

**Birds of Pender Island and adjacent waters**

As birds form an important part of the natural legacy of Pender Island, the Pender Island Field Naturalists undertook a complete revision of an old checklist in order to assist residents and visitors to learn and appreciate the diversity of birds found in our region. Like other regions, there is a distinct seasonal pattern to bird distribution and abundance. The list attempts to reflect this and is divided into the four calendar seasons. Each species is identified as to its relative abundance, having regard for the fact that a species, common early in a season, could well be absent later on during the same season.

This checklist covers North and South Pender Islands, the bays and coves, adjacent channels and the small islets along the coast. We have recorded known species to date for the checklist but we do not believe that our data are complete. As our information is insufficient to determine abundance numbers for each month, the designation should be viewed as a general guide only. Users of this checklist are encouraged to contact the Pender Island Field Naturalists, pifn@shaw.ca with new information or corrections for this list.

**Definitions**

**Abundant** - Species may be seen in large numbers in appropriate season and habitats.

**Common** - Usually seen or heard when visiting the appropriate habitat and season.

**Uncommon** - Often seen but not on every visit to suitable habitat or season

**Rare** - Only occasionally seen but not necessarily each year. Species can be common in nearby regions.

**Accidental** - Few records exist for the species sighted well beyond normal range. Range expansion may result in more frequent future sightings.

**Breeding (asterisk \*)** - From records of early compilers but most importantly, from the Breeding Bird Atlas of British Columbia.

**Seasons** - Normal calendar seasonal period. Species where there are no designations for seasonal abundance in the columns indicates an historical record where no contemporary data are known.

Species	Seasons			
	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
<b>Geese, Swans &amp; Ducks</b>				
Snow Goose	R		R	
Brant	R			
Canada Goose*	A	A	A	A
Mute Swan	R			R
Trumpeter Swan	R		R	R
Tundra Swan	R			
Wood Duck*		C	C	U
Eurasian Wigeon		R	R	R
American Wigeon	C		C	A
Mallard	C	C	C	C
Cinnamon Teal	Accidental			
Northern Shoveller				R
Northern Pintail			R	
Green-winged Teal			R	R
Ring-necked Duck	C		C	A
Greater Scaup				R
Lesser Scaup			U	U
Harlequin Duck	C	R	C	C
Surf Scoter	U		U	C
White-winged Scoter				R
Black Scoter				R
Long-tailed Duck				R
Bufflehead	C		C	A
Common Goldeneye	U		R	C
Barrow's Goldeneye	U		R	C
Hooded Merganser*	U	R	U	C
Common Merganser	U		C	A
Red-breasted Merganser			U	C
Ruddy Duck	Accidental			
<b>Pheasant &amp; Grouse</b>				
Ring-necked Pheasant*				
Ruffed Grouse*				
Sooty Grouse*	U	U	R	R
<b>American Quail</b>				
California Quail*	U	U	U	U
<b>Loons</b>				
Red-throated Loon	R			R
Pacific Loon	U		U	C
Common Loon		R	U	U
<b>Grebes</b>				
Pied-billed Grebe*	U	U	U	U
Horned Grebe	R	R	U	C
Red-necked Grebe		R	R	U
Eared Grebe			R	
Western Grebe	U	R		U

Species	Seasons			
	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
<b>Pelicans</b>				
Brown Pelican		R		R
<b>Cormorants</b>				
Brandt's Cormorant	U	U	U	U
Double-crested Cormorant	C	C	C	C
Pelagic Cormorant*	C	C	C	C
<b>Bitterns &amp; Herons</b>				
American Bittern	Accidental			
Great Blue Heron*	C	C	C	C
<b>Vultures</b>				
Turkey Vulture*	C	C	U	R
<b>Osprey, Eagles &amp; Hawks</b>				
Osprey*		C	C	U
Bald Eagle*	C	C	C	C
Northern Harrier*		U	R	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U	U	U	U
Cooper's Hawk	U	U	U	U
Northern Goshawk				R
Swainson's Hawk			R	
Red-tailed Hawk*	U	U	U	R
Golden Eagle	R		R	
<b>Falcons</b>				
American Kestrel		R	R	
Merlin*	R	R	U	R
Peregrine Falcon*	R	U	R	R
<b>Rails &amp; Coots</b>				
Virginia Rail*	R	R	R	R
American Coot	R			R
<b>Plovers</b>				
Semipalmated Plover	Accidental			
Killdeer*		R	R	R
<b>Oystercatchers</b>				
Black Oystercatcher*	C	U	C	C
<b>Sandpipers &amp; Allies</b>				
Spotted Sandpiper				R
Whimbrel	Accidental			
Black Turnstone		C	C	
Surfbird				R
Least Sandpiper			R	
Long-billed Dowitcher				
Wilson's Snipe*	U	U		
<b>Gulls &amp; Terns</b>				
Bonaparte's Gull	C		C	U
Heerman's Gull		U	U	R
Mew Gull	C	U	C	C
Ring-billed Gull				R
California Gull	C	R	C	R
Herring Gull			R	R

Species	Seasons			
	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Thayer's Gull				U
Glaucous-winged Gull*	C	C	C	C
Black-legged Kittiwake			Ac	
<b>Murres, Auks &amp; Puffins</b>				
Common Murre	U		C	U
Pigeon Guillemot*	C	U	C	C
Marbled Murrelet	U		U	U
Ancient Murrelet				R
Rhinoceros Auklet	U	U	U	U
<b>Pigeons &amp; Doves</b>				
Rock Pigeon*	C	C	C	C
Band-tailed Pigeon*	C	C	C	C
Eurasian Collared-Dove	U	R	R	
Mourning Dove				
<b>Barn Owls</b>				
Barn Owl				R
<b>Typical Owls</b>				
Great Horned Owl*	R	R	R	R
Snowy Owl				Ac
Western Screech Owl*	R	R	R	R
Barred Owl*	C	C	C	C
Long-eared Owl	Accidental			
Short-eared Owl	Accidental			
Northern Saw-whet Owl	R		R	R
<b>Goatsuckers</b>				
Common Nighthawk*		C		
<b>Swifts</b>				
Black Swift		R		
Vaux's Swift		C		
<b>Hummingbirds</b>				
Anna's Hummingbird*	C	U	C	C
Calliope Hummingbird		R		
Rufous Hummingbird*	C	C	U	R
<b>Kingfishers</b>				
Belted Kingfisher*	C	C	C	C
<b>Woodpeckers</b>				
Red-breasted Sapsucker*	U	U	U	U
Downy Woodpecker*	C	C	C	C
Hairy Woodpecker*	C	C	C	C
Northern Flicker*	C	C	C	C
Pileated Woodpecker*	C	C	C	C
<b>Flycatchers</b>				
Olive-sided Flycatcher*	C	C		
Western Wood-Pewee*	R	R		
Alder Flycatcher*	U	U		
Willow Flycatcher*	C	C		
Pacific-slope Flycatcher*	C	C		
Western Kingbird	Accidental			

	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
Say's Phoebe	Ac		Ac	
<b>True Shrikes</b>				
Northern Shrike				R/Ac
<b>Vireos</b>				
Cassin's Vireo*	U	U		
Hutton's Vireo*	C	C	U	U
Warbling Vireo*	C	U		
Red-eyed Vireo*	U	U		
<b>Jays &amp; Crows</b>				
Steller's Jay				
Northwestern Crow*	C	C	C	C
Common Raven*	C	C	C	C
<b>Larks</b>				
Horned Lark	Accidental			
<b>Swallows</b>				
Purple Martin*	U	C		
Tree Swallow*	U	U		
Violet-green Swallow*	C	C	U	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow*		U	U	
Cliff Swallow				
Barn Swallow*	C	C		
<b>Chickadees</b>				
Chestnut-backed Chickadee*	C	C	C	C
<b>Bushtit</b>				
Bushtit*	R	R	R	R
<b>Nuthatches</b>				
Red-breasted Nuthatch*	C	C	C	C
<b>Creepers</b>				
Brown Creeper*	U	U	C	C
<b>Wrens</b>				
Bewick's Wren*	U	U	R	R
House Wren*	C	C	C	
Pacific Wren*	C	C	C	C
<b>Dippers</b>				
American Dipper	Accidental			
<b>Kinglets</b>				
Golden-crowned Kinglet	U		C	A
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	R		R	R
<b>Bluebirds, Thrushes &amp; Allies</b>				
Western Bluebird				
Townsend's Solitaire			R	
Swainson's Thrush*	C	C	R	
Hermit Thrush	U		U	R
American Robin*	C	C	C	A
Varied Thrush*	C	R	R	C
<b>Mockingbirds &amp; Allies</b>				
Northern Mockingbird				R

	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
<b>Starlings</b>				
European Starling*	C	C	C	C
<b>Pipits</b>				
American Pipit			R	
<b>Waxwings</b>				
Cedar Waxwing*	C	U	U	R
<b>Wood-Warblers</b>				
Orange-crowned Warbler*	C	C	C	R
Yellow Warbler	U	U		
Yellow-rumped Warbler*	C	C	C	R
Black-throated Gray Warbler				
Townsend's Warbler	C	C	R	R
MacGillivray's Warbler				
Common Yellowthroat*	U	U	R	
Wilson's Warbler*	C	C	U	
<b>Tanagers</b>				
Western Tanager*	U	U		
<b>Towhees, Sparrows &amp; Allies</b>				
Spotted Towhee*	C	C	C	C
American Tree Sparrow	Accidental			
Chipping Sparrow*	U	U	R	
Vesper Sparrow				
Savannah Sparrow*	U	U	R	
Fox Sparrow	U		U	C
Song Sparrow*	C	C	C	C
Lincoln's Sparrow			R	R
White-throated Sparrow				R
White-crowned Sparrow*	C	C	U	R
Golden-crowned Sparrow	U		U	C
Dark-eyed Junco	C	C	C	A
<b>Grosbeaks</b>				
Black-headed Grosbeak*	U	U	U	
Lazuli Bunting	Accidental			
<b>Blackbirds</b>				
Red-winged Blackbird*	C	C	C	U
Yellow-headed Blackbird				
Brewer's Blackbird				
Brown-headed Cowbird*	C	C	U	
<b>Cardueline Finches &amp; Allies</b>				
Purple Finch*	C	C	U	U
House Finch*	C	C	C	C
Red Crossbill*	C	C	C	C
Pine Siskin*	C	C	C	A
American Goldfinch*	U	C	R	
Evening Grosbeak	R	R	R	R
<b>Old World Sparrows</b>				
House Sparrow*	C	C	C	C

## Pender Island Field Naturalists

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Brooks Point

Keith Valentine

# Checklist to the Birds of Pender Island

## 2014