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2011 ALASKA BIRD LIST

Gr White-fronted Goose	A scattering of individuals throughout Denali's wetlands.
Canada Goose	Ubiquitous anywhere in interior of Alaska with farmed fields & water.
Cackling Canada Goose	Small groups of taverneri on Safety Sound.
Emperor Goose	A pair at the Safety Sound bridge were outstanding!
Brant	Late migrants were scattered along Safety Sound out of Nome.
Trumpeter Swan	The best views were of nesting birds from the Anchorage-bound train.
Tundra Swan	About 200 of these birds were concentrated along Safety Sound.
Gadwall	A male and female were feeding in Westchester Lagoon in ANC.
American Wigeon	Probably the second most common waterfowl in our travels.
Mallard	Certainly not a common bird on this trip, with five being the high count.
N. Shoveler	The white belly & dark head made for easy identification.
N. Pintail	The most common waterfowl on our trip – everywhere.
Green-winged Teal	Small numbers of this handsome bird were seen in all areas of Alaska.
Ring-necked Duck	A pair of birds were spotted in the kettle ponds on Denali Road.
Greater Scaup	The "common" scaup for our trip. In most freshwater ponds.
Lesser Scaup	A few individuals of this "peaked" species. Best looks in Denali.
Common Eider	Safety Sound had scattered pairs of the subtle female & gaudy male.
Harlequin Duck	Fine looks at this striking bird in Nome & along the Seward shoreline.
Surf Scoter	Our boat trip produced lingering sea duck pairs.
Black Scoter	A flock at the Nome harbor gave us great looks at the Velvet Scoter.
Long-tailed Duck	Numerous pairs with the best look at a striking male on Kougarauk Rd.
Bufflehead	A pair on Westchester Lagoon was all we saw.
Common Goldeneye	A gorgeous male seen from the train to Anchorage.
Barrow's Goldeneye	Common in the waters around Seward.
Red-breasted Merg	Loose groups in the ocean opposite Safety Sound.
Willow Ptarmigan	Often seen perched alongside all the roads in Nome.
Rock Ptarmigan	Teller Road out of Nome had scattered individuals on rocky sentinels.
Red-throated Loon	Beautiful alternate plumaged adults on small ponds throughout Nome.
Pacific Loon	An alternate plumaged adult on Safety Sound.
Common Loon	A stunning adult on Wonder Lake.
Horned Grebe	A pair were building a nest on a kettle pond in Denali!
Red-necked Grebe	The best view was on Westchester Lagoon of nesting adults!
N. Fulmar	One dark phase adult were seen by a few around the Chiswells.

Sooty Shearwater	A fly by on our pelagic trip to NW Glacier out of Seward.
Double-crested Corm	Numerous on Resurrection Bay out of Seward.
Red-faced Cormorant	Vibrant birds off of the Chiswell Islands out of Seward!
Pelagic Cormorant	White-thighed adults were the most common cormorant in SE Alaska.
Bald Eagle	The common raptor on the trip, but stunning every time we saw one.
Northern Harrier	More common than you would think in AK. Everywhere!
Rough-legged Hawk	Only saw one on Teller Road.
Golden Eagle	A nesting pair on the Kougarok gave us our best looks.
Merlin	A single individual blasted by us on Safety Sound.
Gyrfalcon	The best look at this striking falcon was on Kougarok Road.
Sandhill Crane	Large rust and gray-colored birds were feeding in Cook Inlet.
Black-bellied Plover	Stunning alternate plumaged birds along the road to Cape Wooley.
Am. Golden Plover	Seemed to be on every nearly level slope in Nome. Gorgeous!
Pacific Golden Plover	Not as common as the above, but in the same habitat.
Semipalmated Plover	Usually found along the Nome Roads defending territories.
Black Oystercatcher	From our boat along the Seward Peninsula.
Spotted Sandpiper	Along Safety Sound in the Nome area.
Solitary Sandpiper	A solitary individual gave us looks along side a LeYe in Denali..
Wandering Tattler	A pair was seen roosting along the Kougarok Road.
Greater Yellowlegs	Westchester Lagoon had a single bird along the coastal side.
Lesser Yellowlegs	Seen on the kettle ponds deep inside Denali.
Whimbrel	A pair chasing a jaeger were well lit by Nome's morning light.
Bristle-thighed Curlew	A beautiful individual circled overhead calling & then landed nearby.
Bar-tailed Godwit	The Situk River had a solitary individual.
Semipalmated Sandpiper	Their aerial displays wowed all of us. What stamina!
Western Sandpiper	Their hunch-backed territorial displays in Nome were easily recognized
Spotted Sandpiper	Any freshwater or rocky shoreline had a pair.
Least Sandpiper	No breeding individuals, but scattered groups in Nome were present.
Dunlin	This black-bellied sandpiper was on the Cape Wooley Road.
Long-billed Dowitcher	Great looks at an alternate plumaged individual on a kettle pond.
Wilson's Snipe	Their aerial displays in and around Nome brought all eyes skyward.
Red-necked Phalarope	The appropriate sized pond in Nome usually had a pair.
Black-legged Kittiwake	Nesting colonies at the outlet of Resurrection Bay were a treat!
Sabine's Gull	A nice adult in the ocean along Safety Sound.
Bonaparte's Gull	In the kettle ponds along the Denali Road.
Mew Gull	Common everywhere in Alaska. The loud call resonated everywhere!
Herring Gull	Individuals scattered around Alaska.
Glaucous-winged Gull	Westchester Lagoon and Seward each had a of worn individual.
Glaucous Gull	The gull in Nome!!!
Aleutian Tern	The colony at the Bonanza bridge were gone but had a flyby in Nome.
Arctic Tern	The "common" tern in most of our stops in Alaska.
Parasitic Jaeger	An individual appeared to be searching for the AGPI's nest at Wooley
Pomeraine Jaeger	A nice adult on the way to Safety Sound
Long-tailed Jaeger	The most common and agile aerial hunter in areas around Nome.
Common Murre	The "common" alcid on our boat trip thru Resurrection Bay.
Pigeon Guillemot	Not as common as the murre, but plenty of pairs on the boat trip.

Marbled Murrelet	Seen from shore in Seward quite close to shore. Great looks!
Kittlitz's Murrelet	Just outside the ice floe from the Northwestern Glacier.
Ancient Murrelet	There were a few small flocks out in the Chiswells.
Cassin's Auklet	A few flybys by the Humpback Whales.
Rhinoceros Auklet	We saw them from the boat, but mostly from the back as they flew.
Horned Puffin	Abundant out by the Chiswell Islands.
Tufted Puffin	More abundant than the Horned and usually in pairs.
Rock Pigeon	In Anchorage and Fairbanks.
Belted Kingfisher	A single bird by the River's Edge Resort.
Downy Woodpecker	A female gathering food at Westchester Lagoon was one of two
N. Flicker	We had one Yellow-shafted with all the others being Red-shafted.
Olive-sided Flycatcher	On the "Moderate" hike at Camp Denali.
Alder Flycatcher	Calling in Fairbanks and a few in Nome.
Say's Phoebe	Interesting to see this desert dweller along the Denali Road.
N. Shrike	A single bird in the Safety Sound area.
Gray Jay	Camp robbers were in the campground in Chugach National Forest.
Steller's Jay	Along the roadside between Seward and Anchorage.
Black-billed Magpie	Everywhere in the lower part of the state, especially in urban areas
Northwestern Crow	Seward had their fair share of these coastal crows.
Common Raven	An incredibly adaptive bird given that it was in all habitats.
Tree Swallow	The most common of the swallows, especially in Fairbanks.
Violet-green Swallow	Loosely associated with Tree Swallow flocks in migration north.
N. Rough-winged Swallow	A pair in the Anchorage area were the only ones
Bank Swallow	On the Seward Highway and in Seward at exposed sandy cliffs.
Cliff Swallow	Common in Anchorage and other areas of the state.
Barn Swallow	A few individuals as far north as Nome.
Black-capped Chickadee	In the forests of Fairbanks and Seward.
Boreal Chickadee	One individual nesting behind ABO in Fairbanks.
Red-breasted Nuthatch	A pair entertained us near the Copper Whale Inn.
American Dipper	One along the road between Seward and Alyeska.
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Common singers in Anchorage and Fairbanks woodlands.
Arctic Warbler	First of the season bird in Denali was singing his head off.
N. Wheatear	Good looks at a pair on Teller Road as they foraged together.
Gray-cheeked Thrush	Singing in most willow filled draws in the Nome area.
Swainson's Thrush	Singing birds in the woodland behind our Fairbanks hotel.
Hermit Thrush	In the Chugach National Forest campgrounds between Seward & ANC.
American Robin	Hard to miss this red-breasted singer anywhere there were fields.
Varied Thrush	Great looks in the Chugach National Forest.
European Starling	In Anchorage, Seward and Fairbanks.
E. Yellow Wagtail	Seen on all three roads out of Nome!
American Pipit	Alongside the road in the Nome area.
Bohemian Waxwing	Great looks at a small flock in the Georgeson Botanic Gardens.
Lapland Longspur	All along the Safety Sound road.
Orange-crowned Warbler	Bright Alaska males were singing their hearts out.
Yellow Warbler	Common where trees were available for singing.
Yellow-rumped Warbler	We only saw Myrtle's on this trip, and the males were stunning.

Townsend's Warbler	A singing male in the woodlands behind the Alyeska was all we had.
Blackpoll Warbler	Scattered here and there were these long distance migrants!
N. Waterthrush	The most robust singer of all the birds we saw in Nome area creeks.
Wilson's Warbler	Along side most creeks and rivers in Alaska, it was not uncommon.
American Tree Sparrow	Very common in the Nome area sitting atop a perch and singing.
Savannah Sparrow	Grassy fields in Alaska always had a pair for us to view.
Fox Sparrow	Bright rufous and gray birds were not shy about belting out their song
Lincoln's Sparrow	Along Westchester Lagoon.
Song Sparrow	This race was larger and darker than their southern races.
White-crowned Sparrow	The Gambel's race of this species was very common – everywhere.
Golden-crowned Sparrow	Stunningly bright headed individuals were everywhere in Nome.
Dark-eyed Junco	Slate-colored individuals were in woodland understory in ANC & FBK.
Lapland Longspur	Common and striking in their alternate plumage in the Nome area.
Rusty Blackbird	An individual in the Creamer fields in FBK was the only one we saw.
Brewer's Blackbird	Common all around Anchorage.
Pine Grosbeak	A pair feeding in a tree in Seward were a great surprise!
Common Redpoll	The less "common of the two redpolls in the Nome area.
Hoary Redpoll	We found these guys on the edge of snow in most areas of Nome.
Pine Siskin	All over the Alyeska grounds.
English House Sparrow	In Anchorage along Cook Inlet and Westchester Lagoon.

145 TOTAL

MAMMALS

Common Muskrat	Seen building a nest along Westchester Lagoon
Beaver	A few sightings during daylight hours on the train ride to Anchorage.
Hoary Marmot	In the rocks around Nome.
Arctic Ground Squirrel	Everywhere in Nome and Denali. Essentially a bear and fox burrito.
Vole	Seen trying to cross the trail in Fairbanks.
Pica	In the rocks at Denali.
Red Squirrel	Common around the forests of Alaska.
Arctic Hare	Always on the road in Denali while expired individuals perched in trees.
Caribou	Along the Denali Road in small herds.
Reindeer	All around the Nome area.
Moose	The individuals we saw in Alaska were primarily in Denali NP.
Musk Ox	Groups were common in the hills in and around Nome.
Mountain Goat	We saw small numbers on the cliffs of Resurrection Bay in Seward. Dall's
Bighorn Sheep	Always on Turnagain and many herds in Denali.
Red Fox	Three different individuals on our trip.
Black Bear	Mostly on the Resurrection Bay boat trip.
Grizzly Bear	The best was the sow and three cubs on the Denali Road.
N. Sea Otter	Common in Resurrection Bay fjords as we boated various inlets.
Steller Sea Lion	Large groups of this somewhat rare sea lion were hauled out on rocks.
Harbor Seal	Lots of females with pups on the glacier ice flows.

Killer Whale
Humpback Whale
Fin Whale
Dall's Porpoise

Resurrection Bay had two pods of these charismatic predators.
Cow/calf pairs & bulls were sighted a number of times from the boat.
One individual in Resurrection Bay.
Numerous animals left rooster tails around our boat.

24 TOTAL