



Wedgewood Wildlife Sanctuary Wildlife Report May 13 - May 18, 2015

Report #5 of season Wedgewood Resort - Fairbanks Alaska

Quite a few birds have been seen at the sanctuary the past week, but because of our warm temperatures it's best to get out in the early morning or late evening to look for wildlife. Shorebirds have begun to arrive, and two species were documented for the first time at Wander Lake in the past week: Whimbrel and Hudsonian Godwit. A pair of Semipalmated Plovers is back at the far end of the lake, and Lesser Yellowlegs and Spotted Sandpipers can be heard calling frequently.

The Red-necked Grebe pair is also calling a lot, in between diving for fish and working on their nest. Our Canada Goose pair probably has started a nest, but the female won't start incubating until all of the eggs are laid. This past week some beautiful ducks visited the lake, including Surf Scoters, Buffleheads, and Ring-necked Ducks.

Tree Swallows are starting to build nests in a few of the boxes at the lake. Be sure to watch from a distance so you don't disturb them. Most of the female Mew Gulls are incubating eggs. The nest on the blind might get moved this week because we need to reset the blind on its foundation and don't want to harm the eggs. Look for the larger Herring Gulls that have been visiting the lake recently. The Mew Gulls don't like them so noisy arguments often result.

New songbird arrivals include Swainson's Thrush, Varied Thrush, Wilson's Warbler, Rusty Blackbird, and Savannah Sparrow. American Robins, Orange-crowned Warblers and White-crowned Sparrows are singing up a storm around the lake, but they tend to be quiet during the heat of the day.

Recent Bird Sightings!

Canada Goose	Great Horned Owl	American Robin
American Wigeon	Hammond's Flycatcher	Bohemian Waxwing
Mallard	Common Raven	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Northern Pintail	Boreal Chickadee	Orange-crowned Warbler
Red-necked Grebe	White-crowned Sparrow	Belted Kingfisher
Lesser Yellowlegs	Black-capped Chickadee	Tree Swallow
Mew Gull	Ruffed Grouse	Violet-green Swallow
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Herring Gull	Surf Scoter
Townsend's Warbler	Northern Shoveler	Bufflehead
Northern Waterthrash	Green-winged Teal	Sandhill Crane
Whimbrel	Spotted Sandpiper	Semipalmated Plover
Hudsonian Godwit	Solitary Sandpiper	Swainson's Thrush
Northern Flicker	Varied Thrush	Wilson's Warbler



Hudsonian Godwit



Belted Kingfisher



Mew Gull



Semipalmated Sandpiper



Bohemian Waxwing