
Longspurs		
___ Lapland Longspur	M / w	1
___ Chestnut-collared Longspur	B	1
___ Smith's Longspur	rSM / vrFM	3/4
___ Thick-billed Longspur	B	2
___ Snow Bunting	M / WW	1
Sparrows		
___ Cassin's Sparrow	Ac	5
___ Grasshopper Sparrow	sB decl?	3
___ Black-throated Sparrow	Ac	5
___ Lark Sparrow	B	2
___ Lark Bunting	B erratic	1-3
___ Chipping Sparrow	B	1
___ Clay-colored Sparrow	B	1
___ Field Sparrow	Ac	5
___ Brewer's Sparrow	B	2/3
___ Fox Sparrow	B / w	2
___ American Tree Sparrow	M / WW / vrB	1
___ Dark-eyed Junco	B / w	1
___ White-crowned Sparrow	B / w	1
___ Golden-crowned Sparrow	sB (local)	3
___ Harris's Sparrow	M / w	2/3
___ White-throated Sparrow	B / w	1
___ Sagebrush Sparrow	Ac	5
___ Vesper Sparrow	B	1
___ Le Conte's Sparrow	B	2
___ Nelson's Sparrow	sB (local)	2/3
___ Baird's Sparrow	sB decl	2/3
___ Savannah Sparrow	B	1

Common Name	Status	Findability
___ Song Sparrow	B / w	1
___ Lincoln's Sparrow	B	1
___ Swamp Sparrow	B / w	2
___ Green-tailed Towhee	Ac	5
___ Spotted Towhee	B	2
___ Eastern Towhee	Ac	5
___ Yellow-breasted Chat	B (local)	2/3
Blackbirds & Orioles		
___ Yellow-headed Blackbird	B / w	1/2
___ Bobolink	sB decl?	3
___ Eastern Meadowlark	Ac	5
___ Western Meadowlark	B / w	1
___ Orchard Oriole	Ac	5
___ Bullock's Oriole	sB (local)	3
___ Baltimore Oriole	B	1/2
___ Red-winged Blackbird	B / w	1
___ Brown-headed Cowbird	B	1
___ Rusty Blackbird	B / w	2
___ Brewer's Blackbird	B / w	1
___ Common Grackle	B	2
___ Great-tailed Grackle	Ac	5
Wood-Warblers		
___ Ovenbird	B	1
___ Northern Waterthrush	B	2
___ Golden-winged Warbler	Ac	5
___ Blue-winged Warbler	Ac	5
___ Black-and-white Warbler	B	2
___ Prothonotary Warbler	Ac	5
___ Tennessee Warbler	B	1
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	B	1/2
___ Lucy's Warbler	Ac	5
___ Nashville Warbler	rB / rM	3
___ Connecticut Warbler	B	2/3
___ MacGillivray's Warbler	B	2
___ Mourning Warbler	B	1
___ Kentucky Warbler	Ac	5
___ Common Yellowthroat	B	1
___ Hooded Warbler	Ac	5
___ American Redstart	B	1
___ Cape May Warbler	sB	2/3
___ Northern Parula	Ac	5
___ Magnolia Warbler	B	2
___ Bay-breasted Warbler	B	2/3
___ Blackburnian Warbler	sB (local)	2/3
___ Yellow Warbler	B	1
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler	rB (local)	3
___ Blackpoll Warbler	B	2
___ Black-throated Blue Warbler	V	4
___ Palm Warbler	B	2
___ Pine Warbler	Ac	5
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	B	1
___ Yellow-throated Warbler	Ac	5
___ Black-throated Gray Warbler	Ac	5
___ Townsend's Warbler	B	2
___ Hermit Warbler	Ac	5
___ Black-throated Green Warbler	B	2
___ Canada Warbler	B	2
___ Wilson's Warbler	B	1/2
Cardinals, Grosbeaks & Buntings		
___ Summer Tanager	Ac	5
___ Scarlet Tanager	Ac	5
___ Western Tanager	B	2
___ Northern Cardinal	V, vrB	3/4
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	B	2
___ Black-headed Grosbeak	sB (local) incr	3
___ Blue Grosbeak	Ac	5
___ Lazuli Bunting	B	2
___ Indigo Bunting	V / vrB	4
___ Painted Bunting	Ac	5
___ Dickcissel	Ac	5

CHECKLIST OF THE BIRDS OF ALBERTA Alberta Bird Record Committee 2023

Introduction

This is the official checklist of 438 bird species accepted by the Alberta Bird Record Committee as having been adequately documented for occurrence in Alberta. Introduced birds are included only if they have an established breeding population.

Names

Names follow the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist (7th Edition: 1998) and changes up to the 64th supplement to the AOS checklist [Chesser, R.T. et al. 2023. Sixty-fourth Supplement to the American Ornithological Society's Check-list of North American Birds. Ornithology 140(3): ukad023.

Species Accounts

This list includes the migratory and breeding status of Alberta birds and provides a general statement regarding seasons and regularity of occurrence. Relative abundance is indicated by a findability index which is meant to serve as a guide and not represent absolute numbers:

General Status:

B: breeding record.
M; SM; FM: migrant; spring migrant; fall migrant.
PR: permanent resident.
WW; WR: winter visitor; winter resident (**w:** rare).
Ac: accidental.
V: vagrant. 30-50 records.
Ac / V: more than 15 times, but not well documented.
Int: introduced.

Abundance Qualifiers:

vr: very rare
r: rare
s: scarce
u: uncommon
local: few known breeding sites.
Erratic: abundance fluctuates widely from year to year.
Decl: declining (**Decl?** when it is suspected).
Incr: increasing (**Incr?** when it is suspected).

Findability Index:

The probability of an observer finding a particular species in the right habitat and season.

1: Common-fairly common: almost always present; usually seen in good numbers.
2: Uncommon: not expected daily; often local in distribution.
3: Rare: reported annually, but in low numbers; usually difficult to find.
4: Casual: usually absent; 15-50 records.
5: Accidental: less than 15 accepted records.
6: Extirpated or extinct.

Last updated: July 26, 2023