Checklist of the Birds of British Columbia

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Jamie Fenneman

Wildlife Biologist and Ecologist LGL Limited environmental research associates Sidney, BC fennj@hotmail.com

This checklist covers the 506 bird species and all recognized subspecies that have been observed in British Columbia and its coastal waters (to a distance of 200 miles), including all exotic species that have had established, self-sustaining breeding populations in the province for at least 20 years and are still extant within the province. Species which breed or have bred in the province are marked with an asterisk. Footnotes are provided for additional clarification on the status of many species. Species-level taxonomy follows the most recent (2010) checklist of the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU), while subspecific taxonomy is based primarily on the Birds of North America species accounts, which are the most recent comprehensive assessment of subspecies for North American breeding birds.

This list is based on the list of British Columbia birds that is currently maintained by the British Columbia Conservation Data Centre (CDC). Their list, in turn, is based on the list of birds presented in the four volume Birds of British Columbia (Campbell et al., 1990-2001), with the inclusion of additional species that have been documented following the publication of the final volume. A further eight species (Solander's Petrel, Brown Booby, Eurasian Dotterel, Least Auklet, Eastern Bluebird, Little Bunting, Summer Tanager, and Oriental Greenfinch) are not currently on the CDC list as they have not yet been reviewed, but all are represented by definitive photographic evidence of their occurrence in the province during the past 2-3 years and are thus included.

An "Excluded Species" section is included at the end of this document in order to address numerous additional species have been reported from British Columbia but which are not included on the main list. This includes species that are represented by either no or marginal photographic evidence and have yet to be peer-reviewed, species which have previously been rejected but which may potentially have occurred, species for which the origin of the individual is considered uncertain (i.e., potential escapees from captivity), exotic species that do not have self-sustaining independent populations (i.e., "feral" species), exotic species whose formerly established populations have completely died out, and all extinct and extirpated native species. These species are considered either to have a questionable presence in the province, have not yet been reviewed, or have been lost from the province's avifauna and are no longer extant within its boundaries. Species on the "Excluded Species" list may potentially be upgraded to the main list if the species' status is independently reviewed and its placement on the B.C. list subsequently adopted by the B.C. Conservation Data Centre. It should be noted that such decisions are typically the responsibility of a provincial Rare Birds Committee (RBC), but such an organization has not operated in the province in over a decade and thus the CDC is acting as a de facto RBC until such a body is resurrected. Should this occur, the decisions of the body will be incorporated into this document and, in any cases of discrepancy, will be adopted.

Changes from the 2008 Version

Several notable changes in taxonomy since 2008 are reflected in the 2011 version of this document. As well, a number of species have been added to the province's list of birds and all such species are included. The following items are new in this 2010 version of the Checklist of the Birds of British Columbia:

- 1. Separation of some species into an "Excluded Species" section at the end of the document. See the Introduction (above) for further information about this section.
- **2.** Changing of the scientific name of Black Scoter from *Melanitta nigra* to *M.americana*, following the recognition of American populations as species-distinct from Eurasian populations (now known as Common Scoter, *M.nigra*) (AOU checklist update, 2010).
- **3.** Addition of **Solander's Petrel** (*Pterodroma solandri*) based on a photo-documented sighting off the west coast of Vancouver Island. This was the first unequivocal record of this species in North America.
- **4.** Elimination of the *hullianus* subspecies of Flesh-footed Shearwater. This species is generally treated as monotypic.
- **5.** Addition of **Ashy Storm-Petrel** (*Oceanodroma homochroa*). This species was well documented from waters off western Vancouver Island by seabird biologists during boat-based surveys in 2008.
- **6.** Recognition of the new order Phaethontiformes for the tropicbirds (Phaethontidae) (AOU checklist update, 2010).
- 7. Recognition of the new order Suliformes for the boobies (Sulidae), cormorants (Phalacrocoracidae), and frigatebirds (Fregatidae) (AOU checklist update, 2010)
- **8.** Addition of **Brown Booby** (*Sula leucogaster*). This species was photodocumented from a vessel at the B.C.-Alaska border in Dixon Entrance in 2009. A subsequent sight record from southern Vancouver Island lacks photographic evidence and has not been peer-reviewed.
- **9.** Removal of the herons and egrets (Ardeidae) and ibises (Threskiornithidae) from the order Ciconiiformes and placement in the order Pelecaniformes (AOU checklist update, 2010).
- **10.** Removal of all vultures, hawks, and eagles from the order Falconiformes to a resurrected order Accipitriformes (falcons and caracaras remain in Falconiformes) (AOU checklist update, 2010).
- **11.** Family-level status is afforded to the Osprey (Pandionidae) (AOU checklist update, 2010).
- **12.** Mexican Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus arizonae*) is recognized as the species responsible for the single provincial specimen record of *Caprimulgus*; this form was previously lumped with the Eastern Whip-poor-will, but was split from that form in 2010 (AOU checklist update, 2010).
- **13.** Separation of the Pacific Wren (*Troglodytes pacificus*) and Winter Wren (*T.hiemalis*) into distinct species, recognizing the species-level differences between populations breeding in and west of the Rocky Mountains (*T.pacificus*) and in northeastern B.C. (*T.hiemalis*).
- **14.** The subspecies of White-breasted Nuthatch in northeastern B.C. is changed from *S.c.cookei* to *S.c.carolinensis* to reflect the dominant classification scheme in North America.

- **15.** Family-level status for the gnatcatchers (Polioptilidae), including Blue-gray Gnatcatcher which has been recorded in B.C. (AOU checklist update, 2010).
- **16.** Addition of **Eastern Bluebird** (*Sialia sialis*) based on a photo-documented bird at Fort Nelson in 2009.
- **17.** Changing of the scientific name of Blue-winged Warbler from *Vermivora pinus* to *V.cyanoptera* (AOU checklist update, 2010).
- **18.** Changing of the genus of all species formerly included in the genus *Vermivora* (with the exception of the Blue-winged Warbler) to *Oreothlypis* (AOU checklist update, 2010).
- **19.** Changing of the generic name of Northern Waterthrush from *Seiurus* to *Parkesia* (AOU checklist update, 2010).
- **20.** Changing of the common name of *Ammodramus nelsoni* from Nelson's Sharptailed Sparrow to Nelson's Sparrow (AOU checklist update, 2009)
- **21.** Addition of **Little Bunting** (*Emberiza pusilla*). This species was photodocumented during a Christmas Bird Count at Masset (Queen Charlotte Islands) in 2008.
- **22.** Movement of the longspurs and Snow and McKay's Buntings from the family Emberizidae into a new family, Calcariidae (AOU checklist update, 2010).
- **23.** Changing of the genus of McCown's Longspur from *Calcarius* to *Rhynchophanes* (AOU checklist update, 2010).
- **24.** Movement of the tanagers (*Piranga*) from the family Thraupidae to the family Cardinalidae (AOU checklist update, 2009).
- **25.** Addition of **Summer Tanager** (*Piranga rubra*). Two separate records occurred in the interior of the province in 2009, one of which was accompanied by photographic evidence.
- **26.** Changing of the genus of redpolls from *Carduelis* to *Acanthis* (AOU checklist update, 2009)
- **27.** Changing of the genus of siskins and goldfinches from *Carduelis* to *Spinus* (AOU checklist update, 2009)
- **28.** Addition of **Oriental Greenfinch** (*Chloris sinica*), based on a photo-documented record from the central interior (François Lake) in 2009.

ORDER: ANSERIFORMES

Family: Anatidae

Subfamily: Dendrocygninae

Dendrocygna bicolor¹ Fulvous Whistling-Duck

Subfamily: Anserinae

Anser albifrons Greater White-fronted Goose

A.a.frontalis A.a.gambelii

Chen canagica Emperor Goose
Chen caerulescens Snow Goose

C.c.caerulescens

Chen rossii Ross's Goose

Branta bernicla Brant

B.b.nigricans

B.b. "subspecies"²

Branta hutchinsii³ Cackling Goose

B.h.minima B.h.leucopareia B.h.taverneri

Branta canadensis^{4, 4} Canada Goose*

B.c.moffitti
B.c.parvipes
B.c.occidentalis

B.c.fulva

Cygnus olor (I)⁵ Mute Swan*
Cygnus buccinator Trumpeter Sw

Cygnus buccinator Trumpeter Swan*
Cygnus columbianus⁶ Tundra Swan

C.c.columbianus

C.c.bewickii

Cygnus cygnus Whooper Swan

Subfamily: Anatinae

Aix sponsa Wood Duck*

Anas strepera Gadwall*

Anas falcata⁷ Falcated Duck

Anas penelope Eurasian Wigeon

Anas americana American Wigeon*

Anas rubripes⁸ American Black Duck*

¹ Known in B.C. only from a single historic record (1905) from Port Alberni

² This undescribed taxon, which breeds on Melville Island in the Canadian arctic and winters in Puget Sound and Boundary Bay, is known in the literature as "Gray-bellied" Brant.

These two species were split by the American Ornithologists Union (AOU) in 2004.

⁴ The subspecific designation of introduced resident populations across southern portions of the province is unknown and complicated by releases of non-native subspecies and captive-bred intergrades.

⁵ Small, localized introduced populations occur in the Lower Mainland and on southern Vancouver Island.

⁶ Two subspecies, sometimes considered separate species, have been recorded in B.C.: the North American *C.* (*c.*) *columbianus* [Whistling Swan] and the Eurasian *C.* (*c.*) *bewickii* [Bewick's Swan].

⁷ This Asian species is definitively known in B.C. only from a single male that returned for three consecutive winters (1994-1996) to the Tofino area of western Vancouver Island. An additional historic sight record from the Okanagan Valley is also on file.

Anas platyrhynchos

A.p.platyrhynchos

Anas discors

Anas cyanoptera

A.c.septentrionalium

Anas clypeata Anas acuta

Anas querquedula Anas formosa

Anas crecca⁹

A.c.carolinensis

A.c.crecca

Aythya valisineria Canvasback* Aythya americana Redhead*

Aythya collaris Redhead*

Redhead*

Ring-necked Duck*

Aythya fuligula Tufted Duck Aythya marila Greater Scaup

A.m.nearctica

Aythya affinisLesser Scaup*Polysticta stelleriSteller's EiderSomateria fischeriSpectacled EiderSomateria spectabilisKing EiderSomateria mollissimaCommon Eider

S.m.v-nigra

Histrionicus histrionicus Harlequin Duck*
Melanitta perspicillata Surf Scoter*

Melanitta fusca

M.f.deglandi

Melanitta americana Clangula hyemalis

Bucephala albeola

Bucephala clangula B.c.americana

D.c.umericum Rucenhala islandica

Bucephala islandica

Mergellus albellus Lophodytes cucullatus Mergus merganser

M.m.americanus

Mergus serrator

Oxyura jamaicensis O.j.rubida White-winged Scoter*

Black Scoter

Mallard*

Garganey

Baikal Teal

Blue-winged Teal* Cinnamon Teal*

Northern Shoveler* Northern Pintail*

Green-winged Teal*

Long-tailed Duck*

Bufflehead*

Common Goldeneye*

Barrow's Goldeneye*

Smew

Hooded Merganser*
Common Merganser*

Red-breasted Merganser*

Ruddy Duck*

⁸ A relatively small and decreasing introduced population occurs in the Nanaimo-Yellow Point area of Vancouver Island. An additional introduced population in the Lower Mainland recently became extirpated. A single naturally-occurring individual has been recorded from northeastern B.C.

A single naturally-occurring individual has been recorded from northeastern B.C.

This taxon contains two discrete subspecies in British Columbia, which are often considered separate species: (American) Green-winged Teal [A.(c.) carolinensis] and Eurasian (Common) Teal [A.(c.) crecca]

ORDER: GALLIFORMES

Family: Phasianidae

Subfamily: Phasianinae

Alectoris chukar (I) Chukar*

A.c.chukar

Perdix perdix (I) Gray Partridge*

P.p.perdix

Phasianus colchicus (I) Ring-necked Pheasant*

 $\begin{array}{c} P.c. torquatus \\ P.c. robustipes \end{array}$

Subfamily: Tetraoninae

Bonasa umbellus Ruffed Grouse*

B.u.brunnescens

B.u.sabini

B.u.yukonensis

B.u.umbelloides

B.u.affinis

B.u.phaia

Falcipennis canadensis¹¹ Spruce Grouse*

F.c.canadensis

F.c.franklinii

Lagopus lagopus Willow Ptarmigan*

L.l.albus

Lagopus muta Rock Ptarmigan*

L.m.dixoni

Lagopus leucura White-tailed Ptarmigan*

L.l.leucura

L.l.saxatilis

Dendragopus obscurus¹² Dusky Grouse*

D.o.richardsonii

D.o.pallidus

Dendragopus fuliginosus¹³ Sooty Grouse*

D.f.sitkensis

D.f.fuliginosus

Tympanuchus phasianellus

Sharp-tailed Grouse*

T.p.caurus

T.p.columbianus

Subfamily: Meleagridinae

Meleagris gallopavo (I)¹³ Wild Turkey*

M.g.silvestris¹⁴

¹⁰ This subspecies, known as the "Green" Pheasant (and sometimes considered a separate species), was established in the Alberni Valley of Vancouver Island for several decades before becoming extirpated in the 1980s.

¹¹ Two intergrading subspecies, which are sometimes considered separate species, occur in BC: Franklin's Grouse (*F*.[*c*.] *franklinii*) and Spruce Grouse (*F*.[*c*.] *canadensis*)

¹² These two species were split by the AOU in 2006

¹³ Introduced into the northwestern United States (Idaho, Montana) and subsequently spread into southeast B.C.

Family: Odontophoridae

Callipepla californica (I)¹⁵
C.c.brunnescens¹⁶
C.c.californica

California Quail*

ORDER: GAVIIFORMES

Family: Gaviidae

Gavia stellataRed-throated Loon*Gavia pacificaPacific Loon*Gavia immerCommon Loon*Gavia adamsiiYellow-billed Loon

ORDER: PODICIPEDIFORMES

Family: Podicipedidae

Podilymbus podiceps Pied-billed Grebe*

P.p.podiceps

Podiceps auritus Horned Grebe*

P.a.cornutus

Podiceps grisegena Red-necked Grebe*

P.g.holboellii

Podiceps nigricollis Eared Grebe*

P.n. californicus

Aechmophorus occidentalis Western Grebe*

A.o.occidentalis

Aechmophorus clarkii Clark's Grebe*

A.c.transitionalis

ORDER: PROCELLARIIFORMES

Family: Diomedeidae

Phoebastria immutabilisLaysan AlbatrossPhoebastria nigripesBlack-footed AlbatrossPhoebastria albatrusShort-tailed Albatross

Family: Procellariidae

Fulmarus glacialis Northern Fulmar*

F.g.rodgersi

Pterodroma ultimaMurphy's PetrelPterodroma solandriSolander's PetrelPterodroma inexpectataMottled PetrelPterodroma cookiiCook's Petrel

Puffinus creatopusPink-footed ShearwaterPuffinus carneipesFlesh-footed ShearwaterPuffinus bulleriBuller's Shearwater

¹⁴ This eastern subspecies is the presumed source of our introduced populations, but other subspecies may also be involved

¹⁵ Introduced in the Okanagan Valley, southeastern Vancouver Island, and Saltspring Island in the Gulf Islands. Other introduced populations (e.g., Lower Mainland) all became extirpated.

¹⁶ The subspecific designation of many California Quail populations in the province is unclear, but these two subspecies are likely responsible for the coastal and interior introductions, respectively

¹⁷ First recorded in B.C. in 2009 from waters off Tofino, Vancouver Island

Puffinus griseusSooty ShearwaterPuffinus tenuirostrisShort-tailed ShearwaterPuffinus puffinus 18Manx Shearwater*Puffinus opisthomelasBlack-vented Shearwater

Family: Hydrobatidae

Oceanodroma furcata Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel*

O.f.plumbea

Oceanodroma leucorhoa Leach's Storm-Petrel*

O.l.leucorhoa

Oceanodroma homochroa¹⁹ Ashy Storm-Petrel

ORDER: PHAETHONTIFORMES

Family: Phaethontidae

Phaethon rubricauda²⁰ Red-tailed Tropicbird

P.r.melanorhynchos

ORDER: CICONIIFORMES Family: Ciconiidae

*Mycteria americana*²¹ Wood Stork

ORDER: SULIFORMES Family: Fregatidae

Fregata magnificens Magnificent Frigatebird

Family: SulidaeSula leucogaster²²
Brown Booby

Sula leucogaster²² S.l.brewsteri

Family: Phalacrocoracidae

Phalacrocorax penicillatus Brandt's Cormorant*

Phalacrocorax auritus Double-crested Cormorant*

P.a.cincinatus P.a.albociliatus

Phalacrocorax urile Red-faced Cormorant
Phalacrocorax pelagicus Pelagic Cormorant*

P.p.pelagicus P.p.resplendens

ORDER: PELECANIFORMES

Family: Pelecanidae

Pelecanus erythrorhynchos American White Pelican*

¹⁸ Records of this species along the entire Pacific coast of North America, including B.C., have been rapidly increasing over the past 15 years. Calls of this species have been recorded at night from the large seabird colonies on Triangle Island, off northern Vancouver Island, suggesting possible breeding in the province.

¹⁹ First recorded in B.C. in 2008 off the mouth of the Strait of Juan de Fuca

²⁰ A carcass of this tropical seabird was recovered from the mountainous interior of Vancouver Island in 1994, representing the only record for Canada.

²¹ Known in B.C. from a single 1970 record from Telegraph Creek.

²² First recorded in B.C. from the B.C.-Alaska border in Dixon Entrance in 2008. A subsequent sight record from southern Vancouver Island lacks supporting photographic evidence.

Pelecanus occidentalis Brown Pelican

P.o.californicus

Family: Ardeidae

Botaurus lentiginosus American Bittern*
Least Bittern

I.e.exilis

Ardea herodias Great Blue Heron*

A.h.herodias A.h.fannini

Ardea alba Great Egret

A.a.egretta

Egretta thula Snowy Egret

E.t.brewsteri

Egretta caerulea Little Blue Heron Bubulcus ibis Cattle Egret

B.i.ibis

Butorides virescens Green Heron*

B.v.anthonyi

Nycticorax nycticorax Black-crowned Night-Heron*

N.n.hoactli

Family: Threskiornithidae

Plegadis chihi White-faced Ibis

ORDER: ACCIPITRIFORMES

Family: Cathartidae

Coragyps atratus Black Vulture

C.a.atratus

Cathartes aura Turkey Vulture*

C.a.meridionalis

Family: Pandionidae

Pandion haliaetus Osprey*

P.h.carolinensis

Family: Accipitridae

Elanus leucurus White-tailed Kite

E.l.majusculus

Haliaeetus leucocephalus Bald Eagle*

H.l.alascanus

Circus cyaneus Northern Harrier*

C.c.hudsonius

Accipiter striatus Sharp-shinned Hawk*

A.s.perobscurus

A.s.velox

Accipiter cooperii Cooper's Hawk*
Accipiter gentilis Northern Goshawk*

A.g.atricapillus

A.g.laingi

Buteo platypterus Broad-winged Hawk*

B.p.platypterus

Buteo swainsoni Swainson's Hawk*

Buteo jamaicensis²³ Red-tailed Hawk*

B.j.alascensis B.j.calurus B.j.harlani

Buteo regalis Ferruginous Hawk*
Buteo lagopus Rough-legged Hawk

B.l.sanctijohannis

Aquila chrysaetos Golden Eagle*

A.c.canadensis

ORDER: FALCONIFORMES

Family: Falconidae

Subfamily: Caracarinae

Caracara cheriway Crested Caracara

C.c.audubonii

Subfamily: Falconinae

Falco tinnunculus²⁴ Eurasian Kestrel

F.t.tinnunculus

Falco sparverius American Kestrel*

F.s.sparverius

Falco columbarius Merlin*

F.c.columbarius F.c.suckleyi F.c.richardsonii

Falco rusticolus Gyrfalcon*

Falco peregrinus Peregrine Falcon*

F.p.anatum F.p.tundrius F.p.pealei

Falco mexicanus Prairie Falcon*

ORDER: GRUIFORMES

Family: Rallidae

Coturnicops noveboracensis²⁵ Yellow Rail*[?]

C.n.noveboracensis

Rallus limicola Virginia Rail*

R.l.limicola

Porzana carolina Sora*

Gallinula chloropus²⁶ Common Moorhen

G.c.cachinnans

Fulica americana American Coot*

F.a.americana

Family: Gruidae

Anthropoides virgo²⁷ Demoiselle Crane

²³ Includes two different forms in B.C. which are sometimes considered separate species: Red-tailed Hawk (*B. jamaicensis*) and Harlan's Hawk (*B. (j.) harlani*).

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²⁴ Known in B.C. from a single historic (1948) specimen from Alkali Lake in the central interior.

²⁵ Although an actual nest has not been documented in B.C., this species occurs regularly in the Peace River area and almost certainly has a breeding population in the province

²⁶ Known from a single 1981 record from the Lower Mainland (Iona Island)

Grus canadensis Sandhill Crane*

G.c.canadensis G.c.tabida

Grus americana²⁸ Whooping Crane*?

ORDER: CHARADRIIFORMES

Family: Charadriidae

Subfamily: Charadriinae

Pluvialis squatarolaBlack-bellied PloverPluvialis dominica29American Golden-Plover*Pluvialis fulva37Pacific Golden-PloverCharadrius mongolusLesser Sand-Plover

C.m.stegmanni

Charadrius alexandrinus Snowy Plover

C.a.nivosus

Charadrius semipalmatus Semipalmated Plover*

Charadrius melodus³⁰ Piping Plover

Charadrius vociferus Killdeer*

C.v.vociferus

Charadrius montanus³¹ Mountain Plover Charadrius morinellus³² Eurasian Dotterel

Family: Haematopodidae

Haematopus bachmani Black Oystercatcher*

Family: Recurvirostridae

Himantopus mexicanus³³ Black-necked Stilt*

H.m.mexicanus

Recurvirostra americana American Avocet*

Family: Scolopacidae

Subfamily: Scolopacinae

Xenus cinereus³⁴ Terek Sandpiper Actitus macularia Spotted Sandpiper* Tringa solitaria Solitary Sandpiper*

T.s.solitaria

²⁷ This Asian species was recorded in B.C. in 2002 in the Bulkley Valley. Although the origin of the individual is often considered uncertain, the sighting refers to the same individual that spent much of that winter in California and subsequently migrated north with Sandhill Cranes. This bird was seen at multiple locations between California and Alaska during this spring migration, and the flock that it was traveling with was tracked by satellite throughout the entire northward migration.

²⁸ During the past decade, this species has appeared on a number of occasions at various locations on the Fraser Plateau during the breeding season and one or two pairs may potentially breed somewhere in the remote areas of that massive region

²⁹ These two species were formerly considered conspecific (Lesser Golden-Plover) but were split by the AOU in 1993.

³⁰ Known from a single record (2000) from Vernon

³¹ Known in B.C. from a single record from the Lower Mainland (Ladner) in 1986

³² First recorded in B.C. from the Queen Charlotte Islands in 2008.

³³ First recorded breeding in the province near Kamloops in 2002.

³⁴ Known in BC from a single 1987 record from Sooke

T.s.cinnamomea Tringa incana³⁵ Wandering Tattler* Tringa erythropus Spotted Redshank Greater Yellowlegs* Tringa melanoleuca Tringa semipalmatus³⁶ Willet T.s.inornatus Tringa flavipes Lesser Yellowlegs* Tringa glareola³⁷ Wood Sandpiper Bartramia longicauda Upland Sandpiper* Numenius phaeopus³⁸ Whimbrel N.p.hudsonicus *N.p.*variegatus Numenius tahitiensis Bristle-thighed Curlew Numenius madagascariensis³⁹ Far Eastern Curlew Numenius americanus Long-billed Curlew* *N.a.parvus* Limosa haemastica Hudsonian Godwit* Limosa lapponica⁴⁰ Bar-tailed Godwit L.l.baueri L.l.lapponica Limosa fedoa Marbled Godwit L.f.fedoa L.f.beringiae Arenaria interpres Ruddy Turnstone A.i.morinella

Arenaria melanocephala Black Turnstone

Aphriza virgata Surfbird
Calidris tenuirostris⁴¹ Great Knot
Calidris canutus Red Knot

C.c.rosealaari

Calidris alba Sanderling

Calidris pusillaSemipalmated SandpiperCalidris mauriWestern SandpiperCalidris ruficollisRed-necked StintCalidris minutaLittle Stint

Calidris temminckii⁴² Temminck's Stint Calidris minutilla Least Sandpiper*

Calidris fuscicollis White-rumped Sandpiper

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³⁵ Formerly placed in the genus *Heteroscelus*

³⁶ Formerly placed in the genus *Catoptrophorus*

³⁷ Known in the province from a single record from Massett, Queen Charlotte Islands in 1994

³⁸ Some individuals of the eastern Asian subspecies *N.p.variegatus* have been recorded in coastal B.C. (Queen Charlotte Islands) and, remarkably, once from Fort St.John in the northeastern interior; this form is sometimes regarded as a separate species.

³⁹ The only record of this species in B.C. comes from the Lower Mainland (Boundary Bay) in 1984

⁴⁰ Almost all records of this bird in B.C. are referable to the grey-rumped Asian-Alaskan subspecies *L.l.baueri*, but there is a remarkable well-documented sight record of the white-rumped European subspecies *L.l.lapponica* from the Lower Mainland.

⁴¹ The first record of this species in the province comes from the Lower Mainland (Iona Island) in 1998.

⁴² Known in B.C. from a single record from the Lower Mainland (Ladner) in 1982

Calidris bairdii⁴³

Calidris melanotos

Calidris acuminata

Calidris ptilocnemis

Rock Sandpiper

Rock Sandpiper

C.p.ptilocnemis⁴⁴ C.p.tschuktschorum C.p.couesi⁴⁵

Calidris alpina Dunlin

C.a.pacifica

Calidris ferrugineaCurlew SandpiperCalidris himantopusStilt Sandpiper

Eurynorhynchus pygmeus⁴⁶ Spoon-billed Sandpiper Tryngites subruficollis Buff-breasted Sandpiper

Philomachus pugnax Ruff

Limnodromus griseus Short-billed Dowitcher*

L.g.caurinus L.g.hendersoni

Limnodromus scolopaceus Long-billed Dowitcher

Gallinago delicata Wilson's Snipe*

Subfamily: Phalaropinae

Phalaropus tricolor Wilson's Phalarope*
Phalaropus lobatus Red-necked Phalarope*

Phalaropus fulicaria Red Phalarope

Family: Laridae

Subfamily: Larinae

Rissa tridactyla Black-legged Kittiwake*

R.t.pollicaris

Rissa brevirostris Red-legged Kittiwake

Pagophila eburneaIvory GullXema sabiniSabine's GullChroicocephalus philadelphiaBonaparte's Gull*Chroicocephalus ridibundusBlack-headed Gull

C.r.sibiricus⁴⁷

Hydrocoloeus minutusLittle GullRhodostethia roseaRoss's GullLeucophaeus atricillaLaughing GullLeucophaeus pipixcanFranklin's Gull*Larus crassirostrisBlack-tailed Gull

⁴³ First recorded breeding in B.C. in 1996 in the extreme northwest portion of the province (Haines Triangle)

⁴⁴ This subspecies is a vagrant to B.C., where it is known from several records from the Queen Charlotte Islands.

⁴⁵ This subspecies has not been definitively confirmed In B.C., but photo-documented individuals from farther south along the Pacific coast (including Washington) suggest that it may occur in the province in small numbers during winter and migration.

⁴⁶ This endangered Asian species is known in B.C. only from a single 1978 record from the Lower Mainland (Iona Island)

⁴⁷ This subspecies of eastern Asia is the presumed source of records for British Columbia; however, it is possible that some (or even all) records may in fact refer to the European/eastern Canadian subspecies *L.r.ridibundus*.

Larus heermanni Heermann's Gull Larus canus⁴⁸ Mew Gull*

> L.c.brachyrhynchus L.c.kamtschatschensis

Larus delawarensis Ring-billed Gull*
Larus occidentalis Western Gull*

L.o.occidentalis

Larus californicus California Gull*

L.c. californicus

L.c.albertaensis

Larus argentatus⁴⁹ Herring Gull*

L.a.smithsonianus

L.a.vegae

Larus thayeri Thayer's Gull Larus glaucoides Iceland Gull

L.g.kumlieni⁵⁰

Larus fuscus Lesser Black-backed Gull

L.f.graellsii

Larus schistisagus Slaty-backed Gull

Larus glaucescens Glaucous-winged Gull*

Larus hyperboreus Glaucous Gull

L.h.barrovianus⁵¹

Larus marinus⁵² Great Black-backed Gull

Subfamily: Sterninae

Onychoprion aleuticus Aleutian Tern Sternula antillarum Least Tern

S.a.brownii⁵³

Hydroprogne caspia Caspian Tern*
Chlidonias niger Black Tern*

C.n.surinamensis

Sterna hirundo Common Tern

S.h.hirundo

Sterna paradisaeaArctic Tern*Sterna forsteriForster's Tern*Thalasseus elegansElegant Tern

⁴⁸ The North American subspecies (*L.* (*c.*) *brachyrhynchus*) accounts for almost all observations of this species in B.C., but recently photographed individuals on southern Vancouver Island and in the Okanagan Valley appear to represent the eastern Asian subspecies (*L.* (*c.*) *kamtschatschensis* ["Kamchatka" Gull]), which is sometimes regarded as a separate species.

⁴⁹ Although only the North American subspecies *L.* (*a.*) *smithsonianus* (American Herring Gull) has been confirmed in B.C., there are numerous reports and even some photographic evidence of the eastern Asian *L.* (*a.*) *vegae* (Vega Gull) in coastal parts of the province.

⁵⁰ Some white-winged individuals observed in B.C. closely resemble the subspecies *L.g.glaucoides*, but may fall within the range of variation of *kumlieni*.

⁵¹ Some large, pale individuals may be referrable to either the Siberian *L.h.pallidisimus* or the eastern Canadian *L.h.hyperboreus*

⁵² Known in B.C. from a single record at Kamloops in 1988.

⁵³ This subspecies of coastal California is the presumed source of B.C. records; however, it is possible that one or both of these birds may actually represent the virtually identical Great Plains subspecies (*S.a.athalassos*)

Family: Stercorariidae

Stercorarius macckormickiSouth Polar SkuaStercorarius pomarinusPomarine JaegerStercorarius parasiticusParasitic Jaeger*Stercorarius longicaudusLong-tailed Jaeger

Family: Alcidae

Uria aalge Common Murre*

U.a.inornata U.a.californica

Uria lomvia Thick-billed Murre*

U.l.arra

Cepphus columba Pigeon Guillemot*

C.c.adianta C.c.kaiurka⁵⁴

Brachyramphus marmoratus
Brachyramphus brevirostris
Synthliboramphus hypoleucus⁵⁵
Marbled Murrelet*
Kittlitz's Murrelet
Xantus's Murrelet

S.h.hypoleucus S.h.scrippsii

Synthliboramphus antiquus Ancient Murrelet*

S.a.antiquus

Ptychoramphus aleuticus Cassin's Auklet*

P.a.aleuticus

Aethia psittaculaParakeet AukletAethia pusilla56Least AukletAethia cristatellaCrested AukletCerorhinca monocerataRhinoceros Auklet*Fratercula corniculataHorned Puffin*Fratercula cirrhataTufted Puffin*

ORDER: COLUMBIFORMES

Family: Columbidae

Columba livia (I)⁵⁷ Rock Pigeon*

Patagioenas fasciata Band-tailed Pigeon*

P.f.monilis

Streptopelia orientalis⁵⁸ Oriental Turtle-Dove

S.o.orientalis

Streptopelia decaocto (I)⁵⁹ Eurasian Collared-Dove*

S.d.decaocto

⁵⁴ The only record of this Asian subspecies for North America outside of the Aleutian Islands is a specimen from British Columbia

⁵⁶ First recorded in B.C. in 2007 from the Sooke area.

⁵⁵ Two identifiable subspecies, which are sometimes considered separate species, have been recorded in B.C.: *S.* (*h.*) *hypoleucus* (Xantus's Murrelet) and *S.* (*h.*) *scrippsi* (Baja Murrelet).

⁵⁷ Populations throughout North America are derived from various domestic forms and crosses, thus the subspecific designation of these populations is impossible.

⁵⁸ First recorded in B.C. in 1992 at Tofino

⁵⁹ A small resident population occurs in the southern interior (Keremeos-Cawston). Additionally, this species is being increasingly recorded along the south coast from the rapidly expanding introduced population in the United States that originated from releases in the Bahamas.

Zenaida asiatica White-winged Dove

Mourning Dove*

Z.a.mearnsi Zenaida macroura

Z.m.marginella

ORDER: CUCULIFORMES

Family: Cuculidae

Subfamily: Cuculinae

Coccyzus americanus⁶⁰ Yellow-billed Cuckoo*?

C.a.occidentalis⁶¹

Coccyzus erythropthalmus Black-billed Cuckoo

ORDER: STRIGIFORMES

Family: Tytonidae

Tyto alba Barn Owl*

T.a.pratincola

Family: Strigidae

Otus flammeolus Flammulated Owl*

Megascops kennicottii Western Screech-Owl*

M.k.kennicottii M.k.macfarlanei

Bubo virginianus Great Horned Owl*

B.v.lagophonus B.v.saturatus

B.v.subarcticus

Bubo scandiacus Snowy Owl

Surnia ulula Northern Hawk Owl*

S.u.caparoch

Glaucidium gnoma Northern Pygmy-Owl*

G.g.grinnelli G.g.swarthi

G.g. californicum

Athene cunicularia⁶² Burrowing Owl*

A.c.hypugaea

Strix occidentalis Spotted Owl*

S.o.caurina

Strix varia Barred Owl*

S.v.varia

Strix nebulosa Great Gray Owl*

S.n.nebulosa

Asio otus Long-eared Owl*

A.o.tuftsi

⁶⁰ Formerly an uncommon summer resident on the south coast until at least the 1930s, but now extirpated. However, since 1989, this species has been increasingly recorded as a vagrant in B.C., presumably from the small breeding populations in the western United States (but possibly from the eastern population).

⁶¹ This is the western subspecies that formerly bred throughout the Pacific Northwest; some (or all) recent vagrant records may refer to the eastern subspecies *C.a.americanus*.

⁶² Formerly a localized breeder in the southern interior, but subsequently extirpated by the 1990s. This species is now being reintroduced into the region and is rarely reported as a vagrant on the south coast.

Asio flammeus Short-eared Owl*

A.f.flammeus

Aegolius funereus Boreal Owl*

A.f. richardsoni

Aegolius acadicus Northern Saw-whet Owl*

A.a.acadicus A.a.brooksi

ORDER: CAPRIMULGIFORMES

Family: Caprimulgidae

Subfamily: Chordeilinae

Chordeiles acutipennis⁶³ Lesser Nighthawk

C.a.texensis

Chordeiles minor Common Nighthawk*

C.m.minor C.m.hesperis

Subfamily: Caprimulginae

Phalaenoptilus nuttallii Common Poorwill*

P.n.nuttallii

Caprimulgus arizonae^{64, 65} Mexican Whip-poor-will

ORDER: APODIFORMES

Family: Apodidae

Subfamily: Cypseloidinae

Cypseloides niger Black Swift*

C.n.borealis

Subfamily: Chaeturinae

Chaetura vauxi Vaux's Swift*

C.v.vauxi

Subfamily: Apodinae

Aeronautes saxatilis White-throated Swift*

A.s.saxatilis

Family: Trochilidae

Subfamily: Trochilinae

Hylocharis xantusii⁶⁶ Xantus's Hummingbird

Archilochus colubris⁶⁷ Ruby-throated Hummingbird*?
Archilochus alexandri Black-chinned Hummingbird*

Calypte anna Anna's Hummingbird*
Calypte costae Costa's Hummingbird
Stellula calliope Calliope Hummingbird*

⁶³ First recorded in B.C. in 2006 from pelagic waters off western Vancouver Island, quickly followed by a second record (carcass) at Vancouver.

⁶⁴ Known in B.C. from a single specimen record from Amphitrite Point, Ucluelet in 2001.

⁶⁵ Formerly included with the Eastern Whip-poor-will (*C.vociferus*), but split from that species by the AOU in 2010.

⁶⁶ Known in B.C. from a single bird that spent a 310-day period at Gibsons, on the southern mainland coast, in 1997-1998.

⁶⁷ Recorded regularly in small numbers in the Peace River area of northeastern B.C., where it almost certainly breeds, but no nests have yet been found in the province.

Selasphorus platycercus Selasphorus rufus Broad-tailed Hummingbird Rufous Hummingbird*

ORDER: CORACIIFORMES

Family: Alcedinidae

Subfamily: Cerylinae

Megaceryle alcyon Belted Kingfisher*

ORDER: PICIFORMES

Family: Picidae

Subfamily: Picinae

Melanerpes lewis 68Lewis's Woodpecker*Melanerpes erythrocephalusRed-headed WoodpeckerMelanerpes formicivorusAcorn Woodpecker

M.f.bairdi

Sphyrapicus thyroideus Williamson's Sapsucker*

S.t.thyroideus

S.t.nataliae

Sphyrapicus variusYellow-bellied Sapsucker*Sphyrapicus nuchalisRed-naped Sapsucker*Sphyrapicus ruberRed-breasted Sapsucker*

S.r.ruber

Picoides pubescens Downy Woodpecker*

P.p.nelsoni
P.p.leucurus
P.p.gairdner

P.p.gairdnerii

Picoides villosus Hairy Woodpecker*

P.v.septentrionalis

P.v.orius P.v.monticola P.v.harrisi P.v.picoideus

Picoides albolarvatus White-headed Woodpecker*

P.a.albolarvatus

Picoides dorsalis⁶⁹ American Three-toed Woodpecker*

P.d.fasciatus

Picoides arcticus Black-backed Woodpecker*

Colaptes auratus⁷⁰ Northern Flicker*

C.a.auratus

C.a.cafer

Dryocopus pileatus Pileated Woodpecker*

D.p.picinus

⁶⁸ Extirpated as a breeder on the south coast since at least the 1940s.

⁶⁹ North American birds were considered a separate species from those in Eurasia by the AOU in 2003.

⁷⁰ Two distinct populations occur in B.C. and intergrade broadly across much of the interior: Yellow-shafted Flicker (*C.a.auratus*) and Red-shafted Flicker (*C.a.cafer*).

ORDER: PASSERIFORMES

Family: Tyrannidae

Subfamily: Fluvicolinae

Contopus cooperi Olive-sided Flycatcher*

C.c.cooperi

Contopus sordidulus Western Wood-Pewee*

C.s. saturatus

C.s.veliei

Empidonax flaviventris Yellow-bellied Flycatcher*

Empidonax virescens⁷¹ Acadian Flycatcher
Empidonax alnorum Alder Flycatcher*
Empidonax traillii Willow Flycatcher*

E.t.brewsteri E.t.adastus E.t.traillii⁷²

Empidonax minimus Least Flycatcher*

Empidonax hammondii Hammond's Flycatcher*

Empidonax wrightii Gray Flycatcher*
Empidonax oberholseri Dusky Flycatcher*

Empidonax difficilis⁷³ Pacific-slope Flycatcher*

E.d.difficilis

Sayornis nigricans Black Phoebe

S.n.semiatra

Sayornis phoebe Eastern Phoebe*
Sayornis saya Say's Phoebe*

S.s.saya

Myiarchus cinerascens Ash-throated Flycatcher

M.c.cinerescens

Myiarchus crinitus⁷⁴ Great Crested Flycatcher

Tyrannus melancholichus Tropical Kingbird

T.m.satrapa

Tyrannus crassirostris⁷⁵
Thick-billed Kingbird
Tyrannus verticalis
Western Kingbird*
Eastern Kingbird*
Gray Kingbird

T.d.dominicensis

Tyrannus forficatus Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

Family: Laniidae

Lanius ludovicianus Loggerhead Shrike

L.l.gambeli

Lanius excubitor Northern Shrike*

L.e.borealis

⁷¹ Known only from a single 1934 specimen record Leonie Lake (near Barriere).

⁷⁵ The only B.C. record was a single bird in Qualicum Beach (Vancouver Island) in 1974.

⁷² A bird matching the description of this eastern subspecies of Willow Flycatcher was netted at Rocky Point on southern Vancouver Island in 2003.

⁷³ Formerly combined with Cordilleran Flycatcher (as "Western" Flycatcher) until 1989.

⁷⁴ Known only from Triangle Island in 1995.

⁷⁶ Known in B.C. only from a historic 1889 specimen from Cape Beale on western Vancouver Island.

Family: Vireonidae

Vireo cassinii⁷⁷ Cassin's Vireo*

V.c.cassinii

Vireo solitarius⁹⁴ Blue-headed Vireo*

V.s.solitarius

Vireo atricapilla⁷⁸ Black-capped Vireo Vireo huttonii Hutton's Vireo*

V.h.insularis V.h.huttonii

Vireo gilvus Warbling Vireo*

V.g.swainsoni

Vireo philadelphicus Philadelphia Vireo* Vireo olivaceus Red-eyed Vireo*

V.o.olivaceus

Family: Corvidae

Perisoreus canadensis Gray Jay*

P.c.pacificus
P.c.obscurus
P.c.bicolor
P.c.albescens

Cyanocitta stelleri Steller's Jay*

C.s.stelleri C.s.carlottae C.s.annectens

Cyanocitta cristata Blue Jay*

C.c.bromia

Aphelocoma californica⁷⁹ Western Scrub-Jay*^{?80}

A.c.immanis A.c.woodhouseii

*Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus*⁸¹ Pinyon Jay

Nucifraga columbiana Clark's Nutcracker*
Pica hudsonia⁸² Black-billed Magpie*
Corvus brachyrhynchos American Crow*

C.b.hesperis

Corvus caurinus Northwestern Crow*
Corvus corax Common Raven*

C.c.principalis C.c.sinuatus

⁷⁷ These species were formerly combined under the name Solitary Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*) but were split by the AOU in 1997.

⁷⁸ First documented in B.C. in 2008 at Vaseux Lake in the Okanagan Valley

⁷⁹ Although most records of this species in B.C. pertain to the coastal subspecies *A.* (*c.*) *californica* group, there is a single record in the southeastern interior of a bird belonging to the interior subspecies *A.*(*c.*) *woodhousei*, which has been suggested to represent a different species by some authors.

⁸⁰ Although breeding has not been confirmed, the presence of a recently-fledged juvenile in the Lower Mainland during the summer of 2009 suggests that this species, which is rapidly expanding its range north through western Washington, may now be breeding in BC.

⁸¹ The first record of this species in B.C. was in 2005 near Creston.

⁸² Formerly combined with Eurasian subspecies as *Pica pica*, but split by the AOU in 2001.

Family: Alaudidae

Alauda arvensis⁸³ Sky Lark*

A.a.arvensis

A.a.pekinensis

Eremophila alpestris Horned Lark*

E.a.strigata⁸⁴ E.a.arcticola E.a.merrilli E.a.hoyti

Family: Hirundinidae Subfamily: Hirundininae

Progne subis Purple Martin*

P.s.arboricola P.s.subis

Tachycineta bicolor Tree Swallow*

Tachycineta thalassina Violet-green Swallow*

T.t.thalassina

Stelgidopteryx serripennis Northern Rough-winged Swallow*

S.s.serripennis

Riparia riparia Bank Swallow*

R.r.riparia

Petrochelidon pyrrhonota Cliff Swallow*

P.p.pyrrhonota P.p.hypopolia

Hirundo rustica Barn Swallow*

H.r.erythrogaster H.r.gutturalis⁸⁵

Family: Paridae

Poecile atricapillus Black-capped Chickadee*

P.a.turneri
P.a.fortuitus
P.a.occidentalis
P.a.septentrionalis

Poecile gambeli Mountain Chickadee*

P.g.abbreviatus

Poecile rufescens Chestnut-backed Chickadee*

P.r.rufescens

Poecile hudsonicus Boreal Chickadee*

P.h.columbianus P.h.cascadensis

⁸³ A small (<150 individuals) introduced population of the European subspecies (*A.a.arvensis*) is resident on the Saanich Peninsula of southern Vancouver Island. However, several additional records from the coast away from this area (ie. Port McNeill, Queen Charlotte Islands, Lower Mainland) likely pertain to vagrants of the eastern Asian subspecies (*A.a.pekinensis*), which has been recorded casually along the Pacific coast from Alaska to California.

⁸⁴ This subspecies of the southwest coast is apparently extirpated from B.C.

⁸⁵ A singe specimen of this Asian subspecies was taken from the Queen Charlotte Islands

Family: Aegithalidae

Psaltriparus minimus Bushtit*

P.m.saturatus

Family: Sittidae

Subfamily: Sittinae

Sitta canadensis Red-breasted Nuthatch*
Sitta carolinensis⁸⁶ White-breasted Nuthatch*

S.c.aculeata S.c.tenuissima S.c.carolinensis

Sitta pygmaea Pygmy Nuthatch*

S.p.melanotis

Family: Certhiidae

Subfamily: Certhiinae

Certhia americana Brown Creeper*

C.a.alascensis C.a.occidentalis C.a.stewarti C.a.montana

Family: Troglodytidae

Salpinctes obsoletus Rock Wren*

S.o.obsoletus

Catherpes mexicanus Canyon Wren*

C.m.griseus

Thryomanes bewickii Bewick's Wren*

T.b.calophonus

Troglodytes aedon House Wren*

T.a.parkmanii

Troglodytes pacificus⁸⁷ Pacific Wren*

T.p.pacificus

T.p.salebrosus

Troglodytes hiemalis¹⁰³ Winter Wren*

T.t.hiemalis

Cistothorus platensis Sedge Wren

C.p.stellaris

Cistothorus palustris Marsh Wren*

C.p.browningi C.p.pulverius

Family: Cinclidae

Cinclus mexicanus American Dipper*

C.m.unicolor

⁸⁶ Some authorities have suggested that eastern, Great Basin, and Pacific coast subspecies (all of which appear to occur in B.C.) may represent different species.

These two species were formerly included with Eurasian forms as *T.troglodytes* (Winter Wren), but each was split into a distinct species by the AOU in 2010.

Family: Regulidae

Regulus satrapa Golden-crowned Kinglet*

R.s.apache R.s.olivaceus

Regulus calendula Ruby-crowned Kinglet*

R.c.calendula R.c.grinnelli

Family: Polioptilidae

Polioptila caerulea Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

P.c.amoenissima⁸⁸

Family: Turdidae

Oenanthe oenanthe Northern Wheatear

O.o.oenanthe

Sialia mexicana⁸⁹ Western Bluebird*

S.m.occidentalis

Sialia sialis⁹⁰ Eastern Bluebird

S.s.sialis

Sialia currucoides Mountain Bluebird*

Myadestes townsendi Townsend's Solitaire*

M.t.townsendi

Catharus fuscescens Veery*

C.f.salicicolus

C.f.levyi

Catharus minimus Gray-cheeked Thrush*

C.m.aliciae

Catharus ustulatus⁹¹ Swainson's Thrush*

C.u.incanus C.u.ustulatus C.u.phillipsi C.u.swainsoni

Catharus guttatus Hermit Thrush*

C.g.guttatus C.g.nanus C.g.auduboni C.g.faxoni

Monticola solitarius⁹² Blue Rock-Thrush

M.s.philippensis

Turdus naumanni Dusky Thrush

T.n.eunomus

⁸⁸ This western subspecies is the presumed source of most B.C. records, based on proximity of breeding populations; some records, however, may pertain to the eastern subspecies *P.c. caerulea*.

⁸⁹ Coastal populations have been extirpated in B.C. since the 1990s.

⁹⁰ First recorded in B.C. in 2009 at Fort Nelson

⁹¹ Coastal (ustulatus, phillipsi) and inland (incanus, swainsoni) subspecies may represent separate species.

⁹² The only record of this eastern Asian species in B.C. (and North America) is from Goldpan Provincial Park along the South Thompson River in the southern interior. The origins of this bird are currently unknown and it may have originated as an escapee from a private collection. Conversely, this species is migratory in its native range and could conceivably reach B.C. on its own. An additional unsubstantiated sight record from Alaska suggests that natural occurrence is plausible.

Turdus pilaris⁹³ Fieldfare

Turdus migratorius American Robin*

T.m.caurinus
T.m.propinquus
T.m.migratorius

Ixoreus naevius Varied Thrush*

I.n.meruloides I.n.naevius

Family: Mimidae

Dumetella carolinensis Gray Catbird*

Mimus polyglottos Northern Mockingbird*

Oreoscoptes montanusSage Thrasher*Toxostoma rufumBrown Thrasher

T.r.longicauda

Family: Sturnidae

Sturnus vulgaris (I) European Starling*

S.v.vulgaris

Family: Prunellidae

Prunella montanella Siberian Accentor

P.m.badia

Family: Motacillidae

Motacilla tschutschensis Eastern Yellow Wagtail

M.t.tschutschensis

Motacilla cinerea Gray Wagtail

M.c.robusta

Motacilla alba⁹⁴ White Wagtail

M.a.ocularis

M.a.lugens

Anthus cervinus Red-throated Pipit
Anthus rubescens American Pipit*

A.r.rubescens⁹⁵ A.r.pacificus A.r.alticola A.r.japonicus⁹⁶

Anthus spragueii Sprague's Pipit*

Family: Bombycillidae

Bombycilla garrulus Bohemian Waxwing*

B.g.pallidiceps

Bombycilla cedrorum Cedar Waxwing*

Family: Parulidae

Oreothlypis peregrina Tennessee Warbler*

93 First recorded in B.C. in 2003 from the Lower Mainland.

⁹⁴ This species was formerly split into two species, White Wagtail (*M.alba*) and Black-backed Wagtail (*M.lugens*), but these species were combined by the AOU in 2005; both forms have been recorded in B.C. ⁹⁵ Although not definitely documented in B.C., this subspecies is widespread across the subarctic from

⁹⁵ Although not definitely documented in B.C., this subspecies is widespread across the subarctic from Alaska and the Yukon east to Quebec, and undoubtedly occurs as a migrant in northern B.C.

⁹⁶ This Siberian subspecies of American Pipit is sometimes considered a separate species; a single photo-documented bird from Vancouver Island is the only confirmation of this subspecies in BC, although it has been reported on several other occasions without photographic or specimen evidence.

Oreothlypis celata Orange-crowned Warbler*

O.c.lutescens
O.c.orestera
O.c.celata

Oreothlypis ruficapilla Nashville Warbler*

V.r.ridgwayi V.r.ruficapilla⁹⁷

Parula americana Northern Parula
Dendroica petechia Yellow Warbler*

D.p.rubiginosa D.p.morcomi D.p.amnicola

Dendroica pensylvanica Se Chestnut-sided Warbler*
Dendroica magnolia Magnolia Warbler*
Dendroica tigrina Cape May Warbler*

Dendroica caerulescens Black-throated Blue Warbler

D.c.caerulescens

Dendroica coronata⁹⁹ Yellow-rumped Warbler*

D.c.coronata D.c.auduboni

Dendroica nigrescens Black-throated Gray Warbler*

D.n.nigrescens

Dendroica virens Black-throated Green Warbler*

D.v.virens

Dendroica townsendiTownsend's Warbler*Dendroica occidentalis¹00Hermit Warbler*²Dendroica fusca¹01Blackburnian Warbler*²Dendroica dominica¹02Yellow-throated Warbler

D.d.dominica

Dendroica pinus¹⁰³ Pine Warbler

D.p.pinus

Dendroica discolor Prairie Warbler

D.d.discolor

Dendroica palmarum Palm Warbler*

D.p.palmarum

Dendroica castaneaBay-breasted Warbler*Dendroica striataBlackpoll Warbler*

Mniotilta varia Black-and-white Warbler*

⁹⁸ Breeding evidence is restricted to a single extralimital breeding event in the central interior

This species is rarely but regularly reported from southwestern Vancouver Island, including sightings of pairs during the breeding season, and may occasionally breed. Many purported observations of this species have proven to be hybrids with Townsend's Warbler.

⁹⁷ Accidental in northeastern B.C.

⁹⁹ This taxon contains two identifiable subspecies in B.C. which intergrade along the Rocky Mountains and in the northern mountainous interior and occur widely during migration: Audubon's Warbler (D. (c.) *auduboni*) and Myrtle Warbler (D. (c.) *coronata*); these forms were formerly considered separate species.
¹⁰⁰ This species is rarely but regularly reported from southwestern Vancouver Island, including sightings of

¹⁰¹ One or more populations of this species were recently reported from remote areas of northeastern B.C. and it is suspected that the species breeds in that area.

¹⁰² Known in B.C. only from a single 1998 record from Gabriola Island, near Nanaimo.

¹⁰³ First reported in B.C. in 1999 from the Victoria area, and subsequently reported from Lillooet in 2005.

Setophaga ruticilla American Redstart*
Protonotaria citrea¹⁰⁴ Prothonotary Warbler
Seiurus aurocapilla Ovenbird*

S.a.aurocapilla

Parkesia noveboracensis Northern Waterthrush*

P.n.notabilis P.n.limnaeus

Oporornis agilis Connecticut Warbler*
Oporornis philadelphia Mourning Warbler*
Oporornis tolmiei MacGillivray's Warbler*

O.t.tolmiei

Geothlypis trichas Common Yellowthroat*

G.t.campicola G.t.arizela

Wilsonia citrina Hooded Warbler Wilsonia pusilla Wilson's Warbler*

> W.p.chryseola W.p.pileolata W.p.pusilla¹⁰⁵

Wilsonia canadensis Canada Warbler*
Myioborus pictus¹⁰⁶ Painted Redstart

M.p.pictus

Icteria virens Yellow-breasted Chat*

I.v.auricollis

Family: Emberizidae

Pipilo chlorurusGreen-tailed TowheePipilo maculatus 107Spotted Towhee*

P.m.oregonus P.m.arcticus

Spizella arborea American Tree Sparrow*

S.a.ochracea

Spizella passerina Chipping Sparrow*

S.p.arizonae

Spizella pallida Clay-colored Sparrow*
Spizella breweri¹⁰⁸ Brewer's Sparrow*

S.b.breweri S.b.taverneri

Pooecetes gramineus Vesper Sparrow*

P.g.confinis P.g.affinis

¹⁰⁴ First reported in B.C. in 2001 from Victoria (carcass), but several susequent records from the south coast are now on file.

¹⁰⁵ A bird of this eastern subspecies was banded on the Sunshine Coast in 2004.

¹⁰⁶ Known in B.C. only from a 1973 record from North Vancouver.

¹⁰⁷Formerly lumped with Eastern Towhee as Rufous-sided Towhee (*P.erythrophthalmus*), but were split by the AOU in 1995.

¹⁰⁸ Birds of the dry southern interior lowlands (Brewer's Sparrow, *S.* [*b.*] *breweri*) and those of subalpine thickets of the Rocky Mountains and northwestern interior (Timberline Sparrow, *S.* [*b.*] *taverneri*) possibly represent different species.

Chondestes grammacus Lark Sparrow*

C.g.strigatus

Amphispiza bilineata Black-throated Sparrow

A.b.deserticola

Amphispiza belli Sage Sparrow

A.b.nevadensis

Calamospiza melanocorys Lark Bunting

Passerculus sandwichensis Savannah Sparrow*

P.s.sandwichensis

P.s.anthinus P.s.nevadensis

Ammodramus savannarum Grasshopper Sparrow*

A.s.perpallidus

Ammodramus bairdii¹⁰⁹ Baird's Sparrow
Ammodramus leconteii Le Conte's Sparrow*
Ammodramus nelsoni Nelson's Sparrow*

A.n.nelsoni

Passerella iliaca¹¹⁰ Fox Sparrow*

P.i.zaboria

P.i.unalaschcensis

P.i.townsendi

P.i.fuliginosa

P.i.annectens

P.i.insularis

P.i.sinuosa

P.i.chilcatensis

P.i.schistacea

P.i.altivagans

P.i.olivacea

Melospiza melodia Song Sparrow*

M.m.morphna

M.m.melodia

M.m.caurina

M.m.merrilli

Melospiza lincolnii Lincoln's Sparrow*

M.l.lincolnii

M.l.gracilis

Melospiza georgiana Swamp Sparrow*

M.g.ericrypta

Zonotrichia albicollis White-throated Sparrow*

Zonotrichia querula Harris's Sparrow

¹⁰⁹ Most records of this species in B.C. are questionable and likely refer to misidentified Savannah Sparrows

hill Research and DNA analysis suggests that this taxon may actually represent four distinct species, three of which occur in B.C.: "Red" Fox Sparrow (*P.*(*i.*) *iliaca*), "Sooty" Fox Sparrow (*P.*(*i.*) *fuliginosa*), and "Slate-colored" Fox Sparrow (*P.*(*i.*) *schistacea*).

Zonotrichia leucophrys White-crowned Sparrow*

Z.l.pugetensis Z.l.gambelii Z.l.oriantha

Zonotrichia atricapilla Golden-crowned Sparrow*

Junco hyemalis¹¹¹ Dark-eyed Junco*

J.h.hyemalis J.h.cismontanus J.h.oreganus J.h.montanus J.h.caniceps

Emberiza pusilla 112 Little Bunting Emberiza rustica Rustic Bunting

Family: Calcariidae

Calcarius lapponicus Lapland Longspur

C.l.alascensis

Calcarius pictus Smith's Longspur*

Calcarius ornatus Chestnut-collared Longspur

Rhynchophanes mccownii McCown's Longspur Plectrophenax nivalis Snow Bunting*

P.n.nivalis

Plectrophenax hyperboreus McKay's Bunting

Family: Cardinalidae

Piranga olivacea Scarlet Tanager
Piranga rubra 113 Summer Tanager

P.r.cooperii¹¹⁴

Piranga ludoviciana Western Tanager*

Pheucticus ludovicianus Rose-breasted Grosbeak*
Pheucticus melanocephalus Black-headed Grosbeak*

P.m.melanocephalus

P.m.maculatus

Passerina caerulea Blue Grosbeak

P.c.interfusa¹¹⁵

Passerina amoenaLazuli Bunting*Passerina cyaneaIndigo Bunting*Passerina cirisPainted Bunting

P.c.pallidior

Spiza americana Dickcissel

¹¹¹ The eastern and northern form, Slate-colored Junco (*J.h.hyemalis*), and the western form, Oregon Junco (*J.h.oreganus* grp.) were formerly considered separate species. Both forms breed in B.C. There is also a single record of the southwestern U.S. form known as Gray-headed Junco (*J.h.caniceps*) from Vancouver Island in 1975; this form is also sometimes considered a separate species.

¹¹² First recorded in B.C. in 2008 on the Queen Charlotte Islands

¹¹³ First recorded in B.C. in 2009 from Blue River

¹¹⁴ This western subspecies is the presumed source of vagrants to B.C., although records may pertain to the nominate eastern subspecies

¹¹⁵ This subspecies is the presumed source of the B.C. records, based on the proximity of the breeding range

Family: Icteridae

Dolichonyx oryzivorus Bobolink*

Aglaius phoeniceus Red-winged Blackbird*

A.p.arctolegus A.p.nevadensis A.p.caurinus

Sturnella neglecta Western Meadowlark*

S.n.confluenta

Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus Yellow-headed Blackbird*

Euphagus carolinus Rusty Blackbird*

E.c.carolinus

Euphagus cyanocephalus Brewer's Blackbird*
Quiscalus quiscula Common Grackle*

Q.q.versicolor

Quiscalus mexicanus Great-tailed Grackle

Q.m.nelsoni

Molothrus ater Brown-headed Cowbird*

M.a.artemisiae

Icterus spurius Orchard Oriole

I.s.spurius

Icterus cucullatus Hooded Oriole

I.c.nelsoni

Icterus bullockii¹¹⁶ Bullock's Oriole*

I.b.bullockii

Icterus galbula¹³⁶ Baltimore Oriole*

Family: Fringillidae

Subfamily: Fringillinae

Fringilla montifringilla Brambling

Subfamily: Carduelinae

Leucosticte tephrocotis¹¹⁷ Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch*

L.t.littoralis L.t.tephrocotis

Littephrocons

Pinicola enucleator Pine Grosbeak*

P.e.leucurus
P.e.flammula
P.e.carlottae
P.e.montanus

Carpodacus purpureus Purple Finch*

C.p.purpureus C.p.californicus

Carpodacus cassinii Cassin's Finch*
Carpodacus mexicanus House Finch*

C.m.frontalis

¹¹⁶ These species were formerly combined as a single species, Northern Oriole (*I.galbula*) but were split by the AOU in 1995.

¹¹⁷ Formerly known as Rosy Finch (*L.arctoa*), but this species has now (as of 1998) been segregated from other forms of rosy-finch in the western U.S. and eastern Asia.

Loxia curvirostra¹¹⁸ Red Crossbill*

L.c.bendirei L.c.sitkensis

Loxia leucoptera White-winged Crossbill*

L.l.leucoptera

Acanthis flammea Common Redpoll*

A.f.flammea

Acanthis hornemanni Hoary Redpoll

A.h.exilipes

Spinus pinus Pine Siskin*

S.p.pinus

Spinus psaltria Lesser Goldfinch

S.p.hesperophila

Spinus tristis American Goldfinch*

S.t.pallidus S.t.jewetti

Chloris sinica¹¹⁹ Oriental Greenfinch

C.s.kawarahiba

Coccothraustes vespertinus Evening Grosbeak*

C.v.brooksi

Family: Passeridae

Passer domesticus (I) House Sparrow*

P.d.domesticus

¹¹⁸ Subspecific taxonomy of this species remains unresolved, and the subspecies presented here are likely not truly representative of the variation in this species. Morphological, vocal, and behavioural evidence suggests that this "species" is actually a group of 8-9 "cryptospecies" (known as "types") in North America. Six of these forms occur in British Columbia: Type 1, Type 2, Type 3, Type 4, Type 5, and Type 7.

¹¹⁹ First recorded in B.C. in 2009 at François Lake

Excluded Species

Anser erythropus 120 Anser fabalis 121

A.f.middendorfii Aythya ferina¹²² Lophura nycthemera (I)¹²³

L.n.nycthemera Pavo cristatus (I)¹²⁴

Centrocercus urophasianus (X)¹²⁵

C.u.phaios

Oreortyx pictus (I, X)¹²⁶

O.p.palmeri

Colinus virginianus (I, X)¹²⁷

C.v.virginianus Gavia arctica¹²⁸

G.a.viridigularis

Pterodroma sandwichensis¹²⁹ Calonectris leucomelas¹³⁰

Puffinus gravis¹³¹ Puffinus pacificus¹³² Sula nebouxii¹³³

S.n.nebouxii Sula dactylatra¹³⁴

S.d.personata

Gymnogyps californianus (X)¹³⁵

Lesser White-fronted Goose

Taiga Bean-Goose

Common Pochard Silver Pheasant*

Common Peafowl* Greater Sage-Grouse*?

Mountain Quail*

Northern Bobwhite*

Arctic Loon

Hawaiian Petrel Streaked Shearwater **Great Shearwater**

Wedge-tailed Shearwater

Blue-footed Booby

Masked Booby

California Condor

31

¹²⁰ Photo-documented from southern Vancouver Island in December 1990; origin considered questionable.

¹²¹ First recorded in B.C. in 2009 from Port Alberni, Vancouver Island (although a previous sight record exists for nearby Parksville); neither of these records is represented by definitive photographic evidence.

¹²² Photo-documented from southern Vancouver Island in October 2010; origin considered questionable.

¹²³ A small but stable (expanding?) feral population occurs around Nanaimo on Vancouver Island

¹²⁴ A small but apparently stable feral population occurs locally on southern Vancouver Island (Langford, Saanich) and on the southern Gulf Islands (Saltspring Island, Sidney Island)

¹²⁵ Several historic records of this species are known from the southern Okanagan Valley, but this species has not been recorded in the province since 1918 and is considered extirpated. It is considered to have formerly been a rare resident and breeder in the Okanagan Valley.

An introduced population on southern Vancouver Island persisted for over 90 years before becoming extirpated in the 1980s.

¹²⁷ Introduced populations in the Lower Mainland persisted from the early 1900s until the 1970s, although no individual releases resulted in populations that were established for more than a few decades. A relatively small additional introduced population may also persist locally near Midway (east of Osoyoos).

¹²⁸ This species has yet to be definitively documented in British Columbia, despite several intriguing sight reports and inconclusive (though likely valid) photographic evidence.

Apparently recorded off B.C. coast in 2010; details not released.

130 A single sight record from the Strait of Juan de Fuca in 2009 exists.

¹³¹ A single sight record from off Vancouver Island in 2000 is, unfortunately, not supported by conclusive

¹³² Sight records in 2009 from Hecate ~Strait and the Strait of Juan de Fuca are not supported by definitive

¹³³ The only report of this species in B.C. comes from waters off the Queen Charlotte Islands in 1995

¹³⁴ First recorded in B.C. in 2007 near Parksville, Vancouver Island

Buteo lineatus 136

B.l.elegans

Falco subbuteo 137

F.subbuteo

Numenius minutus 138 Limosa limosa¹³⁹

Calidris subminuta¹⁴⁰

Limnodromus semipalmatus 141

Lymnocryptes minimus 142

Scolopax minor 143

Brachyramphus perdix¹⁴⁴

Aethia pygmaea¹⁴⁵

Ectopistes migratorius $(X)^{146}$ Chaetura pelagica¹⁴⁷

Empidonax occidentalis 148

E.o.hellmayri Pyrocephalus rubinus¹⁴⁹

P.r.flammeus¹⁵⁰

Red-shouldered Hawk

Eurasian Hobby

Little Curlew

Black-tailed Godwit

Long-toed Stint

Asiatic Dowitcher

Jack Snipe

American Woodcock

Long-billed Murrelet

Whiskered Auklet

Passenger Pigeon

Chimney Swift

Cordilleran Flycatcher*?

Vermilion Flycatcher

¹³⁵ Known in B.C. only from historical (pre-1900) records. The occurrence of this species in the province is considered extirpated since the remaining population in California and Arizona is so tiny and is exceedingly unlikely ever to occur in this region again at any time in the foreseeable future.

¹³⁶ A recent unconfirmed sight record was made on southern Vancouver Island (Metchosin) in 2009, although additional sight records for the early 20th century exist for the Chilliwack area

¹³⁷ Recently recorded from Sooke on southern Vancouver Island, but unfortunately no photographic documentation was obtained.

¹³⁸ Reported on two occasions from B.C., and at least one of these observations is accompanied by detailed field notes that appear to describe this species.

Reported from the Queen Charlotte Islands in spring 2010, but excluded until definitive field notes can be reviewed.

¹⁴⁰ This species was first recorded in B.C. from Iona Island, Vancouver in 2002

¹⁴¹ A 2001 sighting of this species on the Queen Charlotte Island was apparently well-documented, but as no field notes have been reviewed by the author it is currently excluded from the main body of this account. ¹⁴² First recorded in B.C. in 2009 from the Queen Charlotte Islands, although unfortunately no definitive

photographic evidence was obtained

^[43] Known in B.C. from a single 1960 record from Surrey, but the origin of this individual is considered uncertain by some authorities.

¹⁴⁴ First recorded in B.C. in 1994 at Charlie Lake (near Fort St.John); this species was subsequently observed near Sooke on southern Vancouver Island. Unfortunately, neither provincial record is supported by incontrovertible photographic evidence.

Known in B.C. only from a single unconfirmed sight record in 2001 from waters far off the Queen Charlotte Islands.

¹⁴⁶ This extinct species is known in B.C. only from historical (pre-1860) specimens.

¹⁴⁷ First recorded in B.C. in 2007 at Sooke, although there are other undocumented sight records from the south coast. Unfortunately, none of the B.C. records of this species are accompanied by photographic evidence.

¹⁴⁸ Considered part of the B.C. avifauna based on a presumed distribution in the extreme southeastern interior (Johnson, 1980) and occasional observations of males giving the correct call note for this species: apparent hybridization/introgression in this area with the nearly identical Pacific-slope Flycatcher clouds its true status in the province.

¹⁴⁹ First reported in B.C. in 1997 from the Creston Valley, although no photographic documentation exists for British Columbia.

¹⁵⁰ This western subspecies is the presumed source of the two B.C. records

Tyrannus savana¹⁵¹
T.s.savana
Vireo flavifrons¹⁵²
Turdus obscurus¹⁵³
Acridotheres cristatellus (I, X)¹⁵⁴

A.c.cristatellus
Phainopepla nitens¹⁵⁵
P.n.lepida
Vermiyora cyanoptera

Vermivora cyanoptera¹⁵⁶
Oreothlypis virginiae¹⁵⁷
Dendroica cerulea¹⁵⁸
Oporornis formosus¹⁵⁹
Pipilo erythrophthalmus¹⁶⁰
P.e.erythrophthalmus
Cardinalis cardinalis¹⁶¹

C.c.cardinalis

Fork-tailed Flycatcher

Yellow-throated Vireo Eye-browed Thrush Crested Myna*

Phainopepla

Blue-winged Warbler Virginia's Warbler Cerulean Warbler Kentucky Warbler Eastern Towhee

Northern Cardinal

1.4

¹⁵¹ This distinctive species was recently reported (2001) from the Okanagan Valley, although an additional well-documented sight record from the west coast (Flores Island) also exists

¹⁵² The only (poorly) documented record of this species for B.C. is a sight-record from Vaseux Lake, Okanagan Valley in 2001, although an additional record of a heard-only bird from southern Vancouver Island is also on file

¹⁵³ The single sight record from the Queen Charlotte Islands in 1996 is excluded pending review of any field notes that may exist.

¹⁵⁴ Introduced into the Vancouver area in the late 1800s and survived until 2003. Local populations on Vancouver Island (originating from the Vancouver population) all became extirpated by the 1960s.

¹⁵⁵ Several reports exist for the province, some of which may be accurate, but the documentation is not complete enough to warrant inclusion in the main body of the report. Additional evaluation of field notes, however, may bring to light additional information and the species may at some point be included.

¹⁵⁶ First reported in B.C. in 2008 from near Sooke on Vancouver Island, although unfortunately no photographs were obtained.

¹⁵⁷ This species has been reported once in B.C. (Langley, 1978), although the record has been considered hypothetical in most publications and should likely remain as such

Reported from the Creston Valley in June 1982, but no details published.

¹⁵⁹ First reported in B.C. in 2004 at Nanaimo, although no photographs were obtained.

¹⁶⁰ First reliably reported in B.C. in 2006 from Parksville, Vancouver Island (sight record), but this species is notoriously misidentified in the province (due to our unusually dark Spotted Towhees) and additional evidence may be required for full acceptance of this species on the main list.

¹⁶¹ A bird matching the description of this distinctive species was reported from near Prince George in 1994; however, the sighting was never independently verified. This species is expanding in the east and increasingly being reported as a vagrant as far west as Alberta