

Birding Alberta & The Rockies

June 2019



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Sweden

Canada, June 16th-28th 2019

Southern Alberta – Rocky Mountains

Front cover

Chestnut-collared Longspur, *Calcarius ornatus*, numerous on prairies in south-eastern Alberta.

Compiler and photos

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Highlights

- Vivid birdlife around Frank Lake – getting a bogey bird of mine: Canvasback
- Badlands at Dinosaur Park – breath-taking scenery and pre-historic fossils
- Great prairie birding north of Alderson: McCown's and Chestnut-collared Longspurs
- Range restricted Baird's Sparrow after a lot of walking
- Finding a singing LeConte's Sparrow at Mountain View
- Introduction to the Rockies: Waterton Lakes National Park
- Trumpeter Swans and Sandhill Cranes at Maskinonge Lake
- Best of the trip: Hike to Bertha Lake with many lifers for me
- Stumbling upon a Black Bear late evening at Waterton Lakes village
- Rufous and Calliope Hummingbirds
- Displaying male Dusky Grouse
- Unexpected Hooded Merganser at Saw Mill Pond, Radium Hot Springs
- Singing Townsend's Solitaire at Radium Hot Springs
- Bow Summit with marmots, Clark's Nutcrackers and two Grey-crowned Rosy Finches.
- Incomparable Peyto Lake – a true wonder of the World
- Beautiful morning in boreal settings at Marsh Loop, Banff
- Nelson's Sparrow staked-out at Cochrane
- Pleasant hike around Brown-Lowery Provincial Park: Evening Grosbeaks, Boreal Chickadee, singing Varied Thrush and pair of American Three-toed Woodpeckers

Logistics

General

This was a family trip with my children, so not in any way a full-on birding trip. Therefore the general route, visited locations and day-to-day schedule were all compromised. The peak tourist season in the Canadian Rockies starts in July, although already in late June there were a lot of people, especially in Lake Louise/Banff-area. Waterton Lakes was less crowded maybe due to large tracts of the park have been closed after the heavy wildfires. Alberta was generally very pleasant to visit: Good roads, gentle traffic, clean, and nice folks. When planning the trip I had tremendously good use of ebird when finding specific locations for some harder species (e.g. McCown's Longspur, Nelson's and Baird's Sparrow). Weather was somewhat unpredictable, with lots of afternoon rain showers. It was never hot and never really cold. A bit (too) windy at Waterton Lakes, especially in the afternoons. Since it was June many birds were vocally active and hence easier to find. The trip provided a superb variety of nature sceneries and fantastic hiking. From badlands and prairies to vast grassy hills, mountainous landscapes around Waterton Lakes to exquisite boreal settings around Kootenay and Banff. Remember that you have to apply for an Electronic Travel Authorization/eTA on-line prior to the trip (<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada/eta.html>). And for that sake, a similar electronic US ESTA *must* be approved if you travel via the US.

Accommodation

Everything was booked in advance. For camp-sites you have to book early, spots are released months before, check homepages respectively.

High River: Super 8 by Wyndham. booking.com

Dinosaur Park: Camping 2 nights. <https://reserve.albertaparks.ca/>

Mountain View: Rocky Ridge Country Lodge (Bed & Breakfast) : rockyridge2008@gmail.com
(Lovely place, great breakfast, beautiful surroundings, with the Rockies distant in the west).
Waterton Lakes: Camping 3 nights. <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/index>
Radium Hot Springs: Motel Bavaria. [booking.com](https://www.booking.com)
Lake Louise, Banff: Camping 2 nights. <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/index>
Cochrane: Super 8 by Wyndham. [booking.com](https://www.booking.com)
Calgary: Hotel Sandman, Calgary Airport. [booking.com](https://www.booking.com)



Calliope Hummingbird, Red Rock Parkway, Waterton Lakes.



Bow River, Marsh Loop (Cave & Basin), Banff.



Western Tanager, Waterton Lakes village.



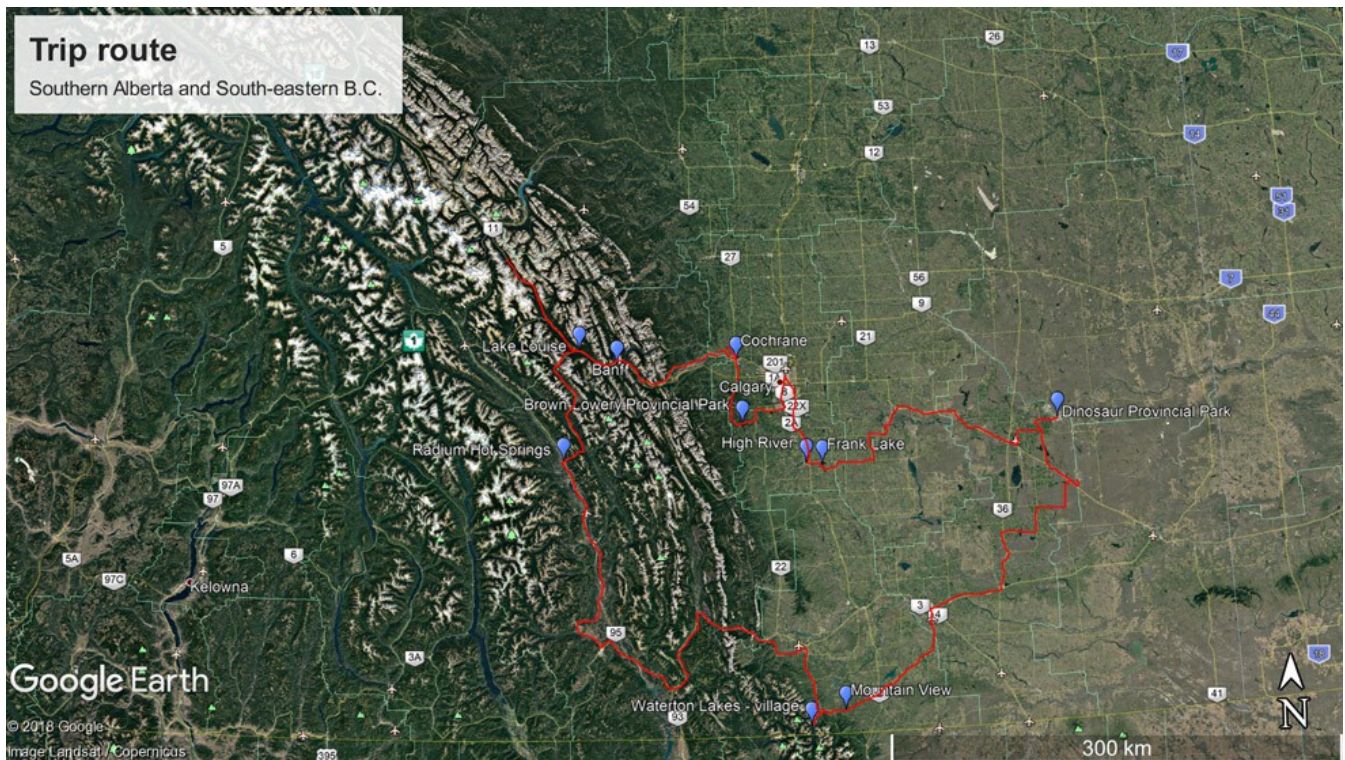
Canada Jay, Bow Summit, Banff.

Camping

We brought a tent, sleeping bags, mattresses and a camping stove from home. On our third attempt (in a store called Canadian Tire, High River) we found Propane Power Gas suitable for a small stove. I prepared at least one meal per day on the stove, other meals were had at restaurants. We bought food and supplies at Wal-Mart in Calgary, and in smaller supermarkets in Mountain View and in Radium Hot Springs. Water was not an issue, taps readily available at all camp-sites.

Car Rental

We had rented a Ford Escape with Budget via [rentalcars.com](https://www.rentalcars.com). Since we arrived later than expected to the desk we were told that we had to wait at least 1,5 h for the car to be delivered, but they did have a larger car ready (classic, I know, but this time I really wanted to get going immediately plus I thought the extra space would be great). So I added some extra 300 CAD and soon we were on our way in a black monster jeep: GMC Yukon, I never regretted the decision one bit, it was a pleasure to drive, it was big and well equipped (GPS), and it was comfy and spacey.



Literature & Internet

- Field Guide to the Birds of Western North America, Sibley D. Helm. 2002.
- Trip-reports from www.cloudbirders.com (Thorstensson 2012, Hottola 2010).
- Ebird.org (hotspots and species maps).
- Merlin app (The Cornell Lab): West Canada Package was downloaded and easy to use.
- Downloaded sounds from xeno-canto.org.
- Frank Lake (including map) <http://birdscalgary.com/birding-resources/frank-lake/>

Itinerary

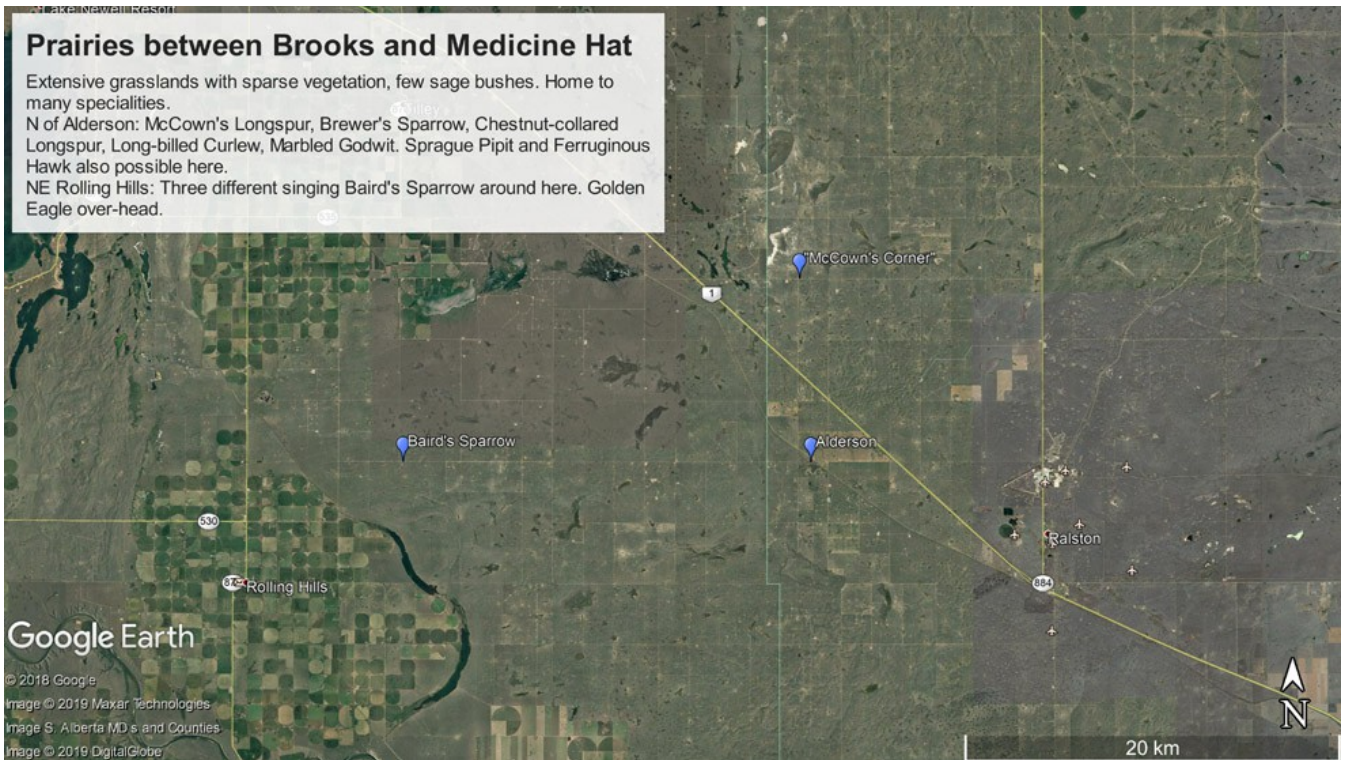
- Jun16 Late arrival at Calgary (YYC). Pick up rental car and drive to High River.
- Jun17 Pre-breakfast: Small pond south of Super 8 Motel, High River.
AM: Frank Lake (north-west)
PM: Southern parts of Frank Lake, drive to Dinosaur Provincial Park. Around camp-site.
- Jun18 Morning around camp-site.
AM: Badlands trail (10-11) and Loop drive.
PM: Cottonwood trail (14-15)
- Jun19 Early drive to prairies N of Alderson (north of Highway 1). "McCown's Corner".
Drive to prairies NE of Rolling Hills.
PM: Drive to Mountain View. Around Mountain View.
- Jun20 Pre-breakfast: Mountain View.
Paynee Lake (10.30-11)
Maskinonge Lake
Knight, N Lower Waterton Lake
PM: Waterton Lakes village
- Jun21 Full-day hike from Waterton Lakes camp-site to Bertha Lake and back. C.12 km.
- Jun22 Morning: Wishbone trail, Waterton Lakes
Maskinonge Lake
Late AM: Hay Barn Rd
PM: Red Rock Parkway (Backswamp)
Evening around village

- Jun23 Early departure from Waterton Lakes, all day driving to Radium Hot Springs, only brief stops
 E Twin Butte wetlands
 Elk Valley Provincial Park (Olsen Rest Area)
 Pighin Rd, Kimberley
 PM: Kimberley Nature Park
 Drive to Radium Hot Springs
- Jun24 Pre-breakfast: Saw Mills Pond, Radium Hot Springs
 AM: Redstreak Trail, Radium Hot Springs
 Nice swim in the hot pools
 PM: Kootenay River Rest area
 Marble Canyon (CLOSED!)
 Lake Louise camp-site
- Jun25 Pre-dawn departure from Lake Louise to Bow Summit
 AM: Hike above tree-line – Bow Summit
 Silverhorn
 Around noon: Waterfowl Lakes camp-site
 Hector Lake Viewpoint
 PM: Lake Louise - village
- Jun26 Lake Louise camp-site
 Morning: Banff – Marsh Loop (Cave & Basin)
 AM: Banff – Fernland Loop
 Evening: Brief visit to Wetland NW Cochrane
- Jun27 AM: Brown-Lowery Provincial Park
 PM: Drive to Calgary
- Jun28 Calgary all day, evening flight to Europe.

Maps



Map 1. Dinosaur Provincial Park.



Map 2. Prairies visited in the south-east.



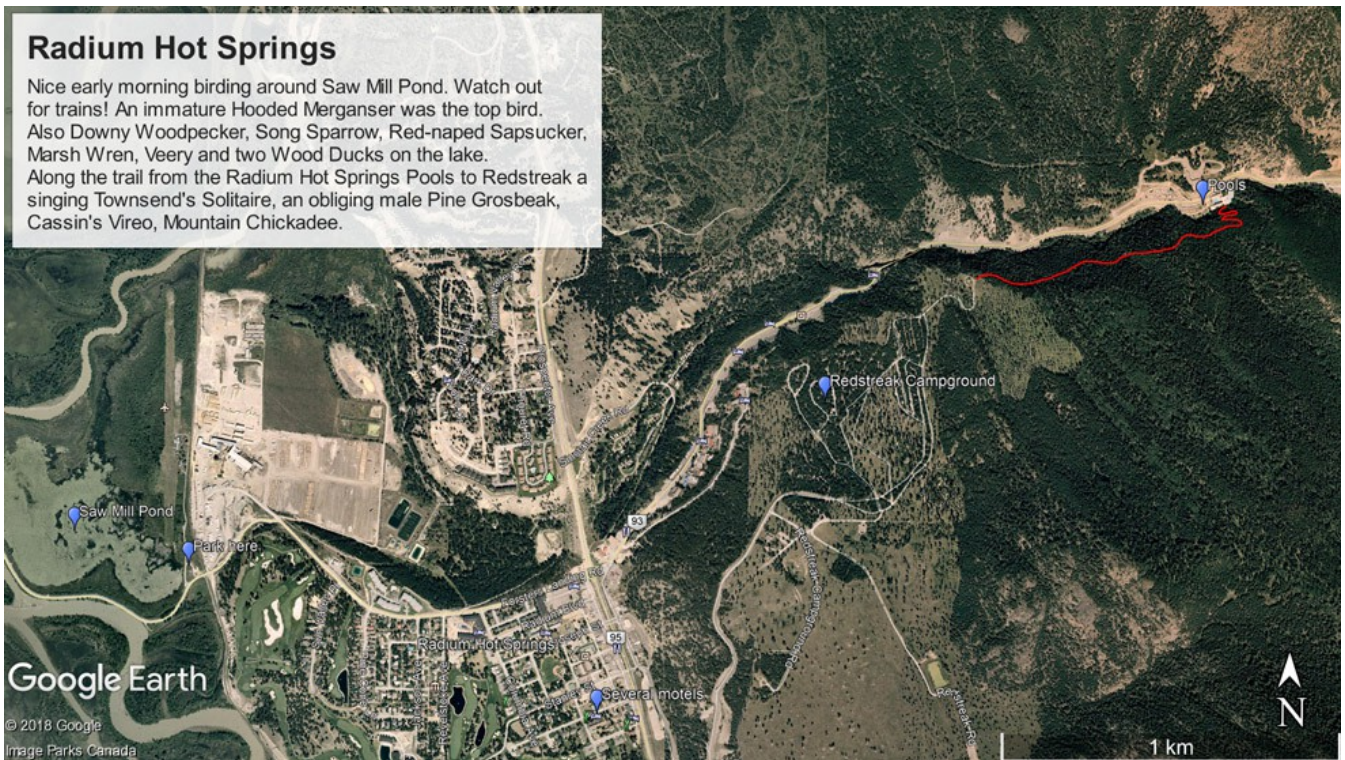
Map 3. Mountain View, NE of Waterton Lakes.



Map 4. Entrance area to Waterton Lakes National Park.



Map 5. Waterton Lakes National Park. Village and Bertha trail.





Map 8. Loop trails at Banff.



Map 9. Stake-out for Nelson's Sparrow, NW of Cochrane.



Baird's Sparrow, NE Rolling Hills.



Common Nighthawk, Dinosaur Provincial Park.



McCown's Longspur, N Alderson.



Mountain Bluebird, Loop drive, Dinosaur Provincial Park.

List of birds: Canada, June 16th-28th 2019

Following IOC World Bird List 9.2 (June 2019) (www.worldbirdnames.org). In total: 175 species (2 heard only). Subspecies notations are foremost literature-based.

- 1 **Canada Goose** *Branta canadensis*
Widespread.
- 2 **Trumpeter Swan** *Cygnus buccinator*
2 Maskinonge Lake, Waterton (22/6).
- 3 **Wood Duck** *Aix sponsa*
2 imm Saw Mill Pond, Radium Hot Springs (24/6).
- 4 **Cinnamon Teal** *Spatula cyanoptera septentrionalium*
2 NW Frank Lake (17/6).
- 5 **Blue-winged Teal** *Spatula discors*
Singles.
- 6 **Northern Shoveler** *Spatula clypeata*
Singles. Common Frank Lake.
- 7 **Gadwall** *Mareca strepera strepera*
Widespread. Common Frank Lake.
- 8 **American Wigeon** *Mareca americana*
1♂ High River (17/6), 2 Dinosaur Park (18/6), 1♂ Maskinonge Lake, Waterton (20/6).
- 9 **Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos*
Widespread.
- 10 **Northern Pintail** *Anas acuta*
1 pair High River (17/6), a few on prairie lakes (19/6).
- 11 **Green-winged Teal** *Anas carolinensis*
Singles.
- 12 **Canvasback** *Aythya valisineria*
5 NW Frank Lake (17/6), 20 S Frank Lake (17/6).
- 13 **Redhead** *Aythya americana*
1♂ High River (17/6), 25+ Frank Lake (17/6). A few other.
- 14 **Ring-necked Duck** *Aythya collaris*
6 Maskinonge Lake, Waterton (20/6), 1♂ Marsh Loop, Banff (26/6).
- 15 **Lesser Scaup** *Aythya affinis*
Singles.
- 16 **Bufflehead** *Bucephala albeola*
3 NW Frank Lake (17/6), 3 S Frank Lake (17/6), 1♀ Marsh Loop, Banff (26/6).
- 17 **Common Goldeneye** *Bucephala clangula americana*
1 Dinosaur Park (18/6), 2 Maskinonge Lake, Waterton (20/6).
- 18 **Barrow's Goldeneye** *Bucephala islandica*
8 Maskinonge Lake, Waterton (20/6).
- 19 **Hooded Merganser** *Lophodytes cucullatus*
1 imm ♂ Saw Mill Pond, Radium Hot Springs (24/6).
- 20 **Common Merganser** *Mergus merganser americanus*
1♂ Waterton Lakes village (20/6), 5 Entrance, Waterton Lakes (22/6), 1♂ Waterfowl Lakes, Banff NP (25/6).
- 21 **Ruddy Duck** *Oxyura jamaicensis*
150 Frank Lake (17/6).
- 22 **Ruffed Grouse** *Bonasa umbellus umbelloides*
1 Wishbone trail, Waterton Lakes (22/6).
- 23 **Dusky Grouse** *Dendragapus obscurus richardsonii*
1 pair Red Rock Parkway (22/6).
- 24 **Grey Partridge** *Perdix perdix* Introduced
1 Frank Lake (17/6).
- 25 **Common Pheasant** *Phasianus colchicus* HO Introduced
1-2h Dinosaur Park (17-18/6).
- 26 **Common Loon** *Gavia immer*
1 Payne Lake (20/6), 1 Entrance Pond, Waterton (22/6), 2 Saw Mill Pond (24/6), 1 Waterfowl Lakes, Banff NP (25/6).
- 27 **Black-necked Grebe** *Podiceps nigricollis californicus*

- 25+ Frank Lake (17/6).
- 28 **Western Grebe** *Aechmophorus occidentalis occidentalis*
2 NW Frank Lake (17/6), 8 SE Frank Lake (17/6).
- 29 **Clark's Grebe** *Aechmophorus clarkii transitionalis*
1 NW Frank Lake (17/6).
- 30 **White-faced Ibis** *Plegadis chihi*
10 NW Frank Lake (17/6).
- 31 **Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli*
1 High River (17/6), 3 Frank Lake (17/6).
- 32 **Great Blue Heron** *Ardea herodias fannini*
Singles.
- 33 **American White Pelican** *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*
50 Frank Lake (17/6), 10 e.r. (18/6), 1 Payne Lake (19/6).
- 34 **Double-crested Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax auritus*
50 Frank Lake (17/6). Singles elsewhere.
- 35 **Turkey Vulture** *Carhartes aura meridionalis*
Only seen on 2 days.
- 36 **Western Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus*
1 Maskinonge Lake, Waterton (19/6), 1 Banff (26/6).
- 37 **Golden Eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos*
1 ad NE Rolling Hills (18/6), 1 ad Waterfowl Lakes, Banff NP(25/6).
- 38 **Sharp-shinned Hawk** *Accipiter striatus*
1 Hector Lake Viewpoint, Banff NP(25/6).
- 39 **Cooper's Hawk** *Accipiter cooperii*
1 Waterton Lakes (20/6).
- 40 **Northern Harrier** *Circus hudsonius*
1♂ NW Frank Lake (17/6), 1♂ E Frank Lake (17/6), 2 N Alderson (19/6), 1 Skookumchuck (23/6).
- 41 **Bald Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*
2 ad Bertha Lake, Waterton (20/6), 2 e.r. (22/6), 1 imm Banff (26/6).
- 42 **Swainson's Hawk** *Buteo swainsoni*
Singles, mainly in the E.
- 43 **Red-tailed Hawk** *Buteo jamaicensis*
Singles, mainly in the W.
- 44 **Sora** *Porzana carolina* HO
5h Twin Butte (23/6), 1h Marsh Loop, Banff (26/6), 4h Horse Creek Rd Marshes (26/6).
- 45 **American Coot** *Fulica americana*
25 Frank Lake (17/6). Singles elsewhere.
- 46 **Sandhill Crane** *Grus canadensis*
2 ad Maskinonge Lake, Waterton (22/6).
- 47 **Black-necked Stilt** *Himantopus mexicanus*
10 Frank Lake (17/6).
- 48 **American Avocet** *Recurvirostra americana*
30 NW Frank Lake (17/6), 10 SE Frank Lake (17/6).
- 49 **Killdeer** *Charadrius vociferus*
Widespread.
- 50 **Long-billed Curlew** *Numenius americanus*
6 N Alderson (19/6).
- 51 **Marbled Godwit** *Limosa fedoa*
1 N Alderson (19/6).
- 52 **Wilson's Snipe** *Gallinago delicata*
Widespread.
- 53 **Wilson's Phalarope** *Phalaropus tricolor*
Common in prairie lakes.
- 54 **Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularis*
Singles.
- 55 **Solitary Sandpiper** *Tringa solitaria*
1 High River (17/6).
- 56 **Willet** *Tringa semipalmata inornata*
5 Frank Lake (17/6), 3 N Alderson (19/6).

- 57 **Greater Yellowlegs** *Tringa melanoleuca*
1 High River (17/6).
- 58 **Bonaparte's Gull** *Chroicocephalus philadelphia*
1 2cy NW Frank Lake (17/6).
- 59 **Franklin's Gull** *Leucophaeus pipixcan*
Hundreds daily in the grasslands.
- 60 **Ring-billed Gull** *Larus delawarensis*
2 ad Dinosaur Park (18/6), singles elsewhere.
- 61 **California Gull** *Larus californicus albertaensis*
3 High River (17/6), 100 NW Frank Lake (17/6).
- 62 **Forster's Tern** *Sterna forsteri*
40 Frank Lake (17/6). Some Common Terns probably overlooked.
- 63 **Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger surinamensis*
20 Frank Lake (17/6), 2 Mountain View (19/6), 20 Maskinonge Lake (20 & 22/6).
- 64 **Rock Dove** *Columba livia* (domest.)
Widespread.
- 65 **Eurasian Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto* Introduced
Singles Mountain View (19-20/6).
- 66 **Mourning Dove** *Zenaida macroura marginella*
Widespread.
- 67 **Barred Owl** *Strix varia*
1 Brown-Lowery (27/6).
- 68 **Common Nighthawk** *Chordeiles minor*
10 Dinosaur Park (17-18/6), 5 S Skookumchuck (23/6).
- 69 **American Black Swift** *Cypseloides niger borealis*
2 Marsh Loop, Banff (26/6).
- 70 **Rufous Hummingbird** *Selasphorus rufus*
1 Waterton Lakes village (20/6).
- 71 **Calliope Hummingbird** *Selasphorus calliope*
1 Waterton Lakes village (20/6), 1 Waterton Lakes village (21/6), 2 Red Rock Parkway, Waterton (22/6).
- 72 **Belted Kingfisher** *Megaceryle alcyon*
Singles.
- 73 **Red-naped Sapsucker** *Sphyrapicus nuchalis*
2 Hay Barn Rd, Waterton (22/6), 1 Elk Valley Provincial Park (23/6), 1 Pighin Rd, Kimberley (23/6), 2 Saw Mill Pond (24/6).
- 74 **American Three-toed Woodpecker** *Picoides dorsalis fasciatus*
1♂ Silverhorn, Banff NP (25/6), 1♀ Fernland Loop, Banff (26/6), 1 pair Brown-Lowery (27/6).
- 75 **Downy Woodpecker** *Dryobates pubescens*
1 Saw Mill Pond (24/6).
- 76 **Hairy Woodpecker** *Leuconotopicus villosus*
2 Dinosaur Park (18/6), 1 Waterton Lakes, Bertha trail (21/6).
- 77 **Northern Flicker** *Colaptes auratus*
Widespread.
- 78 **American Kestrel** *Falco sparverius sparverius*
1 Red Rock Parkway, Waterton (22/6), 1 e.r. (23/6).
- 79 **Merlin** *Falco columbarius*
1 Waterfowl Lakes, Banff (25/6), 1 Lake Louise camp-site (26/6).
- 80 **Olive-sided Flycatcher** *Contopus cooperi*
1 Bertha Lake, Waterton (21/6).
- 81 **Western Wood Pewee** *Contopus sordidulus saturatus*
Widespread.
- 82 **Willow Flycatcher** *Empidonax traillii adastus*
1 Knight, Waterton (20/6).
- 83 **Alder Flycatcher** *Empidonax alnorum*
4-5 Wishbone trail, Waterton (22/6), 1 Hay Barn Rd, Waterton (22/6), 1 Saw Mill Pond (24/6), 4 Marsh Loop, Banff (26/6), 2 Fernland Loop, Banff (26/6).
- 84 **Least Flycatcher** *Empidonax minimus*
4 Dinosaur Park (18/6), 1 Cottonwood trail, Dinosaur (18/6), 1 Wishbone trail, Waterton (22/6).
- 85 **American Dusky Flycatcher** *Empidonax oberholseri*

- 1 Waterfowl Lakes, Banff (25/6).
- 86 Western Kingbird** *Tyrannus verticalis*
2 SE Frank Lake (17/6), 1 Dinosaur Park (18/6), 1 Leavitt (19/6), 2 Pighin Rd, Kimberley (23/6).
- 87 Eastern Kingbird** *Tyrannus tyrannus*
Widespread.
- 88 Cassin's Vireo** *Vireo cassinii cassinii*
2 Redstreak trail, Radium Hot Springs (24/6).
- 89 Warbling Vireo** *Vireo gilvus*
1 Dinosaur Park (17/6), 1 Waterton Lakes village (20/6), 5 Bertha trail, Waterton (21/6), 3 Kimberley Nature Park (23/6), 2 Marsh Loop, Banff (26/6).
- 90 Canada Jay** *Perisoreus canadensis*
10 Bow Summit (25/6), 1 Marsh Loop (26/6), 1 Brown-Lowery (27/6).
- 91 Steller's Jay** *Cyanocitta stelleri*
1 Bertha trail, Waterton (21/6).
- 92 Black-billed Magpie** *Pica hudsonia*
Widespread.
- 93 Clark's Nutcracker** *Nucifraga columbiana*
15 Bow Summit (25/6), 3 Waterfowl Lakes, Banff (25/6).
- 94 American Crow** *Corvus brachyrhynchos*
Widespread.
- 95 Northern Raven** *Corvus corax*
Widespread.
- 96 Cedar Waxwing** *Bombycilla cedrorum*
Widespread.
- 97 Black-capped Chickadee** *Poecile atricapillus*
2 Dinosaur Park camp-site (18/6), 2 Elk Valley Provincial Park (23/6).
- 98 Mountain Chickadee** *Poecile gambeli*
4 Bertha Lake (21/6), 1 Redstreak trail, Radium Hot Springs (24/6), 2 Marsh Loop, Banff (26/6).
- 99 Boreal Chickadee** *Poecile hudsonicus*
2 Waterfowl Lakes, Banff (25/6), 2 Brown-Lowery (27/6).
- 100 Horned Lark** *Eremophila alpestris*
40 N Alderson (19/6), 30 NE Rolling Hills (19/6).
- 101 Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia riparia*
Singles.
- 102 Tree Swallow** *Tachycineta bicolor*
Widespread.
- 103 Northern Rough-winged Swallow** *Stelgidopteryx serripennis serripennis*
3 Wishbone trail, Waterton (22/6), 2 Saw Mill Pond (24/6).
- 104 Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica erythrogaster*
Widespread.
- 105 American Cliff Swallow** *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota pyrrhonota*
Widespread.
- 106 Golden-crowned Kinglet** *Regulus satrapa*
2 Bertha trail, Waterton (21/6), 1 Redstreak trail, Radium Hot Springs (24/6), 1 Lake Louise camp-site (24/6), 1 Waterfowl Lakes, Banff (25/6), 3 Banff (26/6), 2 Brown-Lowery (27/6).
- 107 Ruby-crowned Kinglet** *Regulus calendula*
1 Waterton Lakes village (21/6), 1 Elk Valley Provincial Park (23/6), 1 Kootenay (24/6), 5 Banff (26/6).
- 108 Rock Wren** *Salpinctes obsoletus obsoletus*
2 Badlands trail, Dinosaur Park (18/6).
- 109 Marsh Wren** *Cistothorus palustris*
5 NW Frank Lake (17/6), 2 Saw Mill Pond (24/6).
- 110 Pacific Wren** *Troglodytes pacificus*
1 Bertha trail, Waterton (21/6), 2 Brown-Lowery (27/6).
- 111 House Wren** *Troglodytes aedon parkmanii*
Singles.
- 112 Red-breasted Nuthatch** *Sitta canadensis*
8 Bertha trail, Waterton (21/6), 1 Redstreak trail, Radium Hot Springs (24/6), 3 Fernland Loop, Banff (26/6).
- 113 Grey Catbird** *Dumetella carolinensis*
Singles.

- 114 Brown Thrasher** *Toxostoma rufum longicauda*
2 Dinosaur Park (17/6).
- 115 Common Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris* Introduced
Widespread.
- 116 Varied Thrush** *Ixoreus naevius*
1h Kootenay River rest area (24/6), 1 seen + 2h Bow Summit (25/6), 2h Brown-Lowery (27/6).
- 117 Western Bluebird** *Sialia mexicana occidentalis*
5 Pighin Rd, Kimberley (23/6).
- 118 Mountain Bluebird** *Sialia currucoides*
1 Loop drive, Dinosaur Park (18/6), 1 N Fairmont Hot Springs (23/6).
- 119 Townsend's Solitaire** *Myadestes townsendi townsendi*
2 Redstreak trail, Radium Hot Springs (24/6).
- 120 Veery** *Catharus fuscescens salicicola*
3 Wishbone trail, Waterton (22/6), 2 Hay Barn, Waterton (22/6), 2 Elk Valley Provincial Park (23/6), 2 Saw Mill Pond (24/6).
- 121 Swainson's Thrush** *Catharus ustulatus incanus*
1 Waterton Lakes village (20/6), 7 Bertha trail, Waterton (21/6), 1 Hay Barn (22/6), 1h Redstreak Trail, Radium Hot Springs (24/6), 2 Waterfowl Lakes, Banff (25/6), 2 Marsh Loop, Banff (26/6), 2 Fernland Loop, Banff (26/6), 5 Brown-Lowery (27/6).
- 122 Hermit Thrush** *Catharus guttatus*
2 Marble Canyon (24/6), 4 Bow Summit (25/6).
- 123 American Robin** *Turdus migratorius*
Widespread.
- 124 American Dipper** *Cinclus mexicanus unicolor*
2 Waterton Lakes village (20/6), 2 Bertha trail, Waterton (21/6).
- 125 House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*
Widespread.
- 126 Evening Grosbeak** *Hesperiphona vespertina*
4-6 Brown-Lowery (27/6).
- 127 Pine Grosbeak** *Pinicola enucleator*
1♂ Redstreak trail, Radium Hot Springs (24/6), 2 Bow Summit (25/6).
- 128 Grey-crowned Rosy Finch** *Leucosticte tephrocotis tephrocotis*
2 Bow Summit (25/6).
- 129 Cassin's Finch** *Haemorhous cassinii*
1♂ Waterton Lakes village (22/6).
- 130 House Finch** *Haemorhous mexicanus*
4 Mountain View (19-20/6), 2 Radium Hot Springs (23/6).
- 131 Red Crossbill** *Loxia curvirostra*
4 Kimberley Nature Park (23/6), 2 Redstreak trail, Radium Hot Springs (24/6), 2 Marsh Loop, Banff (26/6).
- 132 Two-barred Crossbill** *Loxia leucoptera leucoptera*
20 Bow Summit (25/6).
- 133 American Goldfinch** *Spinus tristis*
1 Dinosaur Park (17/6), 1 Mountain View (20/6), 2 Wishbone trail, Waterton (22/6).
- 134 Pine Siskin** *Spinus pinus pinus*
Widespread.
- 135 McCown's Longspur** *Rhynchophanes mccownii*
1♂ N Alderson (19/6).
- 136 Chestnut-collared Longspur** *Calcarius ornatus*
100 N Alderson (19/6), 50 NE Rolling Hills (19/6).
- 137 Slate-colored Fox Sparrow** *Passerella schistacea*
4 Bertha trail (21/6), 2 Bow Summit (25/6).
- 138 Song Sparrow** *Melospiza melodia*
5 Saw Mill Pond (24/6).
- 139 Lincoln's Sparrow** *Melospiza lincolnii*
1 Dinosaur Park camp-site (18/6), 1 Wishbone trail, Waterton (22/6), 2 Marsh Loop, Banff (26/6).
- 140 White-crowned Sparrow** *Zonotrichia leucophrys*
Widespread Waterton Lakes and Banff.
- 141 White-throated Sparrow** *Zonotrichia albicollis*
2 Brown-Lowery (27/6).

- 142 Dark-eyed Junco** *Junco hyemalis*
Widespread in the Rockies.
- 143 Savannah Sparrow** *Passerculus sandwichensis*
Widespread.
- 144 Nelson's Sparrow** *Ammodramus nelsoni*
1 seen + 2h Horse Creek Rd Marshes, NW Cochrane (26/6).
- 145 LeConte's Sparrow** *Ammodramus leconteii*
1 Mountain View (20/6).
- 146 Baird's Sparrow** *Ammodramus bairdii*
2 seen + 1h NE Rolling Hills (19/6).
- 147 Chipping Sparrow** *Spizella passerina*
2 Dinosaur Park (18/6), 1 Waterton Lakes village (20/6), 2 Wishbone trail, Waterton (22/6), 10 Redstreak trail, Radium Hot Springs (24/6), 2 Marsh Loop, Banff (26/6).
- 148 Clay-colored Sparrow** *Spizella pallida*
Widespread.
- 149 Brewer's Sparrow** *Spizella breweri breweri*
1 N Alderson (19/6).
- 150 Vesper Sparrow** *Poocetes gramineus confinis*
Widespread in singles.
- 151 Lark Sparrow** *Chondestes grammacus strigatus*
2 Badlands trail, Dinosaur Park (18/6).
- 152 Spotted Towhee** *Pipilo maculatus*
1 Cottonwood trail, Dinosaur Park (18/6), 1 Kimberley Nature Park (23/6).
- 153 Yellow-headed Blackbird** *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*
Common in wetlands.
- 154 Bobolink** *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*
2 Leavitt (19/6), 1 W Pincher Creek (23/6).
- 155 Western Meadowlark** *Sturnella neglecta neglecta*
Widespread on the plains.
- 156 Baltimore Oriole** *Icterus galbula*
5 Dinosaur Park camp-site (18/6), 1 Cottonwood trail, Dinosaur Park (18/6), 1 Wishbone trail, Waterton (22/6).
- 157 Red-winged Blackbird** *Agelaius phoeniceus*
Widespread.
- 158 Brown-headed Cowbird** *Molothrus ater artemisiae*
Widespread.
- 159 Brewer's Blackbird** *Euphagus cyanocephalus*
Singles.
- 160 Common Grackle** *Quiscalus quiscula versicolor*
Singles.
- 161 Ovenbird** *Seiurus aurocapilla aurocapilla*
1 Brown-Lowery (27/6).
- 162 Northern Waterthrush** *Parkesia noveboracensis*
2 Hay Barn, Waterton (22/6).
- 163 Tennessee Warbler** *Leiothlypis peregrina*
10 Brown-Lowery (27/6).
- 164 Orange-crowned Warbler** *Leiothlypis celata*
1 Kimberley Nature Park (23/6).
- 165 MacGillivray's Warbler** *Geothlypis tolmiei*
5 Bertha trail, Waterton (21/6).
- 166 Common Yellowthroat** *Geothlypis trichas*
1♂ High River (17/6), 1♀ Saw Mill Pond (24/6).
- 167 American Redstart** *Setophaga ruticilla*
2♂ Wishbone trail, Waterton (22/6), 2 Elk Valley Provincial Park (23/6), 1♀ Kimberley Nature Park (23/6), 2 Marsh Loop, Banff (26/6).
- 168 American Yellow Warbler** *Setophaga aestiva*
Widespread.
- 169 Myrtle Warbler** *Setophaga coronata coronata*
1♂ Peyto Lake, Banff (25/6), 5 Waterfowl Lakes, Banff NP (25/6), 4 Marsh Loop, Banff (26/6).

170 Audobon's Warbler *Setophaga auduboni auduboni*

1♂ Waterton Lakes village (20/6), 5 Bertha trail, Waterton (21/6), 2 Redstreak trail, Radium Hot Springs (24/6), 2 Lake Louise campground (24/6), 10 Bow Summit (25/6), 5 Waterfowl Lakes, Banff NP (25/6).

171 Townsend's Warbler *Setophaga townsendi*

1 Bertha trail, Waterton (21/6), 1 Lake Louise Campground (24/6), 5 Fernland Loop, Banff (26/6).

172 Wilson's Warbler *Cardellina pusilla pileolata*

3 Bertha trail, Waterton (21/6).

173 Western Tanager *Piranga ludoviciana*

5 Waterton Lakes village (20/6), 4 Bertha trail, Waterton (21/6), 1♂ Brown-Lowery (27/6).

174 Black-headed Grosbeak *Pheucticus melanocephalus melanocephalus*

1♂ Bertha trail, Waterton (21/6), 1♂ Wishbone trail, Waterton (22/6).

175 Lazuli Bunting *Passerina amoena*

3♂ Bertha trail, Waterton (21/6).

Comments on some other birds NOT seen

Spruce Grouse

Resident throughout boreal forests in North America.

Sharp-tailed Grouse

Resident in prairies in south-eastern Alberta.

White-tailed Ptarmigan

Resident high altitude species, might be possible at Bow Summit.

Ferruginous Hawk

Breeds in prairies in south-eastern Alberta. Short-distance migrant.

Upland Sandpiper

Breeds in prairies in south-eastern Alberta. Had seen before so not a target.

Owls

Generally hard since it's not easy to get useful info.

White-throated Swift

Breeds in BC. Dutch Creek Hoodoos might be a good spot.

Lewis's Woodpecker

Breeds in BC, various spots south of Radium Hot Springs.

Black-backed Woodpecker

Scarce resident.

Prairie Falcon

Scarce breeder. Williams Coulee Rd, west of Nanton might be a good spot.

Hammond's Flycatcher

Widespread but not numerous summer breeder along the Rockies.

Pacific-slope Flycatcher

Widespread but not numerous summer breeder along the Rockies.

Violet-green Swallow

Might have been over-looked.

Sprague's Pipit

Breeds in prairies in south-eastern Alberta. Had seen before so not a target.

Blackpoll Warbler

Should be possible in Banff NP.

Additional trip shots

Brewer's Sparrow, N Alderson.



LeConte's Sparrow, Mountain View.



Maskinonge Lake, Waterton Lakes National Park



Veery, Hay Barn, Waterton Lakes.



Dusky Grouse, Red Rock Parkway, Waterton Lakes.



Rufous Hummingbird, Waterton Lakes village.



MacGillivray's Warbler, Bertha trail, Waterton Lakes.



Townsend's Warbler, Bertha trail, Waterton Lakes.



Lazuli Bunting, Bertha trail, Waterton Lakes.



Olive-sided Flycatcher, Bertha Lake, Waterton Lakes.



Burnt forest along lower parts of Bertha trail, Waterton Lakes.



Townsend's Solitaire, Redstreak trail, Radium Hot Springs.



Pine Grosbeak, Redstreak trail, Radium Hot Springs.



Black Bear, Hector Lake Viewpoint, Banff.



Track to Mt Jimmy Simpson, Bow Summit, Banff.



Varied Thrush, Twin Peaks.



Peyto Lake, Banff National Park.



Clark's Nutcracker, Bow Summit.



Boreal Chickadee, Waterfowl Lakes, Banff.



American Three-toed Woodpecker, Silverhorn, Banff.



Bobolink, Leavitt, E of Mountain View.



Grey-crowned Rosy Finch, Bow Summit, Banff.



Barred Owl, Brown-Lowery Provincial Park.



Evening Grosbeak, Brown-Lowery Provincial Park.



Nelson's Sparrow, Horse Creek Rd Marshes, NW Cochrane.



American Black Swift, Marsh Loop, Banff.