



✓ WILDLIFE
CHECKLIST

Mount
Revelstoke &
Glacier
National Parks

Natural History
Handbook Number 2



Wildlife Checklist

Mount Revelstoke and Glacier National Parks

Welcome to the Columbia Mountains

Mount Revelstoke and Glacier national parks represent the Columbia Mountains natural region of Canada. This is a rugged landscape with lush interior rainforests in the valleys, steep mountain sides of subalpine forest, and extensive treeless areas at the highest elevations.

The parks keep detailed records of plants and animals. The following lists summarize the known status of each species of vertebrate animal recorded within the parks or close to park boundaries. The bird list follows the standard common names established by the American Ornithologist's Union. Since there are no standard common names for other wildlife groups, scientific names are provided in parenthesis.

The parks would welcome receiving information on species not included on these lists or on other wildlife observations of interest (large numbers, unusual behaviour etc.). You can visit the Rogers Pass Centre in Glacier National Park and make your report in person or contact the parks at the following address:

revglacier.reception@pc.gc.ca

Mount Revelstoke and Glacier national parks

Box 350

Revelstoke, B.C.

VOE 2S0

250 837 7500

The **Rogers Pass Centre** contains a library of reference books open to public use and extensive reference collections plants and animals.

The symbols following each species indicate its season of occurrence and its relative abundance within the parks. Many of these species are more abundant in the Columbia River valley adjacent to the parks.

WR - Winter Resident
SR - Summer Resident
YR - Year-round Resident
MV - Migrant or visitor

C - Common
UC - Uncommon
R - Rare
VR - Very Rare

BIRDS

Although 183 species of birds have been observed within the parks, the most you can hope to see on a very good day in June is about 50 species. During winter, when most birds have left the mountains, you'd need luck to see 10 species in a day!

Good places to watch birds in Mount Revelstoke include Skunk Cabbage Trail, Inspiration Woods Trail, and the lower elevations of the Summit Trail. In July and August, the Mount Revelstoke Summit Parkway offers you easy access to the high country and the chance to see some local specialities such as Hawk Owl, Blue Grouse, and Boreal Chickadee. This is one of the few places in Canada where four species of chickadees live. You could try for a "grand slam" of chickadees by looking for Chestnut-backed and Black-capped chickadees at Giant Cedars Trail and for Boreal and Mountain chickadees at the summit of Mt. Revelstoke.

In Glacier, the Beaver River and Loop trails offer some of the best bird-watching. If you want to see a Dipper, look along the Connaught Creek behind the Glacier Park Lodge, along Asulkan Brook beside Asulkan Trail, or along the little creek opposite the parking lot at Illecillewaet Campground. Trails such as Avalanche Crest, Abbott Ridge, Perley Rock, and Hermit lead to the treeless alpine and are likely spots to see Golden Eagles, White-tailed Ptarmigan, Water Pipits, and Rosy Finches.

If you drive through the parks during the winter, watch for Pine Siskins, Red Crossbills, and White-winged Crossbills on the highway. Some years thousands invade the mountains and many are killed by traffic. If you see a flock on the road ahead, honk your horn and slow down. During winter, Pygmy Owls often perch on trees along the highway.

The Columbia River valley just west of Mount Revelstoke is another excellent place to watch birds. The species listed in parenthesis (58) have been recorded in this valley but not yet in the parks. The area around the Revelstoke Airport has developed a reputation as bird watching hotspot in the interior of British Columbia.

LOONS, GREBES, PELICANS, HERONS, & CRANES

Common Loon MV-VR

(Arctic Loon) MV-VR Columbia River

(Western Grebe) MV-UC Columbia River

(Red-necked Grebe) MV-UC Columbia River

Horned Grebe MV-VR

(Eared Grebe) MV-UC Columbia River

(Pied-billed Grebe) YR-C Columbia River

(Double-crested Cormorant) MV-VR Columbia River

(American White Pelican) MV-VR Revelstoke

(American Bittern) SR-UC Columbia River

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(Black-crowned Night-Heron) MV-VR Columbia River
Cattle Egret MV-VR
(Great Egret) MV-VR Columbia River
Great Blue Heron MV-UC
Sandhill Crane MV-VR

WATERFOWL

Tundra Swan MV-VR
(Trumpeter Swan) MV-VR Columbia River
Greater White-fronted goose MV-VR
Snow Goose MV-VR
Canada Goose SR-UC
Mallard SR-C
(Gadwall) MV-UC Columbia River
Green-winged Teal SR-C
American Wigeon MV-R
(Eurasian Wigeon) MV-VR Columbia River
Northern Pintail MV-VR
Northern Shoveler MV-VR
Blue-winged Teal MV-C
Cinnamon Teal MV-R
(Ruddy Duck) MV-UC Columbia River
Wood Duck MV-R
(Canvasback) MV-UC Columbia River
Redhead MV-VR
Ring-necked Duck MV-R
(Greater Scaup) MV-UC Columbia River
Lesser Scaup MV-VR
White-winged Scoter MV-VR
(Surf Scoter) MV-VR Columbia River
Harlequin Duck SR-R
(Oldsquaw) MV-VR Columbia River
Common Goldeneye MV-R
Barrow's Goldeneye SR-C
Bufflehead MV-R
Hooded Merganser MV-R
(Red-breasted Merganser) MV-VR Columbia River
Common Merganser SR-C

VULTURES, HAWKS, EAGLES & FALCONS

Turkey Vulture MV-VR
Osprey MV-R
Bald Eagle MV-R
Northern Harrier MV-R
Sharp-shinned Hawk SR-R
Cooper's Hawk SR-R
Northern Goshawk YR-R
Swainson's Hawk MV-VR
Red-tailed Hawk SR-C

Rough-legged Hawk MV-VR
Ferruginous Hawk MV-VR
Golden Eagle SR-C
American Kestrel SR-C
Merlin YR-UC
Prairie Falcon MV-VR
(Peregrine Falcon) MV-VR Columbia River
(Gyrfalcon) MV-VR Columbia River

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS

Spruce Grouse YR-C
Blue Grouse, YR-C
White-tailed Ptarmigan YR-C
Ruffed Grouse YR-C

RAILS, SHOREBIRDS & GULLS

Sora SR-UC
American Coot MV-R
(Semipalmated Plover) MV-UC Columbia River
Killdeer MV-VR
(Black-bellied Plover) MV-UC Columbia River
(Lesser Golden-Plover) MV-UC Columbia River
(Long-billed Curlew) MV-UC Columbia River
(Willet) MV-VR Columbia River
Greater Yellowlegs MV-VR
(Lesser Yellowlegs) MV-C Columbia River
Solitary Sandpiper SR-C
Spotted Sandpiper SR-C
Wilson's Phalarope MV-R
Red-necked Phalarope MV-R
(Short-billed Dowitcher) MV-UC Columbia River
(Long-billed Dowitcher) MV-UC Columbia River
Common Snipe SR-UC
(Dunlin) MV-VR Columbia River
(Semipalmated Sandpiper) MV-UC Columbia River
Western Sandpiper MV-VR
(Least Sandpiper) MV-UC Columbia River
Baird's Sandpiper MV-VR
(Pectoral Sandpiper) MV-VR Columbia River
Upland Sandpiper MV-VR
Bonaparte's Gull MV-R
Ring-billed Gull MV-VR
(Herring Gull) YR-C Columbia River
(California Gull) YR-C Columbia River
(Common Tern) MV-VR Columbia River
(Forster's Tern) MV-VR Columbia River
Black Tern MV-VR

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PIGEONS & DOVES

Rock Dove MV-R
Band-tailed Pigeon SR-UC
Mourning Dove SR-UC
(Black-billed Cuckoo) SR-R Revelstoke

OWLS

(Common Barn-Owl) MV-VR Columbia River
(Short-eared Owl) MV-C Columbia River
Long-eared Owl MV-VR
Great Horned Owl YR-VR
Barred Owl YR-C
(Snowy Owl) WR-R Columbia River
Northern Pygmy-Owl YR-C
Northern Saw-whet Owl YR-R
Northern Hawk-Owl YR-UC
Boreal Owl YR-R

GOATSUCKERS, SWIFTS & HUMMINGBIRDS

Common Nighthawk MV-VR
Black Swift MV-R
Vaux's Swift SR-C
Anna's Hummingbird MV-VR
Calliope Hummingbird SR-R
Rufous Hummingbird SR-C

KINGFISHERS & WOODPECKERS

Belted Kingfisher SR-C
Lewis' Woodpecker MV-VR
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker SR-C
Downy Woodpecker YR-C
Hairy Woodpecker YR-C
Three-toed Woodpecker YR-C
Black-backed Woodpecker MV-VR
Northern Flicker SR-C
Pileated Woodpecker YR-C

PERCHING BIRDS

FLYCATCHERS

Olive-sided Flycatcher SR-C
Western Wood-Pewee SR-C
Alder Flycatcher SR-C
Willow Flycatcher SR-C
Least Flycatcher SR-R
Hammond's Flycatcher SR-C
Dusky Flycatcher SR-C
(Say's Phoebe) MV-VR Revelstoke

(Scissor-tailed Flycatcher) MV-VR Revelstoke
Western Kingbird MV-VR
Eastern Kingbird SR-UC

LARKS AND SWALLOWS

Horned Lark SR-UC
Tree Swallow SR-C
Violet-green Swallow SR-C
Northern Rough-winged Swallow SR-C
Bank Swallow MV-VR
Cliff Swallow MV-VR
Barn Swallow SR-C

JAYS & CROWS

Gray Jay YR-C
Steller's Jay YR-C
(Blue Jay) MV-VR Revelstoke
Clark's Nutcracker YR-C
(Black-billed Magpie) MV-VR Revelstoke
American Crow SR-C
Common Raven YR-C

CHICKADEES

Black-capped Chickadee YR-C
Mountain Chickadee YR-C
Boreal Chickadee YR-C
Chestnut-backed Chickadee YR-C

NUTHATCHES & CREEPERS

Red-breasted Nuthatch, YR-C
White-breasted Nuthatch MV-VR
Brown Creeper YR-C

WRENS & DIPPERS

Rock Wren MV-VR
House Wren MV-VR
Winter Wren YR-C
American Dipper YR-C
(Marsh Wren) MV-VR Columbia River
(Bewick's Wren) MV-VR Mica

KINGLETS & THRUSHES

Golden-crowned Kinglet YR-C
Ruby-crowned Kinglet SR-C
Mountain Bluebird SR-UC
Townsend's Solitaire SR-C
Veery SR-UC

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Gray-cheeked Thrush MV-VR
Swainson's Thrush SR-C
Hermit Thrush SR-C
American Robin SR-C
Varied Thrush SR-C
(Gray Catbird) SR-UC Revelstoke
Sage Thrasher MV-VR

PIPITS, WAXWINGS, SHRIKES & STARLINGS

Water Pipit SR-C
Bohemian Waxwing WR-C
Cedar Waxwing SR-C
Northern Shrike MV-R
European Starling SR-C

VIREOS

Solitary Vireo SR-C
Warbling Vireo SR-C
Red-eyed Vireo SR-C

WARBLERS, SPARROWS & BLACKBIRDS

Tennessee Warbler SR-UC
Orange-crowned Warbler SR-C
Nashville Warbler SR-UC
Yellow Warbler SR-C
(Chestnut-sided Warbler) MV-VR Columbia River
Magnolia Warbler SR-UC
Yellow-rumped Warbler SR-C
Townsend's Warbler SR-C
(Bay-breasted Warbler) MV-VR Columbia River
Blackpoll Warbler SR-R
American Redstart SR-C
Northern Waterthrush SR-C
MacGillivray's Warbler SR-C
Common Yellowthroat SR-C
Wilson's Warbler SR-C
Western Tanager SR-C
Black-headed Grosbeak SR-UC
(House Sparrow) MV-VR Revelstoke
(Northern Oriole) SR-UC Revelstoke
Lazuli Bunting MV-R
(Indigo Bunting) MV-VR Revelstoke
(Le Conte's Sparrow) MV-VR Revelstoke
American Tree Sparrow MV-R
Chipping Sparrow SR-C
(Clay-colored Sparrow) MV-VR
Vesper Sparrow MV-VR
Savannah Sparrow SR-C

Fox Sparrow SR-C
Song Sparrow SR-C
Lincoln's Sparrow SR-R
Golden-crowned Sparrow SR-UC
(Harris' Sparrow) MV-VR Revelstoke
White-crowned Sparrow SR-C
Dark-eyed Junco SR-C
Lapland Longspur MV-R
(Chestnut-collared Longspur) MV-R Columbia River
Snow Bunting MV-UC
Red-winged Blackbird SR-C
Western Meadowlark MV-R
Yellow-headed Blackbird MV-VR
Rusty Blackbird MV-R
Brewer's Blackbird MV-R
Common Grackle MV-VR
Brown-headed Cowbird SR-C

FINCHES

Rosy Finch YR-C
Pine Grosbeak YR-C
Purple Finch MV-R
Cassin's Finch MV-R
(House Finch) MV-VR Revelstoke
Red Crossbill YR-C
White-winged Crossbill YR-C
(Rufous-sided Towhee) MV-VR Revelstoke
Common Redpoll WR-UC
Hoary Redpoll WR-VR
Pine Siskin YR-C
American Goldfinch MV-R
Evening Grosbeak SR-C

MAMMALS

Of the 54 species of mammals recorded in the parks, the two species of bears are the best known. Both Black and Grizzly bears are relatively common here. Late May is the best time to observe bears. Look for Grizzly Bears on avalanche paths above the highway in Glacier and Black Bears along the highway through both parks. All bears are potentially dangerous and should never be approached. Ask park staff for advice on safe travelling in bear country before you go hiking in the park.

Mountain Goats are the most common large mammal in the parks. If you stop at Tractor Sheds Picnic Area in Glacier and scan the cliffs above the snowsheds, you are almost sure to see one.

Although most mammals live in the parks the year-round, bats migrate

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out of the area for the winter. No-one knows where they go. Many bats live along the trail at Giant Cedars Picnic Area and you can often see them at dusk dipping down to a woodland pool for a drink of water before an evening of catching insects.

SHREWS

- Masked Shrew (*Sorex cinereus*) YR-C
- Dusky Shrew (*Sorex monticolus*) YR-C
- Wandering Shrew (*Sorex vagrans*) YR-C
- Water Shrew (*Sorex palustris*) YR-VR

BATS

- Little Brown Bat (*Myotis lucifugus*) SR-UC
- Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) SR-UC
- Long-eared Bat (*Myotis evotis*) SR-UC
- Long-legged Bat (*Myotis volans*) SR-UC
- California Bat (*Myotis californicus*) MV-VR
- Silver-haired Bat (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*) SR-UC
- Hoary Bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*) SR-UC

PIKAS AND HARES

- American Pika (*Ochotona princeps*) YR-C
- Snowshoe Hare (*Lepus americanus*) YR-C

RODENTS

- Yellow-pine Chipmunk (*Eutamias amoenus*) YR-C
- Woodchuck (*Marmota monax*) YR-VR
- Hoary Marmot (*Marmota caligata*) YR-C
- Columbian Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus columbianus*) YR-C
- Golden-mantled Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus lateralis*) YR-C
- Red Squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*) YR-C
- Northern Flying Squirrel (*Glaucomys sabrinus*) YR-C
- Beaver (*Castor canadensis*) YR-C
- Deer Mouse (*Peromyscus maniculatus*) YR-C
- Bushy-tailed Woodrat (*Neotoma cinerea*) YR-C
- Gapper's Red-backed Vole (*Clethrionomys gapperi*) YR-C
- Northern Bog Lemming (*Synaptomys borealis*) YR-C
- Heather Vole (*Phenacomys intermedius*) YR-C
- Muskrat (*Ondatra zibethicus*) YR-UC
- Meadow Vole (*Microtus pennsylvanicus*) YR-UC
- Long-tailed Vole (*Microtus longicaudus*) YR-C
- Western Jumping Mouse (*Zapus princeps*) YR-UC
- Porcupine (*Erethizon dorsatum*) YR-C

CARNIVORES

- Coyote (*Canis latrans*) YR-C
- Wolf (*Canis lupus*) MV-R

Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*) MV-R
Black Bear (*Ursus americanus*) YR-C
Grizzly Bear (*Ursus arctos*) YR-C
Marten (*Martes americana*) YR-C
Fisher (*Martes pennanti*) YR-VR
Short-tailed Weasel (*Mustela erminea*) YR-C
Long-tailed Weasel (*Mustela frenata*) YR-UC
Least Weasel (*Mustela nivalis*) YR-VR
Mink (*Mustela vison*) YR-R
Wolverine (*Gulo gulo*) YR-C
Striped Skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) YR-UC
River Otter (*Lutra canadensis*) YR-VR
Cougar (*Felis concolor*) YR-VR
Lynx (*Lynx canadensis*) YR-UC

UNGULATES

Elk (*Cervus elaphus*) YR-UC
Mule Deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) YR-UC
White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) YR-UC
Moose (*Alces alces*) YR-UC
Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus*) YR-UC
Mountain Goat (*Oreamnos americanus*) YR-C

REPTILES

No species of reptile is common in the park. The harsh mountain environment is probably too hostile for them. Although Painted Turtles have not been recorded within the parks, they are common along the Columbia River at Revelstoke.

Northern Alligator Lizard (*Gerrhonotus coeruleus*) YR-UC
Common Garter Snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis*) YR-R
Western Terrestrial Garter Snake (*Thamnophis elegans*) YR-R

AMPHIBIANS

The only common amphibian in the park is the Western Toad which has the remarkable ability to live from the valley bottoms to treeline.

Western Toad (*Bufo boreas*) YR-C
Pacific Treefrog (*Hyla regilla*) YR-R
Spotted Frog (*Rana pretiosa*) YR-UC
Long-toed Salamander (*Ambystoma macrodactylum*) YR-R

FISH

Of the 6 species of fish living in park waters, all are native to this area except Brook Trout. Alpine lakes such as Eva, Miller, and the Jade lakes in Mount Revelstoke are naturally barren of fish. They were once stocked with trout to provide sport fishing. Generally, park waters are very poor in nutrients and fish grow and reproduce very slowly. By comparison, the Columbia River outside the parks has a very diverse fish fauna.

- Cutthroat Trout (*Salmo clarki*) YR-R
- Rainbow Trout (*Salmo gairdneri*) YR-R
- Brook Trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) YR-C
- Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*)
- Mountain Whitefish (*Prosopium williamsoni*) YR-C
- Longnose Sucker (*Catostomus catostomus*) YR-R
- Slimy Sculpin (*Cottus cognatus*) YR-C

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The Friends of Mt. Revelstoke and Glacier

The Friends are a non-profit association dedicated to promoting the appreciation, enjoyment and understanding of Mount Revelstoke and Glacier national parks in the Columbia Mountains of interior British Columbia.