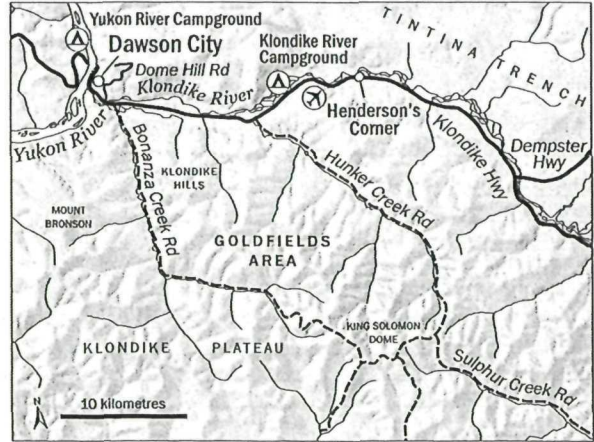


Map of the Dawson checklist area

The Dawson checklist area encompasses Dawson City, West Dawson, Henderson's Corner, Sunnydale, the Midnight Dome, the Goldfields, and the North Klondike Highway south to the Dempster corner.



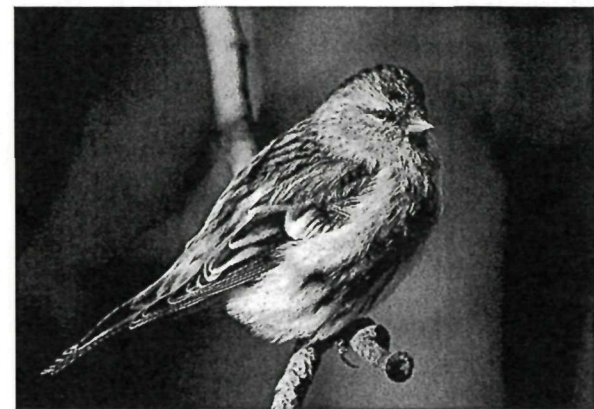
Where to find birds in the Dawson area

Downtown Dawson: The lush yards and gardens of Dawson City attract many birds. In summer, Yellow Warblers and White-crowned Sparrows seem to nest in every yard, and Cliff Swallows adorn the eaves of buildings with their mud nests. Numerous bird feeders around town attract Downy and Hairy woodpeckers, Common Redpolls at any time of year, Pine Siskins in summer, and a host of sparrows during migration.

Yukon River Campground: This forested Yukon Government campground is just a short ride on the George Black Ferry across the Yukon River from downtown Dawson. The forests are home to Swainson's and Varied thrushes, Hammond's Flycatchers, White-winged Crossbills, Townsend's Warblers, and the occasional Tennessee Warbler. The viewing platform is a good place to watch for nesting Peregrine Falcons; listen for the raucous calls of the begging young later in summer.

Midnight Dome: The trip up the Dome Hill Road provides both the opportunity to view the midnight sun, and see some interesting birds – though probably not at the same time. It is one of the best places to look for Townsend's Solitaire. In fall, this area has produced some impressive movements of migratory songbirds with mixed flocks of Blackpoll, Wilson's, Orange-crowned, Yellow, and Yellow-rumped warblers, White-crowned Sparrows, and Dark-eyed Juncos. Watch also for passing raptors.

The Goldfields: The Goldfields area is accessed by the Bonanza Creek Road about 2.5 km east of Dawson, and the Hunker Creek Road about 1.5 km west of the airport. Four-wheel drive may not be essential, but back-road travel requires good judgment. Check the ponds and creeks for ducks, geese, as well as Spotted and Solitary sandpipers. Gray-cheeked Thrush, Fox and Lincoln's sparrows, Wilson's Warblers, and Northern Waterthrush are found in wetland shrubs. During the breeding season the forested slopes support a diversity of species including Olive-sided Flycatcher, Western Wood Pewee, Hermit Thrush, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Townsend's Solitaire, Orange-crowned Warbler, and Yellow-bellied Flycatcher which is rare in the Yukon.



Common Redpoll – a familiar year-round bird in the Dawson area.

Klondike River Campground: This Yukon Government campground features older White Spruce forests typical of the Klondike River. Watch for Three-toed Woodpeckers, Boreal Chickadees, Yellow-rumped Warblers, Pine Grosbeaks, Pine Siskins (in summer), and White-winged Crossbills. Scan the river for passing Mew and Herring gulls, or Spotted Sandpipers bobbing as they walk along the shoreline. Be sure to keep an eye on your picnic, or a few of the roving Gray Jays, aptly known as Camp Robbers, will help themselves.

Henderson's Corner: This rural neighbourhood located about 22 km east of Dawson, features open pastures with scattered patches of willow and a few small ponds. Alder Flycatchers are common here in summer; as well, listen for Savannah Sparrows, Yellow Warblers, Sandhill Cranes, and Wilson's Snipe. Check the treetops for Northern Hawk Owls and American Kestrels. It is a rarity hotspot with such notable finds as Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Eastern Phoebe, and Scissor-tailed Flycatcher.

Tread lightly

- ✓ Observe birds and wildlife from a responsible distance, and avoid nesting areas.
- ✓ You may find what appears to be an 'orphaned' bird; leave young birds where you find them. The parents are most certainly nearby, waiting for you to move away before returning for their offspring.
- ✓ A bird that displays odd behaviour or calls and flies over your head is likely a parent requesting that you move on, carefully. Many birds nest on the ground and are vulnerable to trampling. Remember, trying for a closer look could alert nest predators to the nest's location.
- ✓ Take photos, but leave plants, animals, and cultural artifacts untouched.
- ✓ Practice no trace camping. Take out all that you bring in and keep a clean camp.

Notes:

For more information about wildlife viewing in the Yukon contact:

Wildlife Viewing Program
 Environment Yukon
 PO Box 2703
 Whitehorse, YT, Y1A 2C6
 (867) 667-8291
wildlifeviewing@gov.yk.ca



Checklist of the Birds of Dawson, Yukon. January 2010.
 Compiled by Cameron D. Eckert and Pamela Sinclair with data provided by the Birds of the Yukon Database. Northern Hawk Owl and Common Redpoll photos by Cameron Eckert.

ISBN: 978-1-55362-458-5



Checklist of the
BIRDS of
DAWSON
YUKON



OBSERVERS: _____
 DATE: _____
 LOCATIONS: _____

Dawson City is well known as a vibrant and charismatic northern community. It is also home to a fascinating and distinctly northern birdlife. The region lies along the Tintina Trench, a major migration route, and features a variety of habitats including White and Black spruce forests, stands of Trembling Aspen and Alaska Birch, pockets of Balsam Poplar along the rivers, small marshes and fens, and higher elevation shrub-tundra habitats. This is the traditional territory of the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in.

This first edition of the Dawson checklist summarizes the seasonal status of 154 species which have been recorded in the area, with confirmed breeding records for 34 species. The information here draws on observations that go back well over one-hundred years, yet there is still much to learn. Numerous species expected in the Dawson area for which records are lacking include Ring-necked Duck, Red-necked Phalarope, and even Arctic Tern. As well, there are relatively few confirmed breeding records, even for common species. However, the area has turned up some remarkable rarities including Red-legged Kittiwake, Turkey Vulture, King Eider, and Siberian Blue Robin. It is the kind of place where anything seems possible. By submitting your observations you can make a real contribution to our understanding of the birds of the Dawson area.

SEASONS

SP Spring: March 1 – May 31
SU Summer: June 1 – July 31
F Fall: August 1 – November 30
W Winter: December 1 – February 28

FREQUENCY and BREEDING CODES

C Common: expected in appropriate habitat.
U Uncommon: expected but not always seen.
R Rare: annual in low numbers or very localized.
ca Casual: at least 2 records but not every year.
ac Accidental: recorded only once.
*** Confirmed Breeding:** Observations of an active nest or dependent, flightless young.

DOCUMENTING BIRD SIGHTINGS

Contribute to our knowledge of the Yukon's birdlife by sending written or photo documentation of rare, casual, or accidental species or those not on the checklist, and details of breeding observations to:

The Yukon Bird Club
 Box 31054, Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada, Y1A 5P7
 e-mail: yukonbirdclub@gmail.com
www.yukonweb.com/community/ybc/

✓ SPECIES	SP	SU	F	W
Greater White-fronted Goose	R		R	
Snow Goose	ac			
Brant		ca		
Canada Goose *	C	C	C	
Trumpeter Swan		ca	ca	
Tundra Swan	R		ca	
American Wigeon	C	U	U	
Mallard	C	U	U	
Blue-winged Teal	R	ca	ca	
Northern Shoveler	C	U	U	
Northern Pintail	C	U	U	
Green-winged Teal	U	U	U	
Canvasback			ac	
Greater Scaup	ca			
Lesser Scaup	C	U	U	
King Eider	ac			
Harlequin Duck *	U	R	R	
Surf Scoter		ac		
Long-tailed Duck	ac			
Bufflehead	C	U	U	
Common Goldeneye	ca			
Hooded Merganser		ac		
Common Merganser	U	U	U	ca
Red-breasted Merganser	U	U	U	
Ruffed Grouse *	C	C	C	C
Spruce Grouse	C	C	C	C
Willow Ptarmigan	R		R	U
Sharp-tailed Grouse		R		
Red-throated Loon	R	R	R	
Pacific Loon	R	R		
Common Loon	R	R	R	
Yellow-billed Loon		ac		
Horned Grebe	U	U	R	
Red-necked Grebe			ac	
Turkey Vulture	ac			
Osprey	ca	ca		
Bald Eagle *	C	C	C	
Northern Harrier	C	U	R	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	R	R	R	
Northern Goshawk *	R	R	R	R
Swainson's Hawk	ac			
Red-tailed Hawk	U	U	U	
Rough-legged Hawk	ca		ca	
Golden Eagle *	R	R	R	
American Kestrel	U	U	U	
Merlin	ca			
Peregrine Falcon *	R	R	R	
Sora *		ca	ca	
Sandhill Crane	U		U	
Black-bellied Plover	ac			
American Golden-Plover	R			
Semipalmated Plover	R	R		

✓ SPECIES	SP	SU	F	W
Killdeer		ca		
Lesser Yellowlegs	U	R		
Solitary Sandpiper	U	U	R	
Spotted Sandpiper *	C	C	C	
Upland Sandpiper	ac			
Whimbrel	R	ac		
Hudsonian Godwit	ac			
Sanderling	ac			
Semipalmated Sandpiper	R			
Least Sandpiper	R	R		
Pectoral Sandpiper	U			
Dunlin	ac			
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	ac			
Long-billed Dowitcher	U			
Wilson's Snipe *	U	U	R	
Bonaparte's Gull	U	U	R	
Mew Gull	C	C	U	
Herring Gull *	C	C	C	
Glaucous Gull			ca	
Red-legged Kittiwake			ac	
Mourning Dove		ca	ac	
Great Horned Owl *	U	U	U	U
Northern Hawk Owl	U	U	U	U
Great Gray Owl *	R	R	R	R
Short-eared Owl	R	ca	R	
Boreal Owl *	U	U	U	U
Common Nighthawk *		R		
Rufous Hummingbird		ca		
Belted Kingfisher *	C	C	C	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *	R	U	R	
Downy Woodpecker	R	R	R	R
Hairy Woodpecker	U	U	U	R
Am. Three-toed Woodpecker	U	U	U	U
Northern Flicker *	U	C	U	
Olive-sided Flycatcher	U	U	R	
Western Wood-Pewee	U	U	R	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		R		
Alder Flycatcher *	R	C	U	
Least Flycatcher		ca		
Hammond's Flycatcher	U	C	U	
Eastern Phoebe		ca		
Say's Phoebe	U	U	R	
Eastern Kingbird			ac	
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher		ac		
Northern Shrike	R		R	
Gray Jay	C	C	C	C
Black-billed Magpie	ca	ca	ca	ac
Common Raven	C	C	C	C
Horned Lark	R	R	R	
Tree Swallow *	U	C	R	
Violet-green Swallow *	U	C	R	
Bank Swallow *	U	C	U	

✓ SPECIES	SP	SU	F	W
Cliff Swallow *	C	C	U	
Barn Swallow *	ac			
Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C
Boreal Chickadee	C	C	C	C
Red-breasted Nuthatch		R		
Brown Creeper			ac	
American Dipper *	R	R	R	ca
Golden-crowned Kinglet			ac	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C	C	C	
Siberian Blue Robin		ac		
Northern Wheatear		ac		
Mountain Bluebird	ca	ca	ac	
Townsend's Solitaire	U	C	U	
Gray-cheeked Thrush	U	C	U	
Swainson's Thrush *	U	C	U	
Hermit Thrush	U	C	U	
American Robin *	C	C	C	ac
Varied Thrush	C	C	U	
European Starling *	ca	ca	ca	
American Pipit	C		C	
Bohemian Waxwing	U	U	U	ca
Tennessee Warbler		ca		
Orange-crowned Warbler	U	C	U	
Yellow Warbler *	U	C	U	
Yellow-rumped Warbler *	U	C	U	
Townsend's Warbler *	R	U	R	
Blackpoll Warbler	R	U	R	
Northern Waterthrush	U	C	U	
Common Yellowthroat	R	U	R	
Wilson's Warbler	U	C	U	
American Tree Sparrow	U		U	
Chipping Sparrow *	R	C	R	
Savannah Sparrow	U	U	U	
Fox Sparrow	C	C	C	ac
Lincoln's Sparrow	U	C	U	
White-crowned Sparrow *	C	C	C	
Golden-crowned Sparrow	R	R	R	
Dark-eyed Junco *	C	C	C	ca
Lapland Longspur	C		R	
Snow Bunting	C		R	
Red-winged Blackbird	R	R		
Rusty Blackbird	U	U	U	
Common Grackle			ac	
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch	ca		ca	ca
Pine Grosbeak	C	C	C	C
White-winged Crossbill	U	U	U	U
Common Redpoll	C	U	C	C
Hoary Redpoll	U		R	U
Pine Siskin	U	C	U	
House Sparrow	ac			