

Bird List for 2004 IFO Arctic Breeding Bird Ecology Workshop

Instructors: Paul J. Baicich and Wayne R. Petersen • June 22-29, 2004 • Nome, AK

- CANADA GOOSE** – Small numbers seen at scattered tundra locations
BRANT – A few tardy migrants still present; does not breed at Nome
TUNDRA SWAN – Scattered pairs (including one brood) on tundra marshes and ponds
GADWALL – A pair seen at Safety Sound was most unusual for the Seward Peninsula
EURASIAN WIGEON – One to two seen on several occasions at Safety Lagoon; scarce
AMERICAN WIGEON – Good numbers present at Safety Sound; broods also seen
MALLARD – At least three observed; scarce in Nome area
NORTHERN SHOVELER – One female in pond outside Nome
NORTHERN PINTAIL – Hundreds present at Safety Sound; commonest waterfowl
GREEN-WINGED TEAL – Only a few seen at scattered locations
CANVASBACK – A drake at Safety Sound was most uncommon at this date
REDHEAD – A drake at Safety Sound was rare for the location and the date
GREATER SCAUP – Widespread and common in many areas
SPECTACLED EIDER – Two drakes at Safety Sound were exceptionally unusual
COMMON EIDER – Many on saltwater areas, mainly near Safety Sound
HARLEQUIN DUCK – Small numbers seen on streams and near Safety bridge
BLACK SCOTER – Several pairs noted on interior tundra ponds
LONG-TAILED DUCK – Small numbers noted on various tundra ponds
COMMON GOLDENEYE – A “broody” female near Council was most unusual
RED-BREASTED MERGANSER – Common and widespread nearly everywhere
WILLOW PTARMIGAN – Several families and scattered individuals seen on tundra;
numbers seemed to be lower than recent past years
ROCK PTARMIGAN – Two sightings, including a family seen on Anvil Mountain
RED-THROATED LOON – Many seen on both ponds and the ocean; commonest loon
PACIFIC LOON – Small numbers seen in various locations
COMMON LOON – One seen on ocean off Safety Sound
HORNED GREBE – One well observed on pond near Council
RED-NECKED GREBE – Several nesting pairs seen, including young on the back of parents
PELAGIC CORMORANT – Several seen passing Cape Nome
NORTHERN HARRIER – Several seen over tundra, mainly on Kugarok Road
ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK – Fine looks at several birds, all light morphs; little nesting
activity noted this year (fide Peter Bente)
GOLDEN EAGLE – Splendid views of several, including two active nests
MERLIN – A remarkable view of a female sitting and walking on the ground
GYRFALCON – Several active nests containing young, plus gray morph adults
PEREGRINE FALCON – An adult near an active nest at Cape Nome quarry
SANDHILL CRANE – Small numbers in several areas, particularly at Solomon
BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER – Small numbers breeding at Wooley Lagoon
AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER – Very few seen this year; more scarce than usual
PACIFIC GOLDEN-PLOVER – Small numbers seen at various locations
SEMIPALMATED PLOVER – Scattered pairs, including one with tiny chicks
SOLITARY SANDPIPER – An adult with young at Pilgrim Hot Springs was rare, plus another
single bird near Council
WANDERING TATTLER – One along a stream seen by only one van group
SPOTTED SANDPIPER – Two briefly seen along a stream by only one van group
WHIMBREL – Fine looks at several birds, including a pair with young
BAR-TAILED GODWIT – One flock of 19 at Safety Sound, plus several others
RUDDY TURNSTONE – Several pairs (including chicks) near Wooley Lagoon
BLACK TURNSTONE – A single adult at Safety Sound on the last day
RED KNOT – Several seen at Safety Sound, plus one near Wooley Lagoon
SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER – Common and widespread near the coast; several broods seen
WESTERN SANDPIPER – Common and widespread; several broods seen
LEAST SANDPIPER – Locally uncommon with three seen, one in display flight
DUNLIN – Small numbers seen on territory, plus a number on the flats at Safety Sound
LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER – One adult briefly seen at Nome River on last day
WILSON’S SNIPE – Common and widespread with many displaying during BBS route

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RED-NECKED PHALAROPE – Small numbers, including young, seen in various places
PARASITIC JAEGER – Small numbers seen scattered over tundra and along coast
LONG-TAILED JAEGER – Only modest numbers seen compared to many years past
MEW GULL – Common and widespread, both along coast and on interior ponds
HERRING GULL – Only one individual seen of the race *vagae* from Siberia
GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL – Several seen near Safety Sound; very scarce in area
GLAUCOUS GULL – Abundant, both on coast and on interior ponds and rivers
BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE – Small numbers seen, mainly at Cape Nome
ARCTIC TERN – Common and widespread both inland and on the coast
ALUETIAN TERN – At least 200 seen with many nesting pairs on tundra near Nome; exceptional numbers this year
COMMON MURRE – Modest numbers flying past Cape Nome during sea watches
PIGEON GUILLEMOT – One briefly seen at Cape Nome
HORNED PUFFIN – One briefly seen passing at Cape Nome
ROCK PIGEON – Several feral individuals seen in Nome
SHORT-EARED OWL – One seen on tundra on Teller Road by BBS team
SAY'S PHOEBE – Several seen near cliff areas of the interior
COMMON RAVEN – Small numbers, including young, seen at several localities
TREE SWALLOW – Locally common, especially near human habitation
BANK SWALLOW – An active small colony near Pilgrim Hot Springs; scattered birds elsewhere
CLIFF SWALLOW – Several colonies under bridges, plus one on rocks at Pilgrim Hot Springs
BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE – A family group seen by some at Pilgrim Hot Springs; uncommon in the area
AMERICAN DIPPER – An active nest seen for third year in a row at Penny River
ARCTIC WARBLER – Many heard singing along streams and several well observed; greatest numbers seen during the past three seasons
BLUETHROAT – One male well observed near Coffee Dome on Kougarak Road
NORTHERN WHEATEAR – Several seen near various block-field habitat areas
GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH – Common and widespread in willow thicket areas
AMERICAN ROBIN – Small numbers seen in appropriate thicket areas
VARIED THRUSH – Two heard singing, one near Council and one in poplars on Kougarak Road
YELLOW WAGTAIL – Common and widespread especially near coastal thickets
ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER – Small numbers singing in scattered willow thickets throughout the region
YELLOW WARBLER – Common in many willow thickets, especially near streams
YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER – Several well seen, especially at Pilgrim Hot Springs
BLACKPOLL WARBLER – A few heard and seen at Council and Pilgrim Hot Springs
NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH – Common and widespread in willows along streams
WILSON'S WARBLER – Small numbers in willow thickets throughout the region
AMERICAN TREE SPARROW – Common and vocal throughout the region
SAVANNAH SPARROW – Possibly the commonest sparrow in the Nome area
FOX SPARROW – Conspicuous by its loud song in many willow thicket areas
WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW – Common, but many not singing this year
GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW – Common and vocal, especially during BBS
LAPLAND LONGSPUR – Widespread and common on tundra everywhere
RUSTY BLACKBIRD – A few well studied near Pilgrim Hot Springs
COMMON REDPOLL – Very common everywhere throughout the region
HOARY REDPOLL – At least a couple well seen of this controversial taxa

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Mammals Recorded

- GRIZZLY BEAR** – One spectacular animal well studied on a distant slope
SHORT-TAILED WEASEL – One or two briefly seen crossing roads by a few folks
RED FOX – Several well observed, including one of the “cross” morph
ARCTIC FOX – Two or three seen working the *Elymus* grass areas near Safety Sound
ARCTIC GROUND SQUIRREL – Widespread and common along roadsides
SNOWSHOE HARE – One briefly seen along road by one van group
MOOSE – Good numbers seen in various areas, many with two young calves
REINDEER – Several groups seen of these domesticated caribou
MUSKOX – Several groups and scattered individuals observed of these most interesting animals
MINKE WHALE – One working the shoreline near Safety Sound seen by several folks