

**SPECIES STATUS**

- Alder Flycatcher.....B
- Least Flycatcher.....B
- Eastern Phoebe.....B
- Say's Phoebe.....M
- Great Crested Flycatcher.....S
- Western Kingbird.....S
- Eastern Kingbird.....B

**Shrikes (Laniidae)**

- Northern Shrike.....Vw

**Vireos (Vireonidae)**

- Blue-headed Vireo.....B
- Warbling Vireo.....B
- Philadelphia Vireo.....B
- Red-eyed Vireo.....B

**Crows, Jays (Corvidae)**

- Gray Jay.....R
- Blue Jay.....B
- American Magpie.....B
- American Crow.....B
- Common Raven.....B, Vw

**Larks (Alaudidae)**

- Horned Lark.....M

**Swallows (Hirundinidae)**

- Tree Swallow.....B
- Bank Swallow.....B
- Barn Swallow.....B
- Cliff Swallow.....B

**Chickadees (Paridae)**

- Black-capped Chickadee.....R
- Boreal Chickadee.....B

**Nuthatches (Sittidae)**

- Red-breasted Nuthatch.....B, Vw
- White-breasted Nuthatch.....B

**Creepers (Certhiidae)**

- Brown Creeper.....B

**Wrens (Troglodytidae)**

- House Wren.....B
- Winter Wren.....B
- Sedge Wren.....B
- Marsh Wren.....B
- Rock Wren.....S

**Kinglets (Regulidae)**

- Golden-crowned Kinglet.....B
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet.....B

**Thrushes (Turdidae)**

- Mountain Bluebird.....M
- Veery.....M
- Gray-cheeked Thrush.....M
- Swainson's Thrush.....B
- Hermit Thrush.....B
- American Robin.....B
- Varied Thrush.....S (May, August)
- Townsend's Solitaire.....S (April, May)

**SPECIES STATUS**

**Starlings (Sturnidae)**

- European Starling.....B, Vw

**Mimic Thrushes (Mimidae)**

- Gray Catbird.....Vs
- Northern Mockingbird.....S(June)

**Pipits (Motacillidae)**

- American Pipit.....M

**Waxwings (Bombycillidae)**

- Bohemian Waxwing.....Vs, Vw
- Cedar Waxwing.....B

**Wood Warblers (Parulidae)**

- Tennessee Warbler.....B
- Orange-crowned Warbler.....B
- Nashville Warbler.....S (August)
- Yellow Warbler.....B
- Chestnut-sided Warbler.....B
- Magnolia Warbler.....B
- Cape May Warbler.....B
- Yellow-rumped Warbler.....B
- Black-throated Green Warbler.....B
- Blackburnian Warbler.....S (September)
- Palm Warbler.....B
- Bay-breasted Warbler.....B
- Blackpoll Warbler.....B
- Black-and-White Warbler.....B
- American Redstart.....B
- Ovenbird.....B
- Northern Waterthrush.....B
- Connecticut Warbler.....B
- Mourning Warbler.....B
- MacGillivray's Warbler.....S (August)
- Common Yellowthroat.....B
- Wilson's Warbler.....B
- Canada Warbler.....B

**Tanagers (Thraupidae)**

- Western Tanager.....B

**Sparrows (Emberizidae)**

- American Tree Sparrow.....M
- Chipping Sparrow.....B
- Clay-colored Sparrow.....B
- Vesper Sparrow.....B
- Savannah Sparrow.....B
- Le Conte's Sparrow.....B
- Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow.....B
- Fox Sparrow.....M
- Song Sparrow.....B
- Lincoln's Sparrow.....B
- Swamp Sparrow.....B
- White-throated Sparrow.....B
- White-crowned Sparrow.....M
- Harris's Sparrow.....M
- Dark-eyed Junco.....B
- McCown's Longspur.....S
- Lapland Longspur.....M
- Smith's Longspur.....M
- Snow Bunting.....Vw
- Lark Sparrow.....S

**SPECIES STATUS**

**Grosbeaks (Cardinalidae)**

- Rose-breasted Grosbeak.....B
- Lazuli Bunting.....S(May)

**Blackbirds, Orioles (Icteridae)**

- Red-winged Blackbird.....B
- Western Meadowlark.....Vs
- Yellow-headed Blackbird.....B
- Rusty Blackbird.....B
- Brewer's Blackbird.....B
- Common Grackle.....B
- Brown-headed Cowbird.....B
- Baltimore Oriole.....B

**Finches (Fringillidae)**

- Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch.....S(June)
- Pine Grosbeak.....Vw
- Purple Finch.....B
- Red Crossbill.....Vs
- White-winged Crossbill.....B, Vw
- Common Redpoll.....Vw
- Hoary Redpoll.....Vw
- Pine Siskin.....B
- American Goldfinch.....B
- Evening Grosbeak.....B, Vw

**Weaver Finches (Passeridae)**

- House Sparrow.....B

**Spot something unusual??**

Call the  
Northern Alberta Rare Bird Alert

**433-BIRD**

**WHAT DID YOU SEE?**

The Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory needs your help in keeping this checklist up to date. Please record, in the boxes provided, the number of individuals sighted for every species you encounter. Then, complete the following:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of sightings: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please submit completed checklist to:**

Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory  
P.O. Box 1076  
Slave Lake, AB TOG 2A0  
birds@lslbo.org  
www.lslbo.org

# Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory and Vicinity



*Dedicated to promoting bird  
conservation through research and  
education.*

# BIRD CHECKLIST

Updated June 2009

# WELCOME!!

The **Lesser Slave Lake** Region is wonderful for birding. There are a diversity of habitats with associated bird species.

**Boreal Mixedwood** forest, which includes mature forest, riparian habitat, wetlands and clearings is found at lower elevations. Higher up, the **Lower Foot-hills Ecoregion and Old Growth forest**. Occurs on Marten Mountain in Lesser Slave Lake Provincial Park. Don't forget the waterbirds along the extensive lake-shore!

The Lesser Slave Lake Bird Observatory (LSLBO) receives a high concentration of migratory **songbirds** because of its special location. Lesser Slave Lake is not only a major landmark, but the lakes and nearby Marten Mountain act as natural barriers to migrant birds. This "**Point Pelee effect**" funnels a great many birds through the narrow lowlands along the East lakeshore. In fact, **249 species of birds** have been recorded in the LSLBO vicinity to date!

## Important Bird Area

Lesser Slave Lake have been recognized as an Important Bird Area of Global Significance by BirdLife International. Large numbers of **Western Grebes** nest on the lake. Additionally, 2% of the western population of **Tundra Swans** stage and feed on Lesser Slave Lake During their spring and fall migrations. The incredible concentration of migratory songbirds is also significant.

## USING THIS CHECKLIST

This checklist includes the 249 bird species know to occur in the LSLBO vicinity. The Checklist follows the taxonomic order and nomenclature according to the American Ornithologist's Union (A.O.U.).

Each species on this checklist has been assigned one or more symbols to indicate its status in this area.

- R..... *resident* year round.
- B..... Regular or occasional *breeder*
- M..... Spring and/or fall *migrant* through area)
- Vs..... Non-breeding *summer visitor*
- Vw..... *Winter visitor*
- S..... (*stray* from known range or migratory route) *The month(s) in which a species has occurred as a stray, if known, accompanies this symbol.*

## SPECIES STATUS

- Loons (Gaviidae)**
- Common Loon.....B
  - Red Throated Loon.....S (May)
  - Yellow-billed Loon.....S (June, July)
  - Pacific Loon.....S

- Grebes (Podicipedidae)**
- Pied-billed Grebe.....B
  - Horned Grebe.....B
  - Red-necked Grebe.....B
  - Eared Grebe.....B
  - Western Grebe.....B

- Pelicans (Pelecanidae)**
- American White Pelican.....Vs

- Cormorants (Phalacrocoracidae)**
- Double-crested Cormorant.....Vs

- Hérons,Bitterns (Ardeidae)**
- American Bittern.....B
  - Great Blue Heron.....Vs

- Waterfowl (Anatidae)**
- Geese**
- Greater White-fronted Goose.....M
  - Snow Goose.....M
  - Canada Goose.....M
  - Brant.....S(sept)

- Swans**
- Trumpeter Swan.....Vs
  - Tundra Swan.....M

- Perching Ducks**
- Wood Duck.....S (May)

- Dabbling Ducks**
- Gadwall.....B
  - American Wigeon.....B
  - Mallard.....B
  - Blue-winged Teal.....B
  - Cinnamon Teal.....S (April, May)
  - Northern Shoveler.....B
  - Northern Pintail.....B
  - Green-winged Teal.....B
  - Eurasian Wigeon.....S(may)

- Diving Ducks**
- Canvasback.....B
  - Redhead.....B
  - Ring-necked Duck.....B
  - Greater Scaup.....M
  - Lesser Scaup.....B
  - Harlequin Duck.....S (June)
  - Surf Scoter.....M
  - White-winged Scoter.....B
  - Long-tailed Duck.....M
  - Bufflehead.....B
  - Common Goldeneye.....B
  - Barrow's Goldeneye.....S (May)
  - Hooded Merganser.....M
  - Red-breasted Merganser.....B
  - Common Merganser.....B

## SPECIES STATUS

- Stiff-tailed Ducks**
- Ruddy Duck.....B

- Osprey (Pandionidae)**
- Osprey.....B

- Hawks, Eagles, Harriers (Accipitridae)**
- Bald Eagle.....B
  - Northern Harrier.....B
  - Sharp-shinned Hawk.....B
  - Cooper's Hawk.....B
  - Northern Goshawk.....B
  - Broad-winged Hawk.....B
  - Swainson's Hawk.....S (September)
  - Red-tailed Hawk.....B
  - Rough-legged Hawk.....M
  - Golden Eagle.....M

- Falcons (Falconidae)**
- American Kestrel.....B
  - Merlin.....B
  - Peregrine Falcon.....M, Vs
  - Gyrfalcon.....M

- Grouse, Ptarmigan (Phasianidae)**
- Ruffed Grouse.....B
  - Spruce Grouse.....B
  - Willow Ptarmigan.....Vw
  - Sharp-tailed Grouse.....Vs

- Rails, Coots (Rallidae)**
- Yellow Rail.....B
  - Sora.....B
  - American Coot.....B

- Cranes (Gruidae)**
- Sandhill Crane.....M, Vs

- Plovers (Charadriidae)**
- Black-bellied Plover.....M
  - American Golden-Plover.....M
  - Semipalmated Plover.....M
  - Piping Plover.....S (June)
  - Killdeer.....B

- Avocets (Recurvirostridae)**
- American Avocet.....B

- Sandpipers (Scolopacidae)**
- Greater Yellowlegs.....M
  - Lesser Yellowlegs.....B
  - Solitary Sandpiper.....B
  - Spotted Sandpiper.....B
  - Upland Sandpiper.....M
  - Whimbrel.....S (June)
  - Marbled Godwit.....B
  - Ruddy Turnstone.....M
  - Sanderling.....M
  - Semipalmated Sandpiper.....M
  - Least Sandpiper.....M
  - White-rumped Sandpiper.....M
  - Baird's Sandpiper.....M
  - Pectoral Sandpiper.....M
  - Short-billed Dowitcher.....B
  - Long-billed Dowitcher.....M
  - Common Snipe.....B

## SPECIES STATUS

- Wandering Tattler.....S(May)
- Wilson's Phalarope.....B

- Jaegers, Gulls, Terns (Laridae)**
- Parasitic Jaeger.....M
  - Franklin's Gull.....Vs
  - Bonaparte's Gull.....B
  - Mew Gull.....M
  - Ring-billed Gull.....B
  - California Gull.....Vs
  - Glaucous Gull.....S(Sept)
  - Ivory Gull.....S(May)
  - Herring Gull.....B
  - Sabine's Gull.....M
  - Caspian Tern.....M
  - Common Tern.....B
  - Forster's Tern.....Vs
  - Black Tern.....B

- Auks, Murres, Puffins (Alcidae)**
- Black Guillemot.....S (June)

- Doves, Pigeons (Columbidae)**
- Rock Dove.....B
  - White-winged Dove.....S (June)
  - Mourning Dove.....M

- Owls (Strigidae)**
- Great Horned Owl.....B
  - Snowy Owl.....S (July)
  - Northern Hawk Owl.....B
  - Northern Pygmy Owl.....S(August)
  - Barred Owl.....B
  - Great Gray Owl.....B
  - Short-eared Owl.....B
  - Boreal Owl.....B
  - Northern Saw-whet Owl.....B
  - Long-Eared Owl.....

- Nightjars (Caprimulgidae)**
- Common Nighthawk.....B

- Hummingbirds (Trochilidae)**
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird.....B
  - Rufous Hummingbird.....S (May)

- Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)**
- Belted Kingfisher.....B

- Woodpeckers (Picidae)**
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.....B
  - Downy Woodpecker.....B, Vw
  - Hairy Woodpecker.....B, Vw
  - Three-toed Woodpecker.....B
  - Black-backed Woodpecker.....B
  - Northern Flicker.....B
  - Pileated Woodpecker.....B

- Tyrant Flycatchers (Tyrannidae)**
- Olive-sided Flycatcher.....B
  - Western Wood-Pewee.....B
  - Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.....B