

**Birds protected
in Canada**



Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada

0016388A S

OCCASIONAL PAPER (CANADIAN WILDLIFE
SERVICE)

**under the Migratory Birds
Convention Act**


**Occasional Paper
Number 1
Fourth edition**

**Canadian
Wildlife Service**

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List of birds protected in Canada
under the Migratory Birds Convention Act
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 Environment Canada
Wildlife Service
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Foreword

By virtue of the British North America Act, each province has general jurisdiction over wildlife within its boundaries. The government of Canada is, however, responsible for migratory birds as defined by the Migratory Birds Convention, 1916. The Migratory Birds Convention Act was passed in 1917 to enable Canada to fulfill obligations incurred under the Migratory Birds Convention with the United States of America and empowers the Governor-in-Council to make regulations necessary to protect migratory birds which inhabit Canada for all or part of the year, and, in addition, affords protection to species normally found in the United States which may or may not occur in Canada.

Birds protected under the Migratory Birds Treaty are in three broad Categories as follows:

Migratory game birds — Anatidae or waterfowl, including brant, wild ducks, geese and swans; Ciconiidae or cranes, including Little Brown, Sandhill and Whooping cranes; Rallidae or rails, including Coots, gallinules, sora and other rails; Limicolae or shorebirds, including avocets, curlews, dowitchers, godwits, knots, lapwings, oyster catchers, phalaropes, plovers, sandpipers, snipe, stilts, surfbirds, turnstones, willet, woodcock and yellowlegs; Columbidae or pigeons, including doves and wild pigeons.

Migratory insectivorous birds — bobolinks, buntings, catbirds, chickadees, creepers, cuckoos, flickers, flycatchers, grosbeaks, hummingbirds, juncos, kinglets, larks, longspurs, martins, meadowlarks, nighthawks or bull bats, nuthatches, orioles, robins, shrikes, siskins, indigo-birds, sparrows, swallows, swifts, tanagers, titmice, thrushes, vireos, warblers, waxwings, whip-poor-wills, woodpeckers, wrens and all other perching birds which feed entirely or chiefly on insects.

Migratory non-game birds — albatrosses, auks, auklets, bitterns, fulmars, gannets, grebes, guil-

mots, gulls, herons, ibises, jaegers, loons, murrelets, petrels, puffins, shearwaters and terns.

This booklet lists species protected under federal law. Protection means that hunting of these species, or collecting their eggs or their nests, is illegal, except in the case of migratory game birds which may be hunted during the open seasons as defined by the migratory birds regulations. Information on federal migratory birds hunting regulations may be obtained from the Canadian Wildlife Service (addresses on page 13). Most birds not included in this list are protected under provincial law and information on the degree of protection is available from game authorities of the province concerned. A list of chief provincial game officers is given on page 12.

For the purpose of this publication, birds are generally classified in alphabetical order. The names under general headings and the numbers preceding the names are listed numerically according to the number used by the American Ornithologists' Union Check List and by all bird banders.

Hunting or collecting the eggs, nests or birds is subject to the Migratory Birds Convention Act and Regulations for every species in this list. The species marked by an asterisk are endangered.

The list of birds protected under the Migratory Birds Convention Act was clarified in 1971 by inclusion of 75 additional species.

This fourth edition contains further revisions including some species name changes made necessary by revisions to the American Ornithologists' Union (A.O.U.) check-list in 1973.

Birds protected in Canada

under the Migratory Birds
Convention Act

A.O.U. No.	Common name	A.O.U. No.	Common name
Albatross			
81	Black-footed Albatross	129	Common Merganser
82	Short-tailed Albatross*	130	Red-breasted Merganser
83	Yellow-nosed Albatross	131	Hooded Merganser
Auks			
12	Tufted Puffin	132	Mallard
13	Common Puffin	133	Black Duck
14	Horned Puffin	133.1	Mexican Duck (New Mexican)*
15	Rhinoceros Auklet	134	Mottled Duck (Florida and Louisiana)
16	Cassin's Auklet	135	Gadwall
17	Parakeet Auklet	136	European Wigeon
18	Crested Auklet	137	American Wigeon
19	Whiskered Auklet	138/139	Green-winged Teal (incl. Common, European)
20	Least Auklet	140	Blue-winged Teal
21	Ancient Murrelet	141	Cinnamon Teal
23	Marbled Murrelet	142	Northern Shoveler
27	Black Guillemot	143	Pintail
29	Pigeon Guillemot	144	Wood Duck
30	Common Murre (Atlantic and California)	146	Redhead
31	Thick-billed Murre (Brünnich's)	147	Canvasback
32	Razorbill	148	Greater Scaup
34	Dovekie	149	Lesser Scaup
Cranes			
204	Whooping Crane*	150	Ringed-necked Duck
205/206	Sandhill Crane (Greater, Lesser, Little Brown, and Florida)	151	Common Goldeneye
Creepers			
726	Brown Creeper	152	Barrow's Goldeneye
Cuckoos			
386	Mangrove Cuckoo (Maynard's)	153	Bufflehead
387	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	154	Oldsquaw
388	Black-billed Cuckoo	155	Harlequin Duck
Dippers			
701	Dipper	157	Steller's Eider
		158	Spectacled Eider
		160	Common Eider (Northern, American, etc.)
		162	King Eider
		163	Black Scoter (Common, American)
		165	White-winged Scoter
		166	Surf Scoter
		167	Ruddy Duck
		168	Masked Duck
		177	Black-bellied Tree Duck
		178	Fulvous Tree Duck

A.O.U. No.	Common name	A.O.U. No.	Common name
Flycatchers			
442	Fork-tailed Flycatcher	169.0	Lesser Snow Goose
443	Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	169.1	Blue Goose
444	Eastern Kingbird	169.9	Greater Snow Goose
445	Gray Kingbird	170	Ross' Goose
446	Tropical Kingbird (Couch's)	171	White-fronted Goose
447	Western Kingbird (Arkansas)	172	Canada Goose ssp.
448	Cassin's Kingbird	173	Brant
449	Kiskadee Flycatcher (Derby)	174	Black Brant
451	Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher	175	Barnacle Goose
452	Great Crested Flycatcher (Northern and Southern)	176	Emperor Goose
453	Wied's Crested Flycatcher	178.2	Mute Swan
454	Ash-throated Flycatcher	180	Whistling Swan
455	Olivaceous Flycatcher	181	Trumpeter Swan
456	Eastern Phoebe	Goatsuckers	
457	Say's Phoebe	416	Chuck-will's-widow
458	Black Phoebe	417	Whip-poor-will
459	Olive-sided Flycatcher	418	Poor-will
460	Coues' Flycatcher	419	Pauraque
462	Western Wood Pewee	420	Common Nighthawk (Eastern, Western, etc.)
463	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	421	Lesser Nighthawk (Texas)
464	Western Flycatcher	Grebes	
465	Acadian Flycatcher	1	Western Grebe
466.0	Willow Flycatcher (Little, Traill's)	2	Red-necked Grebe (Holboell's)
466.1	Alder Flycatcher (Traill's)	3	Horned Grebe
467	Least Flycatcher	4	Eared Grebe
468	Hammond's Flycatcher	6	Pied-billed Grebe
469	Dusky Flycatcher	Grosbeaks, finches, sparrows, and buntings	
469.1	Gray Flycatcher	514	Evening Grosbeak
470	Buff-breasted Flycatcher	515	Pine Grosbeak
471	Vermilion Flycatcher	517	Purple Finch
472	Beardless Flycatcher	518	Cassin's Finch
Gannets			
117	Gannet	519	House Finch
		521	Red Crossbill
		522	White-winged Crossbill

A.O.U. No.	Common name
523/524	Gray-crowned Rosy Finch
526.1	European Goldfinch
527	Hoary Redpoll
528	Common Redpoll
529	American Goldfinch
530	Lesser Goldfinch
533	Pine Siskin
534	Snow Bunting
536	Lapland Longspur
537	Smith's Longspur
538	Chestnut-collared Longspur
539	McCown's Longspur
540	Vesper Sparrow
541/542	Savannah Sparrow (incl. Ipswich*)
545	Baird's Sparrow
546	Grasshopper Sparrow
547	Henslow's Sparrow
548	Le Conte's Sparrow
549	Sharp-tailed Sparrow
550	Seaside Sparrow
552	Lark Sparrow
553	Harris' Sparrow
554	White-crowned Sparrow
557	Golden-crowned Sparrow
558	White-throated Sparrow
559	Tree Sparrow
560	Chipping Sparrow
561	Clay-coloured Sparrow
562	Brewer's Sparrow
563	Field Sparrow
567	Dark-eyed Junco (incl. Slate-coloured, Oregon)
573	Black-throated Sparrow
574	Sage Sparrow
575	Bachman's Sparrow
581	Song Sparrow
583	Lincoln's Sparrow
584	Swamp Sparrow
585	Fox Sparrow
587	Rufous-sided Towhee

A.O.U. No.	Common name
592.1	Green-tailed Towhee
593	Cardinal
595	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
596	Black-headed Grosbeak
597	Blue Grosbeak
598	Indigo Bunting
599	Lazuli Bunting
604	Dickcissel
605	Lark Bunting
Gulls	
39	Ivory Gull
40	Black-legged Kittiwake
41	Red-legged Kittiwake
42	Glaucous Gull
43	Iceland Gull (incl. Kumlein's)
44	Glaucous-winged Gull
47	Great Black-backed Gull
48	Slaty-backed Gull
49	Western Gull
51.0	Herring Gull
51.6	Thayer's Gull
53	California Gull
54	Ring-billed Gull
55.0	Mew Gull (Short-billed)
55.1	Black-headed Gull
57	Heermann's Gull
58	Laughing Gull
59	Franklin's Gull
60	Bonaparte's Gull
60.1	Little Gull
61	Ross' Gull
62	Sabine's Gull
Hérons	
190	American Bittern
191	Least Bittern
194	Great Blue Heron
196	Great Egret (American, Common)
197	Snowy Egret

A.O.U. No.	Common name
199	Louisiana Heron (Tricoloured)
200	Little Blue Heron
200.1	Cattle Egret
201	Green Heron
202	Black-crowned Night Heron
203	Yellow-crowned Night Heron
Hummingbirds	
426	Rivoli's Hummingbird
427	Blue-throated Hummingbird
428	Ruby-throated Hummingbird
429	Black-chinned Hummingbird
430	Costa's Hummingbird
431	Anna's Hummingbird
432	Broad-tailed Hummingbird
433	Rufous Hummingbird
434	Allen's Hummingbird
435	Heloise's Hummingbird
	Calliope Hummingbird
	Lucifer Hummingbird
	Buff-bellied Hummingbird
440.1	White-eared Hummingbird
441	Broad-billed Hummingbird
Ibises, spoonbills, and storks	
183	Roseate Spoonbill
184	White Ibis
186	Glossy Ibis
187	White-faced Ibis
188	Wood Stork (Wood Ibis)
Larks	
473	Skylark
474	Horned Lark
Loons	
7	Common Loon
8	Yellow-billed Loon
10	Arctic Loon (Pacific)
11	Red-throated Loon

A.O.U. No.	Common name
Meadowlarks, orioles, and blackbirds	
494	Bobolink
501	Eastern Meadowlark
501.1	Western Meadowlark
503	Black-headed Oriole (Audubon's)
504	Scott's Oriole
505	Hooded Oriole (Sennett's and Arizona)
506	Orchard Oriole
507/508	Northern Oriole (incl. Baltimore, Bullock's)
Mockingbirds and thrashers	
702	Sage Thrasher
703	Mockingbird
704	Gray Catbird
705	Brown Thrasher
706	Long-billed Thrasher (Sennett's)
707	Curve-billed Thrasher
708	Bendire's Thrasher
710	California Thrasher
711	Le Conte's Thrasher
712	Crissal Thrasher
Nuthatches	
727	White-breasted Nuthatch
728	Red-breasted Nuthatch
730	Pygmy Nuthatch
Old World warblers, kinglets, and gnatcatchers	
747	Arctic Warbler (Kennicott's)
748	Golden-crowned Kinglet
749	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
751	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
752	Black-tailed Gnatcatcher (Plumbeous)

A.O.U. No.	Common name
	Petrels and shearwaters
86	Northern Fulmar (Atlantic and Pacific)
88	Cory's Shearwater
89	Greater Shearwater
90	Manx Shearwater
91	Pink-footed Shearwater
93	Black-vented Shearwater
95	Sooty Shearwater
95.1	Flesh-footed Shearwater (Pale-footed)
96	Short-tailed Shearwater (Slender-billed)
96.2	New Zealand Shearwater
98.3	Cook's Petrel
99	Scaled Petrel
105	Fork-tailed Storm Petrel
106	Leach's Storm Petrel
109	Wilson's Storm Petrel
	Pigeons and doves
312	Band-tailed Pigeon
313	Red-billed Pigeon
314	White-crowned Pigeon
316	Mourning Dove
317	Zenaida Dove
318	White-fronted Dove
319	White-winged Dove
320	Ground Dove
321	Inca Dove
322.1	Quail Dove (Ruddy)
	Plovers, turnstones, surfbirds (See shorebirds)
	Rails and gallinules
208	King Rail
210	Clapper Rail
212	Virginia Rail
214	Sora
215	Yellow Rail

A.O.U. No.	Common name
216	Black Rail
218	Purple Gallinule
219	Common Gallinule
221	American Coot
	Shorebirds
222	Red Phalarope
223	Northern Phalarope
224	Wilson's Phalarope
225	American Avocet
226	Black-necked Stilt
228	American Woodcock
230	Common Snipe (Wilson's)
231	Short-billed Dowitcher
232	Long-billed Dowitcher
233	Stilt Sandpiper
234	Red Knot
235.0	Purple Sandpiper
235.6	Rock Sandpiper (Aleutian)
238	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
239	Pectoral Sandpiper
240	White-rumped Sandpiper
241	Baird's Sandpiper
242	Least Sandpiper
242.2	Rufous-necked Sandpiper
243	Dunlin (Red-backed Sandpiper)
244	Curlew Sandpiper
246	Semipalmated Sandpiper
247	Western Sandpiper
248	Sanderling
249	Marbled Godwit
250	Bar-tailed Godwit (Pacific)
251	Hudsonian Godwit
252	Black-tailed Godwit
254	Greater Yellowlegs
255	Lesser Yellowlegs
256	Solitary Sandpiper
258	Willet
259	Wandering Tattler
260	Ruff

A.O.U. No.	Common name
261	Upland Sandpiper (Upland Plover)
262	Buff-breasted Sandpiper
263	Spotted Sandpiper
264	Long-billed Curlew
265	Whimbrel (Hudsonian Curlew)
266	Eskimo Curlew*
268	Bristle-thighed Curlew
269	Lapwing
270	Black-bellied Plover
271	Eurasian Golden Plover
272	American Golden Plover (Atlantic and Pacific)
273	Killdeer
274	Semipalmated Plover
275	Ringed Plover
277	Piping Plover
278	Snowy Plover
280	Wilson's Plover
281	Mountain Plover
	Surfbird
	Ruddy Turnstone
284	Black Turnstone
286	American Oystercatcher
287	Black Oystercatcher
	Shrikes
621	Northern Shrike (Great Gray)
622	Loggerhead Shrike
	Skimmers
80	Black Skimmer
	Skuas and jaegers
35	Skua (Great and Northern)
36	Pomarine Jaeger
37	Parasitic Jaeger
38	Long-tailed Jaeger

A.O.U. No.	Common name
	Swallows
611	Purple Martin
611.2	Gray-breasted Martin
612	Cliff Swallow
612.1	Cave Swallow (Cuban and Coahuila Cliff)
613	Barn Swallow
614	Tree Swallow
615	Violet-green Swallow
616	Bank Swallow
617	Rough-winged Swallow
	Swifts
422	Black Swift
423	Chimney Swift
424	Vaux's Swift
425	White-throated Swift
	Tanagers
607	Western Tanager
608	Scarlet Tanager
609	Hepatic Tanager
610	Summer Tanager
	Terns
63	Gull-billed Tern
64	Caspian Tern
65	Royal Tern
67	Sandwich Tern (Cabot's)
69	Forster's Tern
70	Common Tern
71	Arctic Tern
72	Roseate Tern
73	Aleutian Tern
74	Least Tern
75	Sooty Tern
76	Bridled Tern
77	Black Tern

A.O.U. No.	Common name	A.O.U. No.	Common name
	Thrushes	630	Black-capped Vireo
754	Townsend's Solitaire	631	White-eyed Vireo
755	Wood Thrush	632	Hutton's Vireo
756	Veery	633	Bell's Vireo
757	Gray-cheeked Thrush	634	Gray Vireo
758	Swainson's Thrush (Olive-backed, Russet-backed, etc.)		Wagtails and pipits
759	Hermit Thrush	696	Yellow Wagtail (Alaska)
761	Robin	697	Water Pipit (American)
761.2	Fieldfare	700	Sprague's Pipit
763	Varied Thrush		Warblers
764	Bluethroat	636	Black-and-White Warbler
765	Wheatear	637	Prothonotary Warbler
766	Eastern Bluebird	638	Swainson's Warbler
767	Western Bluebird	639	Worm-eating Warbler
768	Mountain Bluebird	641	Blue-winged Warbler
	Titmice	642	Golden-winged Warbler
731	Tufted Titmouse	643	Lucy's Warbler
732	Black-crested Titmouse	644	Virginia's Warbler
733	Plain Titmouse	645	Nashville Warbler (Calaveras)
734	Bridled Titmouse	646	Orange-crowned Warbler
735	Black-capped Chickadee	647	Tennessee Warbler
737	Mexican Chickadee	647.1	Colima Warbler
738	Mountain Chickadee	648	Northern Parula (Parula Warbler)
739	Gray-headed Chickadee (Alaska)	649	Olive-backed Warbler (Sennett's)
740	Boreal Chickadee (Hudsonian, Acadian, etc.)	650	Cape May Warbler
741	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	651	Olive Warbler
743/745	Bushtit (incl. Coast, California, Black-eared, Lloyd's)	652	Yellow Warbler
746	Verdin	654	Black-throated Blue Warbler
	Vireos	655/656	Yellow-rumped Warbler (incl. Myrtle, Audubon's)
624	Red-eyed Vireo	657	Magnolia Warbler
625	Yellow-green Vireo	658	Cerulean Warbler
626	Philadelphia Vireo	659	Chestnut-sided Warbler
627	Warbling Vireo	660	Bay-breasted Warbler
628	Yellow-throated Vireo	661	Blackpoll Warbler
629	Solitary Vireo (Blue-headed, etc.)	662	Blackburnian Warbler
		663	Yellow-throated Warbler
		664	Grace's Warbler

A.O.U. No.	Common name	A.O.U. No.	Common name
665	Black-throated Gray Warbler	398	Arizona Woodpecker
666	Golden-cheeked Warbler	399	White-headed Woodpecker
667	Black-throated Green Warbler	400	Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker
668	Townsend's Warbler	401	Northern Three-toed Woodpecker
669	Hermit Warbler	402	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (incl. Red-naped, Red-breasted)
670	Kirtland's Warbler*	404	Williamson's Sapsucker
671	Pine Warbler	405	Pileated Woodpecker
672	Palm Warbler	406	Red-headed Woodpecker
673	Prairie Warbler	407	Acorn Woodpecker (Ant-eating, California, etc.)
674	Ovenbird	408	Lewis's Woodpecker
675	Northern Waterthrush (Grinnell's)	409	Red-bellied Woodpecker
676	Louisiana Waterthrush	410	Golden-fronted Woodpecker
677	Kentucky Warbler	411	Gila Woodpecker
678	Connecticut Warbler	412	Common Flicker (incl. Yellow-shafted, Red-shafted, Gilded, Northern, Southern)
679	Mourning Warbler		Wrens
680	MacGillivray's Warbler	713	Cactus Wren
681	Common Yellowthroat (Maryland, etc.)	715	Rock Wren
682.1	Ground Chat (Rio Grande Yellowthroat)	717	Cañon Wren
	Yellow-breasted Chat	718	Carolina Wren
	Hooded Warbler	719	Bewick's Wren
685	Wilson's Warbler (Pileolated)	721	House Wren
686	Canada Warbler	721.1	Brown-throated Wren
687	American Redstart	722	Winter Wren
688	Painted Redstart	724	Short-billed Marsh Wren
690	Red-faced Warbler	725	Long-billed Marsh Wren
	Waxwings		
618	Bohemian Waxwing		
619	Cedar Waxwing		
	Woodcock, snipe, and sandpipers (See shorebirds)		
	Woodpeckers		
393	Hairy Woodpecker		
394	Downy Woodpecker		
396	Ladder-backed Woodpecker (Texas, Cactus, etc.)		
397	Nuttall's Woodpecker		

List of chief provincial game officers

Information regarding birds protected by provincial game laws may be obtained from the chief game officials in the provinces and territories, as listed below:

British Columbia

Director
Fish and Wildlife Branch
Department of Lands, Forests and Water Resources
Victoria

Alberta

Director
Fish and Wildlife Branch
Department of the Environment
109th Street and 99th Avenue
Edmonton T5J 0Z2

Saskatchewan

Director
Wildlife Branch
Department of the Environment
Regina

Manitoba

Director
Wildlife Branch
Department of Mines, Natural Resources and Environmental Management
Winnipeg R3C 0V8

Ontario

Chief
Fish and Wildlife Branch
Ministry of the Environment
Toronto M4V 1P5

Quebec

Director
Wildlife Division
Fish and Game Branch
Service de Protection de l'Environnement
Quebec City

New Brunswick

Director
Fish and Wildlife Branch
Department of Fisheries and Environment
Fredericton

Nova Scotia

Director
Wildlife Conservation Division
Department of the Environment
P.O. Box 1087
Halifax

Prince Edward Island

Director
Fish and Wildlife Division
Department of the Environment and Tourism
Charlottetown

Newfoundland

Director of Wildlife
Department of Provincial Affairs and Environment
Confederation Building
St. John's

Northwest Territories

Superintendent of Game
Government of the Northwest Territories
Yellowknife

Yukon Territory

Director
Game Branch
Yukon Territorial Government
Box 2703
Whitehorse

Canadian Wildlife Service offices

For publications regarding the federal migratory birds regulations:

Director
Canadian Wildlife Service
Department of the Environment
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3

For further information contact CWS enforcement coordinators at the following addresses:

Eastern Region

Canadian Wildlife Service
2721, Highway 31
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3

Eastern Region

Canadian Wildlife Service
Federal Building
1100 Wellington Street East
Ottawa, Ontario L4G 3G9

Eastern Region

Canadian Wildlife Service
Federal Building, 9th Floor
1141 Rte. de l'Eglise
Ste. Foy, Quebec

Eastern Region

Canadian Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1590
Sackville, New Brunswick

Western Region

Canadian Wildlife Service
Imperial Oil Building
1110-10025 Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 1S6

Western Region

Canadian Wildlife Service
Room 100
1102 8th Avenue
Regina, Saskatchewan S4R 1C9

Western Region

Canadian Wildlife Service
Box 1509
Inuvik, Northwest Territories

Other publications in the Occasional Papers Series

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Cat. No. R69-1/1

No. 2

Canadian bird names, French, English and scientific. Bilingual publication.
Cat. No. R69-1/2

No. 3

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Cat. No. R69-1/3

No. 4

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Cat. No. R69-1/4

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Cat. No. R69-1/5

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Cat. No. CW69-1/13

No. 14

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Cat. No. CW69-1/15

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Bird migration forecasts for military air operations by H. Blokpoel.
Cat. No. CW69-1/16

No. 17

Waterfowl populations on the Peace - Athabasca Delta, 1969 and 1970 by D. J. Nieman and H. J. Dirschl.
Cat. No. CW69-1/17

No. 18

Gammarus predation and the possible effects of *Gammarus* and *Chaoborus* feeding on the zooplankton composition in some small lakes and ponds in western Canada by R. S. Anderson and L. G. Raasveldt
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