


Birds of Davis Creek Regional Park





Thank You to the following photographers
who supplied pictures taken at
Davis Creek Regional Park:

Jeff Bleam, Ernest A. Ross, Steven Siegel,
Tim Torell, Taylor James, Steve Davis,
Jon Becknell & Jane Thompson

Future picture submissions can be sent to: nsteuer@washoecounty.us
Thank You!

Bird ID, Range Info. and Fun Facts from www.allaboutbirds.org

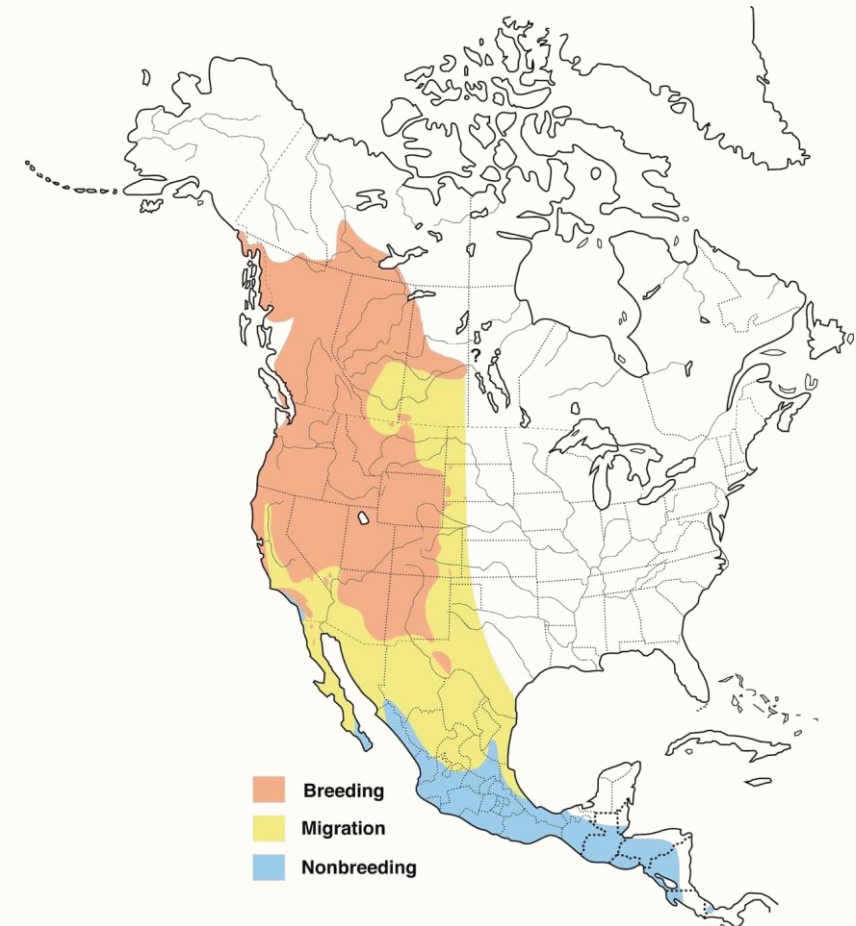
Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)



ID: Orange-red head, yellow body and coal-black wings, back and tail. Short, thick-based bill and medium-length tail.

Size: Between sparrow and robin.

Fun Fact: While most red birds owe their redness to a variety of plant pigments known as carotenoids, the Western Tanager gets its scarlet head feathers from a rare pigment called rhodoxanthin. Unable to make this substance in their own bodies, Western Tanagers probably obtain it from insects in their diet. (allaboutbirds.org)



Pacific Wren (*Troglodytes pacificus*)

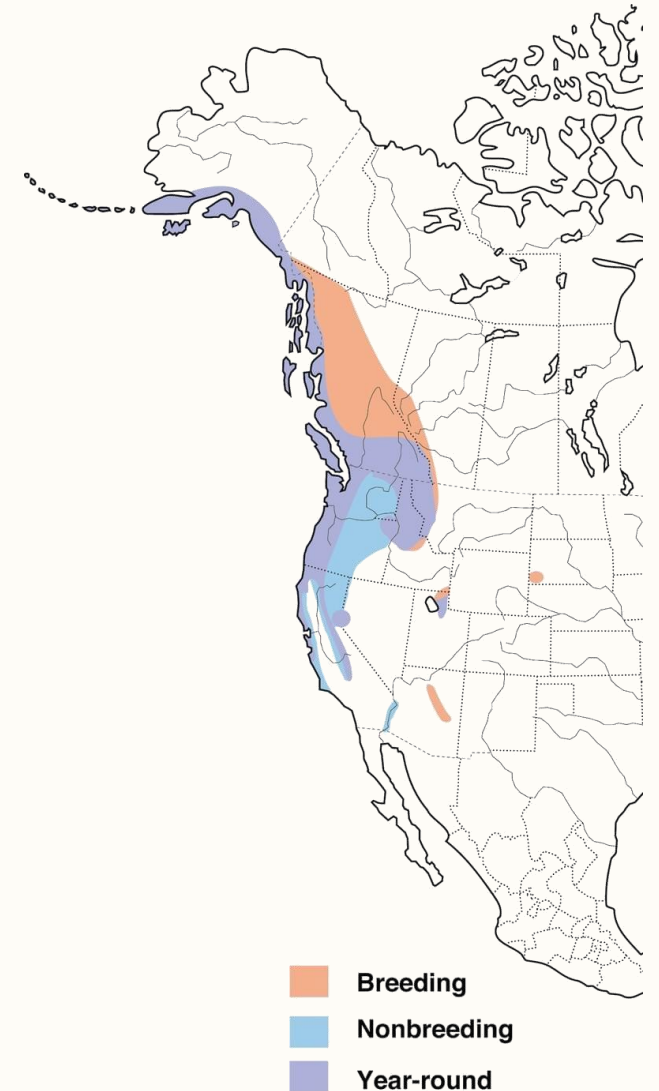


ID: Brown overall with darker brownish-black barring on the wings, tail and belly. Face is also brown with a slight pale mark over the eyebrow. Short wings, stubby tail and a thin bill.

Size: Sparrow-sized or smaller.

Fun Fact: Male Pacific Wrens build multiple nests within their territory. During courtship, males lead the female around to each nest and the female chooses which nest to use.

(allaboutbirds.org)



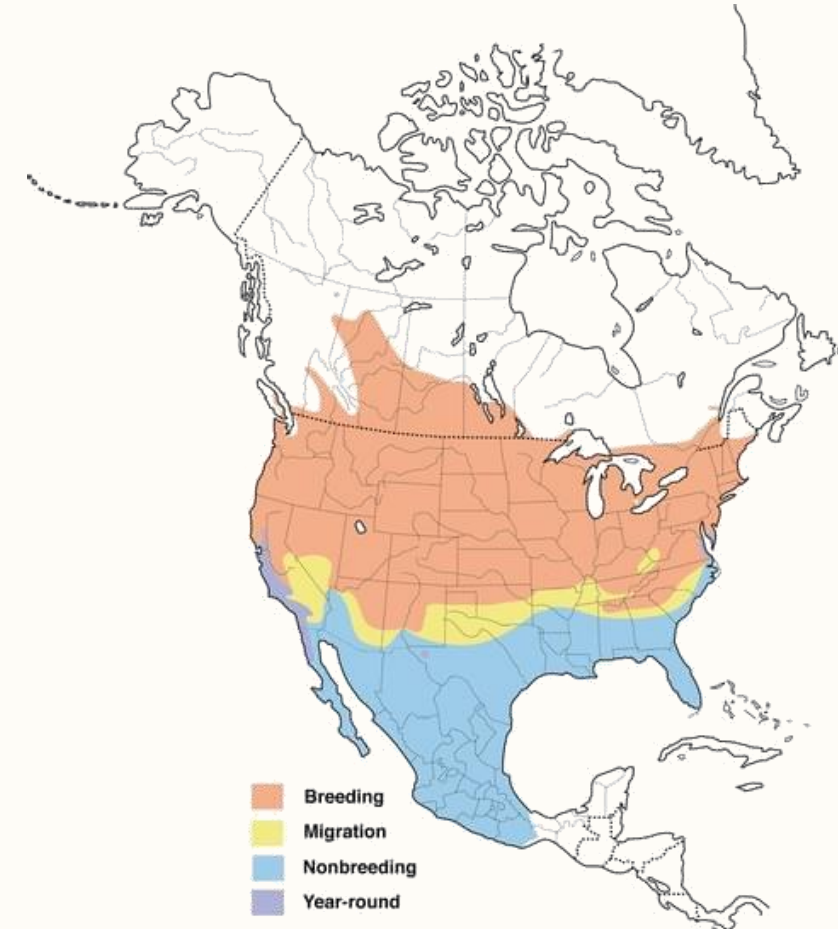
House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)



ID: Small and compact, with a flat head and fairly long, curved beak. Short-winged; longish tail. Subdued brown overall with darker barring on the wings and tail. The pale eyebrow that is characteristic of so many wren species is much fainter in House Wrens.

Size: Smaller than a Carolina Wren; chickadee-sized.

Fun Fact: The House Wren has one of the largest ranges of any songbird in the New World. It breeds from Canada through the West Indies and Central America, southward to the southernmost point of South America. (allaboutbirds.org)



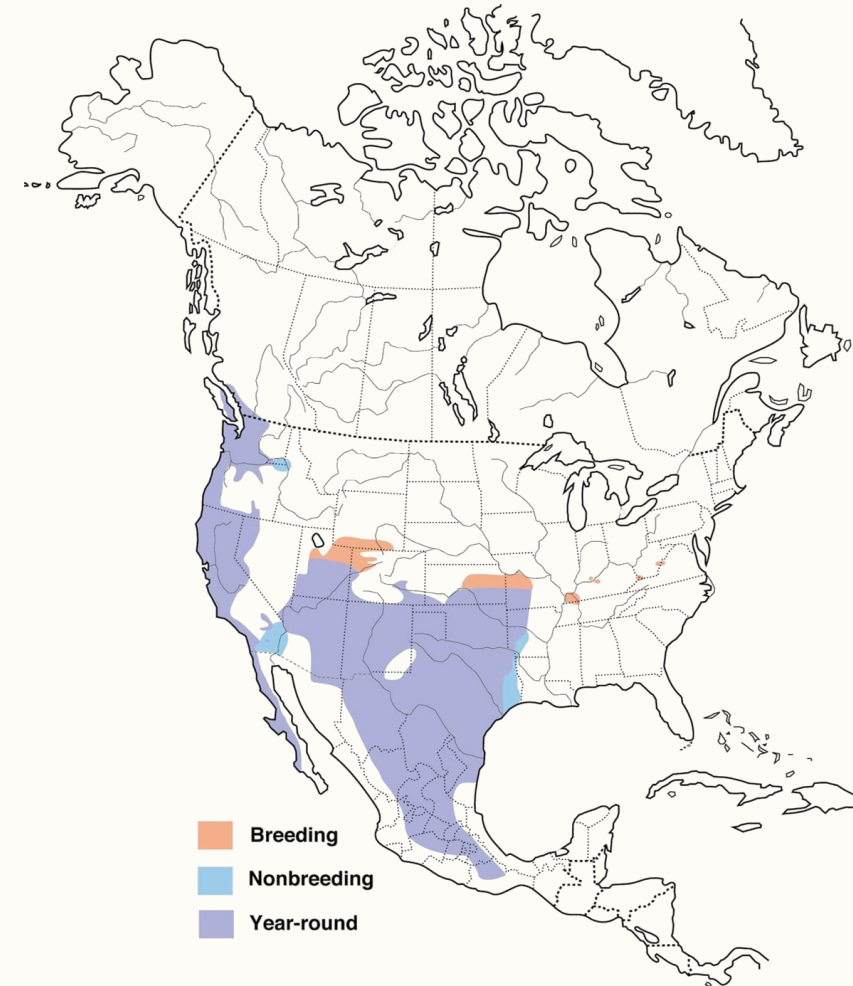
Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*)



ID: Slender body with a slender, long bill that is slightly downcurved. Back and wings are plain brown; underparts gray-white; and the long tail is barred with black and tipped with white spots. Long, brow-like white stripe over the eye.

Size: Smaller than a house sparrow; slightly larger than a house wren.

Fun Fact: This species is named after British engraver Thomas Bewick - a friend of pioneering bird artist John James Audubon, who collected the first recognized specimen. (allaboutbirds.org)



Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*)

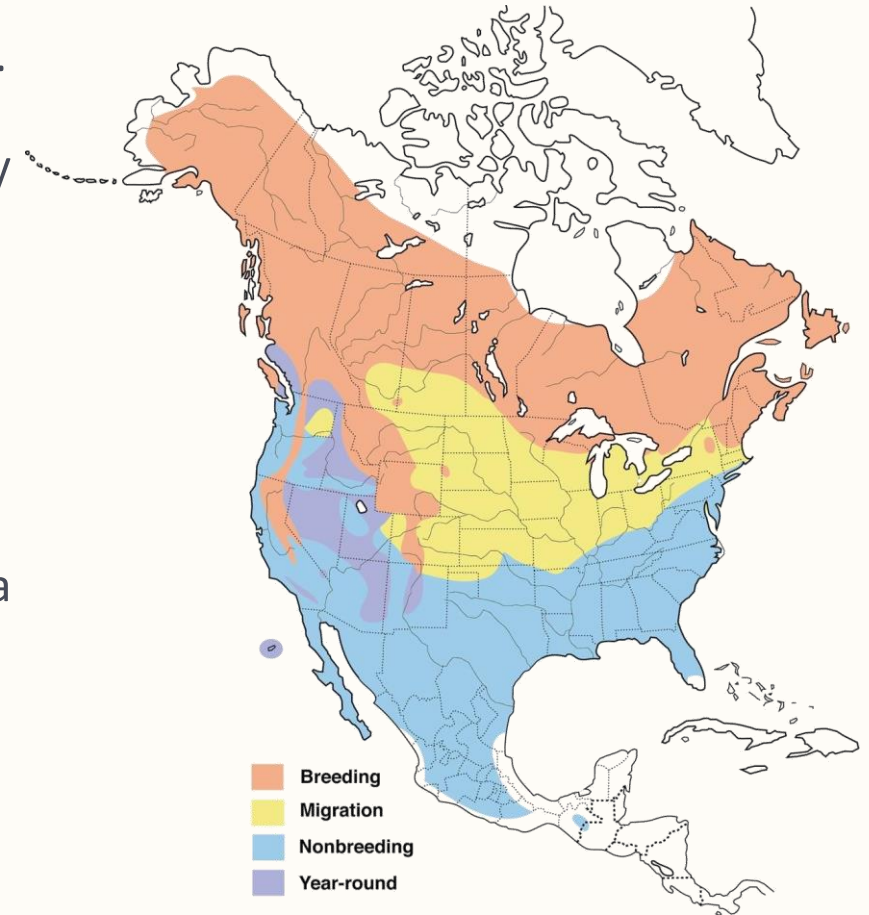


ROSS PHOTOGRAPHY © 2017

ID: Relatively large head, almost no neck, with a thin tail and small, thin bill. Olive-green color with a prominent white eyering and white wingbar. “Ruby crown” of the male is occasionally visible.

Size: Smaller than a chickadee; larger than a hummingbird.

Fun Fact: The Ruby-crowned Kinglet is a tiny bird that lays a very large clutch of eggs—there can be up to 12 in a single nest. Although the eggs themselves weigh only about a fiftieth of an ounce, an entire clutch can weigh as much as the female herself. (allaboutbirds.org)

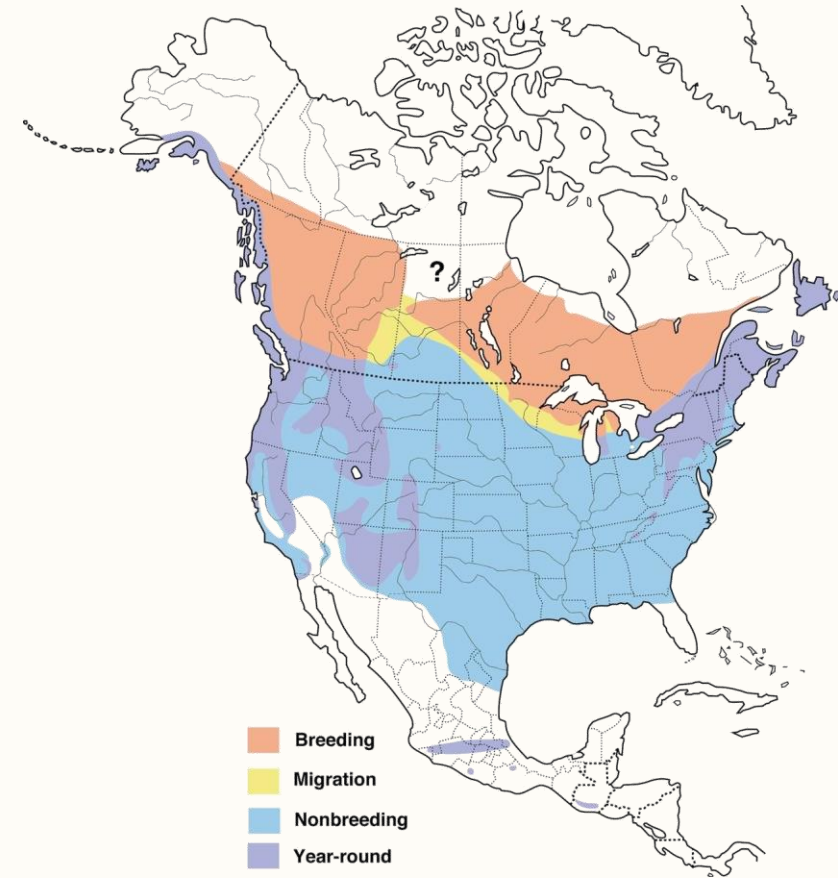


Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*)

ID: Rounded body, short wings and skinny tail. Relatively large head with short, thin bill. Pale olive above and gray below, with a black-and-white striped face and bright yellow-orange crown patch. Thin white wingbar.

Size: Smaller than a chickadee; larger than a hummingbird.

Fun Fact: The tiny Golden-crowned Kinglet is hardier than it looks, routinely wintering in areas where nighttime temperatures can fall below -40° Fahrenheit. (allaboutbirds.org)



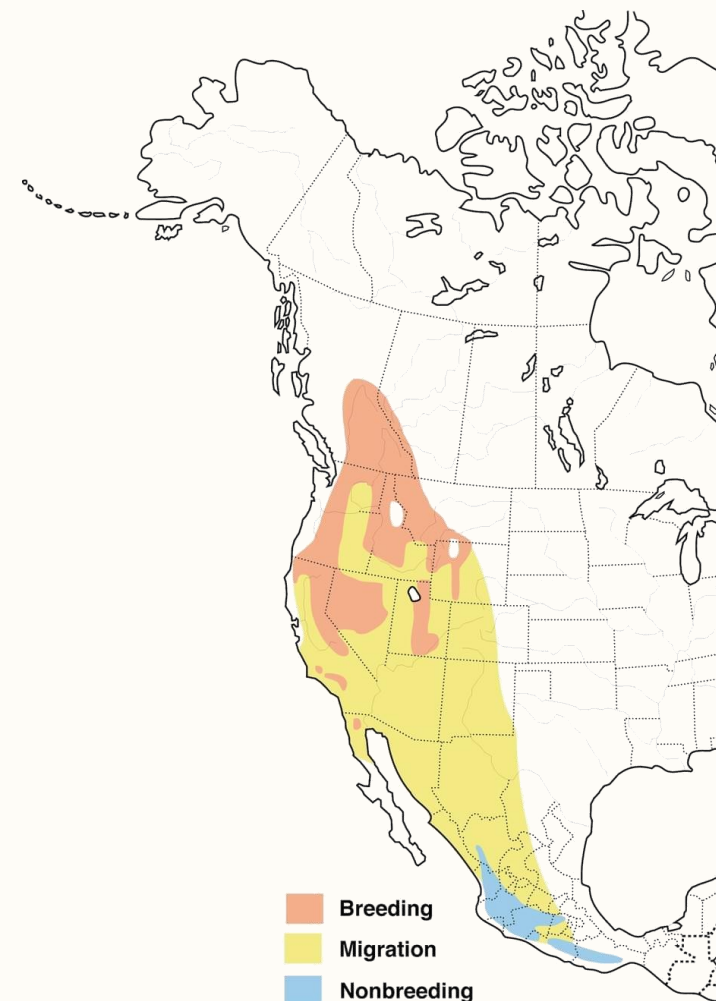
Calliope Hummingbird (*Selasphorus calliope*)



ID: Short tail and wings. Thin and short bill. Greenish above. Magenta rays on the male's throat.

Size: Length is 3 to 3.5 inches.

Fun Fact: The Calliope Hummingbird is the smallest bird in the United States. It weighs about one-third as much as the smallest North American warblers and about the same as a ping pong ball. (allaboutbirds.org)



Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)

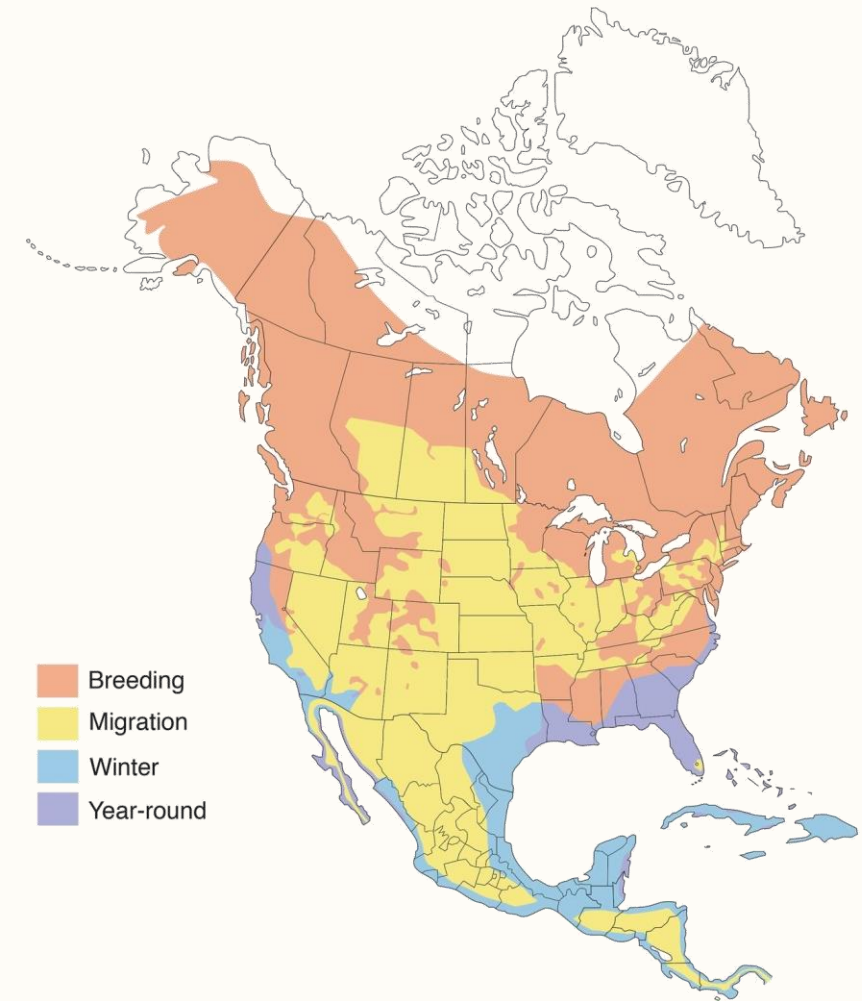


ID: Slender body with long, narrow wings and long legs. Brown above and white below. Head is white with a broad brown stripe through the eye.

Size: Smaller than a Bald Eagle; larger and longer-winged than a Red-tailed Hawk.

Fun Fact: Ospreys are unusual among hawks in possessing a reversible outer toe that allows them to grasp with two toes in front and two behind. Barbed pads on the soles of the birds' feet help them grip slippery fish. When flying with prey, an Osprey lines up its catch head first for less wind resistance.

(allaboutbirds.org)



Northern Pygmy Owl (*Glaucidium gnoma*)



ID: Small and compact with a large, circular head that lacks ear tufts. Long tail and fairly short, rounded wings. Brown with fine white speckles on the head and white spots on the back. Eyes and bill are yellow.

Size: Smaller but plumper than a Mountain Bluebird; larger than an Elf Owl.

Fun Fact: Northern Pygmy-Owls, although not much larger than House Sparrows, sometimes take prey up to three times their own size, such as Northern Bobwhite, Northern Flicker, and even chickens! (allaboutbirds.org)

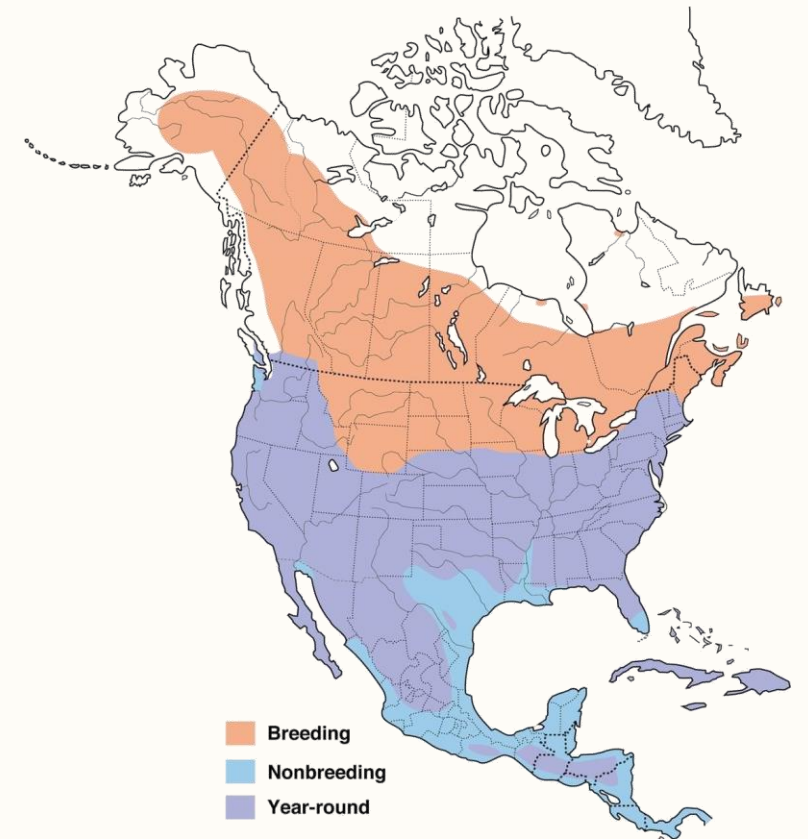


American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*)

ID: Long, square-tipped tail with a black band near the tip. Pale below; rusty brown spotted with black above. Pale face with pair of black vertical slashes on the sides. Males have state-blue wings; females' wings are reddish brown.

Size: Mourning Dove-sized; between robin and crow.

Fun Fact: Unlike humans, birds can see ultraviolet light. This enables kestrels to make out the trails of urine that voles, a common prey mammal, leave as they run along the ground. Like neon diner signs, these bright paths may highlight the way to a meal. (allaboutbirds.org)



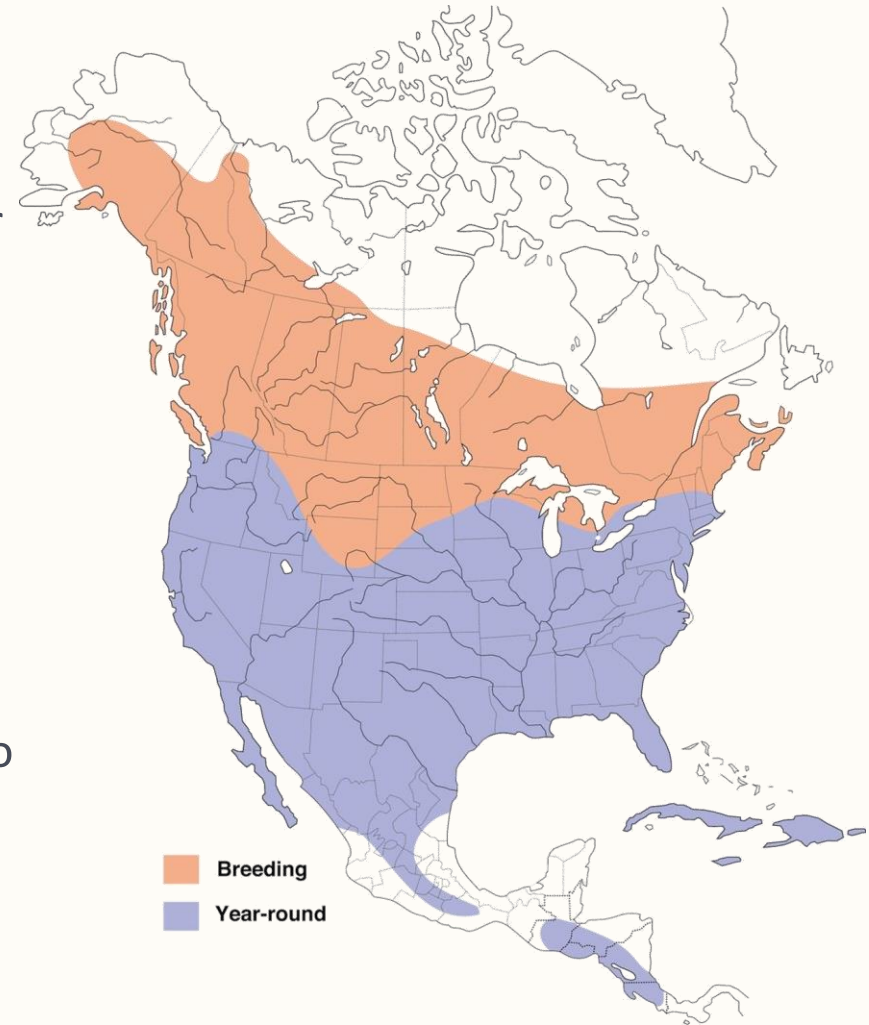
Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*)



ID: Large hawk with very broad, rounded wings and a short, wide tail. Rich brown above and pale below, with a streaked belly and, on the wing underside, a dark bar between shoulder and wrist. Tail is usually pale below and cinnamon-red above.

Size: Between crow and goose.

Fun Fact: The Red-tailed Hawk has a thrilling, raspy scream that sounds exactly like a raptor should. At least, that's what Hollywood directors seem to think. Whenever a hawk or eagle appears onscreen, no matter what species, the shrill cry on the soundtrack is almost always a Red-tailed Hawk. (allaboutbirds.org)



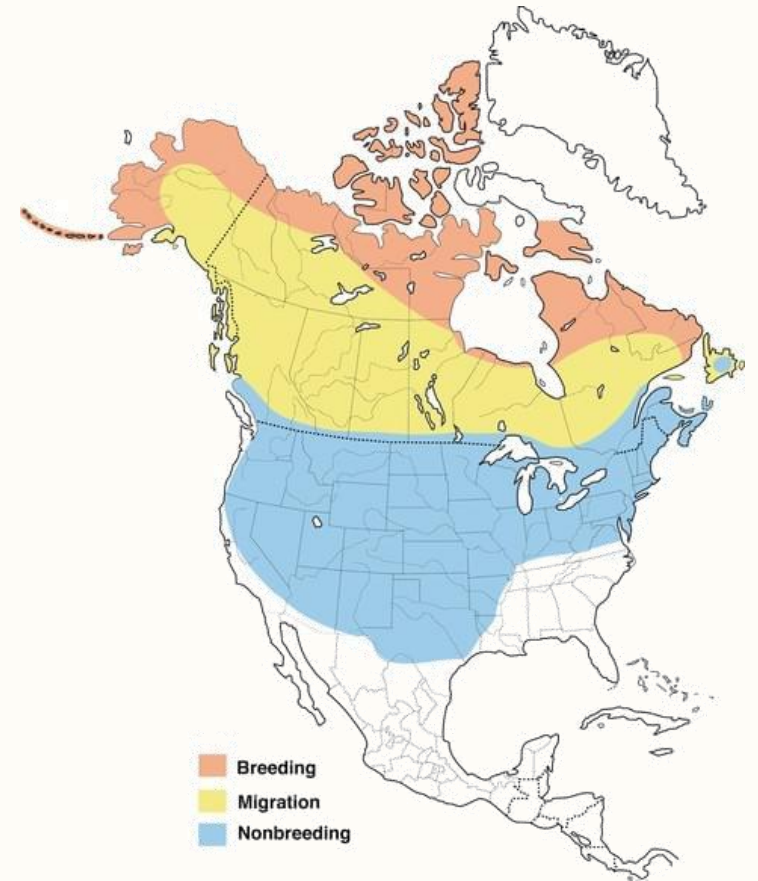
Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*)



ID: Boldly patterned, dark-brown hawk with a longer tail that is dark at the tip and pale at the base. Like many hawks they occur in light and dark morphs. Light morphs have pale underwings with dark patches at the bend of the wing.

Size: Larger than an American Crow; slightly smaller and less bulky than a Red-tailed Hawk.

Fun Fact: The name "Rough-legged" Hawk refers to the feathered legs. The Rough-legged Hawk, the Ferruginous Hawk, and the Golden Eagle are the only American raptors to have legs feathered all the way to the toes. (allaboutbirds.org)



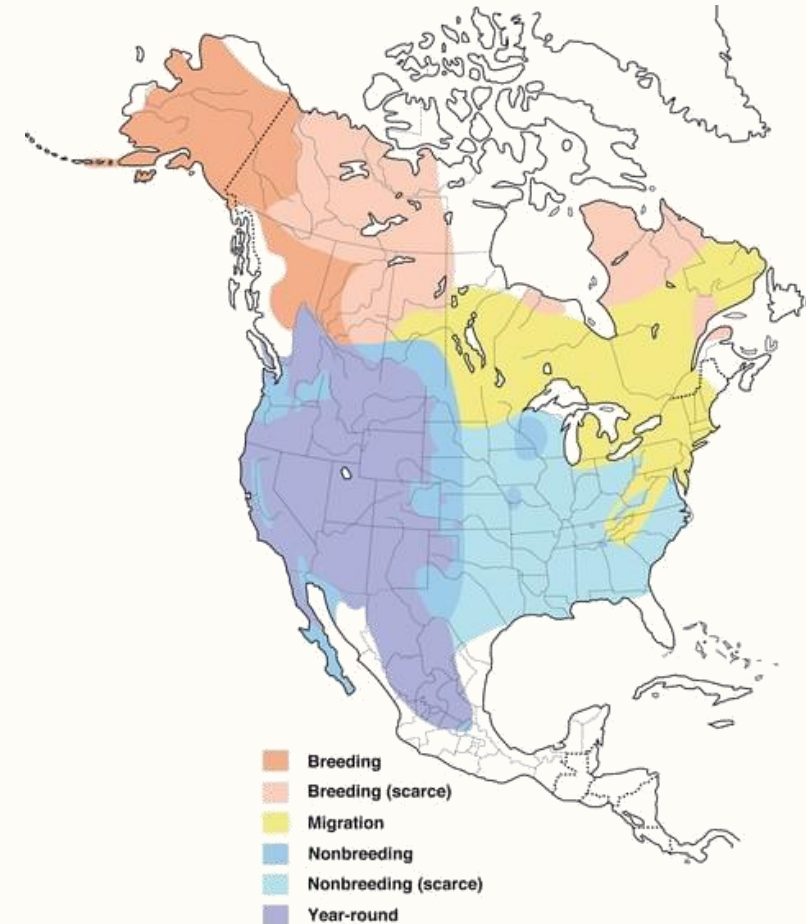
Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*)



ID: Wings are broad like a Red-tailed Hawk's, but longer. At distance, the head is relatively small and the tail is long. Adults are dark brown with a golden sheen on the back of the head and neck. For their first several years of life, young birds have neatly defined white patches at the base of the tail and in the wings.

Size: Goose-sized or larger.

Fun Fact: Although capable of killing large prey such as cranes, wild ungulates, and domestic livestock, the Golden Eagle subsists primarily on rabbits, hares, ground squirrels, and prairie dogs. (allaboutbirds.org)



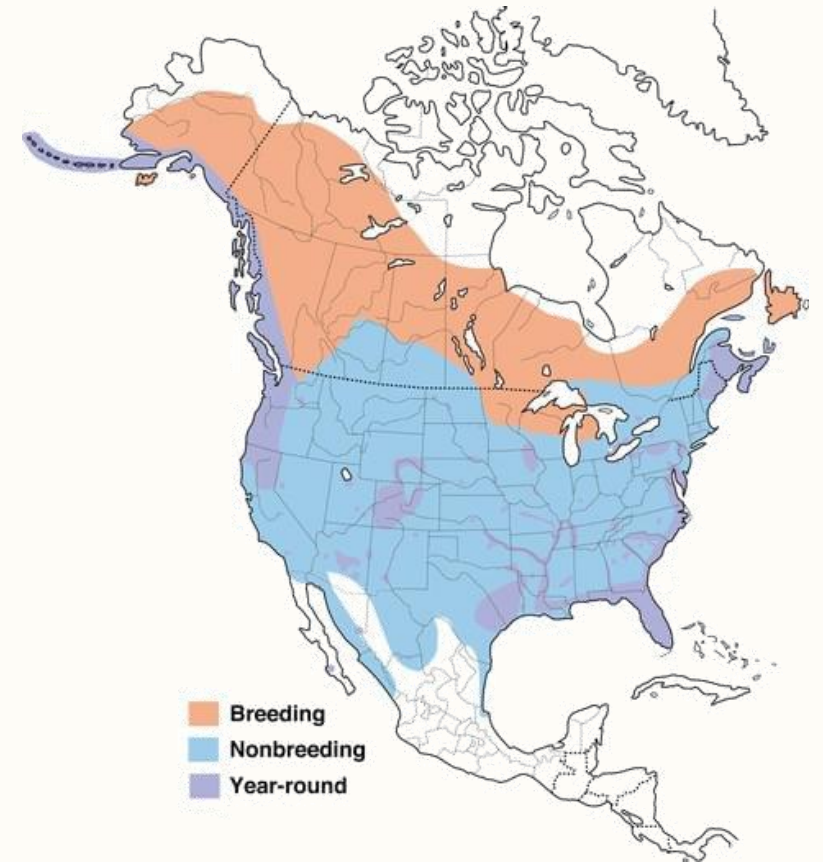
Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)



ID: It has a heavy body, large head, and long, hooked bill. In flight, a Bald Eagle holds its broad wings flat like a board. Adults have white heads and tails with dark brown bodies and wings. Their legs and bills are bright yellow. Immature birds have mostly dark heads and tails; their brown wings and bodies are mottled with white.

Size: One of the largest birds in North America, wingspan slightly greater than the Great Blue Heron.

Fun Fact: Rather than do their own fishing, Bald Eagles often go after other creatures' catches. A Bald Eagle will harass a hunting Osprey until the smaller raptor drops its prey in midair, where the eagle swoops it up. A Bald Eagle may even snatch a fish directly out of an Osprey's talons. (allaboutbirds.org)



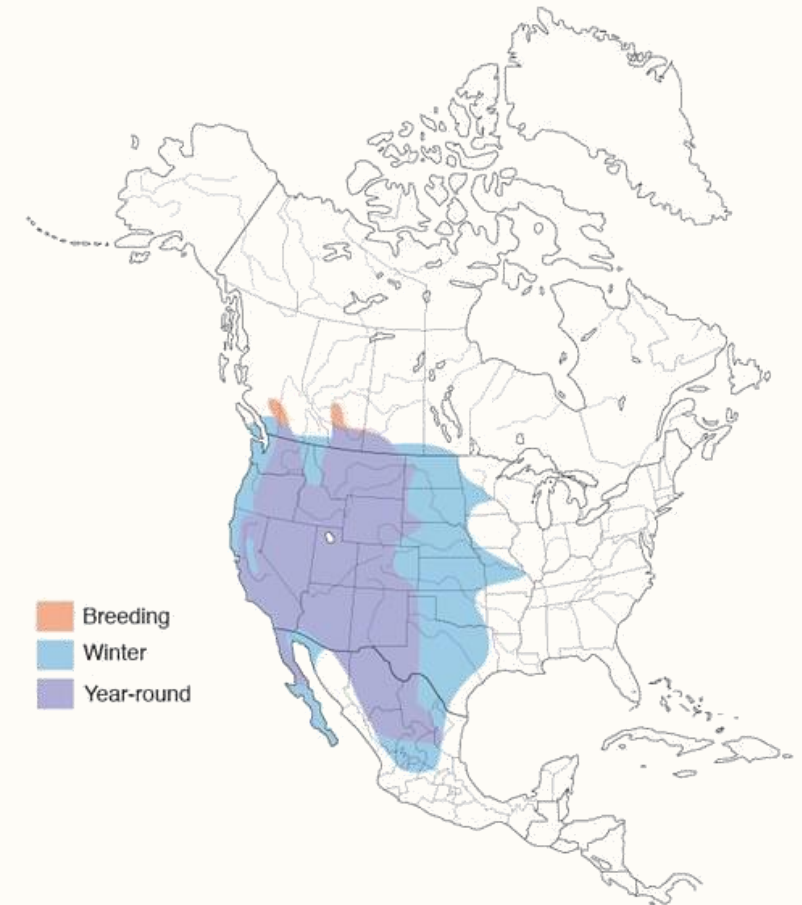
Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*)



ID: Large falcons about the size of a peregrine. They have pointed wings and medium-long tails. Brown above and pale with brown markings on the breast and belly. From below, they show dark under the wing from the "armpit" to the wrist. From above, the tail is paler and contrasts with the back and wings. They have a pale stripe above the eye and a brown mustache stripe.

Size: Between a Crow and a Goose.

Fun Fact: Prairie Falcons are popular falconry birds, and 19 states allow falconers to capture the birds (mostly as nestlings) to train. (allaboutbirds.org)



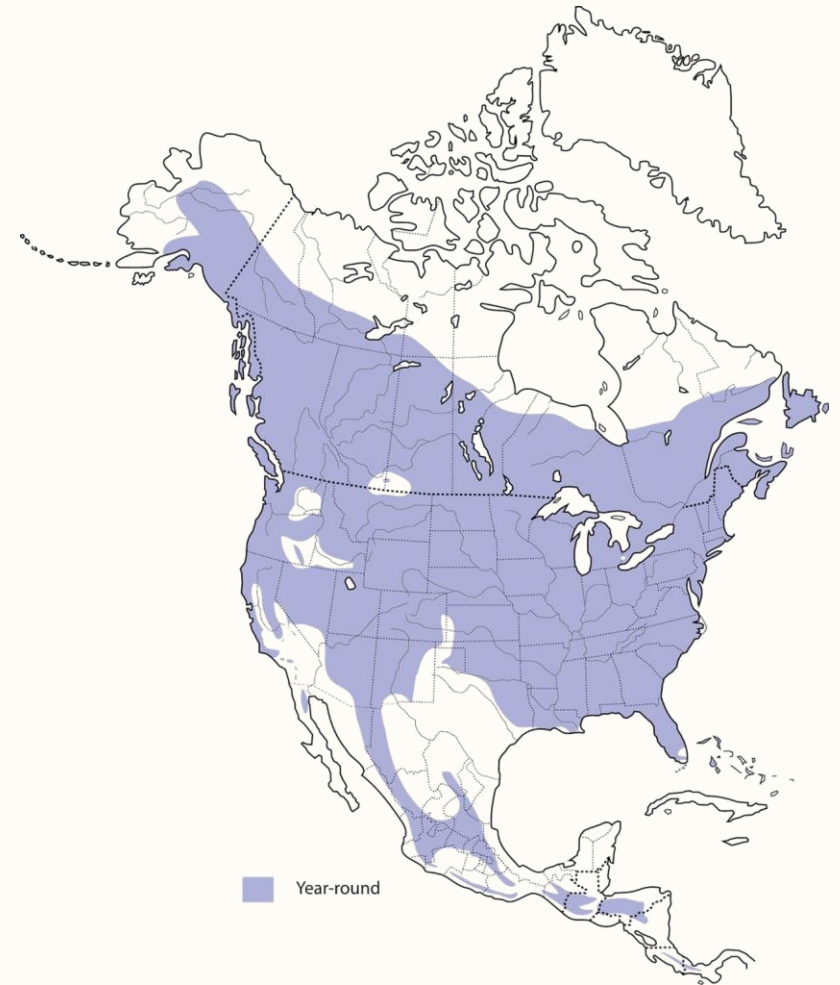
Hairy Woodpecker (*Leuconotopicus villosus*)



ID: Medium-sized woodpecker with a fairly square head, a long, straight, chisel-like bill (nearly same length as head), and stiff, long tail feathers to lean against on tree trunks. Black wings are checkered with white; head has two white stripes (flash of red in males). Large white patch in center of black back.

Size: Robin-sized.

Fun Fact: Hairy and Downy woodpeckers occur together throughout most of their ranges. The Downy Woodpecker uses smaller branches while the Hairy Woodpecker tends to spend more time on trunks. (allaboutbirds.org)

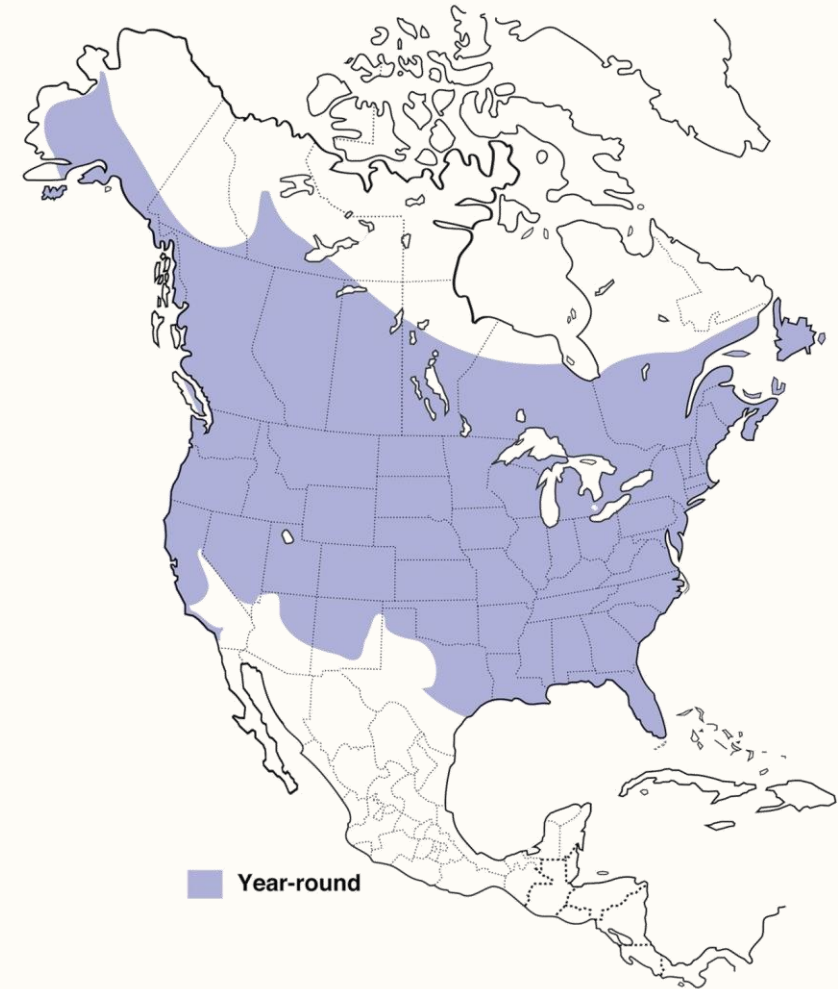


Downy Woodpecker (*Dryobates pubescens*)

ID: Small woodpecker with a small, straight, chisel-like bill. Black wings are checkered with white; head has two white stripes (males have small red patch on back of head). Outer tail feathers are white with a few black spots.

Size: Two-thirds the size of a Hairy Woodpecker; between sparrow and robin.

Fun Fact: The Downy Woodpecker eats foods that larger woodpeckers cannot reach, such as insects living on or in the stems of weeds. You may see them hammering at goldenrod galls to extract the fly larvae inside. (allaboutbirds.org)



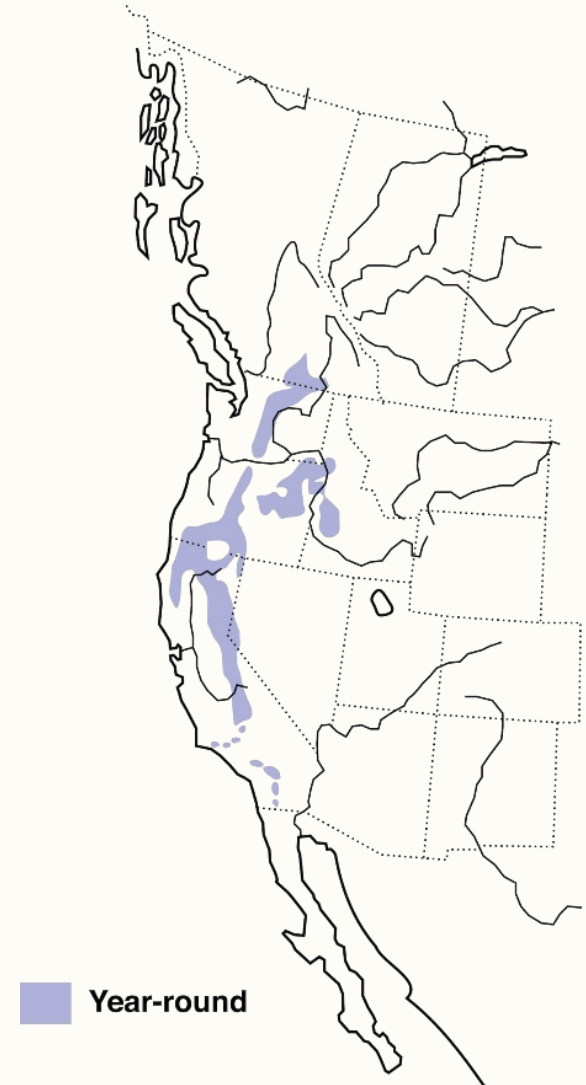
White-headed Woodpecker (*Picoides albolarvatus*)



ID: Medium-sized woodpecker with a black body and a white head. Males have a red rear crown patch. White patch in wings.

Size: Robin-sized.

Fun Fact: Both the male and female incubate the eggs, with the male doing all the nighttime work. They are very attentive to each other during incubation, and often communicate by soft drumming from both inside and outside the nest cavity. (allaboutbirds.org)



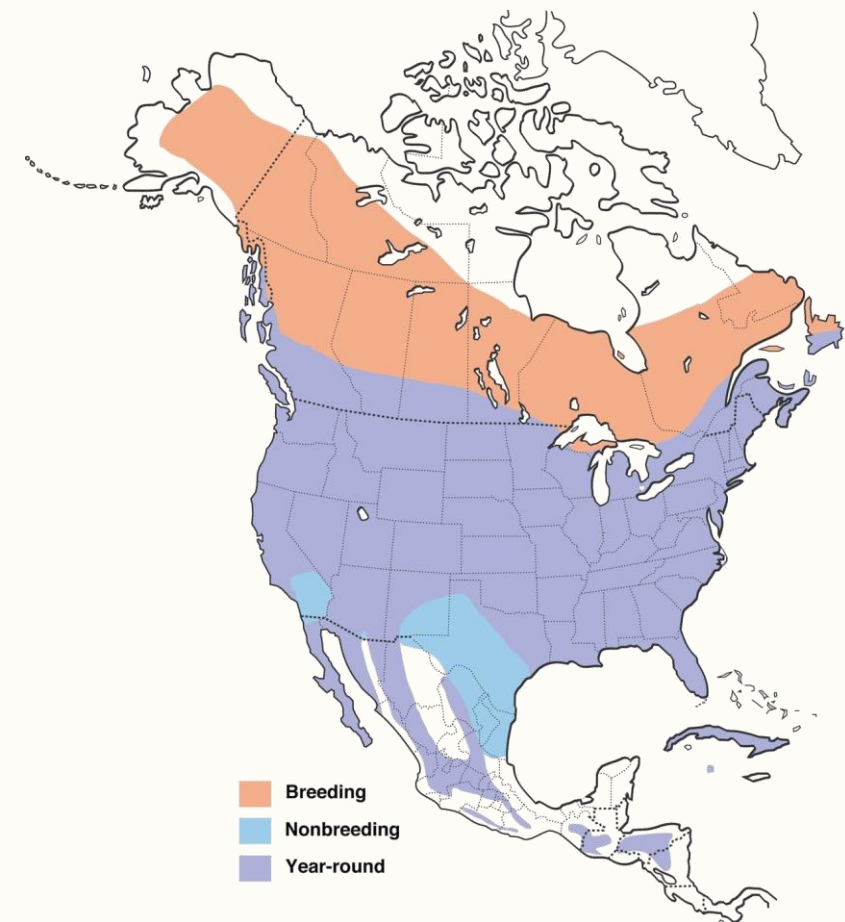
Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*)



ID: Fairly large woodpecker with a slim, rounded head, slightly downcurved bill, and a long, flared tail that tapers to a point. Brownish overall with a white rump patch. Undersides of wing and tail feathers are red-orange. Plumage patterned with black spots, bars and crescents.

Size: Between robin and crow.

Fun Fact: The Northern Flicker is one of the few North American woodpeckers that is strongly migratory. Flickers in the northern parts of their range move south for the winter, although a few individuals often stay rather far north. (allaboutbirds.org)



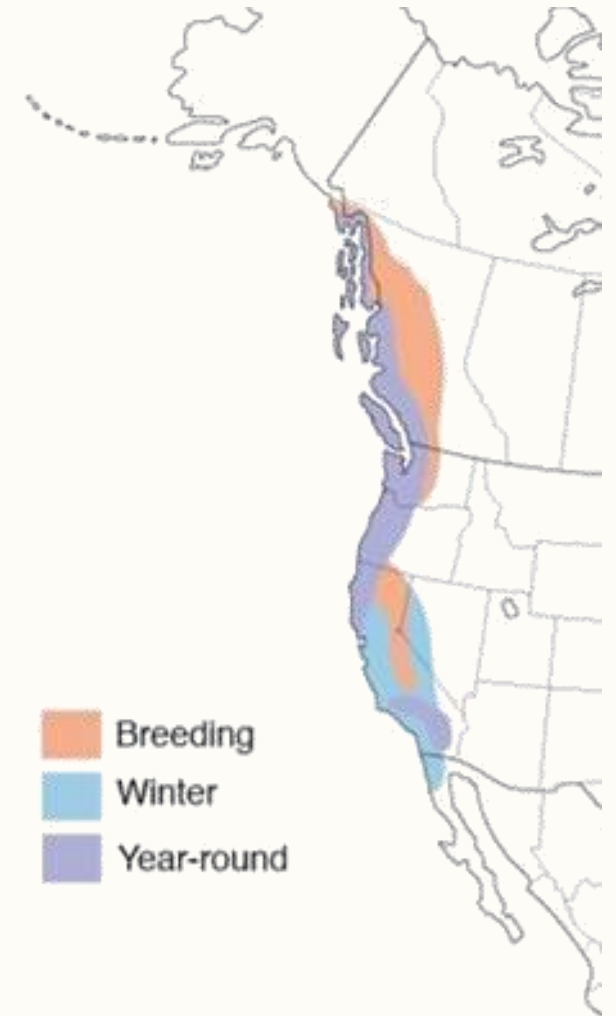
Red-breasted Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus ruber*)



ID: Medium-sized woodpecker with red head and breast. White spot in front of the eye.

Size: Robin-sized.

Fun Fact: Hummingbirds of several species make use of sapsucker feeding holes and come to rely on them. (allaboutbirds.org)



Williamson's Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus thyroideus*)



ID: Adult males are velvety black above, with a white wing patch and a yellow belly. They have a sharp face pattern with a white line behind the eye, a white stripe from the base of the bill to the lower cheek, and a red throat. Adult females are banded overall in black and white, with brownish head, whitish rump, black breast patch, yellowish patch in upper belly, and white bands in its black tail.

Size: Notably larger than a Downy Woodpecker, smaller than a Northern Flicker.

Fun Fact: Male and female Williamson's Sapsuckers look so different that it wasn't until 1873 that ornithologists realized they were the same species. Naturalist Henry Henshaw located a pair at their nest in Colorado and published his observations, thus putting an end to the confusion.

(allaboutbirds.org)

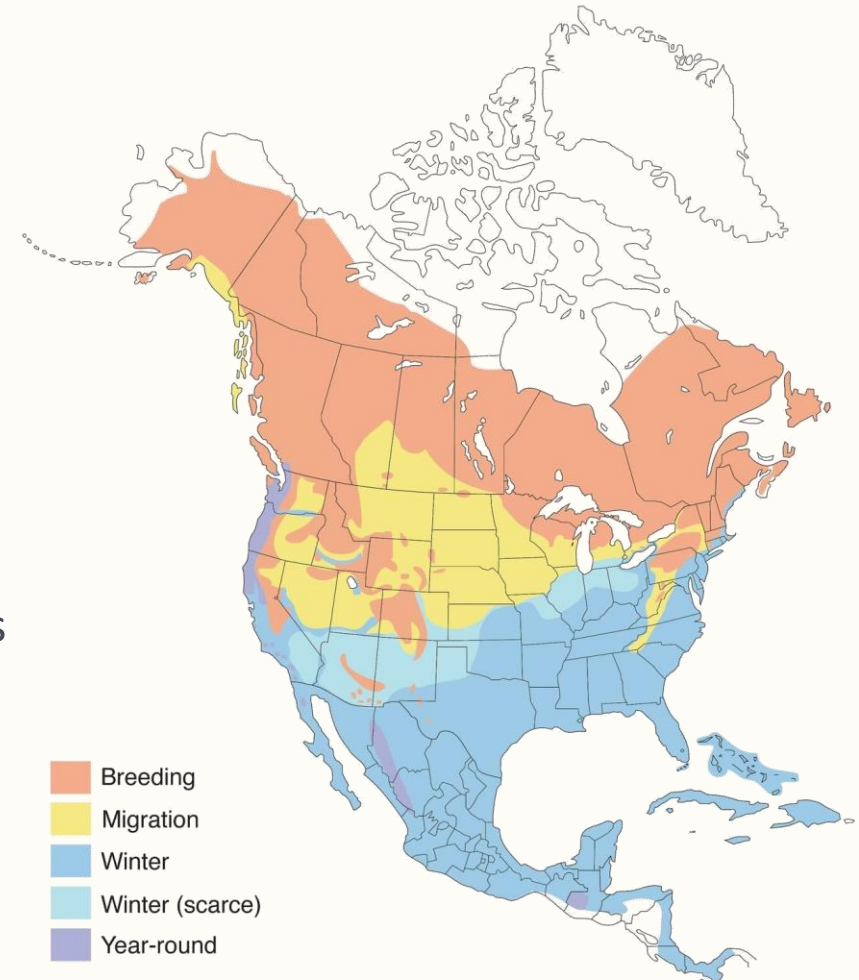


Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*)

ID: Large, full-bodied warbler with a sturdy bill and a long, narrow tail. Gray with flashes of white in the wings and yellow on the face, sides and rump. Females are duller and may show some brown.

Size: About the size of a Black-capped Chickadee.

Fun Fact: The Yellow-rumped Warbler is the only warbler able to digest the waxes found in bayberries and wax myrtles. Its ability to use these fruits allows it to winter farther north than other warblers, sometimes as far north as Newfoundland. (allaboutbirds.org)



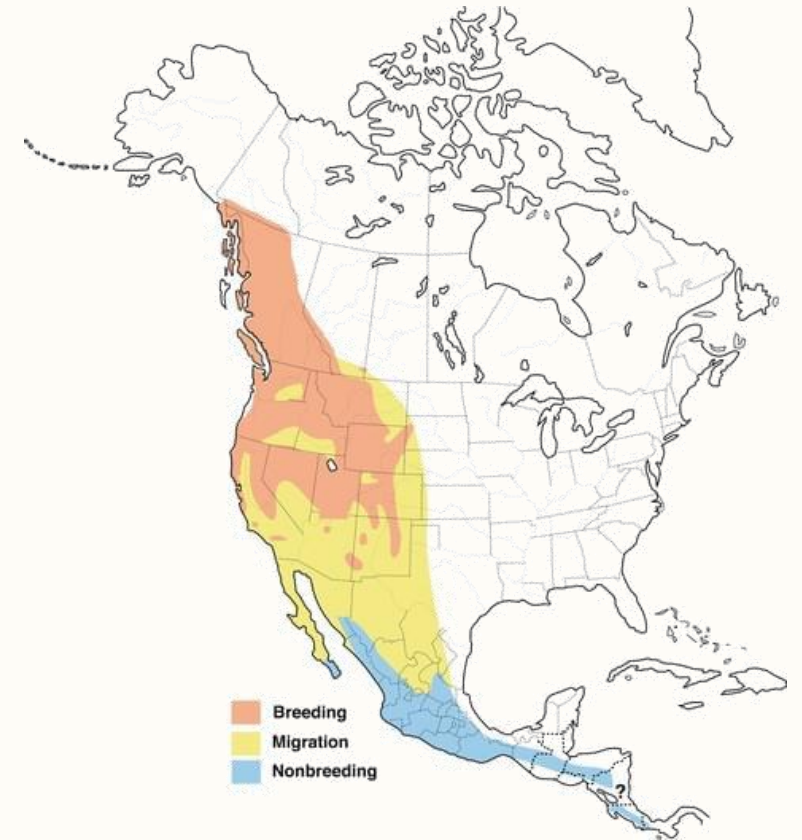
MacGillivray's Warbler (*Geothlypis tolmiei*)



ID: A compact, small songbird with a full body for a warbler and a thick neck. The bill is straight and thin overall, although heavier than many other warblers' bills. The tail is medium length and the legs are fairly long. Adult males are rich golden-olive above, bright yellow below, with a dark gray hood extending down to the chest. The face has white crescents above and below the eye. Adult females are similar but duller in color.

Size: Sparrow-sized or smaller.

Fun Fact: MacGillivray's Warblers nest from near sea level to as high as 10,000 feet in elevation. (allaboutbirds.org)



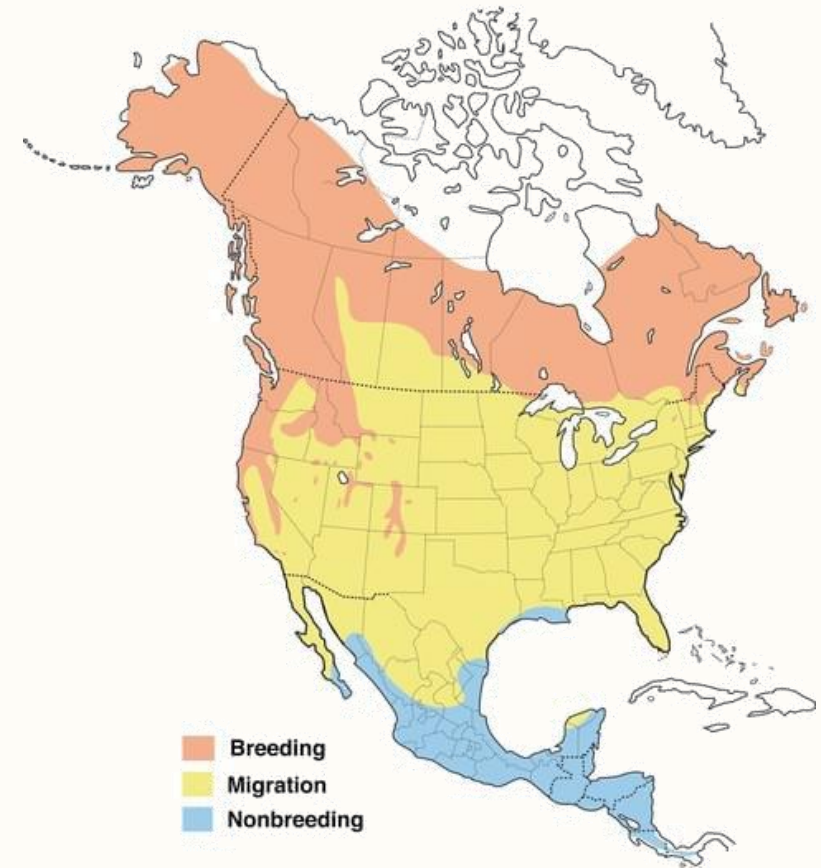
Wilson's Warbler (*Cardellina pusilla*)



ID: One of our smallest warblers with long, thin tails and small, thin bills. They appear rather round bodied and large headed for their size. Bright yellow below and yellowish olive above. Their black eyes stand out on their yellow cheeks. Males have a distinctive black cap.

Size: Larger than a Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

Fun Fact: The majority of Wilson's Warblers nest on the ground, except for populations in coastal California and Oregon where they nest up to 5 feet off the ground. These birds also tend to lay fewer eggs per nest compared to their ground-nesting relatives.
(allaboutbirds.org)



Lesser Goldfinch (*Spinus psaltria*)



ID: Tiny, stub-billed songbirds with long, pointed wings, and short, notched tails. Males are bright yellow below with a glossy black cap and white patches in the wings. They have a black tail with large, white corners. Females and immatures have olive backs, dull yellow underparts, and black wings marked by two whitish wingbars.

Size: Sparrow-sized or smaller.

Fun Fact: Where their ranges overlap in California, the Lesser Goldfinch—though smaller—dominates the Lawrence’s Goldfinch. The Lesser Goldfinch eats first at feeding stations and chases Lawrence’s Goldfinches away from nesting sites. (allaboutbirds.org)

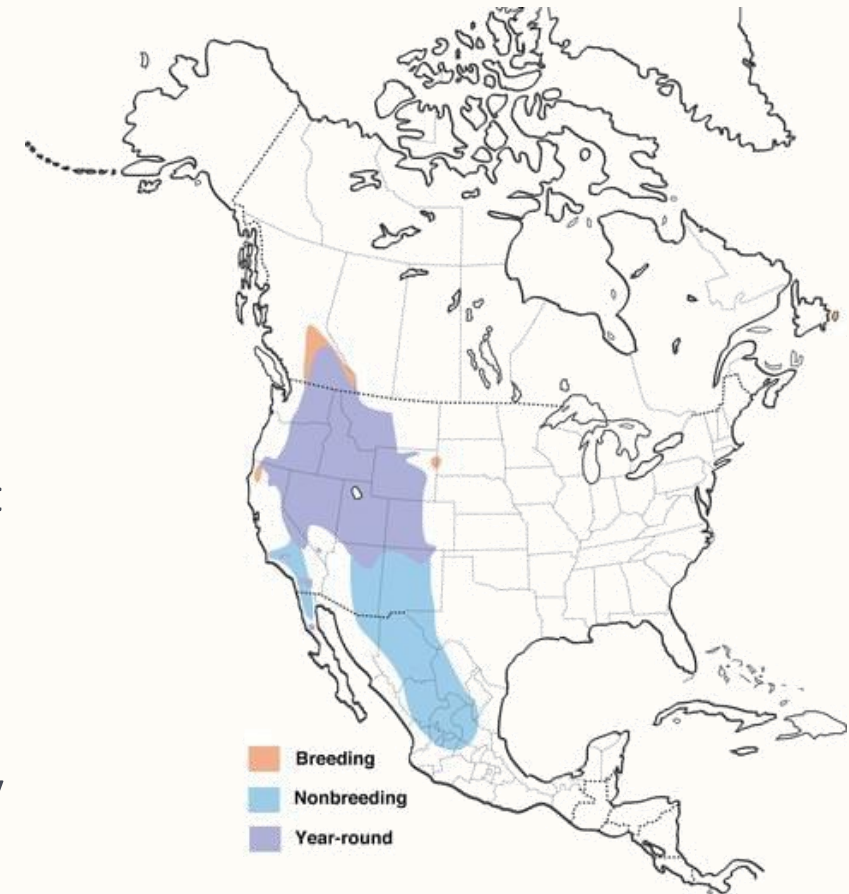


Cassin's Finch (*Haemorhous cassinii*)

ID: Small songbirds with peaked heads and short-medium tails. Their heavy bills are fairly long and straight-sided, and their tails are obviously notched. Adult males are rosy pink overall with the most intense red on the crown. Female and immature Cassin's Finches are brown-and-white birds with crisp, dark streaks on the chest and underparts.

Size: About the size of a House Finch but somewhat heftier.

Fun Fact: Male Cassin's Finches have red crown feathers thanks to carotenoid pigments, which they acquire when they swallow colorful foods like the orange berries of firethorn plants.
(allaboutbirds.org)



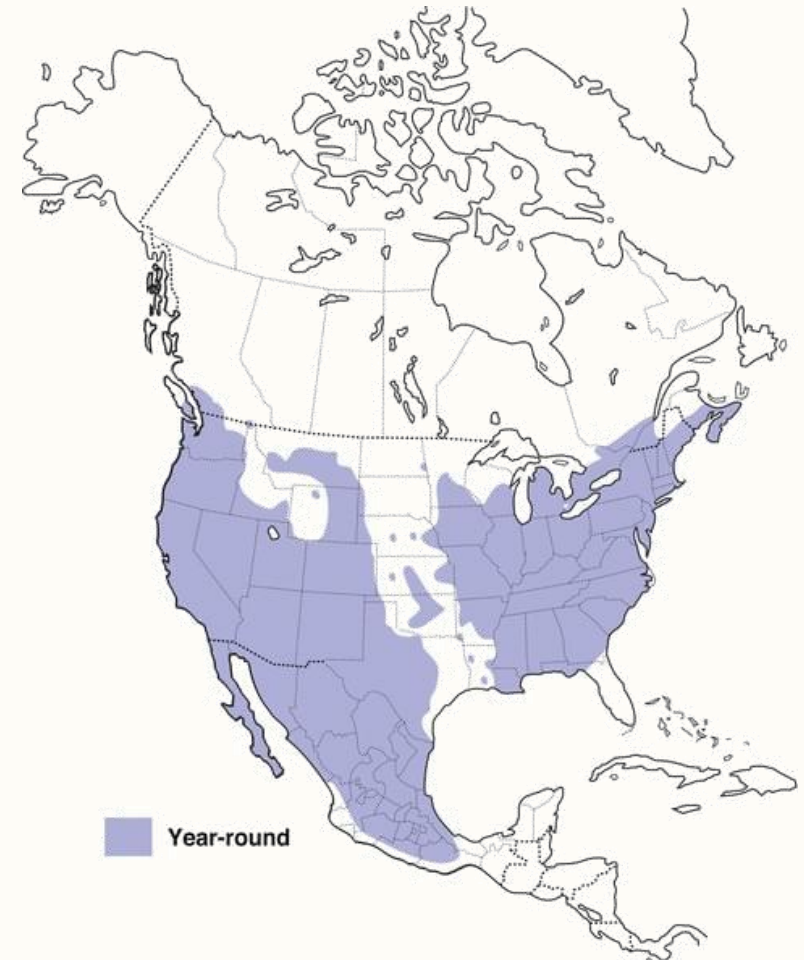
House Finch (*Haemorrhous mexicanus*)



ID: Small-bodied finches with fairly large beaks and somewhat long, flat heads. The wings are short, making the tail seem long by comparison. Adult males are rosy red around the face and upper breast, with streaky brown back, belly and tail. Adult females aren't red; they are plain grayish-brown with thick, blurry streaks

Size: Same size as a House Sparrow, but more slender overall.

Fun Fact: House Finches feed their nestlings exclusively plant foods, a fairly rare occurrence in the bird world. Many birds that are vegetarians as adults still find animal foods to keep their fast-growing young supplied with protein. (allaboutbirds.org)



Steller's Jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*)

ID: Large head, chunky body, rounded wings and a long, full tail. Prominent triangular crest. Blue body and charcoal black head. Inconspicuous white markings above the eye.

Size: Between robin and crow.

Fun Fact: Steller's Jays are habitual nest-robbers, like many other jay species. They've occasionally been seen attacking and killing small adult birds including a Pygmy Nuthatch and a Dark-eyed Junco. (allaboutbirds.org)



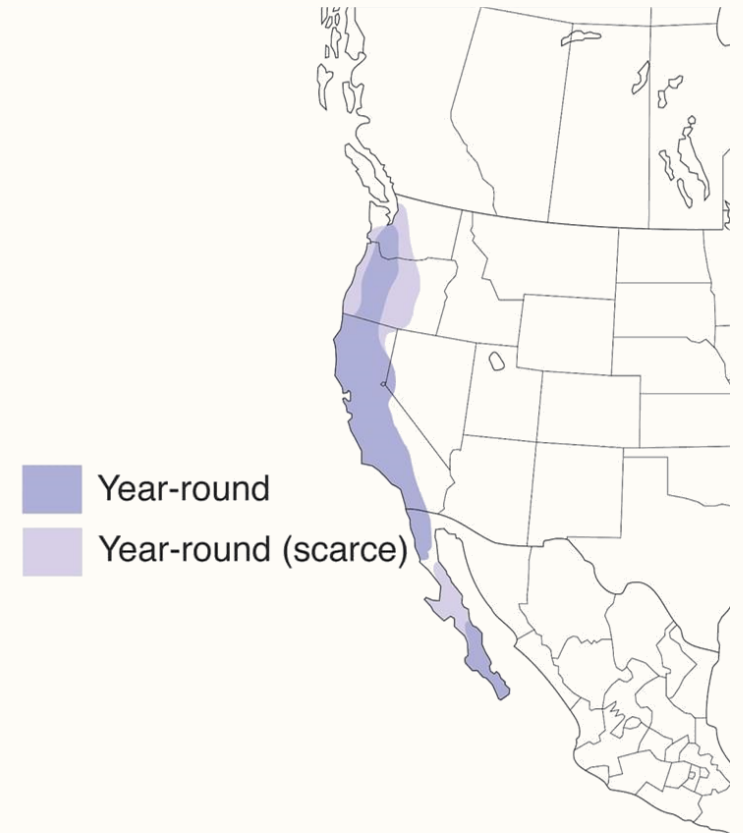
California Scrub Jay (*Aphelocoma californica*)



ID: Long tail; bill is straight and stout, with a hook at the tip. Azure blue and gray above with a clean, pale underside broken up by a blue necklace.

Size: Larger than a Western Bluebird; smaller than an American Crow.

Fun Fact: You might see California Scrub-Jays standing on the back of a mule deer. They're eating ticks and other parasites. The deer seem to appreciate the help, often standing still and holding up their ears to give the jays access. (allaboutbirds.org)



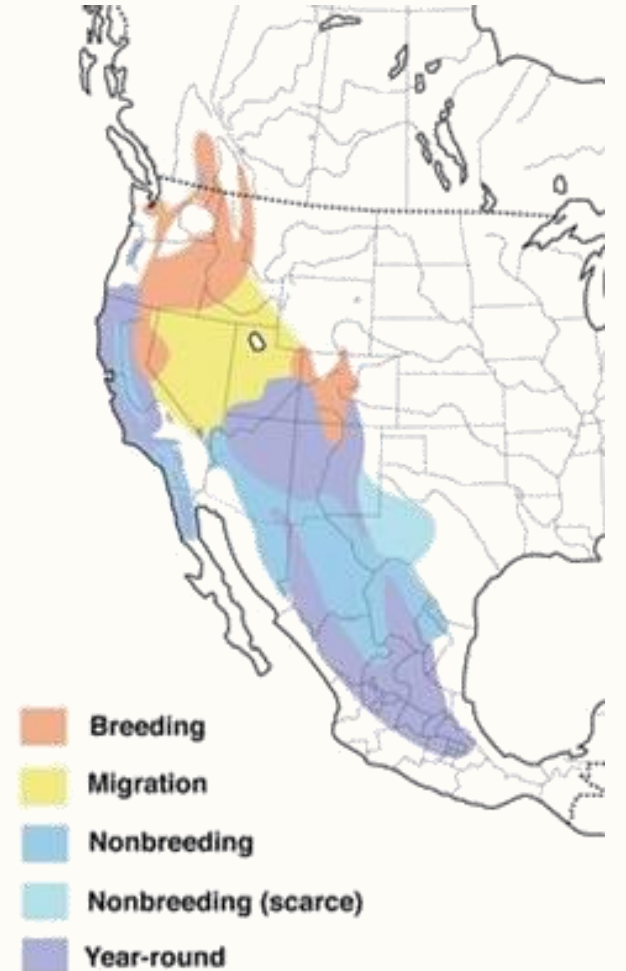
Western Bluebird (*Sialia mexicana*)



ID: Stocky with a thin, straight bill and fairly short tail. Males are shiny blue above with rust-orange extending from a vest on the breast onto the upper back. Females are gray-buff with a pale orange wash on the breast and blue tints to the wings and tail.

Size: Larger than a sparrow; smaller than an American Robin.

Fun Fact: Western Bluebirds have a gentle look, but territory battles can get heated. Rival males may grab each other's legs, tumble to the ground, and then pin their opponent on the ground, stand over him, and jab at him with his bill. (allaboutbirds.org)



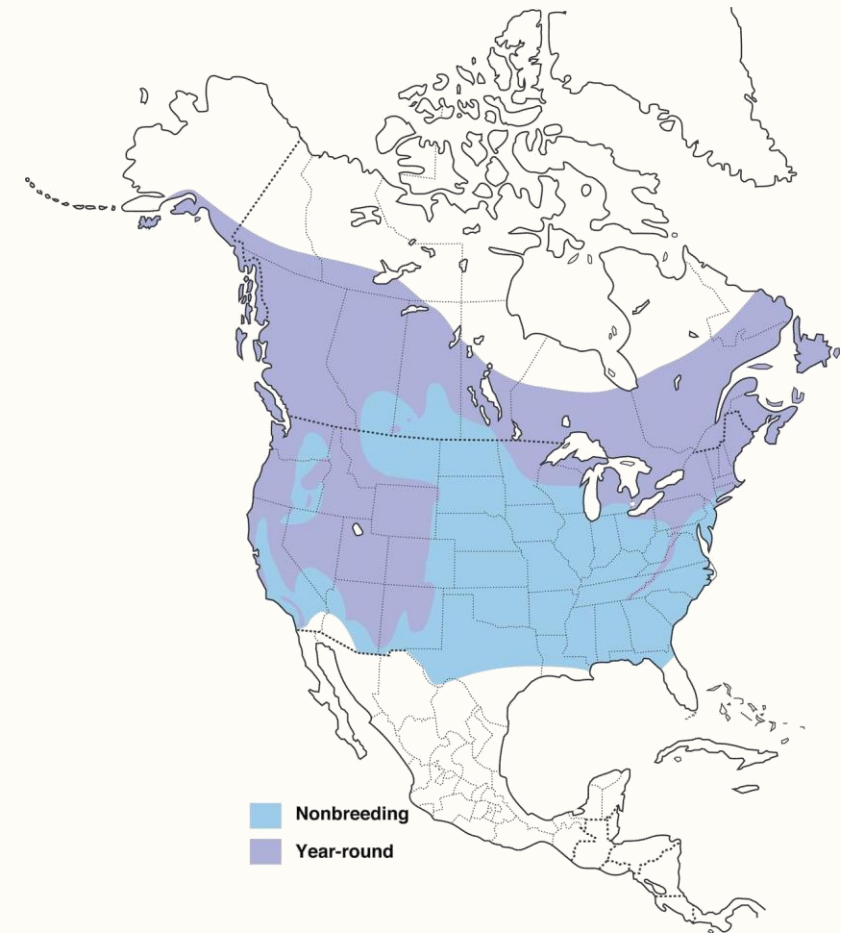
Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*)



ID: Small, compact bird with long, pointed bill and very short tail. Body is plump; short wings are broad. Blue-gray color with rich rusty-cinnamon underparts. Black cap and stripe through the eye; white stripe over the eye.

Size: Smaller than a White-breasted Nuthatch.

Fun Fact: This bird collects resin globules from coniferous trees and plasters them around the entrance of its nest hole. It may carry the resin in its bill or on pieces of bark that it uses as an applicator. The resin may help to keep out predators or competitors. The nuthatch avoids the resin by diving directly through the hole.
(allaboutbirds.org)

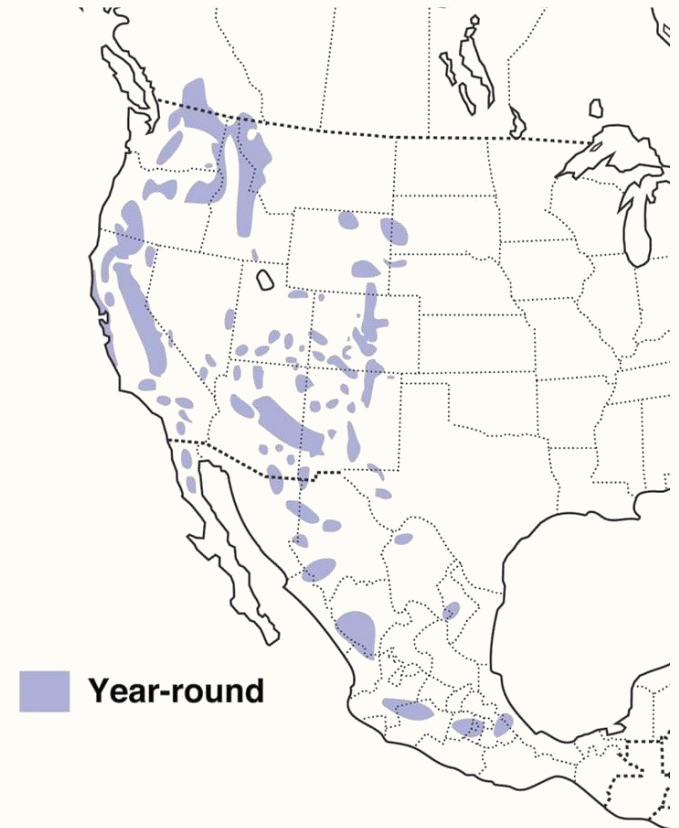


Pygmy Nuthatch (*Sitta pygmaea*)

ID: Tiny songbirds with short, square tails, large round heads and straight, sharp bills. Slate gray wings and back with a rich brown cap that ends in a sharp line through the eye. Underparts are whitish to pale buff.

Size: Smaller than a White-breasted Nuthatch; slightly larger than a Golden-crowned Kinglet.

Fun Fact: They survive cold nights by sheltering themselves in tree cavities, huddling with family members and other Pygmy Nuthatches, and letting their body temperature drop into hypothermia. They are the only birds in North America that combine those three energy-saving mechanisms. (allaboutbirds.org)



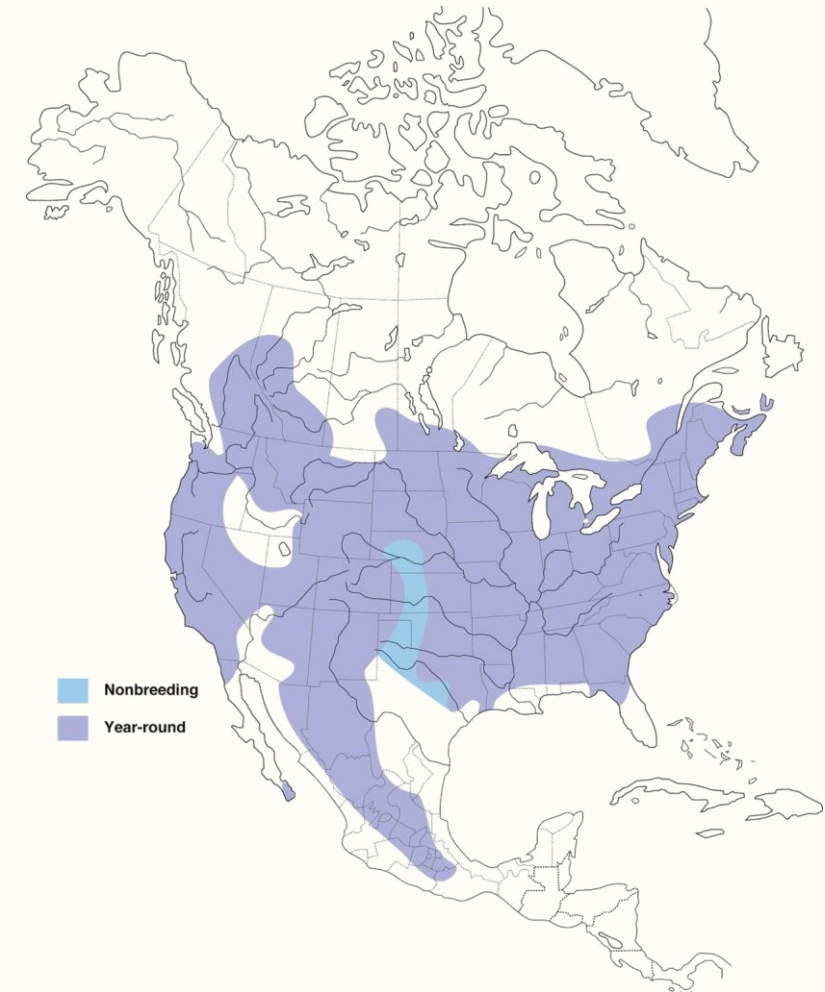
White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*)



ID: Small bird with a large head and almost no neck. Very short tail and a straight, narrow bill. Gray-blue on the back with a frosty white face and underparts. Black or gray cap and neck frame. Lower belly and under the tail are often chestnut.

Size: Larger than a Red-breasted Nuthatch; smaller than a Tufted Titmouse.

Fun Fact: If you see a White-breasted Nuthatch making lots of quick trips to and from your feeder – too many for it to be eating them all – it may be storing the seeds for later in the winter, by wedging them into furrows in the bark of nearby trees. (allaboutbirds.org)



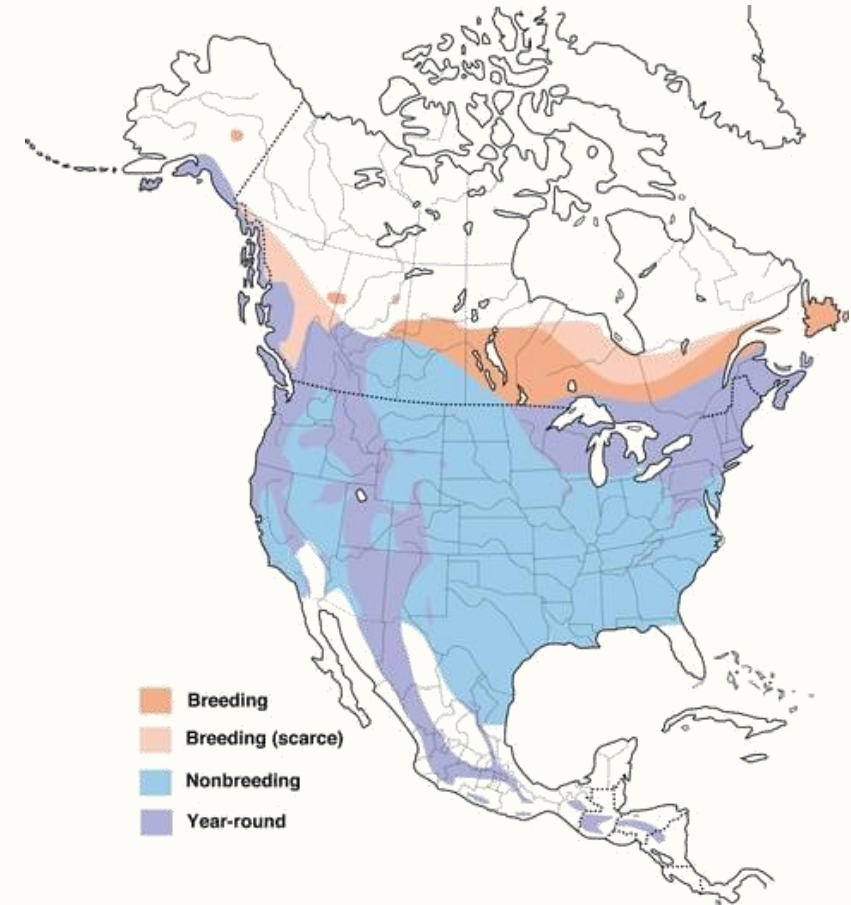
Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*)



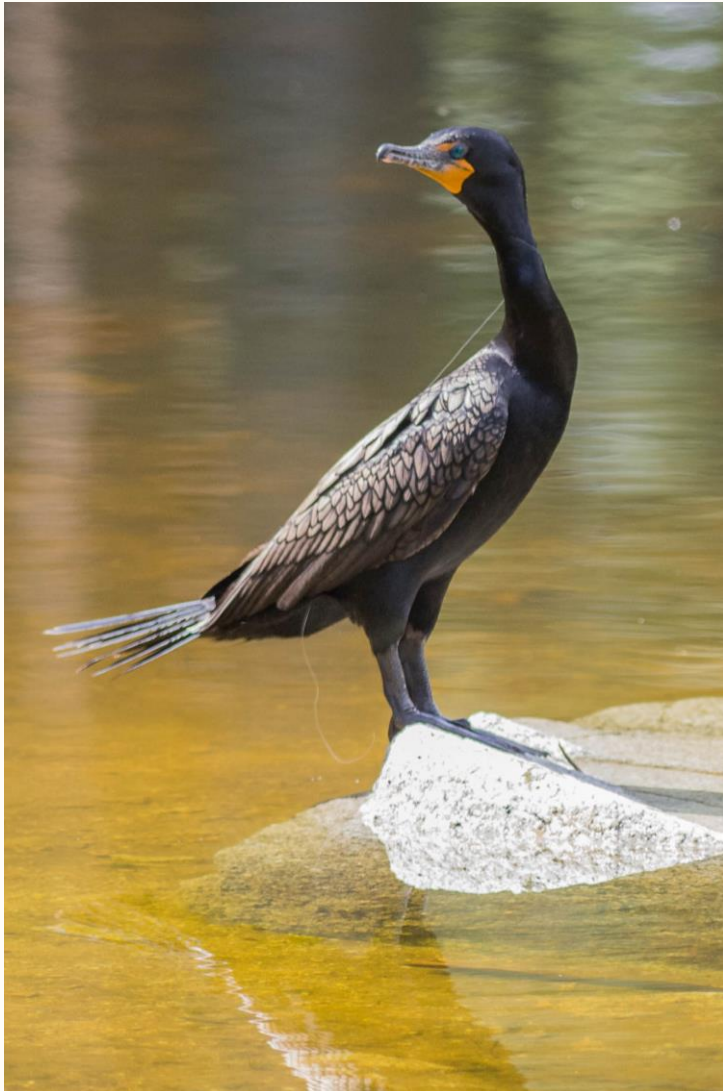
ID: Tiny birds with long, spine-tipped tails, slim bodies, and slender, decurved bills. Streaked brown and buff above, with white underparts. Broad, buffy stripe over eye.

Size: Smaller than a White-breasted Nuthatch; larger than a Golden-crowned Kinglet.

Fun Fact: Wildlife managers sometimes use the Brown Creeper as an indicator species to help gauge the effects of logging on wildlife habitat. (allaboutbirds.org)



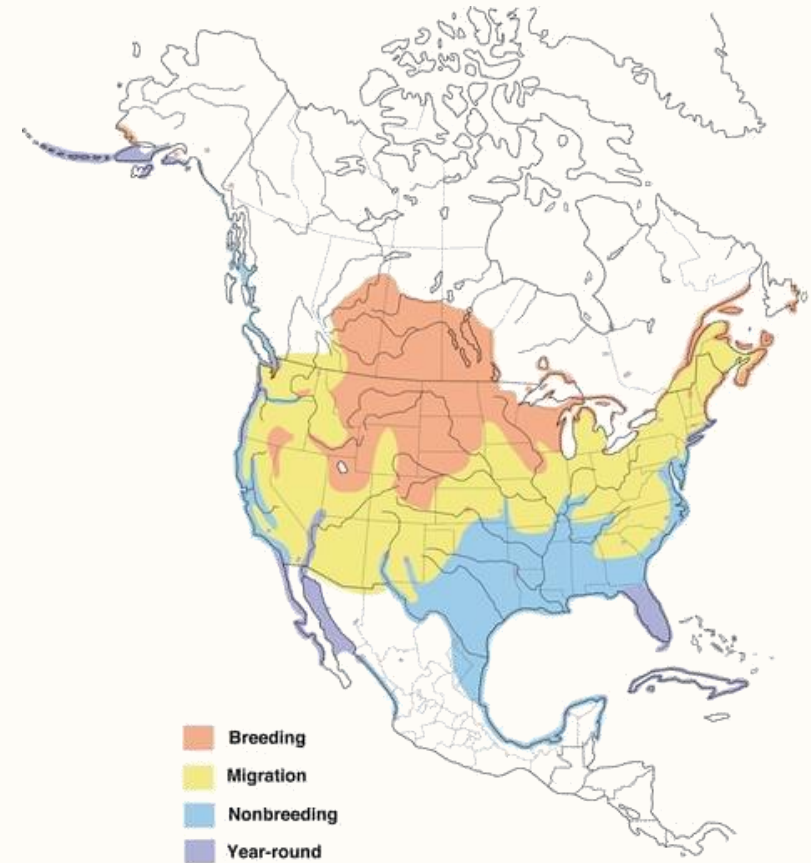
Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*)



ID: Large waterbird with small head on a long, kinked neck. Brown-black with a small patch of yellow-orange skin on the face.

Size: Between crow and goose.

Fun Fact: This bird makes a bulky nest of sticks and other materials. It frequently picks up junk, such as rope, deflated balloons, fishnet, and plastic debris to incorporate into the nest. Parts of dead birds are commonly used too. (allaboutbirds.org)



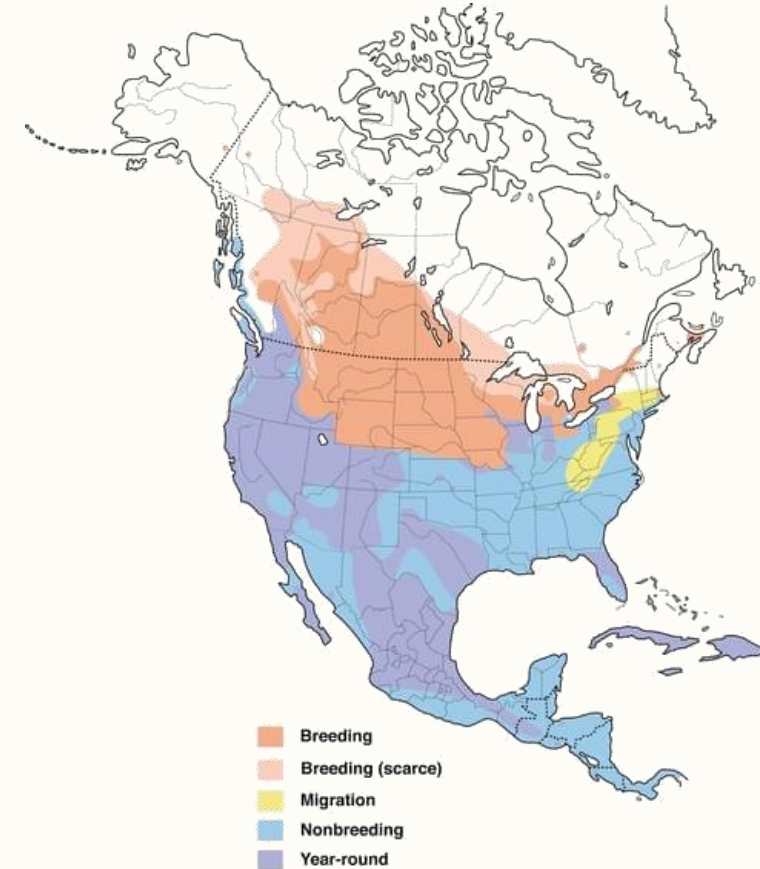
American Coot (*Fulica americana*)



ID: Plump, chicken-like bird with a rounded head, sloping bill, tiny tail, short wings, and large feet. Dark-gray to black with a bright-white bill and forehead. Legs are yellow-green.

Size: About two-thirds the size of a Mallard.

Fun Fact: Although it swims like a duck, the American Coot does not have webbed feet like a duck. Instead, each one of the coot's long toes has broad lobes of skin that help it kick through the water. (allaboutbirds.org)



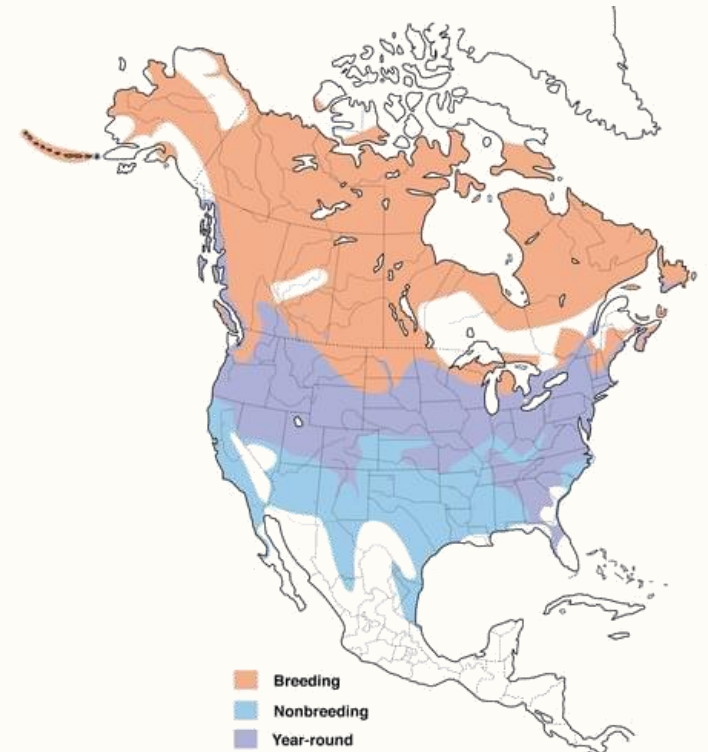
Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*)



ID: Big waterbirds with a long neck, large body, large webbed feet, and wide, flat bill. Black head with white cheeks and chinstrap, black neck, tan breast, and brown back.

Size: Goose-sized. 😊

Fun Fact: Some migratory populations are not going as far south in the winter as they used to. This northward range shift has been attributed to changes in farm practices that makes waste grain more available in fall and winter, as well as changes in hunting pressure and changes in weather. (allaboutbirds.org)



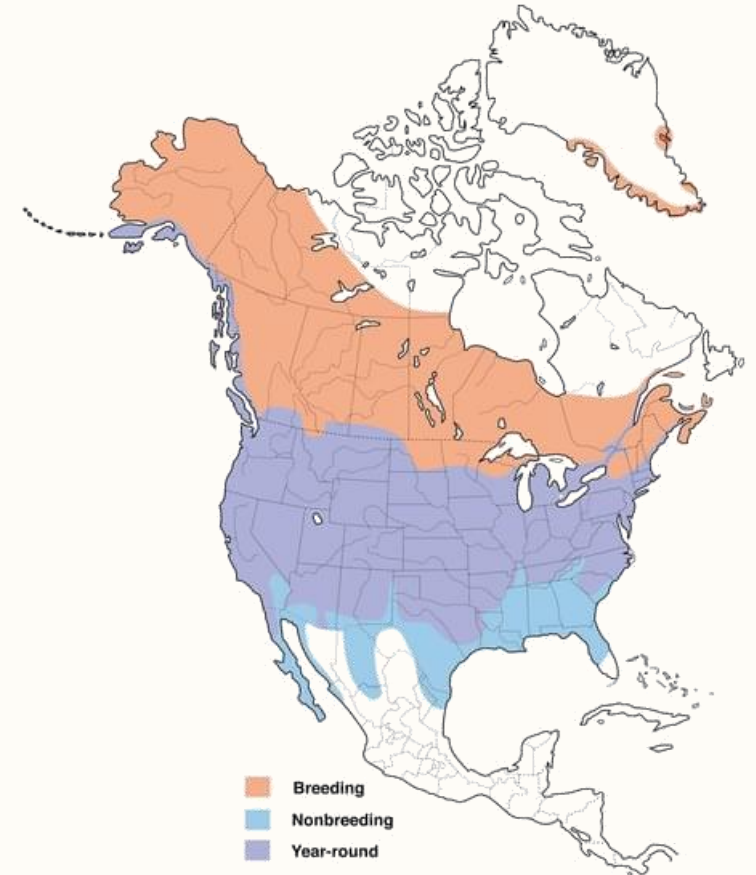
Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*)



ID: Large ducks with hefty bodies, rounded heads, and wide, flat bills. Males have a dark, iridescent-green head and bright yellow bill. Gray body is sandwiched between a brown breast and black rear. Females and juveniles are mottled brown with orange-and-brown bills. Both sexes have a white-bordered, blue “speculum” patch in the wing.

Size: Between a Crow and a Goose.

Fun Fact: The standard duck’s quack is the sound of a female Mallard. Males don’t quack; they make a quieter, rasping sound. (allaboutbirds.org)



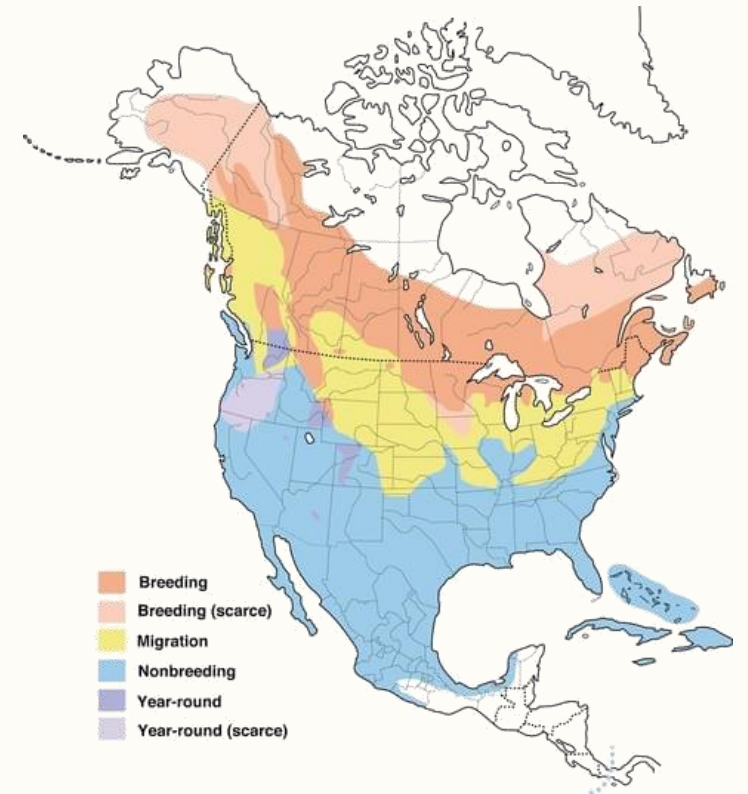
Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*)



ID: Compact diving duck with a distinctive head shape—a sloping forehead and peaked rear crown. Males have a dark head, black back, and gray sides. Females are rich brown with a contrastingly pale cheek, a white patch near the bill, and a whitish eyering. Adult males have a prominent white ring on the bill.

Size: Crow-sized.

Fun Fact: This bird's common name (and its scientific name "*collaris*," too) refer to the Ring-necked Duck's hard-to-see chestnut collar on its black neck. It's not a good field mark to use for identifying the bird, but it jumped out to the nineteenth century biologists that described the species using dead specimens. (allaboutbirds.org)



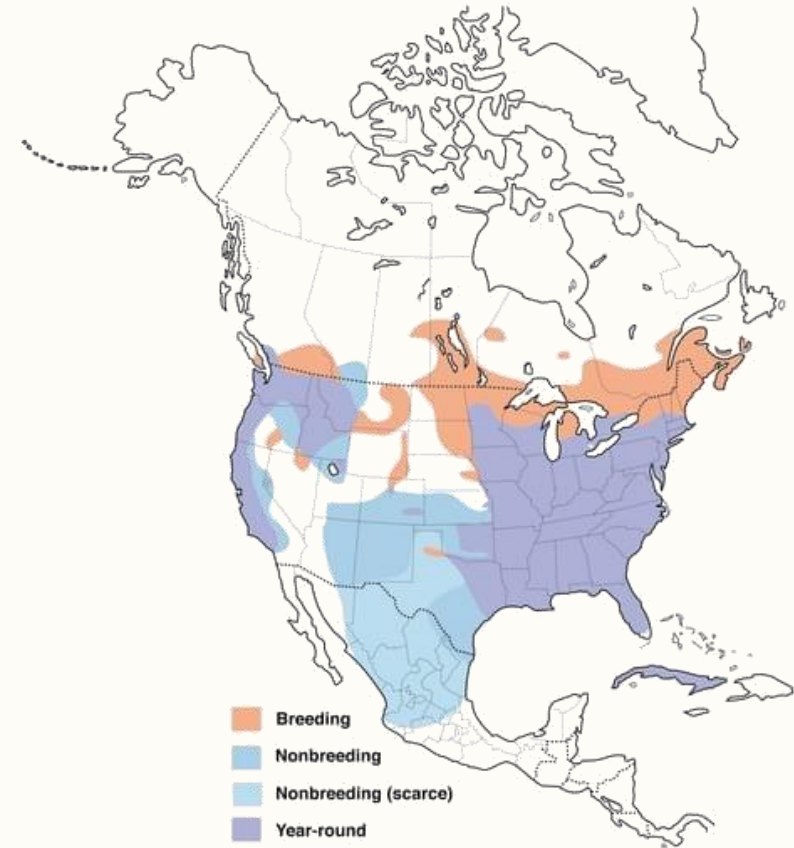
Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*)



ID: Boxy, crested head, thin neck, and a long, broad tail. Males have a glossy green head cut with white stripes, a chestnut breast and buffy sides. Females are gray-brown with white-speckled breast.

Size: Between crow and goose.

Fun Fact: Wood Ducks pair up in January, and most birds arriving at the breeding grounds in the spring are already paired. The Wood Duck is the only North American duck that regularly produces two broods in one year. (allaboutbirds.org)

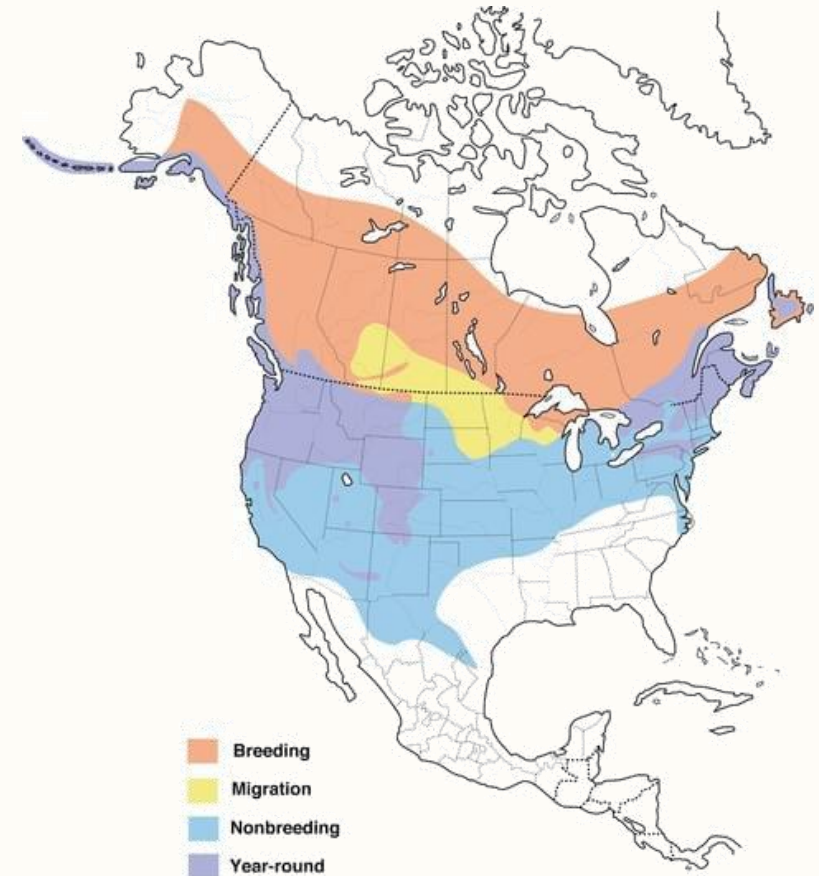


Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*)

ID: Large, long-bodied ducks with thin, pointed wings. Their bills are straight and narrow. Adult males are crisply patterned with gleaming white bodies and dark, iridescent-green heads. The back is black and the bill red. Females and immatures are gray-bodied with a white chest and rusty-cinnamon heads.

Size: Smaller than a Canada Goose; slightly larger than a Mallard.

Fun Fact: Common Mergansers are sometimes called sawbills, fish ducks, or goosanders. The word “merganser” comes from the Latin and roughly translates to “plunging goose”—a good name for this very large and often submerged duck. (allaboutbirds.org)

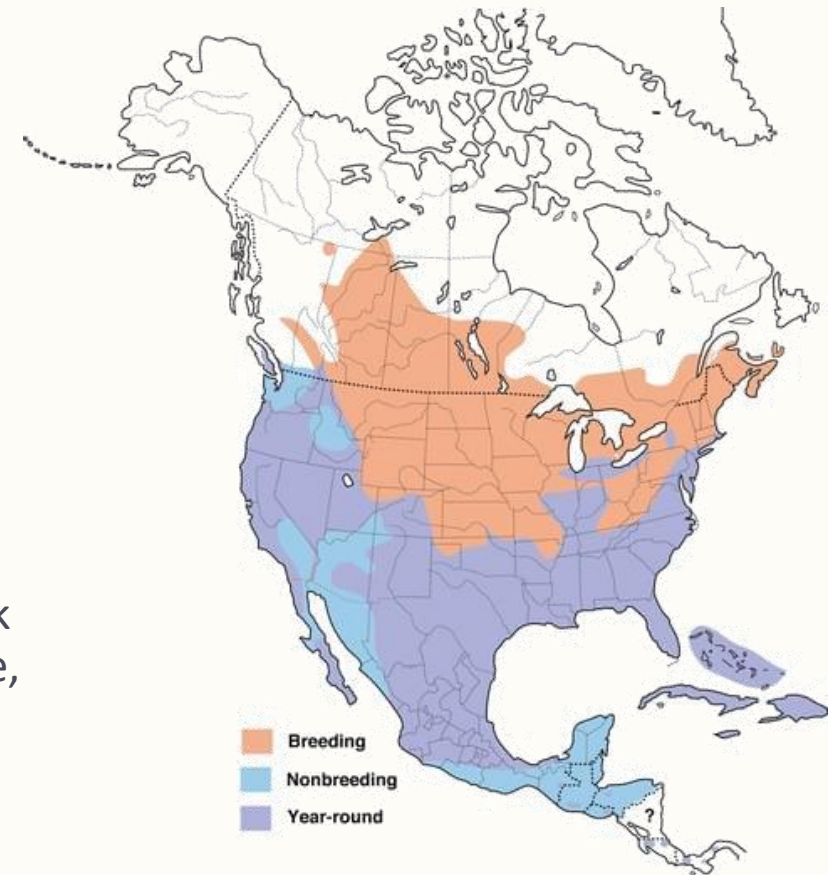


Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*)

ID: Small, chunky swimming birds with compact bodies, slender necks, blocky heads and short, thick bills. They have virtually no tail. Brown birds, slightly darker above. While breeding, the bill is whitish with a black band (“pied”), but otherwise is yellow-brown.

Size: Smaller than an American Coot.

Fun Fact: Pied-billed Grebes can trap water in their feathers, giving them great control over their buoyancy. They can sink deeply or stay just at or below the surface, exposing as much or as little of the body as they wish. The water-trapping ability may also aid in the pursuit of prey by reducing drag in turbulent water.
(allaboutbirds.org)



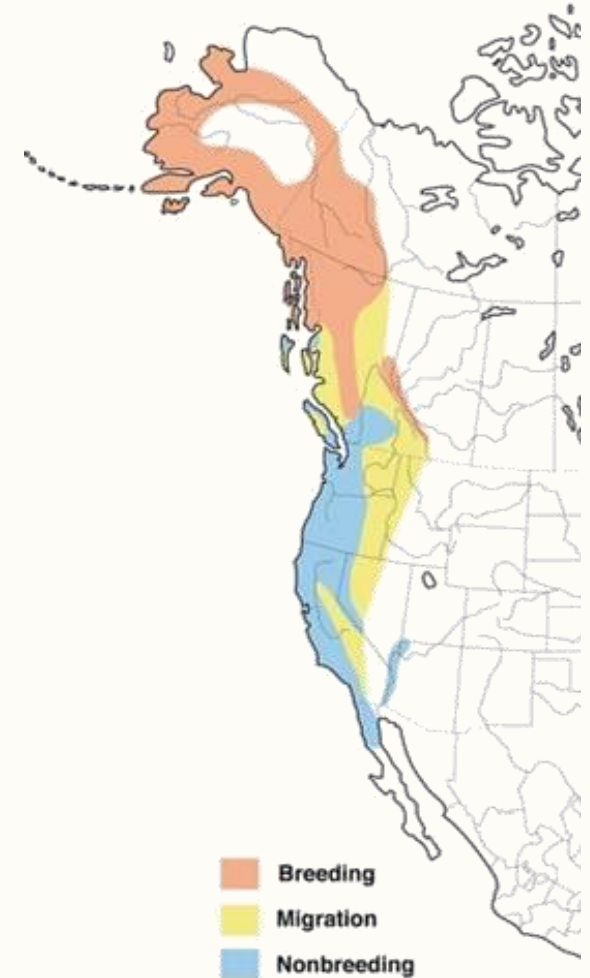
Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*)



ID: Large, long-tailed sparrow with a small head and short but stout, seed-eating bill. Streaked brown above and smooth gray to brown below, with a black crown and bright-yellow forehead (summer). Duller colors in winter.

Size: Smaller than an American Robin; larger than a Yellow-rumped Warbler.

Fun Fact: The Golden-crowned Sparrow arrives earlier and stays longer on its California wintering grounds than almost any other bird species. (allaboutbirds.org)



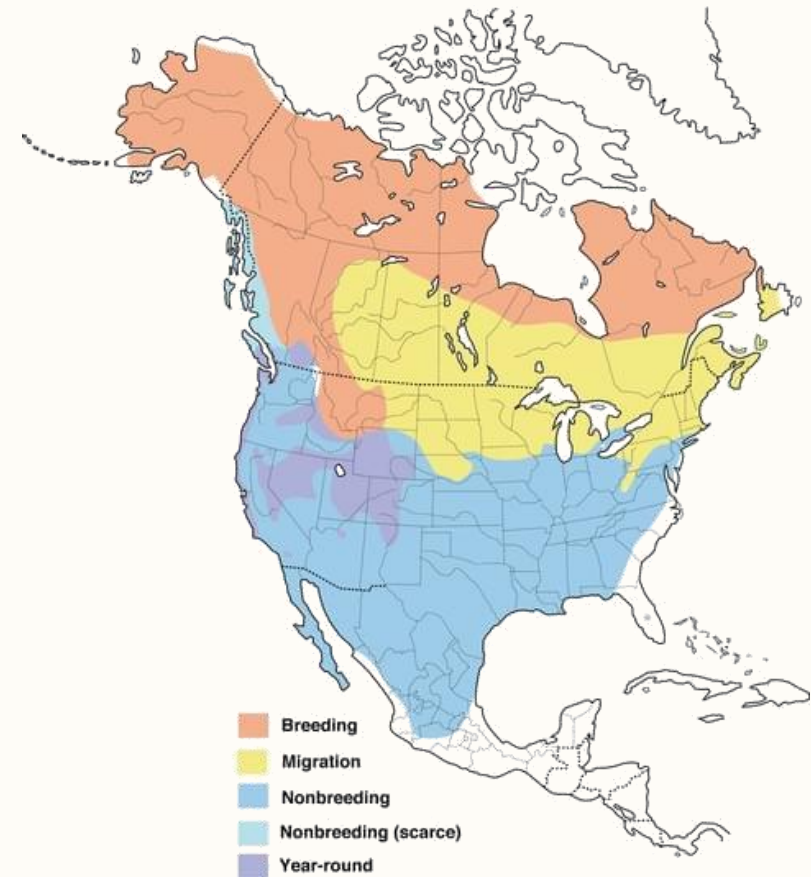
White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*)



ID: Large sparrow with small bill and long tail. Plain, pale-gray bird with bold black-and-white stripes on the head. Juveniles have brown, not black, markings on the head.

Size: Slightly larger than a Song Sparrow.

Fun Fact: A migrating White-crowned Sparrow was once tracked moving 300 miles in a single night. Alaskan White-crowned Sparrows migrate about 2,600 miles to winter in Southern California. (allaboutbirds.org)



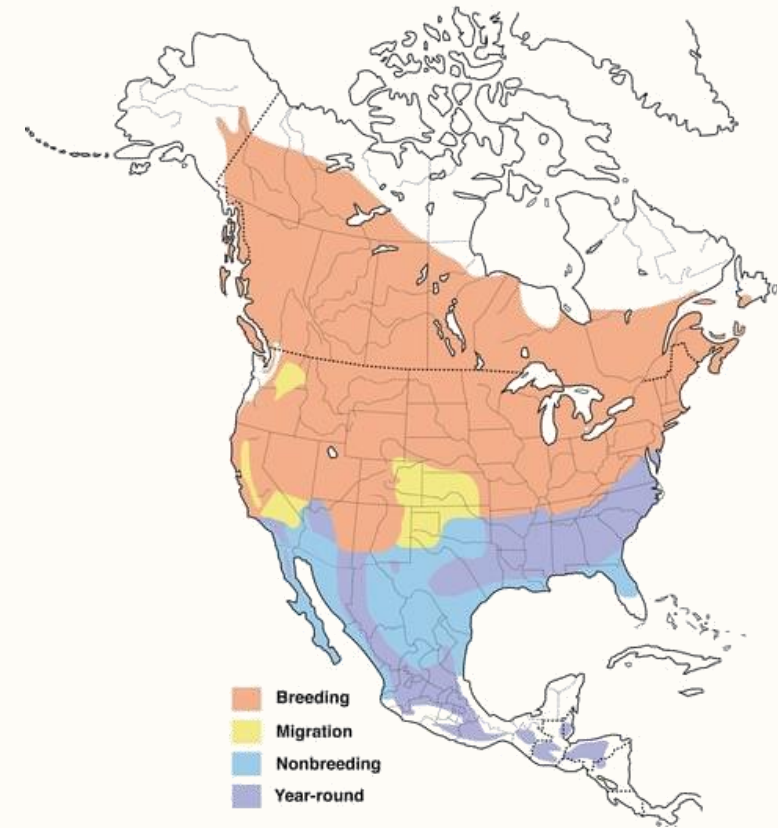
Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*)



ID: Slender, fairly long-tailed sparrow with a medium-sized bill and a bright rufous cap. Buff brown, with darkly streaked upperparts, frosty underparts, pale face & a black line through the eye.

Size: Sparrow-sized or smaller.

Fun Fact: The nest of the Chipping Sparrow is of such flimsy construction that light can be seen through it. It probably provides little insulation for the eggs and young. (allaboutbirds.org)



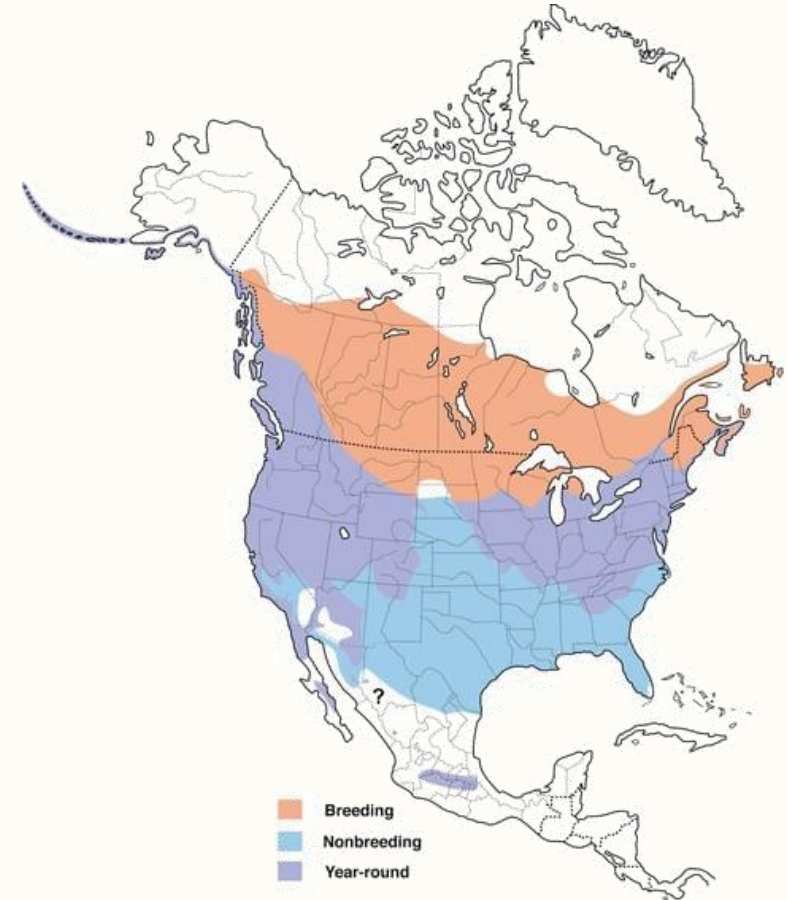
Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*)



ID: Medium-sized and fairly bulky sparrows. For a sparrow, the bill is short and stout and the head fairly rounded. The tail is long and rounded, and the wings are broad. Streaky and brown with thick streaks on a white chest and flanks.

Size: Slightly smaller than a Dark-eyed Junco; slightly larger than a Chipping Sparrow.

Fun Fact: Song Sparrows often lay two or more clutches of eggs per breeding season. In exceptional circumstances, such as when resources are abundant or predation causes the loss of several clutches in a row, Song Sparrows have laid as many as seven clutches in a single breeding season, and have successfully reared up to four clutches. (allaboutbirds.org)



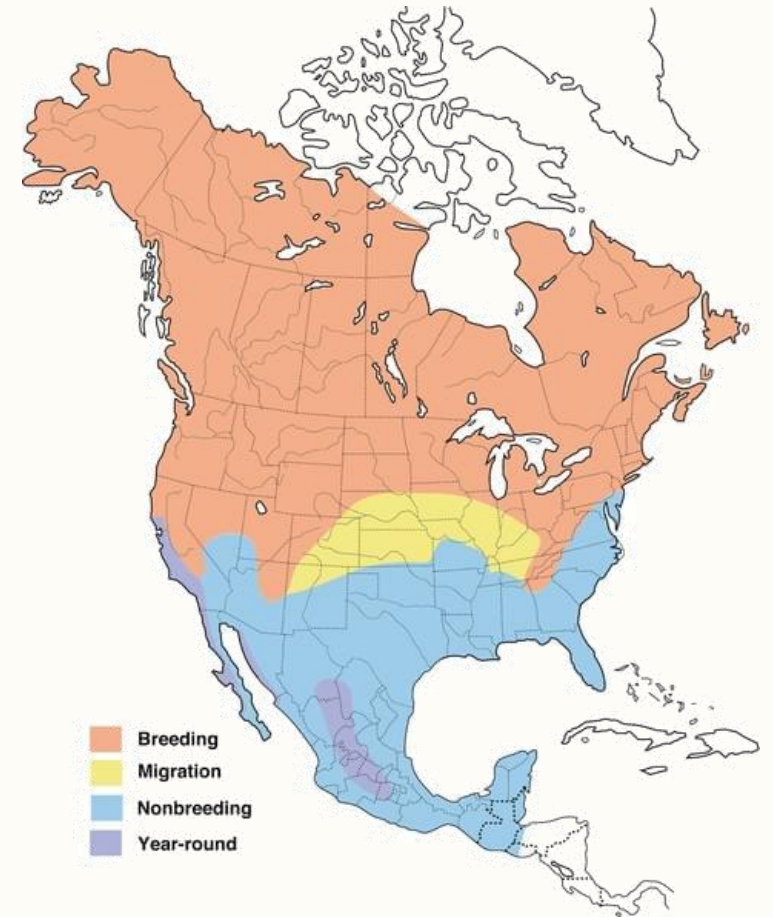
Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*)



ID: Medium-sized sparrows with short, notched tails. The head appears small for the plump body, and the crown feathers often flare up to give the bird's head a small peak. The thick-based, seed-eating bill is small for a sparrow. Savannah Sparrows are brown above and white below, with crisp streaks throughout. Look for a small yellow patch on the face in front of the eye.

Size: About the size of a Song Sparrow.

Fun Fact: Raising young is hard work: a female Savannah Sparrow must gather 10 times her weight in food to feed herself and her young during the 8 days they are in the nest. (allaboutbirds.org)



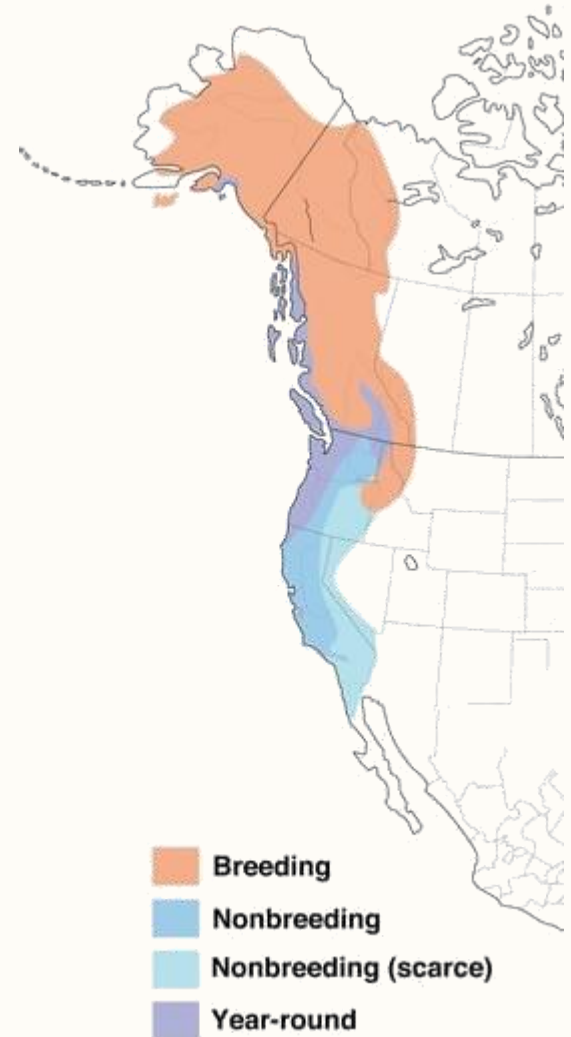
Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*)



ID: Stocky songbird with a large, rounded head, straight bill, long legs and relatively short tail. Dark blue-gray on the back and rich burnt-orange below with a sooty-black breastband and orange line over the eye. Wings are blackish with two orange bars and orange edging to the flight feathers.

Size: About the size of an American Robin; smaller than a Steller's Jay.

Fun Fact: Long-term data collected by participants of Project FeederWatch have shown that Varied Thrush populations go up and down on a 2-year cycle. (allaboutbirds.org)



American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*)



ID: Fairly large songbirds with a large, round body, long legs, and fairly long tail. Robins are the largest North American thrushes. gray-brown birds with warm orange underparts and dark heads. In flight, a white patch on the lower belly and under the tail can be conspicuous.

Size: Robin-sized. 😊

Fun Fact: Robins eat different types of food depending on the time of day: more earthworms in the morning and more fruit later in the day. Because the robin forages largely on lawns, it is vulnerable to pesticide poisoning and can be an important indicator of chemical pollution. (allaboutbirds.org)



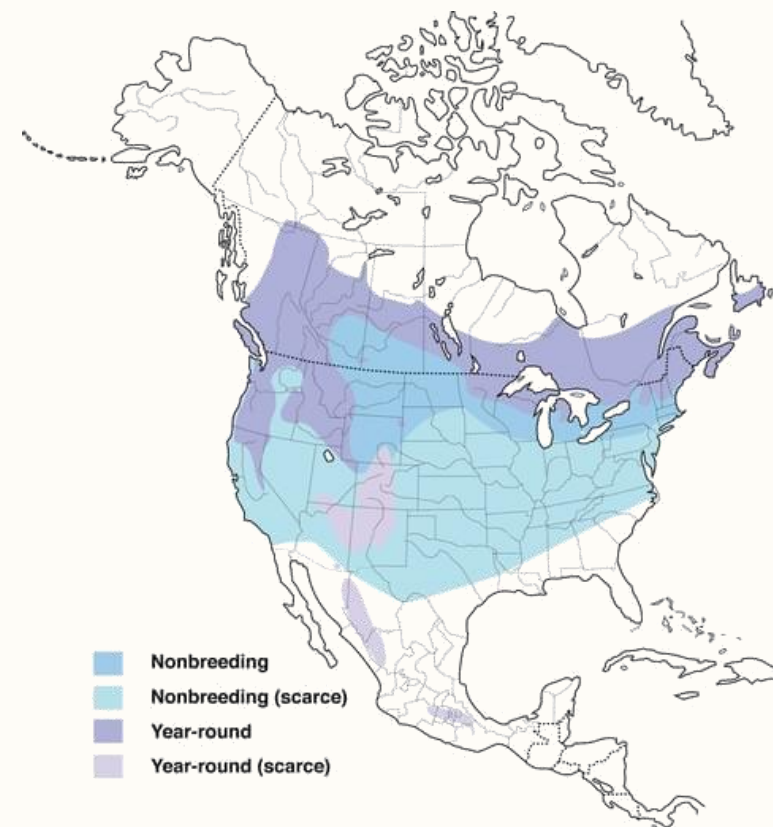
Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*)



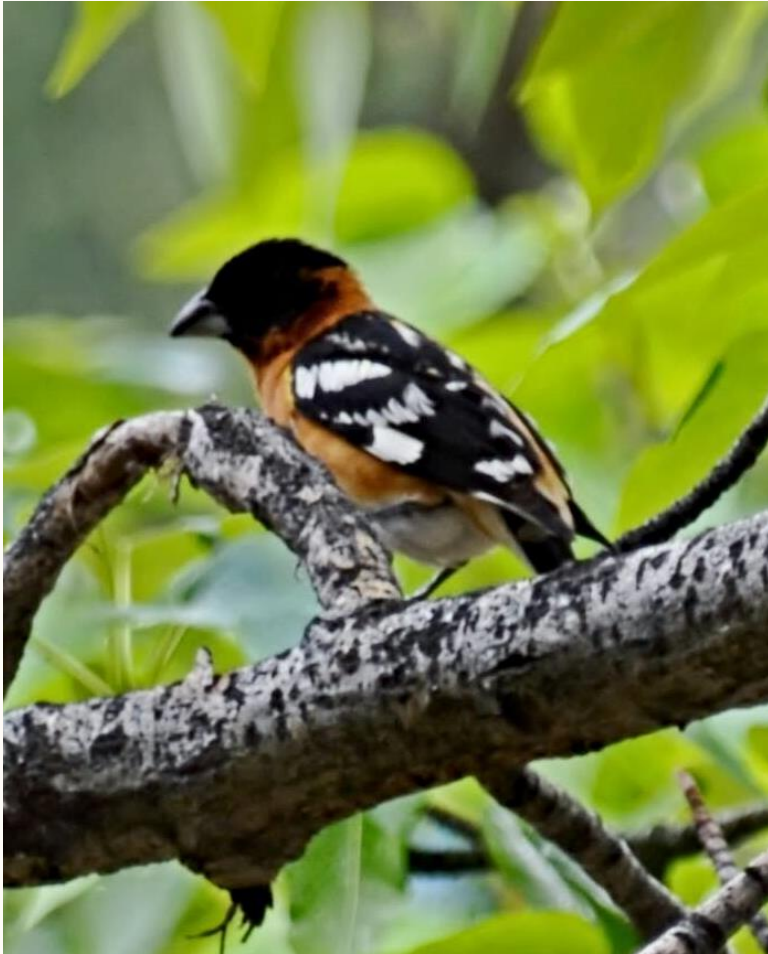
ID: Large, heavyset finches with very thick, powerful, conical bills. They have a thick neck, full chest, and relatively short tail. Adult males are yellow and black birds with a prominent white patch in the wings. Females and immatures are mostly gray, with white-and-black wings and a greenish-yellow tinge to the neck and flanks.

Size: Robin-sized

Fun Fact: The Evening Grosbeak is a songbird without a song—that is, it does not seem to use any complex sounds to attract a mate or defend its territory. It does have a small repertoire of simple calls, including sweet, piercing notes and burry chirps. (allaboutbirds.org)



Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*)



ID: Hefty songbird with a very large, grayish conical bill, large head, short, thick neck and a short tail. Males are rich orange-cinnamon with a black head and black-and-white wings. Females and immatures are brown above with warm orange or buff on the breast.

Size: Larger than a House Finch; more compact and slimmer than an American Robin.

Fun Fact: Despite his showy plumage, the male Black-headed Grosbeak shares about equally with the female in incubating eggs and feeding young. (allaboutbirds.org)



Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*)



ID: Large sparrow with a thick, pointed bill, short neck, chunky body, and long, rounded tail. Grayish brown to black upperparts and throat; wings and back are spotted bright white. Flanks are warm rufous and the belly is white.

Size: Bigger than a Song Sparrow; smaller than an American Robin.

Fun Fact: Watch a Spotted Towhee feeding on the ground; you'll probably observe its two-footed, backwards-scratching hop. This "double-scratching" is used by a number of towhee and sparrow species to uncover the seeds and small invertebrates they feed on. (allaboutbirds.org)



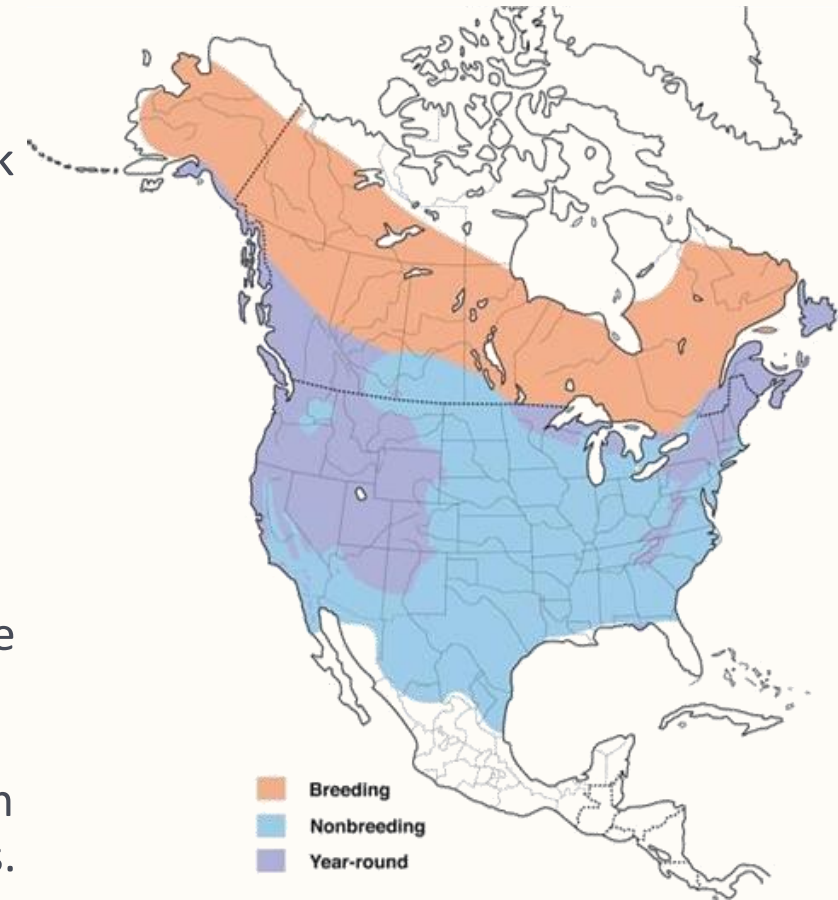
Dark-eyed Junco, Oregon (*Junco hyemalis*)



ID: Medium-sized sparrow with a rounded head, a short, stout bill and a fairly long, conspicuous tail. “Oregon” form of western North America has dark brown hood, light brown back, buffy sides and white belly.

Size: Slightly larger than a Chipping Sparrow.

Fun Fact: One of the most common birds in North America, found across the continent, from Alaska to Mexico, from California to New York. A recent estimate set the junco’s total population at approximately 630 million individuals. (allaboutbirds.org)



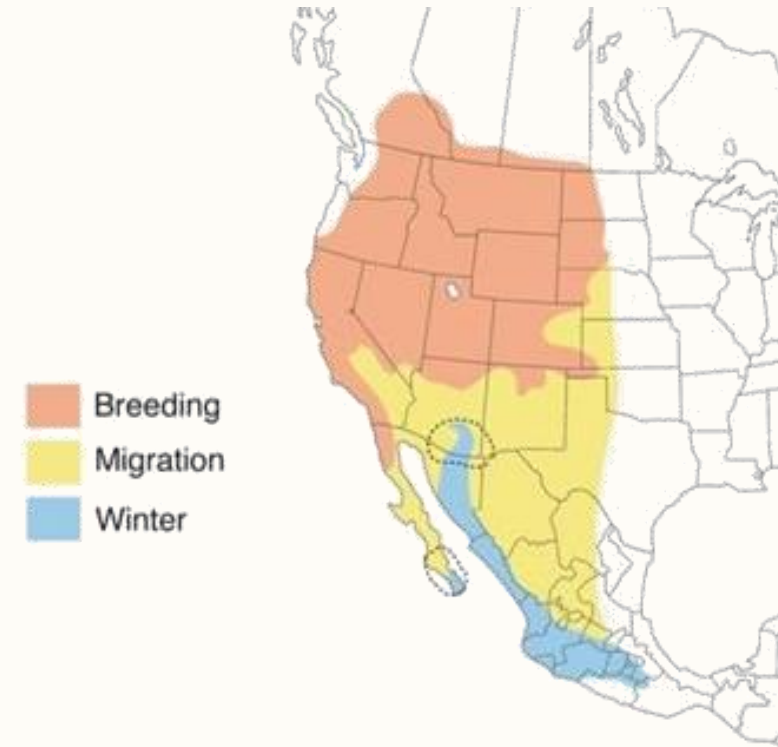
Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*)



ID: Small, finch-like, stocky songbird with a cone-shaped bill, gently sloping forehead and a notched tail. Males are brilliant blue above with a pumpkin-colored breast and a white belly. Females are warm grayish-brown above, with a blue tinge to the wings and tail, two buffy wingbars, and an unstreaked pale cinnamon or tan breast.

Size: Larger than a Lesser Goldfinch; smaller than a Western Bluebird.

Fun Fact: Each male sings a unique combination of notes. Shortly after arriving to the breeding grounds, yearling males create their own song by rearranging syllables and combining song fragments of several males. The song they put together is theirs for life. (allaboutbirds.org)



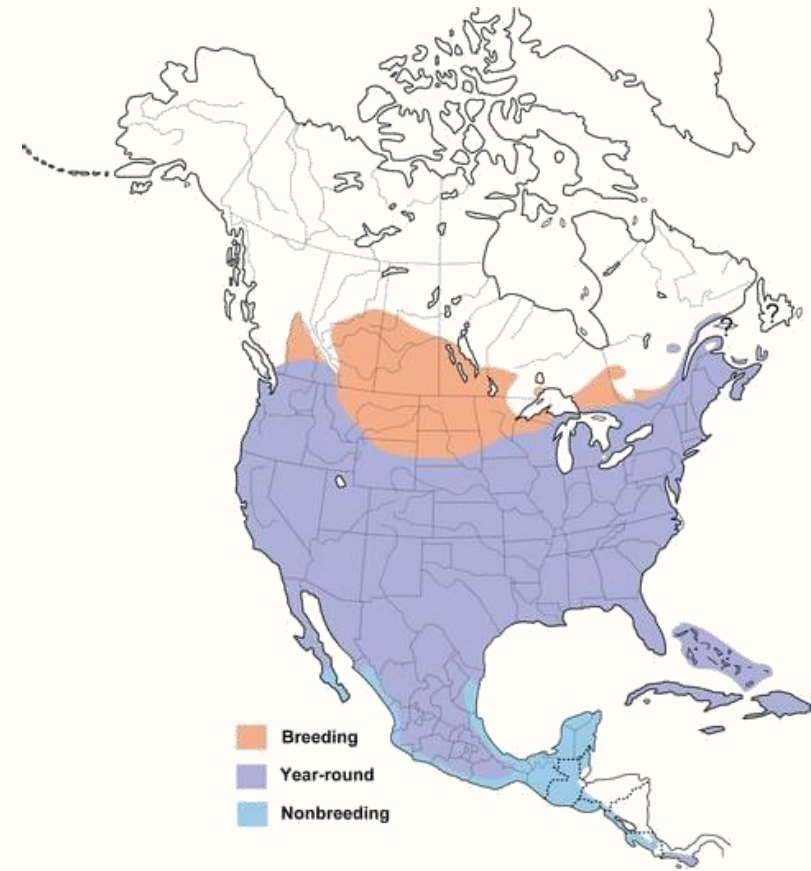
Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*)



ID: Plump-bodied and long-tailed, with short legs, small bill, and a head that looks particularly small in comparison to the body. Delicate brown to buffy-tan overall, with black spots on the wings and black-bordered white tips to the tail feathers.

Size: Robin-sized

Fun Fact: The Mourning Dove is the most widespread and abundant game bird in North America. Every year hunters harvest more than 20 million, but the Mourning Dove remains one of our most abundant birds with a U.S. population estimated at 350 million. (allaboutbirds.org)

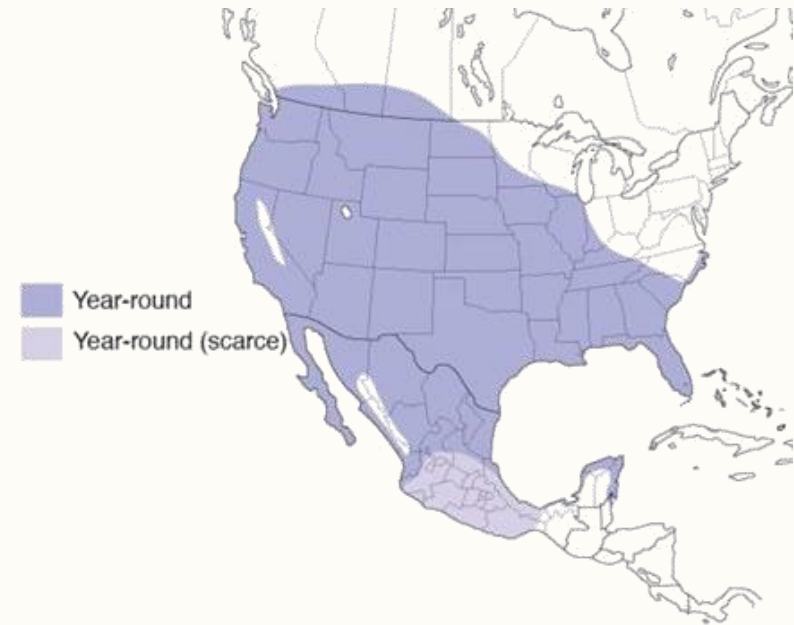


Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*)

ID: Large dove with a plump body, small head and long tail squared off at the tip. Wings are broad and slightly rounded. Chalky light brown to gray-buff bird with broad white patches in the tail. Collar is a narrow black crescent around the nape of the neck.

Size: Larger than a Mourning Dove but smaller than a Rock Pigeon.

Fun Fact: Eurasian Collared-Doves are one of very few species that can drink “head down,” submerging their bills and sucking water as though drinking through a straw. Most birds must scoop water and tip the head back to let it run down into the throat. (allaboutbirds.org)



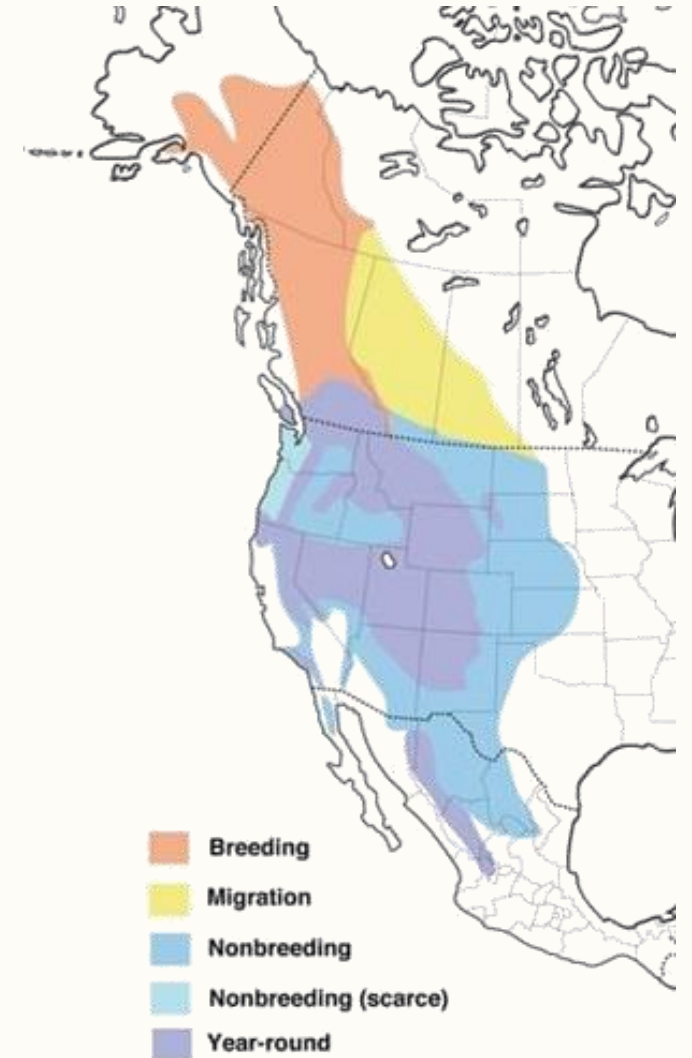
Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*)



ID: Medium-sized songbird with a long tail, a short bill, and a small rounded head relative to its body size. Gray bird with prominent white eyerings. Buffy wing patches and white outer tail feathers are often prominent in flight.

Size: Larger than a Mountain Bluebird; smaller than an American Robin.

Fun Fact: John Kirk Townsend collected the first Townsend's Solitaire in 1835 along the lower Willamette River in Oregon. Three years later, John James Audubon honored Townsend by naming the bird after him. (allaboutbirds.org)



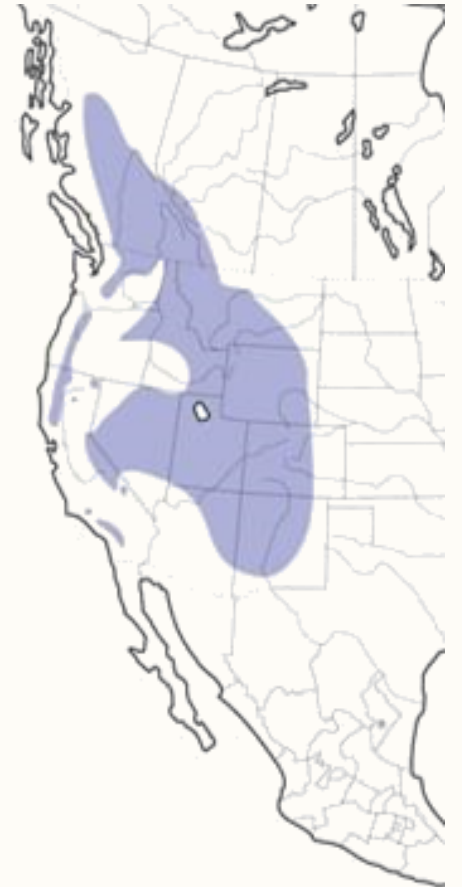
Clark's Nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*)



ID: Short tail and a rounded, crestless head. The bill is long, straight, and sharp-tipped. Pale gray bird with black wings. In flight, the wings show large white patches along the trailing edges. The tail is black in the center with broad white along either side. Black bill, legs, and feet.

Size: About the size of a Steller's Jay but more compact.

Fun Fact: The Clark's Nutcracker has a special pouch under its tongue that it uses to carry seeds long distances. The nutcracker harvests seeds from pine trees and takes them away to hide them for later use. (allaboutbirds.org)

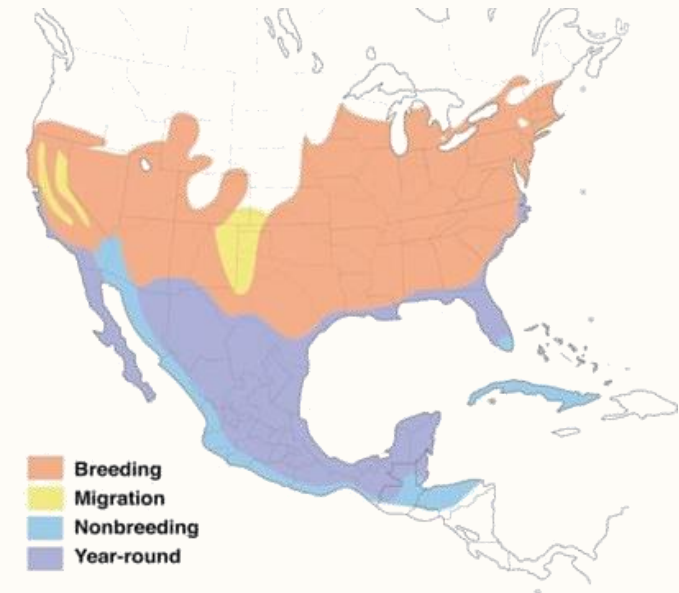


Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*)

ID: Tiny, slim songbird with long legs; a long tail; and a thin, straight bill. Pale blue-gray with grayish-white underparts and a mostly black tail with white edges. The underside of the tail is mostly white. Face is highlighted by a thin white eyering.

Size: Sparrow-sized or smaller.

Fun Fact: In spite of their name, gnats do not form a significant part of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher's diet.
(allaboutbirds.org)



Bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*)



ID: Plump and large-headed, with a long tail and short, stubby bill. Fairly plain brown-and-gray; slightly darker above than below. Brown-gray heads, gray wings, and tan-gray underparts.

Size: Slightly smaller than a chickadee; about the size of a kinglet.

Fun Fact: A breeding Bushtit pair often has helpers at the nest that aid in raising the nestlings. This already rare behavior is made more unusual by the fact that the helpers are typically adult males.
(allaboutbirds.org)



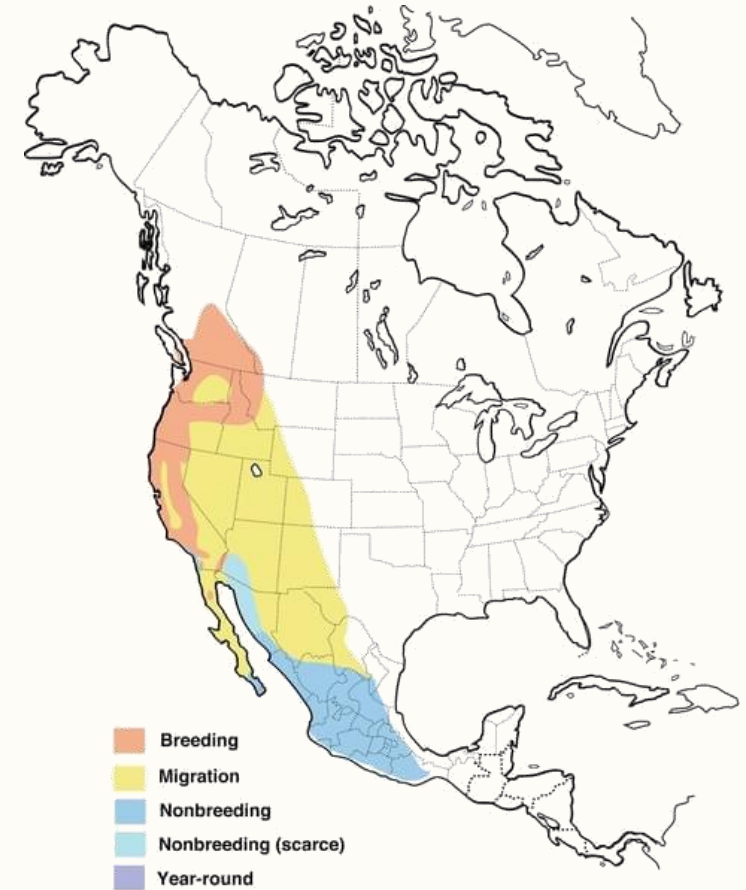
Cassin's Vireo (*Vireo cassinii*)



ID: Brownish-gray head with white spectacles. Two whitish wingbars. Belly white, flanks yellowish.

Size: Sparrow-sized or smaller.

Fun Fact: Two subspecies of Cassin's Vireo are recognized. One is widespread in western North America from Canada to the northern part of Baja California. The other form is found only on the very southern tip of Baja California more than 800 km (500 mi) away. (allaboutbirds.org)

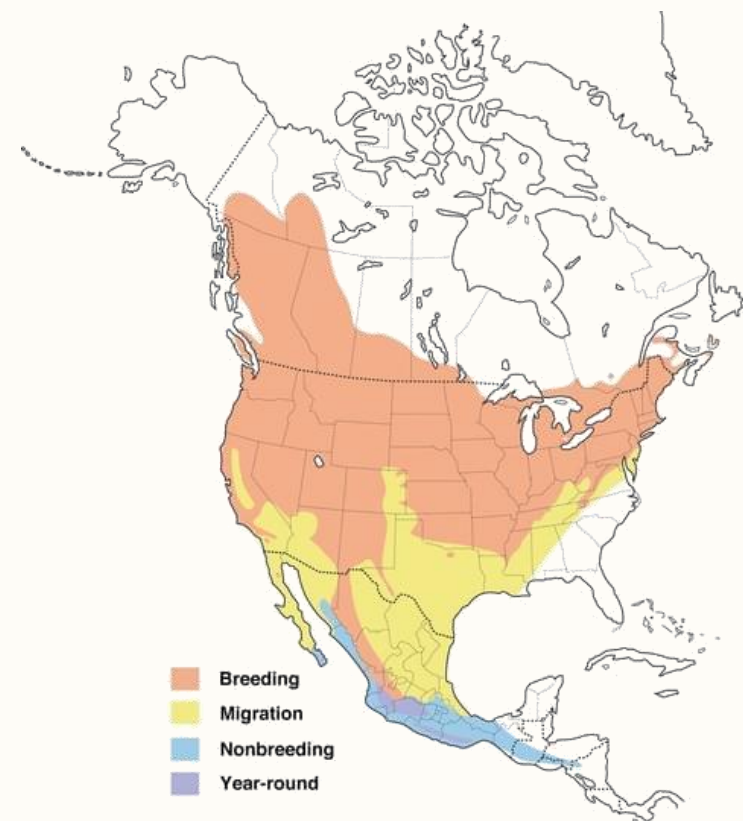


Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*)

ID: Small, chunky songbirds with thick, straight, slightly hooked bills. They are medium-sized for vireos, with a fairly round head and medium-length bill and tail. Gray-olive above and whitish below, washed on the sides and vent with yellow. They have a dark line through the eye and a white line over the eye.

Size: Sparrow-sized or smaller.

Fun Fact: Researchers speculate that Warbling Vireo song is at least partially learned rather than hard-wired. They base this supposition in part on observations of one individual whose song more closely resembled that of a Red-eyed Vireo than that of its parents. The garbled song, they concluded, probably resulted from a flawed learning process during the bird's development. (allaboutbirds.org)



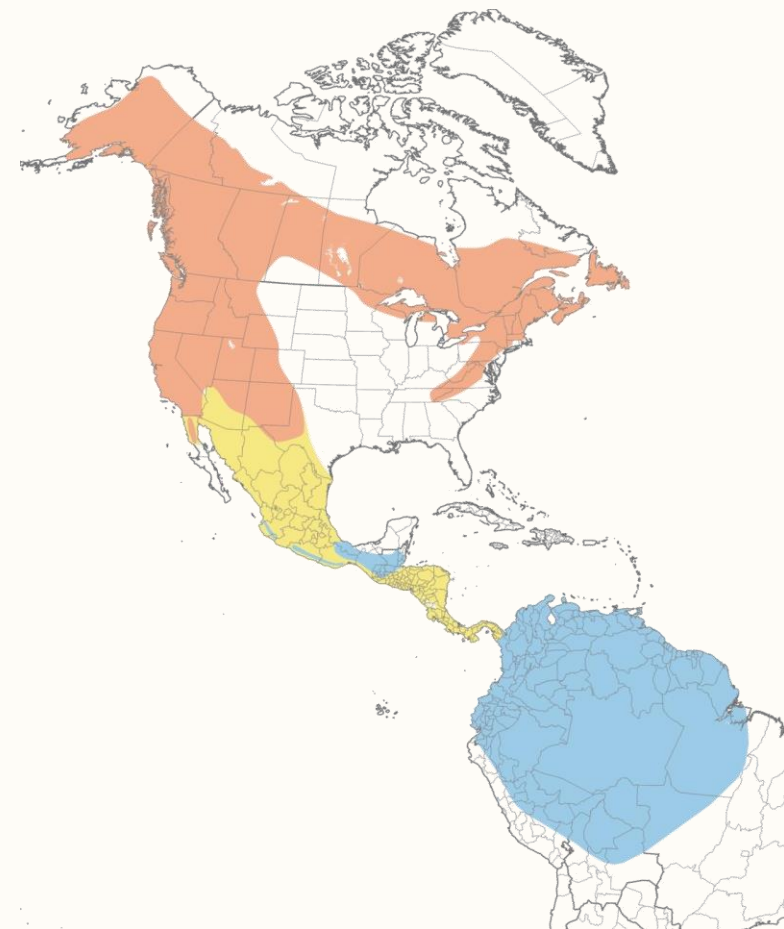
Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*)



ID: Large, elongated, upright-perching flycatcher with a relatively wide bill. White center of breast contrasts sharply with gray sides, giving a “vested” appearance.

Size: Between sparrow and robin.

Fun Fact: The Olive-sided Flycatcher is frequently associated with burned forests. The opened area and the abundant snags may help it to catch flying insects. (allaboutbirds.org)



Dusky Flycatcher (*Empidonax oberholseri*)



ID: Short, pointed bill & rather short, pointed wings. The tail looks rather long (because of the short primary feathers). Greenish olive above with a pale eyering (wider behind the eye) and two prominent pale wingbars.

Size: Larger than a Yellow-rumped Warbler, smaller than a Black Phoebe.

Fun Fact: Dusky Flycatcher is one of a handful of songbird species that may benefit from habitat disturbance, including certain types of logging, as their shrubby breeding habitat can increase in such situations.

(allaboutbirds.org)



Western Wood-Pewee (*Contopus sordidulus*)



ID: Medium-sized flycatchers with a peaked crown that gives their head a triangular shape. Grayish brown overall with 2 pale wingbars. The underparts are whitish with smudgy gray on the breast and sides.

Size: Sparrow-sized or smaller.

Fun Fact: The Western Wood-Pewee makes a clapping noise with its bill while chasing and attacking intruders in nest defense. (allaboutbirds.org)



Mountain Chickadee (*Poecile gambeli*)



ID: Tiny, large-headed but small-billed, with a long, narrow tail and full, rounded wings. Black-and-white on the head, gray elsewhere. The white stripe over the eye identifies Mountain Chickadees from all other chickadees.

Size: Sparrow-sized or smaller.

Fun Fact: Energetic models suggest that a half-ounce chickadee needs to eat about 10 calories per day to survive. That's equivalent to about one-twentieth of an ounce of peanut butter. (allaboutbirds.org)



Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*)



ID: Small, plump songbirds with large heads and medium-long, squared tails. The bill is straight and thin. Mostly sooty gray on the upperparts and chest, with a slightly darker black head. The belly is clean white, and the wing feathers are edged with pale gray.

Size: Smaller than a Western Scrub-Jay; larger than an American Goldfinch.

Fun Fact: Although it mostly eats insects, the Black Phoebe sometimes snatches minnows from the surface of ponds. It may even feed fish to nestlings. (allaboutbirds.org)

