**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**

Måns Grundsten, Sweden  
mans.grundsten@gmail.com

**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).
Radium Hot Springs: Motel Bavaria. booking.com
Cochrane: Super 8 by Wyndham. booking.com
Calgary: Hotel Sandman, Calgary Airport. booking.com

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. 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.
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.
       Payne 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

Dinosaur Park Provincial Park
Around Camp-site: Least Flycatcher, Western Wood Pewee, Baltimore Oriole, Common Nighthawk.
Surrounding scrubs: Clay-coloured Sparrow, Common Pheasant
Brown Thrasher.
Badlands Trail (1.3 km): Rock Wren, Lark Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow.
Loop drive: Mountain Bluebird
Cottonwood Trail (1.4 km): Least Flycatcher, Spotted Towhee

Map 1. Dinosaur Provincial Park.
Map 2. Prairies visited in the south-east.

Prairies between Brooks and Medicine Hat

Extensive grasslands with sparse vegetation, few sage bushes. Home to many specialties.
- N of Aikins: McCown’s Longspur, Brewer’s Sparrow, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Long-billed Curlew, Marbled Godwit, Sprague Pipit and Ferruginous Hawk also possible here.
- NE Rolling Hills: Three different singing Baird’s Sparrow around here. Golden Eagle overhead.

Map 3. Mountain View, NE of Waterton Lakes.

Mountain View

Beautifully located small town surrounded by grassy hills and with a clear view of the vast Rocky Mountains in the west. A nice morning walk around town produced a singing and obliging LeConte’s Sparrow. Cosy staying at Rocky Ridge Country Lodge.
Waterton Lakes National Park

Scenic wilderness at the US border.
Wishbone trail: Ruffed Grouse, Black-headed Grosbeak,
Baltimore Oriole, Veery, Alder and Least Flycatchers.
Maskinonge Lake: Trumpeter Swan, Sandhill Crane,
Barrow’s Goldeneye, Ring-necked Duck.
Knight: Willow Flycatcher.
Hay Barn: Red-naped Sapsucker, Veery, Northern Waterthrush.
Red Rock Parkway: Dusky Grouse, Calliope Hummingbird.

Map 4. Entrance area to Waterton Lakes National Park.

Waterton Lakes National Park

Large tracts of the national park is closed since the huge Kananaskis wildfire in 2017. Therefore hard to access any good forest habitat. However along the upper trail to Bertha Lake there is still natural habitat. Along this trail:
Bald Eagle, Hairy Woodpecker, Steller’s Jay, Pacific Wren,
American Dipper, Slate-colored Fox Sparrow, Lazuli Bunting, MacGillivray’s Warbler, Townsend’s Warbler,
Wilson’s Warbler, Western Tanagers, Black-headed Grosbeak.
At Bertha Lake: Olive-sided Flycatcher singing.

Radium Hot Springs

Nice early morning birding around Saw Mill Pond. Watch out for trains! An immature Hooded Merganser was the top bird. Also Downy Woodpecker, Song Sparrow Red-naped Sapsucker, Marsh Wren, Veery and two Wood Ducks on the lake. Along the trail from the Radium Hot Springs Pools to Redstreak a singing Townsend’s Solitaire, an obliging male Pine Grosbeak, Cassin’s Vireo, Mountain Chickadee.

Map 6. Radium Hot Springs.

Bow Summit - Banff National Park

Classic breath-taking scenery at Peyto Lake and Bow Summit. Herds of tourists later in the morning. Arrive early!
Around the parking lot many Canada Jays and Varied Thrush singing. Along the track up to Mt. Jim Simpson easy to spot Clark’s Nutcrackers, Slate-colored Fox Sparrow, Two-barred Crossbills and Pine Grosbeaks fly-over. Hermit Thrush and just above tree-line two Gray-capped Rosy Finches. White-tailed Ptarmigan might be a possibility.

**Banff National Park**
Two nice and easily accessible loop trails close to Banff.
Fernland: Female American Three-toed Woodpecker and many Townsend’s Warblers

Map 8. Loop trails at Banff.

**Horse Creek Rd Marshes**
Fine wetlands just 10 minutes NW of Cochrane, Alberta. Many Wilson’s Phalaropes and Wilson’s Snipes. Sora heard. Three different Nelson’s Sparrows (one seen). LeConte’s Sparrow also reported.

Brown-Lowery Provincial Park

Well marked trails through pristine boreal forest, only some 30-40 minutes SW of Calgary.
Along Wildrose: Barred Owl, many Evening Grosbeaks.
Parking lot: Evening Grosbeak and singing Ovenbird.
Trails approximated (our route red).

Google Earth


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
♂ 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
♂ 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 ♀ Saw Mill Pond, Radium Hot Springs (24/6).

20 Common Merganser Mergus merganser americanus
♂ 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
Birding Southern Alberta and the Rockies (M. Grundsten, Sweden) 2019

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** *Cathartes 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 alberiensis*
   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*
   Singles Mountain View (19-20/6).

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 villages (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 Watertow 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 adustus*
   1 Knight, Waterton (20/6).

83 **Alder Flycatcher** *Empidonax alnorum*
   4 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*
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 parkmani*
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 fuscens 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 cassini*  
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 omatus*  
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 Poecetes 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 audoboni*
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. Had seen before so not a target.

**Upland Sandpiper**
Breeds in prairies in south-eastern Alberta. Had seen before so not a target. 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. Might have been over-looked.

**Violet-green Swallow**
Breeds in prairies in south-eastern Alberta. Had seen before so not a target. Should be possible in Banff NP.

**Sprague’s Pipit**
Breeds in prairies in south-eastern Alberta. Had seen before so not a target. Should be possible in Banff NP.

**Blackpoll Warbler**
Should be possible in Banff NP.

**Additional trip shots**

[Brewer’s Sparrow, N Alderson.](image)

[LeConte’s Sparrow, Mountain View.](image)
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.


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

American Black Swift, Marsh Loop, Banff.