

### Boreal Chorus Frog

*Pseudacris maculata*

#### HABITAT

Breeds in ponds and temporary, shallow pools; inhabits grassy or woodland areas, although seldom seen or heard in summer as they spend much time underground.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Known only from the La Biche valley in extreme southeast.

**North America:** Great Bear Lake, NWT to the Gulf of Mexico; across Canada to Ontario south to New Jersey to Central Arizona and the eastern border of the Great Basin.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5 (Secure)

**Yukon:** S1S2 (Critically Imperilled to Imperilled)

**COSEWIC Status:** Not Assessed

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A small (2-4 cm) frog, with short legs. Colouration is highly variable; green, reddish, olive, brown or gray. A dark stripe extends from snout, through eye to groin, contrasting with a white stripe on the upper jaw. It often has three stripes, sometimes broken into spots on its back. Whitish, yellow or pale olive below, with or without spots.



Photo: Bruce Bennett

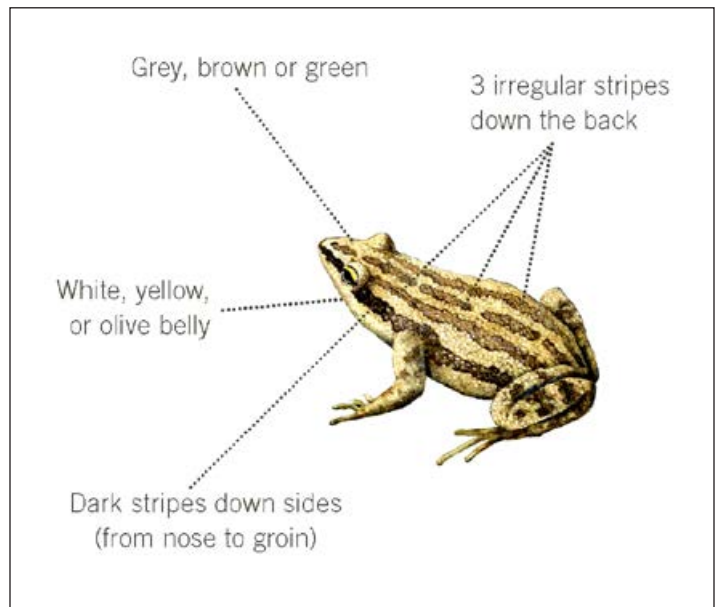
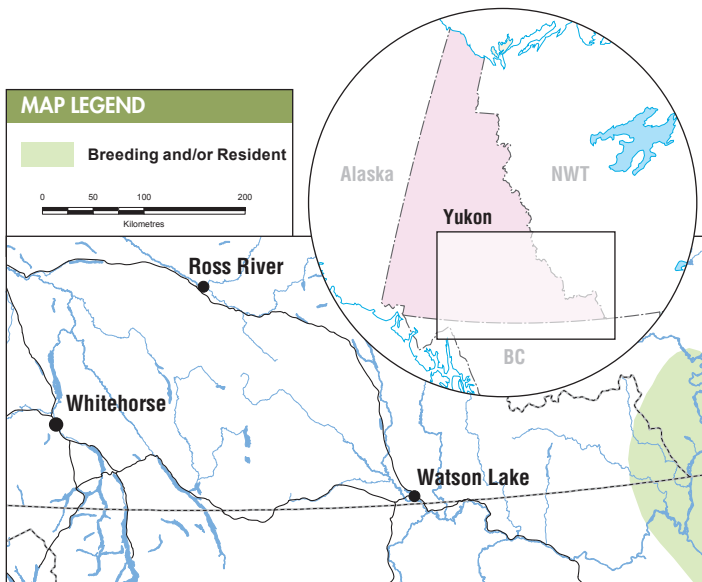


Illustration: Lee Mennell

### Columbia Spotted Frog

*Rana luteiventris*

#### HABITAT

Prefer permanent ponds, lakes and rivers; generally near the water's edge. Breeding sites in Yukon are usually shallow, dished-shaped depressions surrounding ponds that have been flooded by spring snowmelt. Hibernate under water; cannot tolerate freezing, so ponds must be well insulated by snow.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Bennett Lake drainage of extreme southwest, and in the Hyland River and Irons Creek region of the southeast.

**North America:** Extreme southeast Alaska to western Alberta, northern Wyoming and Utah, central Nevada to the Pacific Coast in Oregon and Washington.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G4 (Apparently Secure)

**Canada:** N4 (Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S2S3 (Imperilled to Vulnerable)

**COSEWIC Status:** Not At Risk (2000)

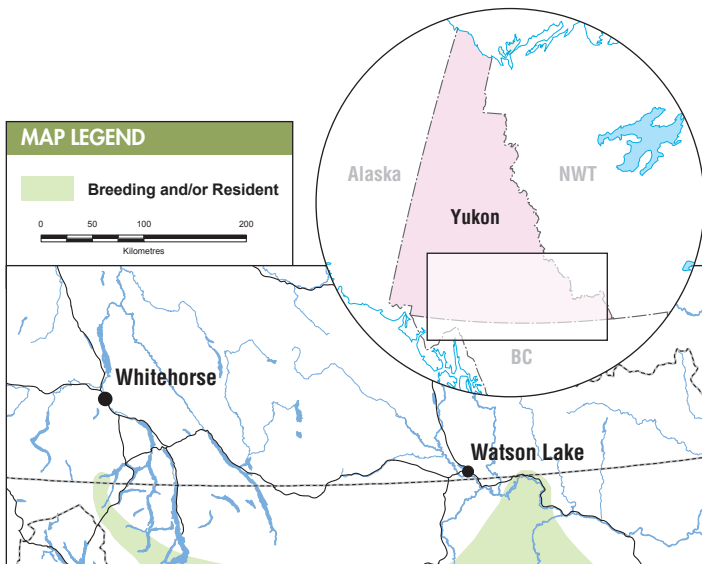


Photo: YG

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A much larger and stouter frog than the Wood Frog, up to 7 cm snout / vent length and up to 50 grams. It is generally olive brown to golden brown with large distinctive black spots and raised bumps on its back, and light coloured jaw stripe. Its underside is creamy white and generally has salmon pink or red colouration on its groin and back legs.



Photo: YG



Photo: YG



### Western Toad

*Bufo boreas*

#### HABITAT

During breeding season, Western Toads congregate in shallow, silty or sandy ponds, springs, lake margins, and streamside flood pools. Later, they disperse to a variety of upland habitats, including shrubby, forested areas; wet shrublands; and meadows. They are nocturnal and are most often seen in the mornings or evenings.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Although found throughout Northern BC close to Yukon border it has only been confirmed in Yukon in the Liard basin; at Watson Lake, Upper Liard, Toobally Lakes, Smith River, and Beaver River. Also known in the vicinity of Atlin and the Chilkoot Trail area just south of Yukon in BC.

**North America:** Southern Yukon and NWT, and southeastern Alaska south to northern Baja California; forested portions of western Alberta and southern Rocky Mountains west to Pacific Coast.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G4 (Apparently Secure)

**Canada:** N4 (Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S3 (Vulnerable)

**COSEWIC Status:** Special Concern (2013)



Photo: Jared Hobbs

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Because it is the only toad in our region it is easy to identify by its general 'wartiness'. This is a chunky amphibian that will waddle / walk away when disturbed. It has a wide range of colours; green, brown, or grey; generally splotchy; often reddish warts with dark outlines; a light stripe down its back; and puffy 'parotid' glands on the sides of its head.

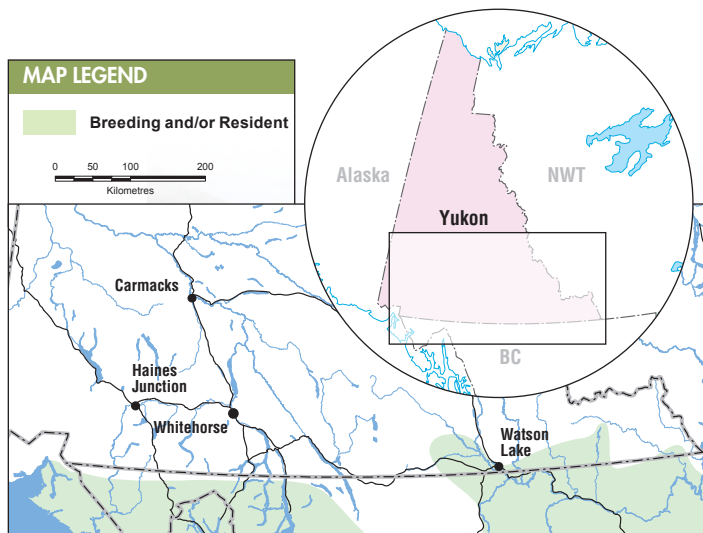


Photo: Syd Cannings



Photo: ©iStock.com/Andrew Howe

## American Kestrel

*Falco sparverius*

### HABITAT

Prefers open areas for hunting, including open spruce or mixed spruce-aspen woodlands, open burns, meadows, wetlands, and alpine tundra. Also requires large trees with woodpecker holes for nesting cavities.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Summer visitor throughout Yukon but is not known to breed on North Slope.

**North America:** Found in open country south of the Arctic treeline from central Alaska and northern Canada, south to the southern tip of South America. Winters from southern Canada southward.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A small falcon with striking colours; slate blue head with conspicuous rusty red tail and back; and vertical dark 'sideburns' on its cheeks. Often seen hovering with wings beating rapidly.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (May 15 - July 31)



Photo: ©iStock.com/John Pincher





Photo: Cameron Eckert

## Bank Swallow

*Riparia riparia*

### HABITAT

Nest in large colonies in steep riverside cliffs, and cutbanks of silt, sand and clay

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Widespread throughout Yukon along rivers with suitable silt banks. Rare north of treeline.

**North America:** Breeds across North America from treeline south to California in the west and South Carolina in the east. Winters throughout much of central and South America.

**Global:** Circumpolar breeding distribution.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S5B (Secure)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Distinct brown breast band, often extending in a line down the center of breast. Upperparts are brown, throat is white.

**Report Sightings:** Colony sites



Photo: Bruce Bennett



Photo: Gordon Court

## Barn Swallow

*Hirundo rustica*

### HABITAT

Generally nests on buildings and other artificial structures; occasionally on river and lakeside rock cliffs.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Widespread across southern Yukon, although breeding has been noted occasionally in the central and northern Yukon.

**North America:** Breeds from southern Alaska, Yukon, NWT and all Canadian Provinces south to Baja California, northern Mexico, and southeastern USA.

**Global:** Circumpolar distribution. North American populations winter in the lowlands of South America.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

**COSEWIC Status:** Threatened (2011)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Distinguished by its long, forked tail. Has steely, iridescent blue back, reddish-brown throat and buffy underparts. Flight is leisurely with slow wingbeats.

**Report Sightings:** During season

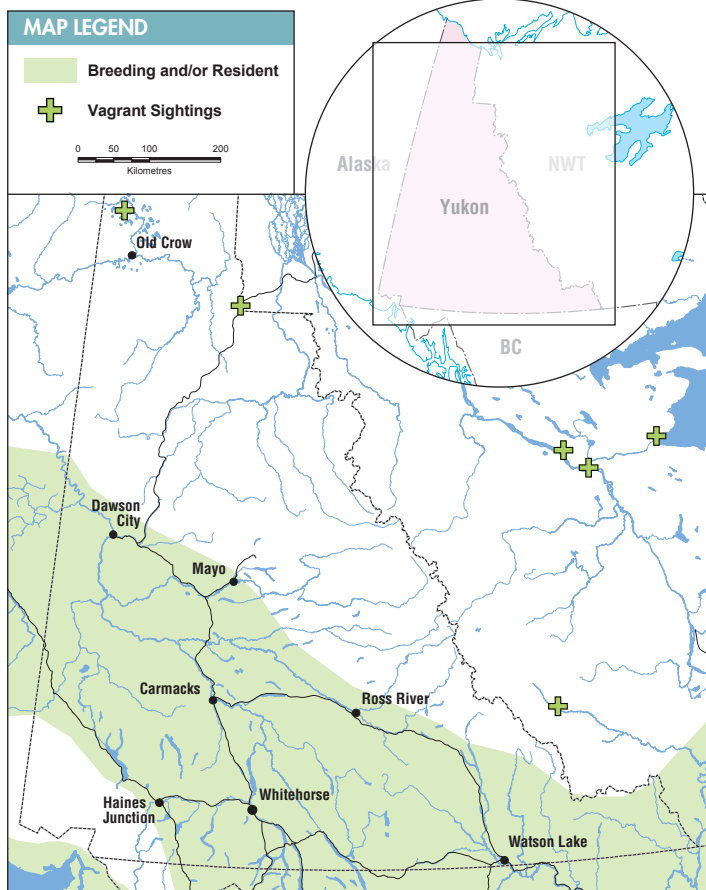






Photo: Dan Pancarno

## Bay-breasted Warbler

*Dendroica castanea*

### HABITAT

Common in old growth White Spruce and mixed White Spruce, Trembling Aspen, and Balsam Poplar which have shrubby under-story, fallen and standing dead trees, and abundant woody debris.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Restricted to the La Biche and Beaver river valleys.

**North America:** Breeds across the boreal forest from Yukon to the Atlantic Provinces and the northern part of the northeastern USA.

**Global:** Winters in Panama, northern Colombia and Venezuela.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

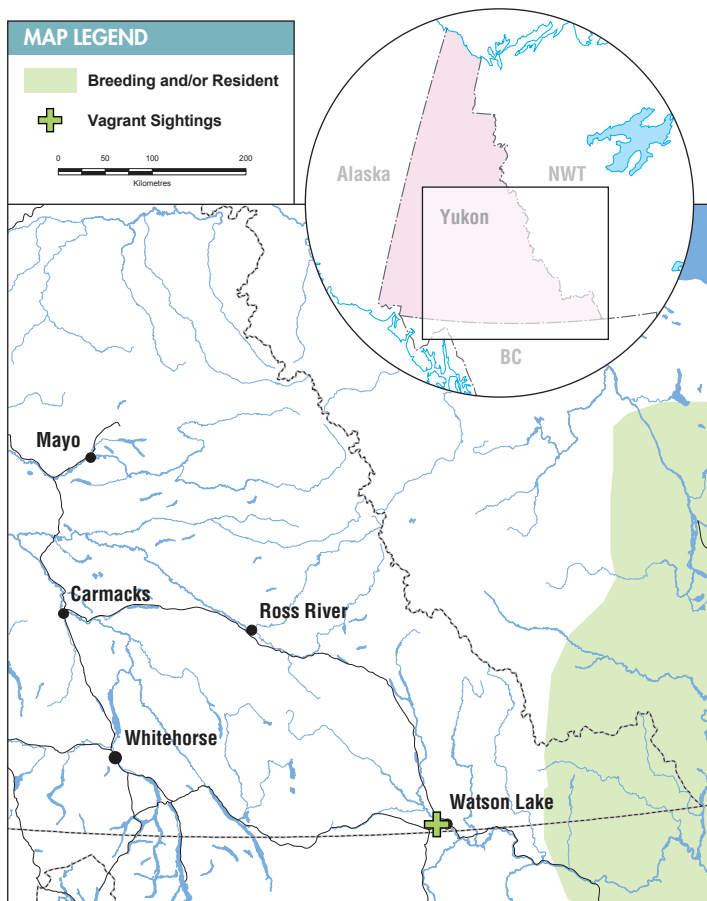
**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)

**COSEWIC Status:** Threatened (2008)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Breeding male has a chestnut crown, throat and sides; black face, creamy patch at each side of neck, and two white wing bars. Female is duller.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



## Black Guillemot

*Cephus grylle*

### HABITAT

One breeding site on Herschel Island, associated with human structures, driftwood, or debris. Feeds on the open ocean.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** One breeding colony on Herschel Island. Possibly winters in open leads of the Beaufort Sea.

**North America:** Breeds primarily in the eastern arctic and north Atlantic, and locally in the western arctic.

**Global:** Breeds in northern Eurasia.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B, N5N (Secure, Secure)

**Yukon:** S1B (Critically Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Breeding adult is black with a large white patch on upper wing. It is plump-bodied and pigeon-billed. Mouth and feet are bright red.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (May - July)

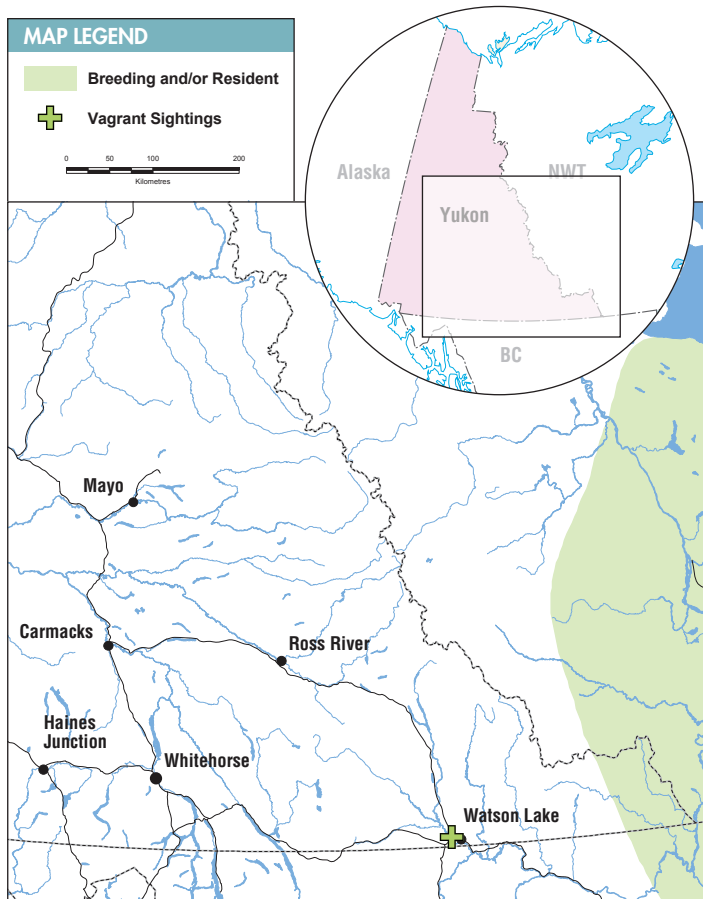






Photo: ©iStock.com/Paul Reeves

## Black Tern

*Chlidonias niger*

### HABITAT

Nests on productive, marshy lakes; nests built on floating mats of vegetation.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Only known breeding colony is at Blind Lake, east of Watson Lake; elsewhere considered a vagrant in southern Yukon.

**North America:** Breeds across North America from Yukon and southwestern NWT south to New Brunswick, Colorado and central California.

**Global:** Breeds across central North America; winters along the coast of western Mexico south to northern South America.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G4 (Apparently Secure)

**Canada:** N4B (Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S1B (Critically Imperilled)

**COSEWIC Status:** Not At Risk (1996)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Distinguished by its striking black and grey plumage; In summer it has a black head and underparts and a grey tail.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (late May - July and August)

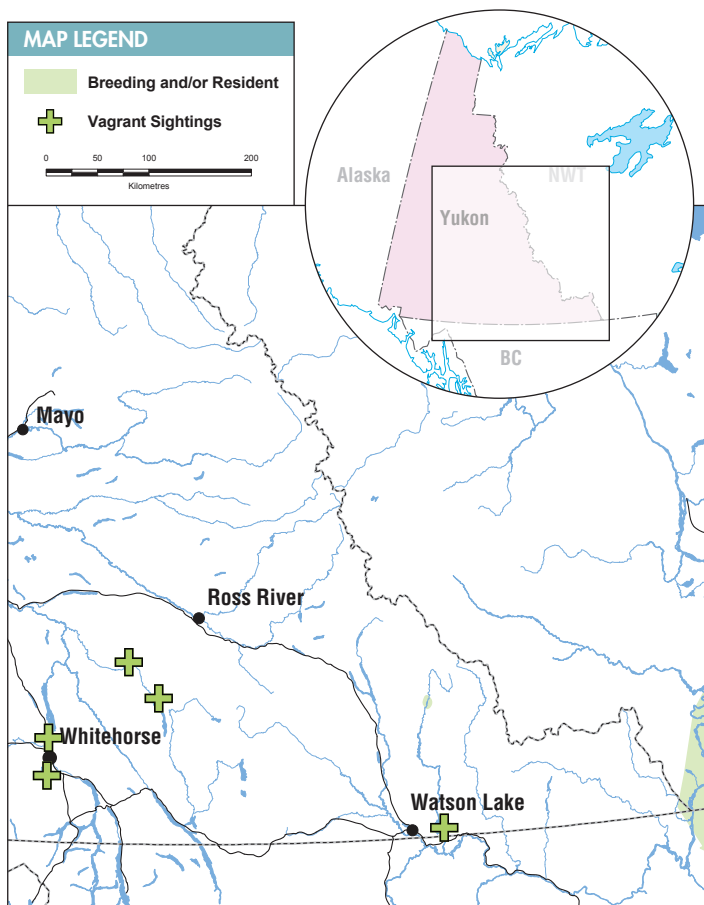




Photo: ©iStock.com/Frank Leung

## Black-and-white Warbler

*Mniotilta varia*

### HABITAT

Riparian Balsam Poplar forest that contains White Spruce, tall shrubs and abundant forest floor litter.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Restricted to the Lower La Biche River valley in the extreme southeast Yukon.

**North America:** Breeds across southern boreal from southeast Yukon to Newfoundland and south throughout much of the south-eastern USA.

**Global:** Winters from Mexico to northern South America.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

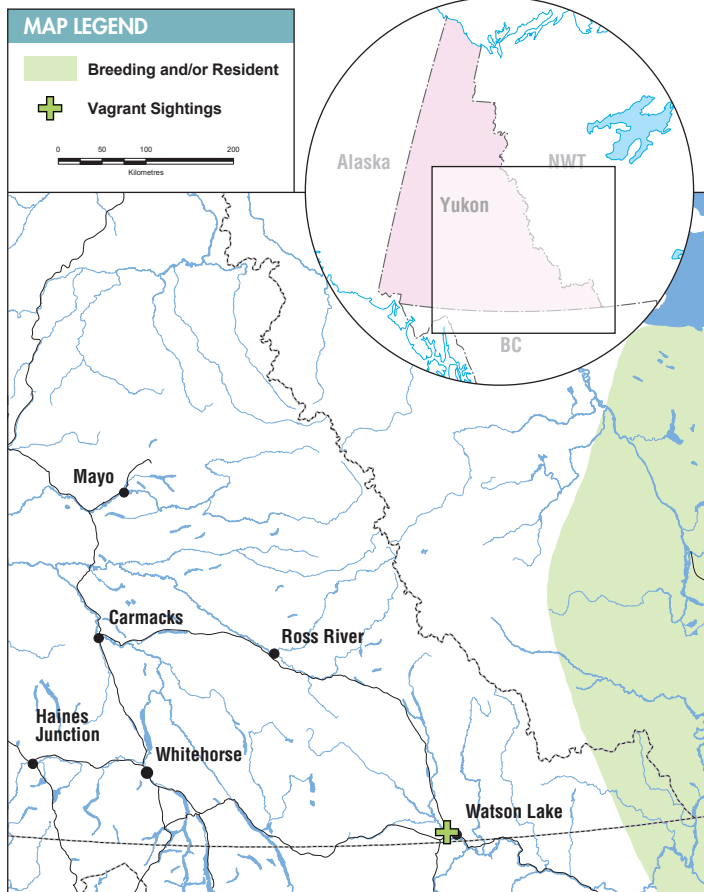
**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S1B (Critically Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Distinctive, with bold black stripes on head and most of body. Breeding male's throat and cheeks are black. Female has less-distinct stripes on buff flanks. The only warbler that creeps up and down branches like a nuthatch.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)





## Blue-headed Vireo

*Vireo solitarius*

### HABITAT

Most commonly found in mature forests dominated by relatively dense White Spruce.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Common in the southeast along the La Biche and Beaver rivers; rarer in the Coal River and Liard River drainages.

**North America:** Breeds across the southern boreal zone from southeastern Yukon to the Maritimes, and in the Great Lake states and New England south through the Appalachian Mountains to Georgia.

**Global:** Winters from the southeastern USA to Mexico, along the Gulf of Mexico and south to Nicaragua.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Adult male's solid blue-grey hood with white 'spectacles' and white throat are distinctive. All ages have bright olive back; yellow tinged wing bars and tertials; greenish-yellow edges to dark secondaries. Song slower than that of Red-eyed Vireo, with a pause of at least a second between phrases.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)

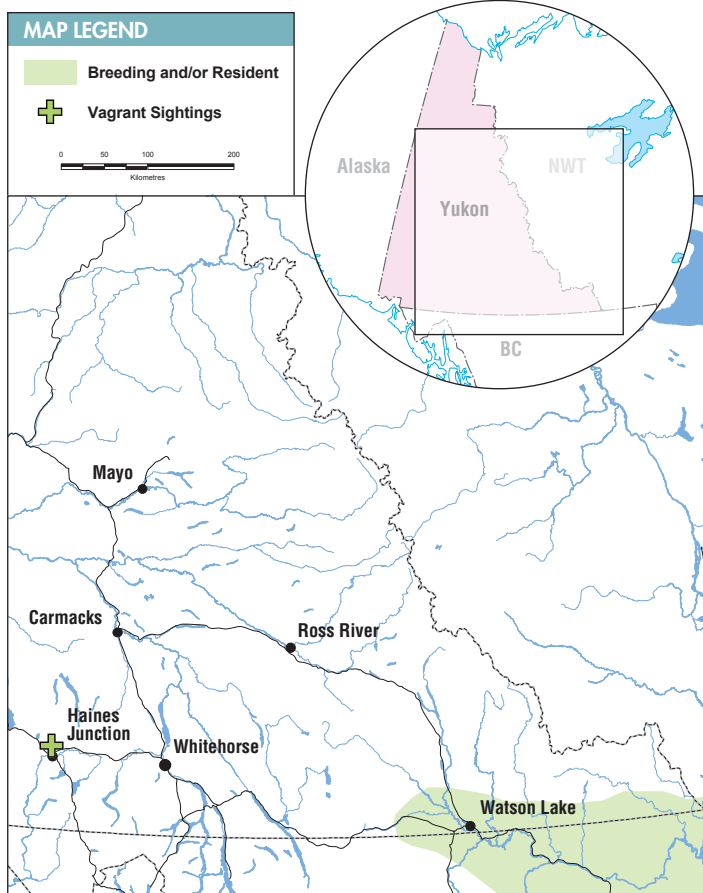




Photo: ©iStock.com/Panu Ruangjan

## Bluethroat

*Luscinia svecica*

### HABITAT

Bluethroats inhabit shrubs, either willow or alder along small drainages or creeks. Nests on tundra in thickets near water.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Restricted to the North Slope.

**North America:** In Alaska, breeds on the Seward Peninsula and northern foothills of the Brooks Range.

**Global:** Breeds primarily in northern Eurasia. Winters in Africa and India.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

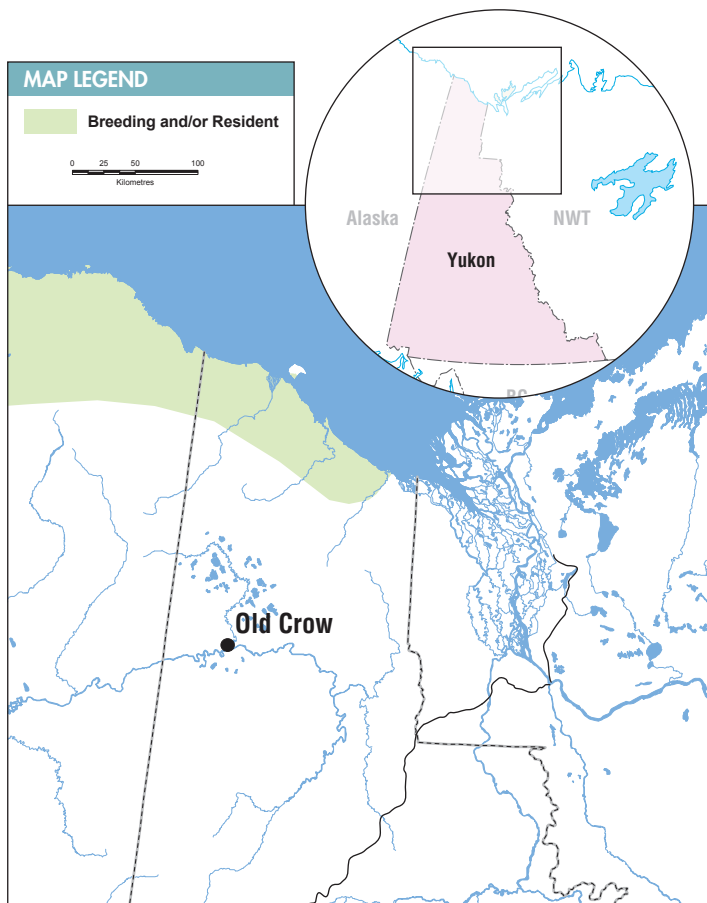
**Canada:** N2B (Imperilled)

**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Male has distinctive, bright blue throat patch with a chestnut-coloured spot in the center. Both sexes are plain brown above with rufous patches at the base of the tail that are conspicuous in flight.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



## Brewer's Sparrow

*Spizella breweri*

### HABITAT

Mountain timberline shrub zone of willows and birch.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Although considered rare in southern Yukon, it is locally common in the southwestern mountains.

**North America:** Northern 'timberline' form breeds in northern Rockies, southwestern Yukon, and east-central Alaska. Southern form breeds in sagebrush steppe of western North America. Both forms winter from southwestern USA through Baja California and central Mexico.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A drab sparrow with a spectacularly distinctive song of loud, musical trills and buzzes. Has a brown crown with fine black streaks, distinct whitish eye ring, grey-white eyebrow, and pale brown ear patch with dark borders.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)

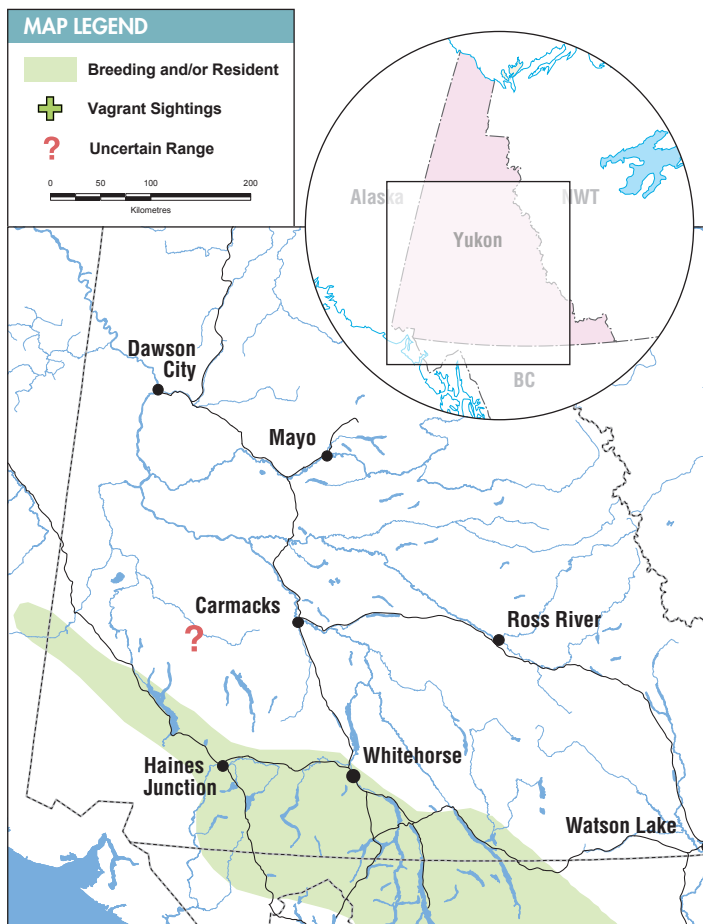






Photo: Cameron Eckert

## Buff-breasted Sandpiper

*Tryngites subruficollis*

### HABITAT

In the breeding season the Buff-breasted Sandpiper is commonly found on dry sedge tundra, tussock heath, tussock tundra in flatlands and low foothills and dry lichen cover tundra. Nests on the ground in dry areas.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Breeds on the Coastal Plain from Clarence Lagoon east to the Babbage River.

**North America:** Breeds in northern Alaska, and the western Low Arctic of Canada.

**Global:** Also breeds on Wrangel Island and in western Chukotka, Russia, Winters in southern South America.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G4 (Apparently Secure)

**Canada:** N4B (Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S1B (Critically Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Slender and small-headed, with brown back and buffy underparts. No other shorebird is unmarked buff from throat to undertail. Dark eye stands out prominently on buffy face; legs orange-yellow. In flight shows flashy white wing linings.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)

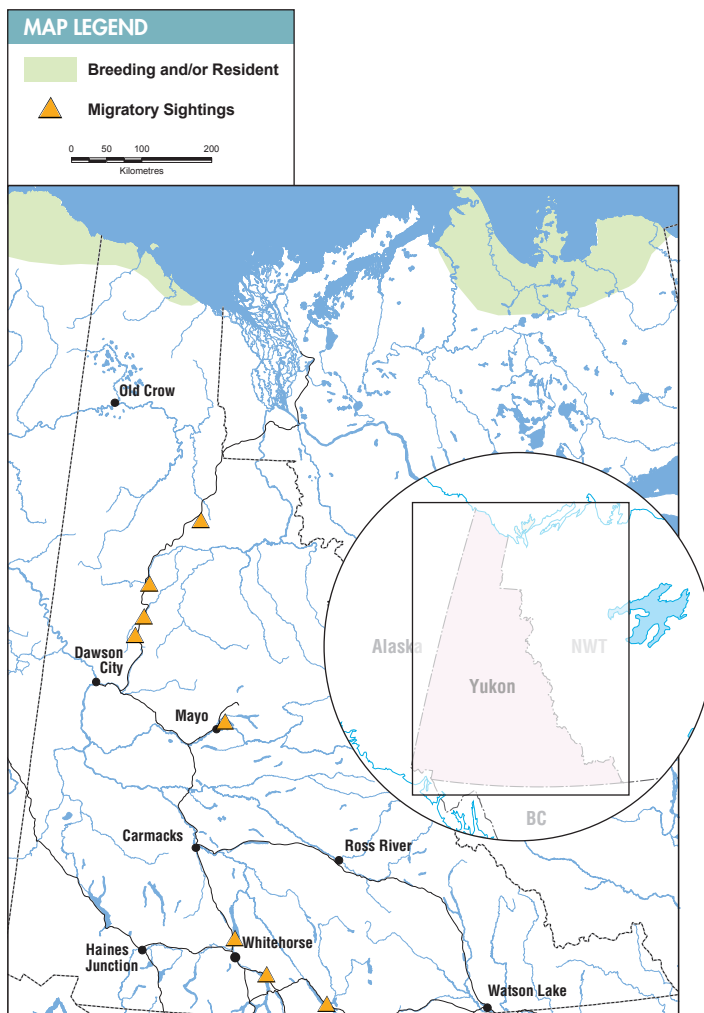




Photo: Larry Master

## Canada Warbler

*Wilsonia canadensis*

### HABITAT

Associated with moist, shrubby old-growth White Spruce mixed with Trembling Aspen and Balsam Poplar with a dense deciduous shrub understory, standing and fallen trees, and woody debris. Nests are hidden on the ground under dense cover.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Restricted to the lower Beaver River and the lower and middle La Biche River in the extreme southeast.

**North America:** Breeds across the southern boreal region of Canada and the northeastern USA, and down the Appalachian mountains to northern Georgia.

**Global:** Winters in South America, from Venezuela and Colombia south to and Peru.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S1B (Critically Imperilled)

**COSEWIC Status:** Threatened (2008)

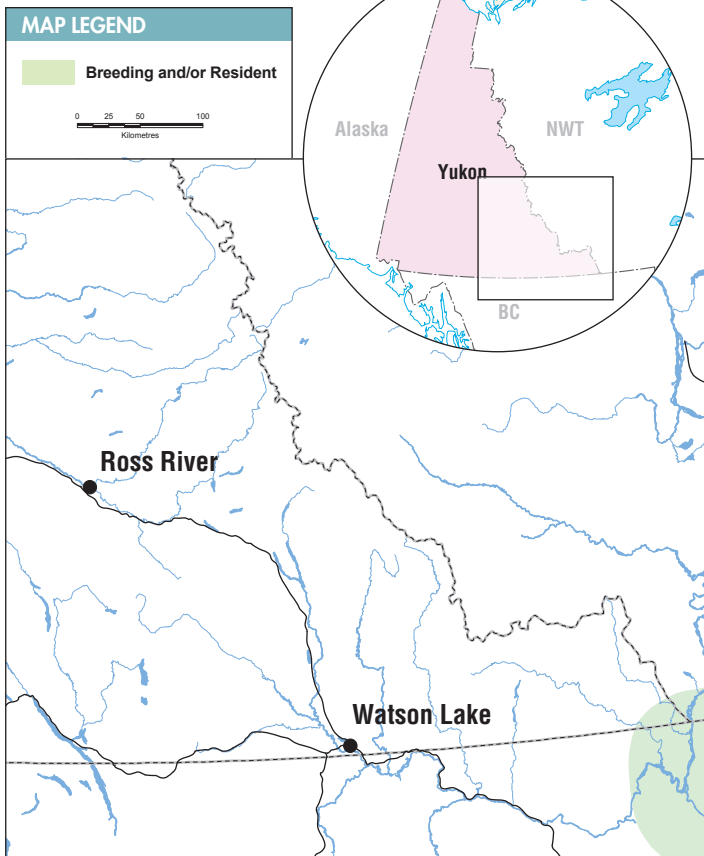
### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A black necklace on bright yellow breast, combined with an absence of wingbars distinguishes the male from all other warblers; in the female the necklace is indistinct. Male is blue gray above and female somewhat duller.

**Report Sightings:** Breeding



Photo: Cameron Eckert



## Cape May Warbler

*Dendroica tigrina*

### HABITAT

The Cape May Warbler occurs in mature to old growth coniferous or mixed forest near creeks, wetlands and lakes.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Restricted to the southeast, as far west as Upper Liard.

**North America:** Ranges across southern boreal forest from north-eastern BC and southern NWT to the Maritimes and the north-eastern USA.

**Global:** Winters in West Indies and Central America.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Most plumages have yellow patch around the ear area, and a yellow or greenish rump. The breeding male's chestnut cheek patch and bright yellow underparts striped with black are distinctive. The female is drabber with two thin white wing bars.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



Photo: @iStock.com/gharrolid

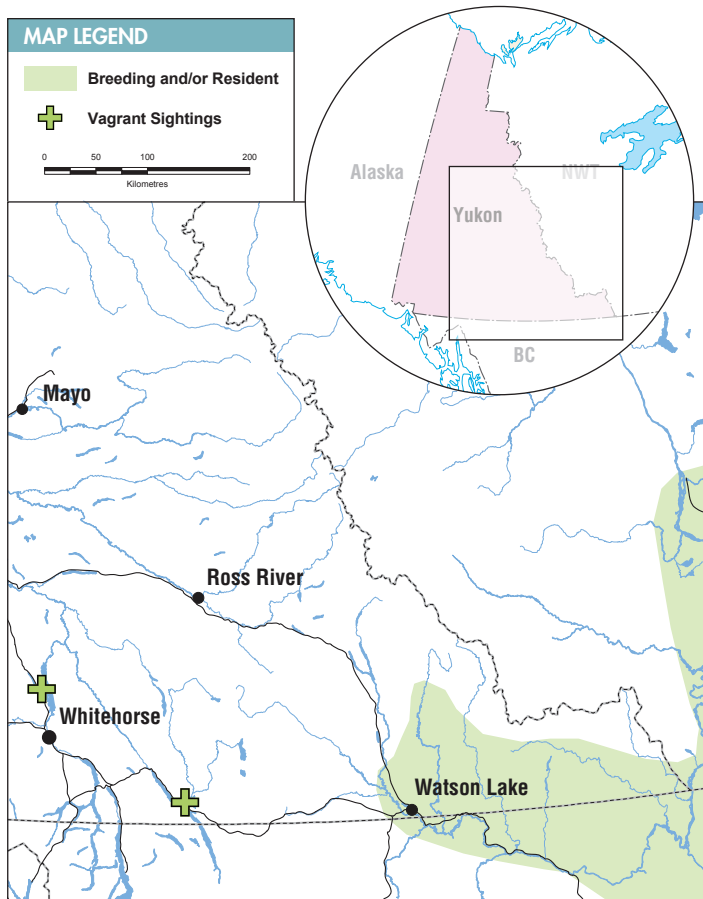






Photo: ©iStock.com/Kieran Li

## Common Eider

*Somateria mollissima*

### HABITAT

The Common Eider is a marine species. Nesting sites are on driftwood beaches, on barrier islands associated with river deltas and spits.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Restricted to the Beaufort Sea coast.

**North America:** Breeds along marine coastlines from southwestern Alaska, the Canadian Arctic islands, and Greenland south to James Bay, and along the Atlantic coast to Massachusetts. Winters in North America off the Aleutians and south coastal Alaska, and in Hudson Bay, off Greenland, and on the Atlantic coast from Labrador to Virginia.

**Global:** Holarctic distribution; breeds in northern Eurasia.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B, N5N (Secure, Secure)

**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

The large size, sloping forehead with feathers extending along the side of the bill beyond the nostrils, and the male's black eye and forehead stripe, white back and breast, and black belly are distinctive.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (mid-June through early August)



Photo: ©iStock.com/Nikoncharly



## Common Nighthawk

*Chordeilis minor*

### HABITAT

Nest in a variety of open habitats such as old burns, open forests, and around wetlands.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Range covers most of the lowlands of southern Yukon, north to Dawson.

**North America:** Breeds across North America from central Yukon to Labrador south through the USA, Mexico and Panama.

**Global:** Winters in Peru, Ecuador, Brazil and southward.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N4B (Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)

**COSEWIC Status:** Threatened (2007)



Photo: John Meikle

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Recognized by its loud, *peent* flight call and the male's unusual diving sound display; by its long, narrow wings with a bold white bar across the primaries; and by its pointed, slightly forked tail.

**Report Sightings:** Nests, feeding flocks



Photo: Bruce Bennett



## Double-crested Cormorant

*Phalacrocorax auritus*

### HABITAT

Inhabitant of large lake and rivers.

### DISTRIBUTION

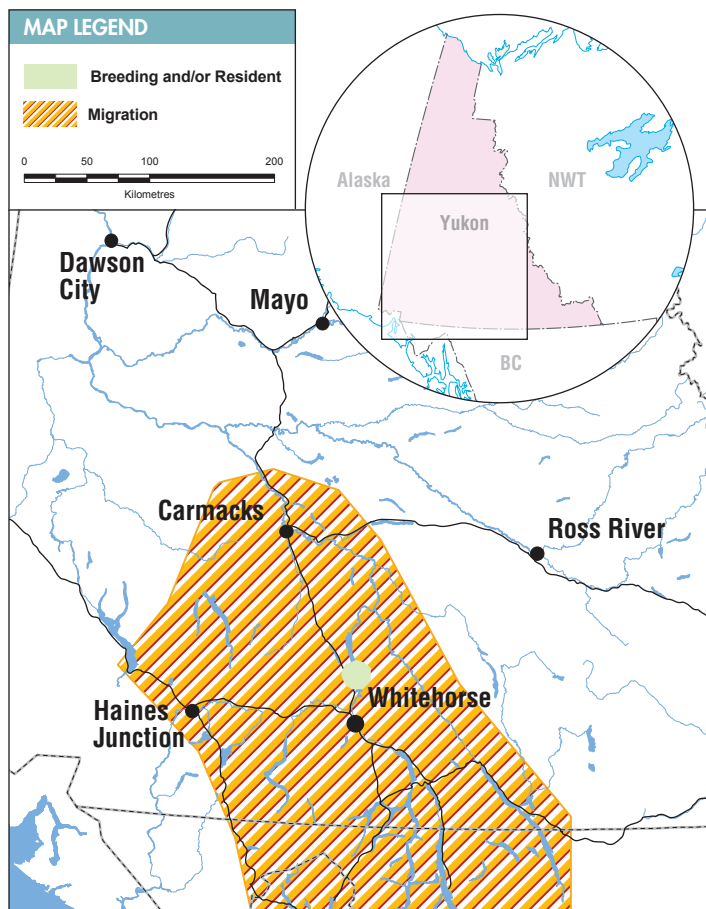
**Yukon:** A rare breeder in southern Yukon; known only to breed from one island in Lake Laberge.

**North America:** Common and widespread along both Pacific and Atlantic coasts, and in the interior from central Alberta to central Manitoba and the Great Lakes, south to Wisconsin, Colorado, and Utah.

**Global:** Winters on the Pacific and Atlantic coasts to Mexico, the Gulf Coast and along major rivers of the Gulf Coast.



Photo: ©iStock.com/ Frank Leung



### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S1B (Critically Imperilled)

**COSEWIC Status:** Not At Risk (1978)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A large, black waterbird with a slender bill. Its orange throat pouch and pale bill is diagnostic. Often seen perching with wings held out to dry.

**Report Sightings:** All year



Photo: Carol Foster





Photo: ©iStock.com/Paul Reeves

## Eastern Phoebe

*Sayornis phoebe*

### HABITAT

Mature mixed Riparian habitats of Balsam Poplar, White Spruce, dense willow shrubs and standing and fallen dead trees.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Breeds only in the La Biche River valley in southeast Yukon.

**North America:** Breeds across southern boreal from southeastern Yukon to the Maritimes, and throughout the eastern USA. Winters from southeastern USA south to central Mexico.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Distinguished from other Yukon flycatchers by its lack of conspicuous wing bars, and by its habit of pumping its tail. Male's song a distinctive *fee-bee, fee-b-be-bee*.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



Photo: ©iStock.com/Mr Jamsey



Photo: ©iStock.com/pilipenkoD

## Eastern Yellow Wagtail

*Motacilla tschutschensis*

### HABITAT

Although it nests on open tussock tundra, shrubby areas along creeks are an important feature of breeding habitats.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Restricted to northern coastal plain.

**North America:** Northern Alaska and Yukon.

**Global:** Breeds across northern Europe and Siberia to north-western North America. In Eurasia, breeds south to northwestern Africa, Iran, and central China. Winters primarily in southeast Asia.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N2B (Imperilled)

**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)

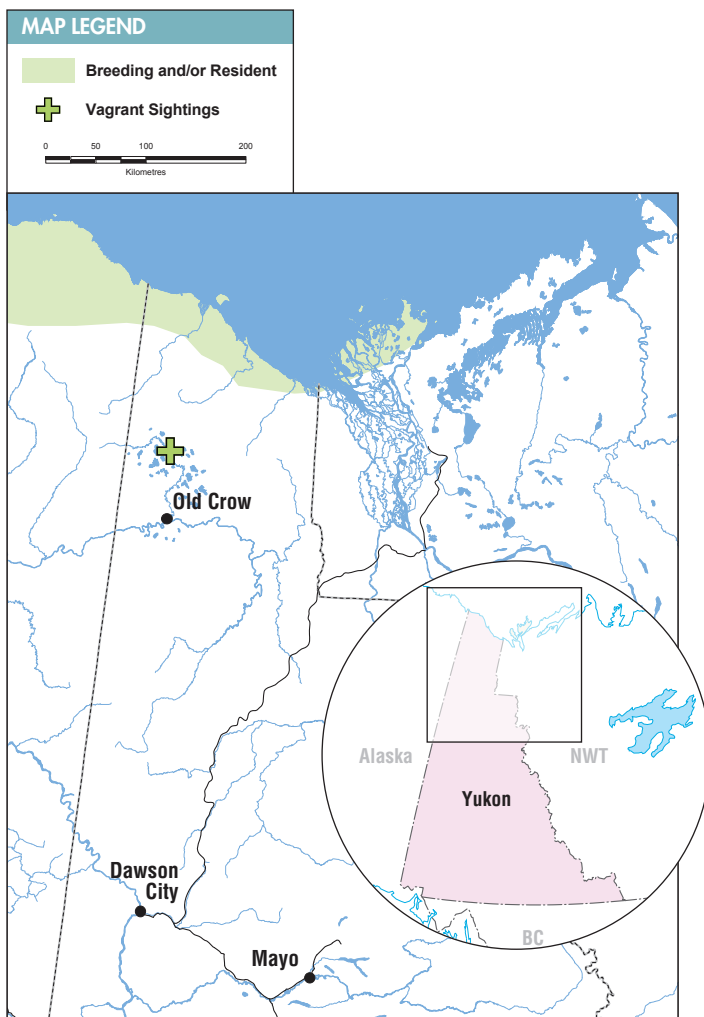
### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Slender bird with an olive-grey head and back, white eye line, lemon yellow undersides, and a wagging, black tail with white outer feathers.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



Photo: ©iStock.com/ilyasov



## Gray-headed Chickadee

*Poecile cincta*

### HABITAT

Found in willows and spruces edging tundra.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Scattered records across northern Yukon.

**North America:** Northern Alaska and Yukon.

**Global:** Circumpolar distribution extending from Siberia into north-western North America.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** **N2** (Imperilled)

**Yukon:** **S2** (Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

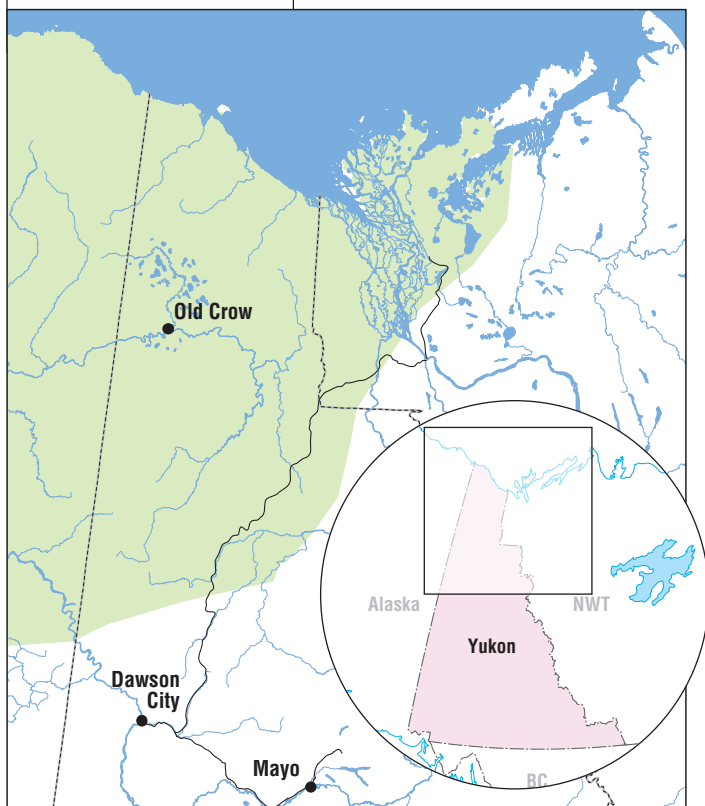
A grey-brown cap and a larger white cheek patch which extends to the sides of neck distinguish it from the Boreal Chickadee. It also has a longer tail, paler flanks and pale edge to wing coverts.

**Report Sightings:** All year

#### MAP LEGEND

 Breeding and/or Resident

0 50 100 200  
Kilometres



Environment  
Canada  
Canadian Wildlife  
Service

Environnement  
Canada  
Service canadien  
de la faune



Yukon Conservation  
Data Centre



Phone: 867-667-5331  
Email: [yukoncdc@gov.yk.ca](mailto:yukoncdc@gov.yk.ca)  
[www.envyukon.gov.yk.ca/cdc](http://www.envyukon.gov.yk.ca/cdc)



## Harlequin Duck

*Histrionicus histrionicus*

### HABITAT

During breeding, the Harlequin Duck prefers swiftly flowing streams and rivers, both above and below treeline. Nests on the ground, near water protected by vegetation.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Widespread breeder on swift-flowing rivers and creeks.

**North America:** In the west, breeds throughout mountains from Alaska to Wyoming. In the east, breeds in southern Greenland, northern Quebec, Labrador, Newfoundland and the Gaspé. Western populations winter on Pacific coast from Bering Sea to northern California, and eastern population on Atlantic coast from Greenland to Virginia.

**Global:** Also breeds in eastern Siberia; some winter on coasts of Japan, Korea, and northern China.



Photo: ©iStock.com/Fiatcoater

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G4 (Apparently Secure)

**Canada:** N4B, N4N (Apparently Secure, Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A small duck with a steep forehead, rounded head and stubby bill. Breeding male is an unmistakable slate-blue, with white spots and stripes, and chestnut-coloured flanks. Female is a plain brown with three white spots on each side of head.

**Report Sightings:** On streams only

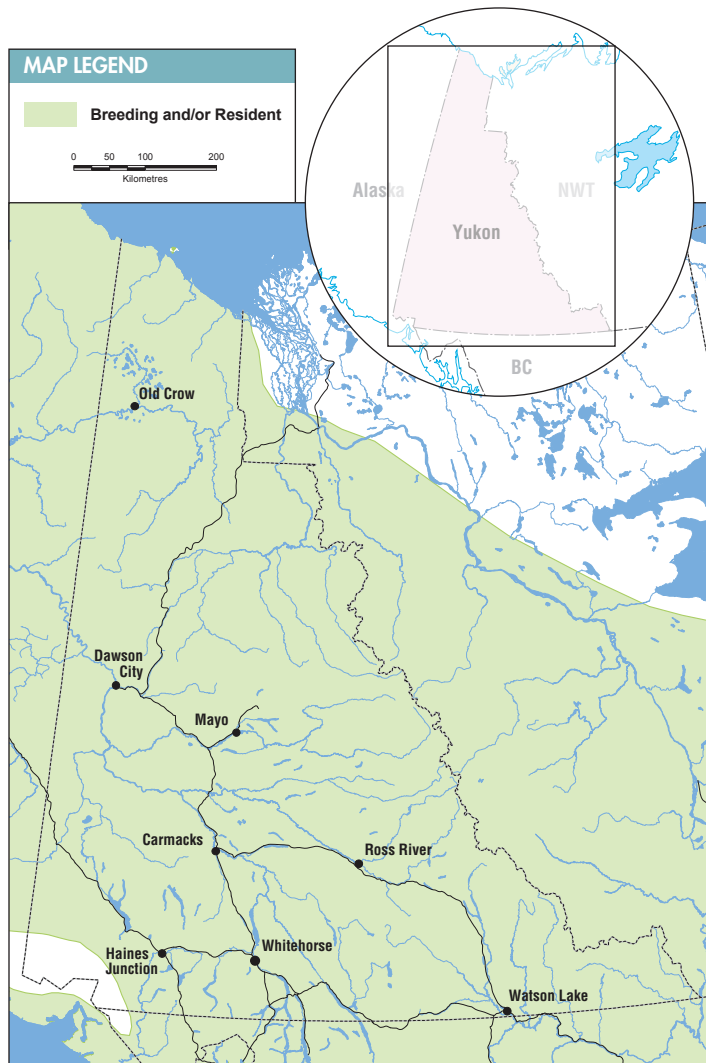
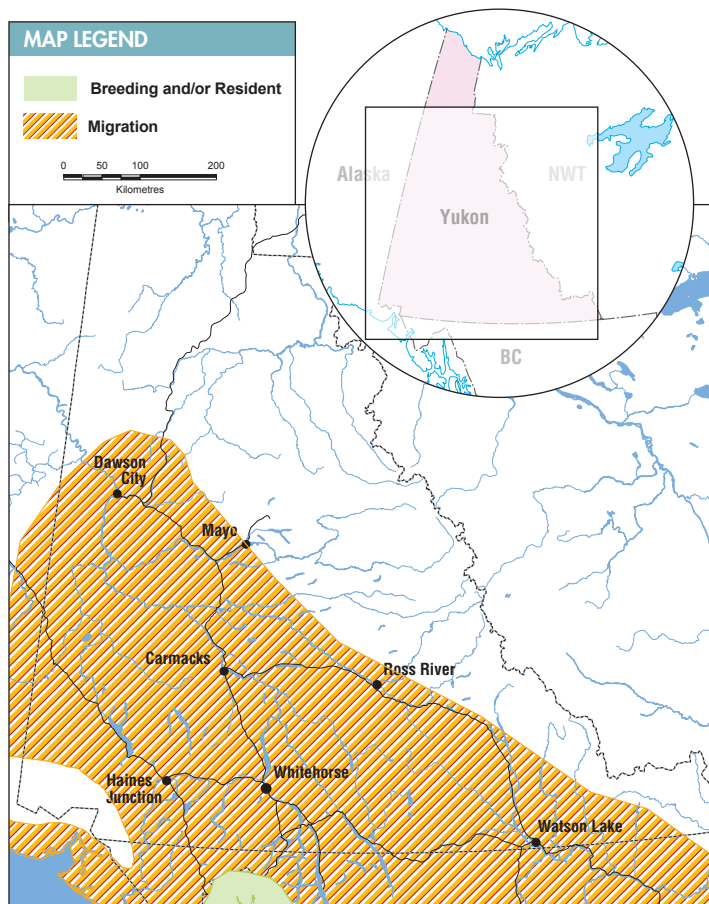




Photo: ©iStock.com/Bob Balestri



## Hooded Merganser

*Lophodytes cucullatus*

### HABITAT

Ponds, small lakes and slow-moving rivers. Nests in tree cavities in forested wetlands.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** An uncommon summer visitor to the southern Yukon; undoubtedly breeds, but no evidence yet.

**North America:** Central BC and southwestern Alberta south to Oregon; from central Saskatchewan east to Nova Scotia and south to Florida and Louisiana. Winters from southern BC to central California, and from Wisconsin and New York south to the Texas Gulf Coast.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Smaller than other mergansers; males have a distinctive circular crest with a large white patch outlined in black, a black face and rusty sides. The female has a bushy, rufous crest.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



Photo: Jukka Jantunen

## Le Conte's Sparrow

*Ammodramus leconteii*

### HABITAT

A bird of open wet meadows, marsh edges, and low shrubs.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Extreme southeastern Yukon.

**North America:** Breeds across southern boreal region from southern NWT and eastern BC into North Dakota and east to Michigan; also locally through Ontario and southern Quebec. Winters in southeastern USA from eastern Texas to southern Illinois and northern Florida.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G4 (Apparently Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)

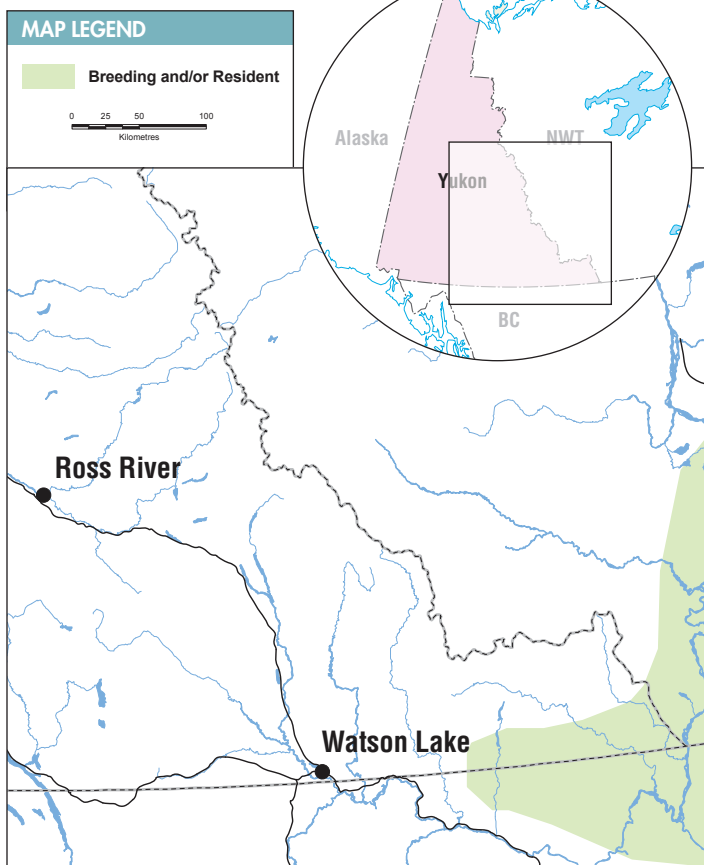
### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

This small, secretive sparrow is far more often heard than seen; listen for its short, hissing song that sounds like a buzzy grasshopper. When seen, a white central crown stripe that becomes orange on the forehead, and an orange and grey face with a black line behind the eye are distinctive.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



Photo: Jukka Jantunen





## Long-billed Dowitcher

*Limnodromus scolopaceus*

### HABITAT

Prefers wet sedge patterned ground and other wet sedge and grass habitats.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Breeds on the coastal plain, but migrates throughout Yukon.

**North America:** Western and northern Alaska to northern mainland of NWT. Winters from southern USA through Mexico to El Salvador.

**Global:** Western and northern Alaska to northern mainland of NWT. Winters from southern USA through Mexico to El Salvador.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N4B (Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B, S4M (Vulnerable)

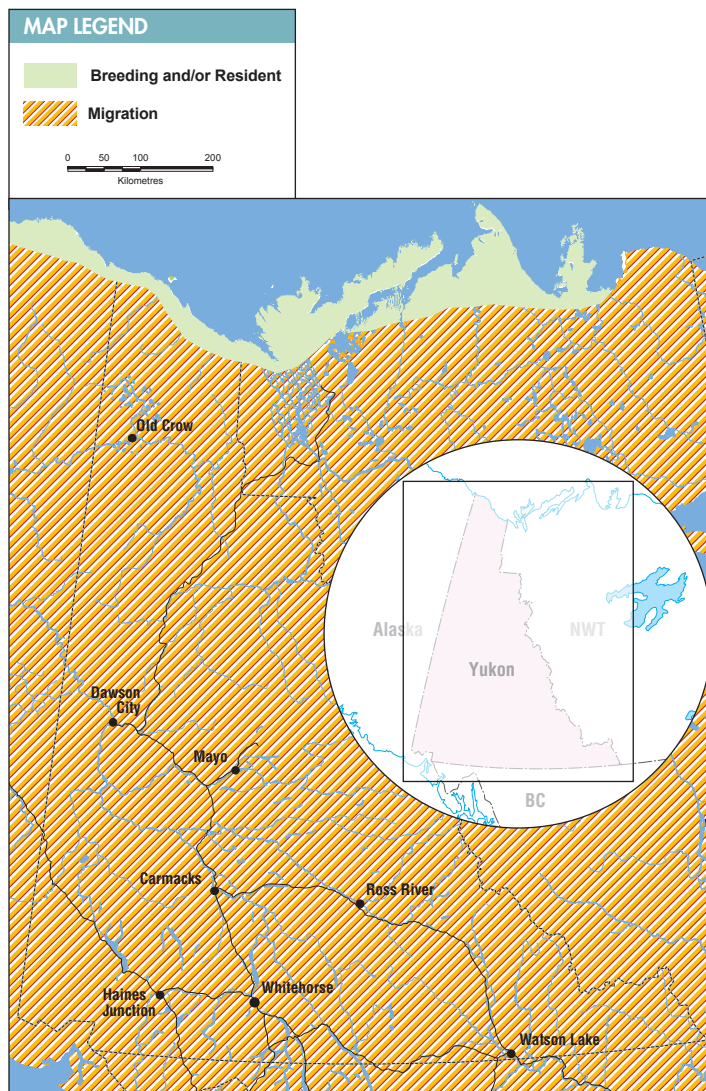


Photo: ©iStock.com/SteveByland

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

The most obvious feature of dowitchers are their long, straight bills. Short-billed and Long-billed Dowitchers are difficult to separate. In breeding plumage, all races of adult Short-billed are distinguished from Long-billed by palish lower belly; the entire venter is brick red in Long-billed. Short-billed also lacks strong barring on sides and flanks, which is characteristic of breeding Long-billed Dowitchers. Call notes are distinctive: flight call of Short-billed a melodic tu, usually repeated up to 3 or 4 times. Typical call of Long-billed a high keek, given once or repeated several times.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (late May - July)

## Magnolia Warbler

*Dendroica magnolia*

### HABITAT

Most common in mixed riparian forests and stands of Balsam Poplar.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Restricted to the southeast, as far west as Rancheria.

**North America:** Breeds throughout much of the southern boreal forest from Yukon to the Maritimes and the northeastern USA south to Virginia.

**Global:** Winters from central Mexico to central Panama and the West Indies.

### CONSERVATION RANK

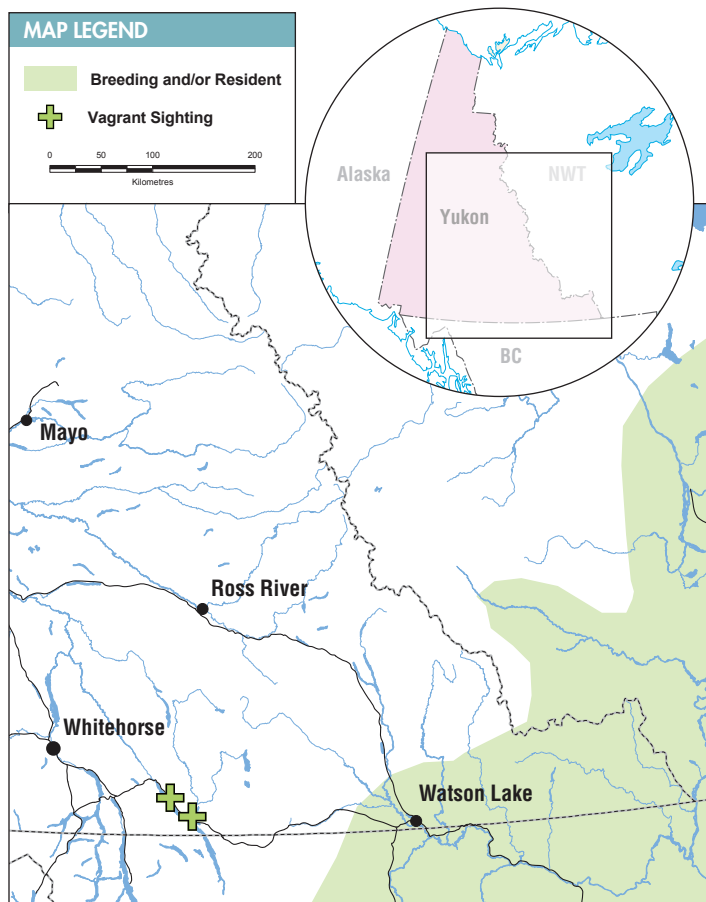
**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N4B (Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)



Photo: ©iStock.com/Michael G McKinne



### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Distinctive male is blackish above, with white eyebrow and black cheek patch, white wing patch, yellow rump; and broad white tail patches. Underparts bright yellow, with black streaks on breast and sides; and tail crossed by a band of white that is diagnostic in any plumage. Female duller, with reduced striping beneath; has two wing bars.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



Photo: ©iStock.com/Paul Reeves

## Mourning Warbler

*Oporornis philadelphia*

### HABITAT

Dense tall shrubs at the edges of forests and small openings. Nests on the ground.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Restricted to the southeast; the La Biche and Beaver rivers, and Larsen Creek area.

**North America:** Breeds across the southern boreal zone from northeastern BC and southern N.W.T to Newfoundland, and across the northeastern USA from North Dakota to West Virginia.

**Global:** Winters from southern Nicaragua to eastern Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

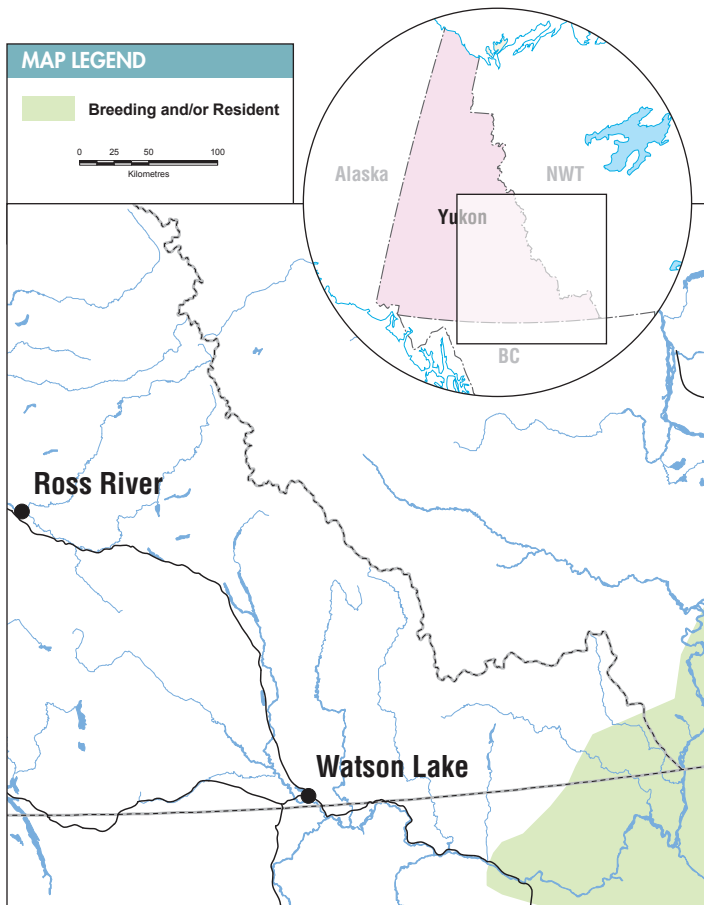
**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S1B (Critically Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Difficult to distinguish from MacGillivray's Warbler, although ranges do not generally overlap. Lacks the distinct, broken eye ring of MacGillivray's Warblers. Often best identified by its distinctive song, which is a series of rolling notes, usually lower at the end: "chirry, chirry, chirry, chirry, chorry, chorry."

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)





## Northern Rough-winged Swallow

*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*

### HABITAT

Feeds over open water at wetlands and rivers. Breeds in silt and dirt banks; breeding likely but unconfirmed in southern Yukon.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** A rare but regular visitor to southern Yukon; sightings mainly around Whitehorse and in the Liard basin.

**North America:** Breeds throughout southern Canada south to Costa Rica. Winters in southern USA and south through Central America.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Brown above and whitish below, with a dirty brown throat that lacks the distinct breast band of the Bank Swallow. Flight is bat-like. Flight call is a loud jeet-jeet-jeet; quite different from the buzzy chattering of the Bank Swallow.

**Report Sightings:** Nesting sites

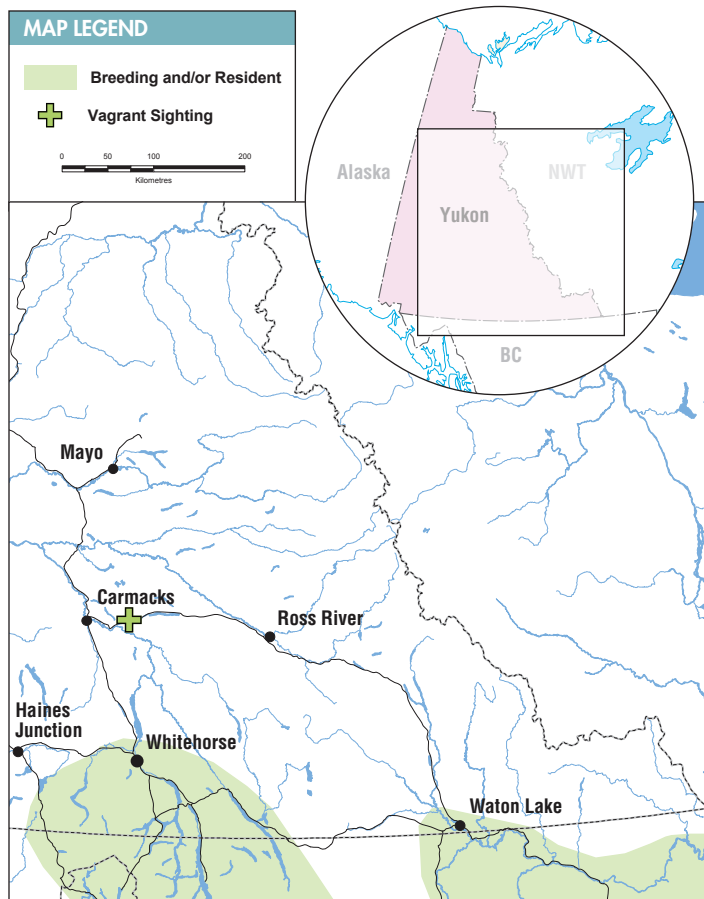




Photo: ©iStock.com/Paul Reeves

## Northern Shrike

*Lanius excubitor*

### HABITAT

In breeding season, inhabits shrubby subalpine, subarctic and taiga habitats associated with creeks and rivers. Usually nests in a small deciduous tree.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Uncommon in subalpine and shrub tundra throughout Yukon; most common in the far north.

**North America:** Breeds in Alaska and across Canada's northern taiga and boreal forest to the Labrador coast. Winters in south-eastern Alaska, southwestern Yukon, northwestern BC, and across southern Canada, the northeastern and western USA.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B, N5N (Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A robin-sized, grey bird with black mask, black wings and tail. Its predatory nature is revealed in its stout, hooked beak.

**Report Sightings:** Breeding habitat (May 1 - July 3)



Photo: ©iStock.com/Paul Reeves



## Olive-sided Flycatcher

*Contopus cooperi*

### HABITAT

Common in old, open forests from valley bottoms to treeline, often at the edge of wetlands with dead trees for perches.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Across the southern Yukon; sparsely north to the Porcupine River.

**North America:** Breeds across North America from Alaska and the Atlantic Provinces south to Maine and the mountains of New Mexico and California.

**Global:** Winters in Central America and South America, from Colombia and Venezuela south to Peru and Bolivia.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G4 (Apparently Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S2S3B (Imperilled)

**COSEWIC Status:** Threatened (2007)



Photo: Jason Wade



### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

This flycatcher is almost as large as a robin, with a large bill and dark chest patches separated by narrow white stripe. Its distinctive call has been described as quick, three beers!

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



Photo: Jason Wade





Photo: ©iStock.com/William Sherman

## Ovenbird

*Seiurus aurocapilla*

### HABITAT

Mature deciduous (Trembling Aspen) and mixed deciduous forests (Balsam Poplar, Paper Birch, Trembling Aspen) and some mixed old-growth forests of White Spruce and Balsam Poplar.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Restricted to the southeast, in the La Biche and Beaver River valleys, and perhaps as far west as the Contact Creek area.

**North America:** Breeds across southern boreal from southeastern Yukon to the Maritimes, south to South Carolina, Nebraska and Montana. Winters in southern Florida and Mexico, south to Panama and the Caribbean Islands.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S1B (Critically Imperilled)

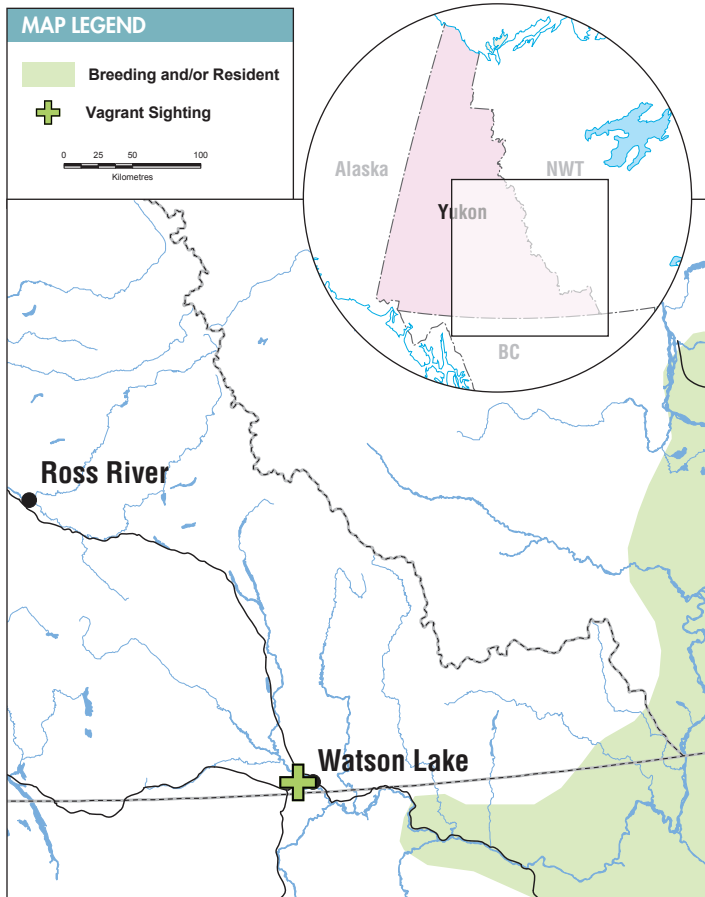
### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Male's song is a loud and distinctive teacher-teacher-teacher! Russet crown bordered by dark stripes; bold white eye ring. Olive above, white below with streaks of dark spots and pinkish legs. Generally seen on the ground; walks rather than hops.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



Photo: ©iStock.com/Paul Reeves



## Parasitic Jaeger

*Stercorarius parasiticus*

### HABITAT

Nesting habitat is wet sedge tundra with patterned ground (polygons). Nests are located on dry ridges between polygons.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Common breeder on the Coastal Plain. Although it has been noted at scattered inland locations there is no evidence of breeding away from the Coastal Plain.

**North America:** Breeds around the coast of Alaska from the mouth of the Alsek River north, and across the Low Arctic of Canada, south to Hudson Bay.

**Global:** Also breeds in Greenland, northern Europe and Russia. Migrates to wintering areas from the British Isles to southern Africa, from Baja California to Argentina and Chile, and New Zealand.

### CONSERVATION RANK

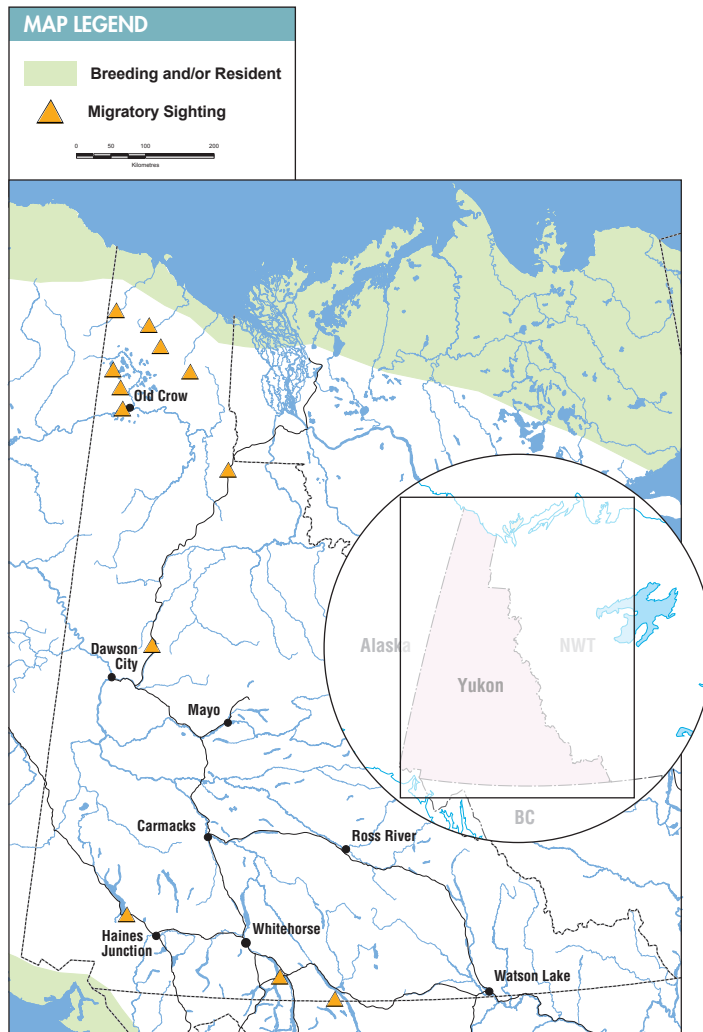
**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)



Photo: Jukka Jantunen



### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Distinguished from Pomarine Jaeger by spike-like central tail feathers and from the Long-tailed Jaeger by shorter tail feathers.

**Report Sightings:** Late June through early August



Photo: Gordon Court

## Peregrine Falcon

*Falco peregrinus*

### HABITAT

Nests on cliffs adjacent to or near wetlands, lakes, or rivers, most frequently on rocky cliffs along major rivers. The Peregrine requires a healthy population of ducks and shorebirds as a food source during the breeding season.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** A summer resident of most of Yukon's larger river valleys, although rare in the south and apparently absent from the southeast.

**North America:** Breeds in Alaska, northern and western Canada; rare elsewhere in southern Canada; scattered breeding areas south to central Mexico. Winters from the south coast of BC, the northern USA and southern Ontario south to southern South America.

**Global:** Found on all continents, but does not breed in tropical and subtropical America or New Zealand.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G4 (Apparently Secure)

**Canada:** N3B, N4B (Vulnerable to Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

**COSEWIC Status:** Special Concern (2007)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A large, crow-sized falcon with dark head and black sideburns and slaty back. Long, pointed wings; a long tail; and quick wingbeats identify it as a falcon.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (April 15 - August 31)



Photo: Gordon Court







Photo: ©iStock.com/Steve Byland

## Philadelphia Vireo

*Vireo philadelphicus*

### HABITAT

Most common in shrubby riparian forests with Trembling Aspen, and Balsam Poplar directly adjacent to water.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Restricted to the La Biche River.

**North America:** Breeds across the southern boreal zone of Canada to from northeastern BC to New Brunswick, and south into the New England states.

**Global:** Winters from Guatemala to Panama.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Distinguished from most vireos by combination of unmarked wings and pale yellow underparts. More distinct, dark-grey eye line distinguishes it from the Warbling Vireo. Song resembles that of Red-eyed Vireo but is slightly higher and slower.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)

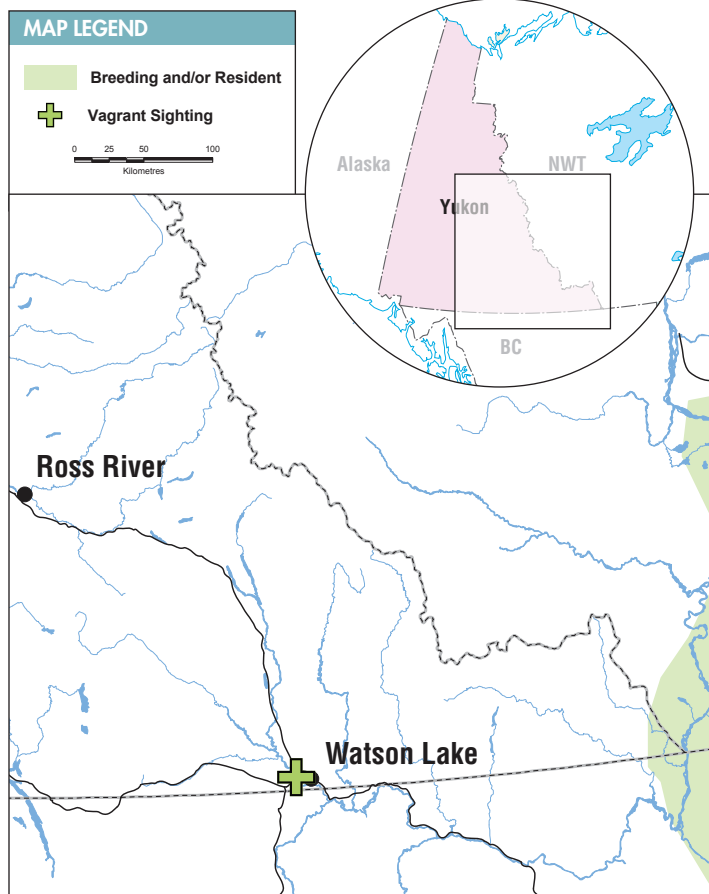




Photo: ©iStock.com/Phillip N. Lowe

## Pied-billed Grebe

*Podilymbus podiceps*

### HABITAT

Breeds in deep wetlands with abundant emergent vegetation.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** The southern Yukon, primarily in the Southern Lakes region but also in the southeast.

**North America:** Breeds from central Mackenzie River basin and southern BC across southern Canada to Nova Scotia, south through most of the USA, Mexico, Central and South America, including the West Indies.

**Global:** Winters in open fresh and brackish water from southern BC and Maryland south through its breeding range.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

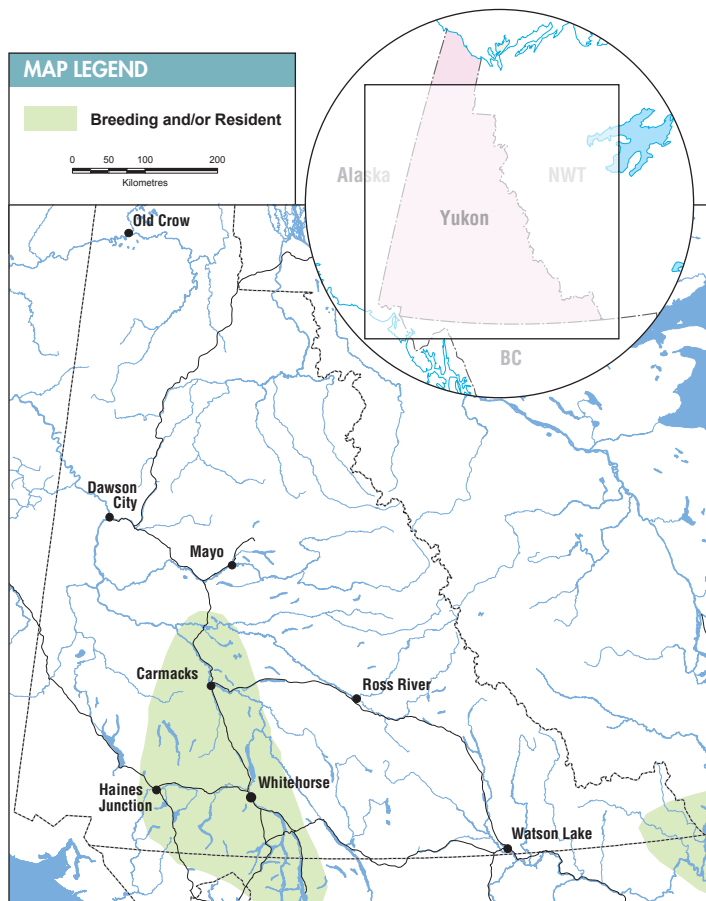
**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A small brown grebe with a rounded head and a stout white bill with a black vertical band. The Pied-billed Grebe is quite vocal during the breeding season; listen for a loud series of gulping *kuk-kuk-kuk* notes.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



## Pileated Woodpecker

*Dryocopus pileatus*

### HABITAT

Prefers dense mature forest; mixed forest with Trembling Aspen, Balsam Poplar with White Spruce, with thick shrub understory, snags and windfall.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** In Yukon only found in the extreme southeastern forests.

**North America:** Breeds from southeastern Yukon to southwestern BC. Occurs eastward from the southern N.W.T. and southern Canada to Nova Scotia. Occurs along the Pacific coast to central California and from the central USA east to the Atlantic coast and south to the Gulf Coast.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5 (Secure)

**Yukon:** S2 (Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Large, crow-sized, red-crested woodpecker with a striped face; at rest, back and wings appear entirely black.

**Report Sightings:** All year



Photo: ©iStock.com/Steve Byland







Photo: ©iStock.com/forrest9

## Red Phalarope

*Phalaropus fulicarius*

### HABITAT

Breeds in wet tundra and ponds. Nests on the ground in tundra. Restricted to the western portion of the North Slope, as far east as the Running River.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Breeds across the North American Arctic.

**North America:** Circumpolar, winters at sea off the coasts of South America and western Africa.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S1B (Critically Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Predominantly brick-red colouration in breeding adults is distinctive. Female has black crown, white face and red underparts. Male is duller. Bill is shorter and thicker than other phalaropes, yellow with a black tip in breeding adults.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



Photo: Bruce Bennett

### MAP LEGEND

- Breeding and/or Resident
- + Vagrant Sighting
- ▲ Migratory Sighting

0 50 100 200  
Kilometres



Environment  
Canada  
Canadian Wildlife  
Service

Environnement  
Canada  
Service canadien  
de la faune



Yukon Conservation  
Data Centre

Yukon  
Environment

Phone: 867-667-5331  
Email: [yukoncdc@gov.yk.ca](mailto:yukoncdc@gov.yk.ca)  
[www.envyukon.gov.yk.ca/cdc](http://www.envyukon.gov.yk.ca/cdc)



Photo: ©iStock.com/Richard Keller

## Red-eyed Vireo

*Vireo olivaceus*

### HABITAT

Most common in riparian forests dominated by Balsam Poplar although present in mature White Spruce forests with high deciduous tree component.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Restricted to the lower Liard River drainage in the southeast, west to Upper Liard; common along the lower La Biche and Beaver rivers.

**North America:** Breeds across much of temperate and southern boreal North America, although absent from the southwestern states and much of northern BC.

**Global:** Winters in South America.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S1B (Critically Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Blue-grey crown; white eyebrow bordered above and below with black. Olive-green back, darker wings and tail; white underparts; lacks wing bars. Red iris visible at close range. Male sings a distinctive, three-parted song that is endlessly repeated.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)





Photo: Cameron Eckert

## Red-necked Phalarope

*Phalaropus lobatus*

### HABITAT

Breeds on wet sedge tundra with small scattered ponds, and marshy edges of small lakes. Nests on the ground in wet grassy areas near water.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Breeds throughout Yukon; especially common on the coastal plain and Old Crow Flats.

**North America:** Breeds across northern North America, primarily in the taiga and low Arctic zones, from Alaska to the coast of Labrador.

**Global:** Northern North America and Eurasia.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G4G5 (Apparently Secure to Secure)

**Canada:** N4N5B (Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

The rufous-red neck with white throat is distinctive of breeding females, though less pronounced in males. Males are more variable in pattern, always with white eye line. All individuals distinguished from other phalaropes by white wing stripe in flight.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (late May - July)







Photo: ©iStock.com/Paul Reeves

## Redhead

*Aythya americana*

### HABITAT

Breeds in freshwater marshes and lakes. Nests in emergent vegetation over standing water or on a mass of plant material surrounded by water.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Uncommon throughout the south; breeding range poorly known, but primarily or wholly restricted to Beaver Creek region.

**North America:** Breeding range discontinuous: interior Alaska and western Yukon; interior of BC through southern Manitoba, south to southern California and east to Iowa and Wisconsin. Winters from extreme southern BC south to central and southern USA, Central America and West Indies.

**Global:** Breeds in central to northwest North America; winters from southern Canada to Central America and West Indies.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

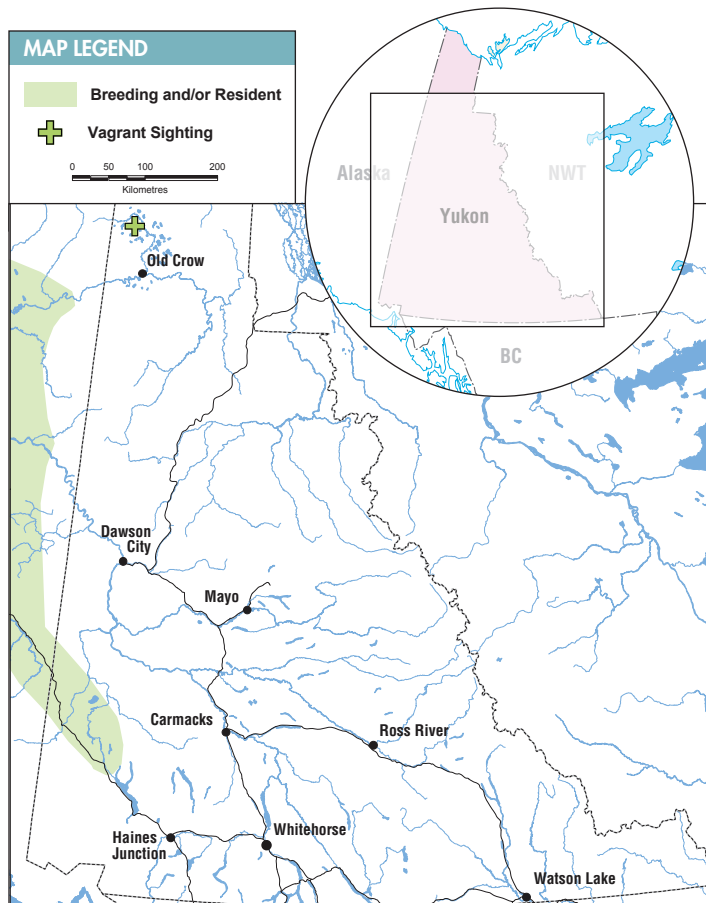
**Canada:** N3N5B (Vulnerable to Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Diving ducks: male has a red-brown head and grey (not white) back. Female is brownish with a light patch around the base of the bill.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



## Rose-breasted Grosbeak

*Pheucticus ludovicianus*

### HABITAT

Common in mature mixed forests of White Spruce and Balsam Poplar, with an abundance of shrubs.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Found only in the extreme southeast along the La Biche and Beaver rivers.

**North America:** Breeds from northeastern BC and southern NWT east to Nova Scotia and south through the northeastern USA.

**Global:** Winters from southern Mexico to Peru.

### CONSERVATION RANK

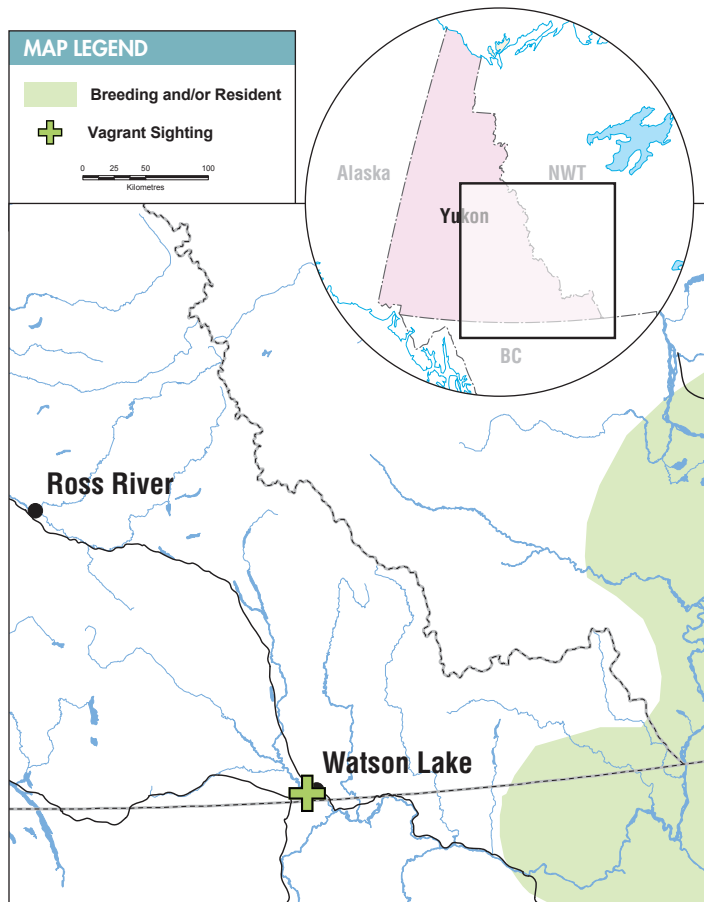
**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)



Photo: ©iStock.com/Brian Wolf



### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Breeding male has black head, pink breast, white belly, white wing bars, and white rump. In flight it has red wing linings. The female has yellow wing linings and extensively streaked underparts. The males sing a rich, sweet song reminiscent of that of an American Robin.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



Photo: ©iStock.com/Mike Lane

## Ruddy Turnstone

*Arenaria interpres*

### HABITAT

The Ruddy Turnstone is found in dry habitats, foraging on gravel beaches and nesting on dry tundra.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Breeds along the western portion of the Yukon Arctic coast.

**North America:** The Arctic coast of western Alaska and Yukon, and on most High Arctic islands; winters in southern coastal USA to South America.

**Global:** Circumpolar, including Greenland, Iceland and north coastal Eurasia. Eurasian birds winters in southern Europe, Africa and South Pacific.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S1B (Critically Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

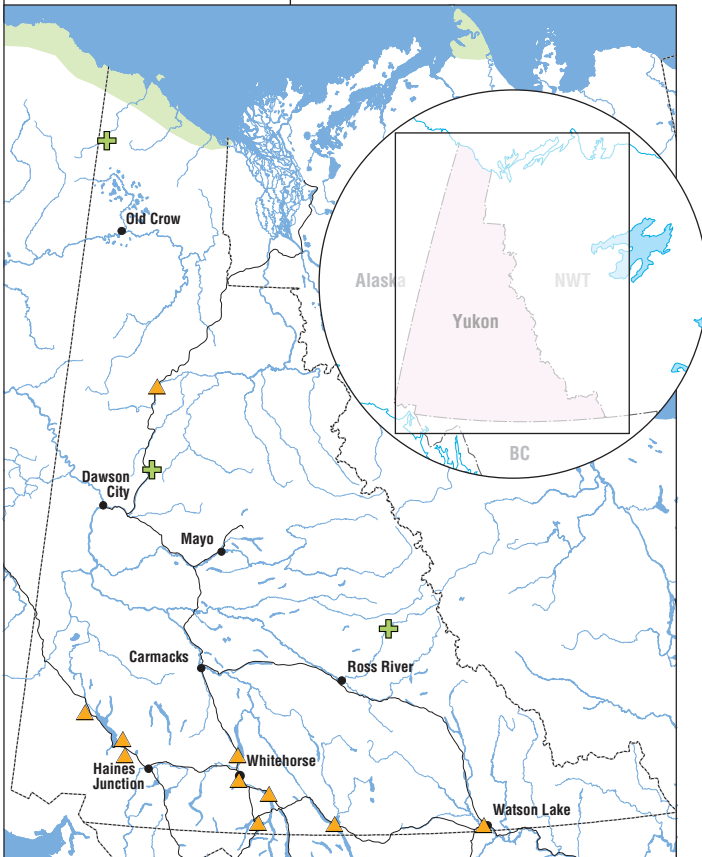
A colourful shorebird; in breeding plumage has striking black and white head and bib, black and russet back and orange legs.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)

#### MAP LEGEND

- Breeding and/or Resident
- Vagrant Sighting
- Migratory Sighting

0 50 100 200  
Kilometres



Environment  
Canada  
Canadian Wildlife  
Service

Environnement  
Canada  
Service canadien  
de la faune



Yukon Conservation  
Data Centre

**Yukon**  
Environment

Phone: 867-667-5331  
Email: [yukoncdc@gov.yk.ca](mailto:yukoncdc@gov.yk.ca)  
[www.envyukon.gov.yk.ca/cdc](http://www.envyukon.gov.yk.ca/cdc)





Photo: Cameron Eckert

## Rusty Blackbird

*Euphagus carolinus*

### HABITAT

Breeds in shrubby wetlands, usually along the edges of ponds or lakes with dense sedges, shrubs and often scattered standing dead trees.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Breeding confirmed throughout Yukon; increasingly scarce north of Dawson and essentially absent on North Slope. Rare in extreme southeast.

**North America:** Breeds from Alaska east to Newfoundland and south to the northeastern USA. Winters primarily in the south-eastern USA.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G4 (Apparently Secure)

**Canada:** N4B (Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

**COSEWIC Status:** Special Concern (2006)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Can only be confused with Brewer's Blackbirds (adult males conspicuously iridescent, adult females with dark eyes), which are not found in Yukon except occasionally in the Liard drainage. Adult female Rusty Blackbirds are dull brownish-grey with light eyes; males are solid black with light eyes. In August, both sexes moult into their winter plumage with rusty and beige feather edges, which wear off by spring. Identified by their conspicuous yellow eyes and rusty feather edges.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



## Sandhill Crane

*Grus canadensis*

### HABITAT

Breeding habitat is usually within extensive sedge / grass marshes, often near the Arctic Coast.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Abundant migrant, especially in Tintina Trench; breeding throughout northern Yukon, but primarily in the Porcupine basin and on the North Slope.

**North America:** Breeds in northeastern Siberia, through Alaska, the NWT and east to Lake Huron. Breeds south to northwestern Minnesota, Missouri, BC, and scattered locations in the western USA.

**Global:** Winters in Texas, New Mexico and northern Mexico.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B, S4M (Vulnerable to Apparently Secure)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A large, long-legged, long-necked wading bird. Adult is grey, with red skin on crown and lores; whitish chin, cheek and upper throat, white primaries. In flight, long legs are obvious. Loud, distinctive, trumpeting call.

**Report Sightings:** Breeding records from Dawson south

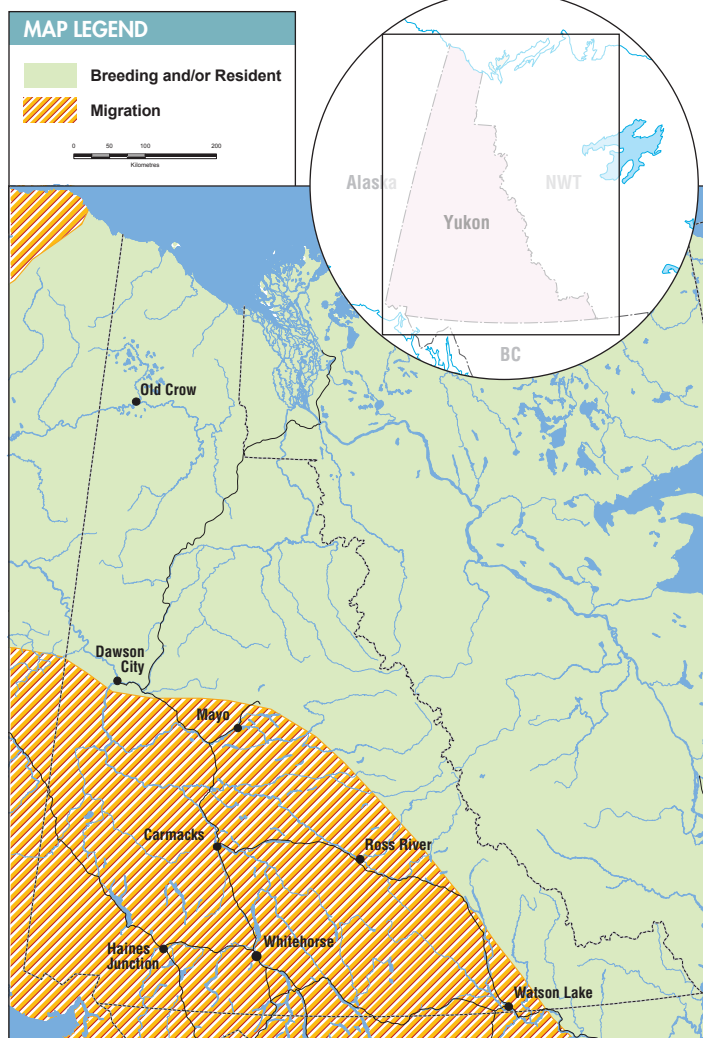




Photo: Tony Grabowsk

## Sharp-tailed Grouse

*Tympanuchus phasianellus*

### HABITAT

Open 'parkland' habitats; grasslands, subalpine meadows and open muskeg. Nest on the ground in brush or grass.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Scattered populations in southern and central Yukon, north to lower Peel River basin and Old Crow.

**North America:** Scattered populations throughout the drier parts of western North America, from central Alaska to the midwestern prairies and the intermountain region of Colorado.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G4 (Critically Secure)

**Canada:** N4 (Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S3 (Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Medium sized grouse with a stiff, pointed tail that shows white in flight. The V-marked underparts are diagnostic.

**Report Sightings:** All year

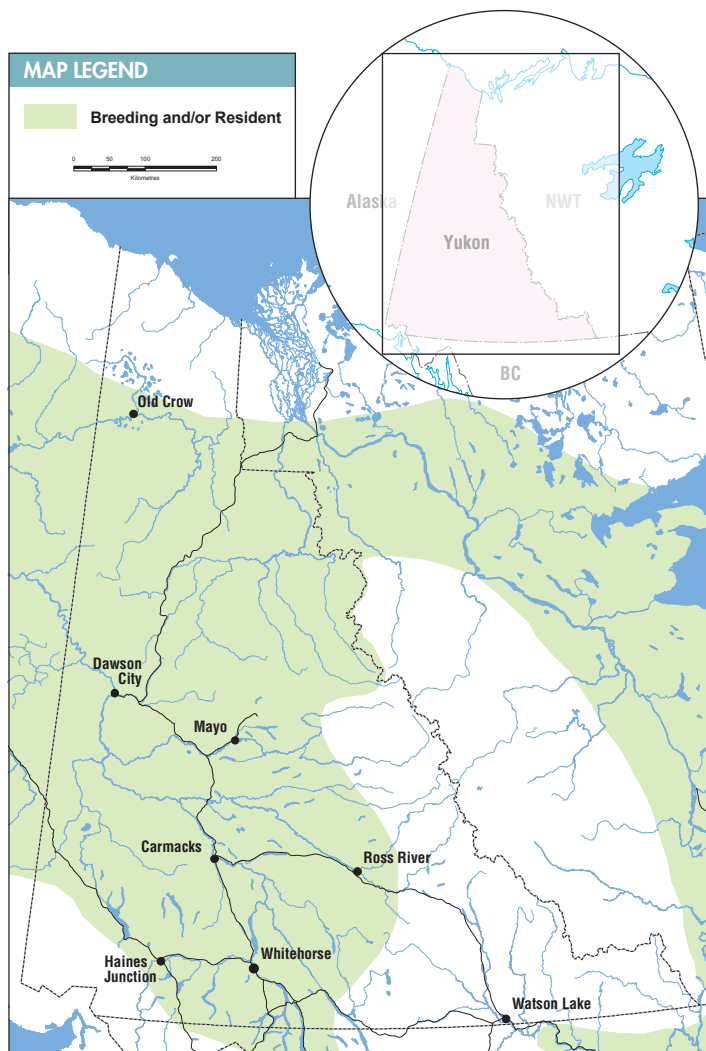






Photo: ©iStock.com/John J. Henderson

## Short-billed Dowitcher

*Limnodromus griseus*

### HABITAT

In Yukon, breeds in marshes and rich fens with sparse trees and shrubs.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Sparse breeder in the Southern Lakes area (confirmed at Swan Lake and Lake Laberge, and suspected at Marsh Lake and along Tagish Road).

**North America:** Breeding distribution separated into three areas: northwest (southern Alaska, Yukon, and northwestern BC); northern prairie provinces, including southern NWT; centred around James Bay. Winters from the southern USA through Central America and West Indies to Peru and Brazil.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

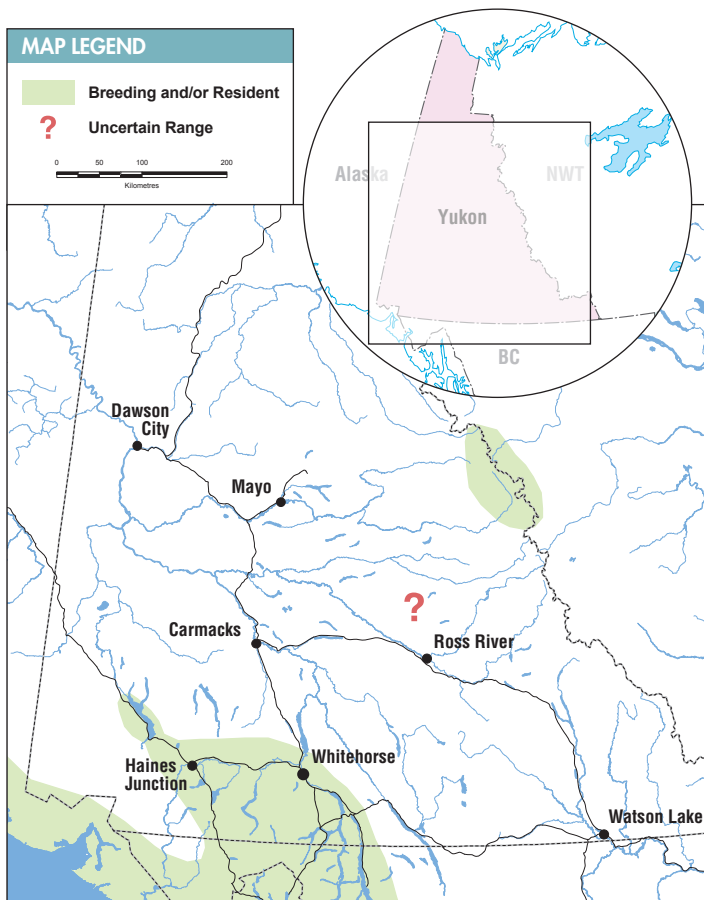
**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

The most obvious feature of dowitchers are their long, straight bills. Short-billed and Long-billed Dowitchers are difficult to separate. In breeding plumage, all races of adult Short-billed are distinguished from Long-billed by palish lower belly; the entire venter is brick red in Long-billed. Short-billed also lacks strong barring on sides and flanks, which is characteristic of breeding Long-billed Dowitchers. Call notes are distinctive: flight call of Short-billed a melodic tu, usually repeated up to 3 or 4 times. Typical call of Long-billed a high keek, given once or repeated several times.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (late May - July)



## Short-eared Owl

*Asio flammeus*

### HABITAT

Frequents open country, lowland tundra, muskegs, and large marshes. Nests on ground in grass-lined depression.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Breeds primarily in low arctic tundra of the North Slope, Richardson Mountains, and Old Crow Flats. Breeding suspected but not confirmed in southern Yukon.

**North America:** Breeds from southern Arctic south to northern USA. Winters from extreme southern Canada to central Mexico.

**Global:** One of the most widespread birds; breeds in Eurasia, North and South America.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N3N, N4B (Vulnerable to Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

**COSEWIC Status:** Special Concern (2008)



Photo: Jared Hobbs

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A tawny owl that hunts over open country, recognized by its long wings and distinctive stiff, slow butterfly-like wing beat with deep strokes.

**Report Sightings:** Including breeding (May 18 - July 31, or nest records)



Photo: Jared Hobbs

## Smith's Longspur

*Calcarius pictus*

### HABITAT

During breeding season Smith's Longspur inhabits open sedge tussock tundra with low shrubs. Nests on the ground.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Scattered populations through much of northern Yukon and parts of mountainous central and southern Yukon.

**North America:** Scattered populations through low Arctic from northern Alaska east to James Bay, and in shrubby alpine from Alaska to northwestern BC. Winters in south-central USA.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Breeding adult male has a black and white head; rich, buff nape and underparts; and a white patch on shoulder. Breeding females are not as distinctive, with a dusky ear patch and pale buff eyebrow. Outer feathers on each side of tail are almost entirely white. Sings from the ground, not the air like the Lapland Longspur.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)







Photo: ©iStock.com/Chris Hill

## Swainson's Hawk

*Buteo swainsoni*

### HABITAT

Open subarctic tundra and taiga; throughout most of its range, a hawk of prairie grasslands.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Distribution in Yukon is uncertain; a rare breeder in Eagle Plains, and likely in the Peel River basin and the western edge of central Yukon.

**North America:** Breeds in east-central Alaska, Yukon, interior BC, and the southern Prairie provinces, south through western USA to northern Mexico.

**Global:** Breeds in western North America, and winters primarily in Argentina.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N4B (Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Easily confused with dark phase Harlan's Red-tailed Hawks. Key features are the Swainson's Hawk's dark flight feathers (viewed from below) in contrast to the lighter feathers of Harlan's. Wings form a distinctive V-shape when soaring in contrast to the Red-tailed Hawk's flatter aspect. In perched birds, the neat-looking, solid-brown upper parts differ from Harlan's Hawks whitish mottling.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season, June-August 20



Photo: ©iStock.com

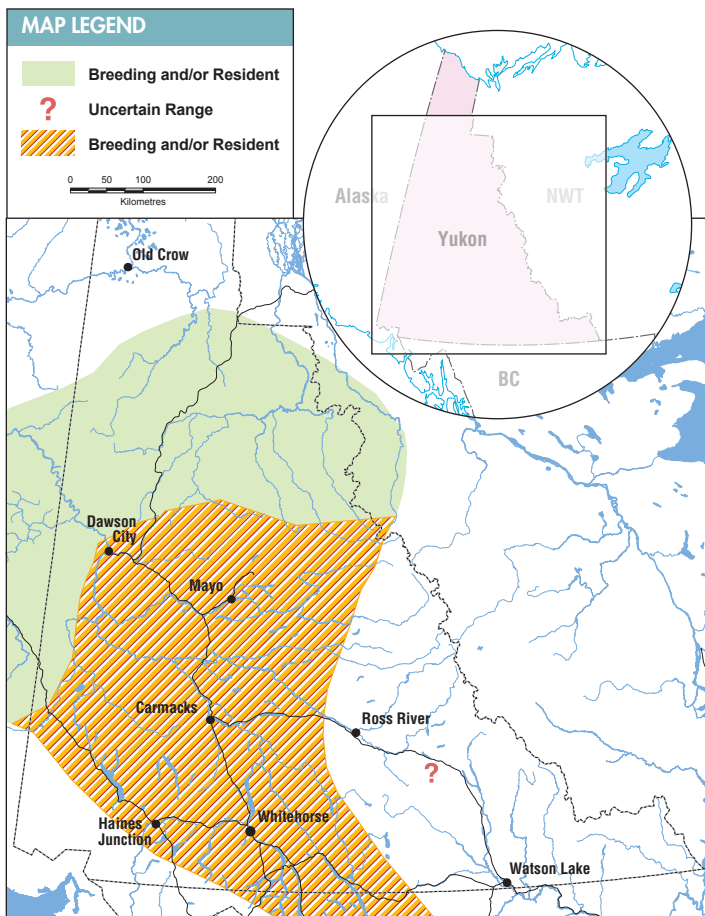




Photo: ©iStock.com/Michael Stubblefield

## Wandering Tattler

*Tringa incana*

### HABITAT

Found along creeks and rivers above treeline, usually high in the mountains but also in lower foothills in the north. Nests in gravel along streams.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Widespread in alpine and tundra areas, except in the southeast.

**North America:** Breeds in the mountains of Alaska, Yukon, western NWT, northwestern BC, and northeastern Siberia.

**Global:** Winters along the Pacific coast from southern California to Ecuador, and in the South Pacific south to New Zealand.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N4B (Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Uniformly dark grey above, with whitish eyebrow; long, dark bill; and dull yellow legs. In breeding plumage underparts are heavily barred. Call is a ringing "kree-kree-kree."

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



## Western Tanager

*Piranga ludoviciana*

### HABITAT

Most common in old-growth White Spruce forests, which are structurally complex with standing and fallen dead trees, and abundant tall shrubs.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Most common in the southeast in the La Biche and Beaver river areas, becoming uncommon to rare westward to Upper Liard and Rancheria.

**North America:** Breeds throughout much of forested western North America from southeastern Alaska and southern NWT to the Mexican border.

**Global:** Winters from Baja California and central Mexico to Costa Rica.

### CONSERVATION RANK

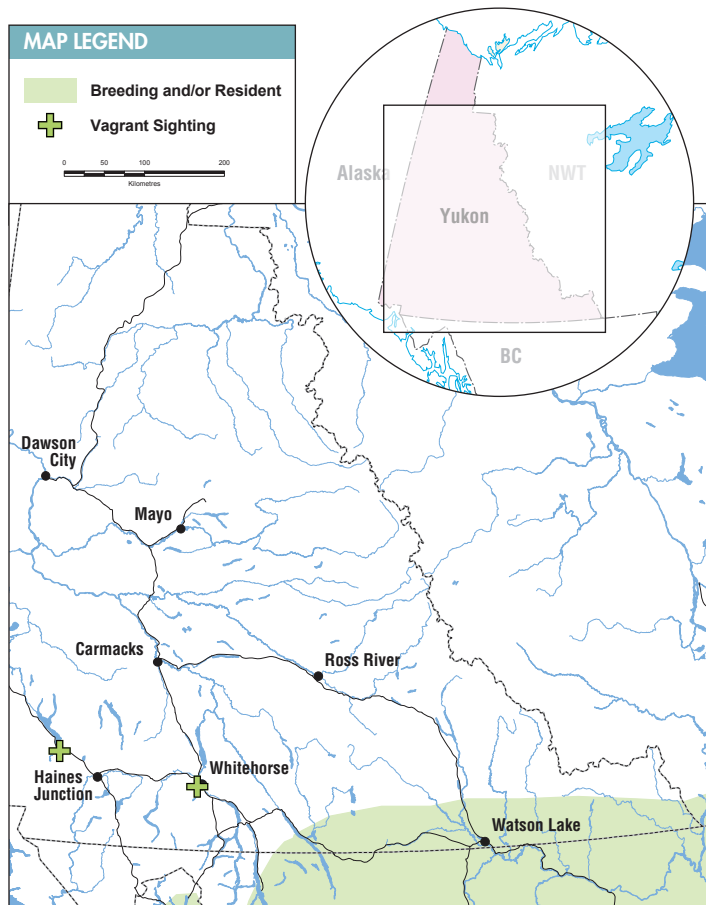
**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)



Photo: ©iStock.com/pchoui



### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Breeding male has distinctive red head and yellow underparts. Female has a greenish back and yellow undersides. Both have conspicuous wing bars. Male's song is similar to that of an American Robin, but burrier and faster.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)





Photo: ©iStock.com/Chris Pole

## Whimbrel

*Numenius phaeopus*

### HABITAT

Breeds on tussock-heath tundra, dry sedge tundra, and moss mounds in low centered polygons.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Common breeding bird on the North Slope, and a rare summer resident (likely breeder) in alpine tundra of central and southern Yukon.

**North America:** Breeds in two disjunct areas; from western Alaska across northern Yukon to northern NWT, and along the west side of Hudson Bay. Winters along southern coastal USA to South America.

**Global:** Holarctic; also breeds in northern Eurasia and winters in the South Pacific and coastal Africa.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5B (Secure)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A large sandpiper with a long, down-curved bill. At a distance appears entirely plain brown; at closer range it has a boldly striped crown.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



Photo: Bruce Bennett



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de la faune



Yukon Conservation  
Data Centre

Yukon  
Environment

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[www.envyukon.gov.yk.ca/cdc](http://www.envyukon.gov.yk.ca/cdc)



Photo: ©iStock.com/Jim Kruger

## Whooping Crane

*Grus americana*

### HABITAT

Breeds in freshwater marshes.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Only a few scattered reports of migrating Whooping Cranes have been noted in Yukon, from Dezadeash to Dawson.

**North America:** A small wild population breeds in Wood Buffalo National Park, Alberta; winters on the Gulf coast of Texas. A small population has been introduced to Florida.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G1 (Critically Imperilled)

**Canada:** **N1B** (Critically Imperilled)

**Yukon:** **SNA** (?)

**COSEWIC Status:** Endangered (2010)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Adult is white overall, with red facial skin; black primaries and long, trailing legs show in flight.

**Report Sightings:** All sightings

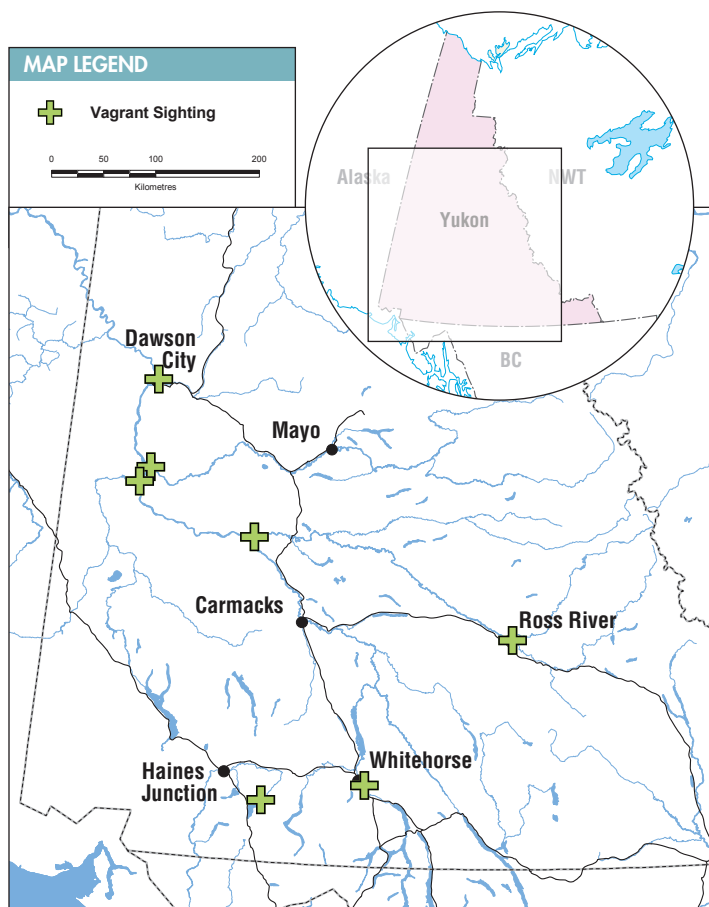






Photo: ©iStock.com/Dave Parsons

## Wilson's Phalarope

*Phalaropus tricolor*

### HABITAT

Found on sloughs and ponds, and marshy edges of lakes.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Confirmed breeding only in Swan Lake (Whitehorse), Shallow Bay, Lake Laberge area. Scattered sightings in Whitehorse and Takhini Valleys, and at Quiet Lake.

**North America:** Breeds throughout the Great Plains and Intermountain basins of western North America, from southern Yukon and NWT south to northern California and Kansas; also in the northern Midwest and southern Ontario east to southern Quebec and New Brunswick.

**Global:** Winters primarily in the highlands of Peru; and throughout western and southern South America.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secured)

**Canada:** N5B (Secured)

**Yukon:** S2B (Imperilled)

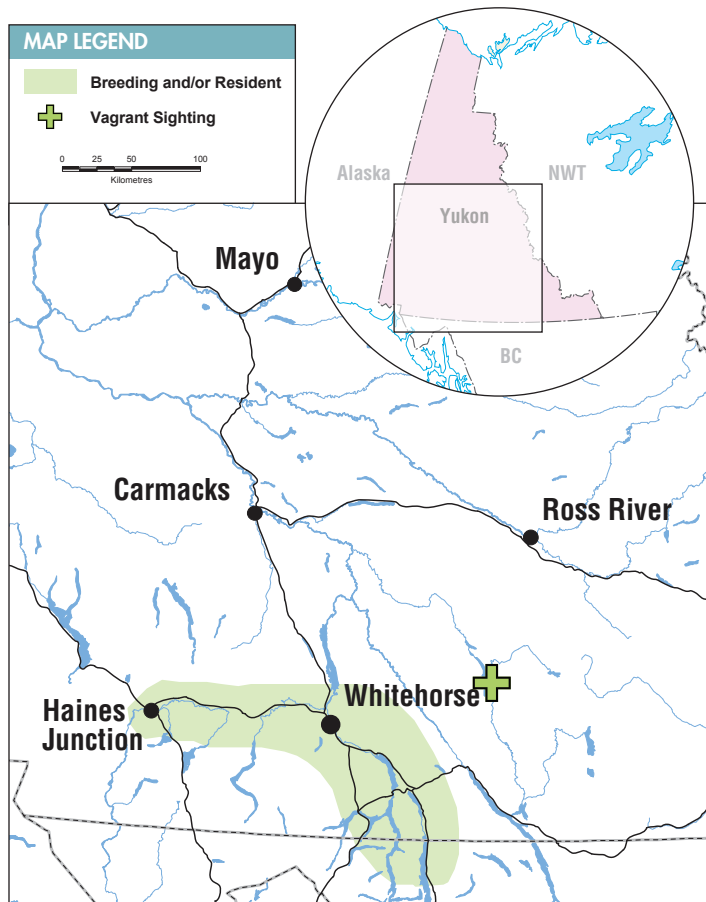
### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Larger than Red-necked or Red Phalaropes. Distinguished by its long, slender bill and bold blackish stripe on face and neck. Call is a weak, honking sound.

**Report Sightings:** Breeding sites, agitated adults (June - July)



Photo: ©iStock.com/Dave Parsons





## Winter Wren

*Troglodytes troglodytes*

### HABITAT

Found on sloughs and ponds, and marshy edges of lakes.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** The Winter Wren occurs in relatively dense old growth riparian White Spruce forests, with complex understory; abundant tree litter and large fallen trees.

**North America:** Probably restricted to the La Biche and Beaver rivers, although uncommon to rare there.

**Global:** The Winter Wren (recently split from the Pacific Wren and the Eurasian wren) breeds across the southern boreal forest from southeastern Yukon to the Atlantic Provinces, and south in the Appalachian Mountains to Georgia. Winters throughout most of southeastern USA.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secured)

**Canada:** N5B (Secured)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

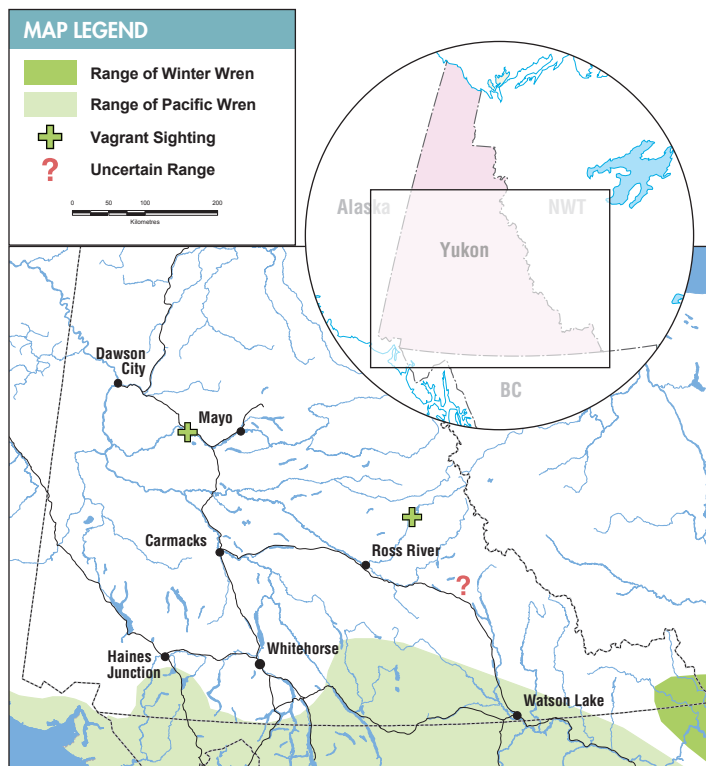


Photo: ©iStock.com/Andrew Howe

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Small restless birds, all-over brown with uplifted stubby tails, and dark barring on belly. Distinguished from Pacific Wren by its lower-sounding, clearer call notes and by its simpler, more melodious song. All wren songs and calls in Yukon should be recorded if possible.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (late May to early August)



Photo: ©iStock.com/Don Mammoser

## Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

*Empidonax flaviventris*

### HABITAT

Yellow-bellied Flycatchers are found in bogs, swamps, and damp coniferous woods; in Yukon, noted in boggy, open stunted Black Spruce and occasionally White Spruce forest with sparse deciduous shrubs.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Scattered locations through central and southeastern Yukon.

**North America:** Breeds across the southern boreal to the Atlantic Provinces and the New England states.

**Global:** Winters from southern Mexico south to Panama.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secured)

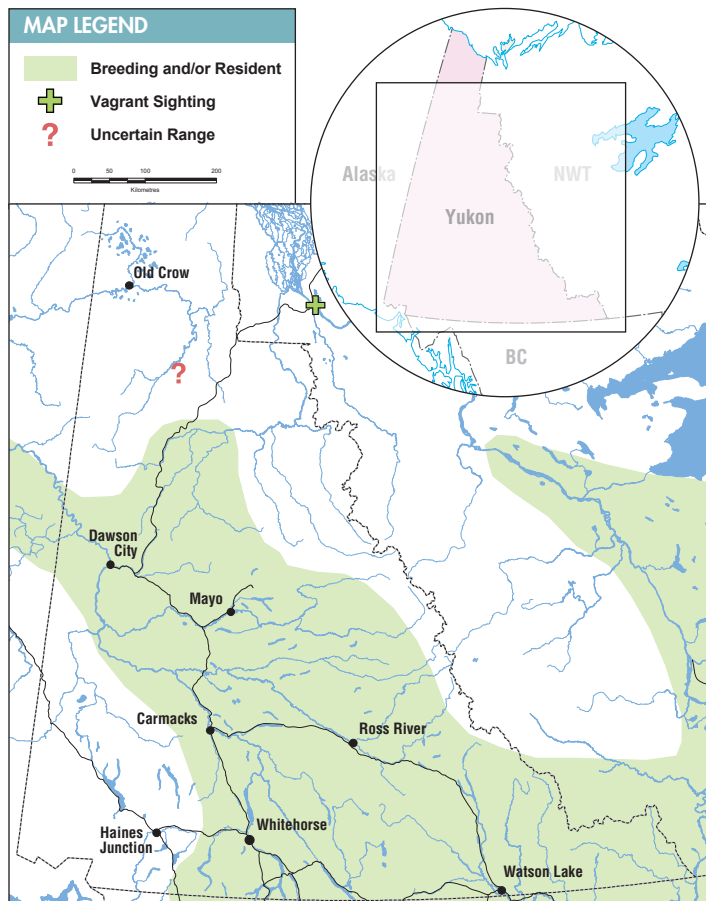
**Canada:** N5B (Secured)

**Yukon:** S3B (Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A small flycatcher that is olive above and yellowish below, with a broad yellow eye ring; lower mandible entirely pale orange. Male gives a distinctive killink or che-bunk advertising song.

**Report Sightings:** During breeding season (June - July)



## Bering Cisco

*Coregonus laurettae*

### HABITAT

In Yukon, Bering Cisco are restricted to the lower Yukon drainage. They spawn in the mainstem portion of large rivers in fast flowing water near beds of loose gravel where eggs are broadcast over substrate.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** They occur in the Yukon River up to and above the confluence with the Klondike River at Dawson City. Traditional knowledge suggests a wider distribution in the Yukon River than is currently documented.

**North America:** Alaska from Cook Inlet on the south coast to Oliktok Point on the Arctic coast. It occurs in the Yukon River and in the Porcupine River in Alaska, and in the lakes of the Brooks Range. There are some reports of Bering Ciscos from the Chukchi Peninsula and the Kamchatka Peninsula in eastern Russia, these presumably being migrants from Alaska.

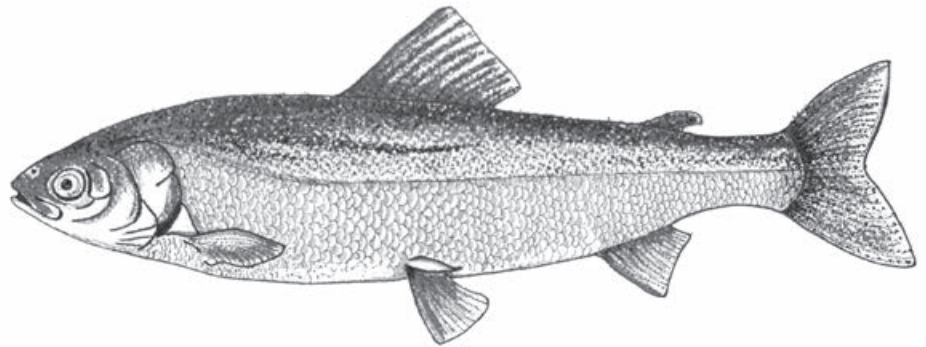


Illustration: Nancy Lewis deGraf

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G4 (Apparently Secure)

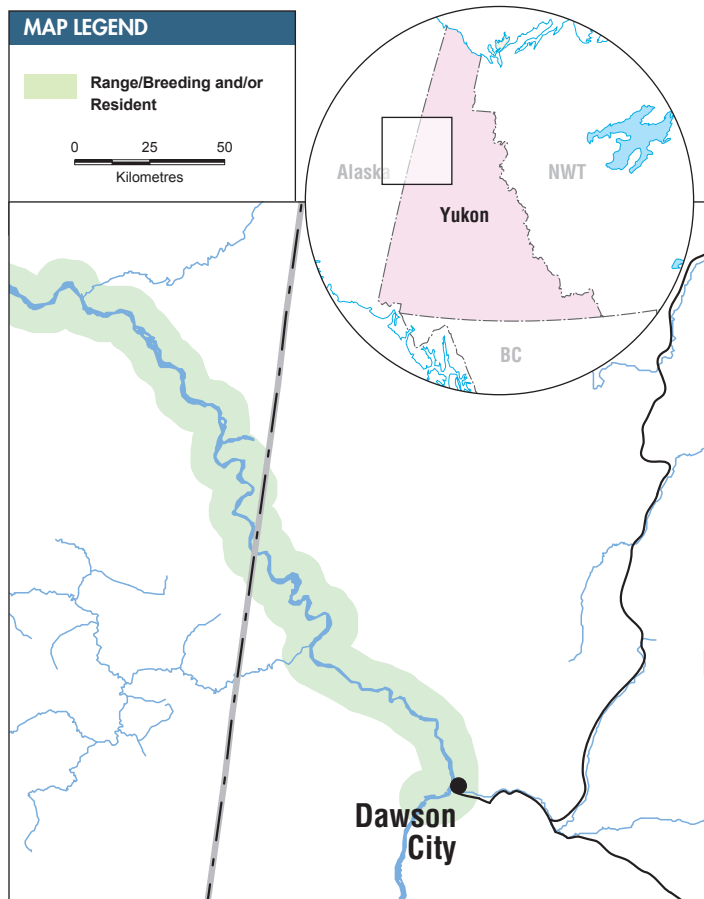
**Canada:** N3 (Vulnerable)

**Yukon:** S3 (Vulnerable)

**COSEWIC Status:** Special Concern (assessed 2004)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A small whitefish 30 cm in length, very similar in appearance to the Arctic Cisco but can be distinguished by a smaller number of gill rakers. The pale, almost colorless pelvic and pectoral fins distinguish it from the Least Cisco.





### Beetles: Common Claybank Tiger Beetle

*Cicindela limbalis*

#### HABITAT

Bare clay slopes, often on river banks.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Only one specimen positively identified from the Eagle River crossing of the Dempster Highway.

**North America:** From the central Mackenzie River valley south through the Rockies east across southern Canada to the Maritimes, south in the United States to the Great Lakes and New England.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5 (Secure)

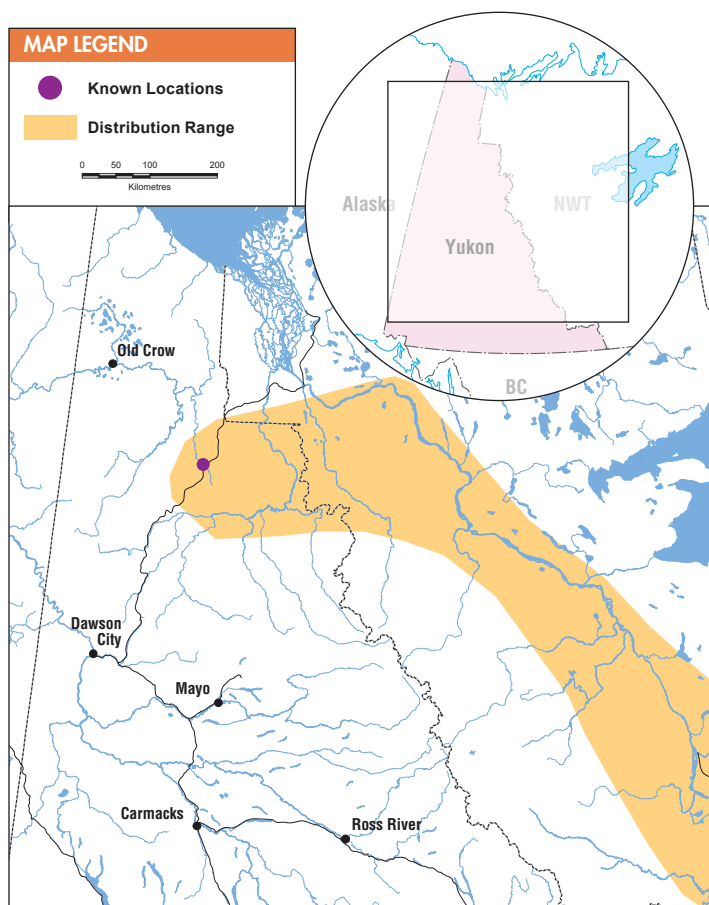
**Yukon:** S1S3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

The coppery-red head and pronotum, vividly outlined in green, and a shoulder mark reduced to two spots are distinguishing field marks in all colour morphs.



Photo: John Acorn



### Beetles: Oblique-lined Tiger Beetle

*Cicindela tranquebarica*

#### HABITAT

In the Yukon, only known from saline mud flats. In most of its range lives in a variety of open habitats: mudflats, claybanks, sand dunes, blowouts, salt flats, sparse prairies and vacant lots.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Only known from salt flats near Shallow Bay on Lake Laberge.

**North America:** Yukon population widely disjunct from the species' main range; widespread through central Canada from interior B.C. east to Maritimes, including southern Newfoundland; also found through almost all of the lower 48 states except Florida and western parts the Pacific States.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5 (Secure)

**Yukon:** S1 (Critically Imperilled)



Photo: John Acorn

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A dark, medium-large tiger beetle with well-developed markings, including a long, oblique shoulder mark.

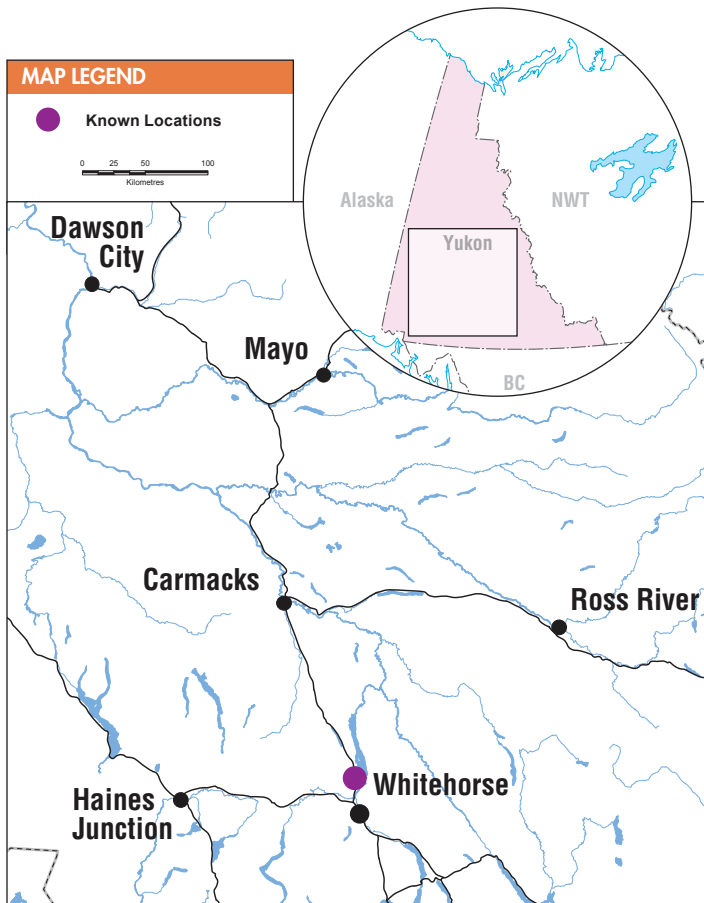


Photo: Bruce Bennett

### Beetles: Variable Tiger Beetle

*Cylindera terricola*

#### HABITAT

Sparsely-vegetated prairie, silty slopes, and salt flats.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Known from the Whitehorse area, Tachäl Dhäl (Sheep Mountain).

**North America:** Southern Yukon, disjunct from other parts of the range through southern BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and south through Western USA to Arizona, New Mexico and central California.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** NNR (Not Ranked)

**Yukon:** S3 (Vulnerable)

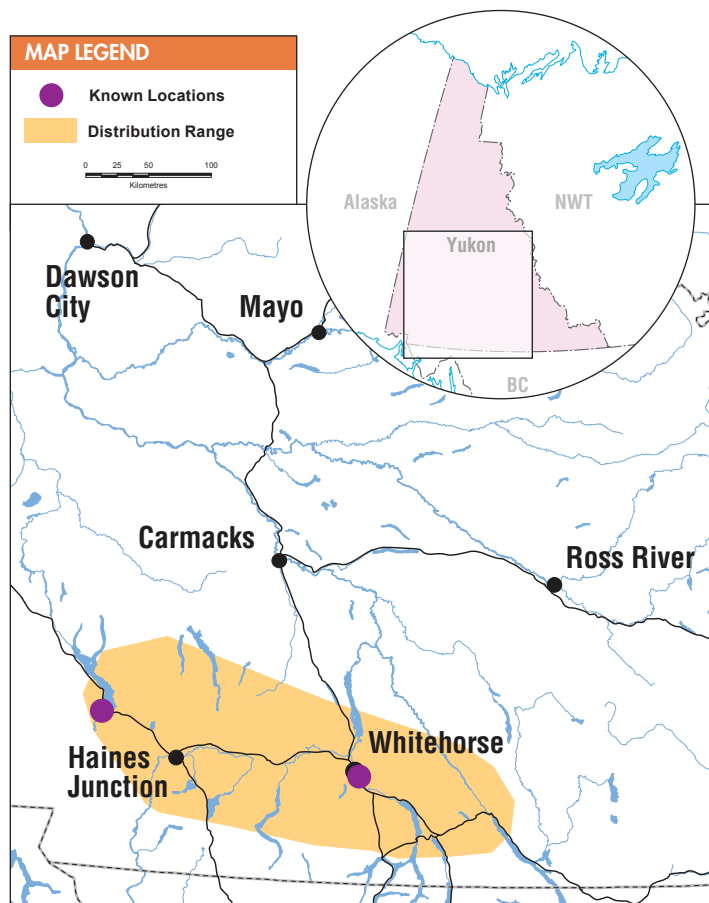


Photo: John Acorn

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A small tiger beetle, with very fine light markings and a greenish or black ground colour.



Photo: Bruce Bennett



### Bivalve Clams: Yukon Floater

*Anodonta beringiana*

#### HABITAT

Adult mussels live in the clear water of shallow lakes or slow-moving streams. They feed by filtering phytoplankton and bits of decaying organic matter out of the water.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Restricted to the Porcupine and Tanana drainages in Yukon. Only specimens are from a lake at the headwaters of the Eagle River; also known from anecdotal reports or photographs from Scottie Creek (near Beaver Creek), and in the Old Crow region.

**North America:** Alaska (Aleutian Islands, southwestern Alaska to northern and central interior and into the upper Yukon River drainage) and Yukon.

**Global:** Russia (Kamchatka, Chukotka, Magadan, and Kuriles), Alaska, and Yukon.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G4 (Apparently Secure)

**Canada:** N2N4 (Imperilled to Apparently Secure)

**Yukon:** S1S3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)



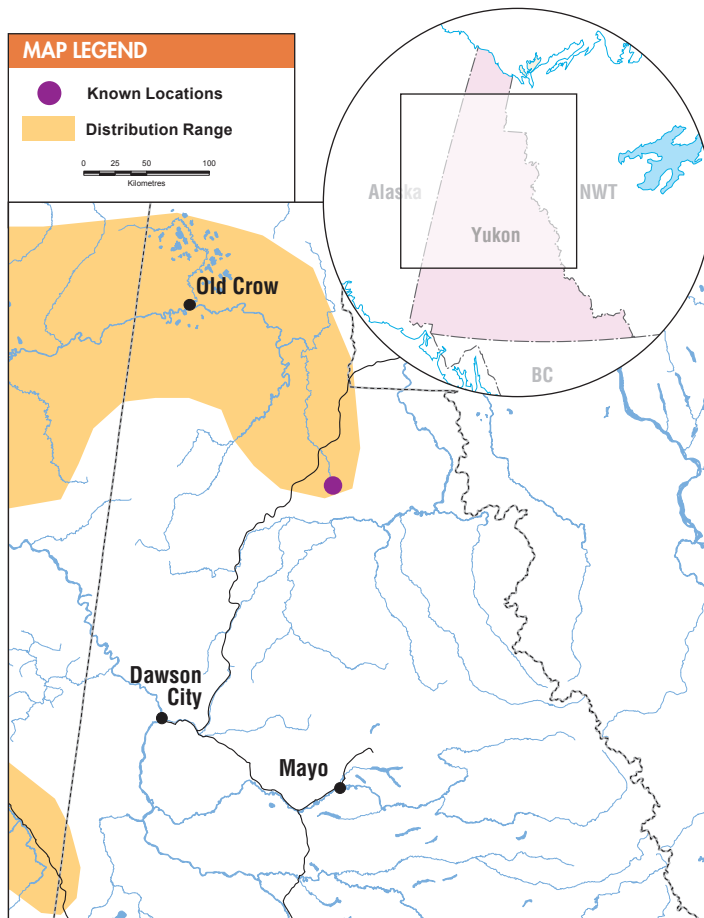
Photo: Rhonda Rosie

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

The Yukon Floater isn't flashy. Its large shell is usually dark brown in older adults and lighter brown or olive green in young mussels. The interior of the shell is gun-metal blue. The shell is a little more rounded in shape than many mussels and grows as long as 15 centimetres.



Photo: Rhonda Rosie



### Butterflies & Moths: Arctic Tiger Moth

*Acerbia alpina*

#### FAMILY

Tiger Moth (*Erebidae: Arctiinae*)

#### HABITAT

Inhabits dry rocky tundra. Nothing else is known about its biology.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Known only from Herschel Island, but probably more widespread in northern and eastern mountains.

**North America:** Alaska, Yukon and only one other known location in Canada, the Tlogotsho Range in southwest NWT.

**Global:** Northern Scandinavia across northern Russia to Alaska, Yukon and NWT.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G3G4 (Vulnerable to Apparently Secure)

**Canada:** N2N3 (Imperilled to Vulnerable)

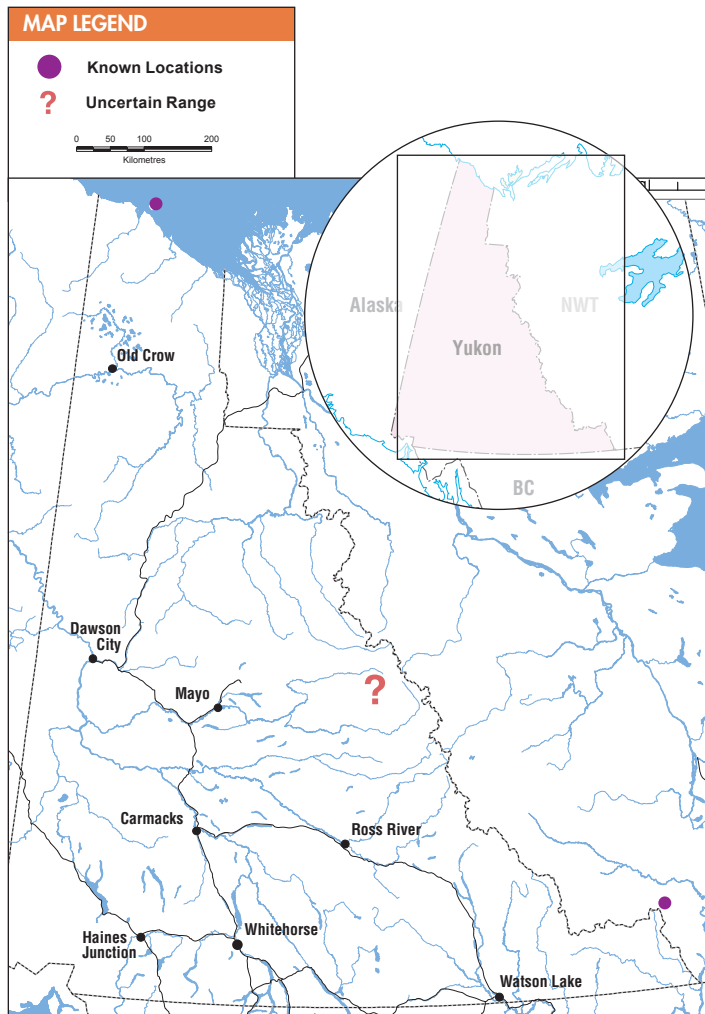
**Yukon:** S2S3 (Imperilled to Vulnerable)



Photo: Colin Gordon

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

This large tiger moth is boldly patterned with yellow and black. There are no similar species in Yukon.



There are many rarely-seen, poorly-understood species of Tiger Moths in Yukon. To assist in documenting their distribution and life-history, Tiger Moth adults or caterpillars, and/or photographs can be provided to, Syd Cannings at Environment Canada (Syd.Cannings@ec.gc.ca) or Crispin Guppy at Ecofor Consulting Ltd. (cris@ecofor.ca) (both are in Whitehorse), together with location/date and GPS coordinates (if possible), notes/photos regarding habitat, and the plant species caterpillars were found on. Adult moths can be killed through freezing. Live moths or caterpillars can be stored in a plastic container in a cooler on ice (at 0-10°C) for a week or more. Under these conditions live moths (if female) will frequently lay eggs, which can then be reared to provide additional adults. Collecting/killing samples of rare moths will not adversely affect their populations – only a tiny proportion of the total population will be affected, as long as the habitat continues to exist. Photographs of all the known Yukon Tiger Moths are at [www.cbif.gc.ca/spp\\_pages/noctuoidea/provinces/yt\\_e.php](http://www.cbif.gc.ca/spp_pages/noctuoidea/provinces/yt_e.php). Click on "Family Arctiidae."





Photo: Credit

## Butterflies & Moths: Chalcedon Checkerspot

*Euphydryas chalcedona*

### FAMILY

Brush-footed Butterfly (*Nymphalidae*)

### HABITAT

Adults emerge in June and breed in sunny, low elevation, dry rocky to sandy areas that have the larval foodplant, Beard-tongue (probably *Penstemon procerus* but *P. gormanii* is also possible). Adults die by mid-July. Egg masses are laid on Beard-tongue leaves, and the caterpillars live in "tents" on the plants. The caterpillars hibernate in the tents, and complete their growth in the spring.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Southern Yukon.

**North America:** Yukon south to California in the Coastal Mountains.

**Global:** North America.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N4N5 (Apparently Secure to Secure)

**Yukon:** S1S3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

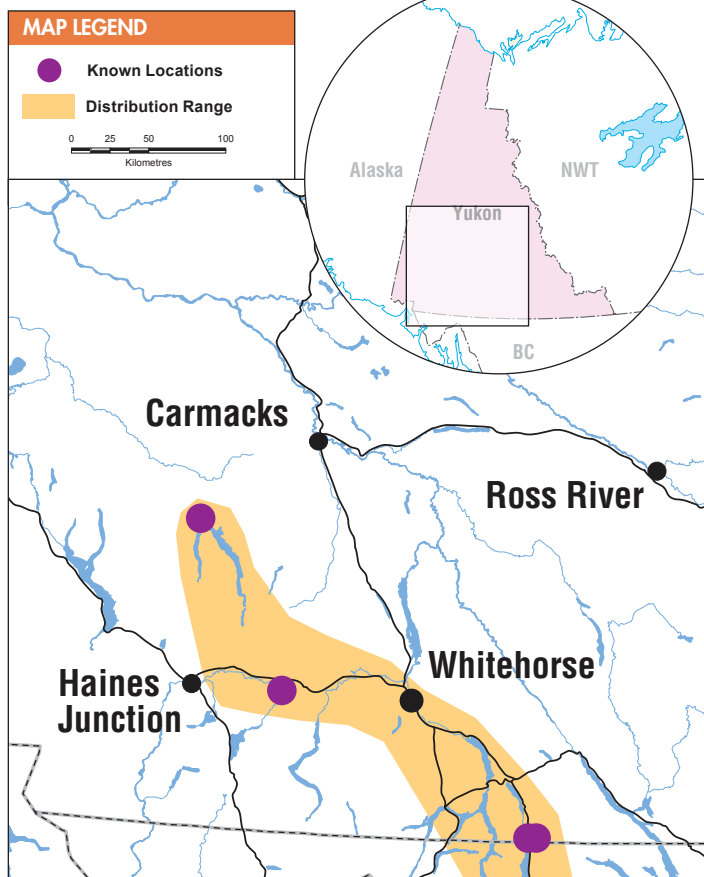
### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

The upperside of the wings is a "checkerboard" pattern of black with white spots, and some red spots. Most of the red spots are in a band along the outer edge of the forewing. The underside of the wings is similar to the upperside, but the colours are "faded." The similar Anicia Checkerspot is widespread and frequently abundant in southern Yukon, but the colours are less bold (more pastel shades), there are orangeish spots throughout the wing areas, and the white spots are mostly yellowish or orangish rather than pure white.



Shrubby Penstemon, *Penstemon procerus*

Photo: Bruce Bennett





### Butterflies & Moths: Compton Tortoiseshell *Nymphalis l-album*

#### FAMILY

Brush-footed Butterfly (*Nymphalidae*)

#### HABITAT

Adults emerge from hibernation in May and frequent sunny, low elevation areas with abundant birch trees. The spiny caterpillars feed on the birch leaves, and pupation occurs by late July. Adults emerge in late July and later in August seek hibernation sites such as hollow trees, unheated buildings, and attics. Their abundance in Yukon and Alaska has apparently greatly increased over the past ten years.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Southern Yukon.

**North America:** Central Alaska east to Newfoundland, south of the northern US states

**Global:** North America and Eurasia.

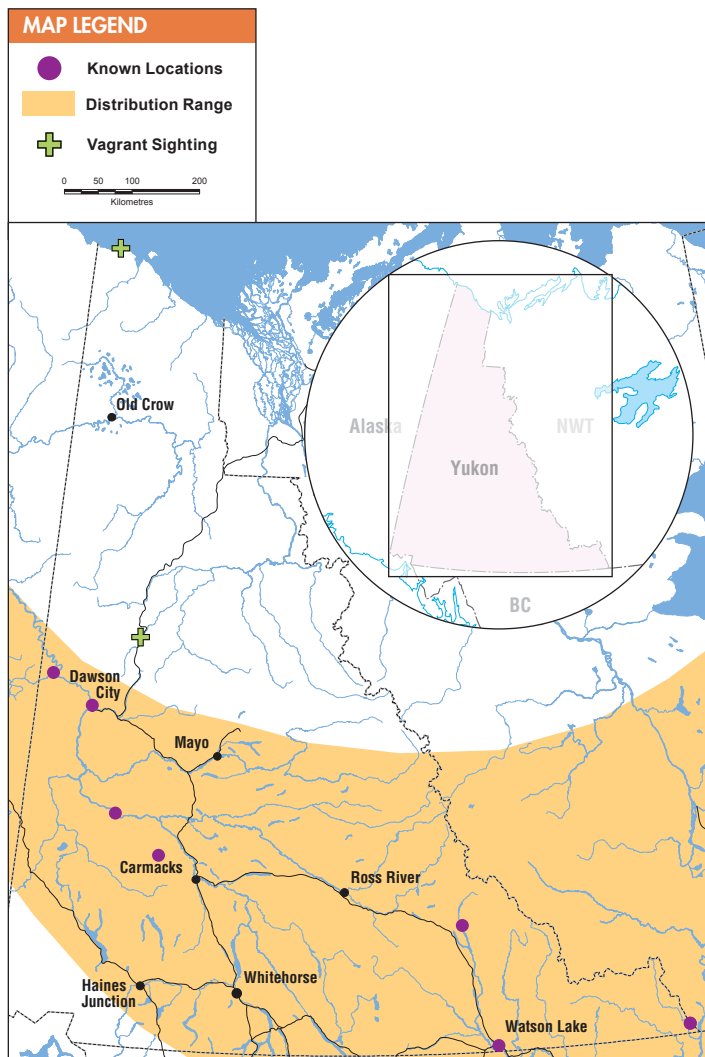


Photo: Cris Guppy

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5 (Secure)

**Yukon:** S3S4 (Vulnerable to Apparently Secure )

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Upperside of the wings orange-brown with black markings, with a white bar and white spots on each forewing. The underside of the wings is mottled grey-brown with a cryptic bark-like pattern and a white "comma" shaped mark. The anglewings (*Polygonia* species) are similar in appearance, but are smaller and do not have the white bar and spots on the forewings.



Photo: Bruce Bennett



Photo: Cris Guppy

### Butterflies & Moths: Kluane Tiger Moth

*Arctia brachyptera*

#### FAMILY

Tiger Moth (*Erebidae: Arctiinae*)

#### HABITAT

Bare, dry tundra hilltops; the adults fly in late June and early July.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Known in the Yukon only from the Kluane Ranges, but probably more widespread.

**North America:** Known only from the Kluane Ranges, and from one site in the Mackenzie Mountains of the Northwest Territories.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G1G3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

**Canada:** N1N3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

**Yukon:** S1S3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

**COSEWIC Status:** Candidate

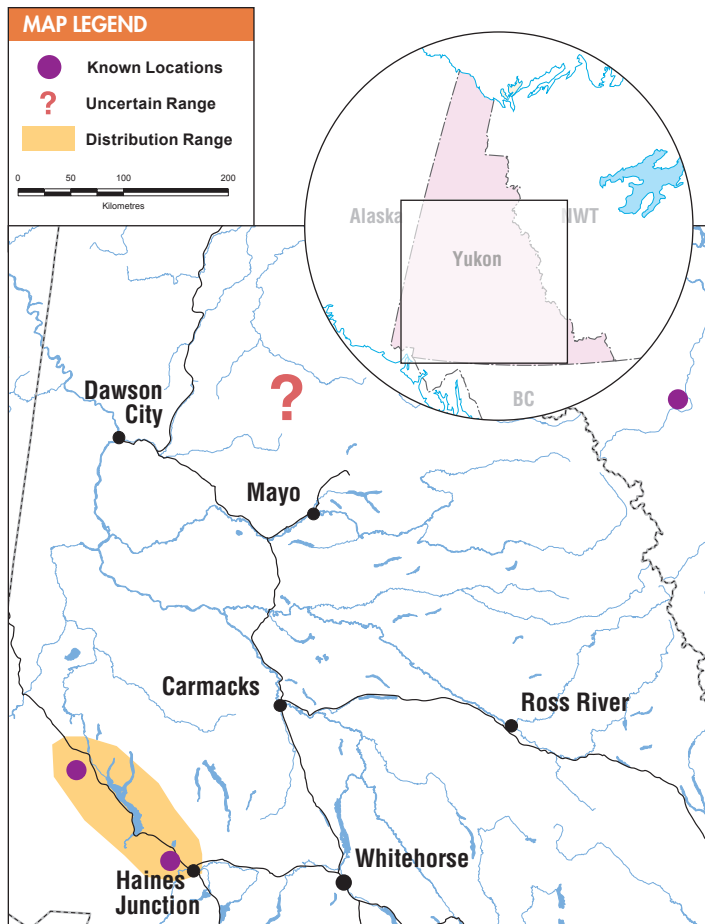


Photo: Canadian Biodiversity Information Facility

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Large; the hindwings are reddish with a black band across the outer part. The chocolate brown forewings have only a few white markings. The only similar species in Yukon is the more common *Arctia opulenta*, which has the hindwing colour reddish with black spots (rather than a black band) and numerous large white markings on the forewing.



Photo: Syd Cannings

### Butterflies & Moths: Kononenko's Dodia

*Dodia kononenkoi*

#### FAMILY

Tiger Moth (*Erebidae: Arctiinae*)

#### HABITAT

Dry, rocky tundra slopes; adults fly in in mid- to late June.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Ogilvie, British, and Richardson mountains.

**North America:** Yukon (expected in Alaska and NWT).

#### CONSERVATION RANK

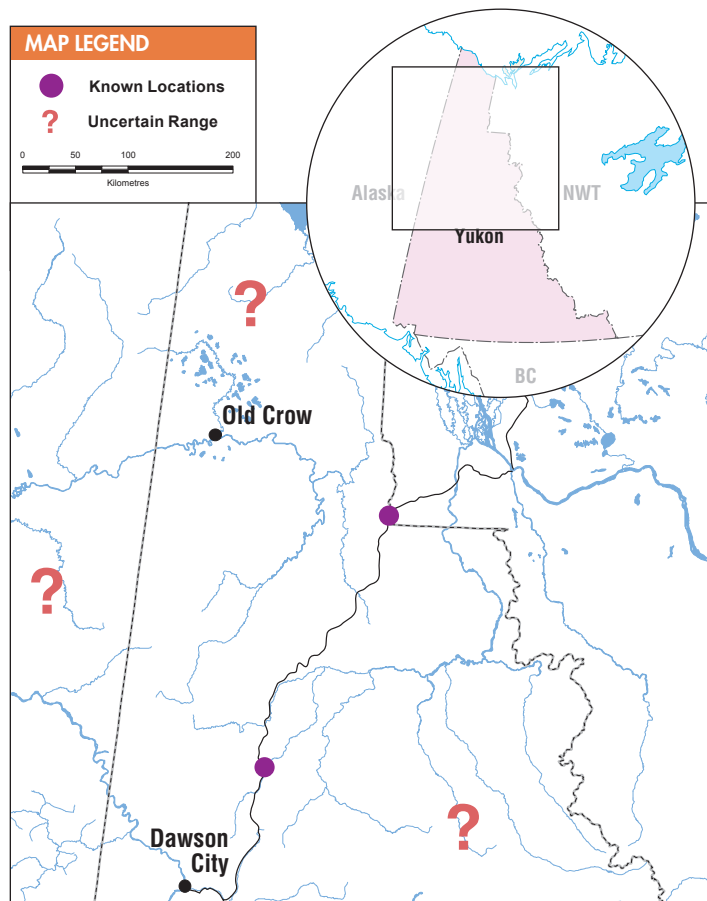
**Global:** G1G3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

**Canada:** N1N3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

**Yukon:** S1S3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)



Photo: Canadian Biodiversity Information Facility



#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

*Dodia* are moderately small tiger moths with grey, translucent wings. An almost complete lack of markings make the three Yukon species difficult to tell apart. It is best to assume that any *Dodia* that is found may be one of the two rare species, and to photograph or collect it so that an expert can complete the identification. The habitat and the translucent wings will separate *Dodia* species from most other greyish moths in Yukon.



### Butterflies & Moths: Lafontaine's Tiger Moth

*Neoarctia lafontainei*

#### FAMILY

Tiger Moth (*Erebidae: Arctiinae*)

#### HABITAT

Dry scree on a mountain tops.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Known in the world only from Windy Pass on the Dempster Highway.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G1G3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

**Canada:** N1N3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

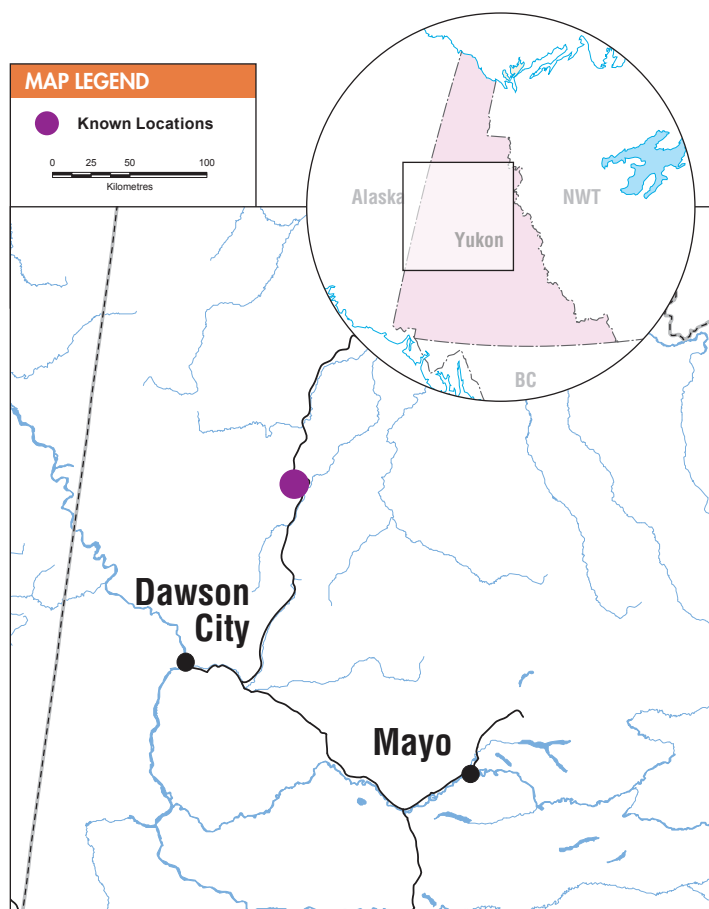
**Yukon:** S1S3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A medium-sized, large-bodied tiger moth with a dull yellow pattern in the forewings and pale grey hindwings. Most other large-bodied grey moths only occur at low elevations.



Photo: Canadian Biodiversity Information Facility



### Butterflies & Moths: Milbert's Tortoiseshell *Aglais milberti*

#### FAMILY

Brush-footed Butterfly (*Nymphalidae*)

#### HABITAT

Adults emerge from hibernation in May and are usually found in sunny, moist riparian areas that have the larval foodplant, Stinging Nettle. The blackish, spiny caterpillars can be found in masses on nettle leaves. In late July, newly-emerged adults migrate to sub-alpine and alpine meadows before returning in August to low elevations to find hibernation sites such as woodpiles or rock rubble.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Southern Yukon.

**North America:** Yukon east to Newfoundland, south to Mexico in the west and the Appalachians Mountain in the east.

**Global:** Yukon east to Newfoundland, south to Mexico in the west and the Appalachians Mountain in the east.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5 (Secure)

**Yukon:** S3 (Vulnerable)

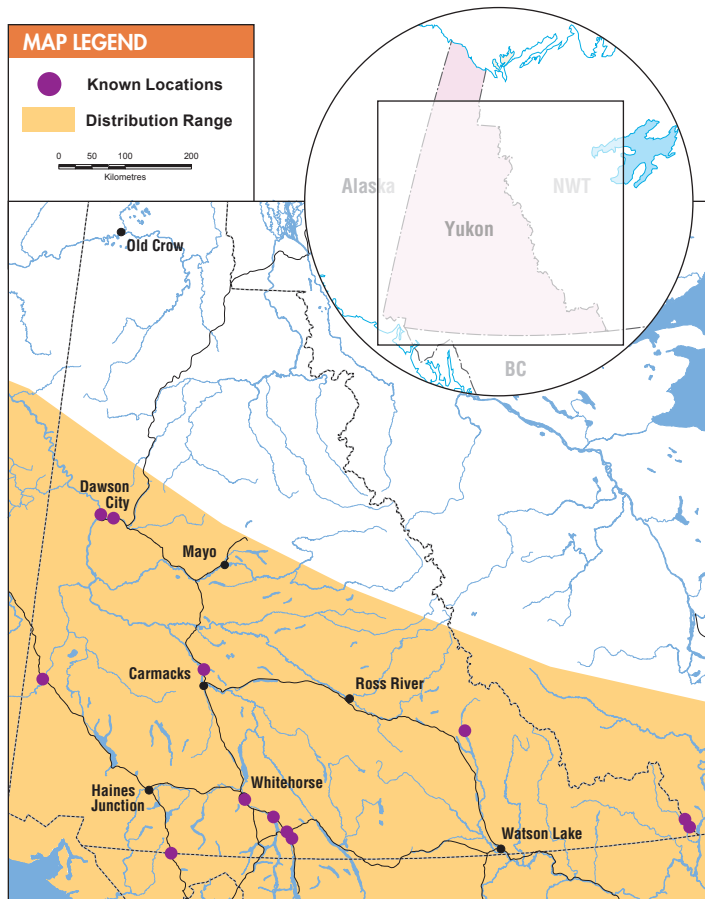


Photo: Cris Guppy

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

The upperside of the wings is dark brown, with distinctive orange and yellow band across the middle of all four wings. The underside is mottled dark brown with a cryptic, bark-like pattern.



Photo: Cris Guppy



Photo: Etienne Normandin

## Butterflies & Moths: Nebulous Tiger Moth

*Pararctia subnebulosa*

### FAMILY

Tiger Moth (*Erebidae: Arctiinae*)

### HABITAT

Open, wet spruce taiga.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Known from the Ogilvie and Richardson mountains in the north, and the Ruby Ranges in the southwest.

**North America:** Yukon and Alaska.

**Global:** Amphiberingian - Yukon, Pribilof Islands in Alaska, and Chukotka.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G3G4 (Vulnerable to Apparently Secure)

**Canada:** N2N4 (Imperilled to Apparently Secure)

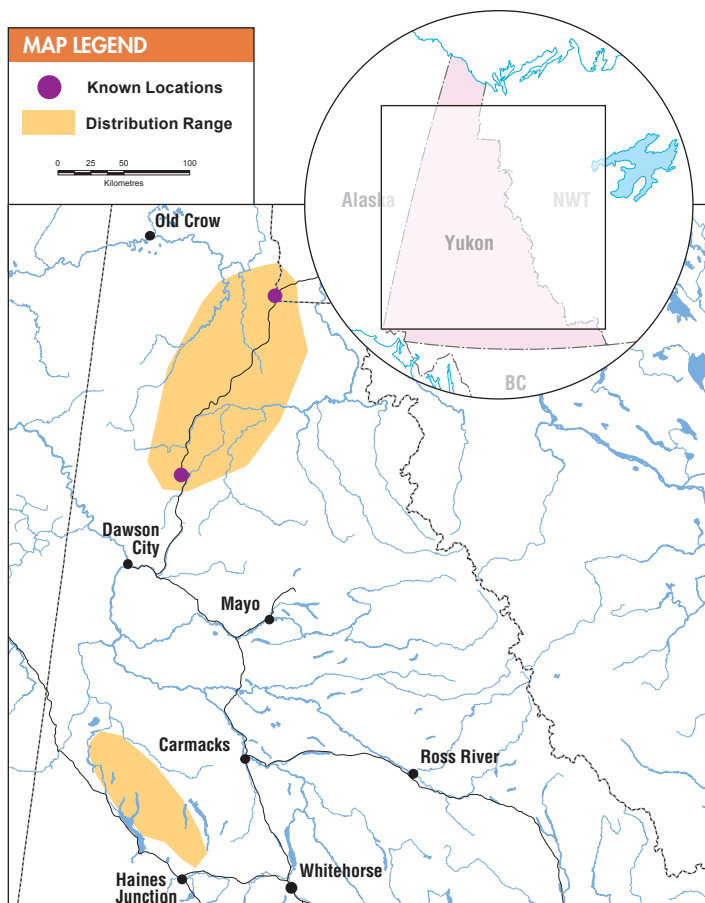
**Yukon:** S2S4 (Imperilled to Apparently Secure)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A large, brightly coloured moth; the forewings are dark brown with a network of pale yellow bands. The hindwings are pale yellow with a grey outer band (males) or mostly grey (females). The females have small, narrow wings and are apparently flightless. Males of two closely-related species have orangish (rather than yellowish) hindwings and the females look like the males. *Grammia blakei* is also similar, but is smaller, has black and white (rather than dark brown and pale yellowish) forewings and the hindwing is more boldly patterned.



Photo: Etienne Normandin







Photos: Cris Guppy

### Butterflies & Moths: Pacific Orangetip

*Anthocharis sara*

#### FAMILY

Whites, Marbles and Sulphur (*Pieridae*)

#### HABITAT

Adults emerge from hibernating pupae as the snow melts in May, and breed in sunny, low elevation, rocky or gravelly areas that have the larval foodplant, rockcress. Adults usually die by mid-June. Conical, ribbed eggs are laid on rockcress flowerbuds. The green caterpillars are easily found feeding on the developing fruit and leaves of rockcress. The caterpillars are similar to those of the very abundant Large Marble (*Euchloe ausonides*), which are also found on rockcress. The pupae are cryptic, and very difficult to find; they hibernate through the late summer, fall and winter until the adults emerge the next spring.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Carcross to Whitehorse east to the Atlin Road.

**North America:** Yukon south to California along the coast.

**Global:** North America.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5 (Secure)

**Yukon:** S2S3 (Imperilled to Vulnerable)

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

The upperside of the wings is white with a distinctive, prominent orange-and-black tip on each forewing (paler and smaller in females). The underside of the wings is white with green marbling on the hindwings.

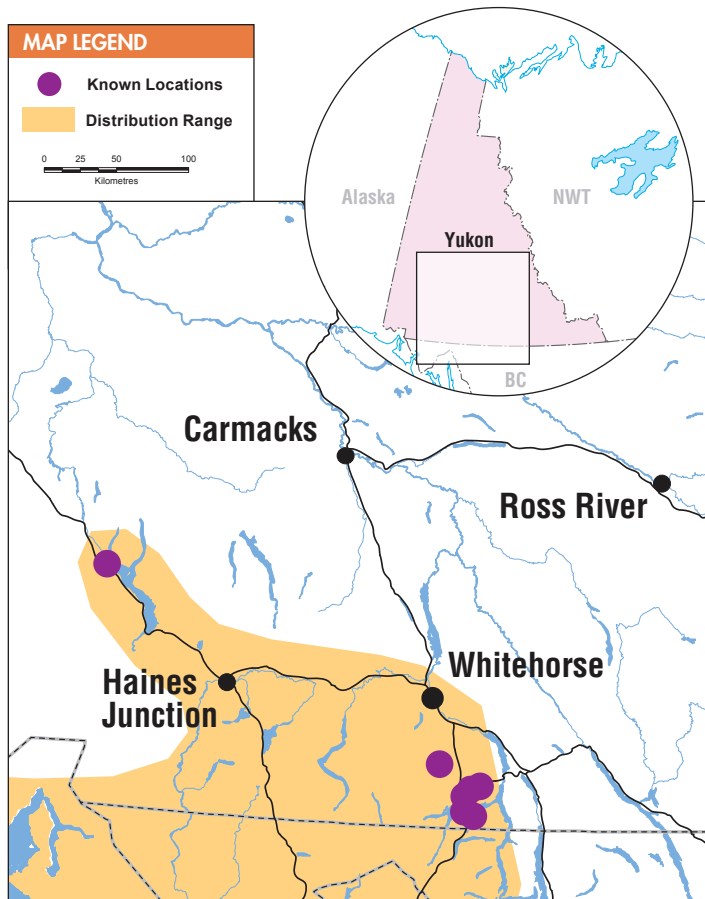


Photo: Cris Guppy



**Drummond's Rockcress,**  
*Boechera stricta*

Photo: Bruce Bennett

### Butterflies & Moths: Philip's Tiger Moth

*Grammia philipiana*

#### FAMILY

Tiger Moth (*Erebidae: Arctiinae*)

#### HABITAT

Unknown but likely dry rocky tundra.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Known from the White Mountains in the northern Richardson Mountains, and from the Ruby Ranges in the southwest; undoubtedly more widespread.

**North America:** Alaska, Yukon and NWT.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G3 (Vulnerable)

**Canada:** N1N# (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

**Yukon:** S1S3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

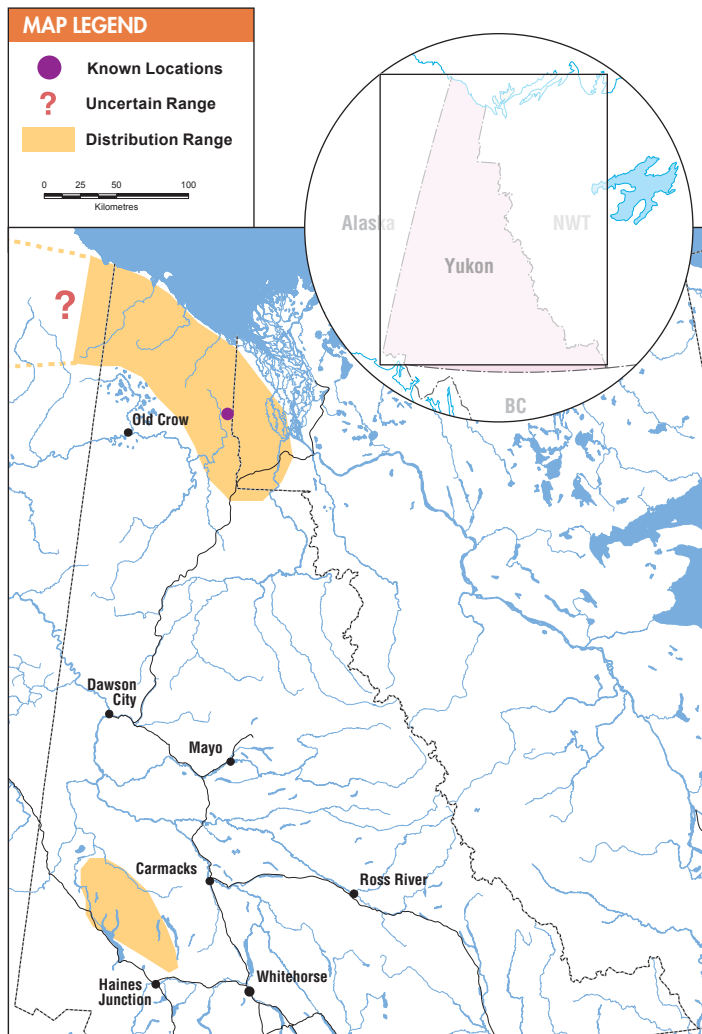


Photo: Canadian Biodiversity Information Facility.

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A medium-size, brightly patterned tiger moth. The forewings are black with the veins boldly outlined in pale yellow, and the hindwing is pale reddish with grey spots. The most similar species are *Grammia virguncula* (forewing similar, but hindwing pale yellowish with black markings) and *Grammia quenseli* (forewing markings strong yellow, and hindwing grey with small yellowish spots).



Photo: Michael Oldham





Photo: Cris Guppy

## Butterflies & Moths: Rockslide Tiger Moth

*Holoarctia sordida*

### FAMILY

Tiger Moth (*Erebidae: Arctiinae*)

### HABITAT

Alpine talus and scree slopes.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Four known locations in the Kluane Ranges, and Ogilvie, Richardson, and Wernecke mountains.

**North America:** Known only in Yukon.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G2G3 (Imperilled to Vulnerable)

**Canada:** NNR (Not Ranked)

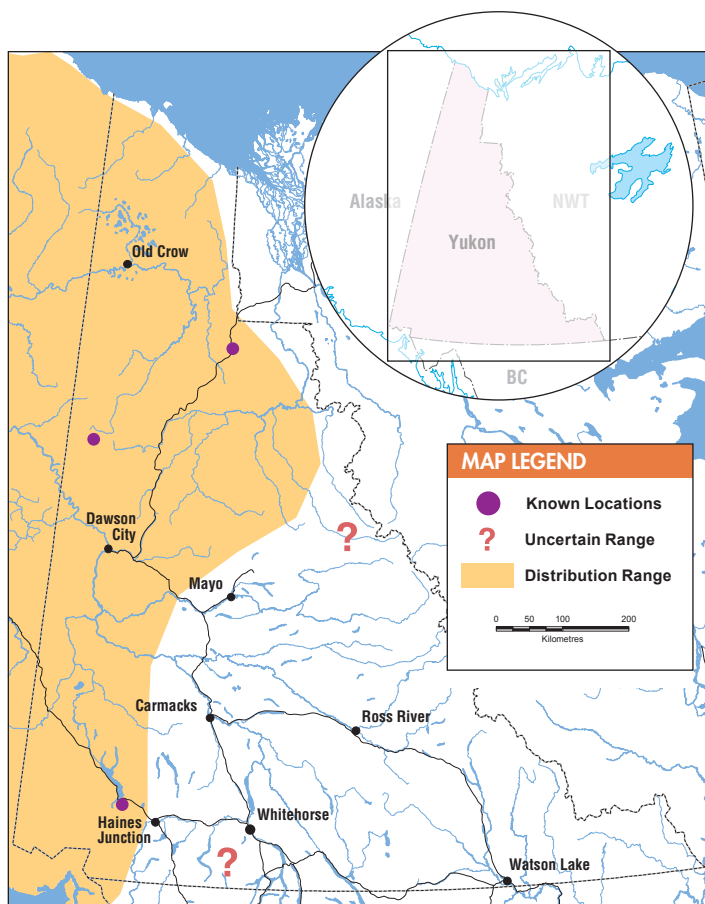
**Yukon:** S2S3 (Imperilled to Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A relatively dull-coloured but distinctively patterned tiger moth. The forewings are black with a faded pattern of narrow pale yellow bands, and the hindwings are entirely grey. This is a new, unnamed species closely-related to the (also rare) *Holoarctia sordida* from the Rocky Mountains.



Photo: Cris Guppy





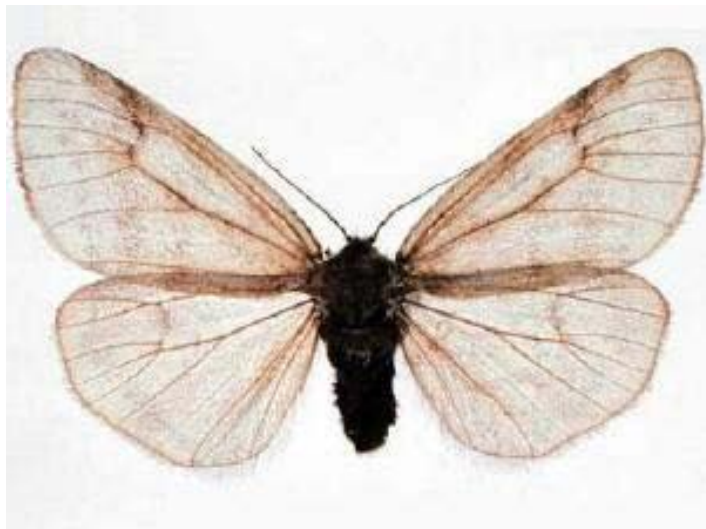


Photo: Canadian Biodiversity Information Facility

## Butterflies & Moths: Straight-lined Dodia

*Dodia verticalis*

### FAMILY

Tiger Moth (*Erebidae: Arctiinae*)

### HABITAT

Dry rocky tundra slopes in mid- to late June.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** British Mountains and Richardson Mountains at Dempster Highway.

**North America:** Endemic to Yukon.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G1G3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

**Canada:** N1N3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

**Yukon:** S1S3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

*Dodia* are moderately small tiger moths with grey, translucent wings. An almost complete lack of markings make the three Yukon species difficult to tell apart. It is best to assume that any *Dodia* species that is found may be one of the two rare species, and to photograph or collect it so that an expert can complete the identification. The habitat and the translucent wings will separate *Dodia* species from most other greyish moths in Yukon.

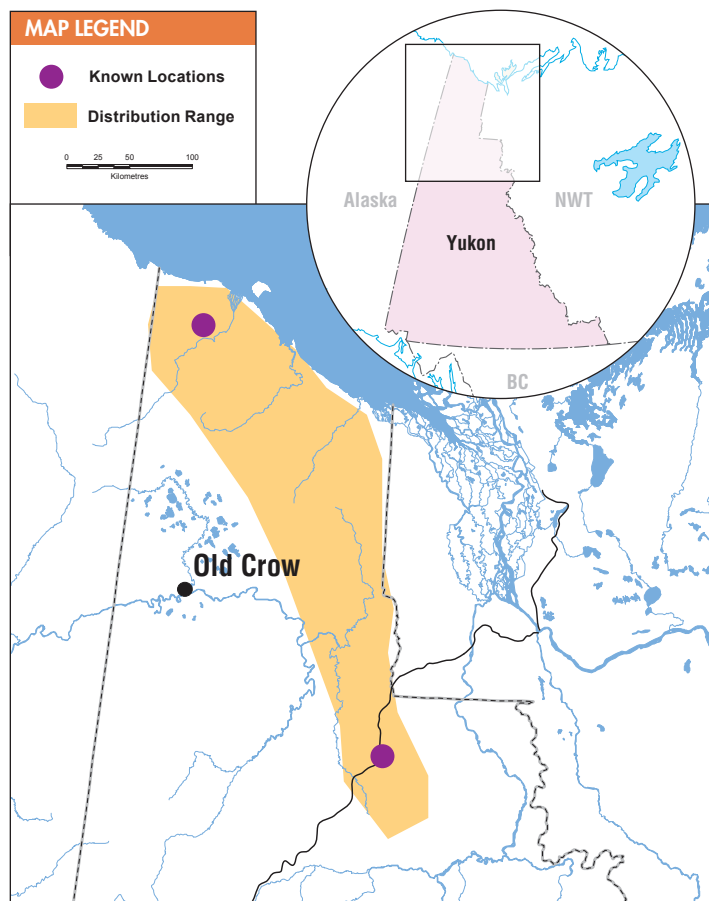
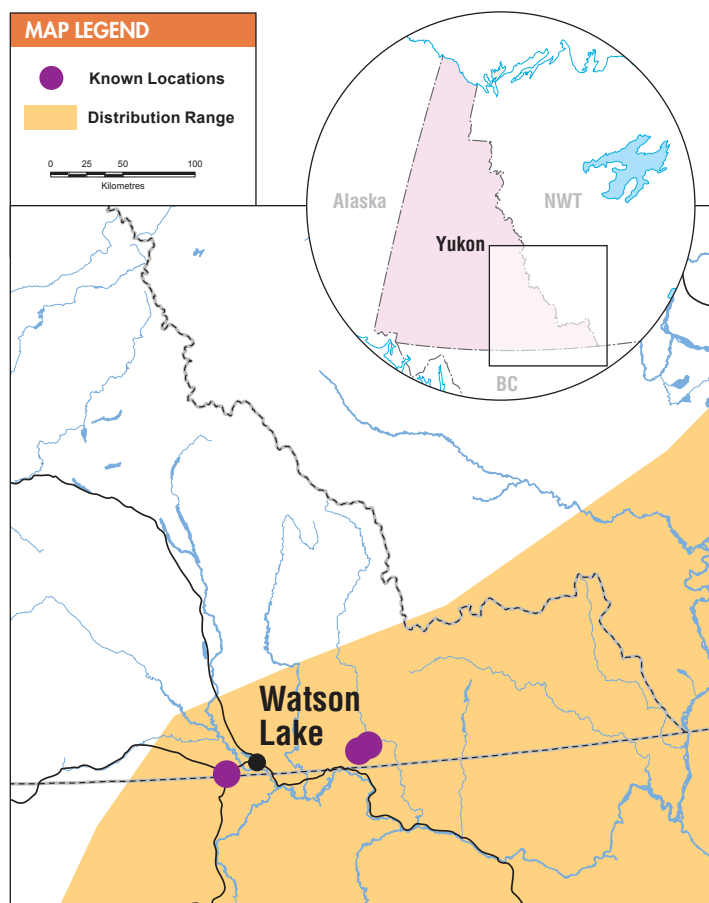




Photo Robert Cannings



### Dragonfly: Boreal Snaketail

*Ophiogomphus colubrinus*

#### HABITAT

Breeds along rapidly-flowing, warm clear streams and rivers. Most sites are streams draining shallow, warm lakes.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Restricted to the lower Liard Basin.

**North America:** Found across the southern boreal and sub-boreal zones of Canada and northeastern USA, from north-central BC and southeastern Yukon to the Atlantic Provinces and Maine.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N4N5 (Apparently Secure to Secure)

**Yukon:** S2 (Imperilled)

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

The thorax is bright green with a conspicuous stripe on the side, and the yellowish green head sports a pair of widely-separated yellow green eyes. The slender, club-ended abdomen is dark brown with yellowish markings.



Photo: Royal BC Museum

### Dragonfly: Canada Darner

*Aeshna canadensis*

#### HABITAT

Most often associated with beaver ponds and small, peat-margined lakes.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** One record from Swim Lakes near Faro. Apparently disjunct from nearest known populations in central BC; more inventory in southeast needed.

**North America:** Throughout the southern boreal and sub-boreal regions of Canada and the northeastern USA south to Missouri. Also along the Pacific coast south to California.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5 (Secure)

**Yukon:** S1 (Critically Imperilled)

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

There are nine species of darners in Yukon, all with beautiful patterns of green, blue, or yellow on the abdomen and thorax. The Canada Darner is distinguished by a pale green face crossed by a light brown (as opposed to black) line, and by distinctive thoracic stripes: the forward edge of the first thoracic stripe is strongly indented with an almost right-angled notch, and between the two thoracic stripes is a small yellowish dot.

#### MAP LEGEND

- Known Locations
- ? Uncertain Range
- Distribution Range

0 50 100 200  
Kilometres

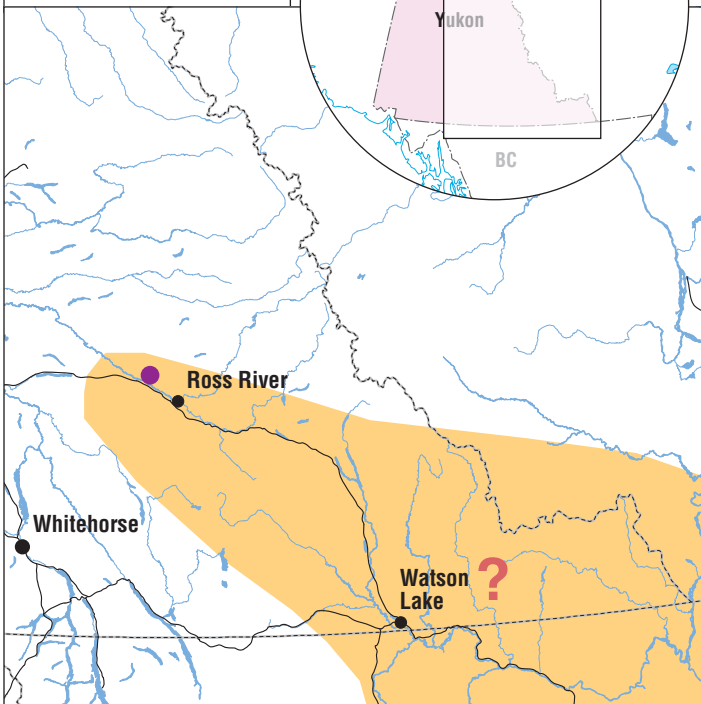






Photo: Kieran O'Donovan

### Collared Pika

*Ochotona collaris*

#### HABITAT

Alpine and open subalpine talus slopes, with adjacent herbaceous vegetation for foraging.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Wide-ranging in mountainous regions of Yukon.

**North America:** Alaska, Yukon, western NWT and extreme north-western BC.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5 (Secure)

**Yukon:** S4 (Apparently Secure)

**COSEWIC Status:** Special Concern (assessed 2011)

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

A weak "mleep" is often heard before the pika is seen amongst the boulders on a talus slope. Although they are related to rabbits, they look more like a big mouse.



Photo: Jared Hobbs



Photo: Ryan Agar

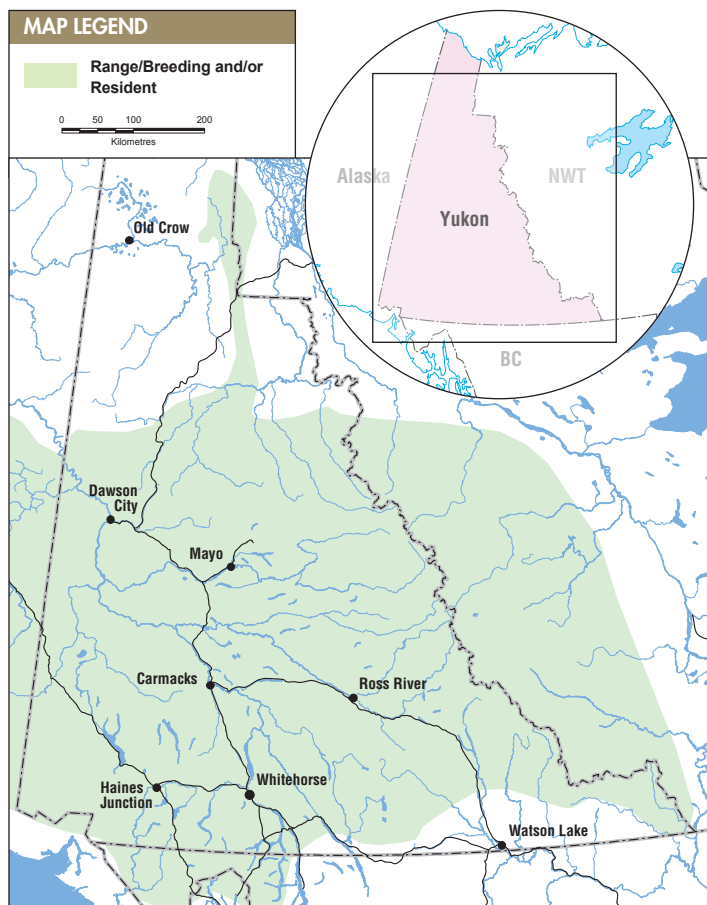
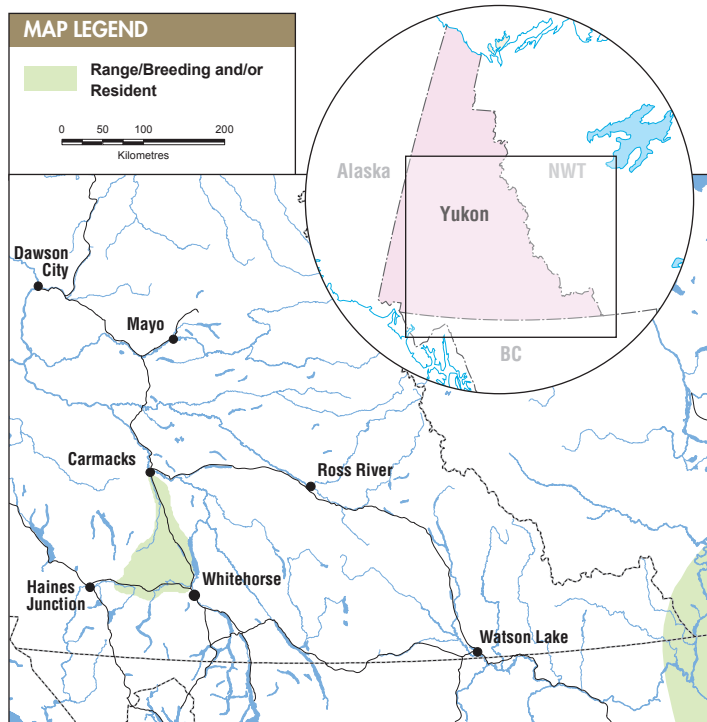






Photo: YG



## Elk or Wapati

*Cervus elaphus*

### HABITAT

Grasslands, open woodlands, alpine and subalpine meadows, and burns.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** The Takhini Valley and Braeburn herds were introduced; the only native population in Yukon is a small herd that ventures into the extreme southeast along tributaries of the Liard River.

**North America:** Formerly widespread in Canada and the USA, but are now mostly restricted to the west, with small, reintroduced populations elsewhere.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N4N5 (Apparently Secure to Secure)

**Yukon:** S1 (Critically Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

More than twice as large as Mule Deer; Elk have large, buff colored rump patches. Moose are larger and darker; bulls have distinctively different antlers.



# REPORT YOUR SIGHTINGS

Yukon Animals of Conservation Concern - March 2015

## Mammals

### Fisher

*Martes pennanti*

#### HABITAT

Riparian forests with dense canopy closure, large trees and structural complexity. Large-diameter trees with large cavities (such as old Balsam Poplar) are used for natal den sites.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Primarily in southeastern Yukon, north to at least Ross River, but apparently expanding westward, with reliable recent reports from the Kusawa and Kluane lake areas.

**North America:** Range from the Maritime Provinces and New England west across southern boreal Canada to southeastern Yukon, northern BC, southeastern Alaska; and south in the mountains to Utah and California. Recently the species has been expanding its range in the eastern USA.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5 (Secure)

**Yukon:** S1S2 (Critically Imperilled to Imperilled)

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Fishers are a medium-sized weasels. Colour ranges from deep brown to black but from the face to the shoulders fur can be hoary-gold or silver due to tricolored guard hairs. The underside is almost completely brown except for randomly-placed patches of white or cream. In the summer, the fur may lighten considerably.

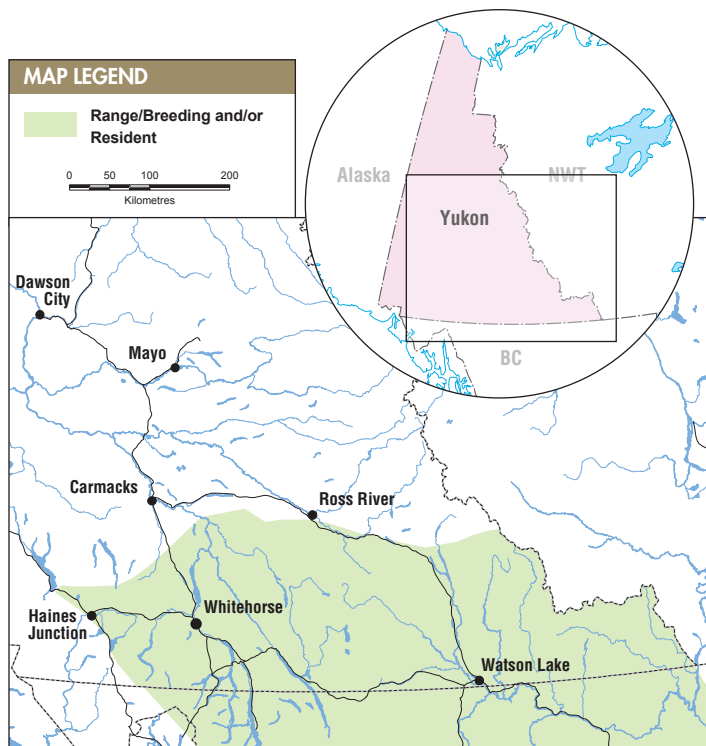


Photo: Larry Master



Photo: ?????



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Service

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de la faune



Yukon Conservation  
Data Centre

**Yukon**  
Environment

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[www.envyukon.gov.yk.ca/cdc](http://www.envyukon.gov.yk.ca/cdc)



### Northern Myotis

*Myotis septentrionalis*

#### HABITAT

Mature, intact boreal forest. Roosts in cracks or behind bark of trees, especially decaying trembling aspen or balsam poplars within mature stands. *Hibernacula* are in caves or mines with narrow crevices where temperatures are above freezing but may be as low as 1.6°C.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Confirmed from the La Biche River, Coal River and Tom Creek near Watson Lake, suggesting it is scattered through the southeastern corner.

**North America:** Widely distributed in the eastern and northcentral USA and adjacent southern Canada, ranging northwest through the southern boreal forest to the southern NWT and southeastern Yukon.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G1G3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

**Canada:** N1N3 (Critically Imperilled to Vulnerable)

**Yukon:** S1S2 (Critically Imperilled to Imperilled)

**COSEWIC Status:** Endangered (assessed 2011)

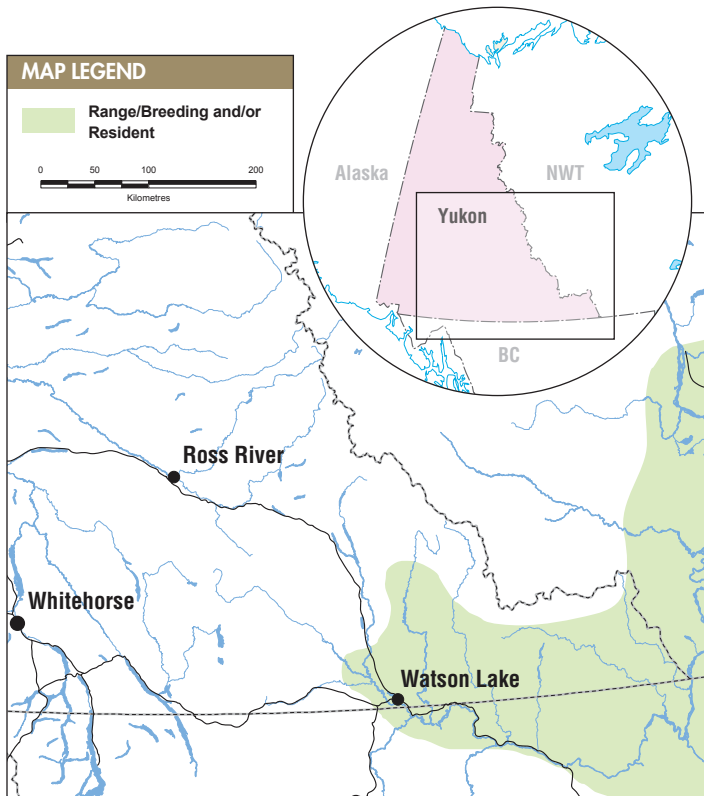


Photo: Graham Forbes

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

The Northern Myotis is characterized by its long-rounded ears that, when folded forward, extend beyond the tip of the nose. The shape of the tragus (the flap of skin inside the ear area) is long and dagger-shaped compared to the Little Brown Bat's curved and blunted tragus. The fur is dull yellow/brown above and pale gray on the belly. These bats weigh only 6 to 8 grams and have a wingspan of 22 to 25 cm.



Photo: Graham Forbes



Photo: Thomas Jung YG

## Ogilvie Mountains Collared Lemming

*Dicrostonyx nunatakensis*

### HABITAT

Rocky alpine tundra.

### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Known only from two sites in the Ogilvie Mountains (Tombstone Territorial Park).

**North America:** Endemic to central Yukon.

### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G2 (Imperilled)

**Canada:** N2 (Imperilled)

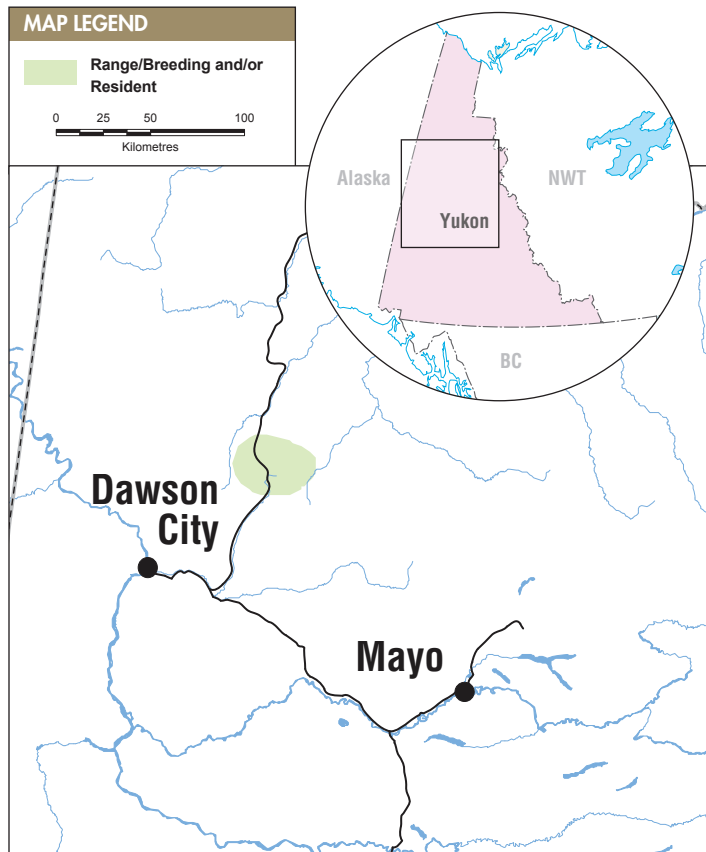
**Yukon:** S2 (Imperilled)

### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

This lemming is distinguished from other species of collared lemmings by the even grey-brown colour of its fur and by its relatively small head.



Photo: Thomas Jung YG





### Woodchuck

*Marmota monax*

#### HABITAT

Open forests, meadows, and road embankments.

#### DISTRIBUTION

**Yukon:** Widely but very sparsely distributed in the southern half of Yukon, especially in moister regions. Most records are from south-eastern Yukon, although there is a population in the Indian River area of the Klondike, Dawson City and Forty Mile. Woodchucks have historically been seen on the Haines Highway in Yukon.

**North America:** Widely distributed across Canada to Labrador and south into the northeastern USA.

#### CONSERVATION RANK

**Global:** G5 (Secure)

**Canada:** N5 (Secure)

**Yukon:** S3 (Vulnerable)

#### DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Woodchucks resemble large ground squirrels, that differ from their close relatives, Hoary Marmots, by being a frosted brown or red-dish-blond colour, rather than shades of grey and black. They are usually found at low elevations in well-drained open land; roadside meadows and fields are favourite spots.



Photo: ©iStock.com/David P. Lewis



Photo: Bruce Bennett

