

NWT - Nunavut Bird Checklist Survey Form



This checklist is for recording bird data for scientific purposes. Complete the bird list portion by recording the number of birds of each species observed and an appropriate breeding code for a **24 hour or shorter period in a 10x10 km or smaller area.**

Please be sure to answer the questions on the next page. Record the number (or best estimate) of each species observed in the abundance column (#). In the "BR" column, record the most appropriate breeding evidence code from the list on the back page. If you observe species that are not on the list, record them in the blank space(s) provided at the end of the regular species list and describe your observations fully under "Comments". **There are new sections in this form as of 2004.**

Observer

Name: _____

Address:

Phone No: () _____

e-Mail: _____

Names of additional observers (note all or list a number):

Date: ____/____/____ (day/month/year)

Start Time: ____:____ a.m./p.m. (circle one)

End Time: ____:____ a.m./p.m.

Total observation time: _____ (hours)

Location Information: Name of area, feature, or location.

Latitude: ____° ____' ____"

Longitude: ____° ____' ____"

Or UTM's -

Zone: _____

UTM Easting _____ North _____ (in metres)

Please Answer Each Section (Check ✓one)

What Kind of Count Did You Do?

- Casual Observation
(feeder count, individual bird note, etc)
- Point or Stationary Count
(ensure duration is recorded on first page)
- Transect or Traveling Count
Distance traveled during count _____ km
- Area Count/Search
Area covered for count _____ km²
- Non-Standard (>24 hrs)

How Inclusive Was Your Count?

- This list reports **all birds seen at the site**
 or is limited to **one or a few species at the site**

What is your birdwatching skill level?

Ability of observer (or group) to detect and identify all species present (including ID by songs/calls) was:

- Fair Good Excellent
(know 50-75%) (76-95%) (>95%)

Weather conditions for detecting birds in the area visited:

- Fair Good Excellent

What Kind of Habitat Were You in?

Habitat(s) visited (check as many as apply and **circle the one that is dominant**):

- Forest Taiga Rock
 Wet Tundra Dry Tundra Polygonal Tundra
 Riverine Lake Marsh/Wetland
 Estuary Tidal Marsh Coastal Marine
 Sea Ice Tidal Mud Flat Network of Ponds
 Alpine Human Settlement

Other (Specify) _____

Age and Sex of Birds: Record the number of adults in the main part of the form. Use the **Comments** section of this form to record the number of juveniles and/or the number of males or females.

Nest Records: The Checklist database can now accept nest records and uses the same scheme and cards as the Ontario Nest Record Scheme. Go to our website and find the necessary materials.

SPECIES	#	BR*
Red-throated Loon		
Pacific Loon		
Common Loon		
Yellow-billed Loon		
Pied-billed Grebe		
Horned Grebe		
Red-necked Grebe		
Eared Grebe		
Northern Fulmar		
Greater Shearwater		
American White Pelican		
Double-crested Cormorant		
American Bittern		
Tundra Swan		
Trumpeter Swan		
Greater White-fronted Goose		
Snow Goose		
Ross's Goose		
Brant		
Canada Goose		
Green-winged Teal		
American Black Duck		
Mallard		
Northern Pintail		
Blue-winged Teal		
Northern Shoveler		
Gadwall		
American Wigeon		
Canvasback		
Redhead		
Ring-necked Duck		
Greater Scaup		
Lesser Scaup		
Common Eider		
King Eider		
Harlequin Duck		
Long-tailed Duck		
Black Scoter		
Surf Scoter		

SPECIES	#	BR*
White-winged Scoter		
Common Goldeneye		
Barrow's Goldeneye		
Bufflehead		
Hooded Merganser		
Common Merganser		
Red-breasted Merganser		
Ruddy Duck		
Osprey		
Bald Eagle		
Golden Eagle		
Northern Harrier		
Sharp-shinned Hawk		
Cooper's Hawk		
Northern Goshawk		
Swainson's Hawk		
Red-tailed Hawk		
Rough-legged Hawk		
Broad-winged Hawk		
American Kestrel		
Merlin		
Peregrine Falcon		
Gyrfalcon		
Spruce Grouse		
Blue Grouse		
Willow Ptarmigan		
Rock Ptarmigan		
White-tailed Ptarmigan		
Ruffed Grouse		
Sharp-tailed Grouse		
Yellow Rail		
Sora		
American Coot		
Sandhill Crane		
Whooping Crane		
Black-bellied Plover		
American Golden Plover		
Common Ringed Plover		
Semipalmated Plover		

SPECIES	#	BR*
Killdeer		
American Avocet		
Greater Yellowlegs		
Lesser Yellowlegs		
Solitary Sandpiper		
Wandering Tattler		
Spotted Sandpiper		
Upland Sandpiper		
Eskimo Curlew		
Whimbrel		
Hudsonian Godwit		
Marbled Godwit		
Ruddy Turnstone		
Red Knot		
Sanderling		
Semipalmated Sandpiper		
Western Sandpiper		
Least Sandpiper		
White-rumped Sandpiper		
Baird's Sandpiper		
Pectoral Sandpiper		
Purple Sandpiper		
Dunlin		
Stilt Sandpiper		
Buff-breasted Sandpiper		
Short-billed Dowitcher		
Long-billed Dowitcher		
Wilson's Snipe		
Wilson's Phalarope		
Red-necked Phalarope		
Red Phalarope		
Pomarine Jaeger		
Parasitic Jaeger		
Long-tailed Jaeger		
Franklin's Gull		
Little Gull		
Bonaparte's Gull		
Mew Gull		
Ring-billed Gull		

SPECIES	#	BR*
California Gull		
Herring Gull		
Thayer's Gull		
Iceland Gull		
Glaucous Gull		
Great Black-backed Gull		
Black-legged Kittiwake		
Ross's Gull		
Sabine's Gull		
Ivory Gull		
Caspian Tern		
Common Tern		
Arctic Tern		
Black Tern		
Dovekie		
Thick-billed Murre		
Razorbill		
Black Guillemot		
Atlantic Puffin		
Mourning Dove		
Great Horned Owl		
Snowy Owl		
Northern Hawk Owl		
Barred Owl		
Great Gray Owl		
Long-eared Owl		
Short-eared Owl		
Boreal Owl		
Common Nighthawk		
Belted Kingfisher		
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		
Downy Woodpecker		
Hairy Woodpecker		
Three-toed Woodpecker		
Black-backed Woodpecker		
Northern Flicker		
Pileated Woodpecker		
Olive-sided Flycatcher		
Western Wood-pewee		

SPECIES	#	BR*
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		
Alder Flycatcher		
Least Flycatcher		
Hammond's Flycatcher		
Eastern Phoebe		
Say's Phoebe		
Eastern Kingbird		
Northern Shrike		
Blue-headed Vireo		
Warbling Vireo		
Red-eyed Vireo		
Philadelphia Vireo		
Gray Jay		
Black-billed Magpie		
American Crow		
Common Raven		
Horned Lark		
Tree Swallow		
Violet-green Swallow		
Bank Swallow		
Cliff Swallow		
Barn Swallow		
Black-capped Chickadee		
Gray-headed Chickadee		
Boreal Chickadee		
Red-breasted Nuthatch		
Winter Wren		
Marsh Wren		
American Dipper		
Golden-crowned Kinglet		
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		
Northern Wheatear		
Mountain Bluebird		
Townsend's Solitaire		
Gray-cheeked Thrush		
Swainson's Thrush		
Hermit Thrush		
American Robin		
Varied Thrush		

SPECIES	#	BR*
Yellow Wagtail		
American Pipit		
Bohemian Waxwing		
Cedar Waxwing		
European Starling		
Tennessee Warbler		
Orange-crowned Warbler		
Yellow Warbler		
Magnolia Warbler		
Yellow-rumped Warbler		
Cape May Warbler		
Palm Warbler		
Bay-breasted Warbler		
Black-and-White Warbler		
Blackpoll Warbler		
Mourning Warbler		
McGillivray's Warbler		
Connecticut Warbler		
Canada Warbler		
Wilson's Warbler		
Ovenbird		
Northern Waterthrush		
Common Yellowthroat		
American Redstart		
Western Tanager		
American Tree Sparrow		
Chipping Sparrow		
Clay-colored Sparrow		
Vesper Sparrow		
Savannah Sparrow		
LeConte's Sparrow		
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow		
Fox Sparrow		
Song Sparrow		
Lincoln's Sparrow		
Swamp Sparrow		
White-throated Sparrow		
Golden-crowned Sparrow		
Harris's Sparrow		

SPECIES	#	BR
White-crowned Sparrow		
Dark-eyed Junco		
Lapland Longspur		
Smith's Longspur		
Snow Bunting		
Rose-breasted Grosbeak		
Red-winged Blackbird		
Yellow-headed Blackbird		
Rusty Blackbird		
Brewer's Blackbird		
Common Grackle		
Brown-headed Cowbird		
Gray-crowned Rosy Finch		
Pine Grosbeak		
Purple Finch		

SPECIES	#	BR
Red Crossbill		
White-winged Crossbill		
Common Redpoll		
Hoary Redpoll		
Pine Siskin		
Evening Grosbeak		
House Sparrow		
Additional Species Not on List		

Supplementary Information

This supplementary information is part of an international initiative to document annual breeding conditions for shorebirds in arctic regions around the world. **Therefore this information applies primarily to areas above treeline.**

Weather and Snow Melt:

Please provide an estimate of snow cover in your study area during your observations:

Overall snow cover ____% On flat ground ____%
 Permanent snow cover ____% On slopes ____%

Ice cover on local lakes during your observations: ____%

Did any major storms/snowfalls/bad weather occur?

- No
- During your survey
- During the previous 24-48 hours

You can enter your own data on the internet at our newly expanded website!

Breeding Evidence Codes

Observed

X - Species identified, but no indication of breeding or outside of breeding season.

Possible

H - Species observed, or breeding calls heard, in suitable nesting **habitat** during the breeding season.

Probable

P - **Pair** observed in suitable nesting habitat

T - **Territory** presumed through territorial nesting behaviour at same location on at least two occasions a week or more apart.

C - **Courtship** behaviour between a male and a female

V - **Visiting** probable nest site, without other evidence

N - **Nest** building/excavation of nest hole by Wrens or Woodpeckers

Confirmed

NB - **Nest building** or adult carrying nest material; do not use this code for wrens or woodpeckers

DD - **Distraction display** or injury feigning

UN - **Used nest** or egg shells found

FL - Recently **fledged young** or downy young

ON - **Occupied nest** indicated by adult entering or leaving nest site or adult seen incubating

CF - Adult seen **carrying food** or faecal sac of young

NE - Nest with **eggs**

NY - Nest with **young**

Tips to avoid common problems when completing checklist cards:

1. Fill out the date field.
2. Give the best coordinates or location information you can.
3. Do not use words such as "lots" or "many" to describe how many birds you counted. Estimate a minimum number and make a comment that it was a minimum estimate.
4. Record the highest breeding status code for each species if possible. If you leave the field blank, your observations will all be marked with code "X".

All bird data submitted to this program is in the public domain. No personal data is released.

General Comments: Provide notes on unusual observations such as rarities, extra-limital sightings, odd behaviour, odd habitat associations. For rare or unusual birds, **provide documentation, including photographs where possible for verification. Include a description of identifying features of the bird you saw with as much detail as possible.** The website can now accept digital photos of your unusual birds. Attach extra pages if more space is needed.

The NWT-Nunavut Bird Checklist Survey is part of a national effort to collect valuable scientific data on the geographic distribution, abundance and breeding status of bird species. These data can be used for conservation purposes. The Survey is administered by the Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada, in cooperation with Parks Canada and the Governments of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Visit our webpage on Environment Canada's Prairie and Northern Region webpage (www.pnr-rpn.ec.gc.ca) under the "Wildlife/Nature" section, under "Migratory Birds" or go to:

www.pnr-rpn.ec.gc.ca/checklist

Please return completed forms to:

NWT-Nunavut Bird Checklist Survey
Canadian Wildlife Service
Suite 301, 5204-50th Avenue
Yellowknife NT X1A 1E2 CANADA
Fax: +867.873.8185
e-Mail: NWTChecklist@ec.gc.ca



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