

Juneau is an excellent place to view birds. Within a very localized area, one can visit a variety of habitats, including alpine, forest, and marine ecosystems. The very extensive network of trails provides access to spectacular valleys, glaciers, and ridgetops.

This checklist includes all species of birds observed to date along the Juneau road and trail system, and adjacent marine waters. The confirmed list currently totals 282 species, with an additional 26 species on the unsubstantiated list. The checklist area encompasses the mainland from Point Bishop to Echo Cove, Douglas Island, and adjacent marine waters from the mouth of the Taku River to Berners Bay.

This publication is dedicated to the memory of Juneau resident M.E. "Pete" Isleib. Pete was Alaska's foremost birder, as well as a noted conservationist. He was an inspiration to those lucky enough to know him.

Gus van Vliet, Mark Schwan, Rich Gordon, Steve Zimmerman, and Paul Suchanek compiled and produced this checklist. Although much of the information stems from personal observations of the compilers, this checklist would not be possible were it not for the earlier work and records of the late Dr. Ralph B. Williams, and the published records and observations of many other individuals.

### SEASONS

**SP**ring: March 22 - June 21  
**BR**eeding: Nesting status in area  
**S**ummer: June 22 - September 21  
**F**all: September 22 - December 21  
**W**inter: December 22 - March 21

Note that the seasons are defined by the solstices and equinoxes, even though some species breed in "Spring" and much of the fall migration (particularly shorebirds, flycatchers, and warblers) actually occurs during the last half of "Summer." Similarly, many of our wintering birds arrive in "Fall" and a number of spring migrants return to the Juneau area in late "Winter." The breeding status is meant to convey known or suspected nesting in the checklist area.

### ABUNDANCE

**C** = Common      **R** = Rare  
**F** = Fairly common      **V** = Very Rare  
**U** = Uncommon      **+** = Accidental  
**O** = Occasional      **-** = No records

Abundance is based on the numbers of birds present in the area, not how often species are likely to be observed (See definitions on back cover). **Bold-faced** species are those that are most typically seen in the Juneau checklist area. This includes any species listed as common or fairly common in the checklist area during one or more seasons of the year.

SPECIES	SP	BR	SU	F	W
Greater White-fronted Goose		F	-	U	O
Emperor Goose	V	-	-	+	-
Snow Goose	O	-	-	R	-
"Blue" morph	+	-	-	-	-
Ross's Goose	+	-	-	-	-
Brant	R	-	R	-	-
Cackling Goose	O	-	+	O	-
"Aleutian" race	+	-	-	+	-
Canada goose	C	V	U	C	C
Trumpeter Swan	U	-	R	U	R
Tundra Swan	U	-	-	U	R
Wood Duck	+	-	+	+	+
Gadwall	U	V	R	O	O
Eurasian Wigeon	R	-	V	V	V
American Wigeon	C	+	F	C	U
Mallard	C	C	C	C	C
Blue-winged Teal	U	V	O	+	-
Cinnamon Teal	R	-	+	+	-
Northern Shoveler	C	R	F	F	R
Northern Pintail	C	V	U	C	R
Green-winged Teal	C	U	F	C	U
"Eurasian" race	V	-	-	+	+
Canvasback	O	-	V	O	V
Redhead	R	+	V	R	V
Ring-necked Duck	U	R	R	U	V
Greater Scaup	C	-	V	C	C
Lesser Scaup	F	V	O	U	U
Steller's Eider	+	-	+	-	+
King Eider	+	-	-	+	V
Harlequin Duck	C	F	F	C	C
Surf Scoter	C	-	F	C	C
White-winged Scoter	C	-	U	C	C
Black Scoter	O	-	R	O	U
Long-tailed Duck	C	-	O	C	C
Bufflehead	C	-	R	C	C
Common Goldeneye	F	-	R	F	F
Barrow's Goldeneye	C	+	O	C	C
Hooded Merganser	R	R	R	U	R
Common Merganser	C	F	F	C	F
Red-breasted Merganser	F	-	U	F	F
Ruddy Duck	V	-	-	+	+
Willow Ptarmigan	F	F	F	F	F
Rock Ptarmigan	C	C	C	C	C
White-tailed Ptarmigan	U	U	U	U	U
Sooty Grouse	C	C	C	C	C
Red-throated Loon	U	V	R	U	O
Pacific Loon	C	-	R	F	C
Common Loon	F	-	U	F	U
Yellow-billed Loon	U	-	V	R	U
Pied-billed Grebe	V	-	V	V	V
Horned Grebe	F	-	R	F	C
Red-necked Grebe	U	-	R	U	F
Eared Grebe	+	-	-	-	-
Western Grebe	V	-	V	V	V
Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel	-	-	+	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant	R	-	R	R	R
Pelagic Cormorant	U	-	O	U	F
American Bittern	+	-	+	+	-
Great Blue Heron	U	U	U	U	U
Great Egret	+	-	+	-	+
Snowy Egret	+	-	-	-	-
Cattle Egret	-	-	-	+	-
Green Heron	+	-	-	-	-
Black-crowned Night-Heron	+	-	-	-	-
Osprey	R	+	R	R	-
Bald Eagle	C	C	C	C	C
Northern Harrier	F	+	F	F	V
Sharp-shinned Hawk	F	U	U	U	R

SPECIES	SP	BR	SU	F	W
Northern Goshawk	U	U	U	U	R
Swainson's Hawk	+	-	+	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	O	R	U	O	+
"Harlan's" race	V	-	V	V	+
Rough-legged Hawk	V	-	-	R	-
Golden Eagle	R	R	R	R	+
American Kestrel	F	-	O	F	V
Merlin	F	U	U	U	R
Gyrfalcon	V	-	-	V	V
Peregrine Falcon	R	-	R	R	V
Virginia Rail	+	-	V	+	+
Sora	V	-	V	+	-
American Coot	V	-	+	O	+
Sandhill Crane	R	-	O	R	-
Black-bellied Plover	C	-	R	U	-
American Golden-Plover	U	-	R	O	-
Pacific Golden-Plover	V	-	V	V	-
Semipalmated Plover	F	U	F	R	+
Killdeer	U	U	U	O	R
Black Oystercatcher	U	U	U	R	-
American Avocet	+	-	-	-	-
Greater Yellowlegs	C	U	C	U	+
Lesser Yellowlegs	C	-	C	R	-
Solitary Sandpiper	O	R	O	+	-
Wandering Tattler	O	-	O	R	-
Spotted Sandpiper	C	C	C	R	+
Upland Sandpiper	V	-	V	-	-
Whimbrel	U	-	U	-	-
Hudsonian Godwit	O	-	O	-	-
Bar-tailed Godwit	V	-	V	+	-
Marbled Godwit	R	-	V	-	-
Ruddy Turnstone	C	-	F	R	+
Black Turnstone	F	-	F	F	U
Surfbird	C	-	F	F	O
Red Knot	R	-	+	-	-
Sanderling	O	-	O	+	+
Semipalmated Sandpiper	U	-	U	-	-
Western Sandpiper	C	-	C	R	-
Long-toed Stint	+	-	-	-	-
Least Sandpiper	C	O	C	R	-
White-rumped Sandpiper	V	-	-	-	-
Baird's Sandpiper	U	-	U	V	-
Pectoral Sandpiper	C	-	C	U	-
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	V	-	R	+	-
Rock Sandpiper	C	-	R	C	C
"Pribilof" race	+	-	-	-	R
Dunlin	C	-	R	U	U
Stilt Sandpiper	+	-	R	-	-
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	V	-	V	-	-
Ruff	+	-	+	-	-
Short-billed Dowitcher	C	-	C	R	-
Long-billed Dowitcher	F	-	F	O	+
Wilson's Snipe	F	F	F	F	R
Wilson's Phalarope	V	-	+	-	-
Red-necked Phalarope	U	-	U	V	-
Parasitic Jaeger	V	-	R	+	-
Franklin's Gull	-	-	V	-	-
Bonaparte's Gull	C	-	C	C	V
Little Gull	+	-	-	-	-
Mew Gull	C	V	C	C	C
Ring-billed Gull	R	-	R	V	+
California Gull	R	-	U	O	-
Herring Gull	C	F	C	U	U
Thayer's Gull	F	+	U	F	U
Iceland Gull	V	-	-	-	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull	+	+	+	+	-

SPECIES	SP	BR	SU	F	W
Slaty-backed Gull	-	-	V	V	+
Western Gull	-	-	+	C	-
Glaucous-winged Gull	C	U	C	C	C
Glaucous Gull	R	-	V	R	R
Sabine's Gull	V	-	+	-	-
Black-legged Kittiwake	U	-	U	O	R
Caspian Tern	R	-	R	-	-
Arctic Tern	C	F	C	-	-
Black Tern	+	-	-	-	-
Common Murre	F	-	U	F	F
Pigeon Guillemot	F	F	F	U	U
Marbled Murrelet	C	C	C	U	C
Kittlitz's Murrelet	V	-	+	+	+
Ancient Murrelet	-	-	+	V	V
Rock Dove	F	F	F	F	F
Band-tailed Pigeon	V	-	-	V	-
Mourning Dove	V	-	V	R	-
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	-	-	+	-	-
Western Screech-Owl	R	R	R	R	R
Great Horned Owl	U	U	U	U	U
Snowy Owl	-	-	V	-	-
Northern Hawk Owl	+	+	V	V	+
Northern Pygmy-Owl	O	O	O	O	O
Barred Owl	O	-	O	O	O
Great Gray Owl	-	-	+	-	+
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	+	-
Short-eared Owl	U	-	V	U	R
Boreal Owl	+	-	+	+	V
Northern Saw-whet Owl	O	O	O	O	O
Common Nighthawk	+	-	V	+	-
Vaux's Swift	U	U	U	-	-
Anna's Hummingbird	+	-	+	V	+
Costa's Hummingbird	-	-	-	+	-
Rufous Hummingbird	C	C	C	+	-
Belted Kingfisher	F	F	F	F	U
Red-breasted Sapsucker	F	F	F	O	+
Downy Woodpecker	O	R	O	R	R
Hairy Woodpecker	U	O	U	O	O
Three-toed Woodpecker	O	R	O	O	O
Black-backed Woodpecker	V	-	+	V	-
Northern Flicker	-	-	-	-	-
"Yellow-shafted"	R	R	R	R	+
"Red-shafted"	R	-	R	R	+
Olive-sided Flycatcher	U	O	O	-	-
Western Wood-Pewee	O	R	O	+	-
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	+	-	+	-	-
Alder Flycatcher	U	U	U	-	-
Willow Flycatcher	-	V	-	-	-
Hammond's Flycatcher	R	R	R	-	-
Dusky Flycatcher	+	-	-	-	-
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	C	C	C	-	-
Say's Phoebe	V	-	+	V	-
Ash-throated Flycatcher	-	-	+	-	-
Western Kingbird	V	-	V	-	-
Eastern Kingbird	V	-	V	-	-
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	-	+	+	-	-
Northern Shrike	O	-	+	O	O
Cassin's Vireo	V	-	V	-	-
Warbling Vireo	O	O	O	-	-
Red-eyed Vireo	-	-	+	-	-

SPECIES	SP	BR	SU	F	W
___ Gray Jay	+	-	-	-	+
___ <b>Steller's Jay</b>	C	C	C	C	C
___ Clark's Nutcracker	+	-	+	V	+
___ <b>Black-billed Magpie</b>	R	-	V	C	C
___ <b>Northwestern Crow</b>	C	C	C	C	C
___ <b>Common Raven</b>	C	C	C	C	C
___ Horned Lark	O	-	R	+	-
___ Purple Martin	+	-	+	+	-
___ <b>Tree Swallow</b>	F	F	F	V	-
___ Violet-green Swallow	U	U	U	V	-
___ Northern Rough-winged Swallow	V	+	V	+	-
___ Bank Swallow	U	U	U	V	-
___ Cliff Swallow	R	V	R	V	-
___ <b>Barn Swallow</b>	C	C	C	V	-
___ Black-capped Chickadee	V	-	-	V	V
___ Mountain Chickadee	+	-	-	+	V
___ <b>Chestnut-backed Chickadee</b>	C	C	C	C	C
___ Boreal Chickadee	+	-	-	V	V
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch*	O	R	R	U	R
___ Brown Creeper*	U	U	U	U	U
___ <b>Winter Wren</b>	C	C	C	C	O
___ <b>American Dipper</b>	F	F	F	F	F
___ <b>Golden-crowned Kinglet</b>	C	C	C	C	U
___ <b>Ruby-crowned Kinglet</b>	C	C	C	U	V
___ Northern Wheatear	-	-	-	+	-
___ Mountain Bluebird	R	-	-	R	-
___ Townsend's Solitaire	R	-	R	R	V
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush	U	U	U	-	-
___ <b>Swainson's Thrush</b>	C	C	C	-	-
___ <b>Hermit Thrush</b>	C	C	C	O	-
___ Dusky Thrush	+	-	-	-	-
___ <b>American Robin</b>	C	C	C	U	R
___ <b>Varied Thrush</b>	C	C	C	C	O
___ Northern Mockingbird	-	-	+	-	-
___ European Starling	U	U	U	U	U
___ Red-throated Pipit	-	-	-	+	-
___ <b>American Pipit</b>	C	F	C	C	+
___ Bohemian Waxwing	R	-	+	U	U
___ Cedar Waxwing	R	-	R	+	-
___ Tennessee Warbler	R	R	R	-	-
___ <b>Orange-crowned Warbler</b>	C	C	C	R	+
___ <b>Yellow Warbler</b>	C	C	C	V	-
___ Magnolia Warbler	+	-	+	-	-
___ Black-throated Blue Warbler	-	-	-	+	-
___ <b>Yellow-rumped Warbler</b>					
___ "Myrtle"	C	C	C	U	+
___ "Audubon's"	R	V	R	-	-
___ <b>Townsend's Warbler</b>	C	C	C	R	-
___ Palm Warbler	+	-	+	V	-
___ Blackpoll Warbler	V	+	V	+	-
___ Black-and-white Warbler	+	-	-	-	-
___ American Redstart	O	O	O	-	-
___ Ovenbird	+	-	-	-	-
___ Northern Waterthrush	O	O	O	-	-
___ MacGillivray's Warbler	U	U	U	-	-
___ Common Yellowthroat	U	U	U	V	-
___ <b>Wilson's Warbler</b>	C	C	C	R	-
___ Western Tanager	O	O	O	-	-
___ Spotted Towhee	+	-	-	+	+

SPECIES	SP	BR	SU	F	W
___ American Tree Sparrow	U	-	V	U	R
___ Chipping Sparrow	R	R	R	R	+
___ Clay-colored Sparrow	+	-	+	-	-
___ <b>Savannah Sparrow</b>	C	C	C	F	+
___ <b>Fox Sparrow</b>	C	C	C	O	R
___ <b>Song Sparrow</b>	F	F	F	U	U
___ <b>Lincoln's Sparrow</b>	C	C	C	U	+
___ Swamp Sparrow	+	-	+	+	+
___ White-throated Sparrow	+	-	-	+	V
___ Harris' Sparrow	+	-	-	V	V
___ White-crowned Sparrow	U	-	U	U	R
___ Golden-crowned Sparrow	U	U	U	U	V
___ <b>Dark-eyed Junco</b>					
___ "Oregon"	C	C	C	C	C
___ "Slate-colored"	F	-	V	U	F
___ Lapland Longspur	U	-	R	U	V
___ Smith's Longspur	V	-	+	-	-
___ Rustic Bunting	-	-	-	+	-
___ Snow Bunting	R	-	-	R	U
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	-	-	+	+	-
___ Black-headed Grosbeak	+	-	+	-	-
___ Lazuli Bunting	-	-	-	+	-
___ Dickcissel	+	-	-	-	-
___ Red-winged Blackbird	U	U	U	R	V
___ Western Meadowlark	-	-	-	+	+
___ Yellow-headed Blackbird	+	-	+	-	-
___ Rusty Blackbird	U	R	R	U	O
___ Brewer's Blackbird	+	-	+	+	-
___ Common Grackle	-	+	-	-	-
___ Brown-headed Cowbird	R	-	R	V	+
___ Brambling	+	-	-	+	V
___ Gray-crowned Rosy Finch	U	U	U	O	O
___ Pine Grosbeak	R	R	R	U	U
___ Purple Finch	+	-	-	+	-
___ <b>Red Crossbill*</b>	F	F	F	F	F
___ White-winged Crossbill*	U	U	U	U	U
___ <b>Common Redpoll*</b>	U	+	V	U	C
___ Hoary Redpoll	V	-	-	-	V
___ <b>Pine Siskin*</b>	C	C	C	C	C
___ Evening Grosbeak	+	-	-	+	V

\* =Irregular, with pronounced between-year variability in occurrence and abundance.

**Unsubstantiated Species:** The following species have been reported for the checklist area, but only through single-observer sightings, and never documented by photograph or specimen. Most have only been reported once.

SPECIES	SP	BR	SU	F	W
___ Spruce Grouse	-	-	-	+	-
___ Clark's Grebe	-	-	+	-	-
___ Cooper's Hawk	+	-	+	+	-
___ Yellow Rail	-	+	-	-	-
___ Curlew Sandpiper	+	-	-	-	-
___ Pomarine Jaeger	-	-	+	-	-
___ Long-tailed Jaeger	-	-	+	-	-
___ Black-tailed Gull	-	-	+	+	-
___ Thick-billed Murre	-	-	-	+	-
___ Cassin's Auklet	+	-	-	-	-
___ Tufted Puffin	-	-	+	-	-
___ Black Swift	+	-	+	-	-
___ Calliope Hummingbird	+	-	-	-	-
___ Least Flycatcher	+	-	-	-	-
___ Eastern Phoebe	+	-	-	-	-
___ Siberian Accentor	-	-	-	+	-
___ Eastern Yellow Wagtail	+	-	-	-	-
___ White (Black-backed) Wagtail-	-	-	+	-	-
___ Eyebrowed Thrush	+	-	-	-	-
___ Nashville Warbler	-	-	+	-	-
___ Cape May Warbler	+	-	-	-	-
___ Bay-breasted Warbler	+	-	-	-	-

SPECIES (unsub. cont.)	SP	BR	SU	F	W
___ Blue Grosbeak	-	-	-	+	-
___ Brewer's Sparrow	+	-	-	-	-
___ Chestnut-collared Longspur	+	-	-	-	-
___ American Goldfinch	+	-	-	+	-

Observer(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Location(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Additional Notes:

**Definitions for Categories of Abundance**

- Common:** Occurs in essentially all suitable habitats during appropriate seasons, with certain species at times quite abundant; should be easy to locate.
- Fairly Common:** Occurs in some or most suitable habitats during appropriate seasons, but less abundant and at times few in number; often located.
- Uncommon:** Small numbers in suitable habitats and seasons; locatable.
- Occasional:** Very small numbers at least briefly in each year; may be very hard to find.
- Rare:** One or two presumed to occur in most years.
- Very Rare:** Same as casual; does not occur most years but may be expected to recur.
- Accidental:** Only one or two historical records.

Cover photo: *Marbled Murrelet*, by Gus van Vliet

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# Birds

## of Juneau, Alaska Checklist



JUNEAU AUDUBON SOCIETY