Species at Risk in Stanley Park

Written by:
Robyn Worcester, Dipl. Tech., B.Sc.
Koren Johnstone, Dipl. Tech., B.Sc.
Stanley Park Ecology Society

March 2007
(Updated November 2009)
Species at Risk

Rare and endangered species include those listed by the federal Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) as well as the BC Conservation Data Center (CDC) Red, Blue, and Yellow lists. There are at least 40 of these species that have been recorded in Stanley Park.

**Red List Species:** Flora and fauna which, by virtue of their low abundance and risk of extirpation are considered to be “endangered or threatened” at a Provincial level. Red listed species are legally designated by the BC Ministry of Environment (BC CDC, GVRD 1992).

**Blue List Species:** Flora and fauna which, by virtue of their low or declining numbers and restricted distribution are considered to be “sensitive or vulnerable” at a Provincial level. Blue listed species are legally designated by the BC Ministry of Environment (BC CDC, GVRD 1992).

**Yellow List Species:** Includes species that are apparently secure and not at risk of extinction. Yellow listed species may have Red- or Blue-listed subspecies (BC CDC 2007)

**COSEWIC Listing** (Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada): The status granted by COSEWIC has no legal authority. However, with the adoption of the Species at Risk Act (SARA) in 2003, Canadian government decisions on whether or not to add species to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk are based on COSEWIC evaluations (Environment Canada 2007, BC CDC 2007).

**Methods**

**Creation of SAR Master List**

A master list for Species at Risk in Stanley Park was created by searching for accounts of all Red and Blue listed species that may possibly exist in Stanley Park. This was done by searching the BC Conservation Data Center (BC CDC) website. The search was focused on Red and Blue listed plants and animals in the Chilliwack forest district as well as in the Coastal Western Hemlock biogeoclimatic zone.

We cross-referenced this master list with a variety of sources that report species observed in Stanley Park. A full list of references is included at the end of this section of the report.

Yellow listed species were not included because of time constraints and because they have a lower conservation priority at this point.
Species accounts

An account for each species was created including its COSEWIC and CDC status, its breeding status in Stanley Park, its identification and habitat, and a list of known observations in the Park.

The species breeding status in the Park was arrived at by consideration of recorded breeding observations or life history attributes. Designations include: confirmed, possible and unlikely.

The identification and habitat sections were compiled using variety of recognized sources such as the CDC Species Summaries, and are listed in the references section.

Observations of species in Stanley Park are listed in summary form from the sources in the references section. These sources included: Vancouver Park Board reports, pertinent publications, academic reports and theses, Stanley Park Ecology Society monitoring data, and observations from experienced naturalists. The personal communication information is dated with the day of the interview, not of the sighting, but these represent sightings that happened in the last several years.

The SPES monitoring data includes the years the species were sighted, how many individuals were observed, and their locations. These data came from four sources: the Lost Lagoon Nature House observation log (1999-2006), SPES bird counts (2001-2007), the nature diary of two local naturalists (1968-1997), and the notes from a SPES volunteer wildlife monitor (2005-2007).

Maps

Maps were created using known observation locations as well as potential habitat data taken from life history accounts of each species. The locations of known observations were added to the map as accurately as possible based on available information,

The potential habitat part of the maps were made by selecting map layers such as forest cover, intertidal areas, etc and/or creating polygons from orthophoto images. Potential locations of these species were estimated by outlining their specific habitat requirements such as wetlands, riparian vegetation, clearings, mature forest, streams, etc.
## Species at Risk in Stanley Park

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>English Name</th>
<th>Species Code</th>
<th>Global Status</th>
<th>Provincial Status</th>
<th>Federal COSEWIC Designation</th>
<th>Provincial CDC Designation</th>
<th>Stanley Park record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Species on record and may be inhabiting in Stanley Park</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ardea herodias fannini</td>
<td>Great Blue Heron, fannini subspecies</td>
<td>B-GBHE-FA</td>
<td>G5T4</td>
<td>S3B,S4N</td>
<td>SPECIAL CONCERN</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falco peregrinus anatomum</td>
<td>Peregrine Falcon, anatum subspecies</td>
<td>B-PEFA-AN</td>
<td>G4T4</td>
<td>S2B</td>
<td>SPECIAL CONCERN</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rana aurora</td>
<td>Red-legged Frog</td>
<td>A-RAAU</td>
<td>G4</td>
<td>S3S4</td>
<td>SPECIAL CONCERN</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mergus kiiitii kennicotti</td>
<td>Western Screech-Owl, kennicotti subspecies</td>
<td>B-W5OW-KE</td>
<td>G5T4</td>
<td>S3</td>
<td>SPECIAL CONCERN</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patagioenas fasciata</td>
<td>Band-tailed Pigeon</td>
<td>B-BTPI</td>
<td>G4</td>
<td>S3S4B</td>
<td></td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Botaurus lentignosus</td>
<td>American Bittern</td>
<td>B-AMBI</td>
<td>G4</td>
<td>S3B</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hirundo rustica</td>
<td>Barn Swallow</td>
<td>B-BASW</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>S3S4B</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patagioenas fasciata</td>
<td>Band-tailed Pigeon</td>
<td>B-BTPI</td>
<td>G4</td>
<td>S3S4B</td>
<td></td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rana aurora</td>
<td>Red-legged Frog</td>
<td>A-RAAU</td>
<td>G4</td>
<td>S3S4</td>
<td>SPECIAL CONCERN</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ardea herodias fannini</td>
<td>Great Blue Heron, fannini subspecies</td>
<td>B-GBHE-FA</td>
<td>G5T4</td>
<td>S3B,S4N</td>
<td>SPECIAL CONCERN</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falco peregrinus anatomum</td>
<td>Peregrine Falcon, anatum subspecies</td>
<td>B-PEFA-AN</td>
<td>G4T4</td>
<td>S2B</td>
<td>SPECIAL CONCERN</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rana aurora</td>
<td>Red-legged Frog</td>
<td>A-RAAU</td>
<td>G4</td>
<td>S3S4</td>
<td>SPECIAL CONCERN</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mergus kiiitii kennicotti</td>
<td>Western Screech-Owl, kennicotti subspecies</td>
<td>B-W5OW-KE</td>
<td>G5T4</td>
<td>S3</td>
<td>SPECIAL CONCERN</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patagioenas fasciata</td>
<td>Band-tailed Pigeon</td>
<td>B-BTPI</td>
<td>G4</td>
<td>S3S4B</td>
<td></td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Botaurus lentignosus</td>
<td>American Bittern</td>
<td>B-AMBI</td>
<td>G4</td>
<td>S3B</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hirundo rustica</td>
<td>Barn Swallow</td>
<td>B-BASW</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>S3S4B</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pachydiapax longipennis</td>
<td>Blue Dasher</td>
<td>IO-PACLON</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>S3S4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</td>
<td>Bandt’s Cormorant</td>
<td>B-BRCO</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>S1B,S4N</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocorticynus clarkii clarkii</td>
<td>Cutthroat Trout (clarkii subspecies)</td>
<td>F-OMC-CL</td>
<td>G4T4</td>
<td>S3S4</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phalacrocorax auritus</td>
<td>Double-crested Cormorant</td>
<td>B-DCO</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>S3B</td>
<td>NOT AT RISK</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butorides virescens</td>
<td>Green Heron</td>
<td>B-GRHE</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>S3S4B</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Callophrys johnsoni</td>
<td>Johnson’s Hairstreak</td>
<td>IL-CALJOH</td>
<td>G3G4</td>
<td>S1S2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Re</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limnodromus griseus</td>
<td>Short-billed Dowitcher</td>
<td>B-SBDO</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>S2S4B</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myodes gapperi occidentalis</td>
<td>Southern Red-backed Vole, occidentalis</td>
<td>M-MYGA-OC</td>
<td>G5T5</td>
<td>S1</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melaniea perscillata</td>
<td>Surf Scoter</td>
<td>B-SUSC</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>S3B,S4N</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corynorhinus townsendii</td>
<td>Townsend’s Big-eared Bat</td>
<td>M-COTO</td>
<td>G4</td>
<td>S3</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aechmophorus townsendii</td>
<td>Western Grebe</td>
<td>B-WEGR</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>S1B,S2</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sturnella neglecta</td>
<td>Western Meadowlark (Georgia Depression population)</td>
<td>B-WEME</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>TNRQ</td>
<td>S1B</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brachyramphus marmoratus</td>
<td>Marbled Murrelet</td>
<td>B-MAMU</td>
<td>G3G4</td>
<td>S2B,S4</td>
<td>THREATENE</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loxia californicus</td>
<td>California Gull</td>
<td>B-CAGU</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>S3B</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Species on record but is extirpated or otherwise unlikely to be found in Stanley Park*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>English Name</th>
<th>Species Code</th>
<th>Global Status</th>
<th>Provincial Status</th>
<th>Federal COSEWIC Designation</th>
<th>Provincial CDC Designation</th>
<th>Stanley Park record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chrysomys picta pop. 1</td>
<td>Western Painted Turtle - Pacific Coast Population</td>
<td>R-CHPI</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>TNR</td>
<td>S1</td>
<td>ENDANGERED</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eremophila alpestris strigata</td>
<td>Horned Lark, strigata subspecies</td>
<td>B-H0LA-ST</td>
<td>G5T2</td>
<td>SX</td>
<td>ENDANGERED</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grus canadensis</td>
<td>Sandhill Crane</td>
<td>B-SACR</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>S3S4B</td>
<td>NOT AT RISK</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Species not on Record in Stanley Park but may exist*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>English Name</th>
<th>Species Code</th>
<th>Global Status</th>
<th>Provincial Status</th>
<th>Federal COSEWIC Designation</th>
<th>Provincial CDC Designation</th>
<th>Stanley Park record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allogona townsendiana</td>
<td>Oregon Forest Snail</td>
<td>IM-ALLTOW</td>
<td>G3G4</td>
<td>S1S2</td>
<td>ENDANGERED</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fissidens pauperculus</td>
<td>Poor Pocket Moss</td>
<td>FISSPAU</td>
<td>G3?</td>
<td>S1</td>
<td>ENDANGERED</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sorex bendirii</td>
<td>Pacific Water Shrew</td>
<td>M-SOBE</td>
<td>G4</td>
<td>S1S2</td>
<td>ENDANGERED</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lupinus rivularis</td>
<td>Streambank lupine</td>
<td>LUPIRIV</td>
<td>G2G4</td>
<td>S1</td>
<td>ENDANGERED</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

*Species on record but is extirpated or otherwise unlikely to be found in Stanley Park*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scientific Name</th>
<th>English Name</th>
<th>Species Code</th>
<th>Global Status</th>
<th>Provincial Status</th>
<th>Federal COSEWIC Designation</th>
<th>Provincial CDC Designation</th>
<th>Stanley Park record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chrysomys picta pop. 1</td>
<td>Western Painted Turtle - Pacific Coast Population</td>
<td>R-CHPI</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>TNR</td>
<td>S1</td>
<td>ENDANGERED</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eremophila alpestris strigata</td>
<td>Horned Lark, strigata subspecies</td>
<td>B-H0LA-ST</td>
<td>G5T2</td>
<td>SX</td>
<td>ENDANGERED</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grus canadensis</td>
<td>Sandhill Crane</td>
<td>B-SACR</td>
<td>G5</td>
<td>S3S4B</td>
<td>NOT AT RISK</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Name</td>
<td>Scientific Name</td>
<td>Rank Code</td>
<td>Global Rank</td>
<td>Provincial Status</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melanerpes lewis pop.1</td>
<td>Lewis's Woodpecker (Georgia Depression population)</td>
<td>B-LEWO G5 TXQ SXB</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asio flammeus</td>
<td>Short-eared Owl</td>
<td>B-SEOW G5 S3B,S2 N</td>
<td>SPECIAL CONCERN</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydroprogne caspia</td>
<td>Caspian Tern</td>
<td>B-CATE G5 S3B</td>
<td>NOT AT RISK</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uria aalge</td>
<td>Common Murre</td>
<td>B-COMU G5 S2B,S4 N</td>
<td>Special Concern, vulnerable to extirpation or extinction</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sterna forsteri</td>
<td>Forster's Tern</td>
<td>B-FOTE G5 S1B</td>
<td>DATA DEFICIENT</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammodramus savannarum</td>
<td>Grasshopper Sparrow</td>
<td>B-GRSP G5 S2B</td>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falco rusticolus</td>
<td>Gyrfalcon</td>
<td>B-GYRF G5 S3S4B</td>
<td>NOT AT RISK</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phalaropus lobatus</td>
<td>Red-necked Phalarope</td>
<td>B-RNPL G4G5 S3S4B</td>
<td>Blue</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RANKING CODES**

Global Ranking

1 = critically imperiled
2 = imperiled
3 = vulnerable to extirpation or extinction
4 = apparently secure
5 = demonstrably widespread, abundant, and secure.

NR = unranked - Global Rank not yet assessed.

Provincial Status

1 = critically imperiled
2 = imperiled
3 = special concern, vulnerable to extirpation or extinction
4 = apparently secure
5 = demonstrably widespread, abundant, and secure.

COSEWIC Ranking

XX = EXTINCT: A species that no longer exists.
XT = EXTIRPATED: A species that no longer exists in the wild in Canada, but occurring elsewhere.
E = ENDANGERED: A species facing imminent extirpation or extinction.

T = THREATENED: A species that is likely to become endangered if limiting factors are not reversed.
SC = SPECIAL CONCERN: A species of special concern because of characteristics that make it particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events.
NAR = NOT AT RISK: A species that has been evaluated and found to be not at risk.
DD = DATA DEFICIENT: A species for which there is insufficient scientific information to support status designation.

**CDC Ranking**

Red: Includes any indigenous species or subspecies that have- or are candidates for- Extirpated, Endangered, or Threatened status in British Columbia. Extirpated taxa no longer exist in the wild in British Columbia, but do occur elsewhere. Endangered taxa are facing imminent extirpation or extinction. Threatened taxa are likely to become endangered if limiting factors are not reversed. Not all Red-listed taxa will necessarily become formally designated. Placing taxa on these lists flags them as being at risk and requiring investigation.

Blue: Includes any indigenous species or subspecies considered to be of Special Concern (formerly Vulnerable) in British Columbia. Taxa of Special Concern have characteristics that make them particularly sensitive or vulnerable to human activities or natural events. Blue-listed taxa are at risk, but are not Extirpated, Endangered or Threatened.
# Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Common Name</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>American Bittern</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Band-Tailed Pigeon</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barn Swallow</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Dasher</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandt's Cormorant</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Gull</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caspian Tern</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Murre</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cutthroat Trout</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Double-Crested Cormorant</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grasshopper Sparrow</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Blue Heron</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Heron</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gyrfalcon</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horned Lark</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson's Hairstreak</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keen's Myotis</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis's Woodpecker</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-Tailed Duck</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marbled Murrelet</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Water Shrew</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Species</td>
<td>Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peregrine Falcon</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philadelphia Vireo</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-necked Phalarope</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandhill Crane</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-billed Dowitcher</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-eared Owl</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Red-backed Vole</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surf Scoter</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Townsend’s Big-eared Bat</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wandering Tattler</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Grebe</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Meadowlark</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Painted Turtle</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Screech-Owl</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>References</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
American Bittern
*Botaurus lentiginosus*

**CDC**: Blue

**COSEWIC**: not listed

**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK**: possible

**Identification**: Medium-sized (60-85cm) wading bird, adult plumage brown above (finely flecked with black) and heavily streaked with brown and white below; darker flight feathers; crown rusty-brown; elongated, black patch extending from below eye down side of neck, throat white; breeding plumage with inconspicuous white ruffs on shoulders and two small green patches on back; straight pointed bill, dull yellow with dusky tip on upper mandible; relatively short neck and legs, legs and feet greenish-yellow; somewhat pointed wings; terrestrial locomotion slow and stealthy; flight rapid and usually low; when disturbed, often freezes in upright, concealing posture, with head and bill upturned sexes similar, except male slightly larger; juveniles lack black neck patches obtained in first winter; plumage does not change (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat**: BREEDING: in wetlands across most of United States and Canada; primarily large freshwater and (less often) brackish marshes, including lake and pond edges where cattails, sedges, or bulrushes plentiful and marshes with patches of open water and aquatic-bed vegetation. Occurs also in other areas with dense herbaceous cover, such as shrubby marshes, bogs, wet meadows, and, rarely, hayfields; nests primarily in inland freshwater wetlands, sometimes in tidal marshes or in sparsely vegetated wetlands or dry grassy uplands. NON-BREEDING: in areas where temperatures stay above freezing and waters remain open, especially in coastal regions where ocean moderates climate. Winters from the southern United States southward into Mexico and the Caribbean; wintering habitat is much like breeding habitat, and overwintering populations heavily dependent on managed wetland areas, such as in wildlife refuges (BC CDC 2007).

**Documented occurrences in Stanley Park**:
- Photographed at Beaver Lake in 1990’s
Band-tailed Pigeon  
*Patagioenas fasciata*

**CDC:** Blue  
**COSEWIC:** not listed  
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** possible

**Identification:**  
Large pigeon (size: 33-40 cm); dark overall; white collar on nape; tail dark grey at base, light grey across the tip; feet yellow; purple-grey head and breast; iridescent greenish-bronze patch below the white collar; rump and wing coverts grey but paler than rest of grey upperparts; undertail paler; bill yellow with black tip; sexes look similar, but females duller, with narrower white crescent and less extensive iridescence; males slightly larger; juvenile lacks white crescent and iridescent patch on nape (Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**  
Breeds in temperate and mountain coniferous and mixed forests and woodlands, esp.pine-oak woodlands, and locally in southern lowlands; also forage in cultivated areas, suburban gardens; will nest in tree or shrub 4-10 m from ground, usually near bole in dense foliage, often next to an opening or above a slope or precipice. Displays strong fidelity to nest area, nest trees may be used repeatedly with new nests constructed each year; will often forage in diverse habitats not used for nesting. North American Coastal populations usually found below 1,000 m in a variety of forest types, especially pine-oak, spruce, fir, Douglas-fir, redwood, cedar, hemlock and alder. Calcium requirements in diet provided by mineral sites and principal foods, fruits of elderberry and cascara that are high in calcium. Site use probably depends not only on mineral content, but also vegetation structure, development, level of human activity, and traditional use by pigeons (BC CDC 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**  
- Fairly common in spring, fall, and winter; rare in summer. (Weber et al. 1988)  
- Species known or strongly suspected to breed in Stanley Park (Weber et al. 1988)  
- Found in flock of 8 in elderberry bush off Lees trail (Monica Schroeder, Pers. Comm. 2007).  
- Single bird observed off Rawlings (Monica Schroeder, Pers. Comm. 2007).  
- One found dead in Stanley Park (Ziggy Jones, Pers. Comm. 2007)

**SPES Historical Data:**  
- 2006; one sighting; 8 birds; Lees Trail  
- 2007-2009: Regular sightings along forest trails, near Prospect Point, and near the heron colony.
Barn Swallow
_Hirundo rustica_

**cdc:** Blue  
**COSEWIC:** Not listed  
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** confirmed  

**Identification:**
Small (size: 15-19 cm) slender songbird; tail long and forked; upperparts steely iridescent blue; underparts rufous; forehead and throat chestnut; wings long; bill small and black; legs and feet tiny; acrobatic flier; sexes look similar, but males have deeper chestnut on underparts and longer tail streamers; juvenile looks similar to adult, but tail shorter and less forked, underparts paler (Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**
Open situations, less frequently in partly open habitats, frequently near water.  
**BREEDING:** Nests in barns or other buildings, under bridges, in caves or cliff crevices, usually on vertical surface close to ceiling. Commonly reuses old nests. Usually returns to same nesting area in successive years; yearlings often return to within 30 km or closer to natal site.  
**NON-BREEDING:** Wintering concentrations often associated with sugar cane fields in the tropics (BC CDC 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Are common visitors to Lost Lagoon in summer (VNHS 2006)  
- Listed in VNHS guide as freshwater-only species. (VNHS 2006)  
- Common in spring, summer, fall. (Weber et al. 1988)  
- Known or strongly suspected of breeding in Stanley Park (Weber et al. 1988)  
- At least 12 birds observed regularly attending nests under the stone bridge at pond on the other side of the causeway from Lost Lagoon (Monica Schroeder, Pers. Comm. 2007).  
- Observed/photographed under bridge under the stone bridge at pond on the other side of the causeway from Lost Lagoon (Peter Woods, Pers. Comm. 2007).  
- Used to nest in Par Board works yard off Pipeline Road (Ziggy Jones, Pers. Comm. 2007).
Barn Swallow cont.

SPES Historical Data:

- 1971-2006
- 50 sightings recorded
- 1 to over 50 birds per sighting
- Beaver Lake, Lost Lagoon, Coal harbour

![Bar Chart](image)

Figure 1: Number of Barn Swallows observed at Lost Lagoon during monthly bird counts in 2006.
Blue Dasher
(a.k.a. Swift Long-winged Skimmer)

*Pachydiplax longipennis*

**CDC:** Blue  
**COSEWIC:** not listed  
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** confirmed

**Identification:**
Small to medium-sized dragonfly (27-45 mm long); mostly blue, thorax with pale yellowish-green sides and 3 brown stripes; abdomen blue-violet; face white; top of head metallic blue a few days after emergence; wings clear to slightly smoky, often with brownish cloud beyond middle; naiad dark, handsomely patterned with greenish brown, including crossbanding on femora. (Milne, L. and M. 2005)

**Habitat Requirements:**
Found from southern British Columbia east to Ontario, extending south through U.S. from southern California east to Florida (Digital atlas of Idaho); sightings included in CWH; Chilliwack Forest District (BC CDC 2007).

Found in ponds, lakes, marshes, ditches, slow streams and other quiet bodies of water at low elevations. Naiads live in submerged vegetation and feed on a wide variety of aquatic insects, such as mosquito larvae, other aquatic fly larvae, mayfly larvae, and freshwater shrimp; also eat small fish and tadpoles. Adults eat almost any soft-bodied flying insect including mosquitoes, flies, butterflies, moths, mayflies, and flying ants or termites (Odonata Central 2007; Digital Atlas of Idaho 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Observed/photographed at Beaver Lake and in adjacent riparian areas, and at Lost Lagoon near the platform and in riparian east of the stone bridge (Peter Woods, Pers. Comm. 2007).  
- Recorded in 2007 Beaver Lake aquatic amphibian studies
Brandt’s Cormorant
*Phalacrocorax penicillatus*

**CDC:** Red  
**COSEWIC:** not listed  
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** unlikely

**Identification:**

Large, dark water bird (size: 70-79 cm); long body and long neck; medium-sized, dark greyish bill blunt or hooked at tip with pale patch at base; relatively short tail; body brownish black, with green luster; breeding adult bright blue skin under bill, grey in nonbreeding season; eyes green to turquoise; legs and feet black; sexes look alike; males slightly larger; juvenile brownish black with tan on underparts, lightest on lower breast where it forms a pale "V" at the border of breast and neck (Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**

Mainly inshore coastal zone, especially in areas having kelp beds; also around some offshore islands; less commonly, inshore on brackish bays.  
**BREEDING:** Typically nests on flat or gently sloping surfaces on tops of rocky islands along coast, favoring protected leeward sides of islands; frequently nests with other sea birds; may sometimes use wider ledges of mainland cliffs. Nest built on ground by both sexes, may be reused in subsequent year  
**NON-BREEDING:** In winter, mostly around sheltered inlets and other quiet waters. (BC CDC 2007)

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**

- Listed as fairly common in spring, fall, winter, and casual in summer in checklist of birds in Stanley Park (Weber et al. 1988).  
- Reported in foreshore survey of SP (Worcester and Boisclair-Joly, 2002)  
- Best place to see BRCO in Burrard Inlet in February and March is near Stanley Park (Breault and Watts 1996).  
- Known to be seen regularly off Brockton Point (Monica Schroeder, Pers. Comm. 2007).  
- Known to be seen regularly off Brockton Point (Peter Woods, Pers. Comm. 2007).
California Gull
*Larus californicus*

cdc: **Blue**
COSEWIC: **not listed**
BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:
unlikely

**Identification:**
Medium-sized (47-54 cm) gull; yellow bill with black ring near the tip and red spot on lower mandible; head and underparts white; back medium dark grey; wingtips black with white spots; legs yellow-green; eyes dark brown; red ring of skin around eyes; gape red.

Breeding Plumage: Head and nape white; tail completely white; wings light grey with black tips and white spots on very tips of feathers; white spots near tips of outer two or three feathers.
Nonbreeding Plumage: Like breeding, but with light grey mottling on white head and nape. Sexes alike in plumage, male slightly larger than female (Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**
Seacoasts, bays, estuaries, mudflats, marshes, irrigated fields, lakes, ponds, dumps, cities, and agricultural lands.

BREEDING: Nests inland on open sandy or gravelly areas on islands or along shores of lakes and ponds, generally with scattered grasses. Nests on ground. Prefers fairly open area with irregular terrain near shore of islands:
NON-BREEDING: In autumn migration, is most abundant gull in pelagic waters off BC and Washington coast (BC CDC 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Fairly common in fall, uncommon in spring, rare in summer and winter (Weber et al. 1988)
- Commonly found around Lost Lagoon (VNHS 1995).
- Regularly observed resting on foreshore off Ferguson Point (Peter Woods, Pers. Comm. 2007).
- Has been observed in the Park (Ziggy Jones, Pers. Comm. 2007)

**SPES Historical Data:**
- 2001-2005
- 6 sightings recorded
- 2 to 15 birds per sighting
- Lost Lagoon, Coal Harbour, from Seawall
Caspian Tern
*Hydroprogne caspia*

**cdc:** Blue  
**COSEWIC:** NAR (May 1979)  
**Breeding status in Stanley Park:** unlikely

**Identification:**
Large (size: 47-54 cm), stocky tern; black cap; body white; bill large, thick, and brilliant red with dark tip; silvery grey back and wings; white underparts, rump, and tail; primaries dark underneath, show as black patch in flight; black legs and feet; tail short and slightly notched.

Breeding plumage: Black cap extends from bill through eye to back of head. Very short crest on back of head.

Nonbreeding plumage: crown streaked and mottled with black and white, only slightly whiter at forehead.

Sexes look alike; juvenile has dusky or streaked crown, black edging to back feathers (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**
Seacoasts, bays, estuaries, lakes, marshes, and rivers.

BREEDING: Nests on sandy or gravelly beaches and shell banks along coasts or large inland lakes; sometimes with other water birds. Pacific coast populations formerly nested mainly in inland marshes, now mainly on human-created habitats (e.g., salt pond dikes and levees) along coast (BC CDC 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Uncommon in spring, rare summer and fall, casual in winter (Weber et al. 1988)
- Has been recorded in fall along English Bay and Burrard Inlet. (Weber et al. 1988)
- Commonly seen flying between Coal Harbour and English Bay across Lost Lagoon (Monica Schroeder, Pers. Comm. 2007).
- Commonly seen flying between Coal Harbour and English Bay across Lost Lagoon and offshore from Second Beach (Peter Woods, Pers. Comm. 2007).

**SPES Historical Data:**
- 2005-2006
- 15 sightings recorded
- 1-2 birds per sighting
- Lost Lagoon

Photo by: Mike Baird  
http://www.flickr.com/photos/mikebaird
Common Murre
*Uria aalge*

**CDC:** Red
**COSEWIC:** not listed
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** unlikely

**Identification:**
Medium-sized (38-43 cm) waterbird; black back and head; white underside; rather long, slender, pointed bill; face and throat white in nonbreeding plumage; sexes look alike; immature similar to nonbreeding adult (Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**
**BREEDING:** Nests in open or in crevices on broad and narrow cliff ledges, on stack cliff tops, and on flat, rocky, low-lying islands; less commonly nests under boulders or in caves; usually nests in same exact site in successive years.
**NON-BREEDING:** pelagic and along rocky seacoasts. Feeds on fish, squid and other marine invertebrates (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Uncommon in spring, fall, fairly common in winter (Weber et al. 1988)
Cutthroat Trout
*Oncorhynchus clarkii clarkii*

**CDC:** Blue  
**COSEWIC:** not listed  
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** confirmed

**Identification:**
Member of trout family, average length 20-40 cm; silvery to brassy colour with yellowish and irregular shaped spots; red slash marks just below gill covers on lower jaws; scale count above lateral line of more than 150; basibranchial teeth (Univ. Michigan 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**
Requires small, low gradient coastal streams and estuarine habitats; well-shaded streams with water temperatures below 18 C optimal. Some may spend entire life in freshwater (many of these live in lakes), but most are anadromous (summer in saltwater). In summer, most individuals in streams are of first-year age class; a few may be older nonanadromous fish and anadromous fish landlocked by rapidly receding water levels. In marine habitats, generally remains close to coast, usually remaining within estuary. Spawns in streams on clean, small gravel substrates; females dig multiple redds, cover eggs after spawning. After emerging, fry move into larger rivers (or lakes), migrate to sea during their first year (or sometimes in second or third year). Adults eat insects, crustaceans, and other fishes. Young feed mostly on aquatic and drift insects, microcrustaceans, and occasionally smaller fishes (BC CDC 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Two observed in a trap located at the mouth of Prospect Creek (Gennai et al. 1999).
- Found in Prospect Creek, but Beaver Lake conditions not suitable for survival. May have been introduced into Beaver Lake in early 1990s (VNHS 2006).
- Reported in Lost Lagoon study (Carl 1932) but not thought to exist today (Kerr Wood Leidal Assoc. 1999)
- 1994 study, reported in Prospect Creek. Some observed 250m upstream and also present in Beaver Lake (Kerr Wood Leidal Assoc. 1999).
- Cutthroat and Coho spawning in Beaver Creek in 1980s  
  1999 Salmonids sighted in survey (Kerr Wood Leidal Assoc. 1999)
- Reported on Natural Areas Map of SP (Parks Canada 2002)
- Small populations exist in Beaver Lake and Prospect Creek, and maybe Beaver Creek (Parks Canada 2002).
- 2 juveniles taken during electrofishing at mouth of Prospect Creek (Hatfield and Hay & Company 1985).
- Cutthroat, Coho, Lamprey caught in Beaver Creek. (Hatfield and Hay & Company 1985)
- Reported in Prospect Creek, Beaver Lake, Beaver Creek. (Coast River 1995)
Double-crested Cormorant

*Phalacrocorax auritus*

**CDC:** Blue

**COSEWIC:** NAR (May 1978)

**Breeding Status in Stanley Park:** unlikely

**Identification:**
Large (size: 70-90 cm) dark water bird; long body and long neck; medium-sized bill blunt or hooked at tip; legs short and dark; tail moderately long; bare skin around face orange; often sits with wings extended; neck kinked during flight; adult all black with greenish gloss; in breeding has small plumes over eyes; eyes brilliant turquoise; sexes alike; immature: usually chest pale and belly dark, but may be uniform pale below (Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**
Found around lakes, ponds, rivers, lagoons, swamps, coastal bays, marine islands, and seacoasts; usually within sight of land.

**Breeding:** Nests on ground or in trees in freshwater situations, and on coastal cliffs (usually high sloping areas with good visibility).

Eats mainly fish, as well as some other aquatic animals, insects, and amphibians (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Observed off Lumberman's Arch (Weber et al. 1988)
- Commonly seen in winter along seawall (Weber et al. 1988)
- Listed as common in spring, fall, and winter, and rare in summer. (Weber et al. 1988)
- Seen near or on Siwash Rock (VNHS 2006)
- Seen offshore near Ferguson Point (VNHS 2006)
- Listed as freshwater and marine, winter only (VNHS 2006)
- Foreshore survey of Stanley Park (Worcester and Boisclair-Joly 2002)
- Relative abundance of Double-breasted Cormorants amongst seabird species in study area: 3.1% Coal Harbour, 0.1% Stanley Park (Robertson and Bekhuys 1995)
- Sighted during winter waterfowl foreshore survey 1998-1999 (Rotinsky 1999)
- A resident of the Coal Harbour intertidal zone - often sit on wharves and pilings (VNHS 1995).
- Up to 40 counted in one day resting and feeding on Lost Lagoon - use floating logs to rest and dry out (Peter Woods, Pers. Comm. 2007).
Double-crested Cormorant cont.

SPES Historical Data:
- 1969-2006
- 123 sightings
- 1-78 birds per sighting
- Beaver Lake, Lost Lagoon, Siwash Rock, Stanley Park foreshore

Double-crested Cormorant Observations at Lost Lagoon 2006

Figure 2: Number of Double-crested Cormorants observed at Lost Lagoon during monthly bird counts in 2006.
Forster’s Tern
Sterna forsteri

CDC: Red
COSEWIC: DD (1996)
BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK: unlikely

Identification:
Medium-sized tern (size: 33-36 cm); white with black cap; tail long and deeply forked; wings very white in most plumages; legs orange and relatively long; sexes look alike.
Breeding adult plumage: mostly immaculate white; black cap down to and including the eye; bill orange with black tip; wings and mantle pale grey; flight feathers pale silvery-grey, usually lighter than mantle, except for darker tips to outermost primaries; tail light grey, deeply forked with white outer edge.
Adult winter plumage: black cap lost; curved black mask covering eye and ear region, not extending onto back of neck; crown and forehead white; bill black; feet dusky orange. Immature resembles winter adult, but even darker primaries; may have dark centers to tertials. (Cornell Lab 2007).

Habitat Requirements:
BREEDING: in freshwater and salt marshes, generally with lots of open water and large stands of island-like vegetation; nests on inland lakes and marshes, or on salt marshes (especially on wrack) along coast. Along Gulf Coast, commonly nests on dredged material as well as on wrack in salt marshes. Nests on floating mass of marsh plants, on muskrat house, or old grebe’s nest, or in depression lined with grasses and pieces of shells.
NON-BREEDING: In migration and winter found on seacoasts, bays, estuaries, rivers and lakes (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:
- Has been recorded in fall along English Bay and Burrard Inlet (Weber et al. 1988)
- Casual (seen less than once/year) in fall (Weber et al. 1988)
Grasshopper Sparrow
Ammodramus savannarum

CDC: Red
COSEWIC: not listed
BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK: unlikely

Identification:

Photo by: Jerry Oldenettel
http://www.flickr.com/photos/jroldenettel/

Chunky sparrow (size: 11-12 cm) with short narrow tail; nape grey with fine reddish brown streaks; back with black and chestnut streaks; buffy breast and sides (adults usually without obvious streaking); dark crown with a pale central stripe; large head which appears flat; brown eyes, narrow white eye ring, and (in most adults) a yellow-orange spot in front of the eye; legs flesh-coloured or yellowish; sexes look alike; juveniles have pale buff breast and sides, streaked with brown (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

Habitat Requirements:

Prefers grasslands of intermediate height and often clumped vegetation interspersed with patches of bare ground. Other habitat requirements include moderately deep litter and sparse coverage of woody vegetation. Occasionally inhabit cropland, such as corn and oats, but at fraction of densities found in grassland habitats.

BREEDING: Breeds in both native and tame grassland vegetation including native prairie, fields, pasture, hayland, airports, and reclaimed surface mines.
NON BREEDING: Uses grass-dominated fields, native prairie and grazed pastures. Eats mostly insects, especially grasshoppers (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:

- Has been observed in fall, but unusual (Weber et al. 1988)
Great Blue Heron
*Ardea herodias fannini*

**CDC:** Blue  
**COSEWIC:** SC (1997)  
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** confirmed

**Identification:**
Large (size: 97-137 cm) grey bird; long legs; long, "S"-shaped neck; long, thick yellow bill; white crown stripe; black plume extending from behind eye to back of neck; shaggy feathers on neck and back; bluish grey back, wings, and belly; reddish or grey neck; front of neck streaked with white, black, and rusty brown; legs brownish or greenish; thighs rust coloured; black patch at bend of wing; flight feathers blackish on top, contrasting with center of wings; cinnamon patch at leading edge of underside of wing; eyes yellow; sexes look alike. (Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**
**BREEDING:** Nests colonially in tall Sitka Spruce, Western Red Cedar, Western Hemlock, pine, and deciduous trees such as Red Alder and Black Cottonwood. Isolation from disturbance may be an important factor in nest site.  
Foraging habitat includes aquatic areas generally less than 0.5 m deep, such as: marine intertidal areas, estuaries, riparian areas, wetlands, freshwater lakes, and muskegs. These areas are generally within 5 km of the nest site, although some areas have been identified up to 33 km (BC CDC 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Reference to nesting in trees near zoo complex (Robertson and Bekhuys 1995)  
- 2 GBHE detected in point counts around Beaver Lake (Flannery et al. 1998)  
- GBHEs fish in shallow water of Beaver Lake (VNHS 2006)  
- GBHEs seen in wooded area near stone bridge of Lost Lagoon, stalking fish (VNHS 2006)  
- Impressive colony located in several large Western Red Cedars between zoo and Malkin Bowl (Weber and Kautesk 1988)  
- Common in spring and summer, fairly common in fall and winter (Weber et al. 1988)  
- Foreshore, tree roosts, nests (Unpublished VPB report 2004)  
- Brockton Point colony 1921~1970  
- SP Zoo colony 1970~2000  
- VPB office colony 2001~2007  
- Foreshore survey of Stanley Park (Worcester and Boisclair-Joly 2002)  
- Stanley Park Heronry Management Plan (Mackintosh et al. 2006)  
- Maintenance of this colony in SP should be encouraged... (VPB, 1985)  
- GBHE colony on Natural Areas Map of SP (Parks Canada 2002)  
Great Blue Heron cont.

Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park cont.:  
- Historically, nesting at nine o’clock gun area since 1920; nesting east of Amphitheatre building in 1988. In 11 active nests in centre of zoo, south of whale pools; 8 active nests 100m south-east of Aquarium (Robertson et al. 1989)  
- Main wildlife species in Stanley Park include GBHE. (Beese and Paris 1989)  
- Best place to see GBHE in Burrard Inlet in February is near Stanley Park (Breault and Watts 1996).  
- Commonly seen in the small estuary created by Beaver Creek (VNHS 1995).  
- Observed feeding in the gardens on the south west side of Lost Lagoon. Common perch trees located on the north/west shore of Lost Lagoon and in a tree 200m past the Salmon stream on the seawall next to Coal Harbour (Monica Schroeder, Pers. Comm. 2007).  
- Observed feeding (and being fed) in the gardens on the south west side of Lost Lagoon. There were a few nests built in Western Hemlock trees located on the north/west shore of Lost Lagoon in the 1990’s. They also perch in the willow trees on the south shore of Lost Lagoon (Peter Woods, Pers. Comm. 2007).

SPES Historical Data:  
- 1971-2007; 203 sightings recorded; 1-200 birds per sighting  
- Lost Lagoon, Beaver Lake, Stanley Park foreshore, Dining Pavilion, Aquarium, Heronry, Ceperley Creek

Great Blue Heron Observations at Lost Lagoon  
2006

![Bar chart showing number of Great Blue Herons observed at Lost Lagoon during monthly bird counts in 2006.]

Figure 3: Number of Great Blue Herons observed at Lost Lagoon during monthly bird counts in 2006.
Green Heron
*Butorides virescens*

**cdc:** **Blue**
**COSEWIC:** not listed
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** possible

**Identification:**
Small (size: 41-46 cm) wading bird with relatively short legs (dull yellow; bright orange in breeding males); long, dark, straight bill, and short tail; mostly deep chestnut neck often kept pulled in tight to body; greenish-black crown, green/blue-grey upperparts, and white mid-ventral throat region; slight crest can be raised on back of head; eyes orange or yellow; immature browner above, with white throat and underparts heavily streaked with brown (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**
**BREEDING:** Breeds in swampy thickets. Eggs laid in platform nest in tree, thicket, or bush over water or sometimes in dry woodland or orchard; nests in both freshwater and brackish situations
**NON-BREEDING:** Winters mostly in coastal areas, mostly mangrove swamps.
Forages for small fish, invertebrates, insects, frogs, and other small animals in marshes, and margins of ponds, rivers, lakes, and lagoons. (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Last ‘consistently been observed’ at Beaver Lake (VNHS 2006)
- Rare in summer and fall, not recorded winter or spring (Weber et al. 1988)
- Observed feeding in the northern most section of Ceperley Creek and in the biofiltration wetland (Monica Schroeder, Pers. Comm. 2007).
- Observed feeding in the slough near the stone bridge, in the northern most section of Ceperley Creek and in the biofiltration wetland (Peter Woods, Pers. Comm. 2007).

**SPES Historical Data :**
- 1984-2005
- 4 sightings recorded
- 1 bird per sighting
- Lost Lagoon (biofiltration pond), Beaver Lake
Gyrfalcon
*Falco rusticolus*

**CDC:** Blue

**COSEWIC:** NAR (May 1987)

**Breeding Status in Stanley Park:** unlikely

**Identification:**

Large falcon (size: 48-64 cm); broad-chested appearance; may range from nearly pure white to dark grey to black with variable barring and streaking; most are grey; faint moustache mark on face; long, broad, pointed wings; long, barred tail; sexes look similar; female larger (Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**

**Breeding:** in tundra, often near rivers or coasts; usually nests on cliff ledges, ideally beneath sheltering overhang; sometimes nests in trees or on man-made structures. Nest generally scrape on rock ledge, or abandoned hawk or raven nest. May nest on same cliffs as does peregrine and may compete successfully with peregrine for nest sites. Thought to change nest site in successive years.

**Nonbreeding:** generally in coastal areas in winter at lower latitudes, open country, especially near water (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**

- Casual (seen on average less than once a year) in winter (Weber et al. 1988)
Species at Risk Habitat in Stanley Park

Gyrfalcon
*Falco rusticolus*

Legend
- Potential Habitat
- Usually nests on cliff ledges
- Sometimes nests in trees or man-made structures

January 2009

Stanley Park Ecology Society

PitneyBowes Mapinfo
Horned Lark
*Eremophila alpestris*

Subspecies: *Eremophila alpestris strigata*

**CDC:** Red
**COSEWIC:** E (Nov 2003)

**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** unlikely

**Identification:**

Small songbird (size: 16-20 cm); pale brown back; black chest patch; black face patch; yellow or pale throat; small ‘horns’ on top of head; sexes similar, but female slightly smaller and duller; juvenile sparrow-like, with pale spots on back and streaks on chest; immature shows face pattern, but fainter than adult (Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**

*E. alpestris strigata:* found in CDF, CWH Chilliwack Forest District. Historical distribution ranged from southwestern BC to southern Willamette Valley and Rogue Valley. Found in grassland, tundra, sandy regions, areas with scattered low shrubs, desert playas, grazed pastures, stubble fields, open cultivated areas, and rarely open areas in forest. BREEDING: in northernmost North America south to southern Baja California, southern Mexico, Louisiana, northern Alabama, and North Carolina, and in South America in eastern Andes of Colombia. NON-BREEDING: for northern winters: in southern Canada south through breeding range, and, locally and irregularly to Gulf Coast and Florida. Wintering distribution not known with certainty. Eats mainly seeds and, in warm season, insects; food obtained mainly from ground surface (BC CDC 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**

- Listed as rare in fall (seen most years but fewer than 10 sightings/year) (Weber et al. 1988).
Johnson’s Hairstreak
Callophrys johnsoni

CDC: Red
COSEWIC: not listed
BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK: possible

Identification:
Slightly larger-than-average (wingspan: 25-30 mm) western hairstreak that just makes it into southern BC. Upperside chocolate brown in male and reddish brown in female, underside brown with thin white postmedian band. (Univ. Michigan 2007).

Habitat Requirements:
Found from central California in relatively narrow band north to BC; recorded mainly in vicinity of Vancouver and Agassiz. Presently, only four extant colonies known, three in Vancouver area (Stanley Park, Lynn Canyon Park, and Pacific Spirit Park) and one near Agassiz (UBC Haney Research Forest) (BC CDC 2007).

Occurs mostly in old-growth coniferous forests with species such as Western Hemlock. Caterpillar foodplant is Arceuthobium campylopodum, a parasitic mistletoe on conifers. Because rarely seen, speculated that the adult butterfly flies high up in evergreens where foodplant grows. Most often found near dense forests with Western Hemlock, but strays into open to find flowers (BC CDC 2007; Univ. Michigan 2007).

Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:

- Specific local events can also affect biodiversity, like spraying for Gypsy Moths, which was suspected to have eliminated the Stanley Park population of the rare Johnson’s Hairstreak butterfly’ (Scudder 1996)
- Despite above, reported at Lost Lagoon in April 2004 (Mathias 2004, Pers. Com.)
- Recorded in Pacific Spirit Park 1995 Scudder (Strix and Ryder 2002)
- Reports that it may exist in Stanley Park in conjunction with dwarf mistletoe infestations. (VPB 1989)
- Observed (1) wet grassy area northeast of the stone bridge on Lost Lagoon (2) in wet grassy area east of the train yard just south of Park Drive (3) in the grassy area adjacent to the Hollow Tree (Peter Woods, Pers. Comm. 2007).
Keen’s Myotis
*Myotis keenii*

**CDC:** Unknown  
**COSEWIC:** DD(nov 2003)  
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** possible

**Identification:**

Medium sized (63-93mm) bat with upperparts rich glossy brown and indistinct dark shoulder spots; underparts buffy grey; wing membranes dark brown to black; ears black, 13-20 mm long, when laid forward, reach just beyond the nose and possess a long, slim pointed tragus; ears, wings and uropatagium dark brown color, sometimes almost black, uropatagium with minute intermittent hairs at edge (BC CDC 2007; Univ. Michigan 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**

Associated with coastal forest habitat, apparently associated with mature forests. Preferred roosting habitat includes loose bark of large trees, caves, snags, hollow trees, and human made structures such as bridges and house attics. Has been observed foraging over hot spring pools and clearings above scrubby salal.

No winter records, and unknown if it hibernates in coastal areas. Since is difficult to capture and only a few colonies have been studied, assumptions about habitat and behaviour based only on a few observations (BC CDC 2007; Univ. Michigan 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**

- VNHS listing (VNHS 2006)
- Appears on checklist of mammals of Stanley Park (Merilees 1988)
- Natural Areas Map of Stanley Park - habitat for Keen’s Myotis (Parks Canada 2002)
- Bats seen at Third Beach, Lost Lagoon, Beaver Lake (Robertson et al. 1989)
- Bats observed over Lost Lagoon, in the entrance to Tatlow trail (south end) and in the gardens west of Lost Lagoon (Peter Woods, Pers. Comm. 2007).
- Large bat observed flying around a street lamp on Pipeline Road near Tisdall trail (Andrew Scott, Pers. Comm. 2007).
- Bats often observed in early mornings, sometimes around the road switchback on Park Drive approaching Prospect Point (Ziggy Jones, Pers. Comm. 2007).
Species at Risk Habitat in Stanley Park

Keen’s Myotis
Myotis keenii

Legend
- Andrew Scott (Pers. Comm., 2007)
- Robertson et al. 1989
- Peter Woods (Pers. Comm., 2007)

- Potential Habitat: Associated with mature coastal forest habitat

These are sightings of bats, not sightings of specific species.

PitneyBowes Mapinfo

STANLEY PARK ECOLOGY SOCIETY
Lewis’s Woodpecker

*Melanerpes lewis*

**CDC:** Red  
**COSEWIC:** SC (Nov 2001)  
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** unlikely

**Identification:**

Medium-sized (26-28 cm) woodpecker; head, back, wings, and tail greenish black; grey collar and chest; dark red face; belly pinkish or salmon red; wings and tail all dark without white spots or patches; sexes look alike; juvenile similar to adult, but lacking red face and grey collar and chest (Cornell Lab. 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**

Three distinct habitats used in BC: open areas with scattered trees, riparian forests adjacent to open areas, and burns. Important habitat features include open tree canopy, brushy understorey with ground cover, dead trees for nest cavities; dead or downed woody debris, perch sites, and abundant insects. Because it catches insects from the air, perches near openings or in open canopy are important for foraging.

**BREEDING:** Open forest and woodland, often logged or burned, including oak, coniferous forest (primarily ponderosa pine), riparian woodland dominated by cottonwood, and orchards. Most BC breeders migrate to pine-oak forests in the western USA or Mexico, however some individuals may occasionally over-winter as far north as the Okanagan Valley of southern BC and on Vancouver Island.

Unlike other woodpeckers, not well-adapted to excavate cavities in hard wood, therefore, tends to nest in natural cavity, abandoned northern flicker hole, or previously used cavity. Mated pair may return to same nest site in successive years (BC CDC 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**

- Casual (seen less than once/year) in fall (Weber et al. 1988)
Long-tailed Duck
*Clangula hyemalis*

CDC: In process  
COSEWIC: not listed  
BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK: unlikely  

**Identification:**  
Medium-sized (38-58 cm) diving duck; mostly black-and-white plumage, varying throughout year, black wings in all plumages; legs and feet light bluish-grey along joints with dark grey webs.  
Male: long central tail feathers and often pink band near tip of black bill.  
Female: short tail and patterned in smudgy black, white, and brown, bill uniformly dark grey.  
Juvenile: dark brown head, white or pale brownish grey face, white belly, and brownish grey upperparts, breast, and upper belly. (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**  
BREEDING: on lake islands and by pools in open tundra and taiga. Nest usually concealed in vegetation.  
NON-BREEDING: coastal waters (e.g. rough water of rocky coasts, deep but calm bays and coves), large inland lakes and (less commonly) rivers.  
Feeds mainly on aquatic invertebrates, including insects and crustaceans, as well as bivalves, fish, fish eggs, and plant matter (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**  
- Foreshore survey of Stanley Park (Worcester and Boisclair-Joly 2002)  
- Offshore in deep water (VNHS 2006)  
- Relative abundance amongst seabird species in study area: 0.1% in Stanley Park (Robertson and Bekhuys 1995)  
- Sighted during foreshore survey of Stanley Park 1998-1999 (Rotinsky 1999)  
- Listed as fairly common in spring, fall, and winter, and casual (seen on average less than once/year) in summer (Weber et al. 1988).  
- Best place to see LTDU in Burrard Inlet in January and April is near Stanley Park (Breault and Watts 1996).  
- Resident of the Coal Harbour offshore zone (VNHS 1995).  
- Observed east of Lions Gate Bridge along the shoreline to the Beaver Creek estuary (Monica Schroeder, Pers. Comm. 2007).  
- Most commonly observed in foreshore area between Siwash Rock and Lions Gate Bridge (Peter Woods, Pers. Comm. 2007).  
- Sighted visiting Lost Lagoon on several occasions (Ziggy Jones, Pers. Comm. 2007).

**SPES Historical Data:**  
- 1986-2005; 14 sightings recorded; 1-3 birds per sighting; Lost Lagoon, Stanley Park foreshore, Rowing Club
Marbled Murrelet
*Brachyramphus marmoratus*

**CDC:** Red

**COSEWIC:** T (Nov. 2000)

**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** possible

**Identification:**

Chunky seabird (body length: 24-25 cm) with black bill and entirely dark tail; breeding adult dark brown above, heavily mottled below. Winter plumage: white below, with white scapular streak on otherwise dark upperparts. Juvenile: resembles winter adult but has dusky-mottled underparts, which become mostly white by first winter (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**

Found in coastal areas, mainly in salt water within 2 km of shore, including bays and sounds; not uncommon up to 5 km offshore; occasionally also on rivers and lakes usually within 20 km of ocean (but up to 75 km), especially during breeding season. On Queen Charlotte Islands, most inland activity (May-July) was in old growth forest, especially stands of large Sitka Spruce and Western Hemlock (BC CDC 2007). BREEDING: in coniferous forests near coasts; nests on large horizontal branches high up in mature/old growth coniferous forest near the coast: on large mossy horizontal branch, mistletoe infection, witches broom, or other structure providing a platform high in mature conifer. NON-BREEDING: winters at sea (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**

- Listed as 'might not be present at the moment' in Stanley Park (Brown 2004)
- Commonly seen in winter along seawall (Weber and Kautesk 1988)
- Common in spring, fall, and winter, fairly common in summer. Known or strongly suspected of breeding in Stanley Park (Weber et al. 1988)
- Seen in deep water from Stanley Park (VNHS 2006)
- Natural Areas Map - habitat for Marbled Murrelet (Parks Canada 2002)

**SPES Historical Data:**

- 2005
- 3 sightings recorded
- 1-2 birds per sighting
- Coal Harbour
- November 2009: two birds seen off seawall
Pacific Water Shrew
*Sorex bendirii*

CDC: Red
COSEWIC: E (apr. 2006)
BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK: possible

Identification:

Largest shrew in BC - average 15 cm long, including tail which is almost ½ of length; tiny eyes; sharp teeth; fur blackish brown to black; belly slightly lighter, dark-grey hue; tail also dark; feet brownish and fringed with short stiff hairs that aid in swimming; short legs; five clawed toes on each foot; short ears partly hidden by fur; prominent whiskers on snout; side glands produce musky odour (Eder, T. and D. Pattie 2001; M of Environment 1995).

Habitat Requirements:

Riparian habitat specialist; associated with wet forests, marshes, and areas adjacent to water (usually streams/springs); generally in areas of coniferous or mixed forest with downed logs; often, but not always, in mature stands (BC CDC 2007). Occurs along Pacific Coast from northern California to southern BC where only found in the lower Fraser Valley. Its natural range coincides with Lower Mainland and its preferred habitat, valley bottom forestland along streams and wetlands, has been converted to farmland, subdivisions and industrial sites (M of Environment. 1995).

Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:

- Listed as ‘might not be present at the moment’ in Stanley Park (Brown 2004)
- Natural Areas Map of Stanley Park - habitat for Pacific Water Shrew (Parks Canada 2002)
- Recorded in Pacific Spirit Park 1998 (Strix and Ryder 2002)
- Appears in checklist of mammals of Stanley Park (Merilees 1988)
Peregrine Falcon

*Falco peregrinus*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subspecies</th>
<th>COSEWIC</th>
<th>CDC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>F.p. anatum</em></td>
<td>T (may 2000)</td>
<td>Red</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>F.p. pealei</em></td>
<td>SC (nov. 2001)</td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>F.p. tundrius</em></td>
<td>SC (may 1992)</td>
<td>Blue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:**
possible for *F.p. anatum* and *F.p. pealei*

**Identification:**

Large falcon (size 41-51 cm) with long pointed wings; dark crown and nape; dark wedge extending below eye; back and wings bluish grey; underparts whitish with variable amount of black spotting and barring; sexes similar in plumage: female larger and more heavily marked; juvenile similar to adult but with pale forehead, back brownish and underparts streaked.

3 subspecies occur in BC: *F.p. anatum* and *F.p. pealei* breed in BC (*F.p. anatum* in southern Interior, and perhaps Fraser River Valley and Gulf Islands); *F.p. tundrius* long distance migrant that probably passes through BC. *F.p. anatum* slightly smaller than *F.p. pealei*, somewhat paler, but not as pale as *F.p. tundrius* (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**

*F.p. anatum* known to breed in BC including coast; in Lower Mainland, nests on rock cliffs well back but above Fraser River. In Gulf Islands, nests found on seaside. Feeds on shorebirds, waterfowl, pigeons, songbirds, bats, rodents and insects. Coastal pairs may remain year-round near their aeries (BC CDC 2007).

*F.p. pealei* breeds on coastal islands and adjacent mainland; some stay near breeding sites year round, others may migrate short distances, but most likely would remain in province; typically nests on ledges of rocky island cliffs, usually near seabird colonies; occasionally, nests on mainland headland cliffs; a few nests occurred on grassy ledges on rock bluffs; more rarely, old nests of Pelagic Cormorants, Bald Eagles and Common Ravens have been used; are specialized feeders, preying mainly upon seabirds, especially Ancient Murrelets (BC CDC 2007).


**Documented Occurrences:**

- Listed as might not be present’ in Stanley Park (Brown 2004)
- Peregrine Falcon has occasionally been seen perched under Lion’s Gate bridge catching rock pigeons (VNHS 2006)
- Rare in fall and winter, casual in summer (Weber et al. 1988)
- Observed perching in tree above the seawall at Ferguson Point (Monica Schroeder, Pers. Comm. 2007).

**SPES Historical Data:**

- 2002-2007
- 3 sightings recorded
- 1 bird per sighting
- Lost Lagoon, Rawlings Trail
Philadelphia Vireo
*Vireo philadelphicus*

**CDC:** Blue

**COSEWIC:** not listed

**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** unlikely

**Identification:**

Small drab songbird (11-13 cm); back greyish green; cap greyish; underparts pale yellow; palest on throat and deepest on breast; eyes dark brown; no eyering; eyebrow white, blackish line through and in front of eye; no wingbars; tail spots, tail relatively short; legs slaty; sexes alike; juveniles similar to adults (Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**

Found in open deciduous or mixed woodland, forest edge, second growth, parks, and alder and willow thickets, especially near streams.

**BREEDING:** in early and mid-successional deciduous woods and parklands, especially among aspens, birches, alders, and ashes. Nests in horizontal twig fork 3-12 m up in deciduous tree, usually near upper canopy.

**NON-BREEDING:** in migration and winter found in various open woodland, and partly open situations with scattered trees.

Eats insects and some fruit (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**

- Accidental (only one or two records in Vancouver) in fall (Weber et al. 1988)
- Has been observed in fall, but unusual (Weber and Kautesk 1988)
Red-legged Frog
*Rana aurora*

**cdc:** Blue
**COSEWIC:** SC (Nov 2004)
**Breeding Status in Stanley Park:** possible

**Identification:**
Medium to large frog (size 5-13 cm); back reddish-brown to grey, with irregular dark spotting or blotching; usually dark mask above whitish jaw stripe; adults usually red on lower abdomen and underside of legs; usually coarse blackish, red, and yellow mottling in groin; relatively long legs; eyes face outward, well covered by lids when viewed from above; prominent dorsolateral folds; young may have yellow instead of red on underside of legs and in groin; adult males have enlarged forelimbs and thumb base and more extensive webbing; females larger than males (BC CDC 2007; Univ. Michigan 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**
Adults need emergent riparian vegetation near deep, still or slow-moving ponds or intermittent streams; well-vegetated areas along streams also needed; most common at elevations below 500 m, with low slopes, and moist, mature/old forest in some areas; sometimes found in damp woods and meadows some distance from water, especially during wet weather; may occupy ephemeral pools; breeding sites in shallow, littoral zones of lakes, temporary and permanent pools and wetlands, and bogs and fens in close proximity to forest; highly sensitive to disturbance especially spawning sites; tadpoles associate with benthic habitats; riparian habitat important for newly metamorphosed froglets; little known about habitat requirements during hibernation, but one study found frogs overwintering in terrestrial or aquatic habitats in the Lower Mainland, and one radio-tracked frog in a stream bank (BC CDC 2007; Univ. Michigan 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Found in pools of woodland streams such as Beaver Creek (Grass 1988)
- May have been abundant at one time, but not frequently found now (VNHS 2006)
- Some suggestion that may still be observed at Beaver Lake (VNHS 2006)
- Reported in 1971 in streams associated with Beaver Lake (VNHS 2006)

**SPES Historical Data:**
- 1 sighting recorded at Beaver Lake in 2002
Red-necked Phalarope

*Phalaropus lobatus*

**cdc:** Blue

**COSEWIC:** not listed

**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** unlikely

**Identification:**

Small shorebird (18-19 cm); exhibits reverse sexual dimorphism (females more brightly coloured breeding plumage than males)

Female: grey head, neck, and sides of breast, with chestnut coloured collar and white throat; wings buff coloured, small white band above eye, belly completely white

Male: much duller with brown head, neck, and upperparts

Non-breeding plumage: dull grey upperparts, head mainly white with black patch through and behind eye

Juveniles: brown head, neck, upperparts and eyepatches, breast appears "washed" buff colour, and rest of underparts white (Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**

**BREEDING:** tundra/forest tundra areas near lakes or wetlands with marshy riparian zones with abundance of grasses, moss, and sedges. Nests in grass-sedge borders of ponds and lakes, often far from sea; wet marshy areas of tundra and in taiga; coastal and low arctic tundra, northern boreal forest regions. Nest a depression, lined and domed with grass. In freshwater environments during breeding season, eats aquatic insect larvae (primarily mosquitoes), as well as dipteran flies, beetles, caddisflies, ants, annelid worms, snails, as well as some seeds.

**NON-BREEDING:** In winter primarily pelagic, in upwelling zones and ocean slicks; sometimes occurring in migration on ponds, lakes, open marshes, estuaries, and bays, coastal lagoons, saline lakes, sewage ponds. When at sea during non-breeding period, feeds on zooplankton, including copepods as well as crustaceans, tiny fish, and even jellyfish (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**

- Rare in summer and fall (checklist) (Weber et al. 1988)

**SPES Historical Data:**

- 1985-2002
- 2 sightings recorded
- 1-2 birds per sighting
- Lost Lagoon
Sandhill Crane  
*Grus canadensis*

**CDC:** Blue  
**COSEWIC:** NAR (May 1979)  
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** unlikely

**Identification:**

Tall, long-necked, long-legged bird with clump of feathers drooping over rump; flies with neck and legs fully extended; adults grey overall (may have brownish-red staining resulting from preening with muddy bill), with whitish chin, cheek, and upper throat, and dull red skin on crown and lores (lacking in immatures); sexes look alike, male slightly larger; juvenile similar to adult, but mottled grey and brown, and without facial markings or bald forehead (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**

**BREEDING:** Nests on ground or in shallow water on open tundra, large marshes, bogs, fens, or wet forest meadows. Nest is large mound of vegetation in water, floating or attached to vegetation. Exhibits high fidelity to breeding territories.  
**NON-BREEDING:** Roosts at night along river channels, on alluvial islands of braided rivers, or natural basin wetlands. Communal roost site with open expanse of shallow water is key feature of wintering habitat.  
Often feeds and rests in marshes and agricultural lands, mostly grains and seeds, some insects, other invertebrates, and small vertebrates (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**

- Casual (observed less than once per year) in fall (Weber et al. 1988)  
Species at Risk Habitat in Stanley Park

Sandhill Crane
Grus canadensis

Legend

Potential Habitat
Nests on or around or in shallow water on open beaches, large marshes, lagoons, ponds or wet forest meadows. Non-breeding birds roost at night along river channels, on alluvial islands or natural beach wetlands.

January 2009

Stanley Park Ecology Society

Pitney Bowes MapInfo

STANLEY PARK ECOLOGY SOCIETY
Short-billed Dowitcher

*Limnodromus griseus*

**Identification:**

Medium-sized shorebird (25-29 cm) with bill twice as long as head; moderately long, pale legs; white wedge up back in flight; tail barred black and white; leans forward and probes into mud energetically with action resembling sewing machine.  
Breeding plumage: underparts orange to rusty, extending from throat to lower chest; small, heavy spots on chest, becoming lines and bars on flanks.  
Nonbreeding plumage: Grey back, neck, and chest; grey barring on flanks  
Female: longer bill and paler orange markings than male  
Juvenile: buffy chest and flanks, less spotting and barring than breeding adults. (Cornell Lab 2007)

**Habitat Requirements:**

**BREEDING:** nest is shallow hollow in grassy or mossy tundra and wet meadows.  
**NON-BREEDING:** uses mudflats, estuaries, shallow marshes, pools, ponds, flooded fields and sandy beaches. Winters on coastal mud flats and brackish lagoons. In migration prefers saltwater tidal flats, beaches, and salt marshes. 
Eats aquatic invertebrates (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**

- Casual (seen less than once/year) in spring (checklist) (Weber et al. 1988)  
Short-eared Owl
*Asio flammeus*

**Identification:**

Medium-sized owl (34-43 cm); mostly mottled brown; chest pale with thin streaks; head large and round; large buff wing patch on outer wing visible in flight; tiny "ear" tufts difficult to see; dark around yellow eyes; feet feathered; flies close to ground with characteristic floppy flight. Sexes similar in plumage, female slightly larger with darker back and more rust on chest, juvenile similar to adult (Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**

Broad expanses of open land with low vegetation for nesting and foraging. Habitat types include fresh and saltwater marshes, bogs, dunes, prairies, grassy plains, old fields, river valleys, meadows, open woodland. In general, any area that is large enough, has low vegetation with some dry upland for nesting, that supports suitable prey (mainly rodents) and with nearby water. Roosts by day on ground, on low open perch, under low shrub, or in conifer. BREEDING: Nests on ground, generally in slight depression, often beside or beneath bush or clump of grass. Many nests near water but generally on dry sites. Same nest site may be used in successive years. Nests usually located on dry sites and in open country supporting small mammals such as voles. Has specialized eating habits and tends to stay where there is ample food. (BC CDC 2007; Univ. Michigan. 2007; Cornell Lab. 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**

- Rare in fall (Weber et al. 1988)
January 2009

Legend

Potential Habitat

- Woodland
- Fields
- River valleys
- Washed-out dunes
- Fresh and saltwater marshes
- Young and old stands of wet and dry hardwood, birch, and aspen

Species at Risk Habitat in Stanley Park
Southern Red-backed Vole
*Myodes gapperi occidentalis*

**Identification:**
Small mammal (length 70-112 mm); dense, long, soft fur in winter, changes to shorter, coarser fur in summer; general coloration above dark grey with pronounced chestnut brown stripe running dorsally from head to tail; face and sides yellowish brown and underparts dark slate grey to almost white; males and females similar in size and color; juveniles darker than adults (Univ. Michigan. 2007).

**Habitat:**
Prefers cool, mesic deciduous, coniferous, or mixed forests, especially areas with large amount of ground cover; regarded as an ecological indicator of old-growth conditions in the Rocky Mountains; mossy logs and tree roots in coniferous forests optimal although deciduous or mixed coniferous/deciduous woods also accepted; nests generally constructed under roots of stumps, logs, or brush piles, but may be located in holes or branches of trees high above ground; doesn’t dig tunnels, but uses burrows of moles and other small mammals (BC CDC 2007; Univ. Michigan 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Found in Point Grey and probably occurs in Stanley Park. Appears on checklist of mammals (Merilees 1988)
- ’Western’ (C. Occidental) have been observed in the Park (unpublished VPB report 2004)
- Before inventory in Burns Bog in 1999, was known from only two locations: Point Grey and Stanley Park (Strix and Ryder 2002)
Surf Scoter
*Melanitta perspicillata*

**CDC:** Blue
**COSEWIC:** not listed
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** unlikely

**Identification:**
Large, stocky diving duck (48-60 cm); male entirely velvety black, except for white patch on forehead and larger white triangle on nape, bill large and swollen at base of upper bill, patterned with white, red, yellow, and a black patch near base, appearing mainly orange at a distance, eyes pale blue-gray or yellowish white, feet reddish orange with dusky webs; female less distinctly marked with smudgy face patches and dark bill, eyes pale brown, may be pale gray or yellow, feet yellow to brownish red, with dull black webs; juvenile similar to adult female but with white belly and more distinct face patches, eyes dark brown (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**
BREEDING: on shallow lakes in boreal forest and tundra. Nests in brushy tundra, in freshwater marsh, or in wooded area near pond, bog, or stream. Nests on ground in area protected by vegetative cover. Nest is a depression lined with plant material and down.
NON-BREEDING: primarily in shallow marine coastal waters, usually over pebble and sand bottom, less frequently in bays or on freshwater lakes and rivers. Eats freshwater invertebrates, especially molluscs (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab 2007; Univ. Michigan 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Listing of important species in Stanley Park: relative abundance 44.4% in Stanley Park study area (Robertson and Bekhuys 1995)
- Often seen on walks on the seawall (Weber and Kautesk 1988)
- Abundant in spring, fall, and winter, uncommon in summer (checklist) (Weber et al. 1988)
- Often seen in winter on ocean from WWII platform above Siwash Rock and seawall (VNHS 2006); VNHS Christmas counts 1985-1989: major concentrations on Stanley Park’s foreshore (Sandwell, 1991)
- Listed in VNHS guide as marine, winter-only (VNHS 2006)
- Foreshore survey of Stanley Park (Worcester and Boisclair-Joly 2002)
Surf Scoter cont.

Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park cont.:

- Sighted during foreshore study of Stanley Park (Rotinsky 1999)
- Up to 750 scoters counted in Stanley Park areas of Burrard Inlet and English Bay in 1993/1994 with highest numbers in October (Breault and Watts 1996).
- Commonly seen in Coal Harbour and off Brockton Point and Ferguson Point (VNHS 1995).
- Observed offshore on all areas of Stanley Park’s foreshore from Second Beach to the Beaver Creek estuary (Monica Schroeder, Pers. Comm. 2007).
- Observed feeding on clams in sand at Third Beach and Second Beach

SPES Historical Data:

- 1971-2006
- 28 sightings recorded
- 1-500 birds per sighting
- Lost Lagoon. Stanley Park foreshore, Second Beach pool (Peter Woods, Pers. Comm.)
**Townsend’s Big-eared Bat**

*Corynorhinus townsendii*

**Identification:**
Small to medium-sized bat (total length 90-112 mm) with very large ears, 30-39 mm, joined across forehead; dorsal hairs slate or grey with pale cinnamon brown to blackish brown tips that contrast little with base; ventral hairs slate, grey, or brownish, with brownish or buff tips; two large fleshy lumps on snout; hairs on toes do not project beyond toenails (BC CDC 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**
Found in a variety of locations that range from coniferous forests and woodlands, deciduous riparian woodland, semi-desert and montane shrublands; most common in evergreen forests in warmer months. Prefers relatively cold places for hibernation, often near entrances and in well-ventilated areas. Uses caves, buildings, and tree cavities for night roosts. Throughout much of known range, commonly occurs in mesic habitats characterized by coniferous and deciduous forests, but occupies broad range of habitats.

On West Coast found regularly in forested regions and buildings, and in areas with mosaic of woodland, grassland, and/or shrubland. Recorded from pine-fir-hemlock-broadleaf deciduous forest in western Oregon, and from edge of spruce-fir forest in Colorado.

**BREEDING:** Maternity and hibernation colonies typically in caves and mine tunnels. Females gather in small nursery colonies in warm parts of caves or mines, sometimes in buildings (western U.S.). Individuals generally return to same maternity roost in successive years (BC CDC 2007; Univ. Michigan. 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Merilees (1988) confirms Townsend’s Big-eared Bat present during summer months, but uncommon (Robertson and Bekhuys 1995)
- Appears on checklist of mammals of Stanley Park (Merilees 1988)
- Natural Areas map - habitat for Townsend’s Big-eared Bat (Parks Canada 2002)
- Bats seen at Third Beach, Beaver lake, Lost Lagoon (Robertson et al. 1989)
- Bats observed over Lost Lagoon, in the entrance to Tatlow trail (south end) and in the gardens west of Lost Lagoon (Peter Woods, Pers. Comm. 2007).
- Large bat observed flying around street lamp on Pipeline Road near Tisdall trail (Andrew Scott, Pers. Comm. 2007).
- Bats often observed in early mornings, sometimes around road switchback on Park Drive approaching Prospect Point (Ziggy Jones, Pers. Comm. 2007).
**Species at Risk Habitat in Stanley Park**

**Townsend's Big-eared Bat**
*Corynorhinus townsendii*

**Legend**
- Robertson et al., 1989

Potential Habitat:
Habitat ranges from coniferous and deciduous woodlands to grassland and shrubland. Commonly occurs in mosaic habitats. Uses caves, buildings, and free cavities for night roosts.

* These are sightings of bats, not sightings of specific species.*
Wandering Tattler
*Heteroscelus incanus*

**CDC:** Blue  
**COSEWIC:** not listed  
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** unlikely

**Identification:**
Medium-sized shorebird (26-30 cm); short, thick yellow legs; moderately long, straight bill; grey all over; belly white; short white eyestripe; constantly bobs tail and rear end up and down as it walks; entire underside heavily barred in breeding plumage. Characteristic bird of the rocky Pacific Coast, seen bobbing and teetering among rocks and waves during winter and migration. Some individuals spend summer along southern part of the range rather than going with others to breeding grounds in mountains of Alaska and northwestern Canada (Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**

**BREEDING:** Usually breeds along rocky or scrubby vegetated edges of mountain streams and lakes; often along rapidly flowing streams and usually within tundra habitats; wet meadows; creek edges; sometimes in forest clearings away from water. Nests on the ground in rocky or gravelly site.  
**NON-BREEDING:** mainly rocky shores and islands, also sandy island beaches along coast, sometimes on mudflats and along rocky streams. During nesting season: feeds along edges of rocky, gravelly mountain streams. Eats caddisfly larvae, crane flies, beetles, amphipods, mollusks. During migration and winter: feeds on mollusks, worms, small fish; probes into mud or under rocks (BC CDC 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Rarely observed at Ferguson Point or Upper Coal Harbour at low tide (Weber and Kautesk 1988)  
- Casual (seen less than once/year) in summer and fall on west side of Stanley Park (Weber et al. 1988)  
- Rare (VNHS 2006)
Western Grebe
*Aechmophorus occidentalis*

**cpc: Red**
**COSEWIC: not listed**
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK: unlikely**

**Identification:**
Medium-sized waterbird (size: 55-75 cm); black back and face; white neck and underside; long neck; long, thin bill; sexes look alike; immature similar to adult (BC CDC 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**
Found on marshes, lakes, and bays; in migration and winter also sheltered seacoasts, less frequently along rivers, south-central BC, central AB, SK, MN, south to California, northern Utah, North Dakota, western Nebraska, northwestern Iowa, and western Minnesota; also locally in Mexico.

**BREEDING:** Nests on large inland bodies of water, usually in or very close to water deep enough to allow bird to swim submerged; nest typically anchored to, or build up over living vegetation

**NON BREEDING:** winters mainly along Pacific Coast from southeastern Alaska and BC south to northwestern Mexico; begins departure from southernmost coastal wintering areas late March or April, moves inland by late April-early May.

Diet mainly fish, insects (adults and larvae, especially in spring and summer), mollusks, crabs, marine worms, and salamanders (BC CDC 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Listed as abundant in spring, fall and winter, and fairly common in summer in seasonal checklist of birds of Stanley Park (Weber et al. 1988)
- Seen in deep waters from Stanley Park (VNHS 2006)
- Foreshore survey in Stanley Park (Worcester and Boisclair-Joly 2002)
- Occurrence amongst seabirds in study area : 6.6% in Coal Harbour. (Robertson and Bekhuys 1995)
- Sighted during foreshore survey (Rotinsky 1999)
- Best place to see WEGR in Burrard Inlet in March and October is near Stanley Park (Breault and Watts 1996).
- Commonly seen off Brockton Point. Congregate in groups of thousands off Ferguson Point in spring, and can be seen performing courtship displays (VNHS 1995).

**SPES Historical Data :**
- 1982-2005
- 13 sightings recorded
- 1-100s of birds per sighting
- Stanley Park foreshore
Western Meadowlark  
*Sturnella neglecta*

**CDC:** Red  
**COSEWIC:** not listed  
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** unlikely

**Identification:**

Large (16-26 cm), stocky songbird with short tail; throat, chest, and belly yellow; flanks white with dark streaking; black "V" across chest; back brown and streaked; outer wing and tail feathers partly barred with black and brown, buffy edging to feathers in fall wears off during winter, revealing bright pattern; bill long and slender; long pink legs and toes; crown dark with light stripe down middle; light eyebrow; yellow in front of eye; eyes black. Sexes look similar, but female smaller and less strongly marked. Juvenile similar to adult, but with head stripes less sharp, paler overall, and with dusky spots or flecks on chest instead of black (Cornell Lab 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**

Grasslands, savanna, cultivated fields, riparian areas and pastures, mountain meadows, orchards, and windbreaks. Summers in grasslands and valleys; ranges up to higher in foothills and open mountain areas. Uses a variety of grassland types from shrub-steppe and shortgrass prairie to mixed-grass and tallgrass. Prefers high forb and grass cover, low to moderate litter cover, and little or no woody cover In general, prefers open, treeless areas although a few shrubs may be used as song perches. In riparian areas in Iowa, density was positively associated with grass cover and cover of all life forms combined (life forms were defined as grass-like vegetation, forbs, shrubs, deciduous and evergreen trees, and vines). Density was negatively associated with sapling and tree richness, the horizontal patchiness of trees, and forb cover.

**BREEDING:** Female builds nest on dry ground. Nest is large domed structure of woven grasses and ground vegetation (Univ. Michigan. 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**

- Rare in spring and fall (checklist) (Weber et al. 1988)

**SPES Historical Data :**

- 1970-2000
- 2 sightings recorded
- 1 bird per sighting
- Lost Lagoon, inner Stanley Park trail

Photo by: Alan Vernon  
http://www.flickr.com/photos/alanvernon
Species at Risk Habitat in Stanley Park

Western Meadowlark
Sturnella neglecta

Legend
- SPEC Historical Data
- Potential Habitat
- Grasslands and riparian areas with little woody cover.

0 250 500 meters

January 2009

Stanley Park Ecology Society
Western Painted Turtle  
*Chrysemys picta*

**Identification:**
Brightly marked with smooth shell about 90 - 250 mm long; relatively flat upper shell with red and yellow markings on a black or greenish brown background; males mature at about 3 to 5 years of age; females at take longer (6 to 10 years) and are larger at maturity; growth rate for both sexes rapid during first several years; will continue to grow slowly after maturity, and may live for many decades (Univ. Michigan. 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**
Prefers living in freshwater that is quiet, shallow, and has a thick layer of mud (BC CDC 2007). Likes slow-moving, shallow water with soft bottom, basking sites, and aquatic vegetation: streams, marshes, ponds, lakes, creeks. May colonize seasonally flooded areas near permanent water.

BREEDING: Nests in soft soil in open area up to several hundred meters from water; Hatchlings usually remain in nest in winter and emerge in spring.

NON-BREEDING: hibernates in water in bottom mud

Feeds opportunistically on various plants and animals, living or dead, obtained from bottom of water or among aquatic plants. Diet dominated by invertebrates in some areas. Juvenile diet sometimes includes cladoceran zooplankton (Univ. Michigan. 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**
- Seen in Beaver Lake (Robertson and Bekhuys 1995)
- Often seen in summer basking on logs and rocks; likely introduced into Beaver Lake, Lost Lagoon, and other locations (Grass 1988)
- Believed to be introduced from people who brought them from the interior of BC - probably not a relic population (VNHS 2006)
- Regularly observed in Beaver Lake (Unpublished VPB report 2004)
- Natural Areas Map - habitat for Western Painted Turtle (Parks Canada 2002)
Species at Risk Habitat in Stanley Park

Western Painted Turtle
Chrysemys picta

Legend

- Robertson and Bethuya, 1995
- Unpublished YPB Report, 2004
- Gross, 1986

Potential Habitat:
Quiet, shallow freshwater with a thick layer of mud. Streams, marshes, ponds, lakes and creeks with backing sites and aquatic vegetation. Nests in soft soil in open area up to several hundred meters from water.
Western Screech-Owl
*Megascops kennicottii kennicottii*

**CDC:** Blue  
**COSEWIC:** SC (May 2002)  
**BREEDING STATUS IN STANLEY PARK:** possible

**Identification:**

Small owl with feathered ‘ear tufts’; face pale with dark lateral border, underparts streaked and barred; yellow eyes and dark bills. Sexes alike in plumage characteristics; plumage brown or grey-brown in the northwest. Some populations in coastal regions of Pacific Northwest more variable in colour, often displaying reddish-brown morphs. Feet and toes are feathered in northern populations (BC CDC 2007).

**Habitat Requirements:**

Woodland, especially broadleaf and riparian woodland, and scrub; also mixed forests of northwest coastal regions consisting of Big-leaf Maple, Red Alder, Douglas-fir, Western Hemlock, and Western Red Cedar; also urban and suburban parks, and residential areas. Usually found at lower elevations; closely linked to riparian habitats; these areas often first habitat in any given area to suffer effects of urban development.

**BREEDING:** Nests in natural tree cavity or abandoned woodpecker hole. Breeding populations continually threatened by rapid urbanization and degradation of habitat, and face possible competition from exotic species such as European starlings. Currently no official data on trends of population densities, however, populations probably declining slowly with habitat loss. Feeds mainly on small mammals (mice and shrews), insects, birds; sometimes also other small vertebrates (BC CDC 2007; Cornell Lab. 2007; Univ. Michigan. 2007).

**Documented Occurrences in Stanley Park:**

- On list for study area (Robertson and Bekhuys 1995)
- Frequently heard in wooded parts of the Greater Vancouver area, and can be expected in Stanley Park (Robertson and Bekhuys 1995)
- Frequently heard in wooded parts of Stanley Park (same as above) (unpublished VPB report 2004)
- Natural Areas Map - habitat for Western Screech Owl (Parks Canada 2002)
- Listed as uncommon in spring, summer, fall and winter (Weber et al. 1988)
Western Screech-Owl
*Megascops kennicottii kennicottii*

Legend:
- **Creeks**
- **Coastlines**
- **Lakes**
- **Roads**
- **Trails**
- **Potential Habitat:** Coniferous and deciduous forest and riparian areas.

Scale 1:15,000
Nad 83, Zone 10

Modified by:
M. Alam
Capilano College, NV
References


Web References


Maps References

VanMap: http://www.cityvancouver.bc.ca/vanmap

Community Mapping Network: http://www.shim.bc.ca

Personal Communications
Mathias, Alix, 2004
Schroeder, Monica, 2007
Scott, Andrew, 2007
Woods, Peter, 2007
Jones, Ziggy, 2007

Stanley Park Ecology Society Historical Data
Bird Counts 2001-2007
Tharalson Diary
Lost Lagoon Nature House Observation Log