

FACT SHEET

BIRDS OF KODIAK

- Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge and the surrounding marine waters are a birder's paradise. A total of 247 species have been observed on the Kodiak archipelago.
- Kodiak Island has one of Alaska's largest year-round populations of 1,200 Bald Eagles. In winter, eagles can be found in abundance



Photo by Marion Owen

- in the downtown areas surrounding canneries.
- In winter the area is important to sea ducks and other birds whose combined populations number well over a million birds.
- The wide variety of upland, marine habitats and temperatures moderated by the Gulf of Alaska give Kodiak the greatest diversity of wintering birds in the state.
- Of the 14 species of sea ducks in North America, twelve can be found in the waters off shore of Kodiak in the winter.
- Abundant water birds in winter are Cormorants, Murres, Sea Gulls, Mallards, and Oystercatchers.
- Several land birds that manage to survive the harsh winters are Magpies, Crows, Ravens, Black-Capped Chickadees and Golden-Crowned Kinglets.
- Summer brings nesting birds from land and sea. Bank swallows arrive from South America and puffins fly in from deep North Pacific waters. Many breeders are year-round residents. While Kodiak is not a major migratory bird pathway, a variety of migrants can be seen in small numbers.
- Emperor Geese & Tundra Swans are also seasonal visitors.