

The Audubon Alaska WatchList 2017

Yellow List – Vulnerable Species

The WatchList identifies Alaska birds that are declining or vulnerable, therefore warranting special conservation attention. We graded all regularly occurring bird species in Alaska (and some subspecies) based on four criteria (see Appendix 1 below for more details):

- Global population size (5 possible points): small populations are more vulnerable than large populations;
- Minimum range occupied seasonally (5 possible points): populations concentrated in a small area are more vulnerable than populations spread over large areas;
- Area importance (percent of global population occurring in Alaska) (5 possible points): our stewardship responsibility is greater for species that have a large percentage of their population in Alaska than for species with a small percentage of their population in Alaska.
- Population trend (5 possible points weighted x3): Declining populations are at greater risk than stable or increasing populations.

If a species or subspecies that qualified for the WatchList (≥ 20 points) has populations that are either declining or depressed (PT ≥ 4 points), they appear on the red list. Non-declining species (trend score ≤ 3 points) scoring ≥ 20 points are deemed vulnerable; these are the Yellow list species.

The table below lists each Yellow list species, and includes estimated global populations, percent of that population dependent on Alaska at *any* time of year, and population status.

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| | Species | Population(s) | Breeding Range | Percent in Alaska | Population Status |
|--|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | CORMORANTS | | | | |
| | Double-crested Cormorant | <i>Gavia adamsii cincinatus</i> | Aleutian chain, Alaska Peninsula south to BC | >90? | Stable |
| | WATERFOWL | | | | |
| | Greater White-fronted Goose (Tule Goose) | <i>Anser albifrons gambeli</i> | Around Cook Inlet | 100 | Stable |
| | Cackling Goose (Taverner) | <i>Branta hutchinsii taverneri</i> | Western Alaska, Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta (YKD) | 100 | Stable |
| | Canada Goose (Dusky) | <i>Branta canadensis occidentalis</i> | Copper River Delta | 100 | Increasing |
| | Brant (Pacific Black) | <i>Branta bernicla nigricans</i> | Coast of Alaska from Aleutian islands/AK Peninsula north around North Slope | 100 | Stable |
| | Emperor Goose | <i>Chen canagica</i> | Coast of Alaska from Aleutian islands/AK Peninsula to western AK | 100 | Increasing |
| | Green-winged Teal (Aleutian) | <i>Anas crecca crecca</i> | Aleutian islands | 100 | Unknown |
| | King Eider | <i>Somateria spectabilis</i> | Coastal Alaska north from about AK Peninsula/nw Canada | 100 | Stable |
| | RAPTOR | | | | |

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|--|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|
| | Northern Goshawk (Queen Charlotte) | <i>Accipiter gentilis laingi</i> | SE Alaska | >60 | Unknown |
| | GROUSE AND PTARMIGAN | | | | |
| | Spruce Grouse | <i>Falciennis canadensis isleibi</i> | Around and on Prince of Wales Island | 100 | Unknown |
| | Willow Ptarmigan | <i>Lagopus lagopus alexandrae</i> | Unimak I. Shumagin Is., Kodiak I., Alaska Peninsula, and along south coast to se. Alaska | 100 | Unknown |
| | Rock Ptarmigan | <i>Lagopus muta evermanni</i> | Attu Island | 100 | Stable? |
| | | <i>L. m. townsend</i> | West-central Aleutians <i>i</i> | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>L. m. atkensis</i> | Central Aleutians | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>L. m. dixonii</i> | SE Alaska | 100 | Unknown |
| | SANDPIPERS | | | | |
| | Short-billed Dowitcher | <i>Limnodromus griseus caurinus</i> | Coastal Alaska from YKD Delta down into SE Alaska | 100 | Unknown but possible declines |
| | Hudsonian Godwit | <i>Limosa haemastica</i> | YKD, Central and South-Central Alaska | 100 | Unknown |
| | Marbled Godwit | <i>Limosa fedoa beringiae</i> | Alaska Peninsula | 100 | Unknown |
| | Whimbrel | <i>Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus</i> | western Alaska from AK Peninsula to North Slope, central Alaska | 100 | Unknown but possible declines |
| | Bristle-thighed Curlew | <i>Numenius tahitiensis</i> | Northern YKD, Seward Peninsula | 100 | Unknown |
| | Solitary Sandpiper | <i>Tringa solitaria cinnimomea</i> | Interior Alaska | 75 | Possible decline in BCR4? |

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|--|-------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| | Wandering Tattler | <i>Tringa incana</i> | Brooks Range, Seward Peninsula, AK Peninsula, south-central AK | 50 | Unknown |
| | Black Turnstone | <i>Arenaria melanocephala</i> | Coastal western Alaska from AK Peninsula to north side Seward Peninsula | 100 | Stable? |
| | Surfbird | <i>Aphriza virgata</i> | Sparsely distributed in mountains of Alaska | 76 | Unknown (declines in BC) |
| | Western Sandpiper | <i>Calidris mauri</i> | Coastal western Alaska, some on North Slope | >95 | Unknown but local declines |
| | Rock Sandpiper | <i>Calidris ptilocnemis ptilocnemis</i> | Pribilof Islands, St. Matthew, Hall islands | 100 | Unknown |
| | Dunlin | <i>Calidris alpina pacifica</i> | Western Alaska | 100 | Unknown but local declines |
| | GULLS | | | | |
| | Ross's Gull | <i>Rhodostethia rosea</i> | Does not breed in Alaska, fall passage on North Slope | 66 | Stable? |
| | ALCIDS | | | | |
| | Whiskered Auklet | <i>Aethia pygmaea</i> | Aleutian Islands | 96 | Unknown |
| | WOODPECKER | | | | |
| | Hairy Woodpecker | <i>Picoides villosus sitkensis</i> | SE Alaska | 100? | Unknown but other populations in Alaska appear to be stable |
| | CREEPERS | | | | |
| | Brown Creeper | <i>Certhia americana alascensis</i> | SE Alaska | 100? | Unknown but other populations in Alaska appear to be stable |
| | WRENS | | | | |

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| | Pacific Wren | <i>Troglodytes pacificus meligerus</i> | Near Islands | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>T. p. kiskensis</i> | SW Alaska | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>T. p. alascensis</i> | Pribilof Islands | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>T. p. semidiensis</i> | Semidi Islands | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>T. p. helleri</i> | Kodiak and Middleton islands | 100 | Unknown |
| | WARBLERS | | | | |
| | Yellow Warbler | <i>Setophaga petechia rubiginosa</i> | SW,SC,SE Alaska | 100? | Stable |
| | GROSBEAKS and BUNTINGS | | | | |
| | Pine Grosbeak | <i>Pinicola enucleator flammula</i> | Coastal AK, south from AK Peninsula | >80? | Unknown |
| | McKay's Bunting | <i>Plectrophenax hyperboreus</i> | Hall and St. Matthew islands | 100 | Unknown |
| | SPARROWS | | | | |
| | Fox Sparrow | <i>Passerella iliaca unalascensis</i> | Eastern Aleutians | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>P. i. insularis</i> | Kodiak islands | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>P. i. sinuosa</i> | n. Gulf of Alaska | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>P. i. annectens</i> | Yakutat Bay | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>P. i. chilcatensis</i> | Mainland SE Alaska | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>P. i. townsendi</i> | SE Alaska | 100 | Unknown |
| | Song Sparrow | <i>Melospiza melodia maxima</i> | Western and central Aleutians | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>M. m. sanaka</i> | Central Aleutians to AK Peninsula | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>M. m. insignis</i> | Kodiak islands and adjacent AK Penin | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>M. m. kenaiensis</i> | Kenai Peninsula and PW Sound Northern | 100 | Unknown |

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| | | <i>M. m. caurina</i> | Gulf of Alaska coast | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>M. m. rufina</i> | Alexander Archipelago | 100 | Unknown |
| | FINCHES | | | | |
| | Gray-crowned Rosy Finch | <i>Leucosticte tephrocotis griseonucha</i> | Aleutian Is. (Attu east to w. Alaska Peninsula), Shumagin and Semidi Is. | 100 | Unknown |
| | | <i>L. t. umbrina</i> | Pribilof, St. Matthew, Hall islands | 100 | Unknown |