

Naturalist Journeys, LLC  
2011 ALASKA BIRD LIST

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<b>Gr White-fronted Goose -</b>	A scattering of individuals throughout Denali's wetlands.
<b>Canada Goose -</b>	Ubiquitous anywhere in interior of Alaska with farmed fields & water.
<b>Cackling Canada Goose -</b>	Small groups of <i>taverneri</i> on Safety Sound.
<b>Emperor Goose -</b>	A pair at the Safety Sound bridge were outstanding!
<b>Brant -</b>	Late migrants were scattered along Safety Sound out of Nome.
<b>Trumpeter Swan -</b>	The best views were of nesting birds from the Anchorage-bound train.
<b>Tundra Swan -</b>	About 200 of these birds were concentrated along Safety Sound.
<b>Gadwall -</b>	A male and female were feeding in Westchester Lagoon in Anchorage (ANC)
<b>American Wigeon -</b>	Probably the second most common waterfowl in our travels.
<b>Mallard -</b>	Certainly not a common bird on this trip, with five being the high count.
<b>N. Shoveler -</b>	The white belly & dark head made for easy identification.
<b>N. Pintail -</b>	The most common waterfowl on our trip - everywhere.
<b>Green-winged Teal -</b>	Small numbers of this handsome bird were seen in all areas of Alaska.
<b>Ring-necked Duck -</b>	A pair of birds were spotted in the kettle ponds on Denali Road.
<b>Greater Scaup -</b>	The "common" scaup for our trip. In most freshwater ponds.
<b>Lesser Scaup -</b>	A few individuals of this "peak-headed" species. Best looks in Denali.
<b>Common Eider -</b>	Safety Sound had scattered pairs of the subtle female & gaudy male.
<b>Harlequin Duck -</b>	Fine looks at this striking bird in Nome & along the Seward shoreline.
<b>Surf Scoter -</b>	Our boat trip produced for us lingering looks at sea duck pairs.
<b>Black Scoter -</b>	A flock at the Nome harbor gave us great looks at the "Velvet" Scoter.
<b>Long-tailed Duck -</b>	Numerous pairs with the best look at a striking male on Kougarok Rd.
<b>Bufflehead -</b>	A pair on Westchester Lagoon was all we saw.
<b>Common Goldeneye -</b>	A gorgeous male seen from the train to Anchorage.
<b>Barrow's Goldeneye -</b>	Common in the waters around Seward.
<b>Red-breasted Merganser -</b>	Loose groups in the ocean opposite Safety Sound.
<b>Willow Ptarmigan -</b>	Often seen perched along side all the roads in Nome.
<b>Rock Ptarmigan -</b>	Teller Road out of Nome had scattered individuals on rocky sentinels.
<b>Red-throated Loon -</b>	Beautiful alternate plumaged adults on small ponds throughout Nome.
<b>Pacific Loon -</b>	An alternate plumaged adult on Safety Sound.
<b>Common Loon -</b>	A stunning adult on Wonder Lake.
<b>Horned Grebe -</b>	A pair were building a nest on a kettle pond in Denali!
<b>Red-necked Grebe -</b>	The best view was on Westchester Lagoon of nesting adults!
<b>N. Fulmar -</b>	One dark phase adult were seen by a few around the Chiswells.
<b>Sooty Shearwater -</b>	A fly by on our pelagic trip to NW Glacier out of Seward.
<b>Double-crested Cormorant</b>	Numerous on Resurrection Bay out of Seward.
<b>Red-faced Cormorant -</b>	Vibrant birds off of the Chiswell Islands out of Seward!
<b>Pelagic Cormorant -</b>	White-thighed adults were the most common cormorant in SE Alaska.
<b>Bald Eagle -</b>	The common raptor on the trip, but stunning every time we saw one.
<b>Northern Harrier -</b>	More common than you would think in AK. Everywhere!
<b>Rough-legged Hawk -</b>	Only saw one on Teller Road.
<b>Golden Eagle -</b>	A nesting pair on the Kougarok gave us our best looks.
<b>Merlin -</b>	A single individual blasted by us on Safety Sound.
<b>Gyr Falcon -</b>	The best look at this striking falcon was on Kougarok Road.
<b>Sandhill Crane -</b>	Large rust and gray-colored birds were feeding in Cook Inlet.
<b>Black-bellied Plover -</b>	Stunning alternate plumaged birds along the road to Cape Wooley, Nome

<b>Am. Golden Plover -</b>	Seemed to be on every nearly level slope in Nome. Gorgeous!
<b>Pacific Golden Plover -</b>	Not as common as the above, but in the same habitat.
<b>Semipalmated Plover –</b>	Usually found along the Nome Roads defending territories.
<b>Black Oystercatcher –</b>	From our boat on rocky outcrops of the bay near Seward
<b>Spotted Sandpiper -</b>	Along Safety Sound in the Nome area.
<b>Solitary Sandpiper -</b>	A solitary individual gave us looks alongside a Lesser Yellowlegs in Denali..
<b>Wandering Tattler -</b>	A pair was seen roosting along the Kougarok Road.
<b>Greater Yellowlegs -</b>	Westchester Lagoon had a single bird along the coastal side.
<b>Lesser Yellowlegs –</b>	Seen on the kettle ponds deep inside Denali.
<b>Whimbrel -</b>	A pair chasing a jaeger were well lit by Nome’s morning light.
<b>Bristle-thighed Curlew -</b>	A beautiful individual circled overhead calling & then landed nearby, score!
<b>Bar-tailed Godwit –</b>	The Situk River had a solitary individual.
<b>Semipalmated Sandpiper –</b>	Their aerial displays wowed all of us. What stamina!
<b>Western Sandpiper –</b>	Their hunch-backed territorial displays in Nome were easily recognized
<b>Spotted Sandpiper -</b>	Any freshwater or rocky shoreline had a pair.
<b>Least Sandpiper –</b>	No breeding individuals, but scattered groups in Nome were present.
<b>Dunlin -</b>	This black-bellied sandpiper was on the Cape Wooley Road.
<b>Long-billed Dowitcher –</b>	Great looks at an alternate plumaged individual on a kettle pond.
<b>Wilson’s Snipe –</b>	Their aerial displays in and around Nome brought all eyes skyward.
<b>Red-necked Phalarope –</b>	The appropriate sized pond in Nome usually had a pair.
<b>Black-legged Kittiwake –</b>	Nesting colonies at the outlet of Resurrection Bay were a treat!
<b>Sabine’s Gull -</b>	A nice adult in the ocean along Safety Sound.
<b>Bonaparte’s Gull -</b>	Seen in the kettle ponds along the Denali Road.
<b>Mew Gull –</b>	Common everywhere in Alaska. The loud call resonated everywhere!
<b>Herring Gull -</b>	Individuals scattered around Alaska.
<b>Glaucous-winged Gull –</b>	Westchester Lagoon and Seward each had a of worn individual.
<b>Glaucous Gull –</b>	The gull in Nome!!!
<b>Aleutian Tern -</b>	The colony at the Bonanza bridge were gone but had a flyby in Nome.
<b>Arctic Tern -</b>	The “common” tern in most of our stops in Alaska.
<b>Parasitic Jaeger –</b>	An individual appeared to be searching for the AGPI’s nest at Wooley
<b>Pomeraine Jaeger -</b>	A nice adult on the way to Safety Sound
<b>Long-tailed Jaeger -</b>	The most common and agile aerial hunter in areas around Nome.
<b>Common Murre –</b>	The “common” alcid on our boat trip thru Resurrection Bay.
<b>Pigeon Guillemot –</b>	Not as common as the Common Murre, but plenty of pairs on the boat trip.
<b>Marbled Murrelet -</b>	Seen from shore in Seward quite close to shore. Great looks!
<b>Kittlitz’s Murrelet –</b>	Just outside the ice floe from the Northwestern Glacier.
<b>Ancient Murrelet -</b>	There were a few small flocks out in the Chiswells.
<b>Cassin’s Auklet -</b>	A few flybys by the Humpback Whales.
<b>Rhinoceros Auklet –</b>	We saw them from the boat, but mostly from the back as they flew.
<b>Horned Puffin –</b>	Abundant out by the Chiswell Islands.
<b>Tufted Puffin –</b>	More abundant than the Horned and usually in pairs.
<b>Rock Pigeon -</b>	In Anchorage and Fairbanks.
<b>Belted Kingfisher -</b>	A single bird by the River’s Edge Resort.
<b>Downy Woodpecker -</b>	A female gathering food at Westchester Lagoon was one of two
<b>N. Flicker –</b>	We had one Yellow-shafted with all the others being Red-shafted.
<b>Olive-sided Flycatcher –</b>	On the “Moderate” hike at Camp Denali.
<b>Alder Flycatcher –</b>	Calling in Fairbanks and a few in Nome.
<b>Say’s Phoebe -</b>	Interesting to see this desert dweller along the Denali Road.
<b>N. Shrike -</b>	A single bird in the Safety Sound area.
<b>Gray Jay –</b>	Camp robbers were in the campground in Chugach National Forest.
<b>Steller’s Jay -</b>	Along the roadside between Seward and Anchorage.

<b>Black-billed Magpie -</b>	Everywhere in the lower part of the state, especially in urban areas
<b>Northwestern Crow –</b>	Seward had their fair share of these coastal crows.
<b>Common Raven –</b>	An incredibly adaptive bird given that it was in all habitats.
<b>Tree Swallow –</b>	The most common of the swallows, especially in Fairbanks.
<b>Violet-green Swallow –</b>	Loosely associated with Tree Swallow flocks in migration north.
<b>N. Rough-winged Swallow-</b>	A pair in the Anchorage area were the only ones.
<b>Bank Swallow –</b>	On the Seward Highway and in Seward at exposed sandy cliffs.
<b>Cliff Swallow -</b>	Common in Anchorage and other areas of the state.
<b>Barn Swallow –</b>	A few individuals as far north as Nome.
<b>Black-capped Chickadee –</b>	In the forests of Fairbanks and Seward.
<b>Boreal Chickadee -</b>	One individual nesting behind ABO in Fairbanks.
<b>Red-breasted Nuthatch-</b>	A pair entertained us near the Copper Whale Inn.
<b>American Dipper -</b>	One along the road between Seward and Alyeska.
<b>Ruby-crowned Kinglet –</b>	Common singers in Anchorage and Fairbanks woodlands.
<b>Arctic Warbler -</b>	First of the season bird in Denali was singing his head off.
<b>N. Wheatear –</b>	Good looks at a pair on Teller Road as they foraged together.
<b>Gray-cheeked Thrush –</b>	Singing in most willow filled draws I the Nome area.
<b>Swainson’s Thrush -</b>	Singing birds in the woodland behind our Fairbanks hotel.
<b>Hermit Thrush -</b>	In the Chugach National Forest campgrounds between Seward & ANC.
<b>American Robin –</b>	Hard to miss this red-breasted singer anywhere there were fields.
<b>Varied Thrush –</b>	Great looks in the Chugach National Forest.
<b>European Starling -</b>	In ANC, Seward and Fairbanks.
<b>E. Yellow Wagtail –</b>	Seen on all three roads out of Nome!
<b>American Pipit –</b>	Along side the road in the Nome area.
<b>Bohemian Waxwing -</b>	Great looks at a small flock in the Georgeson Botanic Gardens.
<b>Lapland Longspur -</b>	All along the Safety Sound road.
<b>Orange-crowned Warbler –</b>	Bright Alaska males were singing their hearts out.
<b>Yellow Warbler -</b>	Common where trees were available for singing.
<b>Yellow-rumped Warbler –</b>	We only saw Myrtle’s on this trip, and the males were stunning.
<b>Townsend’s Warbler -</b>	A singing male in the woodlands behind the Alyeska was all we had.
<b>Blackpoll Warbler -</b>	Scattered here and there were these long distance migrants!
<b>N. Waterthrush -</b>	The most robust singer of all the birds we saw in Nome area creeks.
<b>Wilson’s Warbler –</b>	Along side most creeks and rivers in Alaska, it was not uncommon.
<b>American Tree Sparrow –</b>	Very common in the Nome area sitting atop a perch and singing.
<b>Savannah Sparrow –</b>	Grassy fields in Alaska always had a pair for us to view.
<b>Fox Sparrow –</b>	Bright rufous and gray birds were not shy about belting out their song
<b>Lincoln’s Sparrow -</b>	Along Westchester Lagoon.
<b>Song Sparrow –</b>	This race was larger and darker than their southern races.
<b>White-crowned Sparrow –</b>	The Gambel’s race of this species was very common – everywhere.
<b>Golden-crowned Sparrow –</b>	Stunningly bright headed individuals were everywhere in Nome.
<b>Dark-eyed Junco –</b>	Slate-colored individuals were in woodland understory in ANC & FBK.
<b>Lapland Longspur -</b>	Common and striking in their alternate plumage in the Nome area.
<b>Rusty Blackbird -</b>	An individual in the Creamer fields in FBK was the only one we saw.
<b>Brewer’s Blackbird –</b>	Common all around Anchorage.
<b>Pine Grosbeak -</b>	A pair feeding in a tree in Seward were a great surprise!
<b>Common Redpoll –</b>	The less “common of the two redpolls in the Nome area.
<b>Hoary Redpoll –</b>	We found these guys on the edge of snow in most areas of Nome.
<b>Pine Siskin -</b>	All over the Alyeska grounds.
<b>English House Sparrow-</b>	In ANC along Cook Inlet and Westchester Lagoon.

## MAMMALS

<b>Common Muskrat -</b>	Seen building a nest along Westchester Lagoon
<b>Beaver –</b>	A few sightings during daylight hours on the train ride to Anchorage.
<b>Hoary Marmot -</b>	In the rocks around Nome.
<b>Arctic Ground Squirrel –</b>	Everywhere in Nome and Denali. Essentially a bear and fox burrito.
<b>Vole -</b>	Seen trying to cross the trail in Fairbanks.
<b>Pica -</b>	In the rocks at Denali.
<b>Red Squirrel -</b>	Common around the forests of Alaska.
<b>Arctic Hare –</b>	Always on the road in Denali while expired individuals perched in trees.
<b>Caribou -</b>	Along the Denali Road in small herds.
<b>Reindeer -</b>	All around the Nome area.
<b>Moose –</b>	The individuals we saw in Alaska were primarily in Denali NP.
<b>Musk Ox –</b>	Groups were common in the hills in and around Nome.
<b>Mountain Goat –</b>	We saw small numbers on the cliffs of Resurrection Bay in Seward.
<b>Dall’s Sheep –</b>	Always seen on Turnagain and many herds in Denali.
<b>Red Fox -</b>	Three different individuals on our trip.
<b>Black Bear -</b>	Mostly on the Resurrection Bay boat trip.
<b>Grizzly Bear -</b>	The best was the sow and three cubs on the Denali Road.
<b>N. Sea Otter –</b>	Common in Resurrection Bay fjords as we boated various inlets.
<b>Steller Sea Lion –</b>	Large groups of this somewhat rare sea lion were hauled out on rocks.
<b>Harbor Seal -</b>	Lots of females with pups on the glacier ice flows.
<b>Killer Whale -</b>	Resurrection Bay had two pods of these charismatic predators.
<b>Humpback Whale –</b>	Cow/calf pairs & bulls were sighted a number of times from the boat.
<b>Fin Whale -</b>	One individual in Resurrection Bay.
<b>Dall’s Porpoise -</b>	Numerous animals left rooster tails around our boat.

**24 TOTAL**