

# Yukon Warbler

Newsletter of the Yukon Bird Club



**Fall 2012**

NAOC-V

Nares Mountain Hike

Christmas Bird Count

2012 Birdathon

Yukon Bird Observatories

# Yukon Bird Club

**Promoting awareness, appreciation,  
and conservation of Yukon birds  
and their habitats**

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charitable organization.

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**Yukon Warbler — Fall 2012**

## Submissions and Comments Wanted

Please send us your articles and photos  
(with dates and locations). The newsletter  
editor can be reached at:

[YBCnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:YBCnewsletter@gmail.com)

Regular mail can be sent to the Yukon Bird  
Club post box, with attention to:  
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Suggestions for content are always welcome.

## IMPORTANT:

All sightings of rare or notable birds  
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Coordinator at: [yukonbirdclub@gmail.com](mailto:yukonbirdclub@gmail.com)

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**Yukon**   
**Bird Club**

## Club Raises Visibility in the Community

by Ione Christensen

The Yukon Bird Club presented six shows over the summer. Ione Christensen put together four PowerPoint presentations, each to run about one and a half hours, depending on questions from the audience. Shyloh Van Delft did all the narration, giving an excellent presentation on each bird, highlighting any special characteristics that would help new birders identify the avian. Nick Guenette set up his sound equipment for most of the shows so that we had the added advantage of audio identification.

Five of our shows were a joint venture with the MacBride Museum. This worked very well, as we were able to tap into visitors at the Museum over the summer. It was helpful to both the Museum and our Club.

We had two shows on *Birds of Spring*, the first of which was on May 23rd from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. With twenty-one people, this was our largest audience for Whitehorse. The July 11th *Birds of Summer* show went from 1:30 to 3:30 and attracted fifteen, most of whom were visitors to the Yukon. We did, however, have several Club members there to help fill the seats; these members were faithful at all our shows. Again on Aug 8th we ran a show from 1:30 to 3:00, with fourteen at this one.



Ione Christensen and Shyloh Van Delft at the MacBride Museum in Whitehorse (photo: I. Christensen).

The show was designed to take only an hour, but it ran from 1:30 to 4:00 and had twenty-five interested birders out. There were many questions and lots of enthusiasm. I think we could have stayed even longer.

Our last show at the MacBride Museum was on Oct 3rd from 7:00 to 9:00 PM with thirteen in attendance. The

evening shows attract primarily locals, but we did have one new Yukoner: a very enthusiastic birder who had only been in the territory for a week, and is a new member of the YBC.

Our Events Coordinator, Betty Sutton, had posters up all over town to attract both locals and visitors alike (thanks, Betty!). The MacBride Museum staff publicized the events as well, and were always very helpful, setting up the room and projector. Our thanks go to them as well. This was a win-win arrangement for all of us, and we hope to do it again next year.

We encourage Club members to

send us your best bird shots, as we want to change the photos we use and keep the presentations fresh.

Both Shyloh and Nick did a great job, and it is wonderful to work with young people who are so dedicated and knowledgeable; it bodes well for the future of the Yukon Bird Club.

## NAOC-V

by Mary Whitley

It was with some trepidation that I registered for the North American Ornithological Conference in Vancouver (NAOC-V). What do I know about birds compared to the experts who will be there? Will I understand the talks at all?

As it turns out, I did know enough to understand most of the talks. But I quickly realized that anything to do with statistics was beyond me. As I talked to others, it was apparent that the stats were beyond many.

The format was like a ten-ring circus, with up to ten 15-minute talks being presented at the same time in three separate buildings at the University of British Columbia. The talks were grouped into categories: ecology, breeding biology, phylogeography, conservation, ecotoxicology and pollution, movements and dispersal, models and methods, population biology, conservation, tropical ecology, community ecology, parental care, physiology and hormones, sexual selection, migration and stopover, behaviour, breeding biology, climate, life histories, habitat relationships, urban ecology, evolution, songs and vocalizations, systematics and taxonomy, and molecular ecology. In practical terms,



Shyloh Van Delft, Nick Guenette, and Ione Christensen in Tagish (photo: S. Van Delft).

Shyloh, being from Tagish, asked the Community Club there if they would like us to do a show, and they were delighted. We made up a special for them: *A Tagish Bird Walk*.

due to the location of the three buildings, it was not possible to go from one category to another without missing most of a presentation. This resulted in some prioritizing. The decision was complicated by the August heat, so running from one building to another was out of the question.

There were also two poster sessions. Each group of posters was available for only two days. This created a crowd scene, with people jostling for position to see the posters and talk to the presenters. Again, there were many topics: behaviour, biogeography, breeding biology, brood parasitism, climate, community ecology, conservation, diseases and parasites, ecological models and survey methods, ecotoxicology and pollution, evolution, foraging, general ecology, habitat relationships, landscape ecology, life histories, mating systems, migration and stopover biology, molecular ecology, phylogenetics and phylogeography, physiology hormones and immunology, population biology, sexual selection, song and vocalizations, systematics, taxonomy and morphology, tropical ecology, and urban and agricultural ecology. The advantage of the poster sessions was that you could talk to the presenter; this was impossible at the talks, given the tight schedule.

There were exhibitors in the same space as the posters. These ranged from NGOs (Klamath Bird Observatory) to universities (Cornell) to businesses (EchoTrack Inc. and Leica Optics). I found the Cornell exhibit interesting, as they had the Macaulay Library available. This is a compilation of bird songs and calls from Canada, Mexico, and the U.S. One of the foremost researchers who collects these recordings in the field was there. He had recorded Alaskan specialties like the Bluethroat and Wheatear.

Another exhibit had examples of the data recorders used to determine the location of birds. These "light loggers" had been mentioned in several talks I attended. This new technology allows researchers to track birds from breeding habitat for their yearly travels. It requires that the bird be fitted with the device and, as it has no transmitter, be recaptured to get the information.

This technology allows researchers to learn where birds go on their migrations. So far there have been some surprises: discovering that birds go to an interim area from breeding habitat before reaching their final destination for the winter. These stopovers can last up to two months for some species. In addition, the previously unknown winter habitat for some species is becoming clear. One thrush, for example, is now thought to winter in eastern Cuba. The size and weight of the light loggers currently limits this research to larger birds.

Birding information in the popular press, as in *BirdWatching* magazine, is now referring to this technology; light-level geolocators are mentioned on page 10 of the August issue. This is an example of how scientific research at the professional level makes its way to the average birder.

The conference wrapped up for me with a field trip to local birding areas with Russell Cannings. It was a full day with visits to Reifel Bird Sanctuary in Delta, a quick survey of the spit at Tsawassen to look for oystercatchers, and ended

with the parade of shorebirds in Ladner as the tide was rising. The bird of the day was the Stilt Sandpiper.

## Dusky Grouse Hike

### Friday, May 11, 2012

by Dan Kemble

One of the interesting things about hosting the Blue Grouse Hike is not knowing who will attend. The demographics and numbers are totally unpredictable. The only constant is that we always attract interesting and appreciative folks. That's why we do it. This spring's participants seemed to be mostly French Canadian (and French) women. Much to the chagrin of my lovely, loving, but somewhat suspicious wife—Nancy—who could not attend this time. We didn't get any locals this year other than me and the unstoppable Joel Luet. But there were, I believe, 14 of us, and that's pretty good. And it was an enthusiastic group. I'd like to thank the Bird Club's Events Coordinator, Tracy Allard, for her invaluable assistance with advertising this event and also for her help and encouragement. Nancy and I would also like to thank and acknowledge the tremendous support of past Event Coordinator Jenny Trapnell. We're particularly pleased with her rave review of our efforts in her *What's Up Yukon* article (May 3, 2012 issue). Also, we love it when young people attend, so thanks Roxanne, for bringing your energetic sidekick, Havana.

"What about the birds?", I can hear some of you rasp. Well, we did see birds. Our event is no Birdathon; we focus on a single species, which we've always managed to deliver: the Dusky (or Blue) Grouse. And this works, primarily because of the spectacular and predictable mating ritual of this bird, but also due to the awesome location on Nares Mountain.

Nevertheless, other wildlife is often seen. One of my favourite subalpine birds is the Townsend's Solitaire, and we were treated to its beautiful treetop serenade once again. Rafts of waterfowl were seen and heard on the shallow waters of Nares Lake below. Nares Mountain is an excellent place to see many open-pine and montane raptors and passerines, as well as large mammals such as grizzly bears and Dall sheep. None were seen this time, oddly enough, and because of the windy evening, few grouse were noticed.

Little occupies this bird's mind in the three- to four-week mating period but the search for companionship. But they're crepuscular and so not easy to find until night approaches, or early dawn. Then the adult males seek the most prominent outcrops from which to hoot and strut their stuff.

The hens, which outnumber the cocks, loiter coyly in the nearby brush, clucking and flapping. Amid much of this sort of posturing, they occasionally mate. And being promiscuous, any mate will do.

In *Birds of the Yukon Territory*, the bible for local birders,

it's stated that "The song of the Blue Grouse in the Yukon is very low in pitch—barely audible to humans".<sup>[1]</sup> I disagree with this; it's very audible. On a calm evening in May, this blowing-in-a-bottle sound can be clearly heard in Carcross from Nares Mountain, several kilometers away. But it's true that when very close, this sound becomes distorted and ventriloquial—almost more a vibration you feel in your body than a noise you hear in your ears.

Last May's outing was a windy evening, not conducive to encountering the hooters. Nevertheless, we did find one cooperative male, high on the hill late in the evening, their favourite time and place. It was a new life bird for one young man. We love it when that happens.

[1] *Birds of the Yukon Territory* (Eds: P.H. Sinclair, W.A. Nixon, C.D. Eckert, N.L. Hughes), UBC Press, Vancouver, 2003, p. 187.

Editor's note: Some positive feedback from one of the 14 on the Nares Mountain hike: *I just want to say a huge thank you to Dan from Carcross for the amazing trip at Nares Mountain. It is definitely worth to go with an expert birder who knows too very well the area. Dan is a high valuable member and expert of the Yukon Bird Club and it is important to recognize it. The club is lucky to count him among its members.* —Geraldine V.

## Recap of This Season's Field Trips

by Tracy Allard, Field Trip Coordinator

It was a great year for birding with the Yukon Bird Club! The 2012 field trip season ran from April 22 to September 24 and counted a total of twenty-four field trips, sixteen in spring, four in summer, and four in autumn.

### Community Birding and New Locations

Through the years, birders have benefited from assiduous volunteers in Carcross, Marsh Lake, Mayo, and Watson Lake, who led field trips in those communities. This year, our Bird Club wanted to ignite the birding fire in more Yukon communities! With this in mind, we increased our relationships with community birders and helped organize brand new field trips in Dawson City, Haines Junction, Old Crow and Tagish.

We also planned four new field trips to widen our scope in the Whitehorse area: Grey Mountain Ridge Butterflies, Hidden Lakes Dragonflies, Yukon Wildlife Preserve, and Mary Lake. Unfortunately, the butterfly trip did not occur due to a lack of nice weather. The other three trips were great successes.

### Big Picture

Participants in this season's field trips recorded a whopping 122 bird species, with an average of 27 species per trip! The smallest count was April's Alaska Highway Shrike & Bluebird trip, which had an all-time low of nine species.

The highest count went to the Carcross–Tagish loop, with 61 species, which albeit a great number, was down this year due to difficult viewing conditions of cold and high winds, and only a fraction of past years' participation. Another objective this year was to multiply the trip number in order to reduce overpopulation on certain trips. The average participant turnout this year was twelve, with a low of one for the new Old Crow trip and a high of twenty-four on the new Dragonfly trip to Hidden Lakes where several youthful faces showed up. Approximately half of all participants were non-members, of which a majority were either "regulars" or visitors to Yukon.

### Highlights

Some people get to experience birds several days a week and succeed in seeing a large percentage of Yukon's bird potential, but it's a real thrill to go out on field trips with specific hopes and then succeed at exceeding those expectations! Some of this season's field trip highlights were: Harlequin Duck, Redhead Duck, Red-necked Phalarope, Peregrine Falcon, Osprey, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Baird's Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher, Common Nighthawk, Townsend's Solitaire, and the Tennessee Warbler. A couple of rarities also showed up: the Black Scoter, the Eurasian Collared-Dove and the Wandering Tattler.



Avid birders peering through tight trees at the nest of a Bonaparte's Gull (photo: T. Allard).

### Trip Leaders

A Yukon Bird Club field season would be naught were it not for the many passionate and reliable volunteer trip leaders. Many thanks to all our long-time and/or returning regulars: Boris Dobrowolsky (2), Clive Osborne, Dan Kemble, Jenny Trapnell, Jim Hawkings (2), Katie Aitken, Mark O'Donoghue, Mary Whitley (2), Pam Sinclair, Susan Drury, Syd Cannings, Wendy Nixon, and Ione Christensen (3). Thanks and congratulations to all of this year's first-time YBC trip leaders: Chris Wilkinson, Devon Yakura, Leila Sumi, Sarah Davidson, Sebastian Jones, and Shyloh van Delft, who we hope will continue this great tradition.

See you all at the Christmas Bird Count!

## 2012 Christmas Bird Count

by Jim Hawkings

This year there will be no mandatory \$5 participant fees for those who take part in the Christmas Bird Counts. In the past this fee has been largely transparent to participants in most Yukon counts. But it has been a huge headache for compilers, even though the YBC has funded participant fees for Yukon Counts for a number of years. The participant fees were an important source of revenue for Bird Studies Canada, and dropping the fees has put a bit of a hole in their budget. This year we are suggesting that participants are welcome to make a donation (via their compilers or directly to YBC) if they wish—and we will pass on those funds to BSC to help them out a bit in lieu of the normal cheque we send them for participant fees.

The table below lists the communities with confirmed 2012 Christmas Bird Count dates along with contact information.

Community	Date	Compiler	E-mail	Phone
Whitehorse	Wed. 26.Dec.	Jim Hawkings	hawkings@northwestel.net	668-2639
Watson Lake	Wed. 26.Dec.	Jenny Skelton	jskelton@northwestel.net	536-7488
Tagish	Wed. 26.Dec.	Shyloh van Delft	yukonbirder@gmail.com	399-3022
Testlin	Wed. 26.Dec.	Ben Schonewille	teslin.bird.banding@gmail.com	334-2683
Skagway	Sat. 15.Dec.	Elaine Furbish		983-2049
Marsh Lake	Sun. 23.Dec.	Clive Osborne	cosborne@northwestel.net	667-5976
Mayo	Sat. 29.Dec.	Mark O'Donoghue	mark.odonoghue@gov.yk.ca	996-2529
Johnson's Crossing	Sun. 16.Dec.	Minnie Clark Ben Schonewille	teslin.bird.banding@gmail.com	334-2683
Haines Junction	Wed. 26.Dec.	Julie Bauer	julie-ann-bauer@northwestel.net	
Carcross	Sun. 16.Dec.	Dan Kemble		821-3461

## 2012 Birdathon Report

by Jim Hawkings

The 2012 Yukon Birdathon was as successful as ever in terms of participation, fundraising, and enjoyment! As near as I can tell, there were approximately 14 parties of birders out there, ranging from the casual back-yarders to the hard-core bird-till-you-drop types. I'll let you all imagine where your birding acquaintances fall in this continuum. Fortunately, although the spring was generally a bit sluggish and cool this year, we were graced with relatively pleasant conditions between 5 PM Friday 25 May and 5 PM Saturday 26 May, making for a nice event from start to finish. The post-Birdathon "social" barbecue at Robert Service Park was also a huge success, attended by at least 25 people.

When all the dust had settled after dinner (and as usual barely before the keener participants succumbed to their all-nighters) we went through the checklist to see if we had done damage to the Birdathon record of 147 species set in

2011. (I'm pretty sure this is the record, though in truth, I could only find numbers from 2003, 2010, and 2011 in my frantic rustling through the paper piles in our house—apparently some organizing is required). Well, everyone's combined efforts, including substantial totals from Cameron Eckert (97 species), our Feature Birder Adam Perrier (93 species), the "Van Delft Birders" (92 species), and some well-known Society of Yukon Bird Observatory fanatics birding in the Watson Lake area (including Jukka Jantunen with 114 species!), we notched an incredible 155 species of birds. This marked the third year in a row in which the count total was increased, and I'm wondering if we can continue this trend much longer into the future without finding some bionic birdwatchers who can function with ABSOLUTELY NO SLEEP for 24 hours.

Helmut Grünberg continued his unchallenged tradition of leading the fundraising department of the event—something for which, as the acting treasurer of this organization, I can tell you that we all should be extremely grateful. Helmut personally corralled a substantial portion of

the \$5,000 or so that was raised this year. And for those of you who may be lurking guiltily out there, it's NEVER too late to make good on pledges you may have made to one of these hard-working birders.

My own birdathon was a rather slow-paced affair conducted totally on foot, between the mouth of McIntyre Creek and Pineridge on Friday evening, and between Pineridge and Mary Lake on Saturday. This wheel-less approach allowed me to not miss anything on my travels, though I did question the wisdom of it as I plodded wearily home in the darkness past the Meadow Lakes golf course at 12:30 Saturday morning. A maximum speed of six kilometres per hour makes it really hard to get

to more than a couple of those real birding hotspots. Maybe next year I'll give in to biking it if I can figure out how to cart around my scope and tripod in some not-too-bizarre yet accessible fashion.

A big thanks to all those who helped with this year's Yukon Birdathon, especially Betty Sutton, who did a stellar job of rounding up prizes for everyone. And as always, thanks to those who sponsored participants. This is really our only fundraising event each year, and it is critical to keeping our budget (almost) balanced.

## Birdathon Weekend

by Shyloh van Delft

The following article is the June 18, 2012 entry in Shyloh van Delft's blog: <http://beakingoff.wordpress.com/2012/06/18/birdathon-weekend/>. Thanks to Shyloh for letting us reprint her work here.

This year my Dad, little brother Toren, and I teamed up as we have done in the past years to do our Birdathon, and set ourselves a goal of 90+ bird species to see within

our designated 24 hours. I also set myself a goal for funds raised: \$900. That would be \$100 per 10 species of birds which I thought would be fun.

The evening the Birdathon started (5 PM on May 25), I couldn't bird Tagish Bridge because I had to avoid wind and dust for that day due to my cold. I instead walked around the house and down California Beach hoping to get a bit of a head start on the Birdathon. I heard my first Swainson's Thrush of the year singing late at night, right after seeing a trio of early arriving Brant on California Beach. I finished the first night with only 16 species...not what I had been hoping for. Things would have to go very well the next day if we wanted to meet our goal of 90+ bird species.

Our schedule was planned very carefully with an estimate of driving time and time spent at each birding location. On my schedule we were going to bird the 'must-go-to' sites and finish them with only an hour to spare before the end of the Birdathon. I didn't like that part of the plan. I wanted time to visit more areas!

The morning arrived, and we were up at 5 AM. By 6 AM we were at Tagish Bridge birding the mudflats; the Savanna and Fox Sparrows were providing the morning wake-up call with their songs. It was fairly quiet, not as busy as I was expecting. However, we did get about 20 new species including Sora, a rail that I have never before heard or seen in Tagish. The still water allowed for good duck viewing through the scope. The Beaver Pond and the farm pond were quickly checked on our way to the Atlin turnoff, where we would scope Little Atlin Lake and a couple of spots along the highway. We picked up a few more species including Solitary Sandpiper before moving on. Atlin Road was much quicker than I expected, and we found ourselves well ahead of schedule.

We hit Judas Creek, where we saw a lone male Cinnamon Teal, a rare migrant to the Yukon with only 1-2 individuals being seen each year. This Cinnamon Teal was just around the corner and down the lake a ways from Tagish Bridge, which I could see clearly from the Judas Creek Marina with my scope. I assume that it is the same one I observed at Tagish Bridge earlier in the past week. The cool thing about this teal was that it was swimming around with a bunch of Blue- and Green-winged Teals. All three Yukon teal species right there in front of me! Not something you experience every day.

Tree Swallows lined the power line, and every birdhouse in the area was occupied by the swallow family. Each year this is where we find our Birdathon Blackpoll Warblers and American Redstart, but this year they were absent. I scanned the singing warblers in the willows very carefully, but only the brightly coloured Yellow and Wilson's Warblers were present. Down on the Marsh Lake shore we heard a Tennessee Warbler singing. This was our first cold Birdathon. The past few years Judas Creek was the place we fried and peeled off the clothing; this year we pulled up our hoods and hunched against the wind. By the time we got back to the vehicle we were all three thoroughly chilled to the bone.

We moved on towards Whitehorse, stopping at a few other places such as Swan Haven where we met up with Ben Schonewille and checked off Greater White-fronted Goose. We picked up a few more species along the highway en route to Whitehorse. In town, we started our search for House Sparrow and Rock Pigeon. We quickly found three sparrows, but the pigeon was not so easily found. I'm cursed that way; I only ever see those pigeons once or twice a year, even though I look for them each time we are in town. When we reached the end of our search and were discussing our next stop, Toren pointed out a lone pigeon perched on the roof of a two-story building on Alexander Street.



Another species for the list, and one we would have missed but for Toren! The sewage lagoons were a location I looked forward to. At the Whitehorse lagoons, we searched in

vain for the rare Tufted Duck that had been seen there for the past few days. The strong wind shaking my scope and the fact that more than half of the scaup were sleeping, made it nearly impossible to find that one duck identical to a scaup but for the tuft on the back of its head. The Crestview Sewage Lagoons held a rare bird too: an Eared Grebe that my mentor had tipped me off on. We had no luck with the second rare bird. We did pick up six species at the lagoons in all though: Long-tailed Duck, Ruddy Duck, Canvasback, Redhead, Red-throated Phalarope, and American Coot. The American Coot, which I had only seen once before in the Yukon through my scope at a large distance in the heat waves, were up close and crawling out of the woodwork at the Crestview Sewage Lagoons.

Our next stop was McIntyre Marsh Bird Observatory. I had a tip from my mentor of a Townsend's Warbler, an uncommon Yukon warbler, singing in the area that morning. We had no luck with that, I would not have recognized the song even had it been singing, but we did add a stunning male Rusty Blackbird to our list, as well as Bank Swallow, Blackpoll Warbler (at last!), and Western Wood Pewee. Our stop at the Whitehorse landfill brought no new species, but did provide us with some stunning looks at Bald Eagles, both adult and immature. Oh, we did add an American Crow to our list there.

The last place we went to that added a new species to the list was the Rodeo Grounds. I had been told that it was a place that guaranteed Mountain Bluebird, and often had Upland Sandpiper in spring. We



checked off Mountain Bluebird before we even came to a stop. Then another bluebird. Then another. Then another. This was bluebird paradise! We scanned for the sandpipers, and discovered another Birdathon team also scanning the fields further down the road. We had no luck, but we later found out that the other team saw a single Upland Sandpiper in the distant part of the field from us.

With only an hour and a half left of the Birdathon, we drove to Shallow Bay but couldn't find a way in. We did hear several Tennessee Warblers singing in the willows though, and I managed to capture a photo of one. The fields were dead. We checked the Wildlife Preserve for Golden Eagles because Toren really wanted to see one, but we were unlucky. We drove straight back to town and with only 2 minutes left until the end of the Birdathon and ran to Quartz Road wetlands to scope. The Birdathon ended at 5 PM on May 26 with a Semipalmated Plover in the view of my scope. After counting our checklist, we discovered that not only had we reached our goal of 90 species, but we had passed it! Our total was 93 species. We were in a tie with this year's Birdathon Feature Birder, Adam Perrier, for the 4<sup>th</sup> highest number of species found by a team. Not only that, but when I tallied up the pledges from my sponsors, I discovered I had raised \$200 more than my goal. Our team raised an approximate total of \$1100 to go to the Yukon Bird Club this year! For that, I thank all of my sponsors for all of their support in me and the Yukon Bird Club. Your contributions are important. I look forward to next year's Birdathon; I wonder what we will see next year?

## Observations from the Field: Sightings Report Winter 2011-2012

by Cameron D. Eckert

It was a relatively warm winter with higher than normal snowfall. While some winter rarities such as Eurasian Collared-Dove and Savannah Sparrow were able to tough it out during the brief January cold snap, others such as a winter flock of American Robins and a Red-throated Loon didn't fare as well.

The flock of Trumpeter Swans which now winters regularly on the Teslin River at Johnson's Crossing numbered 20 individuals with a mix of ads. and juvs. this season (ph. AS). The only dabbler reported this season was the traditional winter flock of Mallards at McIntyre Creek in Whitehorse which numbered 50 on 26 Dec (CE, DM, JM). Three Bufflehead, rare in winter in s. Yukon, were at Tagish 2 Dec-28 Feb (SVD). Nine Common Goldeneye were at Carcross 17 Dec (DK), 4 were at Johnson's Crossing 29 Dec (AS), and a flock of 16 was at Tagish 5-28 Feb (SVD). A male Barrow's Goldeneye, rare in s. Yukon in winter, along with 3 Common Goldeneye appeared on the Yukon River in Whitehorse on about 25 Jan and remained through the season (ph. BS). Seven Common Mergansers were at Johnson's Crossing 10 Dec (AS), while 15 were at Tagish 28 Feb (SVD). Few winter reports are received from sw. Yukon, and so 3 Ruffed Grouse seen at Beaver Creek 4 Jan (TG) were notable. A single Spruce Grouse was seen at Old Crow 22 Feb (BK). Willow Ptarmigan reports included 10 at Old Crow 27 Dec (BK, LS), 12 at Haines Junction 28 Dec (*fide* JuB), 6 at Swift River 12 Feb (BS), 15 at Teslin 19 Feb (BS), and 2 near Watson Lake 4 Dec (SD).

Loons are exceptionally rare anywhere in the Region in winter; a **Pacific Loon** was on the Yukon River, near Whitehorse 27 Dec (ph. JH); while a **Red-throated Loon** landed on a roof in Whitehorse 19 Jan (*fide* ph. ML). A total of 8 Bald Eagles was recorded on the Whitehorse CBC 26 Dec (*fide* JH). An ad. **Sharp-shinned Hawk**, casual in s. Yukon in winter, was seen near Carcross 28 Dec (ph. JL, TL), while an imm. bird was near the Takhini Hotsprings 4 Jan (ph. DC). Three Eurasian Collared-Doves which were duly noted on the Haines Junction CBC 28 Dec, went on to survive a Yukon winter (*fide* JB). A juv. **Snowy Owl**, first seen at Johnson's Crossing 17 Dec, remained in the area through the season existing on a steady diet of muskrats, but was unfortunately predated 23 Mar (ph. AS; ph. MC). Single Great Gray Owls were seen near Pelly Crossing 7 Feb (MOD), Watson Lake 20 Feb (ph. SD), and at Old Crow 26 Feb (LN). Single Boreal Owls were noted in s. Yukon yards in Haines Junction 25 Dec (ph. RA), Whitehorse 18 Jan (ph. MG), Tagish 4 Feb (SVD), and Pineridge 19 Feb (JH). Black-backed Woodpecker can be somewhat scarce in the Region; 2 were in Whitehorse 25 Feb (MM). Northern Shrike reports, all from s. Yukon, included singles in Whitehorse 20 Dec (ph. CN), 7 Jan (CE), 7 Feb (ph. LC), Tagish 14 Jan (SVD), and Teslin 19 Feb (BS). Reports of Steller's Jays, holdovers from s. Yukon's fall mini-invasion, included a pair in Carcross on the 17 Dec CBC (*fide* DK), with at least 1 remaining there to early Feb (AW), and 3 different birds at Whitehorse-area feeders with one at Pineridge 23 Dec (ES), one at Hidden Valley 26 Dec (*fide* JH), and one in Northland through mid-Feb (ph. DS). The Whitehorse landfill accounted for 95 of 191 Black-billed Magpies recorded on the 26 Dec CBC (*fide* JH). The Region's CBC high count of 2221 Common Ravens recorded at Yellowknife, NWT 27 Dec (*fide* RB) narrowly edged out Whitehorse with 2064 tallied 26 Dec (*fide* JH). Nunavut's seasonal high count of Common Ravens was 142 at Arctic Bay 2 Jan (CK). The Region's high count of Mountain Chickadees was 8 recorded at Tagish 26 Dec (*fide* SVD). A flock of 10 American Robins fed along the Yukon River, in Whitehorse through 26 Dec, but vanished with the first cold snap of Jan (ph. CE, m.ob.). Snow Bunting is rare but regular in winter; reports this season included 15 at Tagish 26 Dec (*fide* SVD), 22 at Jake's Corner 28 Jan (SVD), with 3 seen nearby 12 Feb (BS). Dark-eyed Junco is a regular winter visitor to Yukon feeders; 9 were at Whitehorse on the 26 Dec CBC (*fide* JH), 6 were at Watson Lake on the 26 Dec CBC (*fide* TMK), 6 were at Haines Junction on the 28 Dec CBC (*fide* JuB), and 3 were at Dawson throughout the season (ML). Rare winter sparrows included a **Savannah Sparrow** in Whitehorse through the season (ph. KW), a White-crowned Sparrow in Carcross 17 Dec (DK), and an imm. Golden-crowned Sparrow in Whitehorse 8-26 Dec (ph. JeB, YL). A Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch seen in early Dec at Mayo made it to CBC count week, but not count day (MOD). Whitehorse's CBC total of 3 House Sparrows 26 Dec (*fide* JH) missed a few birds as evidenced by a subsequent count of 19 on 4 Feb (CE).

**Observers:** Richard Anderson, Julie Bauer (JuB), Jeremy Baumbach (JeB), Robert Bromley, Linda Cameron, Minnie Clark, Darnel Coote, Susan Drury, Cameron Eckert (Yukon),



Mike Gill, Tyler Gray, Dan Kemble, Clare Kines, Birch Kuch, Maria Ledergerber, Yvette Lepage, Maria Leung, Joel Luet, Trish Luet, Meghan Marjonavic, John McKinnon, Don Moore, Joyce Moore, Chris Nemeth, Mark O'Donoghue, Ben Schonewille, Adam Skrutkowski, Dixie Stevenson, Leila Sumi, Elizabeth Sutton, Shyloh van Delft, Anita Wetherall, Keith Williams.

## Sightings Report Spring 2012

by Cameron D. Eckert

A cold late spring combined with some heavy weather produced impressive numbers for some species. The Yukon's first Spotted Towhee was a highlight of the season.

### WATERFOWL THROUGH SHOREBIRDS

A flock of 200 Greater White-fronted Geese was at Shallow Bay 11 May (HG, BSu). Snow Goose reports included a flock of about 200 at Tagish 30 Apr to 13 May (JJ, SVD). Swan migration at M'Clintock Bay peaked with 1157 Trumpeters 15 Apr, and a ridiculously low 170 Tundras 1 May (JJ). Single male Cinnamon Teal, all from s. Yukon, were seen at Tagish 21 May (SVD), and Judas Creek 26 May (CE, PS; BSc; SVD). A record-early Redhead was at Johnson's Crossing 25 Mar (JM, AS). A male **Tufted Duck**, the Yukon's 4<sup>th</sup>, was at Schwatka Lake in Whitehorse 12 May (ph. JJ, BSc), and then rediscovered at the nearby sewage ponds 25–26 May (TH, PP; ph. CE, PS). A flock of 200 Surf Scoters was on Schwatka Lake 18 May (HG, DY). A pair of Black Scoters, casual in s. Yukon, was at Watson Lake 17 May (JJ, TMK, ph. SVD). A male and 2 fem. Ruddy Ducks at the 40-Mile River 31 May (CC) established the first Dawson area record. A lek of 6 Sharp-tailed Grouse was noted at Quill Creek 8 May (DH). A Pied-billed Grebe, a very rare Yukon breeder, was at Rat Lake near Carcross 22 May (JH). An Eared Grebe, rare in s. Yukon, was at the Crestview sewage ponds 23–25 May (ph. CE; BSc). An ad. Double-crested Cormorant was seen at Schwatka Lake 14 May (HG, DY); and another was seen at its traditional location at Jackfish Bay 20–21 May (HG). Two Great Blue Herons, casual in s. Yukon, were seen along the Takhini River 21 May (DG). Turkey Vultures are increasing in the North; one was at Partridge Creek, cen. Yukon 29 Apr (ph. MB, DB, VB). A tally of 2000 Sandhill Cranes was recorded s. of Stewart Crossing 30 Apr (CE); while thousands of Sandhill Cranes were passing over Dawson City 29 Apr to 1 May (SJ). High counts for Semipalmated Plover were 100 at Lake Laberge 3 May (BD, CE); 115 at Tagish 5 May (JJ, SVD); and 120 at M'Clintock Bay 11 May (JJ). A tally of 101 Upland Sandpipers was recorded during a snowstorm in Whitehorse 16 May (CE; KA; JA; BSc). Four Whimbrel were at Tombstone Park 10 May (ph. RJ). Small numbers of Hudsonian Godwits were seen in the Whitehorse area in mid-May; a count of 9 was recorded at Quartz Road wetland 9 May (HG, KW). A Dunlin at Watson Lake 4–5 May (TMK, ph. SD) provided a rare record for se. Yukon. A shorebird fallout at the s. end of Lake

Laberge 16 May produced 11 shorebird species including 200 American Golden-Plovers, 5 Pacific Golden-Plovers, 1000 Pectoral Sandpipers, 100 Least Sandpipers, and 2000 Long-billed Dowitchers (CE).

### GULLS THROUGH FINCHES

A dark-morph Parasitic Jaeger was at Lake Laberge 25 May (CE, TH, PP); and a light-morph Parasitic was seen at Whitehorse 26 May (ph. CE, PS). A flock of 600 Bonaparte's Gulls was at Judas Creek 13 May (CE). The first Herring Gulls of the season at Old Crow were on 24 Apr (LS). Two Caspian Terns, casual in s. Yukon, were at Marsh Lake 23 May (ph. JH). Eurasian Collared-Dove is now regular, though still rare; one was seen near Marsh Lake 24 Apr (ph. SW), and another at nearby Judas Creek 25 Apr (SG, BUK). A Mourning Dove, rare in the Yukon, was at Teslin 30 May through mid-Jun (MG; ph. AS). A much-admired Snowy Owl that spent the winter eating muskrats at Johnson's Crossing was unfortunately found predated 23 Mar (MiC, JC; ph. AS). A Barred Owl, possibly a returning bird from 2010, was at Albert Creek 19 Apr (SD). A Great Gray Owl was seen at Old Crow 23 Mar (DF). A male Rufous Hummingbird, rare in s. Yukon, was seen at the Takhini River 21 May (BC). Pileated Woodpecker still has a foothold in the Watson Lake area; one was at Albert Creek 16 Apr (MaC). A Steller's Jay was at Wolf Creek 16 Mar (ph. JH), and another was seen at Fish Lake 5 May (IM). American Crow continued its northward expansion this spring with one reaching Partridge Creek, cen. Yukon 8 May (DB, ph. MB, VB). Mountain Bluebird reaches the edge of its range in the Dawson area; one was at the airport there 17 May (MM), and another was seen in the area 27 May (CC).

Two Smith's Longspurs were seen at the Yukon Wildlife Preserve 23 May (MW, CW). A Western Tanager, w. of its regular range, was at Judas Creek 21 May (MCo). The Yukon's first **Spotted Towhee**, a singing male, was at Shallow Bay from late Apr to 6 May (ph. CB, MD; m.ob.). A huge flock of 300 American Tree Sparrows was at Shallow Bay 24 Apr (CE, PS). A Harris's Sparrow was at Watson Lake 28 May (ph. JJ). A massive flock of 272 White-crowned Sparrows was seen along the Aishihik Road 16 May (RR); while a flock of 120 was recorded at Watson Lake the same day (SD). A male Oregon-race Dark-eyed Junco was at Porter Creek 24 Apr (ph. CE, PS), while a fem. Oregon-race was at nearby McIntyre Creek 4 May (ph. BSc). A male Yellow-headed Blackbird, casual in the Yukon, first seen in Teslin 14 May (ph. BC) remained in the area for a couple of weeks (JC, ph. MiC). Rusty Blackbird populations continue to decline and so a flock of 300 at the s. end of Lake Laberge 1 May (CE) was especially noteworthy. Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch reports included an interior-race bird at Tagish 28 Mar (ph. SVD); and one at Watson Lake 17 May (SD). A flock of 25 White-winged Crossbills was seen at Old Crow 6 Mar (LS).

**Observers:** Julia Ahlgren, Katie Aitken, Del Berguie, Michael Berguie, Virginia Berguie, Brodie Calef, Corey Cartright, Jim Clarke, Matt Clarke (MaC), Minnie Clarke (MiC), Mark Connor (MCo), Boris Dobrowolsky, Marianne Doug-

las, Susan Drury, Cameron Eckert, Margaret Garolitz, Helmut Grünberg, Chad Gubala, Jim Hawkings, Tom Hince, David Hodkinson, Jukka Jantunen, Romy Jansen, Sebastian Jones, Ian McDougall, John Meikle, Melissa Meier, Ted Murphy-Kelly, Paul Pratt, Robyn Rufiange, Ben Schonewille (BSc), Adam Skrutkowski, Pam Sinclair, Mary Whitley, Chris Wilkinson, Keith Williams, Stu Withers, Devon Yacura.

# Yukon Bird Observatory Updates: Spring 2012 Albert Creek Bird Observatory

by Ted Murphy-Kelly  
Station Manager, Albert Creek Bird Observatory



Ovenbird

The spring of 2012 at Albert Creek Bird Observatory will definitely go down as the most memorable to date with its many challenges and rewards. Three things that stood out the most with this season at ACBO were volunteers and staffing, weather, and, of course, the birds. We met all these challenges with true grit and ended up with the busiest season in our 12 years of operation.

As anyone who has visited one of our stations or attended one of our presentations knows, staffing Albert Creek and Teslin Lake Bird Observatories is always a challenge because of our locations, our funding, and the few volunteers that we have to draw upon. The season started off on April 21<sup>st</sup>, and I knew that we had our work cut out for us when three of our highly qualified volunteers had to cancel their seasonal stays at the station and we lost another to Long Point Bird Observatory. We managed to hold things together despite this and recruited a couple of new faces along the way.



Sora



Western Tanager

Weather always has a huge impact on our operations as we are dealing with birds. The welfare of the birds and their safety are our priority concern at all times while we gather all the information and monitor bird migration. The spring of 2012 was the wettest and coldest that I have ever experienced in the past twelve years. The station was completely shut down on

six days during the season, and net opening was delayed on many other days due to rain or cold temperatures. By the end of May I had resigned myself to the fact that I

ACBO Spring Season Counts			
Species	Total	Species	Total
American Tree Sparrow	571	Solitary Sandpiper	6
Myrtle Warbler	571	Swamp Sparrow	6
Yellow Warbler	485	Boreal Chickadee	5
Orange-crowned Warbler	288	Olive-sided Flycatcher	4
White-crowned Sparrow	263	Say's Phoebe	4
Slate-colored Junco	263	Brown-headed Cowbird	3
Wilson's Warbler	259	Gray Jay	3
Lincoln's Sparrow	193	Least Flycatcher	3
Fox Sparrow	181	Purple Finch	3
Northern Waterthrush	166	Chipping Sparrow	2
Blackpoll Warbler	107	Magnolia Warbler	2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	94	Pine Siskin	2
Common Yellowthroat	86	Spotted Sandpiper	2
Swainson's Thrush	82	Dark-eyed Junco	2
Rusty Blackbird	80	American Pipit	1
Alder Flycatcher	79	Black-and-white Warbler	1
Tennessee Warbler	78	Belted Kingfisher	1
Common Redpoll	58	Bohemian Waxwing	1
Savannah Sparrow	41	Lapland Longspur	1
American Robin	21	Ovenbird	1
Gray-cheeked Thrush	16	Red-winged Blackbird	1
Hermit Thrush	16	Sora	1
American Redstart	15	Sharp-shinned Hawk	1
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	14	Warbling Vireo	1
Hammond's Flycatcher	12	Western Tanager	1
Varied Thrush	10	Wilson's Snipe	1
White-throated Sparrow	10	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1
Tree Swallow	7	Yellow-shafted Flicker	1
Golden-crowned Sparrow	6	<b>TOTAL INDIVIDUALS</b>	<b>4133</b>
		<b>TOTAL SPECIES</b>	<b>57</b>

would never have a T-shirt day. As the season wound down, the area received more and more rain, pushing the Liard river to record levels on June 9<sup>th</sup>. The study site was flooded and under 6 feet of water. The bad weather did have its rewards though, and that came in the form of loads of birds.

The season started off with the normal timely arrival of sparrows and kinglets. What was very interesting was how many neotropical migrants such as the warblers arrived earlier than usual and how long the sparrows lingered or continued to trickle in. May 1<sup>st</sup> was a day to remember when we were slammed by an unexpected wave of Myrtle Warblers. The day ended with 250 birds banded with 85 of them being Myrtle Warblers. Seeing this high number of Myrtles usually does not begin to happen until the 7<sup>th</sup> of May. The



Wilson's Warbler



ACBO under snow...

number of American Tree Sparrows banded broke a season record with 571 banded, up from the previous high of 345 in spring 2007. We

were still recording Tree Sparrows on May 27<sup>th</sup>! We had a couple of rarities again this year with ACBO'S 5<sup>th</sup> Black and White Warbler and its 3<sup>rd</sup> Ovenbird. We finally added Sora to our banding list. The season ended with a record 4,133 birds banded of 57 species. We also added a new mammal to our species list, a Fisher. Two individuals were seen by Susan and Jukka.



...and under water



American Redstart

I would like to thank Susan Drury for putting in a whopping 33 days of volunteering. Susan and I were a going concern on many days. Thanks also

to Manda Maggs, Shyloh van Delft, Amber Rudd, Mike Dunn, Kris Nemeth, Matt Clarke, and Ryan Drummond for volunteering. A tip of the hat to Jukka Jantunen for taking over as Bander-in-Charge. Thank you to Susan and Barry Drury for welcoming volunteers into their home, making them comfortable and feeding them well. Thanks Barry for lending us your ice fishing hut that served as a banding lab. Thank goodness it did not float down the Liard! Hope to see you all in 2013.

## McIntyre Marsh Bird Banding Station

by Ben Schonewille  
Society of Yukon Bird Observatories



Golden-crowned Sparrow

Operated by the Society of Yukon Bird Observatories, the McIntyre Marsh Bird Banding Station completed its fourth consecutive year of spring operation during 2012. The field station operated for a total of 33 days between April 20 and June 3. The demonstration site operates sporadically during the spring migration season and does not follow a standardized monitoring protocol as is done at the other Yukon Bird Observatories field stations

at Teslin Lake and Albert Creek. A primary objective of the demonstration site is to provide a setting for the public to visit and be exposed to the diversity of birds in the Yukon and the methods used to monitor them. The close proximity to downtown Whitehorse makes this possible and serves to attract more visitors than the Teslin Lake and Albert Creek bird observatories, which require substantially more travel. The methods used for capturing birds at the site are similar to the protocols used at the other field stations; 13 mist nets are used. During 2012, mist netting resulted in the capture and banding of 2,381 birds of 42 species. The top-five species banded during 2012 included the following (from greatest to least): White-crowned



Tennessee Warbler



White-crowned Sparrow

Sparrow (620), Dark-eyed Junco (490), Tree Swallow (235), Yellow-rumped Warbler (179), and Wilson's Warbler (174). The data collected (banding and general observations) continued to reinforce that McIntyre Marsh may

MMBS Spring Season Counts

Species	Total	Species	Total
White-crowned Sparrow	620	Solitary Sandpiper	7
Slate-colored Junco	490	Black-capped Chickadee	7
Tree Swallow	235	Fox Sparrow	7
Yellow-rumped 'Myrtle' Warbler	179	Northern Waterthrush	6
Wilson's Warbler	174	Wilson's Snipe	5
American Tree Sparrow	151	Hammond's Flycatcher	3
Violet-green Swallow	116	Swainson's Thrush	3
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	64	Purple Finch	3
Lincoln's Sparrow	55	Sharp-shinned Hawk	1
Savannah Sparrow	43	Northern Harrier	1
Golden-crowned Sparrow	33	Say's Phoebe	1
Bank Swallow	30	Barn Swallow	1
Common Yellowthroat	27	Boreal Chickadee	1
Orange-crowned Warbler	25	Hermit Thrush	1
Yellow Warbler	23	Gray-cheeked Thrush	1
Varied Thrush	15	Tennessee Warbler	1
American Robin	11	Yellow-rumped Warbler	1
American Pipit	10	Oregon Junco	1
Blackpoll Warbler	10	Red-winged Blackbird	1
Alder Flycatcher	8	Rusty Blackbird	1
Chipping Sparrow	8	Common Redpoll	1
		TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	2381

be a suitable site to operate a full-scale migration monitoring station. In 2012, the station was operated primarily by volunteers; 24 individuals totaled 332 volunteer hours. The station was successful in attracting high numbers of visitors; a total of 311 individuals visited the site, totaling over 715 visitor hours. Included in the visitor totals were 10 school groups from various schools in the Whitehorse area and a group from Copper Ridge Place.



*Violet-green Swallow*

Editor's note: for more information on the Yukon Bird Observatories, visit their blog at:

<http://yukonbirdobservatories.blogspot.ca/>

## Letter to the Editor

I'm happy that the Dusky Grouse Hike up Nares Mountain outside Carcross each May is a regular part of the Yukon Bird Club's annual list of events. But I'm finding it increasingly difficult to be a member of the Bird Club because I'm non-computerized. I understand that most folks find that a convenient way to communicate. But it seems as if it's becoming the only way, and that's discouraging for someone like me. Cool sightings, phoned in, go unreported. Photographs, mailed in, go unacknowledged, unused, and unreturned. And the unkindest cut, our [2011] Christmas Bird Count results were totally ignored in the *Warbler* [Spring 2012 issue].

I would implore the Bird Club to try and find a way for birders such as I to contribute using traditional means. If this hand-written, hand-delivered letter gets printed, that will go a long way towards restoring my faith. The *Warbler* is one of the many benefits of membership in the Yukon Bird Club.

Dan Kemble  
Carcross

*Sorry we missed your CBC data last spring. Although we cannot check the YBC P.O. box daily, we'll do our best to check it as frequently as possible to ensure nothing gets missed before future newsletters go to press. —Ed.*

## Bird Identification Challenge

*Test your bird identification skills!*

26.May.2012  
Albert Creek Bird  
Observatory



08.May.2012  
Teslin  
photo:  
Shyloh van Delft

04.August.2012  
Peel River  
photo: David Sinclair



08.May.2012, Teslin  
photo: Shyloh van Delft



06.May.2012, Carcross  
photo: Joel Luet



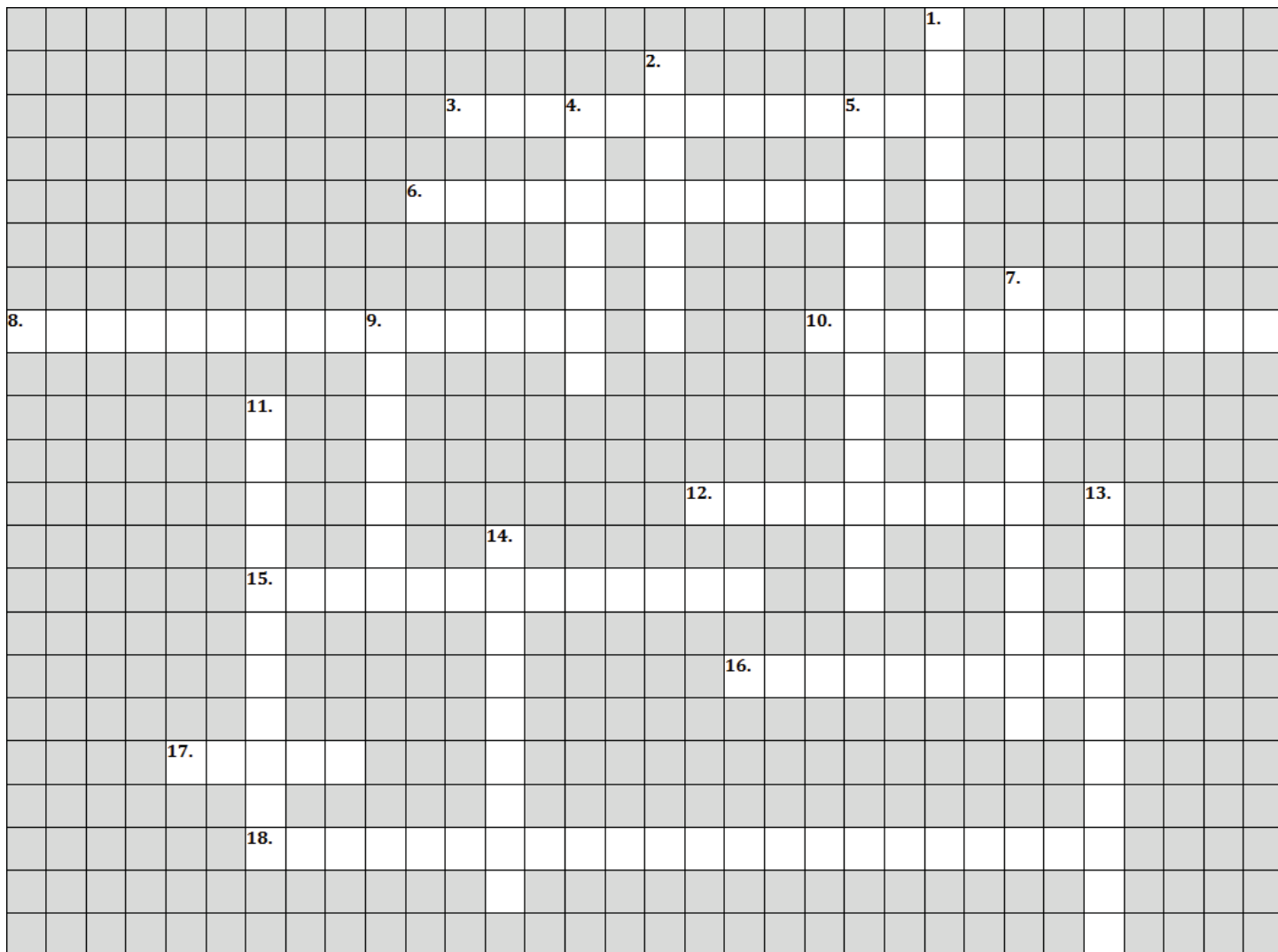
# Yukon Birds Crossword Puzzle

by Ruth McCullough

The puzzle's theme this issue is **waterfowl**.

### Down

1. Has a distinctly sloping forehead; bill and head profile provide excellent field marks.
2. Drakes of this bay duck have a large round head, light bill, dark breast, and white under-parts.



### Across

3. Largest of its genus; recovered from near extinction in early 20<sup>th</sup> century.
6. Drakes distinguished by a large white patch on their dark-green heads.
8. Males have a black-bordered white cockade.
10. A diver known colloquially as "Bluebill".
12. Black back, white foreparts, and heavily shielded bill are good field marks for drakes.
15. Males recognized by dark and light patterns, small size, and long tail; it's the only species of its genus.
16. Adult drakes of this Eurasian species have a stark white flank and a blue-grey bill; same genus as the scaups.
17. Small dark goose with a short neck.
18. This fisher has an orange throat pouch and slants bill upward while swimming.

4. Males are recognized by a green head, white neck band, and rusty breast.
5. This grebe has a much longer and more needle-like bill than most others.
7. Colloquially known as "Little Bluebill".
9. Uncommon dabbling that rarely congregates in large flocks.
11. This loon has a light-coloured upturned bill; summer plumage has white stripes extending up the back of its head.
13. This diver is North America's only truly black (adult male) duck.
14. The wings of this duck are short and rounded; flight is fast and uneven with rapid wing beats.

## Memberships & Donations

Membership fees (Jan 1–Dec 31) – please circle one.

**Basic membership fees:**

Individual	\$15.00
Family	\$25.00
Senior/Student	\$10.00
Institutional	\$50.00

**Donation membership fees:**

Contributing	\$50.00
Supporting	\$100.00
Lifetime	\$200.00
Other donation:	\$ _____

Amounts paid above basic membership fees will receive a charitable donation receipt equal to the amount above the membership fee. Sixty is the age for Senior memberships. Family membership covers two or more people living at the same address; indicate the full names of each person covered by a family membership. Foreign members please pay by Canadian dollar money order rather than a cheque.

### Yukon Bird Club moves to e-memberships

The Yukon Bird Club is pleased to announce that we are moving to full e-memberships for all members. Please provide your e-mail address to receive a full-colour digital version of the *Yukon Warbler*, as well as other notices and publications. We will continue to send a paper copy of the *Yukon Warbler* to members who prefer to receive it from Canada Post – though we ask that you specify that preference below.

I want to continue to receive the *Yukon Warbler* by Canada Post.

Send a cheque or money order to:

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Names of additional Family members: \_\_\_\_\_

**Yukon Birds e-mail list:** Please add my e-mail to Club's e-mail list for meetings, events, issues, and rare sightings. Note: the distribution list is not visible on e-mails, and is not shared.

**Two-Year Memberships** – please check this box if you are renewing for 2 years.