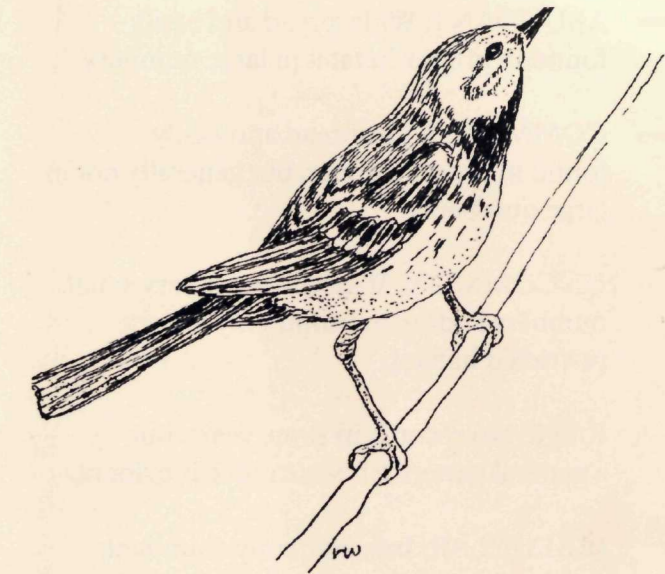




# Birds of Acadia National Park



## What to See and When

**Spring/Summer:** Spring is an excellent time to see migrating warblers in breeding plumage on Mount Desert Island. Twenty-three nesting warblers are found in the park, including **blackburnian**, **black-throated**, and **Canada warblers**. As spring turns into summer, the symphony of breeding songs draws to a close as adult birds tend to their young and prepare for fall migration.

**Fall:** Watch for migrating falcons, hawks, and other birds of prey from mountains in the park, especially when the winds blow from a northerly direction. In the fall, visit Hawkwatch atop Cadillac Mountain. Mixed flocks of migrating warblers and other songbirds are often heralded by the calls of **chickadees** and may be encountered along the south end of Mount Desert Island and near bodies of water.

**Winter:** Seabirds, such as **oldsquaws**, **common eiders**, and **red-necked grebes**, are the easiest birds to see in the coldest months. Look for them along the ocean section of the Park Loop Road, around Bar Island, or in any sheltered bay. **Northern shrikes**, **great gray owls**, and **northern hawk owls** are sometimes found in open areas like Great Meadow and Beech Mountain.

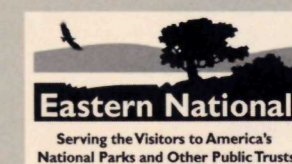
## Protect Your Park

When looking at birds, please stay on trails or bare rock and respect the rights of private property owners neighboring the park. As with all wildlife, keep a safe distance from birds; use binoculars to view them close up so as not to disturb them. Do not feed birds. Respect posted trail and island closures to protect nesting birds.

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## Where Can I Find Birds?

The diversity of bird species in Acadia National Park is due in part to the meeting of northern and southern forest types, along with open ocean, sheltered bays, and freshwater marshes and ponds. The distribution of individual birds, however, changes with the time of day, season, and year. Seeing certain species takes patience and persistence, and being in the right place at the right time. To find a particular species, visit its preferred habitat noted in this checklist or in field guides.

**Bald eagles** and **ospreys** nest on many off-shore islands around Mount Desert Island. They may be seen near any body of water, especially on nature cruises. Look for them on top of trees, on rocky islands, or flying overhead. Give a wide berth to eagle nests and do not land on an island with an active nest.

**Common loons** breed on many freshwater lakes and ponds. They can sometimes be heard calling on Echo Lake, Eagle Lake, Bubble Pond, Jordan Pond, and Long Pond. Loons move into saltwater bays for the winter.

Acadia is at the southern edge of the distribution of many northern species, such as **boreal chickadees**, **gray jays**, **white-winged** and **red crossbills**, **spruce grouse**, and **black-backed woodpeckers**. They may be rare or absent, however, in any given year. Spruce forests, such as Wonderland or Ship Harbor on the west side of Mount Desert Island, are the best places to look for these species.

**Atlantic puffins** are birds of the open ocean, rarely seen in Acadia National Park. They nest on the islands of the Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge and can be seen during various commercial boat trips.

**Peregrine falcons** nest on some of the park's cliffs between late March and early August, and adults may be present into December. The Precipice Trail parking lot offers a good vantage point for viewing these falcons. Park staff with spotting scopes may be available to help you see them. Please honor posted trail closures.

## Species Reported Fewer Than Five Times

Arctic/Pacific Loon	Chuck-Will's-Widow
Eared Grebe	Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird
Red-Billed Tropicbird	Acadian Flycatcher
Magnificent Frigatebird	Willow Flycatcher
Tricolored (Louisiana) Heron	Say's Phoebe
Tundra Swan	Ash-Throated Flycatcher
Greater White-Fronted Goose	Scissor-Tailed Flycatcher
Northern Shoveler	Tufted Titmouse
Gadwall	Bewick's Wren
Eurasian Wigeon	Northern Wheatear
Canvasback	Townsend's Solitaire
Redhead	Varied Thrush
Lesser Scaup	Loggerhead Shrike
Swainson's Hawk	Yellow-Throated Vireo
Clapper Rail	White-Eyed Vireo
King Rail	Black-Throated Gray Warbler
Sandhill Crane	Townsend's Warbler
Piping Plover	Yellow-Throated Warbler
American Oystercatcher	Cerulean Warbler
American Avocet	Prothonotary Warbler
Western Sandpiper	Worm-Eating Warbler
Baird's Sandpiper	Louisiana Waterthrush
Curlew Sandpiper	Kentucky Warbler
Stilt Sandpiper	Connecticut Warbler
Buff-Breasted Sandpiper	Hooded Warbler
Long-Billed Dowitcher	Western Tanager
Marbled Godwit	Black-Headed Grosbeak
Long-Tailed Jaeger	Lazuli Bunting
Great Skua	Painted Bunting
South-Polar Skua	Green-Tailed Towhee
Little Gull	Spotted Towhee
Lesser Black-Backed Gull	Lark Sparrow
Sabine's Gull	Lark Bunting
Ivory Gull	Grasshopper Sparrow
Caspian Tern	LeConte's Sparrow
Forster's Tern	Seaside Sparrow
Sooty Tern	Harris' Sparrow
White-Winged Tern	Yellow-Headed Blackbird
Black Skimmer	Brewer's Blackbird
Gyr Falcon	Bullock's Oriole
Barn Owl	Hoary Redpoll
Great Gray Owl	
Eastern Screech Owl	
Boreal Owl	

## CARDINALS

— Northern Cardinal	b	B,R
— Rose-Breasted Grosbeak	b	
— Blue Grosbeak	b	
— Indigo Bunting	b	
— Dickcissel	b	

## NEW WORLD SPARROWS

— Eastern Towhee	b	
— American Tree Sparrow	b	
— Chipping Sparrow	b	
— Clay-Colored Sparrow	b	
— Field Sparrow	b	
— Vesper Sparrow	b	
— Savannah Sparrow	b	
— Nelson's Sharp-Tailed Sparrow	b	
— Fox Sparrow	b	
— Song Sparrow	b	
— Lincoln's Sparrow	b	F
— Swamp Sparrow	b	B,F
— White-Throated Sparrow	b	
— White-Crowned Sparrow	b	B,R
— Dark-Eyed Junco	b	
— Lapland Longspur	b	O,T
— Snow Bunting	b	O,T

## BLACKBIRDS AND ORIOLES

— Bobolink	b	
— Red-Winged Blackbird	b	
— Eastern Meadowlark	b	O,B
— Rusty Blackbird	b	
— Common Grackle	b	
— Brown-Headed Cowbird	b	
— Orchard Oriole	b	
— Baltimore Oriole	b	

## FINCHES

— Pine Grosbeak	*	
— Purple Finch	b*	
— House Finch	b	R
— Red Crossbill	b*	E
— White-Winged Crossbill	b*	E
— Common Redpoll	*	
— Pine Siskin	b*	
— American Goldfinch	b	
— Evening Grosbeak	b*	

## OLD WORLD SPARROWS

— House Sparrow	b	R
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## WAXWINGS

— Bohemian Waxwing	*	
— Cedar Waxwing	b	

## SHRIKES

— Northern Shrike	b	
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## STARLINGS

— European Starling	b	
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## VIREOS

— Blue-Headed Vireo	b	
— Warbling Vireo	b	
— Philadelphia Vireo	b	
— Red-Eyed Vireo	b	

## WOOD WARBLERS

— Blue-Winged Warbler	b	
— Golden-Winged Warbler	b	
— Tennessee Warbler	b	
— Orange-Crowned Warbler	b	
— Nashville Warbler	b	
— Northern Parula	b	
— Yellow Warbler	b	
— Chestnut-Sided Warbler	b	
— Magnolia Warbler	b	
— Cape May Warbler	b*	
— Black-Throated Blue Warbler	b*	
— Yellow-Rumped Warbler	b	
— Black-Throated Green Warbler	b	
— Blackburnian Warbler	b	
— Pine Warbler	b	
— Prairie Warbler	b	
— Palm Warbler	b	
— Bay-Breasted Warbler	b*	
— Blackpoll Warbler	b	
— Black-and-White Warbler	b	
— American Redstart	b	
— Ovenbird	b	
— Northern Waterthrush	b	
— Mourning Warbler	b	
— Common Yellowthroat	b	
— Wilson's Warbler	b	
— Canada Warbler	b	
— Yellow-Breasted Chat	b	

## TANAGERS

— Summer Tanager	b	
— Scarlet Tanager	b	

**Birds of Acadia National Park**

Species that have been recorded five or more times in Acadia National Park (including Mount Desert Island, Schoodic Peninsula, Isle au Haut, and nearby waters) are graphed in this checklist. Accidental species are listed separately. Please report details of unusual sightings to Acadia National Park rangers.

**Abundance Designations**

- **ABUNDANT:** Widespread and easily found in proper habitat in large numbers.
- **COMMON:** Widespread and easily found in proper habitat, but generally not in large numbers.
- **UNCOMMON:** Widespread in very small numbers and/or common only in very restricted habitat.
- ..... **RARE:** No records in some years, but a general pattern of occurrence is evident.
- \*** **IRREGULAR:** Intermittently abundant, common, or absent.
- b** **BREEDS:** Confirmed breeding since 1965.

**Habitat**

Species restricted to one or two habitat types are assigned codes based on the following key:

- B** - Brushy Areas
- C** - Coastal
- D** - Deciduous Forest
- E** - Evergreen Forest
- F** - Fresh Marsh, Bogs
- I** - Offshore Islands
- L** - Lakes
- M** - Mixed Forest
- O** - Open Fields
- P** - Pelagic
- R** - Residential
- S** - Salt Marsh
- T** - Tidal Zones

**LOONS**

- Red-Throated Loon
- Common Loon

**GREBES**

- Pied-Billed Grebe
- Horned Grebe
- Red-Necked Grebe

**SHEARWATERS**

- Northern Fulmar
- Cory's Shearwater
- Greater Shearwater
- Sooty Shearwater
- Manx Shearwater

**STORM-PETRELS**

- Wilson's Storm-Petrel
- Leach's Storm-Petrel

**GANNETS**

- Northern Gannet

**CORMORANTS**

- Great Cormorant
- Double-Crested Cormorant

**BITTERNS AND HERONS**

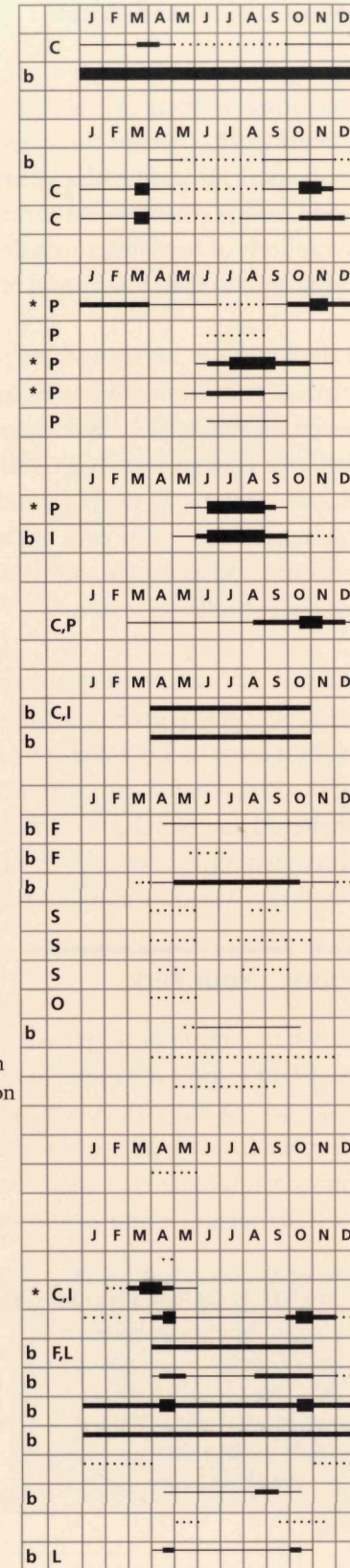
- American Bittern
- Least Bittern
- Great Blue Heron
- Great Egret
- Snowy Egret
- Little Blue Heron
- Cattle Egret
- Green Heron
- Black-Crowned Night Heron
- Yellow-Crowned Night Heron

**IBISES**

- Glossy Ibis

**GEESE AND DUCKS**

- Snow Goose
- Brant
- Canada Goose
- Wood Duck
- Green-Winged Teal
- American Black Duck
- Mallard
- Northern Pintail
- Blue-Winged Teal
- American Wigeon
- Ring-Necked Duck



**GEESE AND DUCKS (cont.)**

- Greater Scaup
- Common Eider
- King Eider
- Harlequin Duck
- Oldsquaw
- Black Scoter
- Surf Scoter
- White-Winged Scoter
- Common Goldeneye
- Barrow's Goldeneye
- Bufflehead
- Hooded Merganser
- Common Merganser
- Red-Breasted Merganser
- Ruddy Duck

**RAILS**

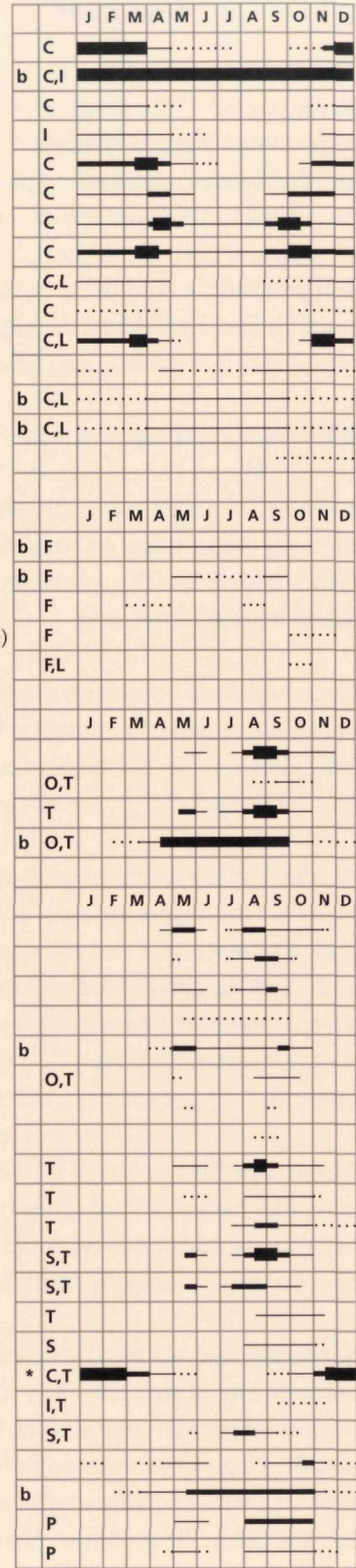
- Virginia Rail
- Sora
- Purple Gallinule
- Common Moorhen (Gallinule)
- American Coot

**PLOVERS**

- Black-Bellied Plover
- American Golden-Plover
- Semipalmated Plover
- Killdeer

**SANDPIPERS**

- Greater Yellowlegs
- Lesser Yellowlegs
- Solitary Sandpiper
- Willet
- Spotted Sandpiper
- Whimbrel
- Upland Sandpiper
- Hudsonian Godwit
- Ruddy Turnstone
- Red Knot
- Sanderling
- Semipalmated Sandpiper
- Least Sandpiper
- White-Rumped Sandpiper
- Pectoral Sandpiper
- Purple Sandpiper
- Dunlin
- Short-Billed Dowitcher
- Common Snipe
- American Woodcock
- Red-Necked Phalarope
- Red Phalarope



**JAEGERS, GULLS, AND TERNS**

- Pomarine Jaeger
- Parasitic Jaeger
- Laughing Gull
- Common Black-Headed Gull
- Bonaparte's Gull
- Ring-Billed Gull
- Herring Gull
- Iceland Gull
- Glaucous Gull
- Great Black-Backed Gull
- Black-Legged Kittiwake
- Royal Tern
- Roseate Tern
- Common Tern
- Arctic Tern
- Least Tern
- Black Tern

**ALCIDS**

- Dovekie
- Common Murre
- Thick-Billed Murre
- Razorbill
- Black Guillemot
- Atlantic Puffin

**VULTURES**

- Turkey Vulture

**HAWKS AND EAGLES**

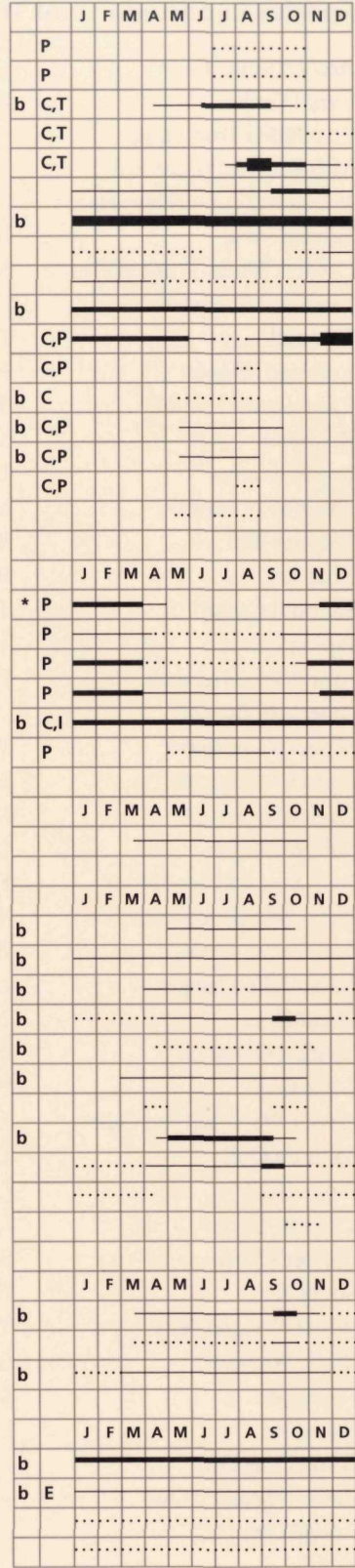
- Osprey
- Bald Eagle
- Northern Harrier
- Sharp-Shinned Hawk
- Cooper's Hawk
- Northern Goshawk
- Red-Shouldered Hawk
- Broad-Winged Hawk
- Red-Tailed Hawk
- Rough-Legged Hawk
- Golden Eagle

**FALCONS**

- American Kestrel
- Merlin
- Peregrine Falcon

**GROUSE**

- Ruffed Grouse
- Spruce Grouse
- Northern Bobwhite
- Ring-Necked Pheasant



**DOVES**

- Rock Dove
- Mourning Dove

**CUCKOOS**

- Black-Billed Cuckoo
- Yellow-Billed Cuckoo

**OWLS**

- Great Horned Owl
- Snowy Owl
- Northern Hawk Owl
- Barred Owl
- Long-Eared Owl
- Short-Eared Owl
- Northern Saw-Whet Owl

**NIGHTJARS**

- Common Nighthawk
- Whip-poor-will

**SWIFTS**

- Chimney Swift

**HUMMINGBIRDS**

- Ruby-Throated Hummingbird

**KINGFISHERS**

- Belted Kingfisher

**WOODPECKERS**

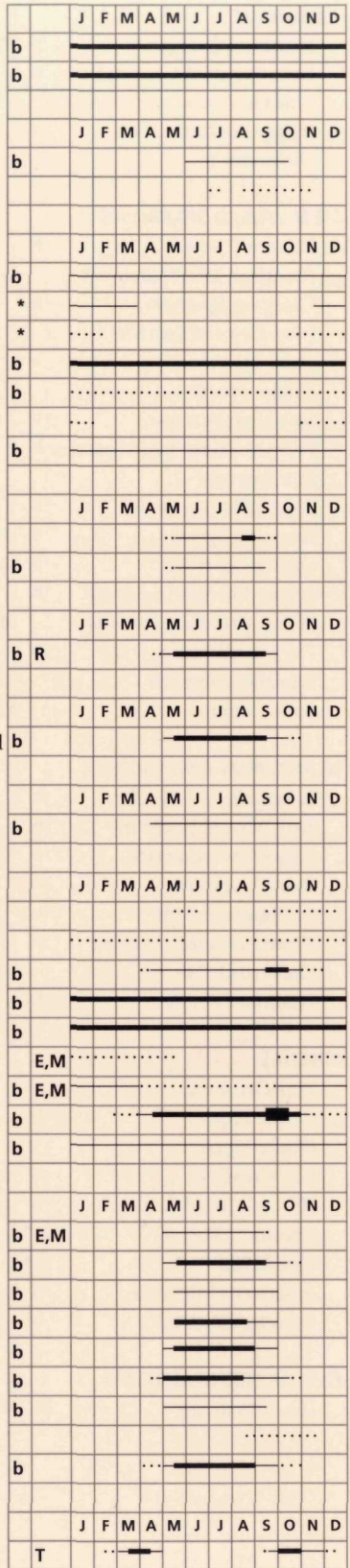
- Red-Headed Woodpecker
- Red-Bellied Woodpecker
- Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker
- Downy Woodpecker
- Hairy Woodpecker
- Three-Toed Woodpecker
- Black-Backed Woodpecker
- Northern Flicker
- Pileated Woodpecker

**FLYCATCHERS**

- Olive-Sided Flycatcher
- Eastern Wood-Peepee
- Yellow-Bellied Flycatcher
- Alder Flycatcher
- Least Flycatcher
- Eastern Phoebe
- Great Crested Flycatcher
- Western Kingbird
- Eastern Kingbird

**LARKS**

- Horned Lark



**SWALLOWS**

- Purple Martin
- Tree Swallow
- Northern Rough-Winged Swallow
- Bank Swallow
- Cliff Swallow
- Barn Swallow

**JAYS AND CROWS**

- Gray Jay
- Blue Jay
- American Crow
- Common Raven

**CHICKADEES**

- Black-Capped Chickadee
- Boreal Chickadee

**NUTHATCHES**

- Red-Breasted Nuthatch
- White-Breasted Nuthatch

**CREEPERS**

- Brown Creeper

**WRENS**

- Caroline Wren
- House Wren
- Winter Wren
- Sedge Wren
- Marsh Wren

**THRUSHES**

- Golden-Crowned Kinglet
- Ruby-Crowned Kinglet
- Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher
- Eastern Bluebird
- Veery
- Gray-Cheeked Thrush
- Swainson's Thrush
- Hermit Thrush
- Wood Thrush
- American Robin

**MIMICS**

- Gray Catbird
- Northern Mockingbird
- Brown Thrasher

**PIPITS**

- Water Pipit

