EARECKSON AIR STATION

Eareckson Air Station's (EAS) mission is to provide a weather and emergency divert airfield, support tenant units and provide support for ship emergencies. A Base Operational Support contractor, managed by the 611th Air Support Squadron headquartered at Elmendorf Air Force Base, accomplishes the mission for the U.S. Air Force. EAS is located on the Great Circle Northern Air Bridge air routes to Japan, China, Indo-China and other destinations in Asia and the Pacific. It is frequently employed as a refueling stop for military flights. As a strategic vantage point, EAS's location provides early warning capabilities and communications. EAS's first military function was in 1943 as a runway for bombers.

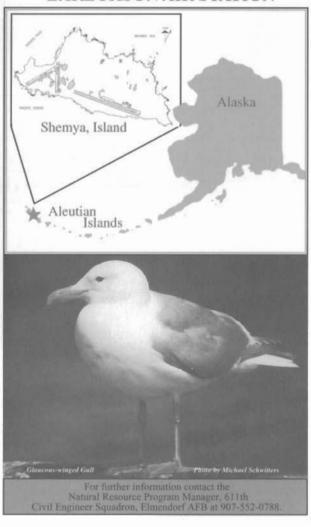
Owned by the U.S. Air Force, EAS occupies the entire Island of Shemya. Located 1,500 miles southwest of Anchorage, Alaska, Shemya lies at the far western end of the Aleutian Islands. Known as the 'Black Pearl of the Pacific' or 'The Rock', it is 1.5 by 3.5 miles. Shemya is in the eastern hemisphere, and only 450 miles from the Russian Kamchatka Peninsula. The entire island is also part of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge.

The Aleutian climate is moderately cold, very foggy and windy with daily rain or snow in the winter. Habitat vegetation is wet tundra groups of grasses, sedges and heath. Large numbers of seabirds, waterfowl and songbirds use the island at various times of the year. The greatest diversity occurs during spring and fall when many migrating species, including the Aleutian race of Canada Goose, and numbers of Asiatic vagrants, stop to feed on Shemya and nearby islands.

Initial bird studies were led by Daniel D. Gibson, Univ. of Alaska Museum, in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, from 1975-1977. They provided the first records of Shemya birds and their movements (See Condor 83:65-77). During these original surveys, many exciting Asian bird species were seen for the first time in Alaska and in the U.S.! Management of bird populations, to reduce bird aircraft strike hazards (BASH), led to studies of bird species and how they used the island. Previously, much BASH work has been done at facilities across the country, however, very little was known about birds of this remote site. Additional Air Force sponsored studies in 1990's through 2001, have provided the first year-around statistics of species using these islands with their abundance and times of occurrence.



EARECKSON AIR STATION



BIRD CHECKLIST SHEMYA ISLAND, ALASKA



EARECKSON AIR STATION



leutian Canada Geese

Photo by Wichael Schwitter



Department of Detente and Fariners in Fight are cooperating on an imational program to premote conservation of resident and Neotropice ingratory birds. For information, visit http://www.dodpif.org, of call Department of Defense Parisers in Flight or \$40-283-5675.



BIRDS OF EARECKSON AIR STATION



	IV	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DB
Red-throated Loon	Ť					-		-					
Arctic Ioon					***		-						
Pacific Loon		\vdash											
Common Loon		\vdash		-							-		
Yellow-billed Loon													
Horned Grebe		\vdash											-
Red-necked Grebe		\vdash				_			-			-	-
Laysan Albatross					-					_	-		
Black-footed Albatross						_		=			-		
Northern Fulmar								-	-				
Short-tailed Shearwater						-		-	-		**		
Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel													
Red-faced Cormorant		-	-	-	-	-		_	_	_	_	_	-
Pelagic Cormorant		-	-	-		_		_	_		_		_
Great Egret													
Bean Goose													
Greater White-fronted Goose	\vdash												
Emperor Goose				See of	-						-	-mg	
Canada Goose, Aleutian Ssp.					4		-	-	-		-		
Brant													
Whooper Swan													
Gadwall													
Falcated Duck	\vdash												
Eurasian Wigeon										-			
American Wigeon													
Mallard		_						=					-
Northern Shoveler						_			-				
Northern Pintail					_	-			-	-	_	_	
Gargany						_							
Green-winged Teal, Aleut. Ssp.		_	_	_	-	_			_				
Green-winged Teal, Am. Ssp.													
Canvasback													
Redhead													
Common Pochard	-				-								
Tufted Duck						-				٠.			
Greater Scaup													
Steller's Eider													
King Eider	\vdash												
Common Eider		_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_		_	_	
Harlequin Duck													
Surf Scoter					-				-				Г
White-winged Scoter						_		_			_		
Black Scoter				_	_					-			
Long-tailed Duck						_					_		_
Bufflehead						_					-		
Common Goldeneye							-				_		
Barrow's Goldeneye	-												
Smew						-		-		٠,			-
Common Merganser, Euras. Ssp.					-							-	
Red-breasted Merganser											_		
Bald Eagle													
White-tailed Eagle													-
Steller's Sea Eagle													
Northern Harrier										_			
Northern Goshawk						-							
Rough-legged Hawk						***	-						
Eurasian Kestrel													

	V	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY		JUL	AUG		OCT	NOV	DEC
Eurasian Hobby	-						**			**			
Peregrine Falcon													
Sandhill Crane	_		-		- 0	**							
Black-bellied Plover	1												
Pacific Golden-Plover						-	-		-	-	-		
Mongolian Plover													
Common Ringed-Plover													
Semipalmated Plover													
Eurasian Dotterel	-												-
Black Oystercatcher	_							-	\vdash		-		\vdash
Common Greenshank	_					-		-			-		\vdash
	-					-	-		-	-	\vdash		\vdash
Greater Yellowlegs	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-	-		⊢
Lesser Yellowlegs	-	-	-	-	-	*		-	-	-	-		-
Spotted Redshank	_		_			_	_	_	_	-	-		_
Wood Sandpiper						-			-				
Green Sandpiper													
Wandering Tattler						-	-						
Gray-tailed Tattler						-			- 10		-		
Common Sandpiper						-	-			_			
Terek Sandpiper	\rightarrow												-
Whimbrel, Asian Ssp.						-							
Bristle-thighed Curlew	-												
	-	-	-										-
Far Eastern Curlew	-						-	-					
Black-tailed Godwit						**							
Bar-tailed Godwit										-			
Ruddy Turnstone					-	-		-4		-			
Great Knot													
Red Knot													
Sanderling			-	-									
Semipalmated Sandpiper													
Western Sandpiper			1	1									
Red-necked Stint						-							
Temminck's Stint						4							
Long-toed Stint	_					-							
	+		-			-			-				
Baird's Sandpiper	-								-				
Pectoral Sandpiper	-								- 1	-			
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	-			_						-			_
Rock Sandpiper		9 8						-			-8		
Dunlin						-	-		-		-	-	
Curlew Sandpiper													
Broad-billed Sandpiper			l -	1			4	-					
Buff-breasted Sandpiper										_			
Ruff									-	_			
Long-billed Dowitcher													
Common Snipe													
Red-necked Phalarope													
	1												
Red Phalarope	-		-				-	-	-				
Pomarine Jager	-			-				_			-		_
Parasitic Jaeger	-				-				-				
Long-tailed Jaeger						• •		-					
Black-headed Gull						-	-						
Black-tailed Gull							-						
Mew Gull, Kamchatka Ssp.			. 1			-							
Herring Gull							-				-		
Slaty-backed Gull					-	_		_					
Glaucous-winged Gull													
Glaucous Gull	1										-		
M4 4 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	-		-					_					
Black-legged Kittiwake	+		-					-					
Red-legged Kittiwake	-		_			-	-		-		-	-	_
Ross's Gull	-												
Common Tern						-	-						
Arctic Tern					-								
Aleutian Tern						-	-						
Common Murre				-	-	-	_			_			
Thick-billed Murre				_									
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Pigeon Guillemot	-												
Pigeon Guillemot Marbled Murrelet		Н	-										-
Pigeon Guillemot	F		-										

Crested Auklet Horned Puffin Tufted Puffin Common Cuckoo						_							
Fufted Puffin Common Cuckoo						-	-	-					
Common Cuckoo													
					1	-8		-	-	-			
Snowy Owl					-	-	-					_	
Short-eared Owl						_							
White-throated Needletail													
Fork-tailed Swift													
Great Spotted Woodpecker											-		
Brown Shrike											•		
Common Raven		=			$\overline{}$	_							
sky Lark					- 1								
Homed Lark, Eurasian Ssp.										٠			
Tree Swallow													
Violet-green Swallow													
Bank Swallow													
Barn Swallow													
Vinter Wren		Ext	irpat	ted									
Grasshopper-Warbler, Sp.													
Nood Warbler													
Dusky Warbler													
Arctic Warbler										-			
Red-breasted Flycatcher					+								
Siberian Flycatcher										•			
Gray-spotted Flycatcher							-						
Siberian Rubythroat						-	-				-		
Red-flanked Bluetail						*							
Northern Wheatear									-				
Gray-cheeked Thrush													
wainson's Thrush											•		
Eyebrowed Thrush							-						
Dusky Thrush						-	-						
Siberian Accentor													
rellow Wagtail						•							
Gray Wagtail							•						
Black-backed Wagtail					- +								
Olive-backed Pipit						-				-			
Pechora Pipit						٠							
Red-throated Pipit					_	=				_			
American Pipit, NA & Euras Ssp.						-				-	-		
rellow-rumped Warbler										1			
Townsend's Warbler					_						•		
savannah Sparrow									_	-			
Song Sparrow		=	=			=		_			_		
Dark-eyed Junco													
apland Longspur					- †					-			
.ittle Bunting													
Rustic Bunting							_			-	-		
Gray Bunting					_	٠							
Reed Bunting					_								_
Snow Bunting										_			
Brambling						•	-			-	-		
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch				-		-		-				_	-
Common Rosefinch							-						
Common Redpoll					+	-	-			-			
loary Redpoll					_	• • •				•			
Pine Siskin					_								
Oriental Greenfinch										-			
urasian Bullfinch						• •							
lawfinch						**	•						
Survey data collected by Unit	versi	ty of	Alas	ka M	useur	n, F	airba	nks,	USD	A, a	nd U	SFW:	5
	T	T	~	E	VII	1							

Abundant Common Uncommon Rare Accidental