

# Dixon Diversion Project USFWS Wildlife Species List for Analysis in the Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Study March 29, 2024

Group	Species	ACAD	USFWS BCC	Taxon-specific List	Comments	Habitat
<b>Riverine habitat use: Martin River hydrology</b>						
Bird - Landbirds	Rufous Hummingbird	WatchList/Tipping Point - Orange	x		Breeding	Breeding - Nesting probably in tall conifers but potentially riparian thickets; Migration - Foraging habitat includes mountain meadows
Bird - Landbirds	Olive-sided Flycatcher	WatchList/Tipping Point - Yellow	x		Breeding	Sea level to timberline, usually at mid to high elevation; Conifer forests, burns, clearings, edges of streams, lakes, rivers, ponds, bogs, muskegs
Bird - Landbirds	Bank Swallow	Common Bird in Steep Decline			Breeding	Lowland areas along coasts and rivers, lakes, reservoirs, wetlands. Needs soil banks/cliffs/bluffs for nesting.
Bird - Landbirds	Blackpoll Warbler	Common Bird in Steep Decline			Breeding	Could occupy black spruce forest but primarily deciduous shrub habitats (Salix alaxensis and Alnus incana), where riparian or other moist habitats are preferred. Also occupies ecotone between treeline tiaga and alpine tundra
<b>Tidal flat habitat use: Discharge and sedimentation changes to Fox River Flats IBA (tidal flats on south side of K-Bay near Bradley Lake power plant)</b>						
Bird - Waterbirds	Steller's Eider	WatchList/Tipping Point - Red			ESA- Threatened; Sea duck	Non-breeding habitat includes shallow coastal lagoons/waters, tidal flats
Bird - Waterbirds	Common Goldeneye				Diving duck; non-breeding	Shallow bays, increasingly found in discharge areas near power stations; winter diet overlaps with Steller's eiders
Bird - Waterbirds	Barrow's Goldeneye				Sea duck; year round, including breeding	Breeding - subalpine lakes, small sloughs; non-breeding - marine waters, but often using areas near freshwater input
Bird - Shorebirds	Rock Sandpiper	WatchList/Tipping Point - Yellow	x	ASG: High Conservation Concern	Non-breeding	Forages/rests in intertidal habitats, including rocky shorelines and estuaries (mud and mixed sand-and-mud flats)
Bird - Shorebirds	Western Sandpiper	WatchList Yellow		ASG: AK Stewardship Species	Just migrating through	Tidal flats, saltmarsh
Bird - Shorebirds	Semipalmated Sandpiper	WatchList/Tipping Point - Orange		ASG: High Conservation Concern	Just migrating through	Tidal flats, freshwater wetlands, lake and pond edges
Bird - Seabird	Herring Gull	Common Bird in Steep Decline			Year round, including breeding	Breeding - mainly coastal wetlands but also large lakes and reservoirs; varied nesting including on vegetated and non-vegetated substrates/structures
Bird - Seabird	Arctic tern		x		Breeding; 2008 BCC list not 2021	Nests in treeless areas, including tundra, sandy/gravelly substrates, often near lakes or other water; has been a colony at Fox River Flats and one at Grewingk Glacier, need to check for current info (but colony database is down; reach out to Robb Kaler)
<b>Alpine tundra habitat use: Loss of nesting habitat related to water level rise/loss of nests related to fluctuations</b>						
Bird - Waterbirds	Long-tailed Duck	WatchList/Tipping Point - Orange			Sea duck; year round, including breeding	Breeds in low-lying tundra, hills, barren ground
Bird - Shorebirds	Wandering Tattler	WatchList/Tipping Point - Yellow	x		Breeding	Dwarf shrub uplands and montane tundra, areas with rocky/gravelly alluvium, morainal deposits, kettle lakes and tarns, scree slopes, braided creeks and rivers
Bird - Seabirds	Marbled Murrelet	WatchList/Tipping Point - Yellow	x		Year round, including breeding; Audubon Alaska watchlist	Breeding - Nest sites include coastal forests (most nests in trees) but can also nest on sea-facing talus slopes on cliffs or rocky scree slopes

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Bird - Landbirds	Short-eared Owl	Common Bird in Steep Decline			Breeding	Ground nester that uses a variety of open habitats; generally dry sites from sea level to uplands
Bird - Landbirds	American Pipit	Common Bird in Steep Decline			Breeding	Alpine tundra, often near streams
Bird - Landbirds	Horned Lark	Common Bird in Steep Decline	x		Breeding; Listed in BCS outside of Alaska, consider removing	Sea level to 4000 m, likes barren ground breeding habitat, will quickly colonize cleared areas
Bird - Landbirds	Lapland Longspur	Common Bird in Steep Decline			Breeding	Typically in wet, hummocky, tundra meadows, often on relatively flat ground, but also on drier, well-vegetated slopes; approx. sea level to 500 m / treeline
<b>Wetlands, including sedge and muskeg habitats: Could be impacted by changing flows</b>						
Bird - Waterbirds	Northern Pintail	WatchList/Tipping Point - Yellow			Freshwater dabbling duck; could be breeding	Shallow wetlands; freshwater and tidal used
Bird - Waterbirds	Black Scoter	WatchList/Tipping Point - Yellow			Year round, including breeding	Breeding - smaller lakes/taiga lakes, areas with tall grasses/sedges; non-breeding - may associate with Harlequin Ducks and use marine areas with sandy or rocky beaches; note that hydroelectric projects flooding habitat was a significant concern in the east
Bird - Waterbirds	Red-throated Loon				Year round, including breeding	Breeding - coastal and freshwater, can use v. small waterbodies, including in treed areas; non-breeding use of marine habitats and large freshwater lakes
Bird - Shorebirds	Lesser Yellowlegs	WatchList/Tipping Point - Orange	x	ASG: High Conservation Concern	Breeding	Breeding in open boreal forest and forest/tundra transition, nesting in drier habitats than sympatric greater yellowlegs; broad rearing in wetlands or brackish habitats; can be found nesting in ROW clearings; forages in marshes, mudflats, shores- breeds in large clearings
Bird - Shorebirds	Greater Yellowlegs	WatchList/Tipping Point - Orange			Breeding	Ground nester; nests in muskeg, bogs, forests with lots of openings and small ponds/lakes; also breeds in tundra and subalpine scrub; forages in wetland habitats and in tidal habitats
Bird - Shorebirds	Short-billed Dowitcher	WatchList/Tipping Point - Orange	x	ASG: High Conservation Concern	Breeding	mudflats, tidal marsh, ponds - Breeds in wetlands including emergent wetlands and muskegs interspersed with black spruce, can breed beyond treeline; foraging on tidal flats
Bird - Seabird	Bonaparte's Gull				Breeding	Nests in wetland openings along the edge of the boreal forest, particularly around lakes, muskegs, marshes; nests in trees; requires areas not disturbed by people for nesting
<b>Potential to use man-made structures</b>						
Bird - Seabirds	Black-legged Kittiwake	Common Bird in Steep Decline			Year round, including breeding	Breeding - Cliff nester but also uses manmade structures (e.g. piers); can also nest on steep earthen slopes; non-breeding - pelagic
Bird - Seabirds	Pelagic Cormorant	WatchList/Tipping Point - Orange	x		Year round, including breeding; BCC 2008 list, not 2021	Breeding- Nests tend to be on cliffs, ledges but can also use human-made structures; diurnal roosts on sandbars, pilings near water

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Bird - Landbirds	Peregrine Falcon		x		Year round, including breeding; BCC 2008 list, not 2021	Breeding - generalist, low to high elevations with nesting sites including cliffs and manmade structures; prey includes shorebirds
Bird - Landbirds	Red-tailed hawk				Breeding	Breeds on many substrates, including trees and human-made surfaces; common in broken spruce and conifers below treeline
Bird - Landbirds	Peregrine Falcon		x		Year round, including breeding; BCC 2008 list, not 2021	Breeding - generalist, low to high elevations with nesting sites including cliffs and manmade structures; prey includes shorebirds
<b>Mammals</b>						
Mammal	Tundra Vole				Kenai NWR- Tundra voles are more prevalent in the project area than singing voles and would be a more appropriate candidate focal species	
Mammal	Wolverine				Kenai NWR- Important trapping species in the area	