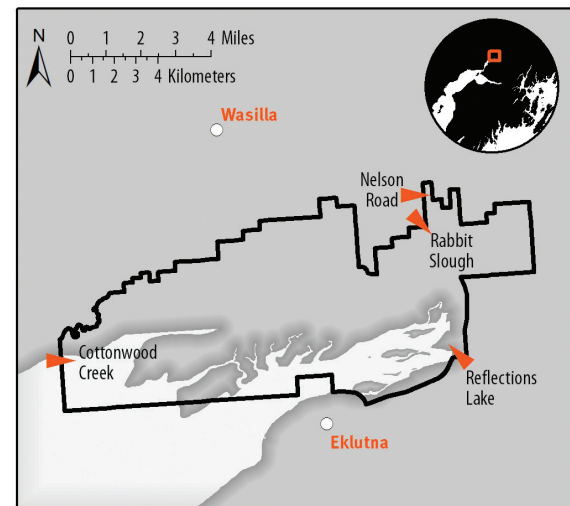




GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE



PALMER HAY FLATS REFUGE AND IMPORTANT BIRD AREA ACCESS POINTS

The Palmer Hay Flats encompass a rich estuary of about 45,000 acres. This mosaic of freshwater streams, silty glacial rivers, saltwater, lakes, ponds, marshes, bogs, mudflats exposed by forty-foot tides, and upland birch forests draws tens of thousands of ducks, geese, swans, shorebirds, and other birds when they stop to refuel during migration to and from northern nesting grounds. Many species of birds also stay to nest and raise young here.

About two-thirds of this area is protected within the Palmer Hay Flats State Game Refuge. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game manages the refuge, created in 1975, to protect wildlife habitat and allows compatible public uses. Palmer Hay Flats is one of Southcentral Alaska's most popular birding locations. The fall waterfowl hunting season is open from September through mid-December, so take note if you are birding then. Visit www.refuges.adfg.alaska.gov for more information on the refuge.

The refuge is designated an Important Bird Area for the thousands of Canada Geese, Snow Geese, and Tundra Swans that rely on these wetlands during migration. Visit www.AudubonAlaska.org for more information about Important Bird Areas. Audubon Alaska uses science to identify and conserve important habitat for birds across Alaska, emphasizing public lands and waters.

ACCIDENTAL, CASUAL, UNSUBSTANTIATED KEY

- **Casual:** Occasionally seen, but not every year
- **Accidental:** Only one or two ever seen here
- x** **Unsubstantiated:** no photographic or sample evidence to support sighting
- w** Listed on the Audubon Alaska Watchlist of declining or threatened species

SPECIES	SPRING	SUMMER	FALL	WINTER
Brant w				
Blue-winged Teal				
Cinnamon Teal				
Surf Scoter				
White-winged Scoter				
Black Scoter				
Long-tailed Duck				
Rock Ptarmigan				
Sora				
American Coot				
Pacific Golden-Plover				
Upland Sandpiper				
Red Phalarope				
Black-legged Kittiwake				
Mourning Dove				
Snowy Owl				
Red-eyed Vireo				
Marsh Wren				
Brown-headed Cowbird				
Red Crossbill				

Spring: March 16–May 31

Summer: June 1–July 31

Fall: August 1–November 30

Winter: December 1–March 15



John Schoen

NORTHERN PINTAIL

For more information on Alaska bird festivals and birding maps for Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Kodiak, contact Audubon Alaska at www.AudubonAlaska.org or 907-276-7034.

For more information on birding in Alaska, visit www.birding.alaska.gov

Checklist Compiler

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For a full list of data sources, visit www.AudubonAlaska.org

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FRONT COVER: NORTHERN HAWK OWL

Palmer Hay Flats

Audubon Important Bird Area and State Game Refuge

BIRD CHECKLIST



www.MiloBurcham.com

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