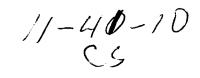


Library

# Level li Interpretive Guide Course Date of Report: 1988 Catalogue Number: 11-41-10

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# LEVEL II INTERPRETIVE GUIDE COURSE

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Created by:

Wes Werbowy Wilderness Consultants Box 1183 Fort Smith, N.W.T.

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

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Welcome to the Level II Interpretive Guiding Course.

This course has been designed to aid you in your profession as an Interpretive Guide. This is perhaps the most difficult and the most rewarding avenue of guiding. It is difficult since it must go beyond the basics of consumptive guiding into areas of knowledge that will lead into more questions. It is rewarding, since your efforts will expand your own understanding and allow you to communicate this to others---and there can be no greater gift.

Your role is that of a "storyteller": much like those of the past who had the knowledge, skill, and tact to be able to draw out the curiosity of the listener and enable him to experience the understanding of those links which connect each form of life to the other and to the land itself. Your task is to be able to function as a negotiator between what your guest sees and what he understands. Through you, your guest will be able to grasp, spiritually, the wonder of the North.

This is a responsibility that requires a commitment from you. This course is a challenge that will demand a great effort on your part---but the greater the effort you give, the greater your reward will be in your role as an Interpretive Guide.

#### <u>UNIT 1</u>

#### TOURISM

#### <u>ITEM 1.</u>

List some industries which create an income for the North.

(B) How important is tourism to the N.W.T.?

#### ITEM 2.

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List some jobs in the community that are involved in tourism.

#### <u>ITEM 3.</u>

Make 2 lists. In one, show the good points in tourism: in the other, show the bad parts.

#### <u>ITEM 4.</u>

Who is the Tourism Industry representative for your area?

Who is the Economic Development Officer?

#### ITEM 5

What is competition?

List 5 other tourism activities that compete with this area.

#### <u>ITEM 6.</u>

List some International competition. How does the video make this look appealing?

#### <u>ITEM 7.</u>

In Canadian competition, what is being offered and what price range is quoted?

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#### <u>TTEM 8.</u>

What does your area need in order to compete with other N.W.T. offerings?

#### **ITEM** 9.

Why Is tourist satisfaction important?

#### **ITEM** 10.

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What other things can you suggest for a tourist to do?

#### PROFESSIONALISM

#### <u>TTEM 1.</u>

List some qualities expected of a professional guide.

#### <u>ITEM 2.</u>

What does your employer expect from you?

#### <u>ITEM 3.</u>

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What does the tourist expect from you?

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#### ITEM 4.

List some roles for handling angry people.

#### <u>TTEM 5.</u>

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List some questions and answers regarding local tourist facilities.

#### <u>ITEM 1.</u>

What is "cash flow"?

### <u>ITEM 2.</u>

What is "fair value"?

List some of the considerations needed in starting your own small business.

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#### ITEM 4.

Define the following terms:

Revenue:

#### Expense:

Profit:

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Loss:

#### **ITEM** 5.

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The Income Statement Step 'A': List <u>all</u> money coming in as Revenue. REVENUE:

\_\_\_\_\_(A

Step 'B': List all money paid out as expenses.

COSTS ITEMS Expenses \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ -----\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_

#### TOTAL EXPENSES:

\_\_\_\_\_(B)

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(A) minus (B) is your profit or loss :

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#### **ITEM** 6

Example: Service Price Calculation.

Someone has heard that you are a good guide and they want to book a trip with you. Four people will be arriving <u>if</u> you give them a good price. How much will you charge for a 5 day hunting trip for the party of four men including food?

Step 1.	decide on food costs (this is covered in Module A. Unit 8, ( <u>Menu Development</u> )	L
Step 2.	decide where you will take them (total miles)	
Step 3.	decide how you will get there (aircraft, skidoo, dog team) and how much it سالا cost. (gas & oil, or aircraft)	
Step 4.	decide on your wage and a helper's wage	
step 5.	decide on equipment use per hour cost	
<u>Calculations</u>		
<b>step</b> 1.	6 men (4 guests + 2 guides) the number is variable dependant on the situation x $20.00$ per day x total days= $6x20x5$ =	\$600.00
step 2 +3.	2 boats (or skidoos) x 7 gal. x 5 days= 2 x \$20.00x 5 + oil (\$30.00) or type of aircraft and costs for all men and equipment	
		\$230.00
Step 4.	helper's wage 5 x \$70.00 your wage 5x \$80.00	\$350.00 \$400.00
Step 5.	$\frac{\text{TOTAL VALUE}}{\text{lax}} = \text{COSTPERHOUR}$	
210	<u>X6003 + 2000</u> (other equipment) = \$14 per hour 00	
	<b>@</b> 5 hour min. per day =5x 14X 5	\$350.00
TOTAL COST: \$600	0.(X) + \$230.00 = \$350.00 + \$400.00 + \$350.00 =	\$1,930.00

Since there are 4 men, you cannot charge them <u>anv less</u> than \$500,00 each.

THIS IS YOUR BREAK-EVEN FIGURE

#### \$500.00X4 = \$2,000.00

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PROFTT = \$2,000 - \$1,930 = \$70.00

The profit is small - so you must now decide on your competition and charge accordingly. Perhaps they will agree to \$600.00 per man.

\*NOTE: Equipment amortization must be considered.

This can be calculated in this manner:

<u>Cost of the equipment - salvage value =</u> Hourly rate Total Hours Used

Or, for a quick rule of thumb, use 1/1000 of its value per hour  $\,$  - then set an hourly minimum per day.

e.g. Boat + Motor

<u>\$x)00.(x) + \$3,000.00</u> 1000

= \$6.00 per hour

If a 5 hour minimum is used, then  $5 \times 6.00 = 30.00$  per day

or: if less competition or short season,

then  $8 \times 86.00 = 848.00$  per day

What is the average daily rental in your area?

How does this compare to either method of calculation?

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#### INTERPRETATION

#### ITEM 1.

What is meant by "non-consumptive activites?

Make a list of several of these:

<u>ITEM 2.</u>

Define Interpretive Guiding.

(B) Explain these words

1. Communications:

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2. meanings and relationships:

3. cultural hertitage:

4. natural heritage:

5. first-hand involvement:

6. artifact:

#### <u>TTEM 3.</u>

List the 6 main principles of Interpretive Guiding.

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#### ITEM4.

List some rules for storytelling.

<u>ITEM 5.</u>

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Planning Sheet.

1. What is my theme?

2. Who is my audience?

3. What am I trying to achieve?

4. Where can I find more information?

5. What are the main points to my story?

6. How can I involve my guest?

<u>ITEM 6.</u>

What is a prop kit?

(B) What are some items that can be placed in one?

#### <u>ITEM 7.</u>

Design a short tour. Indicate what each of the following will contain:

(A) Introduction

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(B) The Trip

(c) Post-trip activities		

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#### SAFETY AWARENESS

#### <u>TTEM 1.</u>

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List some possible safety hazards.

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B. .....

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(B) What can a guide do to eliminate hazards?

#### <u>ITEM 2.</u>

Create a list of items that should be carried on a boat.

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#### SURVIVAL TECHNIQUES

#### ITEM 1

List the 7 survival steps.

1.\_\_\_\_\_ 3\_\_\_\_\_ 4\_\_\_\_\_ 5\_\_\_\_\_ 6\_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_

#### <u>ITEM 2,</u>

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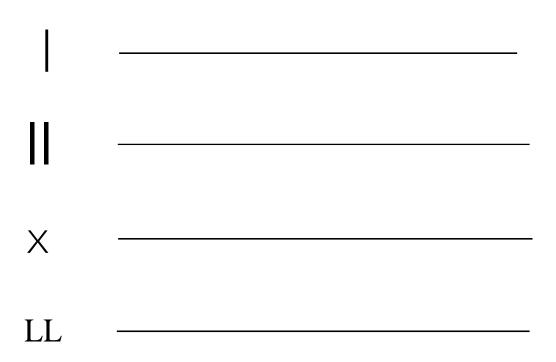
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What is an E. L.T.?

What frequency does it use?

Identify the following ground to air signals:



MAP IDENTIFICATION

<u>ITEM 1.</u>

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List 4 different types of maps.

#### <u>ITEM 2.</u>

What is meant by "map scale"?

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#### <u>ITEM 3.</u>

If a WAC. chart has a scale of 1:1,000,000 and a topographic map has a scale of 1:250,000, which is the larger scale map?

#### <u>ITEM 4.</u>

What is the longitude and latitude of this course location?

#### <u>ITEM 5.</u>

List the steps required to find a True bearing using a map and a Silva compass.

L	 	 	
2			
3	 	 	

#### <u>ITEM 6.</u>

How would you convert the True bearing to a compass bearing in your area?

#### **ITEM** 7.

Draw the big dipper and show the position of the North Star.

# TOUR ADMINISTRATION

# <u>ITEM 1.</u>

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Create a one-day town tour. Include at least 4 items of interest. Complete the following itinerary.

TIM	E	ACTIVITY	POINTS TO CONSIDER
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# <u>ITEM 2.</u>

Create a 5 day excursion. Include 2 campsites: compete the following itinerary.

TIME	ACTIVITY	POINTS TO CONSIDER

#### ITEMS.

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Step **2** and Step **3**.

For the previous menu, assume a party of 4 for the 10 day trip. List each item and each amount required. Finally, calculate the price of each item and end up with a total food cost.

AMOUNT	ITEM	PRICE
	1	
	1	<u> </u>

AMOUNT	ITEM	PRICE
I. ₿ 		TOTAL COST

#### MODULE B

#### <u>UNIT 1</u>

#### GEOLOGY

#### <u>ITEM 1.</u>

Define the following terms:

# morphology

core

mantle

fossils

igneous

sedimentary

magma

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in	tri	110	117	n
	tru	ua	1 V	C
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#### extrusive

topographic

Tectonic movement

erosion

Karst

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moraine

Drumlins

#### Kettle

#### esker

#### Pingo

#### cuesta

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#### <u>ITEM 2.</u>

Define your zone in geographic terms. Describe its appearance and state why it looks this way.

#### <u>ITEM 3.</u>

'The past is written in the rocks". Describe local rock information that shows you that the North did not always look as it does now.

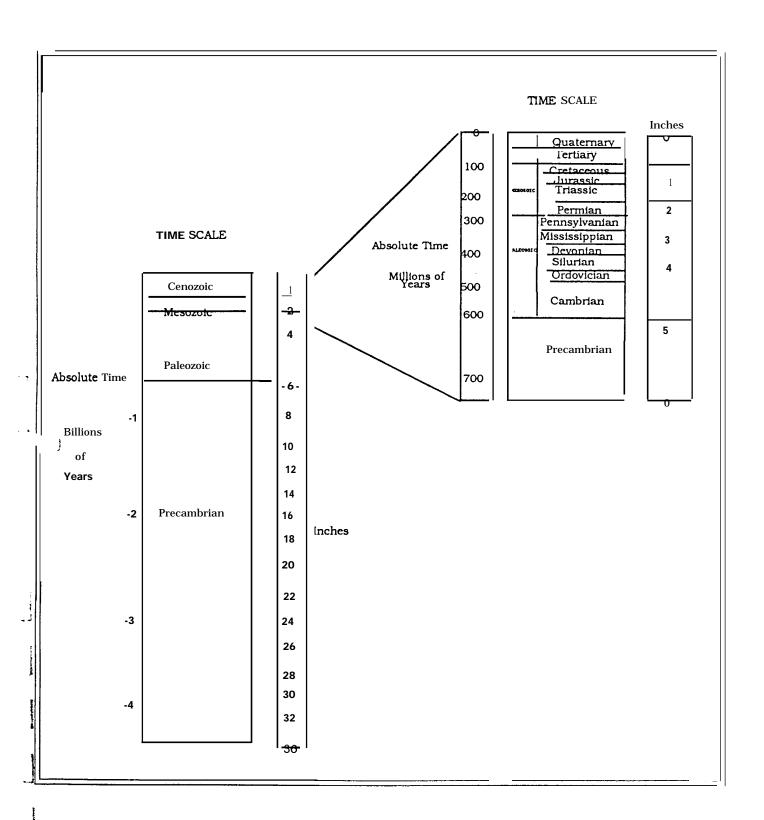
#### <u>ITEM 4.</u>

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Draw a vertical "yardstick" and label the passage of geological time. Show how much of that time involves the presence of humans.

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#### <u>TTEM 5.</u>

List the 3 types of reeks. Which one(s) are present in your area?

## <u>ITEM 6.</u>

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Begin a list of new terms that are not mentioned in Item 1. Include an explanation in your own words.

### MODULE B UNIT 2

## <u>TTEM 1.</u>

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What general migration patterns took place for the ancestors of the Dene and the Inuit?

## <u>ITEM 2.</u>

Describe the location and lifestyle of the following Dene groups:

(a) Chipewyan

(b) Yellowknife Chipewyan

[C) Dogrib

(d) Southern Slavey

(e) Mountain Slavey

(f) Hare

(g) Loucheux

. .

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<u>ITEM 3.</u>
Describe the location and lifestyle of the following Inuit groups:
(a) Ungava Inuit
(b) South Baffin
(c) Iglulik
(d) Netsilik
(e) Caribou
(f) Copper

Purint and

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## ARCHAEOLOGY

## <u>ITEM 1.</u>

What is the purpose of archaeology?

<u>ITEM 2.</u>

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What are the laws which protect archaeological sites?

## <u>ITEM 3.</u>

Who should you contact if you feel you have discovered an archaeological site?

## <u>ITEM 4.</u>

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Describe the different processes used to make stone tools. How can you tell what method was used by looking at the object?

## MODULE B UNIT 4

## <u>TTEM 1.</u>

Describe some local evidence of either the fur trade or the whaling trade.

## <u>ITEM 2.</u>

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Why was Stefansson successful as an explorer?

## <u>(B)</u>

What were some of his "prophesies"?

## <u>ITEM 3.</u>

List the key dates and historic events that are pertinent in your area.

## <u>ITEM 4.</u>

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What is the history of your community?



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## MODULE C UNIT 1

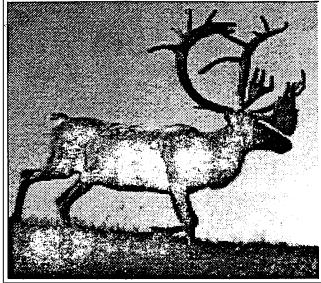
## LOCAL BIG GAME ANIMALS

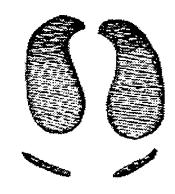


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## **INTERPRETIVE GUIDE COURSE**

## **PARTICIPANT'S NOTES**





iu Meréony

Rangifer tarandus

BARREN-GROUND CARIBOU

SIZE:

WEIGHTS:

**REPRODUCTION:** 

**PREDATION:** 

**OTHER** INFORMATION:

# MODULE C UNIT 2 LOCAL FUR BEARING ANIMALS

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# MODULE C UNIT 3 LOCAL SMALL ANIMALS

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## MODULE C UNIT 4

## LOCAL MARINE ANIMALS

## MODULE D UNITS 1 AND 2

## LOCAL FISH INFORMATION

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## MODULE E UNIT 1

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## PLANT IDENTIFICATION

The following sheets will be used to record those plants you have identified locally. You will be expected to record a minimum of 20 plants.

#### MODULE E UNIT 1

## <u>ITEM 1.</u>

List the three main vegetation areas and describe their aspects.

(1)			
(2)	 	 	 
(2)			
(3)			

## <u>ITEM 2.</u>

Describe arctic plant adaptation. Give examples of local plants.

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### <u>ITEM 3.</u>

For each of the following landscapes. give a description and identify plants found in each.

(1) Rock desert or fell-field,

(2) Tundra

(3) Shore

(4) Freshwater

Common Name

sckdfk-

Local Name

OTHER NAMES:

DESCRIPTION:

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LOCATION:

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**REMARES:** 

Common Name Scientific Name

Local Name

OTHER NAMES:

**DESCRIPTION:** 

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LOCATION:

**REMARKS:** 

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#### **MODULE F UNIT 1**

## **BIRD INFORMATION**

The sheets that follow include a list of Common Breeding birds of the N.W.T.. as well as a sighting list from Bathurst Inlet. Using these and the information found in the family listings and the Audubon Field Guide, identify a minimum of 20 local birds. Use the <u>Bird Identification Sheets</u> to record your information.

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## <u>ITEM 1.</u>

Make pertinent notes on aspects of migration and navigation regarding local bird populations.

## <u>ITEM 2.</u>

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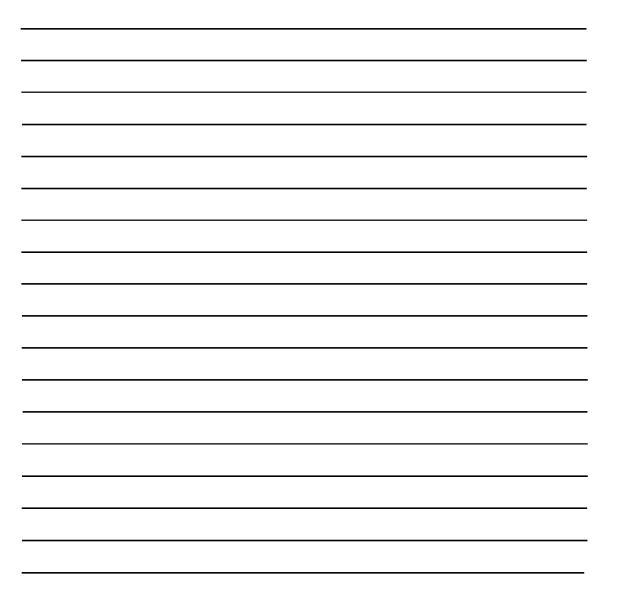
Identify several local birds and describe some of their adaptive characteristics.

### <u>ITEM 3.</u>

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Indicate the 3 Major Northern Bird habitats. Describe what is found locally and list some of the characteristic bird species found.



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#### 1. LOONS (Gaviidae)

#### Number of species in Canada: 5

Loons are generally large fish-eating birds, excellent swimmers able to dive to depths of 200 feet, but almost unable to move on land because their legs are set well to the rear of their bodies for more efficient underwater swimming. Loons are heavy-bodied with relatively small wings. When takting flight they thrash along the surface, and require a long "runway" to become airborne. Hence, they nest on large lakes or ponds. The parents fish for the young mostly on large lakes or seas in the area, returning with fish in their long pointed bills, to feed their constantly swimming young. Species found in the N.W.T.: Common Loon, Yellow-billed Loon, Arctic Loon, (Pacific Loon), Red-throated Loon.

## 2. GREBES (Podicipedidae)

#### Number of species in Canada: 6

Grebes are diving birds, with species ranging in size from a small duck to a goose. All have lobed feet--small flaps along their toes. Like loons, they are awkward on land, and requtre relatively long "runways" to take flight. Grebes generally build their nests of rotting vegetation among aquatic plants such as cattails, bulrushes and sedges. They feed on small fish, crustaceans, tadpoles and aquatic insects. Species found in the N.W.T.: Red-necked Grebe, Homed Grebe, Pied Grebe.

#### 3. SBEARWATERS and FULMARS, (Procellariidae)

#### Number of species in Canada: 14

Birds of this family are seabirds that rarely come to land except to breed. They eat mostly plankton and fish. although some species eat other birds, eggs, carrion (decaying flesh), or garbage from ships. Most nest colonially in underground burrows, but some nest on seacliff ledges. The flight pattern, several flaps and a glide, is distinctive. Incubation and care of the young birds is shared by both sexes. This is called 'natal care'. Species found in the N.W.T.:Fulmar.

#### 4. PELICANS (Pelecanidae)

#### Number of species in Canada: 2

Pelicans are huge water birds with long, flat bills and great throat pouches, long necks and strong bodies. They are strong fliers. and soar well. Pelicans feed from the surface or by diving from the air into the water, scooping up fish in their pouches. They fly with their head hunched back on their shoulders and long bill resting on their breast, flocks fly in orderly lines. Pelicans nest in colonies, and both parents provide natal care. Species found in the N.W.T.: White Pelican.

#### 5. HERONS AND BITTERNS (Ardeidae)

Number of species in Canada: 12

Members of this Family are large wading birds with long necks and spear-like bills. In flight, heads are tucked back with the neck forming an "S" and their long legs trail behind. They feed on fish, frogs, crayfish and other aquatic life. The female builds the nest, but both sexes incubate and feed the young. Species found in the N.W.T.: American Bittern.

#### 6. SWANS, GEESE AND DUCKS (Anatidae)

#### Number of species in Canada: 49

#### A. SWANS (Subfamily Cygnini)

Swans are huge, all-white **swimming** birds. They have longer necks and are larger than geese. Like some geese, they **migrate** in **lines** or in V-formations. They feed on aquatic plants and seeds by immersing their head and neck, sometimes "tipping-up", Species found **in** the **N.W.T.**: Whistling Swan. (Also called Tundra Swan)

#### B. GEESE (Subfamily Anserini)

Geese are large waterfowl--larger, heavier-bodied with longer necks than ducks. They are noisy in flight. and generally fly in a line or V-formation. The sexes are colored alike. They frequently graze on land. They eat mainly grosses, seeds and aquatic plants. Species found in the N.W.T.: Canada Goose, Brant, White-fronted Goose, Snow Goose, Ross' Goose.

#### C. SURFACE-FEEDING (PUDDLE) DUCKS (Subfamily Anatini)

"Puddle Ducks", characteristic of shallow waters. ponds, and marshes, feed by dabbling and "tipping-up" Unlike dMng ducks, when frightened they spring directly into the air instead of running along the water's surface. Most species have an Iridescent patch, or speculum. on the trailing edge of the wing, although this maybe concealed when swimming. The sexes are unlike in breeding plumage--females are generally drab browns, males are more colourful--but during the summer the males molt their colorful plumage, becoming drab brown until their second molt in the fall in which they regain their bright colors. Puddle ducks feed on aquatic plants, seeds, grass, small aquatic animals and insects. Species found in the N.W.T.: Mallard, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Blue-winged Teal, American Wigeon, Shoveler.

#### D. DIVING DUCKS (Subfamily Aythyini)

The ducks of this subfamily are more strictly aquatic than the puddle ducks, frequenting seas, lakes, **rivers** and ponds. All dive for their food, whereas puddle ducks dive only when pressed by danger. In taking flight they patter along the surface while becoming airborne. They feed on small aquatic animals and plants, molluscs and crustaceans. Like the puddle ducks, the sexes are unlike. Species found in the N.W.T.: Redhead, Canvasback, Greater Scaup, Lesser Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Oldsquaw, Harlequin Duck, Common Elder, King Eider, white-winged Scoter, Surf Scoter, Common Scoter.

#### E. STIFF-TAILED DUCKS (Subfamily Oxyurini)

The members of this subfamily are small, freshwater ducks with stiff, spike-like tafl feathers and very short tail coverts. The tails are frequently held straight up, especially in courtship displays. They eat small aquatic life, trisects and water plants. The sexes are unlike in plumage during the breeding season. Species found in the N.W.T.: Ruddy Duck.

#### F. MERGANSERS (Subfamily Mergini)

Merganser are ducks which have slender, cylindrical bills, hooked at the tip and equipped with well developed, sharp backward-directed teeth-like lamellae ideal for catching and holding fish, their primary food. Most species have crests on their heads, and are long-lined slender-bodied. They patter on the surface when taking off and their flight is swift and direct. The sexes are unlike. Species found in the N.W.T.: Common Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser.

#### 7. HAWKS, KITES, HARRIERS, EAGLES (Accipitridae)

This family includes the diurnal birds of prey (appear during daylight hours).

#### A ACCIPITERS (Subfamily Accipitrinae)

Accipiters are long-tailed hawks which have short rounded wings. They are primarily woodland birds, hunting among trees and thickets, and they seldom soar. The typical flight pattern is several short quick wing beats and a glide. The sexes are alike, the female is larger than the male. Accipiters feed mainly on birds, and some *small* mammals. Species found in the N.W.T.: Goshawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk.

#### B. TRUE **HAWKS** AND EAGLES (Subfamily Buteoninae)

Members of this subfamily are large, have broad wings and broad, relatively short rounded tails. These are the soaring hawks. Within some of the species of this subfamily there is considerable variation in plumage. sometimes making field identification difficult. Some of the species also have black or melanistic phases. Food includes rats, mice, rabbits, occasional birds, and reptiles. Swainson's Hawk eats many grasshoppers, Bald Eagles eat dead or dying fish, primarily. Species found in the N.W.T.: Red-tailed Hawk, Swainson's Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Golden Eagle, Bald Eagle.

#### C. HARRIERS (Subfamily Circinae)

Harriers are hawks of the open country, most often seen flying slowly, close to the ground, in search of their principal food, rodents and small birds. They are long slim hawks with slender, angled wings and long tails. Species found the N.W.T.: Marsh Hawk, also called Northern Harrier).

#### 8. OSPREY (Pandionidae)

The Osprey Family is represented by one specie, the Osprey, a large fish-eating hawk. Ospreys catch fish by hovering, often at considerable heights, then plunging feet-first into the water. Its bill is strongly hooked, and its feet are adapted for catching and holding slippery fish--the talons are long and sharp, the outer toe is reversible, and the soles of the feet have spike-like projections.

#### 9. FALCONS (Falconidae)

Number of species in Canada: 6

Falcons are streamlined birds of prey characterized by long, pointed wings and longish tails. The wingbeats are rapid; the pointed wings are adapted for speed, not sustained soaring. As in most birds of prey, the female is larger than the male. Their primary food is birds, rodents and insects. Species found in the N.W.T.: Gyrfalcon, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin (Pigeon Hawk), Kestrel (Sparrow Hawk).

#### 10. GROUSE AND PTARMIGANS (Tetraonidae)

Members of this family are chicken-like ground dwellers with completely or partially feathered legs. The males engage in elaborate courtship displays and are generally polygamous (more than one mate). Some species have traditional courtship grounds where the females come to mate. Most are cryptically (concealing in design) colored in grays, browns and blacks: the ptarmigan turn white in winter. They nest on the ground; the female incubates and raises the young. Species found in the N.W.T.: Blue Grouse, Spruce Grouse. Ruffed Grouse, Willow Ptarmigan. Rock Ptarmigan, white-tailed Ptarmigan, Sharp-tailed Grouse.

#### 11. CRANES (Gruidae)

Number of species in Canada: 3

Cranes are large, long-necked, long-legged birds with rather long straight bills. In flight, cranes **carry** their neck straight and extended. feet trailing astern. Cranes are loud-voiced, and have spectacular courtship dances. They nest on the ground, and both sexes incubate and rear the *young. They are* omnivorous: they eat both vegetable and animal matter. Species found in the N.W.T.: Whooping Crane, Sandhill Crane.

#### 12. RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS (Rallidae)

Number of species in Canada: 10

This family is comprised of secretive marsh birds, mostly--expert skulkers able to move among marsh vegetation with mouse-like dexterity, They are often noisy, especially at night and are most often heard rather than seen The eggs are incubated by both sexes, the young are precocious--hatched with eyes open, down covering and capable of walking and running shortly after hatching. Food is mainly seeds, insects and snails. Species found in the N. W. T.: Sora, Yellow Rail, American Coot.

#### 13. PLOVERS (Charadiidae)

Number of species in Canada: 12

Plovers are plump-bodied shorebirds with short necks, rather large eyes, and short bills. The bill is soft with a hard tip. The hind toe is usually boldly patterned. Sexes are alike or similar. Plovers feed on small marine life, insects and some vegetable matter such as seeds. They seldom wade when feeding. Species found in the N.W.T.: Ringed Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, American Golden Plover, Black-bellied Plover, Ruddy Turnstone.

#### 14. WOODCOCK, SNIPE, SANDPIPERS, CURLEWS (Scolopacidae)

Number of species in Canada: 51

This is a varied Family of wading birds frequenting marshes and shores. They are quite gregarious and especially during migration, can be found in large flocks. Their bills are more slender than those of plovers, and are soft and somewhat flexible throughout their length. The adults are usually cryptically colored in browns, grays and whites, and the sexes are alike. Most species nest on the ground. The young are precocial. They feed on insects, small crustaceans, molluscs, worms and other invertebrates and occasionally seeds and berries. Species found in the N.W.T.: Common Snipe, Whimbrel, Eskimo Curlew, Upland Plover, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Knot, Purple Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Short-billed Dowitcher, Long-billed

#### Dowitcher, Still Sandpiper, Semipalinated Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Hudsonian Godwit, Sanderling.

#### **15. PHALAROPES** (Subfamily Phalaropodinae)

Phalaropes are the most aquatic of the shorebirds--they swim as well as they can wade or walk. They are gray and white in the winter, and patterned with reds and browns in the late summer. The roles of the sexes are reversed. the females are larger and brighter colored than the males, the females conduct courtship and they lay eggs. but leave the male to incubate them and care for the young. Phalaropes feed on crustaceans and insects, and can often be seen spinning in small circles which creates a whirlpool in which their food is trapped. Species found in the N.W.T.: Red Phalarope, Northern Phalarope.

#### 16. JAEGERS AND SKUAS (Stercorartinae)

Including the larger family Laridae, Number of species in Canada: 42

Jaegers are predatory seabirds with falcon-like narrow angled wings and hooked beaks. They prey on mammals, eggs and young of other birds, but feed also on insects, fish, carrion and berries. They are strong, fast fliers and often pirate food from terns and gulls. harassing them until they drop whatever food they are carrying. The sexes are alike in coloration, and both share incubation. Species found in the N. W. T.: Pomarine Jaeger, Parasitic Jaeger, Long-tailed Jaeger.

#### 17. GULLS (Subfamily Larinae)

Gulls and terns are long-winged swimming birds, and superb fliers. Most members of this family are white with gray backs, white or black wingtips and sometimes dark heads or crests. The sexes are alike. All are gregarious (found in groups) and most nest colonially. Both parents incubate and provide natal care. Gulls are omnivorous--their diet includes marine life. plant and animal life. refuse, carrion. Terns feed on small fish, which they capture by hovering, then plunging headfirst into the water. Species found in the N.W.T.: Glaucous Gull, Iceland Gull, Herring Gull, Thayer's Gull, California Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Mew Gull, Bonaparte's Gull, Ivory Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Ross' Gull, Sabine's Gull, Common Tern, Arctic Tern, Caspian Tern, Black Tern.

#### 18. AUKS, MURRES, PUFFINS (Alcidae)

Number of specie in Canada: 17

Members of the Alcidae Family are small to medium sized sea birds with short necks, chunky bodies, small pointed wings, and short legs set well back. On land they stand upright, penguin-like. Dovekies and murres are gregarious, and nest in small colonies or scattered pairs. They are strong fliers, and excellent swimmers and divers. They use their wings when swimming underwater. They feed on fish and other marine animals. Species found in the N.W.T.: Thick-billed Murre, Dovekie (occasionally), Black Guillemot.

#### 19. OWLS (Strigidae)

Number of species in Canada: 15

Owls are generally nocturnal (usually found in dark periods of the day) with large heads, flattened faces forming conspicuous "facial discs" and large, forward-facing eyes. Predatory, they have hooked bills and hooked claws. Because of the special structure of the flight feathers, their flight is noiseless, moth-like. The sexes are similar, the females larger. Food includes rodents, birds, reptiles, fish and large insects. Species found in the N.W.T.: Great Homed Owl, Snowy Owl, Hawk Owl, Great Gray Owl, Longeared Owl, Short-eared Owl, Boreal Owl.

#### 20. NIGHTJARS (Caprimulgidae)

Number of species in Canada: 5

The lone representative of this family occurring in the NWT is the Common Nighthawk. This bird is a slim-winged gray or gray-brown bird seen high in the air, especially at **dusk**. The courtship display is aerial, with the male diving toward earth, and at the end of the dive a booming noise is made. Nighthawks feed on insects caught while in flight, As many as 500 mosquitoes have been found in the stomach of a single nighthawk.

#### 21. KINGFISHERS (Alcedinidae)

Number of species in Canada: 1

Kingfishers are solitary birds of the forested zones, with large heads, long, thick bills and small weak feet. They are fish-eaters--they hover, then plunge headfirst into the water to capture fish. They are frequently seen perching on a snag at the edge of rivers, lakes, bays, ponds, coasts, watching for prey. They nest in holes in banks, and both sexes incubate and care for the young. Species found in the N.W.T.: Belted Kingfisher.

#### 22. WOODPECKERS (Picidae)

Number of species in Canada: 14

Woodpeckers are chisel-billed, wood-boring birds with strong zygodactyl feet (two toes front, two rear), long tongues and stiff spiny tails which act as props when climbing. Their flight pattern is usually undulating--rapid wing beats then a glide. In most species, males have some red on their heads. They have loud, harsh voices, and drum with their bills. They dig holes in trees in which they nest, and many other bird species are dependent on abandoned woodpecker holes for their nests. Woodpeckers feed mainly on tree-boring insects, but some eat ants, flying trisects, berries, acorns, and sap from trees. Species found in the N.W.T.: Common Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Black-backed Three-toed woodpecker, Northern Three-toed Woodpecker.

#### 23. TYRANT FLYCATCHERS (Tyrannidae)

Number of species in Canada: 26

Flycatchers are characteristically found perched quietly upright on exposed branches from which they make quick forays to snatch up passing insects. They are small, and generally inconspicuously colored. They have short, flattened bills with short bristles at the base which act something like a butterfly net. They have poorly developed songs, because of the physical similarity of the species, often the song is the only means by which they can be identified to species in the field. The female incubates but the male helps build the nest and feed the young. Species found in the N.W.T.: Eastern Kingbird, Easter Phoebe, Say's Phoebe, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Alder (Train's) Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher, Western Wood Pewee, Olive-sided Flycatcher.

#### 24. LARKS (Alaudidae)

#### Number of species in Canada: 2

Larks are brown, streaked terrestrial birds. They are fairly gregarious, and strong fliers. Larks have very musical voices, and often sing high in the air during courtship display flights. The sexes are similar. The female incubates and the male feeds heron the nest and helps feed the young. Food is mainly seeds and trisects. Species found in the N.W.T.: Homed Lark.

#### 25. SWALLOWS (Hirundinidae)

Number of species tn Canada: 8

Swallows are small, gregarious trisect-eating birds that spend much of their waktng time catching insects on the wing. They are strong fliers but because of their short legs and weak feet, they walk only with difficulty. Swallows have short bills but wide gapes (wide when open). The plumage is usually darker above than below, often with some iridescence. 'The sexes are alike. They nest in hollows in trees, burrows dug in banks, or build mud nests, some species colonially. The male helps feed the young. Species found in the N.W.T.: Tree Swallow, Bank Swallow, Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow.

#### 26. MAGPIES, CROWS AND JAYS (Corvidae)

Number of species in Canada: 11

The Corvids are bold, Inquisitive and highly adaptable birds. Often gregarious, they have loud, harsh voices and are considered by many people to be the cleverest of the birds. They are omnivorous, and occasionally predatory. One, the Common Raven, is a conspicuous winter bird of northern settlements. Nest-building and care of young is done by both sexes. Species found to the N.W.T.: Gray Jay (Whiskeyjack), Black-billed Magpie, Common Raven, Common Crow.

#### 27 TITMICE (Paridae)

Number of species in Canada: 7

The species of this family are small birds with soft, thick plumage usually boldly patterned (never streaked, barred or spotted) tn grays, browns, yellows, black or white. They have short, stout, pointed bills, short strong legs and short rounded wings. The sexes are usually alike. They are gregarious, active, curious, and unafraid. They often roam in small bands, especially during the winter. They eat insects, seeds, some berries, and can be readfly attracted to bird feeders by suet or sunflower seeds. The female incubates the eggs, but both parents feed their young. Species found in the N.W.T.: Black-capped Chickadee, Gray-headed Chickadee, Boreal Chickadee.

#### 28 NUTHATCHES (Sittidae)

#### Number of species in Canada: 3

Nuthatches are solitary, arboreal--dwelling in trees--small birds generally gray to blue above, white or brownish below, often with black or brown top of head and eyeline. The sexes are alike. They have strong woodpeck-like bills, powerful feet, stubby tails and are the only tree climbers that habitually go down tree trunks headfirst. They feed on bark insects, seeds. nuts, and can be attracted to bird feeders by suet and sunflower seeds, Species found in the N.W.T.: Red-breasted Nuthatch.

#### 29. WRENS (Troglodytidae)

Number of species In Canada: 8

Wrens are small, chunky birds, generally brownish. They have medium to long slender bills, often down-curved. They are not gregarious, but very active and inquisitive. Their wings are short and round, their tall is usually short, and often cocked up. They are generally found in tangles of underbrush. Wrens have harsh chattering calls, and musical, bubbling songs. They are mainly insect-eating, but also eat worms and other small invertebrates.

Species found in the N.W.T.: Winter Wren.

#### 30. THRUSHES ( Family Muscicapidae Subfamily Turdinae)

Number of species in Canada: 22

Thrushes are small to medium-sized large-eyed, slender-billed, usually stout-legged songbirds. Their colors are mostly browns, grays, and blues, often blended. The young are usually spotted below. Females build the nests, incubate and brood the young, but the male helps feed the young. Their food is mainly insects and fruit, but they also eat worms, molluscs, seeds and leaves. They generally have highly-developed beautiful songs. Species found In the N.W.T.: American Robin, Varied Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Wheatear, Townsend's Solitaire.

## 31. GNATCATCHERS, KINGLETS (Subfamily Sylviinae)

This family is comprised of typically small arboreal birds with small bills, short legs and medium-length rounded wings. Colors are usually plain drab browns, grays or olive-greens. Their voices are varied, pleasant and many species have well-developed songs. They feed largely on insects and other small animal life. The young are reared by both parents. Species found in the N.W.T.: Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

#### 32. PIPITS, WAGTAILS (Motacillidae)

Number of species in Canada: 4

Motacillidae members are slender-bodied terrestrial birds with thin, pointed bills, rather long slim legs, and elongated hind toes. They have long tails which are usually edged with white or yellow. They are gregarious except during the nesting season. They never hop, but rather walk on the ground. They typically dip up and down when standing. Food includes insects, spiders and seeds. Species found in the N.W.T.: Water Pipit.

#### 33. WAXWINGS @o mbycillidae)

Number of species in Canada: 2

Waxwings are medium-sized, crested arboreal birds which are generally colored with fawn-browns and grays, With secondary wing feathers tipped with waxy, red droplets. They have short, thick, slightly-hooked bills, and soft lisping calls with a weak . chattering song. Their flight is strong, fast and graceful. Incubation is done largely by the female, but the young are fed by both parents. They eat mainly berries and fruit, some flowers, buds and insects. Species found in the N. W. T.: Bohemian Waxwing, Cedar Waxwing.

#### 34. SHRIKES (Landdae)

#### Number of species in Canada: 2

Shrikes are soft-plumaged birds with proportionally large heads, stout, strong, sharply-hooked and notched bills, and strong legs with sharp claws. Beautiful songsters, they are usually gray above and white below, and are aggressive, fearless, and usually alone. They watch for prey from prominent perches. Shrikes feed on large insects and small vertebrates such as birds and mice. They are also known as "butcher birds" because of their habit of hanging their victims on sharp thorns or barbed-wire fences for later consumption. Species found in the N.W.T.: Northern Shrike.

#### **35. STARLINGS** (Sturnidae)

Sturnidae is an Old World, or European, family of which two species have been introduced into North America, the Crested Myna and the Starling. Of these two species, the Starling has become widely established to the point of being a nuisance. The Starling is very gregarious, garrulous (noisy), short-tailed, and black-bird like. They nest in cavities and, because they are so aggressive. have displaced some native cavitynesting species, such as the bluebird or tree swallow and maybe responsible for the decline of the Red-headed woodpecker. The range of the Starling is still expanding northward--they reached the southern Mackenzie in 1964. They are omnivorous feeding on insects, berries and seeds.

#### **36. VIREOS** (Vireonidae)

#### Number of species in Canada: 8

Vireos are small, arboreal (lives in trees), plain-colored birds, olive-green to brownishgray above. yellow to gray or white below. Their plumage is never streaked or spotted. They have rather heavy, slightly hooked and notched bills, and their movements are slow and deliberate. They sing often, and have beautiful songs. Vireos are generally solitary, frequenting less dense woodlands, forest edges, and scrublands where they search leaves and branches for insects. Species found in N. W.T.: Solitary Vireo, Redeyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo.

#### 37. WOOD WARBLERS (Family Emberizidae, subfamily Parulinae)

#### Number of species in Canada: 106

Wood warblers are the "butterflies" of the bird world--brightly colored, dainty, constantly flitting jewels. They are usually small, essentially solitary, arboreal, and most have thin, high-pitched songs, some of which are quite beautiful. They feed mainly on insects, but some species also eat fruits, berries and seeds. The females build the nests and incubate. but both parents care for the young. Species found in the N.W.T.: Black and White Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May, Yellow-romped (Myrtle) Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Palm Warbler, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Wilson's Warbler. American Redstart.

#### **38. WEAVER FINCHES** (Ploceidae)

Ploceidae is another Old World Family represented in North America by the House Sparrow, which was introduced in 1850. The House Sparrow (not related to our native sparrow) feeds mainly on insects and seeds, and is most commonly found in the vicinity of man's buildings and farmlands.

# 39. **MEADOWLARKS, BLACKBIRDS,** AND ORIOLES (subfamily Icterinae)

Members of this family are small to medium-sized birds with conical (cone-shaped) straight, pointed bills, long, pointed wings, strong feet, and legs. They are usually gregarious, sometimes highly so. Their voices are generally loud. harsh, bubbling, and some species have well-developed songs. Breeding habits vary, but the female usually builds the nest. incubates and feeds the young. They are omnivorous eating all sorts of animal and vegetable foods. Species found in N.W.T.: Red-winged blackbird, Rusty Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird.

#### 40. TANAGERS (Thraupinae)

Tanagers are small--generally less than 200 millimeters long--arboreal solitary birds. They are usually bright-colored with bold contrasting patches of black, red, yellow, 'blue, brown or white. They are compactly built with short to medium bills, short wings. Their flight is strong but not sustained. Tanagers do not have outstanding voices, and only a few have well-developed songs--mostly a short warble. The female builds the nest, the male sometimes helps, and may feed the female on the nest. Both feed the young. Species found in the N.W.T.: WesternTanager.

# 41. **GROS**BEAKS, FINCHES, **SPARROWS AND BUNTINGS** (Fringillidae) (See final note about this family designation)

The most notable features of members of this faintly is the short, stout seed-cracking bill. The three types of bills Fringillids have are the extremely large, thick bill of the grosbeaks, the smaller canary-like bill of the finches, sparrows and buntings and the crossed mandibles of the crossbills. Fringillids have simple "chip" call notes and, usually, well developed songs. They are typically monogamous (having one mate), with females or both sexes incubating and both adults caring for the young. The primary food is seeds, and some insects and small fruits. Species found in the N.W.T.: Rosebreasted Grosbeak, Evening Grosbeak, Purple Finch, Pine Grosbeak, Hoary Redpoll, Common Redpoll, Pine Siskin, Red Crossbill, White-winged Crossbill, Savannah Sparrow, LeConte's Sparrow, Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Tree Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Whitecrowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Lapland Longspur, Smith's Longspur, Snow Bunting.

Note also that the family <u>Emberizidae</u> contains the subfamily <u>Parulinae</u> (the woodwarblers: the subfamily <u>Thraupinae</u> (the tanagers; the subfamily <u>Cardinalinae</u> (cardinals, grosbeaks and allies): the subfamily <u>Emberizinae</u>, (buntings, sparrows and allies: and also the subfamily <u>Icterinae</u> (blackbirds, orioles, and allies). "Fringillidae" itself is perhaps misleading as a simple catch-all for this final family grouping.

#### COMMON BREEDING BIRDS OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

(Over half the breeding range of these birds is in the N.W.T.)

Yellow-billed Loon Arctic Loon Red-throated Loon whistling swan Canada Goose Brant White-fronted Goose Snow Goose Pintail Oldsquaw Ktng Eider Rough-legged Hawk \* Gyrfalcon **Peregine** Falcon Willow ptarmigan **Rock Ptarmigan** Sandhill Crane Whooping Crane Semipalmated Plover American golden Plover **Black-bellied** Plover **Ruddy Turnstone** Eskimo Curlew Knot Purple Sandpiper White-rumped Sandpiper

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Baird's Sandpiper Dunlin Long-billed Dowitcher Stilt Sandpiper Semipalmated Sandpiper Buff-breasted Sandpiper Sanderling Red phalarope Northern Phalarope Pomarine Jaeger Parasitic Jaeger Long-tailed Jaeger **Glaucous Gull Iceland Gull** Thayer's Gull Sabine's Gull Arctic Tern Snowy Owl Homed Lark Common Raven Water Pipit **Hoary Redpoll** Jarris's Sparrow Lapland Longspur Snow Bunting

### BIRDS OBSERVED AT BATHURST INLET

Common Loon Arctic Loon Whisting swan Brant Snow Goose American Widgeon Greater Scaup Oldsquaw King Eider White-winged Scoter Surf Scoter Red-tailed Hawk Gyrfalcon **Rock Ptarmigan** Sandhill Crane American Golden Plover Ruddy-Turnstone Bank Swallow **Pectoral Sandpiper** Baird's Sandpiper Least Sandpiper Stilt Sandpiper Sanderling Pomarine Jaeger Long-tailed Jaeger Herring Gull Thayer's Gull Snowy Owl Eastern Kingbird Homed Lark Common Raven Gray-cheeked Thrush Mockingbird Arctic Redpoll Common Redpoll Tree Sparrow White-crowned Sparrow Yellow Warbler

Yellow-billed Loon Red-throated Loon Canada Goose White-fronted Goose **Common Pintail** Green-winged teal Lesser Scaup Common Eider **Red-breasted merganser** Scoter Rough-legged Hawk Golden Eagle Peregrine Falcon Willow Ptarmigan Semipalmated Plover **Black-bellied Plover** Cliff Swallow Common Snipe White-rumped Sandpiper Lesser Yellowlegs Semipalmated Sandpiper Spotted Sandpiper Northern Phalarope Parasitic Jaeger Glaucous Gull Sabine's Gull Arctic Tern Short-eared Owl Western Kingbird Tree Swallow American Robin **Brown Thrasher** Water Pipit Hoary Redpoll Savannah Sparrow Harris' Sparrow Lapland Longspur Snow Bunting

## INTERPRETIVE GUIDE'S BIRD INFORMATION SHEET

COMMON NAME SCIENTIFIC NAME LOCAL NAME

DESCRIPTION:

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HABITAT:

NESTING:

RANGE:

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REMARKS: