

# Checklist of Cariboo Chilcotin Birds



Compiled by Anna Roberts, Phil Ranson and  
Jim Sims

2018

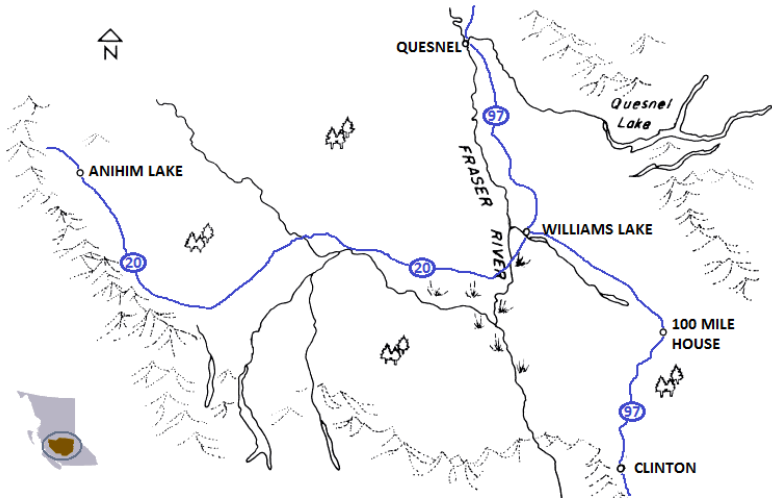
## Explanation of Symbols

- Common:** 20 or more individuals per day per locality
- Fairly Common:** 7 to 20 individuals per day per locality
- Uncommon:** 1 to 6 individuals per day per locality
- Rare:** 1 to 6 individuals per season
- Occasional:** more than 6 records but not every year
- Casual:** 2 to 6 records – or well outside normal date range
- Accidental:** one record
- Single Bird:** duration of stay
- \* Irruptive:** may be absent in some years

The width of the bars represents the likelihood of encountering the species, in a given month, **and in the appropriate habitat**

### Status Codes

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| N | Nests in checklist area                 |
| P | Probably nests in checklist area        |
| I | Introduced                              |
| R | Recent addition to checklist            |
| C | Change to species name                  |
| ↑ | Increased significantly in recent years |
| ↓ | Decreased significantly in recent years |



The area covered by this checklist extends from Quesnel south to Clinton and from the Cariboo Mountains west to the Coast Mountains near Anahim Lake

Species	Code	Status	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
<b>GEESE-SWANS</b>														
Snow Goose	SNGO	↑				—	—						—	—
Ross's Goose	ROGO				•	••	••							
Greater White-fronted Goose	GWFG	↑	•			—	—					—	—	
Brant	BRAN							••		•		•	•	
Cackling Goose	CACG	C												
Canada Goose	CAGO	N			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mute Swan	MUSW	IR					○							
Trumpeter Swan	TRUS	↑	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tundra Swan	TUSW				—	—						—	—	—
<b>DUCKS</b>														
Wood Duck	WODU	N↑			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blue-winged Teal	BWTE	N				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cinnamon Teal	CITE	N				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Shoveler	NSHO	N				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gadwall	GADW	N				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eurasian Wigeon	EUWI				—			•			••		○	
American Wigeon	AMWI	N			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mallard	MALL	N	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern Pintail	NOPI	N			—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Green-winged Teal	GWTE	N				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Canvasback	CANV	N				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Redhead	REDH	N				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ring-necked Duck	RNDU	N				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tufted Duck	TUDU													
Greater Scaup	GRSC					—	—					—	—	
Lesser Scaup	LESC	N				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harlequin Duck	HADU	N												
Surf Scoter	SUSC					—	—					—	—	
White-winged Scoter	WWSC	N				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Black Scoter	BLSC				•	•••								
Long-tailed Duck	LTDU	C				—	—			•				
Bufflehead	BUFF	N				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Goldeneye	COGO	N	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barrow's Goldeneye	BAGO	N	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hooded Merganser	HOME	N				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Common Merganser	COME	N				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Red-breasted Merganser	RBME													
Ruddy Duck	RUDU	N				—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Species	Code	Status	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
<b>GROUSE-PTARMIGAN</b>														
California Quail	CAQU	IN												
Chukar	CHUK	IN												
Ring-necked Pheasant	RNPH	IN												
Ruffed Grouse	RUGR	N												
Spruce Grouse	SPGR	N												
Willow Ptarmigan	WIPT	N												
Rock Ptarmigan	ROPT													
White-tailed Ptarmigan	WTPT	N												
Dusky Grouse	DUGR	NC												
Sooty Grouse	SOGR	PRC												
Sharp-tailed Grouse	STGR	N												
<b>GREBES</b>														
Pied-billed Grebe	PBGR	N												
Horned Grebe	HOGR	N												
Red-necked Grebe	RNGR	N												
Eared Grebe	EAGR	N												
Western Grebe	WEGR													
Clark's Grebe	CLGR	R												
<b>PIGEONS-DOVES</b>														
Rock Pigeon	ROPI	NC												
Band-tailed Pigeon	BTPI	P												
Eurasian Collared-Dove	ECDO	RIN												
Mourning Dove	MODO	N												
<b>CUCKOOS</b>														
Black-billed Cuckoo	BBCU													
<b>NIGHTJARS</b>														
Common Nighthawk	CONI	N												
Common Poorwill	COPO	N												
<b>SWIFTS</b>														
Black Swift	BLSW	N												
Vaux's Swift	VASW	N												
White-throated Swift	WTSW	N												
<b>HUMMINGBIRDS</b>														
Rivoli's Hummingbird	RIHU	RC												

Species	Code	Status	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Black-chinned Hummingbird	BCHU	N							—					
Anna's Hummingbird	ANHU	↑N												
Rufous Hummingbird	RUHU	N					—	—	—					
Calliope Hummingbird	CAHU	N					—	—	—					
<b>RAILS-COOTS</b>														
Yellow Rail	YERA	PR						•	•					
Virginia Rail	VIRA	N					—	—	—					
Sora	SORA	N					—	—	—					
American Coot	AMCO	N					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>CRANES</b>														
Sandhill Crane	SACR	N					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	••
Whooping Crane	WHCR						○							
<b>STILTS-AVOCETS</b>														
Black-necked Stilt	BNST													
American Avocet	AMAV	N↑					—	—	—					
<b>PLOVERS</b>														
Black-bellied Plover	BBPL													
American Golden-Plover	AMGP	N												
Pacific Golden-Plover	PAGP	R						•			•			
Semipalmated Plover	SEPL	N					—	—	—					
Killdeer	KILL	N					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>SANDPIPERS-PHALAROPES</b>														
Upland Sandpiper	UPSA	N											•	
Whimbrel	WHIM						•		•					
Long-billed Curlew	LBCU	N					—	—	—					
Hudsonian Godwit	HUGO						○							
Marbled Godwit	MAGO						••							
Ruddy Turnstone	RUTU						○							
Black Turnstone	BLTU	R											••	
Ruff	RUFF	R											•	•
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	SHSA	R												
Stilt Sandpiper	STSA													
Sanderling	SAND						•							
Dunlin	DUNL													
Baird's Sandpiper	BASA						—							
Little Stint	LIST	R											○	

Species	Code	Status	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Least Sandpiper	LESA	N					■		■	■	■			
White-rumped Sandpiper	WRSA	R					●					●	●	
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	BBSA								●	●	●			
Pectoral Sandpiper	PESA						—			■	■	■		
Semipalmated Sandpiper	SESA						■		■	■	■			
Western Sandpiper	WESA						■		■	■	■			
Short-billed Dowitcher	SBDO						—			—	—	—		
Long-billed Dowitcher	LBDO						■		■	■	■			
Wilson's Snipe	WISN	N					■	■	■	■	■	■		
Spotted Sandpiper	SPSA	N					■	■	■	■	■	■		
Solitary Sandpiper	SOSA	N					■	■	■	■	■	■		
Wandering Tattler	WATA							●		●			●	
Lesser Yellowlegs	LEYE	P					■		■	■	■			
Greater Yellowlegs	GRYE	N				■	■	■	■	■	■	■		
Wilson's Phalarope	WIPH	N					■	■	■	■	■	■		
Red-necked Phalarope	RNPL						■			■	■	■		
Red Phalarope	REPH	R											●	●
<b>JAEGERS</b>														
Pomarine Jaeger	POJA												●	●
Parasitic Jaeger	PAJA	R					●	●	●	●				
Long-tailed Jaeger	LTJA											—	—	
<b>GULLS-TERNS</b>														
Sabine's Gull	SAGU						●		●					
Bonaparte's Gull	BOGU	N					■	■	■	■	■	■		
Franklin's Gull	FRGU						—			—	—	—		
Mew Gull	MEGU						—			—	—	—		
Ring-billed Gull	RBGU	N					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
California Gull	CAGU						■	■	■	■	■	■		
Herring Gull	HERG	N					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	●
Iceland Gull	ICGU						—			—	—	—		
Glaucous-winged Gull	GWGU			●			●	●	●	●				●
Glaucous Gull	GLGU							●					●	●
Caspian Tern	CATE	↑P					■	■	■	■	■			
Black Tern	BLTE	N					●	■	■	■	■			
Common Tern	COTE						●	■	■	■	■			
Arctic Tern	ARTE	N					—			—	—	—		
Forster's Tern	FOTE	R						●	●	●				

Species	Code	Status	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
<b>LOONS</b>														
Red-throated Loon	RTLO						•	•		••	•		•→	
Pacific Loon	PALO													
Common Loon	COLO	N												
Yellow-billed Loon	YBLO		•→					•					•	•→
<b>CORMORANTS</b>														
Double-crested Cormorant	DCCO	N↑												
<b>PELICANS</b>														
American White Pelican	AWPE	N↑												
Brown Pelican	BRPE	R					•			•				
<b>EGRETS-HERONS</b>														
American Bittern	AMBI	N												
Great Blue Heron	GBHE	N												
Great Egret	GREG													
Cattle Egret	CAEG	R												
Green Heron	GRHE							•		•	•		•→	
Black-crowned Night Heron	BCNH						•			•			•	
<b>VULTURES</b>														
Turkey Vulture	TUVU	↑P												
<b>OSPREY-EAGLES-HAWKS</b>														
Osprey	OSPR	N												
White-tailed Kite	WTKI	R						◦						
Bald Eagle	BAEA	N												
Northern Harrier	NOHA	N												
Sharp-shinned Hawk	SSHA	N												
Cooper's Hawk	COHA	N												
Northern Goshawk	NOGO	N												
Broad-winged Hawk	BWHA	R						••	•		•			
Swainson's Hawk	SWHA													
Red-tailed Hawk	RTHA	N												
Rough-legged Hawk	RLHA													
Golden Eagle	GOEA	N												
<b>OWLS</b>														
Barn Owl	BANO													
Flammulated Owl	FLOW	N												

Species	Code	Status	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Western Screech-Owl	WESO	PR											•	•
Great Horned Owl	GHOW	N	██											
Snowy Owl	SNOW													
Northern Hawk Owl	NHOW	N	-----											
Northern Pygmy-Owl	NOPO	N	██											
Burrowing Owl	BUOW					•	•					•	•	•
Barred Owl	BADO	N	██											
Great Gray Owl	GGOW	N	██											
Long-eared Owl	LEOW	N	██											
Short-eared Owl	SEOW	N↓												
Boreal Owl	BOOW	N	██											
Northern Saw-whet Owl	NSWO	N	██											
<b>KINGFISHERS</b>														
Belted Kingfisher	BEKI	N												
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>														
Lewis's Woodpecker	LEWO	N												
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	YBSA	NR												
Red-naped Sapsucker	RNSA	N												
Red-breasted Sapsucker	RBSA	N												
Downy Woodpecker	DOWO	N	██											
Hairy Woodpecker	HAWO	N	██											
Am. Three-toed Woodpecker	ATTW	N	██											
Black-backed Woodpecker	BBWO	N	██											
Northern Flicker	NOFL	N	██											
Pileated Woodpecker	PIWO	N	██											
<b>FALCONS</b>														
Eurasian Kestrel	EUKE													◦
American Kestrel	AMKE	N												
Merlin	MERL	N	██											
Gyrfalcon	GYRF													
Peregrine Falcon	PEFA	N												
Prairie Falcon	PRFA	N	•											
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>														
Olive-sided Flycatcher	OSFL	N												
Western Wood-Pee wee	WWPE	N												
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	YBFL	R												
Alder Flycatcher	ALFL	N												





Species	Code	Status	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
__Chestnut-backed Chickadee	CBCH	N	—————											
__Boreal Chickadee	BOCH	N	—————											
<b>NUTHATCHES</b>														
__Red-breasted Nuthatch	RBNU	N	—————											
__White-breasted Nuthatch	WBNU	P												
__Pygmy Nuthatch	PYNU								o					
<b>CREEPERS</b>														
__Brown Creeper	BRCR	N	—————											
<b>WRENS-DIPPER-KINGLETS</b>														
__Rock Wren	ROWR	N						—	—	—				
__House Wren	HOWR	N						.....	.....	.....				
__Pacific Wren	PAWR	NC						—	—	—	—			
__Marsh Wren	MAWR	N						—	—	—	—			
__American Dipper	AMDI	N	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			—
__Golden-crowned Kinglet	GCKI	N	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			—
__Ruby-crowned Kinglet	RCKI	N						—	—	—	—			
<b>BLUEBIRDS-THRUSHES</b>														
__Western Bluebird	WEBL	N						•	•	•	•			
__Mountain Bluebird	MOBL	N						—	—	—	—			
__Townsend's Solitaire	TOSO	N	—————											
__Veery	VEER	N						—	—	—	—			
__Gray-cheeked Thrush	GCTH	RN						—	—	—	—			
__Swainson's Thrush	SWTH	N						—	—	—	—			
__Hermit Thrush	HETH	N						—	—	—	—			
__American Robin	AMRO	N	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
__Varied Thrush	VATH	N	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
<b>CATBIRDS-THRASHERS</b>														
__Gray Catbird	GRCA	N						—	—	—	—			•
__Sage Thrasher	SATH							•						
__Northern Mockingbird	NOMO							.....	.....	.....				
<b>STARLINGS</b>														
__European Starling	EUST	NI	—————											
<b>WAXWINGS</b>														
__Bohemian Waxwing	BOWA	P	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			—

Species	Code	Status	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Cedar Waxwing	CEWA	N						█	█	█	█	█		•
<b>OLD WORLD SPARROWS</b>														
House Sparrow	HOSP	NI	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
<b>PIPITS</b>														
American Pipit	AMPI	N					█	█	█	█	█	█		
Sprague's Pipit	SPPI	N												
<b>FINCHES</b>														
Brambling	BRAM												•	•
Evening Grosbeak	EVGR	N		*	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	*
Pine Grosbeak	PIGR	N		*	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	*
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch	GCRF	N												
House Finch	HOFI	N												
Purple Finch	PUFI	N												
Cassin's Finch	CAFI	N												
Common Redpoll	CORE			*	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	*
Hoary Redpoll	HORE													
Red Crossbill	RECR	N							*	█	█	█	█	█
White-winged Crossbill	WWCR	N							*	█	█	█	█	█
Pine Siskin	PISI	N							*	█	█	█	█	█
American Goldfinch	AMGO	N												
<b>BUNTINGS</b>														
Lapland Longspur	LALO				█									
McCown's Longspur	MCLO	R							○					
Snow Bunting	SNBU													█
<b>SPARROWS</b>														
Spotted Towhee	SPTO	↑CN												
American Tree Sparrow	ATSP													
Chipping Sparrow	CHSP	N												•
Clay-coloured Sparrow	CCSP	N↑												•
Brewer's Sparrow	BRSP													
Vesper Sparrow	VESP	N												•
Lark Sparrow	LASP	N												
Lark Bunting	LARB													•
Savannah Sparrow	SAVS	N												•
Grasshopper Sparrow	GRSP													○
LeConte's Sparrow	LCSP													•

Species	Code	Status	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Fox Sparrow	FOSP	N						—————						
Song Sparrow	SOSP	N	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————
Lincoln's Sparrow	LISP	N					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			•
Swamp Sparrow	SWSP	P↑					•	•	•	•				
White-throated Sparrow	WTSP	N↑					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
Harris's Sparrow	HASP							•			•			
White-crowned Sparrow	WCSP	N					—■—	—————	—————	—————	—■—			
Golden-crowned Sparrow	GCSP	N					—■—	—————	—————	—————	—————			
Dark-eyed Junco	DEJU	N	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————
<b>ICTERIDS</b>														
Yellow-breasted Chat	YBCH	R						•	•	•	→			
Yellow-headed Blackbird	YHBL	N					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			•
Bobolink	BOBO	N					—————	—————	—————	—————				
Western Meadowlark	WEME	N	•				—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			•
Bullock's Oriole	BUOR	NC					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
Baltimore Oriole	BAOR							○						
Red-winged Blackbird	RWBL	N	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————
Brown-headed Cowbird	BHCO	N					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
Rusty Blackbird	RUBL	N					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
Brewer's Blackbird	BRBL	N	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
Common Grackle	COGR	NR												•
<b>WARBLERS</b>														
Ovenbird	OVEN							•	•	•				
Northern Waterthrush	NOWA	N					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
Black-and-white Warbler	BAWW						•	•			•			
Tennessee Warbler	TEWA	N					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
Orange-crowned Warbler	OCWA	N					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
Nashville Warbler	NAWA	N					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
MacGillivray's Warbler	MGWA	N					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
Common Yellowthroat	COYE	N					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
American Redstart	AMRE	N					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
Cape May Warbler	CMWA	R									•		•	→
Northern Parula	NOPA	R						○						
Magnolia Warbler	MAWA	P					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
Yellow Warbler	YEWA	N					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
Chestnut-sided Warbler	CSWA	NR									•	•		
Blackpoll Warbler	BLPW	N					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
Palm Warbler	PAWA						•						•	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	YRWA	N					—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————

Species	Code	Status	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Townsend's Warbler	TOWA	N							██████████					
Wilson's Warbler	WIWA	N						██████████						
<b>CARDINALS</b>														
Scarlet Tanager	SCTA	R												➔
Western Tanager	WETA	N						██████████						
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	RBGR							.....						
Black-headed Grosbeak	BHGR	P						.....						
Lazuli Bunting	LAZB	N↑						██████████						
Indigo Bunting	INBU	R						•	•		•			
Dickcissel	DICK				•			•	➔					
The Checklist contains 325 species.														

## Notes

## Notes

## Species of special interest

**American White Pelican:** only nesting colonies in BC

**Eared Grebe:** significant nesting area

**Barrow's Goldeneye:** major nesting populations

**American Avocet:** new range expansion

**Long-billed Curlew:** major nesting area

**Arctic Tern:** very rare nesting site

**Semipalmated Plover:** rare nesting locations

**Prairie Falcon:** rare nesting locations

**White-throated Swift:** most northerly nesting area

**Flammulated Owl:** most northerly nesting area

**Vesper Sparrow:** significant nesting population

## Prime birding sites

**Scout Island Nature Centre:** Williams Lake

**Alkali Lake:** 50 km west of W.L. on Dog Creek Road

**Chilanko Marsh:** 200 km west of W.L. on hwy. 20

**Becher Prairie ponds:** on the plateau West of the Fraser River

**Horsefly Bay:** on Quesnel Lake at the mouth of the Horsefly River

**100 Mile Marsh:** 100 Mile House

**Churn Creek Provincial Park:** 50 km south of Alkali Lake

The compilers acknowledge the contributions by many naturalists from throughout the Cariboo Chilcotin and those who contributed to "The Birds of British Columbia" volumes 1 to 4. The cover drawing of the Long-billed Curlew is by Shirley Salkeld. Species order follows the taxonomy of the American Ornithologist's Union 2010.

If you observe rare species, please document your observation by photograph if possible and report the sighting to [muskratexpress@shaw.ca](mailto:muskratexpress@shaw.ca) or snail mail to

Williams Lake Field Naturalists  
1305A Borland Road, Williams Lake BC  
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[www.williamslakefieldnaturalists.ca](http://www.williamslakefieldnaturalists.ca)



This checklist booklet was generated using *The Checklist Editor* a computer program created by Jim Sims for the Williams Lake Field Naturalists