

Field Check List of Birds

Prince Edward Island Atlantic Canada



Blue Jay

While in its 1977 spring session, the Prince Edward Island legislature officially declared the Blue Jay as avian emblem for the province. During Environment Week of 1976 the Natural History Society of Prince Edward Island sponsored a public vote to determine the popular candidate. The Blue Jay was the landslide winner.

Although it is common on the Island year-round, the Blue Jay is most noticeable in winter when visiting bird-feeders. It nests in secluded woodlands and keeps relatively quiet during spring and summer.

Prince Edward Island Field Check-List of Birds (2nd edition, 1978)

Observer _____

Address _____

Date _____ Hours _____

Locality _____

Habitat _____

Temperature	Sky	Wind	km/h
°C.			
<input type="checkbox"/> 16° +	<input type="checkbox"/> completely overcast	<input type="checkbox"/> gale	60+
<input type="checkbox"/> 10-15.5	<input type="checkbox"/> 3/4 overcast	<input type="checkbox"/> strong breeze	30
<input type="checkbox"/> 4.5-9.5	<input type="checkbox"/> 1/2 overcast	<input type="checkbox"/> fresh breeze	15
<input type="checkbox"/> 0.5-4.0	<input type="checkbox"/> 1/4 overcast	<input type="checkbox"/> light breeze	7.5
<input type="checkbox"/> below 0	<input type="checkbox"/> clear	<input type="checkbox"/> calm	

To date 267 species have been recorded on Prince Edward Island. This checklist includes the seasonal status of each bird, determined by the number the observer may expect to find during a full day of observation in suitable habitat.

The season dates determined by the migratory habits of most birds are: Spring — March 16 to May 30 (northerly migration); Summer — June 1 to August 15 (nesting season); Autumn — August 16 to December 14 (southerly migration); Winter — December 15 to March 15.

The symbols used are defined as:

VC - Very common, 50 or more birds per day

C - Common, 10 - 49 birds per day

FC - Fairly common, 1 - 9 birds per day

U - Uncommon, 1 - 12 birds per fortnight

R - Rare, 1 - 5 birds per season

O - Occasionally, seen only 1 - 9 times per decade

A - Accidental, 9 or fewer records per century

H - Hypothetical, unconfirmed sighting

IR - Irregular

* - Species marked thus * have been known to nest in the province.

Issued by:



Department of Tourism, Parks and Conservation
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Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
Canada
C1A 7N8

	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
Loons				
○ Common Loon	FC	U	C	O
○ Arctic Loon		H		
○ Red Throated Loon	U	O	C	O
Grebes				
○ Red-necked Grebe	R	—	R-U	—
○ Horned Grebe	U	R	FC	—
○ Pied-billed Grebe*	FC	C	FC	—
Shearwaters				
○ Greater Shearwater	—	—	O	—
○ Sooty Shearwater	—	O	—	—
○ Northern Fulmar	—	A	—	—
Storm Petrels				
○ Leach's Petrel	—	O	R	—
○ Wilson's Petrel	—	O	O	—
Gannets				
○ Gannet	R-U	U	FC	R
Cormorants				
○ Great Cormorant*	C	C	C	IR-R
○ Double-crested Cormorant*	VC	VC	VC	O
Hérons and Bitterns				
○ Great Blue Heron*	VC	VC	VC	O
○ Little Blue Heron	O	—	O	—
○ Reddish Egret	H	—	—	—
○ Common Egret	O	O	—	—
○ Snowy Egret	A	—	—	—
○ Black-crowned Night Heron	O	O	—	—
○ Yellow-crowned Night Heron	—	—	A	—
○ American Bittern*	FC	FC	U	—
Ibises				
○ Glossy Ibis	O	—	O	—
Swans, Geese, and Ducks				
○ Whistling Swan	O	—	O	—
○ Canada Goose*	VC	U	VC	U
○ Brant	C	R	U	O
○ White-fronted Goose	—	—	A	—
○ Snow Goose (inc. Blue Goose)	O	O	O	—
○ Mallard*	FC	FC	C	O
○ Black Duck*	VC	VC	VC	VC
○ Gadwall*	U	U	U	—
○ Pintail*	C	C	VC	O
○ European Green-winged Teal	O	O	—	—
○ Garganey	A	A	—	—
○ American Green-winged Teal*	VC	C	VC	IR-R
○ Blue-winged Teal*	VC	VC	VC	—
○ European Wigeon	O	—	O	A
○ American Wigeon*	FC	FC	C	—
○ Shoveler*	U	U	U	—
○ Wood Duck*	U	U	C	—
○ Redhead	—	—	A	—
○ Ring-necked Duck*	VC	C	VC	—
○ Canvasback	A	—	—	—
○ Greater Scaup	C	R	C	U

	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
○ Lesser Scaup	IR-U	—	IR-U	IR-R
○ Common Goldeneye	FC	R	C	VC
○ Barrow's Goldeneye	U	—	U	FC
○ Bufflehead	R	—	R	O
○ Oldsquaw	FC	O	VC	C
○ Harlequin Duck	O	—	O	—
○ Common Eider	FC	U	FC	U
○ King Eider	O	A	—	—
○ White-winged Scoter	FC	U	FC	O
○ Surf Scoter	FC	U	FC	O
○ Black (Common) Scoter	U	U	C	O
○ Ruddy Duck	R	R	O	O
○ Hooded Merganser	R	O	R	O
○ Common Merganser*	FC	U	C	VC
○ Red-breasted Merganser*	FC	FC	VC	U
Vultures				
○ Turkey Vulture	—	—	—	H
Hawks and Harriers				
○ Goshawk*	FC	U	FC	U
○ Sharp-shinned Hawk*	FC	U	FC	U
○ Cooper's Hawk	—	H	—	—
○ Red-tailed Hawk*	R	R	R	R
○ Rough-legged Hawk	O	—	IR-U	IR-U
○ Golden Eagle	—	O	—	—
○ Bald Eagle*	R	R	R	R
○ Marsh Hawk*	FC	FC	FC	—
Ospreys				
○ Osprey*	U	U	U	—
Falcons				
○ Gyrfalcon	—	IR-O	—	IR-R
○ Peregrine Falcon	O	—	O	—
○ Merlin (Pigeon Hawk)*	U	R	U	—
○ Kestrel (Sparrow Hawk)*	FC	FC	FC	O
Grouse				
○ Ruffed Grouse*	FC	FC	FC	FC
Quails and Pheasants				
○ Ring-necked Pheasant*	U	U	U	U
○ Gray Partridge*	FC	FC	FC	FC
Cranes				
○ Sandhill Crane	—	—	A	—
Rails, Gallinules, and Coots				
○ Clapper Rail	—	—	—	A
○ Virginia Rail*	FC	FC	FC	—
○ Sora*	FC	FC	FC	—
○ Common Gallinule	—	—	O	—
○ American Coot*	IR-R	IR-R	R	—
Plovers and Turnstones				
○ Lapwing	—	—	A	A
○ Semipalmated Plover*	FC	R-U	C	—
○ Piping Plover*	FC	U	FC	—
○ Wilson's Plover	—	—	H	—
○ Killdeer*	FC	FC	FC	—
○ American Golden Plover	O	R	U	—
○ Black-bellied Plover	C	U-FC	VC	—
○ Ruddy Turnstone	R	FC	C	—

	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
Woodcock, Snipe, and Sandpipers				
○ American Woodcock *	FC	FC	FC	—
○ Common Snipe *	C	C	C	A
○ Long-billed curlew		H		
○ Whimbrel	R	C	C	—
○ Upland Sandpiper * (Plover)	O	A	H	—
○ Spotted Sandpiper *	C	C	C	—
○ Solitary Sandpiper	R	O	U	—
○ Willet *	FC	FC	U	—
○ Greater Yellowlegs	FC-C	C	C	—
○ Lesser Yellowlegs	U	FC	FC	—
○ Knot	U	U	FC	—
○ Purple Sandpiper	R	—	R	O
○ Pectoral Sandpiper	R	FC	C	—
○ White-rumped Sandpiper	U	FC	VC	—
○ Baird's Sandpiper	—	—	O	—
○ Least Sandpiper	VC	VC	C	—
○ Curlew Sandpiper	—	A	—	—
○ Dunlin	R	—	C	—
○ Short-billed Dowitcher	U	C	C	—
○ Stilt Sandpiper	—	—	O	—
○ Semipalmated Sandpiper	VC	VC	VC	—
○ Western Sandpiper	—	O	O	—
○ Buff-breasted Sandpiper	—	—	A	—
○ Marbled Godwit	—	—	O	—
○ Hudsonian Godwit	R	FC	C	—
○ Ruff	O	—	O	—
○ Sanderling	U	C	VC	—

Avocet				
○ American Avocet	—	H	—	—

Phalaropes				
○ Red Phalarope	—	—	H	—
○ Wilson's Phalarope	O	R	R-U	—
○ Northern Phalarope	—	—	R	—

Jaegers				
○ Pomarine Jaeger		H		
○ Parasitic Jaeger	H	—	—	—

Gulls and Terns				
○ Glaucous Gull	IR-U	R	R-U	R-U
○ Iceland Gull	C	—	C	C
○ Laughing Gull	—	—	A	—
○ Great Black-backed Gull *	VC	VC	VC	VC
○ Herring Gull *	VC	VC	VC	VC
○ Ring-billed Gull	U-FC	U	U-FC	O
○ Sabine's Gull	—	—	H	—
○ Black-headed Gull	—	O	O	—
○ Bonaparte's Gull	U	VC	VC	U
○ Little Gull	—	—	O	—
○ Ivory Gull	—	—	H	—
○ Black-legged Kittiwake	IR	IR	IR	IR
○ Common Tern *	VC	VC	VC	—
○ Arctic Tern *	FC	FC	FC	—
○ Roseate Tern		H		
○ Caspian Tern	U	U	U	—
○ Black Tern	—	A	A	—

Black Skimmer				
○ Black Skimmer	—	—	A	—

	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
Auks, Murres, and Puffins				
○ Common Murre	—	—	O	—
○ Thick-billed Murre	O	O	O	O
○ Dovekie	—	—	R	O
○ Black Guillemot *	U	FC	U	O
○ Common Puffin	—	—	A	—

Doves				
○ Rock Dove (Common Pigeon) *	VC	VC	VC	VC
○ Mourning Dove	R	R	U	IR-R

Cuckoos				
○ Yellow-billed Cuckoo	O	—	O	—
○ Black-billed Cuckoo	—	R	R	—

Owls				
○ Great Horned Owl *	FC	FC	FC	FC
○ Snowy Owl	IR-U	IR-A	O	IR-U
○ Hawk-Owl	—	—	—	R
○ Barred Owl *	U	U	U	U
○ Long-eared Owl *	O	O	O	O
○ Short-eared Owl *	U	U	U	R
○ Boreal Owl	R	R	R	R
○ Saw-whet Owl *	U	U	U	U

Goatsuckers				
○ Common Nighthawk *	U	FC	U	—

Swifts				
○ Chimney Swift	U	U	—	—

Hummingbirds				
○ Ruby-throated Hummingbird *	R	U	O	R

Kingfishers				
○ Belted Kingfisher *	FC	FC	FC	O

Woodpeckers				
○ Common (Yellow-shafted) Flicker *	C	C	C	O
○ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *	FC	U	R	—
○ Hairy Woodpecker *	FC	FC	FC	FC
○ Downy Woodpecker *	FC	FC	FC	FC
○ Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker	R	R	R	R
○ Northern Three-toed Woodpecker		H		

Flycatchers				
○ Eastern Kingbird *	FC	FC	FC	—
○ Western Kingbird	—	—	—	A
○ Eastern Phoebe	R	O	—	—
○ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	U	FC	U	—
○ Alder (Traill's) Flycatcher	R	C	U	—
○ Least Flycatcher *	U	U	U	—
○ Eastern Wood Pewee *	R	C	U	—
○ Olive-sided Flycatcher *	U	FC	R	—
○ Great-crested Flycatcher	—	H	—	—

Larks				
○ Horned Lark *	C	FC	FC	FC

	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
Swallows				
○ Tree Swallow *	FC	FC	U	—
○ Bank Swallow *	VC	VC	VC	—
○ Barn Swallow *	VC	VC	VC	A
○ Cliff Swallow *	R	R	R	—
○ Purple Martin	—	R	—	—
Crows and Jays				
○ Gray Jay *	U	U	U	U
○ Blue Jay *	C	C	C	C
○ Common Raven *	C	FC	C	C
○ Common Crow *	VC	VC	VC	VC
Titmice				
○ Black-capped Chickadee *	C	C	C	C
○ Boreal Chickadee *	C	C	C	C
Nuthatches				
○ White-breasted Nuthatch	O	O	O	O
○ Red-breasted Nuthatch *	R-FC	R-FC	R-U	R-U
Creepers				
○ Brown Creeper *	U	U	U	U
Wrens				
○ House Wren	—	A	A	—
○ Winter Wren *	U	U	R	—
○ Long-billed Marsh Wren	—	—	H	—
Mockingbirds and Thrashers				
○ Mockingbird	O	O	O	—
○ Catbird *	R	R	R	—
○ Brown Thrasher	O	O	—	—
Thrushes and Bluebirds				
○ Robin *	VC	VC	VC	R
○ Hermit Thrush *	FC	FC	U	—
○ Swainson's Thrush *	FC	C	U	—
○ Gray-cheeked Thrush	O	A	O	—
○ Varied Thrush	U	R	R	—
○ Veery	R	R	—	—
○ Eastern Bluebird	—	—	A	—
Kinglets				
○ Golden-crowned Kinglet *	FC	FC	FC	FC
○ Ruby-crowned Kinglet *	C	C	FC	IR-R
Pipits				
○ Water Pipit	U	O	U	O
Waxwings				
○ Bohemian Waxwing	O	A	—	O
○ Cedar Waxwing *	R	U-FC	U-FC	—
Shrikes				
○ Northern Shrike	R	R	R	R
○ Loggerhead Shrike	—	—	H	—
Starlings				
○ Common Starling *	VC	VC	VC	VC
Vireos				
○ Solitary Vireo	FC	FC	U	—
○ Red-eyed Vireo *	FC	C	FC	—
○ Philadelphia Vireo	O	O	O	—
○ Warbling Vireo	—	—	A	—

	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
Warblers				
○ Black-and-white Warbler	C	FC	U	—
○ Tennessee Warbler *	U	U	U	—
○ Orange-crowned Warbler	A	—	A	—
○ Nashville Warbler	C	C	FC	—
○ Northern Parula Warbler *	C	FC	FC	—
○ Yellow Warbler *	VC	VC	VC	—
○ Magnolia Warbler *	C	FC	U	—
○ Cape May Warbler	U	U	U	—
○ Yellow-rumped (myrtle) Warbler *	VC	FC	VC	—
○ Black-throated Blue Warbler	FC	FC	U	—
○ Black-throated Green Warbler *	C	C	FC	—
○ Blackburnian Warbler	FC	U	U	—
○ Yellow-throated Warbler	O	—	O	—
○ Chestnut-sided Warbler	U	FC	R	—
○ Bay-breasted Warbler	FC	U	R	—
○ Blackpoll Warbler	U	U	U	—
○ Pine Warbler	H	—	—	—
○ Palm Warbler *	FC	FC	U	—
○ Ovenbird *	C	C	U	—
○ Northern Waterthrush	U	U	R	—
○ Mourning Warbler	U	U	R	—
○ Yellowthroat *	VC	VC	VC	—
○ Yellow-breasted Chat	—	—	O	—
○ Wilson's Warbler	R	R	R	—
○ Canada Warbler	U	U	R	—
○ American Redstart *	C	C	C	—
Weaver Finches				
○ House Sparrow *	VC	VC	VC	VC
Meadowlarks, Blackbirds, and Orioles				
○ Bobolink *	C	VC	C	—
○ Eastern Meadowlark	O	—	—	—
○ Red-winged Blackbird *	VC	VC	VC	O
○ Orchard Oriole	—	A	—	—
○ Northern (Baltimore) Oriole	R	R	R	—
○ Rusty Blackbird *	C	FC	U	—
○ Common Grackle *	VC	VC	VC	IR-R
○ Brown-headed Cowbird *	C	C	C	R
Tanagers				
○ Scarlet Tanager	R	R	—	—
Grosbeaks, Finches, Sparrows, and Buntings				
○ Rose-breasted Grosbeak *	FC	FC	U	—
○ Indigo Bunting	—	—	H	—
○ Dickcissel	—	—	U	—
○ Evening Grosbeak	C	U	C	C
○ Purple Finch *	C	C	FC	O
○ Pine Grosbeak	R	R	R	U
○ Common Redpoll	IR-U	IR-R	IR-R	IR-U
○ Pine Siskin	R-UC	R-UC	R-UC	IR-FC
○ American Goldfinch *	FC	FC	FC	O
○ Red Crossbill	IR	IR	IR	IR
○ White-winged Crossbill	R-U	R	R-FC	R-C
○ Rufous-sided Towhee	—	A	A	—
○ Savannah Sparrow *	VC	VC	VC	O
○ Grasshopper Sparrow	—	A	—	—

	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-tailed Sparrow *	R	FC	U	—
<input type="checkbox"/> Vesper Sparrow	FC	FC	U	—
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco *	VC	VC	VC	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree Sparrow	R	—	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Chipping Sparrow *	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Field Sparrow	—	—	A	—
<input type="checkbox"/> White-crowned Sparrow	U	—	U	—
<input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Sparrow *	VC	VC	VC	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Fox Sparrow	R-U	O	R-U	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln's Sparrow *	FC	FC	U	—
<input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Sparrow *	C	C	FC	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Song Sparrow *	VC	VC	VC	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Lapland Longspur	U	O	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Snow Bunting	U-VC	—	U-C	U-VC

Species Extinct to Prince Edward Island

Pileated Woodpecker
 Spruce Grouse
 Eskimo Curlew
 Passenger Pigeon

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The checklist will be periodically up-dated as observations increase and species composition changes. All observers are encouraged to report unusual sightings.

Notes

