



Birds of the Lake Tahoe Basin

A SEASONAL CHECKLIST BY THE
TAHOE INSTITUTE FOR NATURAL SCIENCE



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for Natural Science

BIRDS OF THE LAKE TAHOE BASIN

The Lake Tahoe basin forms a unique region for birding, capturing portions of two states and six counties, encompassing a diversity of Sierra Nevada habitat types between approximately 6200' and 10,800' elevation, and straddling a major divide between Pacific Slope and Great Basin faunal communities. The Tahoe basin is dominated by Lake Tahoe, but also comprises many habitat types and consequently a great diversity of birds. These habitat types include the lake itself, riparian corridors, wet and dry meadows, marshes and wetlands, lakeshore mudflats, beaches, and lagoons, conifer and aspen forests, montane chaparral, cliffs and craggy peaks, and subalpine and alpine slopes and ridges.

LEGEND

SEASONS:

Astronomical timing as a basis for the seasons does not correlate well with bird distribution in the Tahoe region; therefore seasonal occurrences are coded as follows:

SP	Spring	16 March- 31 May
S	Summer	1 June- 31 July
F	Fall	1 August- 15 November
W	Winter	16 November- 15 March

ABUNDANCE CODES:

These relative abundance codes indicate how likely the bird is to occur in its favored habitat:

- C** **Common**- this species is likely to be seen or heard in suitable habitat and may even be abundant at times
- U** **Uncommon**- this species often is present in the appropriate habitat, but perhaps not consistently over time and usually in smaller numbers than Common species, and therefore is less likely to be encountered
- R** **Rare** - expected annually, or nearly so, but always in small numbers
- Cs** **Casual** - very few records of this species to date

BREEDING CODES:

- B** Confirmed as a current or recent (since 1995) attempted breeder in the Lake Tahoe basin (may include single failed nesting attempts, e.g. Broad-tailed Hummingbird, or hybrid pairings, e.g. Plumbeous Vireo)
- F** Confirmed as a formerly breeding species. At least one breeding attempt documented, but prior to 1995; current breeding may be possible
- ?** Possible current or former breeder, but no confirmation of breeding at Tahoe; status uncertain

BIRDS OF THE LAKE TAHOE BASIN

COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAME

SP S F W

GEESE, DUCKS, AND SWANS - ANATIDAE

Greater White-fronted Goose - <i>Anser albifrons</i>	Cs		U	R
Snow Goose- <i>Chen caerulescens</i>	Cs		U	U
Ross's Goose- <i>Chen rossii</i>			R	R
Brant- <i>Branta bernicula</i>	Cs		Cs	Cs
Cackling Goose- <i>Branta hutchinsii</i>	Cs		R	R
Canada Goose- <i>Branta canadensis</i> - B	C	C	C	C
Tundra Swan- <i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	Cs		U	R
Wood Duck- <i>Aix sponsa</i> - B	U	U	U	R
Gadwall- <i>Anas strepera</i> - B	C	U	C	U
Eurasian Wigeon- <i>Anas penelope</i>			Cs	
American Wigeon- <i>Anas americana</i>	U		U	R
Mallard- <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> - B	C	C	C	C
Blue-winged Teal- <i>Anas discors</i>	R	Cs	Cs	
Cinnamon Teal- <i>Anas cyanoptera</i> - B	C	C	C	R
Northern Shoveler- <i>Anas clypeata</i>	R		U	U
Northern Pintail- <i>Anas acuta</i> - B	U	R	U	U
Green-winged Teal- <i>Anas crecca</i> - B	C	U	C	U
Canvasback- <i>Aythya valisineria</i>	R	Cs	U	U
Redhead- <i>Aythya americana</i> - F	R	Cs	R	U
Ring-necked Duck- <i>Aythya collaris</i> - B	C	C	U	R
Greater Scaup- <i>Aythya marila</i>	R		R	U
Lesser Scaup- <i>Aythya affinis</i>	R		R	U
Surf Scoter- <i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>			R	R
White-winged Scoter- <i>Melanitta fusca</i>			Cs	
Black Scoter- <i>Melanitta americana</i>	Cs		Cs	Cs
Long-tailed Duck- <i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Cs			Cs
Bufflehead- <i>Bucephala albeola</i> - B	C	R	U	C
Common Goldeneye- <i>Bucephala clangula</i>	C		C	C
Barrow's Goldeneye- <i>Bucephala islandica</i> - F	R		R	R
Hooded Merganser- <i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	C		U	C

COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAME	SP	S	F	W
Common Merganser- <i>Mergus merganser</i> - B	C	C	C	C
Red-breasted Merganser- <i>Mergus serrator</i>	U		U	U
Ruddy Duck- <i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i> - F	C	U	C	R
QUAILS - ODONTOPHORIDAE				
Mountain Quail- <i>Oreortyx pictus</i> - B	R	C	U	R
California Quail- <i>Callipepla californica</i> - B	R	U	U	R
GROUSE - PHASIANIDAE				
Sooty Grouse- <i>Dendragapus fuliginosus</i> - B	C	C	C	C
LOONS - GAVIIDAE				
Red-throated Loon- <i>Gavia stellata</i>				Cs
Pacific Loon- <i>Gavia pacifica</i>	R		R	R
Common Loon- <i>Gavia immer</i>	C	Cs	U	U
Yellow-billed Loon- <i>Gavia adamsii</i>				Cs
GREBES - PODICIPEDIDAE				
Pied-billed Grebe- <i>Podilymbus podiceps</i> - B	U	U	U	R
Horned Grebe- <i>Podiceps auritus</i>	R		R	R
Red-necked Grebe- <i>Podiceps grisegena</i>			Cs	Cs
Eared Grebe- <i>Podiceps nigricollis</i> - F	U	R	C	U
Western Grebe- <i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i>	U	C	U	R
Clark's Grebe- <i>Aechmophorus clarkii</i>	U	C	U	R
CORMORANTS - PHALACROCORACIDAE				
Double-crested Cormorant- <i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>	R	R	R	Cs
PELICANS - PELECANIDAE				
American White Pelican- <i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	U	U	U	
BITTERN AND HERONS - ARDEIDAE				
American Bittern- <i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i> - F	R	R	R	
Least Bittern- <i>Ixobrychus exilis</i> - F		Cs		
Great Blue Heron- <i>Ardea herodias</i>	U	U	U	R
Great Egret- <i>Ardea alba</i>	R	R	R	Cs
Snowy Egret- <i>Egretta thula</i>	R	R	R	

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COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAME	SP	S	F	W
Cattle Egret- <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Cs			
Green Heron- <i>Butorides virescens</i>	R			
Black-crowned Night-Heron- <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	U	U	C	Cs
IBIS - THRESKIORNITHIDAE				
White-faced Ibis- <i>Plegadis chihi</i>	U	R	U	
NEW WORLD VULTURES - CATHARTIDAE				
Turkey Vulture- <i>Cathartes aura</i> - F	R	U	U	Cs
OSPREY - PANDIONIDAE				
Osprey- <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> - B	C	C	C	R
KITES, HAWKS, AND EAGLES - ACCIPITRIDAE				
White-tailed Kite- <i>Elanus leucurus</i>			R	
Bald Eagle- <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> - B	U	U	C	C
Northern Harrier- <i>Circus cyaneus</i>	R	Cs	U	R
Sharp-shinned Hawk- <i>Accipiter striatus</i> - B	U	U	C	U
Cooper's Hawk- <i>Accipiter cooperii</i> - B	U	U	C	U
Northern Goshawk- <i>Accipiter gentilis</i> - B	U	U	U	U
Red-shouldered Hawk- <i>Buteo lineatus</i>	U	R	U	U
Swainson's Hawk- <i>Buteo swainsoni</i>			Cs	
Red-tailed Hawk- <i>Buteo jamaicensis</i> - B	U	U	C	C
Ferruginous Hawk- <i>Buteo regalis</i>			Cs	
Rough-legged Hawk- <i>Buteo lagopus</i>	Cs			R
Golden Eagle- <i>Aquila chrysaetos</i> - B	R	R	R	R
RAILS - RALLIDAE				
Virginia Rail- <i>Rallus limicola</i> - B	R	C	U	Cs
Sora- <i>Porzana carolina</i> - B	R	C	U	
GALLINULES AND COOTS - RALLIDAE				
Common Moorhen- <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	Cs			
American Coot- <i>Fulica americana</i> - B	C	C	C	C
CRANES - GRUIDAE				
Sandhill Crane- <i>Grus canadensis</i>	R	Cs	R	R

COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAME	SP	S	F	W
STILTS AND AVOCETS - RECURVIROSTRIDAE				
Black-necked Stilt- <i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	R	U	R	
American Avocet- <i>Recurvirostra americana</i>	R	U	R	
PLOVERS - CHARADRIIDAE				
Black-bellied Plover- <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	R		R	
American Golden-Plover- <i>Pluvialis dominica</i>			Cs	
Snowy Plover- <i>Charadrius nivosus</i>	R	R	R	
Semipalmated Plover- <i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	U	U	C	Cs
Killdeer- <i>Charadrius vociferus</i> - B	C	C	C	R
Mountain Plover- <i>Charadrius montanus</i>			Cs	
SANDPIPERS - SCOLOPACIDAE				
Spotted Sandpiper- <i>Actitis macularius</i> - B	U	U	C	Cs
Solitary Sandpiper- <i>Tringa solitaria</i>		Cs	Cs	
Wandering Tattler- <i>Tringa incana</i>	Cs			
Greater Yellowlegs- <i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	R	U	C	Cs
Willet- <i>Tringa semipalmata</i> - F	R	U	C	
Lesser Yellowlegs- <i>Tringa flavipes</i>		Cs	R	
Whimbrel- <i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	R	Cs	R	
Long-billed Curlew- <i>Numenius americanus</i>	U	C	U	
Marbled Godwit- <i>Limosa fedoa</i>	Cs	U	U	
Ruddy Turnstone- <i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Cs	Cs	R	
Black Turnstone- <i>Arenaria melanocephala</i>			Cs	
Red Knot- <i>Calidris canutus</i>	Cs		Cs	
Sanderling- <i>Calidris alba</i>	Cs	R	R	
Dunlin- <i>Calidris alpina</i>	U		R	
Baird's Sandpiper- <i>Calidris bairdii</i>		Cs	U	
Least Sandpiper- <i>Calidris minutilla</i>	C	C	C	Cs
Pectoral Sandpiper- <i>Calidris melanotos</i>			R	
Semipalmated Sandpiper- <i>Calidris pusilla</i>			R	
Western Sandpiper- <i>Calidris mauri</i>	U	C	C	

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Short-billed Dowitcher- <i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	Cs	R	R	
Long-billed Dowitcher- <i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i>	R	Cs	R	Cs
Wilson's Snipe- <i>Gallinago delicata</i> - B	U	U	C	R
Wilson's Phalarope- <i>Phalaropus tricolor</i> - B	R	U	C	
Red-necked Phalarope- <i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	R	U	C	
Red Phalarope- <i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	Cs		Cs	
JAEGERS - STERCORARIIDAE				
Pomarine Jaeger- <i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>		Cs		
Parasitic Jaeger- <i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>			R	
Long-tailed Jaeger- <i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>			R	
GULLS AND TERNS - LARIDAE				
Sabine's Gull- <i>Xema sabini</i>	Cs		R	Cs
Bonaparte's Gull- <i>Chroicocephalus philadelphia</i>	U	Cs	U	R
Little Gull- <i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>		Cs		
Franklin's Gull- <i>Leucophaeus pipixcan</i>		Cs	Cs	
Heermann's Gull- <i>Larus heermanni</i>	Cs	Cs	Cs	
Mew Gull- <i>Larus canus</i>			Cs	
Ring-billed Gull- <i>Larus delawarensis</i>	C	U	C	U
California Gull- <i>Larus californicus</i> - F	C	C	C	U
Herring Gull- <i>Larus argentatus</i>	U	R	U	U
Thayer's Gull- <i>Larus thayeri</i>			R	R
Lesser Black-backed Gull- <i>Larus fuscus</i>			Cs	
Glaucous-winged Gull- <i>Larus glaucescens</i>				Cs
Glaucous Gull- <i>Larus hyperboreus</i>				Cs
Caspian Tern- <i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	R	R	U	
Black Tern- <i>Chlidonias niger</i> - F	R	Cs	Cs	
Common Tern- <i>Sterna hirundo</i>			U	
Arctic Tern- <i>Sterna paradisaea</i>		Cs	R	
Forster's Tern- <i>Sterna forsteri</i> - B	U	C	C	

COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAME	SP	S	F	W
PIGEONS AND DOVES - COLUMBIDAE				
Rock Pigeon- <i>Columba livia</i> - B	C	C	C	C
Band-tailed Pigeon- <i>Patagioenas fasciata</i> - B	U	U	U	U
Eurasian Collared-Dove- <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i> - B	U	U	U	U
Mourning Dove- <i>Zenaida macroura</i> - B	C	C	C	U
CUCKOOS - CUCULIDAE				
Yellow-billed Cuckoo- <i>Coccyzus americanus</i>		Cs		
BARN OWLS - TYTONIDAE				
Barn Owl- <i>Tyto alba</i> - B	R	R	R	R
TYPICAL OWLS - STRIGIDAE				
Flammulated Owl- <i>Psiloscops flammeolus</i> - B	R	U	U	
Western Screech-Owl- <i>Megascops kennicottii</i> - ?	R	R	R	R
Great Horned Owl- <i>Bubo virginianus</i> - B	U	U	U	U
Northern Pygmy-Owl- <i>Glaucidium gnoma</i> - B	U	U	U	U
Burrowing Owl- <i>Athene cunicularia</i>	Cs		R	
Spotted Owl- <i>Strix occidentalis</i> - B	R	R	R	R
Barred Owl- <i>Strix varia</i>				Cs
Long-eared Owl- <i>Asio otus</i> - B	U	U	C	R
Short-eared Owl- <i>Asio flammeus</i>			Cs	
Northern Saw-whet Owl- <i>Aegolius acadicus</i> - B	U	U	U	U
NIGHTJARS - CAPRIMULGIDAE				
Common Nighthawk- <i>Chordeiles minor</i> - B		U	U	
Common Poorwill- <i>Phalaenoptilus nuttallii</i> - B	U	U	U	
SWIFTS - APODIDAE				
Black Swift- <i>Cypseloides niger</i>		Cs	Cs	
Chimney Swift- <i>Chaetura pelagica</i>			Cs	
Vaux's Swift- <i>Chaetura vauxi</i> - ?	U	R	U	
White-throated Swift- <i>Aeronautes saxatalis</i>		Cs	Cs	
HUMMINGBIRDS - TROCHILIDAE				
Black-chinned Hummingbird- <i>Archilochus alexandri</i>	Cs		Cs	

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Anna's Hummingbird- <i>Calypte anna</i> - ?	R	U	R	
Broad-tailed Hummingbird- <i>Selasphorus platycercus</i> - B	Cs	Cs	Cs	
Rufous Hummingbird- <i>Selasphorus rufus</i>	R	C	C	
Calliope Hummingbird- <i>Selasphorus calliope</i> - B	R	U	R	
KINGFISHERS - ALCEDINIDAE				
Belted Kingfisher- <i>Megaceryle alcyon</i> - B	U	C	C	U
WOODPECKERS - PICIDAE				
Lewis's Woodpecker- <i>Melanerpes lewis</i> - B	R	R	R	
Acorn Woodpecker- <i>Melanerpes formicivorus</i>		Cs	Cs	
Williamson's Sapsucker- <i>Sphyrapicus thyroideus</i> - B	C	C	C	R
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker- <i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>			Cs	
Red-naped Sapsucker- <i>Sphyrapicus nuchalis</i>	Cs		Cs	Cs
Red-breasted Sapsucker- <i>Sphyrapicus ruber</i> - B	U	C	C	U
Downy Woodpecker- <i>Picoides pubescens</i> - B	U	U	U	U
Hairy Woodpecker- <i>Picoides villosus</i> - B	C	C	C	C
White-headed Woodpecker- <i>Picoides albolarvatus</i> - B	C	C	C	C
Black-backed Woodpecker- <i>Picoides arcticus</i> - B	U	U	U	U
Northern Flicker- <i>Colaptes auratus</i> - B	C	C	C	C
Pileated Woodpecker- <i>Dryocopus pileatus</i> - B	U	U	U	U
FALCONS - FALCONIDAE				
American Kestrel- <i>Falco sparverius</i> - B	R	U	C	R
Merlin- <i>Falco columbarius</i>			R	R
Peregrine Falcon- <i>Falco peregrinus</i> - B	R	U	U	R
Prairie Falcon- <i>Falco mexicanus</i>	R		R	R
TYRANT FLYCATCHERS - TYRANNIDAE				
Olive-sided Flycatcher- <i>Contopus cooperi</i> - B	R	U	U	
Western Wood-Pewee- <i>Contopus sordidulus</i> - B	U	C	C	
Willow Flycatcher- <i>Empidonax traillii</i> - B	R	R	R	
Least Flycatcher- <i>Empidonax minimus</i>		Cs	Cs	
Hammond's Flycatcher- <i>Empidonax hammondii</i> - B	U	U	U	

COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAME	SP	S	F	W
Gray Flycatcher- <i>Empidonax wrightii</i> - ?	U	R	R	
Dusky Flycatcher- <i>Empidonax oberholseri</i> - B	U	C	U	
Pacific-slope Flycatcher- <i>Empidonax difficilis</i> - ?		R	R	
Cordilleran Flycatcher- <i>Empidonax occidentalis</i>		Cs		
Black Phoebe- <i>Sayornis nigricans</i>	Cs	R	C	
Say's Phoebe- <i>Sayornis saya</i>	U		R	R
Ash-throated Flycatcher- <i>Myiarchus cinerascens</i>	R	U	U	
Western Kingbird- <i>Tyrannus verticalis</i>	R	R	R	
Eastern Kingbird- <i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>			Cs	
SHRIKES - LANIIDAE				
Loggerhead Shrike- <i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	R	Cs		R
Northern Shrike- <i>Lanius excubitor</i>			Cs	R
VIREO - VIREONIDAE				
Plumbeous Vireo- <i>Vireo plumbeus</i> - B		Cs	Cs	
Cassin's Vireo- <i>Vireo cassinii</i> - B	U	U	C	
Hutton's Vireo- <i>Vireo huttoni</i>			Cs	
Warbling Vireo- <i>Vireo gilvus</i> - B	C	C	C	
JAYS, MAGPIES, AND CROWS - CORVIDAE				
Pinyon Jay- <i>Gymnorhinus cyanocephalus</i>	R	R	R	R
Steller's Jay- <i>Cyanocitta stelleri</i> - B	C	C	C	C
Blue Jay- <i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>	Cs			Cs
Western Scrub-Jay- <i>Aphelocoma californica</i>	R		R	Cs
Clark's Nutcracker- <i>Nucifraga columbiana</i> - B	C	C	C	C
Black-billed Magpie- <i>Pica hudsonia</i> - B	C	C	C	C
American Crow- <i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	R	Cs	R	Cs
Common Raven- <i>Corvus corax</i> - B	C	C	C	C
LARKS - ALAUDIDAE				
Horned Lark- <i>Eremophila alpestris</i> - B	C	U	U	R
SWALLOWS - HIRUNDINIDAE				
Purple Martin- <i>Progne subis</i>	Cs		Cs	

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Tree Swallow- <i>Tachycineta bicolor</i> - B	U	C	C	U
Violet-green Swallow- <i>Tachycineta thalassina</i> - B	U	U	U	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow - <i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i> - B	R	R	R	
Bank Swallow- <i>Riparia riparia</i>	Cs	Cs	R	
Cliff Swallow- <i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i> - B	U	C	C	
Barn Swallow- <i>Hirundo rustica</i> - B	U	C	C	
CHICKADEES AND TITMICE - PARIDAE				
Mountain Chickadee- <i>Poecile gambeli</i> - B	C	C	C	C
Chestnut-backed Chickadee- <i>Poecile rufescens</i>			Cs	
Juniper Titmouse- <i>Baeolophus ridgwayi</i>			Cs	
BUSHTITS - AEGITHALIDAE				
Bushtit- <i>Psaltriparus minimus</i> - ?	U	U	U	U
NUTHATCHES - SITTIDAE				
Red-breasted Nuthatch- <i>Sitta canadensis</i> - B	C	C	C	C
White-breasted Nuthatch- <i>Sitta carolinensis</i> - B	C	C	C	C
Pygmy Nuthatch- <i>Sitta pygmaea</i> - B	C	C	C	C
CREEPERS - CERTHIIDAE				
Brown Creeper- <i>Certhia americana</i> - B	C	C	C	C
WRENS - TROGLODYTIDAE				
Rock Wren- <i>Salpinctes obsoletus</i> - B	U	U	U	
Canyon Wren- <i>Catherpes mexicanus</i> - B	R	R	R	R
House Wren- <i>Troglodytes aedon</i> - B	R	C	U	
Pacific Wren- <i>Troglodytes pacificus</i> - B	U	R	U	U
Marsh Wren- <i>Cistothorus palustris</i> - B	R	U	U	Cs
Bewick's Wren- <i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>		R	R	Cs
GNATCATCHERS - POLIOPTILIDAE				
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher- <i>Poliioptila caerulea</i>	R	R	R	
DIPPERS - CINCLIDAE				
American Dipper- <i>Cinclus mexicanus</i> - B	C	C	C	C

COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAME	SP	S	F	W
KINGLETS - <i>REGULIDAE</i>				
Golden-crowned Kinglet- <i>Regulus satrapa</i> - B	C	C	C	C
Ruby-crowned Kinglet- <i>Regulus calendula</i> - F	C	R	C	U
THRUSHES - <i>TURDIDAE</i>				
Western Bluebird- <i>Sialia mexicana</i> - B	U	U	U	U
Mountain Bluebird- <i>Sialia currucoides</i> - B	U	U	U	U
Townsend's Solitaire- <i>Myadestes townsendi</i> - B	C	C	C	U
Swainson's Thrush- <i>Catharus ustulatus</i> - B	R	R	R	
Hermit Thrush- <i>Catharus guttatus</i> - B	U	C	C	R
American Robin- <i>Turdus migratorius</i> - B	C	C	C	U
Varied Thrush- <i>Ixoreus naevius</i>	R		R	R
THRASHERS - <i>MIMIDAE</i>				
Gray Catbird- <i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>			Cs	
Sage Thrasher- <i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>	Cs		Cs	
Northern Mockingbird- <i>Mimus polyglottos</i>		Cs		Cs
STARLINGS - <i>STURNIDAE</i>				
European Starling- <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> - B	C	C	C	U
PIPITS - <i>MOTACILLIDAE</i>				
American Pipit- <i>Anthus rubescens</i> - B	U	U	U	U
WAXWINGS - <i>BOMBYCILLIDAE</i>				
Bohemian Waxwing- <i>Bombycilla garrulus</i>			Cs	Cs
Cedar Waxwing- <i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>	Cs		U	U
LONGSPURS - <i>CALCARIIDAE</i>				
Lapland Longspur- <i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>			Cs	
Chestnut-collared Longspur- <i>Calcarius ornatus</i>			Cs	Cs
WARBLERS - <i>PARULIDAE</i>				
Black-and-white Warbler- <i>Mniotilta varia</i>	Cs		Cs	
Orange-crowned Warbler- <i>Oreothlypis celata</i> - ?	R	C	C	R
Nashville Warbler- <i>Oreothlypis ruficapilla</i> - B	U	C	C	
Virginia's Warbler- <i>Oreothlypis virginiae</i>		Cs		

BIRDS OF THE LAKE TAHOE BASIN

COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAME	SP	S	F	W
MacGillivray's Warbler- <i>Geothlypis tolmiei</i> - B	C	C	C	
Common Yellowthroat- <i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	R	Cs	C	R
Hooded Warbler- <i>Setophaga citrina</i>		Cs		
American Redstart- <i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>		Cs	Cs	
Northern Parula- <i>Setophaga americana</i>	Cs	Cs		
Yellow Warbler- <i>Setophaga petechia</i> - B	U	C	C	
Chestnut-sided Warbler- <i>Setophaga pensylvanica</i>			Cs	
Blackpoll Warbler- <i>Setophaga striata</i>			Cs	
Black-throated Blue Warbler- <i>Setophaga caerulescens</i>		Cs		
Yellow-rumped Warbler- <i>Setophaga coronata</i> - B	C	C	C	R
Black-throated Gray Warbler- <i>Setophaga nigrescens</i>	R	R	U	
Townsend's Warbler- <i>Setophaga townsendi</i>	R	Cs	U	
Hermit Warbler- <i>Setophaga occidentalis</i> - B	U	U	C	
Wilson's Warbler- <i>Cardellina pusilla</i> - B	C	C	C	
Yellow-breasted Chat- <i>Icteria virens</i>			Cs	
TOWHEES AND SPARROWS - EMBERIZIDAE				
Green-tailed Towhee- <i>Pipilo chlorurus</i> - B	C	C	C	
Spotted Towhee- <i>Pipilo maculatus</i> - B	U	U	C	U
American Tree Sparrow- <i>Spizella arborea</i>				Cs
Chipping Sparrow- <i>Spizella passerina</i> - B	C	C	C	
Clay-colored Sparrow- <i>Spizella pallida</i>	Cs		Cs	
Brewer's Sparrow- <i>Spizella breweri</i> - B	U	U	C	
Black-chinned Sparrow- <i>Spizella atrogularis</i>		Cs	Cs	
Vesper Sparrow- <i>Poocetes gramineus</i> - B	R	R	U	
Lark Sparrow- <i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	R	R	R	
Black-throated Sparrow- <i>Amphispiza bilineata</i>	R		R	
Sagebrush Sparrow- <i>Artemisiospiza nevadensis</i>			Cs	Cs
Lark Bunting- <i>Calamospiza melanocorys</i>			Cs	
Savannah Sparrow- <i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i> - B	U	U	C	R
Fox Sparrow- <i>Passerella iliaca</i> - B	U	C	C	R
Song Sparrow- <i>Melospiza melodia</i> - B	C	C	C	U

COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAME	SP	S	F	W
Lincoln's Sparrow- <i>Melospiza lincolnii</i> - B	U	C	U	R
Swamp Sparrow- <i>Melospiza georgiana</i>			Cs	Cs
White-throated Sparrow- <i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>	Cs		Cs	
Harris's Sparrow- <i>Zonotrichia querula</i>	Cs		Cs	
White-crowned Sparrow- <i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i> - B	C	C	C	U
Golden-crowned Sparrow- <i>Zonotrichia atricapilla</i>	R		U	U
Dark-eyed Junco- <i>Junco hyemalis</i> - B	C	C	C	U
TANAGERS, GROSBEEKS, AND BUNTINGS - CARDINALIDAE				
Western Tanager- <i>Piranga ludoviciana</i> - B	C	C	C	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak- <i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	Cs	Cs	Cs	
Black-headed Grosbeak- <i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i> - B	U	C	U	Cs
Lazuli Bunting- <i>Passerina amoena</i> - B	U	C	C	
Indigo Bunting- <i>Passerina cyanea</i>		Cs		
BLACKBIRDS - ICTERIDAE				
Bobolink- <i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>			Cs	
Red-winged Blackbird- <i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i> - B	C	C	C	U
Tricolored Blackbird- <i>Agelaius tricolor</i>	Cs			
Western Meadowlark- <i>Sturnella neglecta</i> - B	U	R	C	R
Yellow-headed Blackbird- <i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i> - B	C	C	U	R
Brewer's Blackbird- <i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i> - B	C	C	C	U
Great-tailed Grackle- <i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i> - B	Cs	Cs	Cs	
Brown-headed Cowbird- <i>Molothrus ater</i> - B	C	C	C	R
Hooded Oriole- <i>Icterus cucullatus</i>	Cs			
Bullock's Oriole- <i>Icterus bullockii</i>	R	Cs	R	
FINCHES - FRINGILLIDAE				
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch- <i>Leucosticte tephrocotis</i> - B	R	R	R	Cs
Pine Grosbeak- <i>Pinicola enucleator</i> - B	C	C	C	U
House Finch- <i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i> - B	C	C	C	R
Purple Finch- <i>Haemorhous purpureus</i>		R	R	Cs
Cassin's Finch- <i>Haemorhous cassinii</i> - B	C	C	C	U

BIRDS OF THE LAKE TAHOE BASIN

COMMON AND SCIENTIFIC NAME	SP	S	F	W
Red Crossbill- <i>Loxia curvirostra</i> - B	U	U	U	U
Pine Siskin- <i>Spinus pinus</i> - B	U	C	U	U
Lesser Goldfinch- <i>Spinus psaltria</i> - B	U	U	U	R
Lawrence's Goldfinch- <i>Spinus lawrencei</i>			Cs	
American Goldfinch- <i>Spinus tristis</i>	R		U	U
Evening Grosbeak- <i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i> - B	C	U	U	R
OLD WORLD SPARROWS - PASSERIDAE				
House Sparrow- <i>Passer domesticus</i> - B	C	C	C	U

FIELD NOTES AND SKETCHES



This seasonal checklist represents the complete list of birds documented from the Lake Tahoe basin as of May 2016. It has been compiled by Will Richardson and the Tahoe Institute for Natural Science (TINS), based on over 20 years of field observations, records from the literature spanning back to the 1800s, and notes, reports, and feedback from other birders and biologists. Many thanks are due to all who have contributed! Any feedback, corrections, additions, or suggestions for revision will be gratefully accepted at will@tinsweb.org, and periodic updates will be available at www.tinsweb.org/seasonal-bird-checklist. Special thanks go to Ruby Lyon of TINS for the layout and Keith Hansen (www.keithhansen.com) for the cover art. This is TINS Contribution Number 87.

Please visit www.tinsweb.org for more information on TINS and birding at Lake Tahoe!



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