Park Habitats

From montane grasslands at Castle Falls, to high alpine tarns of Barnaby Ridge, and from rare wetlands along the West Castle River to diverse forest cover and old burns, the ecology of Castle Provincial Park provides habitat for a wonderful array of bird species. The floral and faunal biodiversity of this landscape is recognized as being the most diverse in Alberta, if not Canada because of abundant and variety of habitat, and also this unique location where so many species are at the very edge of their range.

A pair of binoculars, a sharp ear, and this checklist are all you will need to begin exploring the avian marvels of Castle Provincial Park!

Birding in Castle Parks

Contact

Castle Parks Office
782 Main Street
Box 1810
Pincher Creek, AB T0K 1W0
Phone: 403-627-1152
Email: swparks@gov.ab.ca

General Provincial Park Information
Web: albertaparks.ca
Toll Free: 1–866–427–3582

Fire Bans in Alberta
Web: albertafirebans.ca

Emergency (Police, Fire, Ambulance)
Phone: 911
## Checklist

**Swans, Geese, and Ducks**

- American Wigeon \( M \) \( WB \)
- Barrow’s Goldeneye \( S \) \( WB \)
- Blue-winged Teal \( S \) \( WB \)
- Bufflehead \( Y \) \( WB \)
- Canada Goose \( S \) \( WB \)
- Canvasback \( M \) \( WB \)
- Common Goldeneye \( Y \) \( WB \)
- Common Merganser \( Y \) \( WB \)
- Gadwall \( M \) \( WB \)
- Green-winged Teal \( S \) \( WB \)
- Harlequin Duck \( S \) \( WB \)
- Hooded Merganser \( M \) \( WB \)
- Mallard \( S \) \( WB \)
- Northern Pintail \( S \) \( WB \)
- Northern Shoveler \( S \) \( WB \)
- Redhead \( M \) \( WB \)
- Ring-necked Duck \( S \) \( WB \)
- Rusty Duck \( M \) \( WB \)
- Trumpeter Swan \( S \) \( WB \)
- Wood Duck \( S \) \( WB \)

**Upland Gamebirds**

- Dusky Grouse \( Y \) \( MF \)
- Ruffed Grouse \( Y \) \( MF \)
- Spruce Grouse \( Y \) \( CF \)
- White-tailed Ptarmigan \( Y \) \( AT \)
- Wild Turkey \( Y \) \( OW \)

**Swans, Geese, and Ducks**

- Boreal Owl \( Y \) \( MF \)
- Great Grey Owl \( Y \) \( CF \)
- Great Horned Owl \( Y \) \( MF \)
- Long-eared Owl \( Y \) \( CF \)
- Northern Pygmy Owl \( Y \) \( MF \)
- Northern Saw-whet Owl \( Y \) \( MF \)
- Short-eared Owl \( M \) \( OW \)
- Snowy Owl \( W \) \( OW \)

**Goatsuckers**

- Common Nighthawk \( S \) \( OW \)

**Hummingbirds**

- Calliope Hummingbird \( S \) \( RF \)
- Rufous Hummingbird \( S \) \( RF \)

**Kingfishers**

- Belted Kingfisher \( S \) \( WB \)

**Shorebirds and Gulls**

- Black Tern \( M \) \( W \)
- Black-necked Stilt \( S \) \( W \)
- California Gull \( M \) \( OW \)
- Caspian Tern \( M \) \( W \)
- Common Tern \( M \) \( W \)
- Killdeer \( W \) \( OW \)
- Ring-billed Gull \( M \) \( W \) \( OW \)
- Solitary Sandpiper \( M \) \( W \)

**Loons and Grebes**

- Eurasian Collared Dove \( Y \) \( HS \)
- Mourning Dove \( S \) \( OW \)
- Rock Pigeon \( Y \) \( HS \)

**Pigeons and Doves**

- Bold type denotes most frequently reported species.

**Legend**

- **Residence Status**
  - S = summer breeding
  - W = winter only
  - Y = year-round
  - M = migration

- **Preferred Habitat**
  - AT = alpine tundra
  - CF = coniferous forest
  - MF = mixed forests
  - RF = riparian forests
  - OW = open woodlands
  - HS = human structures
  - WB = water bodies

- Blank type denotes least frequently reported species.