



## Common Birds of Katmai National Park and Preserve

Katmai is home to many species of resident and migrating birds. If you are from Alaska, the Lower 48 or anywhere in the world, we hope you are able to identify these common species.



**Bald Eagle: Adult Male**  
30-43 inches (wingspan 7-8' ft)

When gulls are distressed and flying around, look for bald eagles in the area. Bald eagles have a high pitched piping cry. Film makers dub the impressive cry of a Red Tailed Hawk over the eagle's actual cry.



**Bald Eagle: Juvenile**

At least 3 years are required before the white head and tail appear. First year plumage is brown or black. Third year plumage is mottled with dull white.



**Osprey**  
21-24 inches (wingspan 4-6 ft)

Osprey can be seen soaring and diving over the Brooks River. Osprey hunt fish by hovering over water and diving head and feet first into the water.



**Black-billed Magpie**  
17-22 inches (tail 9-12 inches)

Magpies are opportunistic feeders who will eat almost anything. They are often noisy birds who can be seen walking or hopping around Brooks Camp.



**Common Merganser: Male**  
22-27 inches

Male Common Mergansers are seen at Brooks River in May and June. After mating, males leave the area. Common Merganser's bills have small tooth-like points adapted for gripping small fish.



**Common Merganser: Female**  
22-27 inches

Commonly seen along Brooks River with many hatchlings following behind or riding on mother's back. Females often lay eggs in other nests resulting in one female raising many young.



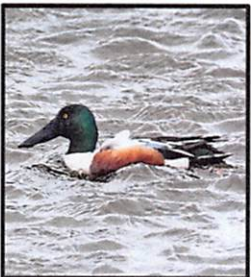
**Common Goldeneye: Male**  
20 inches

Male's wings in flight produce whirring noise. Often seen in flocks while moving between feeding areas.



**Common Goldeneye: Female**  
20 inches

Females often lay eggs in other female Goldeneye's nests resulting in one nest holding many eggs. Young can walk swim and feed themselves within hours after hatching.



**Northern Shoveler**  
17-20 inches

Distinguished from a Mallard by the chestnut side and broad spoonbill. Shoveler spoonbills are used for sifting muddy water while dabbling.

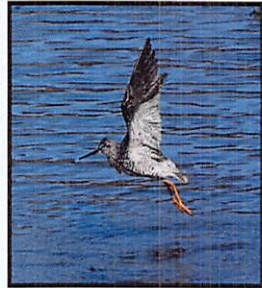


**Mallard: Female and Male**  
20-28 inches

Common duck seen throughout North America. The signature "quack" of this duck is only given by the female.

# Katmai

National Park & Preserve  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



**Greater Yellow-Legs**  
14 inches

Noisy birds are commonly seen at the Lower River Platform from June through July. They are known as the "Alaska car alarm" for their loud repetitive call.



**Arctic Tern**  
14-17 inches

The world's greatest migrants logging up to 31,000 miles per year. Arctic Terns can live up to 25 years and may travel 600,000 miles in their lifetime.



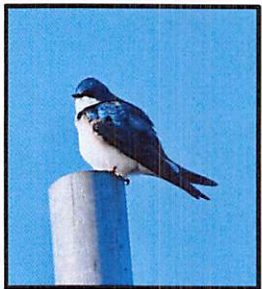
**Mew Gull**  
16-18 inches

Smaller than the Glaucous-winged Gull, look for yellow legs and black tips of wings. When flying, these gulls' wings have black tips.



**Glaucous-winged Gull**  
24-27 inches

Larger than the Mew Gull, look for pink legs, large size and red spot on bill. When flying, these gulls' wings are uniformly white.



**Tree Swallow**  
5-6 inches

These little iridescent blue and white birds can be seen swooping, diving and perching around the Lower River Platform.



**Boreal Chickadee**  
5 inches

Look for a brown cap and chestnut brown flanks to distinguish this from the Black-capped Chickadee.



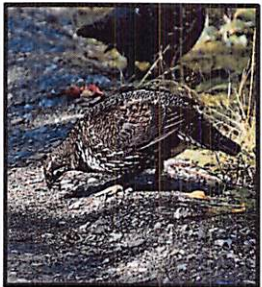
**Wilson's Warbler**  
4-5 inches

Look for black cap and long tail. Small active bird that favors alder forests. Nests in dense, moist woodlands, alder bogs and willow thickets.



**Yellow-rumped Warbler - Myrtle**  
5-6 inches

The Myrtle variety of the Yellow-rumped Warbler has a white eyebrow and cheek patch. Look for the yellow rump, patch on side and crown.



**Spruce Grouse**  
15-17 inches

Often seen along the Valley of 10,000 Smokes road and perched in trees. Spruce Grouse eat conifer needles having an ability to digest plant foods that can be bitter and toxic.



**Belted Kingfisher**  
13 inches

Kingfishers can be seen hovering, plunging, and flying with uneven wing beats while noisily chattering along the Brooks River.



**American Robin**  
9-11 inches

America's most adaptable bird occurring in all forest types. Robins are ground feeders who hop a few yards, pause and then cock their heads looking (not listening) for prey.



**Dark Eyed Junco**  
5-6 inches

Previously separated into 4 species (Oregon, Slate-colored, White Winged and Gray-headed) All have white outer tail feathers.