

ABUNDANCE KEY	HABITAT KEY
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<i>Italics</i> ●=rare, seldom seen, vagrant, unexpected, wanderer	F=forest
	C=clearing
	Sh=shrubby area
	S=settlement
	//=edge of habitat
SEASONS KEY	
Sp=Spring (mid-March to end of May)	
Su=Summer (early June to mid-August)	
Au=Autumn (mid-August to mid-November)	
Wi=Winter (mid-November to mid-March)	

	Sf	Su	Au	Wi	Habitat
Loons (Gaviidae)					
Common Loon	C	C	C		L, W
<i>Yellow-billed Loon</i>			●		L
Grebes (Podicipedidae)					
Pied-billed Grebe	U	U			L, W
Horned Grebe	C	C	U		L, W
Red-necked Grebe	A	A	A		L, W
Eared Grebe	U	U	U		L
Western Grebe	U	U	U		L
Pelicans (Pelecanidae)					
American White Pelican	C	C	C		L, R
Cormorants (Phalacrocoracidae)					
Double-crested Cormorant	C	C	C		L, R
Herons (Ardeidae)					
American Bittern	U	U			L//, W//
Great Blue Heron	C	C	C		L//, W//, R//
Geese (Anatidae)					
Greater White-fronted Goose	C		?		L, R
Snow Goose	U		U		L, R, C
<i>Ross's Goose</i>	●		●		L, R
Canada Goose	A	C	A		L, R, C//, W
Swans (Anatidae)					
<i>Trumpeter Swan</i>	●		●		L, R
Tundra Swan	C		C		L, R

	Sf	Su	Au	Wi	Habitat
Ducks (Anatidae)					
Wood Duck	O				L, W
Gadwall	C	C	C		L, W
American Wigeon	C	C	C		L, W, R
Mallard	A	A	A		W, L, R
Blue-winged Teal	C	C	C		W, L//, R//
<i>Cinnamon Teal</i>	●	●			L//, W//
Northern Shoveler	A	C	A		L, W
Northern Pintail	C	U	C		W, L//
Green-winged Teal	C	C	C		L, W, R
Canvasback	U	U	U		L, W
Redhead	U	U	U		L, W
Ring-necked Duck	C	C	C		L, W
Greater Scaup	O		O		L, W
Lesser Scaup	A	A	A		L, W, R
Surf Scoter	O				L, R
White-winged Scoter	U	U	U		L, R, W
<i>Long-tailed Duck</i>	●		●		L
Bufflehead	A	A	A		L, W, R
Common Goldeneye	A	A	A		L, W, R
<i>Barrow's Goldeneye</i>		●			L
Hooded Merganser	O		O		L, R, W
Common Merganser	U	U	U		L, R
Red-breasted Merganser	O		O		L, R
Ruddy Duck	C	C	C		L, W
Osprey (Accipitridae)					
Osprey	C	C	C		L, R//
Eagles and Harriers (Accipitridae)					
Bald Eagle	U	U	U	O	L, W, R, C
Northern Harrier	C	C	C		W, C//
Accipiters (Accipitridae)					
Sharp-shinned Hawk	C	C	C		F, L//
Cooper's Hawk	U	U	U		F, C
Northern Goshawk	U	U	U		F, C
Buteos (Accipitridae)					
Broad-winged Hawk	U	U			F//
<i>Swainson's Hawk</i>	●	●	●		C
Red-tailed Hawk	C	C	C		C, Sh, F//
Rough-legged Hawk	U		U	●	C
Golden Eagle	O		O	●	C, R, L

	Sf	Su	Au	Wi	Habitat
Falcons (Falconidae)					
American Kestrel	A	A	A		C, F//, W//
Merlin	C	C	C		F, L//, R, W, C, S
<i>Peregrine Falcon</i>	●	●	●		L//, F//, R//
Grouse (Phasianidae)					
Gray Partridge	U	U	U	U	C
Ruffed Grouse	C	C	C	C	F, Sh, W//
Spruce Grouse	O	O	O	O	F, S
Sharp-tailed Grouse	U	U	U	U	C, Sh
Rails and Coots (Rallidae)					
<i>Virginia Rail</i>	●	●			W//, L//
Sora	C	C			W//, L//
American Coot	A	A	A		W, L//
Cranes (Gruidae)					
Sandhill Crane	A	O	A		W, C, L//
Plovers (Charadriidae)					
Black-bellied Plover	O		O		C, L//
American Golden Plover	U				C, L//
Semipalmated Plover	U		U		W//, L//, R//
Killdeer	A	A	U		C, L//, R//, S
Avocets (Recurvirostridae)					
American Avocet	O	O			L//, W//
Sandpipers (Scolopacidae)					
Greater Yellowlegs	C	C	C		W//, L //
Lesser Yellowlegs	C	C	C		W//, Sh//
Solitary Sandpiper	C	C			W//, L// Sh//
Spotted Sandpiper	C	C			L//, W//, R//
Upland Sandpiper	O	O			C
<i>Whimbrel</i>	●				C, L//, W//
Marbled Godwit	O	O			C, W//
Sanderling	U		U		L//
Semipalmated Sandpiper	O		O		L//
Least Sandpiper	O				W//, L// Sh//
Pectoral Sandpiper	U		U		L//
Short-billed Dowitcher	U		U		L//, W//
Long-billed Dowitcher	U		U		L//
Common Snipe	C	C	C		W//, C, Sh//
Wilson's Phalarope	U	U			W, L//
<i>Red-necked Phalarope</i>	●		●		L

	Sf	Su	Au	Wi	Habitat
Gulls and Terns (Laridae)					
Franklin's Gull	A	C	C		R, L, W, S
Bonaparte's Gull	C	C	C		L, R, W, F//
Ring-billed Gull	A	A	A		L//, R//, C, S
California Gull	C	C	C		L, W, C
Herring Gull	U	O	U		L, R, C, S
Common Tern	U	U	U		L, W, R
Arctic Tern	O		O		L
Forster's Tern	O	O			W, L
Black Tern	C	C			W//, L//
Doves (Columbidae)					
Rock Dove	C	C	C	C	S, C
Mourning Dove	U	U	U		C, W//, F//, Sh
Owls (Strigidae)					
Great Horned Owl	C	C	C	C	F, C//
Snowy Owl				O	C
Northern Hawk Owl	U	U	U	U	F//, C, W//
Northern Pigmy-Owl	O	O	O	O	F
Barred Owl	U	U	U	U	F, Sh//
Great Gray Owl	U	U	U	U	F//, C
<i>Long-eared Owl</i>	●	●	●	●	F//, Sh//
Short-eared Owl	U	U	U	U	C, W, Sh
Boreal Owl	O	O	O	O	F
Northern Saw-whet Owl	C	C	C	O	F
Nightjars (Caprimulgidae)					
Common Nighthawk	C	C	U		F//, C, L//
Hummingbirds (Trochilidae)					
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	U	U			S, F//
Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)					
Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C		L//, R//, W//
Woodpeckers (Picidae)					
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	C	C	C		F//, S
<i>Red-naped Sapsucker</i>		●			F
Downy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	F, Sh, S
Hairy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	F, S
Three-toed Woodpecker	U	U	U	U	F, W//
Black-backed Woodpecker	U	U	U	U	F
Northern Flicker	C	C	C	O	F, C, S
Pileated Woodpecker	U	U	U	U	F

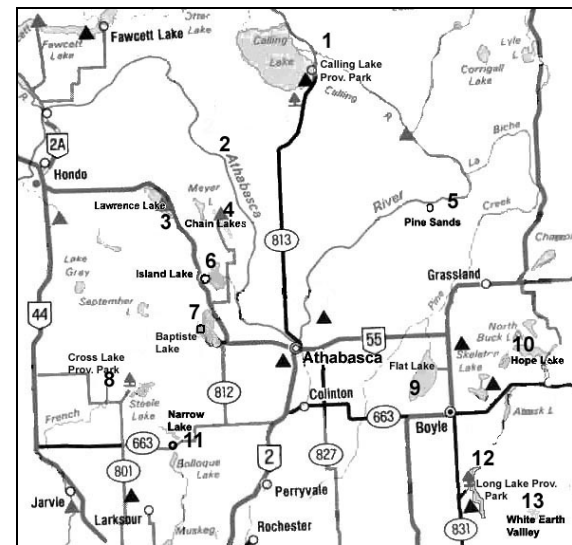
BIRD IDENTIFICATION BOOKS

Birds of Alberta. Chris Fisher and John Acorn. Edmonton: Lone Pine Publishing, 1998.

Field Guide to Alberta Birds. W. Bruce McGillivray and Glen P. Semenchuk. Edmonton: The Federation of Alberta Naturalists, 1998.

The Sibley Guide to Birds. David Allen Sibley. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2000.

BIRD VIEWING LOCATIONS



1. Calling Lake Provincial Park
2. Athabasca River
3. Lawrence Lake Campground
4. Chain Lakes Campground
5. Pine Sands Natural Area
6. Island Lake Campground
7. Baptiste Lake Public Beach
8. Cross Lake Provincial Park
9. Flat Lake (proposed viewing area)
10. Hope Lake Campground
11. Narrow Lake Campground
12. Long Lake Provincial Park
13. White Earth Valley Natural Area

BIRDS OF THE ATHABASCA REGION is sponsored by Friends of the Athabasca Environmental Association and Crooked Creek Conservancy Society of Athabasca, with assistance provided by Athabasca University and a Community Lottery Board grant. June 2001

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Flycatchers (Tyrannidae)					
Olive-sided Flycatcher	C	C			W, F, Sh
Western Wood-Pewee	C	C			F//, W//
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	U	U			F//, W//, Sh
Alder Flycatcher	C	C			W//, Sh
Least Flycatcher	A	A			F, W, Sh//
Eastern Phoebe	C	C			W//, S, F//, L//, R//
Say's Phoebe	O		O		C, Sh
Eastern Kingbird	C	C	C		Sh
Shrikes (Laniidae)					
<i>Loggerhead Shrike</i>			●		Sh, C//
Northern Shrike	O			O	Sh, C//
Vireos (Vireonidae)					
Blue-headed Vireo	C	C			F
Warbling Vireo	C	C			F
Philadelphia Vireo	U	U			F
Red-eyed Vireo	C	C			F
Jays and Crows (Corvidae)					
Gray Jay	C	C	C	C	F, Sh, S//, W
Blue Jay	A	A	A	A	S, C, F//
Black-billed Magpie	A	A	A	A	Sh, S, F//, C
American Crow	A	A	A		C, S, Sh
Common Raven	A	A	A	A	F, C, Sh, S, L//
Larks (Alaudidae)					
Horned Lark	U		U		C

	Sf	Su	Au	Wi	Habitat
Swallows (Hirundinidae)					
Purple Martin	U	U			F//, S
Tree Swallow	A	A	A		C, F//, W//, S, L//
Bank Swallow	U	U			L//, R//, C
Cliff Swallow	C	C			R//, W, S
Barn Swallow	C	C	C		S, L//
Chickadees (Paridae)					
Black-capped Chickadee	A	A	A	A	F, S, Sh//
Boreal Chickadee	U	U	U	U	F, W
Nuthatches (Sittidae)					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	U	U	U	U	F, W
White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	C	F, S
Creepers (Certhiidae)					
Brown Creeper	U	U	U	U	F
Wrens (Troglodytidae)					
House Wren	C	C			F, Sh, S
Winter Wren	U	U	U		F
Sedge Wren		O			W//
Marsh Wren	U	U	U		L//, W//
Kinglets (Regulidae)					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	U	U	U		F, W
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C	C	C		F, W
Thrushes (Turdidae)					
Mountain Bluebird	U	U	U		F//, C
<i>Townsend's Solitaire</i>	●				F//
Veery	O	O	O		F
Gray-cheeked Thrush	O		O		F//
Swainson's Thrush	C	C	C		F
Hermit Thrush	C	C	C		F
American Robin	A	A	A	●	F//, Sh, S
<i>Varied Thrush</i>			●		F
Catbirds (Mimidae)					
Gray Catbird	O	O	O		Sh, W//, L//
Starlings (Sturnidae)					
European Starling	C	C	C	O	S, C, F//
Pipits (Motacillidae)					
American Pipit	O		O		C, W// (ice)
Sprague's Pipit	O	O			C

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Waxwings (Bombycillidae)					
Bohemian Waxwing			C	C	F, S
Cedar Waxwing	C	C	C		F//, Sh, S
Wood-Warblers (Parulidae)					
Tennessee Warbler	C	C			F//, Sh, W
Orange-crowned Warbler	C	C			F
Yellow Warbler	C	C			Sh, W//, F//
Chestnut-sided Warbler	O	O			Sh, F//
Magnolia Warbler	U	U	U		F//, Sh
Cape May Warbler	U	U			F
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C	C	C		F, W//
Black-throated Green Warbler	U	U			F
Palm Warbler	U	U	U		Sh, W
Bay-breasted Warbler	O	O			F
Blackpoll Warbler	U	U			F, W
Black-and-white Warbler	U	U			F//
American Redstart	C	C			F//, Sh
Ovenbird	C	C			F
Northern Waterthrush	C	C			W//, F//, R//
Connecticut Warbler	U	U			F
Mourning Warbler	U	U			Sh, F//
Common Yellowthroat	C	C			W, Sh
Wilson's Warbler	U	U			W//, Sh
Canada Warbler	O	O			F, Sh//, W//
Tanagers (Thraupidae)					
Western Tanager	C	C			F
Native Sparrows (Emberizidae)					
American Tree Sparrow	U				F, Sh
Chipping Sparrow	C	C			F//, S, Sh
Clay-colored Sparrow	U	U			F//, Sh
Vesper Sparrow	U	U			C, Sh
Savannah Sparrow	C	C			C, Sh
Le Conte's Sparrow	C	C			C, Sh, W
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	O	O			W//
Fox Sparrow	U	U	U		Sh, F//
Song Sparrow	C	C	C		Sh, R//, L//, W//
Lincoln's Sparrow	C	C	C		Sh, F//, W

	Sf	Su	Au	Wi	Habitat
Native Sparrows (continued)					
Swamp Sparrow	U	U	U		W, Sh
White-throated Sparrow	C	C	C		Sh, F, R//
Harris's Sparrow			U		F//, Sh, W//
White-crowned Sparrow	U		U		F//, Sh, L//, W//
Dark-eyed Junco	C	C	C		F, W
Snow Bunting	C		C	C	C, L (ice)
Cardinals (Cardinalidae)					
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C			F, S
Blackbirds and Orioles (Icteridae)					
Red-winged Blackbird	A	C	C		L//, W//, Sh//
Western Meadowlark	O	O			C
Yellow-headed Blackbird	O	O	O		W//, L//
Rusty Blackbird	C	C	C		W//, Sh, C
Brewer's Blackbird	U	U	U		C, Sh//
Common Grackle	U	U	C		C, Sh, W//
Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	C		C, Sh, F//
Baltimore Oriole	U	U			F//
Finches and Grosbeaks (Fringillidae)					
Pine Grosbeak		U	U	U	F, S
Purple Finch	C	C	U	●	F, S
Red Crossbill	O	O	O	O	W, F
White-winged Crossbill	U	U	U	U	W, F
Common Redpoll	U			C	C//, F//, S
Hoary Redpoll	U			U	C, F//, S
Pine Siskin	C	C	C	O	F, S, W
American Goldfinch	U	U			F//, C//, S, Sh
Evening Grosbeak	C	U	C	C	F, S
Old World Sparrows (Passeridae)					
House Sparrow	C	C	C	C	S

We plan to update this bird checklist periodically and ask that you send your comments or observer notes to

BIRD LIST
Crooked Creek Conservancy Society of Athabasca
P.O. Box 2072
Athabasca, AB T9S 2B6

BIRDS OF THE ATHABASCA REGION



THE ATHABASCA REGION (see map) is located in the mixedwood boreal forest. Besides the upland and lowland forests, significant physical features include shrubland, the Athabasca River, creeks and lakes, and clearings caused by agricultural and forestry activities, and fire. Settlements also contribute to the mosaic.

The characteristic forest vegetation is a mixture of aspen and balsam poplar, with white spruce, jack pine, some birches and balsam fir. Shrubby vegetation includes willows, alder, pincherry, saskatoon, and hazelnut. The diverse understory includes low-bush cranberry, red-osier dogwood, prickly rose, dewberry, peavine, and twinflower. Mosses and ferns are found in the coniferous forests, while lichens, bearberry, bog cranberry, and low bilberry are common in the dry sandy-soiled forests. Black spruce and tamarack grow among Labrador tea in acidic peatlands.

BIRDS OF THE ATHABASCA REGION is a general guide to birds you may see in the area. The 222 species listed are from sightings by local residents and naturalists, and studies conducted in the area.

Depending on the season, you can see the birds that live here year-round, birds that breed and nest here, or birds that pass through during migration. Distribution and abundance of species vary in some years.