



Casa de San Pedro
BED & BREAKFAST



Southeast Alaska Tour Bird & Other Species List

With the Casa de San Pedro

August 18-24, 2016

With Juneau Bear-viewing extension Aug. 24-26

Peg Abbott, guide, with Patrick Dome and Karl Schmitt, hosts

with 9 participants: Margaret, Marv, Joy, Revin, Angie, Judy, Kathy, Jim & Sid

BIRDS: 57 species in 22 Families

Anatidae: Ducks, Geese and Swans (8)

Canada Goose *Branta canadensis*— We found small groups on the tidal areas around the docks at Gustavus, and heard these flocks calling as they flew overhead at the Inn. High count of 15

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*—Small numbers, 2-12, along the river near the Inn. We also saw about 20 while at Pack Creek.

Green-winged Teal *Anas crecca*—Eight seen on one day, walking along the river at the Inn, and we had a number in the tidal areas as we walked our final morning at Juneau

Harlequin Duck *Histrionicus histrionicus*—Six individuals seen off the Marble Islands on our Glacier Bay Cruise, in waves washing ashore

Surf Scoter *Melanitta perspicillata*—Massive numbers of this species, we saw groups of 300-1500 assembled in the bay, and then in the more open ocean. A massive flock was also lingering offshore at Pack Creek. All groups still had numerous bright-plumaged males

White-winged Scoter *Melanitta fusca*—Several mixed in with the far more numerous rafts of Surf Scoters, after we focused in on one we quite looking with a close eye, but under 20 individuals spotted without thorough examination

Common Merganser *Mergus merganser*— Noted on 3 days with a high count of 8

Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator*—Noted on 3 days with a high count of 12

Gaviidae: Loons (2)

Pacific Loon *Gavia pacifica*— One individual seen on Icy Straits on the day in our smaller fishing boats with Mike and Steve

Common Loon *Gavia immer*—Three seen on our day up Glacier Bay

Podicipedidae: Grebes (2)

Red-necked Grebe *Podiceps grisegena*—Three individuals seen around Gustavus on our third day, near the docks

Pelagic Cormorant *Phalacrocorax pelagicus*—Seen in good number on all our boat trips, high day count of 200

Ardeidae: Bitterns, Herons, and Allies (1)

Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias*— One individual seen near the dock at Glacier Bay, and then lone individuals seen on two other days around Gustavus

Accipitridae: Hawks, Kites, and Eagles (2)

Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentilis*— Seen on our day to Pack Creek on the extension, we watched an immature swoop down on a large flock of Bonaparte's Gulls assembled in the tidal river flats area. We then had it swoop another flock out on the edge of the delta, wow!

Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*— Certainly the signature species of Southeast Alaska, we had over a dozen on several days. On the day Peg and Sid went to Pack Creek, we noted 45! Great to hear vocalizations and see them perched regally

Haematopodidae: Oystercatchers (1)

Black Oystercatcher *Haematopus bachmani*— We had a group of 22 in a cove we visited to pick up some kayakers en route back from our day on Glacier Bay with the park service boat

Stercorariidae: Skuas and Jaegers (1)

Parasitic Jaeger *Stercorarius parasiticus*—We had one individuals spotted on each boat ride, plying across the waters, with lots of migrating phalaropes as potential prey

Alcidae: Alcids (8)

Common Murre *Uria aalge*— Present in Icy Straits in low number, typically 1-3 seen on each boat trip

Piegon Guillemot *Cephus columba*—Common in Icy Straits, seen on all boat trips, a high count of 200

Marbled Murrelet *Brachyramphus marmoratus*—Quite common, we saw them in Glacier Bay and in the open ocean, on our day out to the deeper water off Elfin Cove we passed big numbers with a high count of 400 that day

Kittlitz's Murrelet *Brachyramphus brevirostris*—Three seen with quite some searching on our day up Glacier Bay. The ranger showed us a recent survey and where their nests were, high on mountains on prominent points, wow!

Cassin's Auklet *Ptychoramphus aleuticus*—Seen on two days, the first in Glacier Bay and then we saw a couple on our whaling trip on the Taz

Rhinoceros Auklet *Cerorhinca monocerata*—We had super looks at one very close as we entered Elfin Cove

Tufted Puffin *Fratercula cirrhata*—A real trip favorite, seen on three days, with a high count of 40

Horned Puffin *Fratercula corniculata*—We found a few on our first day on Glacier Bay, but then had twenty as we explored the outer reaches of Elfin Cove

Laridae: Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers (4)

Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*—Massive flocks were feeding alongside whales in the rich waters of Icy Straits. The sound of their chattering was constant as we would stop the boat to take it all in. Humpback Whales spouting and kittiwake cries... On two days high counts of over 1000

Bonaparte's Gull *Chroicocephalus philadelphia*—We had six around the docks as we boarded the boat in Bartlett's Cove to go up Glacier Bay. At Pack Creek, Peg and Sid had 65 or more, on the bear-viewing extension

Mew Gull *Larus canus*—Seen around Juneau, and common around Gustavus, 2-25 per day noted

Glaucous-winged Gull *Larus glaucescens*— A very common gull in Glacier Bay, 35-75 not uncommon to see and a high count of 200 or more

Trochilidae: Hummingbirds (1)

Rufous Hummingbird *Selasphorus rufus*—Wonderful to see this species at close range in flowers and on feeders at the Inn, 1-2 per day

Alcedinidae: Kingfishers (1)

Belted Kingfisher *Megaceryle alcyon*—We saw one well at the Glacier Bay dock as we got on the park service boat. We had an individual each day, in different locations

Picidae: Woodpeckers and Allies (2)

Red-breasted Sapsucker *Sphyrapicus ruber*— We had great views of a pair, Peg, Margaret and Marv first spotted them and followed them to a fruiting Mountain Ash tree where they watched them feed on fruit. As the tree could be seen from the porch of the Inn, they shared this interesting sighting

Hairy Woodpecker *Picoides villosus*—Heard only during our main trip, on the walk around Nagoonberry Trail, but then seen on our walk in the ancient forest area near Juneau our last morning

Corvidae: Jays and Crows (3)

Steller's Jay *Cyanocitta stelleri*— Three individuals encountered in Juneau on our walk there

Northwestern Crow *Corvus caurinus*—We heard their nasal calls and watched them feed on beaches, poking around the tidal rack line, and cavorting with each other. Daily counts 2-6

Common Raven *Corvus corax*—Several seen per day, often in pairs, 2-8 individuals

Hirundinidae: Swallows (3)

Tree Swallow *Tachycineta bicolor*—Six seen in the strawberry fields near the Inn, but on one day mid-week

Violet-green Swallow *Tachycineta thalassina*— Four seen on the forest margin, the first walk we took after that first delicious dinner...

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*— Multiple individuals (high count of 12) were regularly flying above the strawberry fields across from the Inn, also flying along the beach at Bartlett Cove

Paridae: Chickades and Titmice (1)

Chestnut-backed Chickadee *Poecile rufescens*—These energetic chickadees were present on a daily basis when we were near woods or trees in the island's residential area, while it was challenging to get them to stay put long enough for a view, we prevailed and everyone got to enjoy them

Sittidae: Nuthatches (1)

Red-breasted Nuthatch *Sitta canadensis*— Seen in Juneau, with best looks on the ancient forest trail we walked our final morning

Troglodytidae: Wrens (1)

Pacific Wren *Troglodytes pacificus*—Seen on our outing to Glacier Bay for some birding – we had good looks at this little dynamo just as the van dropped us off. This was the day we set out to see the Tlingit people's Huna Tribal House, being dedicated later in the week to mark the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. We watched the tribal members arrive by canoe to Pleasant Island as we watched for Whales, and our kayakers got to meet them! On the walk from Juneau in lush ancient forest, we had six, all out and about for good views

Regulidae: Kinglets (2)

Golden-crowned Kinglet *Regulus satrapa*—This is a common species at Gustavus, seen on four of our days, in mixed flocks with chickadees

Ruby-crowned Kinglet *Regulus calendula*— Six individuals seen on our outing to Glacier Bay Lodge

Turdidae: Thrushes (3)

Hermit Thrush *Catharus guttatus*—One quick look at one crossing the trail on our Nagoonberry Trail and Revin, Angie, and Joy had one on a walk earlier in the week

American Robin *Turdus migratorius*—Common, seen 2-25 at a time around the Inn, often feeding in Mountain Ash trees that were loaded with fruit

Varied Thrush *Ixoreus naevius*— We expected this species to be easier to find, we had distant looks in a mixed groups with American Robin our first evening. We thought we'd have other chances, but it was not until a walk through an ancient forest in Juneau that we had another chance, there finding two individuals for quick looks

Bombycillidae: Waxwings (1)

Cedar Waxwing *Bombycilla cedrorum*—Seen in flight on two days, from the Inn

Parulidae: Wood-Warblers (6)

Orange-crowned Warbler *Oreothlypis celata*—This warbler seemed confiding, we saw them on our regular walk to the river from Inn. We found a couple off the boardwalk walking around Elfin Island, and we found them in the garden of the Inn, 1-2 at a time. Seen on four days

McGillivray's Warbler *Geothlypis tolmiei*—Peg heard this species as we walked at Glacier Bay Lodge, but it was persistent to stay in dense cover

Yellow Warbler *Setophaga petechia*—One seen in the garden on day 3

Yellow-rumped Warbler *Setophaga coronate*—A couple individuals encountered in a flock on our walk around the Nagoonberry Trail, and on the final morning, on a small road leading off the main road to "city hall"

Townsend's Warbler *Setophaga townsendi*— Two seen on the Nagoonberry Loop trail in a mixed flock

Wilson's Warbler *Cardellina pusilla*— Seen on three days, 1-3 individuals

Emberizidae: Emberizids (3)

Fox Sparrow *Passerella iliaca*— Five seen on the walk around Elfin Cove, good views

Dark-eyed Junco *Junco hyemalis*—This was the most numerous passerine we encountered, seen daily including in and around the gardens of the Inn. High count of 20

Lincoln's Sparrow *Melospiza lincolni*—We had just one look at this species on the main trip, by the bench we rested at on our Nagoonberry Trail loop

MAMMALS 11 species

Brown Bear *Ursus arctos*—We saw several on our cruise up Glacier Bay, and watched with awe as one HUGE male turned rocks the size of wheelbarrow over with ease, seeming to scrape mussels off the underside. We encountered a female with three fairly young cubs in an inlet, what a thrill

Harbor Seal *Phoca vitulina*—While watching the glacier calving on our boat cruise up Glacier Bay, we had several of this species hauled out on ice rafts, great views

Steller's Sea Lion *Eumetopias jubatus*—We had excellent looks at this threatened species, both in the water feeding, and on rocky islets where they rested. Seen on all boat trips

California Sea Lion *Zalophus californianus*—One individual that the park ranger located by its call, in with over 40 Steller Sea Lions near the Marble Islands in Glacier Bay

Sea Otter *Enhydra lutris*—Glacier Bay populations seem to be holding strong, we saw numerous individuals whenever on the ocean, and had close views in a vegetation island just off the coast. We also saw them far from any shallow waters, either in rafts together (20 or more) or even solo, often floating on their backs, perfectly at home in their realm. We did see mothers with young, and we saw them feeding on various prey.

Sitka Deer *Odocoileus hemionus*— Eagle-eye Revin spotted two deer feeding in the shore zone on one of the coastal islands

Mountain Goat *Oreamnos americanus*— We had good views of a couple individuals on steep cliffs that we viewed from our boat in Glacier Bay

Humpback Whale *Megaptera novaeangliae*—Not a one of us will forget the totally AMAZING views we got of Humpback Whales, repeatedly, all sizes, and many close to the boat on their own accord. We had a few distant breaching individuals, and many spouts, often we would drift quietly and one could look around and see a dozen or more whale breaths break the surface. With ice-sculptured mountains behind, it was mesmerizing. Seeing these great beasts feeding in the food-rich waters, having traveled so far for the feast, was a huge part of our satisfaction with the trip. Angie's smile at seeing her first Humpback Whale, and then seeing so many more, so close, made the whole trip worthwhile!

Killer Whale *Orcinus orca*— When we first saw the tall thin fluke break the water, we thought, "Wow!" But how could we ever have imagined that for over 15 minutes we would watch Orca literally leaping out of the water, their full bodies arching sideways. One youngster of the group leapt amid those ten times its size. Some told us that they had killed a Steller Sea Lion, we did not see that, but we did see a demonstration of their agility and strength we will long remember, and only a few 100 meters away!

Harbor Porpoise *Phocoena phocoena*— Patrick spotted a group moving swiftly and agilely between the boat and shore from the Taz, the larger boat we explored Glacier Bay on, looking for whales

Red Squirrel *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*— Seen daily when we were in the forest, both conifer and deciduous, 2-3 per day