

Bird habitat information collected at BFC workshop held on April 24, 2024, Whitehorse, Yukon

Habitat Location	Location Details	Threats	Opportunities	Other Notes
Alaska Highway by Cobalt Yard	North of Crestview, left hand side of the highway,	Erosion of the sandy/silty bank,		Small to mid-sized colony of Bank Swallows most years in the spring and early
Chadburn Lake	Off the Chadburn Lake Road.	Increased recreational use may		Nesting loons.
Chadden Lake	Between Chadburn Lake and Hidden Lakes.			Breeding and nesting birds.
Copper Haul Road	Forest west of the road and wetlands and ponds along the road.	Potential contamination of ponds from the old copper mine tailings.		Forest supports Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (rare bird). Very good for waterfowl and eagles.
Copper Ridge wetlands	Fens/wetlands immediately west of Copper Ridge and Logan Subdivisions.			Trails are already in place. Important for Rusty Blackbirds. Good wetland nesting area.
Crestview ponds and wetlands	Primarily immediately north and west of Crestview.		Existing network of trails in the area.	Riparian habitat, beaver ponds, thickets.
Crestview Sewage Lagoon	East of the Alaska Highway and Crestview Subdivision, close to the Yukon River.		Viewing potential.	Migrating waterfowl. Foraging Bank Swallows.
Ear Lake	Accessed from Robert Service Way (the "South Access").	ATV use.		Shorebirds and forest birds.
Fens and ponds (northeast corner of city boundary)	Fens and lakes in the northeast corner of the city boundary. Northeast of the Whitehorse Sewage Lagoons. Yukon water data catalogue does not name the ponds/wetlands in this area.			Great for shorebirds such as Short-billed Dowitcher, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs.
Hidden Lake (Porter Creek)	Not to be confused with Hidden Lakes near Schwatka Lake.			Breeding and nesting birds.
Hidden Lakes	Located east of the Chadburn Lake Road	Dogs are frequently in the lakes disturbing birds.		Good for forest birds and nesting shore birds and ducks.
Hidden Valley	Pond at the end of Loganberry Lane, Hidden Valley Subdivision			Pond not named on Google Earth or in the YG Water data catalogue.
Livingston Trail Environmental Control Facility (Also known as Whitehorse Sewage Lagoons)	East of the Yukon River.			Vital migration stopover for birds, some rare birds to be observed.
Marwell wetland area	North of the Marwell commercial/industrial area. "Marwell Ponds" in Yukon water data catalogue		Improved trail system for viewing; working with KDFN.	Great for grassland, waterfowl and wetland birds and birds and other wildlife that prey on those birds.
McIntyre Creek Corridor	Extensive creek and wetland system west and east of the Alaska Highway.		Create a park to protect the corridor.	
Paddy's Pond & Ice lake	South of Hillcrest and west of the Alaska Highway.			
Quartz Road and Yukon River	Across Quartz Road from Walmart parking lot.	Power boats and jet skis disturb the nesting birds. The various jurisdictions involved in the area may make it harder to protect. Losing vegetation such as trees each year and willows are being cut back and these are important habitat for birds.	Opportunity to protect the area.	Key area for nesting gulls and migratory bird stopover location, important foraging location.

Bird habitat information collected at BFC workshop held on April 24, 2024, Whitehorse, Yukon

Habitat Location	Location Details	Threats	Opportunities	Other Notes
Robert Service Campground area and Yukon Energy buildings.	off Robert Service Way			Very diverse habitat in the area including around the Yukon Energy facility/offices.
Schwatka Lake		Recreational boating disturbing resting birds.		
Valerie Lake	West of the Copper Haul Road near Mount Sima Road.			
Versluce Meadow	Porter Creek, between Centennial Street and Holly Street.	Encroaching development.		Very good breeding/nesting habitat.
Whistle Bend vegetated area	More towards the Yukon River.			Good for eagles. Whistle Bend subdivision needs trees.
Wolf Creek/Cowley Creek corridor	Mary Lake, Cowley Creek through to the Yukon River.			Waterfowl nesting and swamp at the north end of Mary Lake. Good passerine nesting area close to the Yukon River (Boreal Forest).
Yukon River Valley	Yukon River within the city limits. Particularly the Millennium Trail to Schwatka Lake and also through Miles Canyon (both sides of Schwatka Lake), river islands upstream of the mouth of McIntyre Creek.	Erosion of the shoreline by motorized boats. Loss of habitat and disturbance of riparian birds and waterfowl. Millennium trail has no designation as a park.	Education and signage needed.	The islands are not named in the Yukon Water Catalogue or on Google Earth. Eagles and waterfowl habitat. Harlequin Ducks observed a short distance upstream from the Miles Canyon bridge. Important nesting area for forest, cliff and water birds. Good winter habitat.

Bird viewing information collected at BFC workshop held on April 24, 2024, Whitehorse Yukon

Viewing Location	Location Details	Threats	Opportunities	Other Notes
Chadburn Lake & Chadden Lake	Off the Chadburn Lake Road.		Waterfowl viewing. Improved access for wheelchairs, better signage and interpretation.	
Copper Haul Road ponds and wetlands	From Mount Sima Road through to Fish Lake Road. Ties in with the MacIntyre Creek and marsh/wetland complex.		Many viewing opportunities for many bird species along the road including at wetlands, marshes, ponds and canyons. Very good for waterfowl, wetland birds and eagles. Opportunity to improve access in some locations (e.g., boardwalks).	
Copper Ridge (ridge trails)			Benches for sitting.	
Crestview wetlands and ponds	Accessed through Crestview Subdivision.		Existing trails.	
Ear Lake and quarry area	East of the Alaska Highway and south of Robert Service Way.			
Haeckel Hill	Accessed from the Fish Lake Road.		Good access now that road has been improved. Access to treeline and sub-alpine birds.	
Hidden Lake (Porter Creek)	Not to be confused with Hidden Lakes.		Opportunity for better access for wheelchair users. Not sure about existing interpretation.	
Hidden Lakes	East of the Chadburn Lake Road.		Benches, gazebo, better parking needed.	Good for forest birds and nesting shore birds. Good existing trails.
Kishwoot Island	Yukon River, adjacent to the Millennium Trail towards the Whitehorse Dam.		Regain access and install interpretation.	The footbridge to the island has been closed at least since 2008.
Livingston Trail Environmental Control Facility (Also known as Whitehorse Sewage Lagoons)	East of the Yukon River.		Outstanding viewing opportunities for birds. The best place in the city! Needs interpretation. Opportunity for walking and biking trails. Opportunity for access to the public (a viewing tower?).	Fabulous habit for waterfowl and waterbirds, spring through fall.
Mary Lake	South Whitehorse.		Improved signage. Good access from Spruce Hill.	Good viewing of forest and water birds. YBC used to run trips to the lake.
McIntyre Creek confluence with the Yukon River	Also known as Eagle Bluff/Point, Eagle Bay, Eagle Bay View.	General population growth, erosion of the bluffs. Paragliders flying and landing in the area during the main migration season and disrupting swans and other migrants. Creating improved access to these areas may actually negatively affect bird habitat and the birds.	Bird viewing opportunities: eagles, ravens, waterfowl, grassland birds near the bluff. Clean up the historic garbage from this area (e.g., tires).	
McIntyre Creek/Marsh Complex	Viewing locations along the Copper Haul Road, including just off Fish Lake Road as well as towards the Alaska Highway, close to and from Raven's Ridge Subdivision.	Some trails cross bird habitat - not necessarily a good thing.	Replace/improve signage. Table and benches needed. Good parking area. Upgrade the path that leads down to the habitat near the main parking area near Fish Lake Road. Improved parking spots between the Alaska Highway and Fish Lake Road.	Porta-Potty at the viewing location (gazebo at north end) has not been maintained in the past and it's not clear who is responsible for it.
Millennium Trail	Adjacent to the Yukon River	Erosion of habitat.	Good bird viewing, accessible.	Waterfowl, eagles.
Paddy's Pond	Granger/Hillcrest area		Improved trail signage, provide information about the area/birds and provide some benches and tables.	Also need info on frogs here.

Bird viewing information collected at BFC workshop held on April 24, 2024, Whitehorse Yukon

Viewing Location	Location Details	Threats	Opportunities	Other Notes
Pumphouse pond and marshes	Southwest of the Yukon University campus. Part of the McIntyre Creek corridor.	ATVs, off-leash dogs. ATVs disturb bird habitat.		
Quartz Road marshes and the Yukon River			Very good accessible viewing. Allows access for wheelchair users.	A large variety of water and terrestrial bird species in the spring and summer and good in the fall. One of the best viewing locations in the city due to its accessibility. Jurisdictional challenges include: private islands, a federal waterway, area is within the city boundary, and at least one of the islands (unnamed) is TKC settlement land.
Schwatka Lake	Both sides of the lake.		Needs porta potty at the bottom of the hill by the lake. Opportunity to educate the public about not disturbing resting migratory birds.	Migratory waterfowl viewing. Some existing good access along the Millennium Trail. Good winter birding.
Valerie Lake canyon and Valerie Lake	Accessed from the Copper Haul Road and then local trails.	Development and expansion of housing/commercial lots and fire smarting of habitat.	Stunning scenery, Trans-Canada Trail close by.	Pacific-slope Flycatcher observed here (Yukon rare bird), Pacific Wrens and Yellow-bellied Flycatcher in the canyon.
Versluce Meadow	Porter Creek, between Centennial Street and Holly Street.		Interpretation. Good access on foot.	Very good nesting and viewing habitat.
Whistle Bend Pond	Adjacent to Casino Boulevard. Called Whistle Bend Stormwater Pond 1 on Yukon Water Data catalogue	Water is considered polluted. Dogs get sick drinking it.	Viewing of birds. Easy to access.	
Whitehorse Airport 'clay cliffs'	Trails around the airport, particularly east and south of the airport.			Very good for Bald Eagle viewing (perching and nesting).
Wolf Creek	Trail along the creek leaving from the campground, especially the east side of the creek.			At the Yukon River, good viewing of birds including swans and waterfowl in the spring and fall. Existing access from Wolf Creek Campground.

