

Please assist us in documenting the distribution and abundance of birds on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge covers a vast geographic area and a variety of habitats, many of which are seldom visited by Refuge biologists. You can provide us with useful data on birds of the Refuge by recording observations during your visit. These data will be used to update the refuge bird list and to document occurrence of rare and accidental species. Please complete the attached card and send it to the Refuge Ornithologist at the end of your trip.

Instructions for completing the card:

Prior to your trip print out several copies of the card. There are two versions of the cards on separate pages. Both versions include birds commonly observed in the Brooks Range, but one also includes species that occur to the north and the other species that occur to the south. If you have a double sided printer or a copier that copies 2 sided, the pages are formatted so that they can be printed with information on both sides of a card. For single sided copies, you can cut the page horizontally and fold to make a smaller card.

Data to complete in the field:

Date: You can either fill out a card for each day of a trip or a card summarizing the whole trip or portions of the trip. Fill in the appropriate date or range of dates.

Observers

Name: Fill in the name of all individuals whose observations are on the card.

Birding Experience: Indicate the observer's level of expertise with birding and bird identification. Categories such as novice, intermediate, advance or expert should be used.

Location: Provide details on the geographic areas where the observations took place. Use coordinates and/or name of the area covered (i.e. Drain Creek area of the Kongakut). Be as specific as possible.

Estimate of area covered: Estimate the size of the area surveyed or linear miles/kilometers of river floated or ground covered in a hike.

Habitat notes: Provide information on the type of habitat where the observations were made. Examples could include: spruce forest, riparian vegetation, alpine. Also make note of any other dominant habitat features such as large lakes, recently burnt areas, etc.

Comments: Include any other comments that may be relevant to the observations.

Bird Observations:

Some of the more common species are listed on the card, using AOU code names. Below is a list of AOU codes and common names. If you see a species not on the card write it in at the end of the list, using the appropriate AOU code. If you see a species for which there is no code on the attached list, please write out the full name of the species.

Abundance: Use the appropriate code to indicate the abundance of the particular species (listed on the first page of the card). Use only one code for each species.

Status: Use as many codes as necessary to indicate the status of the species. You may need to use several codes for abundant species. For example if you saw singles, pairs, groups, courtship behavior, nests and birds passing through the area you would list the following under status: P,D,N,S,G,F.

Using these simpler codes is sufficient, but if you are interested and able to determine any of the status

categories listed on detailed status codes list below please include these.

Birds you are unable to identify: If you see a bird which you are not able to identify, we may be able to help if you write a detailed description of it. Include color (plumage, bill and feet); any marking on the face, throat, crown, breast, belly, rump, wings, tail or any other notable markings; size and shape; any vocalizations; habitat use; and/or behavior. A sketch or better yet a photograph would be very helpful.

Documenting a rare species: It is important to verify the occurrence of rare species. This is best done with a photograph, but also could be done by identification from multiple observers, providing a detailed description (see above) and/or a sketch.

Mail the completed forms and other information to: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge; attn: Steve Kendall; 101 12th Ave., Box 20, Room 236; Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

Detailed Status Codes for Arctic Refuge Bird Observations

Status	Code	Description
Observed	O	Male or female observed during its breeding season but shows no evidence of breeding, is not in suitable nesting habitat or is outside of the nesting season. This also includes wide ranging species such as raptors, colonial nesting species away from the nesting colony, early/late migrants and summer vagrants.
Possible	X	Species (male or female) either heard or seen in suitable nesting habitat during its breeding season but no further evidence for breeding. This includes soaring birds (raptors) over suitable habitat.

Probable - Any of the following behaviors:

- PO Pair Observation - Male and female simultaneously observed in suitable habitat during their breeding season.
- PT Permanent Territory - Permanent territory presumed through repeated observation of a singing male at the same location on at least two occasions 7 days or more apart or by observation of chases of individuals of the same species.
- PC Courtship Behavior - Male-female behavior indicative of breeding or observed copulation.
- PN Nest-site Visitation - Inspection of potential nest-site by either male or female or excavation of cavities by woodpeckers (woodpeckers will excavate roost cavities).
- PA Agitated Behavior - Anxiety behavior, including distress calls, exhibited by adult(s).

Confirmed - Any of the following behaviors:

- CN Carrying Nesting Material - Adult(s) transporting nest building items such as sticks.
- CB Nest Building - Construction of nest at singular nest-site (all but woodpeckers).
- CU Used Nest - Used nest or eggshells of current year's breeders (Caution: these should be carefully identified).
- CO Occupied Nest - Adults repeatedly entering or leaving a nest site with food items or long bouts of nest occupation (contents of the nest cannot be directly observed [treetops, cavities]).
- CD Distraction Display - Injury feigning behavior of ground-nesting species used to deter predators from detecting nest or young.
- CP Physiological Evidence - Incubation (brood) patch, cloacal protuberance, or oviductal egg determined by having local birds in the hand (banders)
- CE Nest With Eggs - Nest containing eggs. Be careful of identification.

- CY Nest With Young - Live young, seen, heard or dead, identifiable hatchlings in a nest.
- CG Precocial Young - Flightless young restricted to the immediate nest area by dependence on adults or limited development.
- CF Carrying Food - Adults delivering food to young.
- CS Fecal Sac Removal - Adult transporting fecal sac away from the nest-site (mainly songbirds).
- CR Recently Fledged Young - Young birds (either precocial or altricial) incapable of sustained flight that are restricted to the natal area by dependence on adults or by limited mobility.
- CI Feeding Recently Fledged Young - Adult(s) feeding recently fledged young (those incapable of sustained flight) away from nest-site.

AOU codes and common names of some birds on the Arctic NWR

Code	Common name				
		GRSC	Greater Scaup	RTLO	Red-throated Loon
ALFL	Alder Flycatcher	GWFG	Greater White-fronted Goose	RUBL	Rusty Blackbird
AMDI	American Dipper	GWTE	Green-winged Teal	RUTU	Ruddy Turnstone
AMGP	American Golden-Plover	GYRF	Gryfalcon	RWBL	Red-winged Blackbird
AMKE	American Kestrel	HARD	Harlequin Duck	SACR	Sandhill Crane
AMPI	American Pipit	HAWO	Hairy Woodpecker	SAGU	Sabine's Gull
AMRO	American Robin	HERG	Herring Gull	SAND	Sanderling
AMWI	American Wigeon	HETH	Hermit Thrush	SAPH	Say's Phoebe
ARTE	Arctic Tern	HOGR	Horned Grebe	SAVS	Savannah Sparrow
ARWA	Arctic Warbler	HOLA	Horned Lark	SBGU	Slaty-backed Gull
ATSP	American Tree Sparrow	HORE	Hoary Redpoll	SEOW	Short-eared Owl
BAEA	Bald Eagle	HUGO	Hudsonian Godwit	SEPL	Semipalmated Plover
BAGO	Barrow's Goldeneye	IVGU	Ivory Gull	SESA	Semipalmated Sandpiper
BANS	Bank Swallow	KIEI	King Eider	SMLO	Smith's Longspur
BARG	Bar-tailed Godwit	LALO	Lapland Longspur	SNBU	Snow Bunting
BASA	Baird's Sandpiper	LBDO	Long-billed Dowitcher	SNGO	Snow Goose
BBPL	Black-bellied Plover	LBMU	Long-billed Murrelet	SNOW	Snowy Owl
BBSA	Buff-breasted Sandpiper	LESA	Least Sandpiper	SOSA	Solitary Sandpiper
BCCH	Black-capped Chickadee	LESC	Lesser Scaup	SOSP	Song Sparrow
BEKI	Belted Kingfisher	LEYE	Lesser Yellowlegs	SPEI	Spectacled Eider
BLGU	Black Guillemot	LISP	Lincoln's Sparrow	SPGR	Spruce Grouse
BLKI	Black-legged Kittiwake	LTDU	Long-tailed Duck	SPSA	Spotted Sandpiper
BLPW	Blackpoll Warbler	LTJA	Long-tailed Jaeger	SSHA	Sharp-shinned Hawk
BLSC	Black Scoter	MALL	Mallard	STEI	Steller's Eider
BLUE	Bluethroat	MEGU	Mew Gull	STSA	Stilt Sandpiper
BOCH	Boreal Chickadee	MERL	Merlin	SURF	Surfbird
BOGU	Bonaparte's Gull	NOFL	Northern Flicker	SUSC	Surf Scoter
BOOW	Boreal Owl	NOGO	Northern Goshawk	SWTH	Swainson's Thrush
BOWA	Bohemian Waxwing	NOHA	Northern Harrier	THGU	Thayer's Gull
BRAN	Brant	NOHO	Northern Hawk Owl	TOSO	Townsend's Solitaire
BUFF	Bufflehead	NOPI	Northern Pintail	TRES	Tree Swallow
CAGO	Canada Goose	NOWH	Northern Wheatear	TRUS	Trumpeter Swan
CANV	Canvasback	NSHO	Northern Shoveler	TTWO	Three-toed Woodpecker
CHSP	Chipping Sparrow	NSHR	Northern Shrike	TUSW	Tundra Swan
CLSW	Cliff Swallow	OCWA	Orange-crowned Warbler	UPSA	Upland Sandpiper
COEI	Common Eider	OSFL	Olive-sided Flycatcher	VATH	Varied Thrush
COGO	Common Goldeneye	PAJA	Parasitic Jaeger	VGSW	Violet-green Swallow
COLO	Common Loon	PALO	Pacific Loon	WATA	Wandering Tattler
COME	Common Merganser	PEFA	Peregrine Falcon	WCSP	White-crowned Sparrow
CORA	Common Raven	PESA	Pectoral Sandpiper	WESA	Western Sandpiper
CORE	Common Redpoll	PIGR	Pine Grosbeak	WHIM	Whimbrel
DEJU	Dark-eyed Junco	PISI	Pine Siskin	WIPT	Willow Ptarmigan
DOWO	Downy Woodpecker	POJA	Pomarine Jaeger	WISN	Wilson's Snipe
DUNL	Dunlin	RBME	Red-breasted Merganser	WRSA	White-rumped Sandpiper
FOSP	Fox Sparrow	RCKI	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	WTSP	White-throated Sparrow
GCRF	Gray-crowned Rosy Finch	REPH	Red Phalarope	WWCR	White-winged Crossbill
GCTH	Gray-cheeked Thrush	RLHA	Rough-legged Hawk	WWSC	White-winged Scoter
GGOW	Great Gray Owl	RNGR	Red-necked Grebe	WWTE	White-winged Tern
GHCH	Gray-headed Chickadee	RNPH	Red-necked Phalarope	YBLO	Yellow-billed Loon
GHOW	Great-horned Owl	ROGO	Ross's Goose	YRWA	Yellow-rumped Warbler
GLGU	Glaucous Gull	ROGU	Ross's Gull	YWAG	Yellow Wagtail
GOEA	Golden Eagle	ROPT	Rock Ptarmigan	YWAR	Yellow Warbler
GRJA	Gray Jay	RTHA	Red-tailed Hawk		