

# Arctic

## National Wildlife Refuge

# Bird List



Sabine's Gull

195 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.

- \_\_\_ **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 on south side, where it may breed (\*).
- \_\_\_ **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 in Brooks Range and on south side, where it may breed (\*).
- \_\_\_ **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. Rare visitor in Brooks Range.
- \_\_\_ **Northern Wheatear** – Rare visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon breeder in Brooks Range.



Northern Wheatear

- \_\_\_ **Townsend's Solitaire** – Uncommon visitor in Brooks Range. Uncommon on south side, where it may breed (\*).
- \_\_\_ **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

- \_\_\_ **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 (\*).
- \_\_\_ **Northern Waterthrush** – Casual visitor on coastal plain. Uncommon on south side, where it may breed (\*).
- \_\_\_ **Wilson's Warbler** – Rare visitor on coastal plain and in Brooks Range. Uncommon breeder on south side.
- \_\_\_ **Western Tanager** – Accidental visitor in Brooks Range.
- \_\_\_ **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.
- \_\_\_ **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 visitor 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 and in Brooks Range. Abundant breeder on south side.
- \_\_\_ **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.
- \_\_\_ **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](mailto: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>>.



