

Pine Grosbeak

Pinicola enucleator

Class: Aves

Order: Passeriformes

Review Status: Peer-reviewed

Version Date: 31 August 2020

Conservation Status

Table 1 Conservation status according to state, national, and international organizations and agencies.

Organization	Rank
NatureServe	G5/S5
ADF&G	Species of Greatest Conservation Need
IUCN	Least Concern
Audubon AK	Yellow

Final Rank

Conservation Category: **VII. Yellow**

Low status and either high biological vulnerability or high action need

Table 2 ASRS categorical scores. Higher numerical scores denote greater concern.

Category	Range	Score
Status	-20 to 20	-6
Biological	-50 to 50	-44
Action	-40 to 40	16

Status

Variables measure the trend in a taxon's population status or distribution. Higher status scores denote taxa with known declining trends. Status scores range from -20 (increasing) to 20 (decreasing).

Population Trend in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Across North America, populations are estimated to have declined by 72.5% from 1965-2004 (Butcher and Niven 2007, qtd. In Young and Adkisson 2020). In Alaska's Northwestern Interior Bird Conservation Region (BCR), data suggest a median decline of -1.3%/year; this decline is not statistically significant (95% CI = -2.8, 0.4; Handel and Sauer 2017). Data are insufficient for estimating shorter-term (12-year) trends, or for estimating long- and short-term trends in the Northern Pacific Rainforest BCR (Handel and Sauer 2017).

Score: -6

Distribution Trend in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Unknown.

Score: 0

Status Total: -6

Biological

Variables measure aspects of a taxon's distribution, abundance and life history. Higher biological scores suggest greater vulnerability to extirpation. Biological scores range from -50 (least vulnerable) to 50 (most vulnerable).

Population Size in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Uncertain, but >25,000 (Handel et al. 2009; PIF 2019). PIF (2019) estimated a population size in Alaska of 1.2 million, with high uncertainty (95% CI: 580,000 - 2,100,000).

Score: -10

Range Size in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Occurs year-round in coniferous forests from Southeast Alaska north to the Brooks Range (Young and Adkisson 2020). Estimated range size is >400,000 sq. km, based on range map from ACCS (2017a).

Score: -10

Population Concentration in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Does not concentrate.

Score: -10

Reproductive Potential in Alaska

Age of First Reproduction (-5 to 5)

Unknown, but suspected to breed within their first year (Young and Adkisson 2020).

Score: -5

Number of Young (-5 to 5)

Usually lays 3 to 4 eggs per clutch (Young and Adkisson 2020). Additional data are needed to determine the number of clutches laid per breeding season and annual reproductive success of populations in Alaska.

Score: 1

Ecological Specialization in Alaska

Dietary (-5 to 5)

Consumes mainly buds, seeds, and fruits from a variety of trees and shrubs including spruce (*Picea A. Dietr.*), birch (*Betula L.*), willows (*Salix L.*), and berries from the genus *Rubus L.*, which includes blackberries and raspberries. In the summer, it also consumes insects such as grasshoppers, beetles, and spiders, though vegetable matter still comprises nearly 90% of their diet (Gabrielson and Lincoln 1959; Young and Adkisson 2020).

Score: -5

Habitat (-5 to 5)

During breeding season, found in open coniferous forests, mixedwood forests, and shrub thickets (Isleib and Kessel 1973; Spindler and Kessel 1977; Petersen et al. 1991; Young and Adkisson 2020). Additional data are needed to determine specific habitat associations; observations from the Kilbuck Mountains suggest that Pine Grosbeak may have different breeding and foraging habitats (Petersen et al. 1991). During the non-breeding season, it uses a wider variety of habitats including deciduous forests and suburban landscapes where fruit trees are present (Young and Adkisson 2020).

Score: -5

Biological Total: -44**Action**

Variables measure current state of knowledge or extent of conservation efforts directed toward a given taxon. Higher action scores denote greater information needs due to lack of knowledge or conservation action. Action scores range from -40 (lower needs) to 40 (greater needs).

Management Plans and Regulations in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA 1918).

Score: 2

Knowledge of Distribution and Habitat in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Habitat associations and range are somewhat known from multi-species surveys; however, this species is infrequently detected (e.g., Johnson et al. 2008b; Handel et al. 2009; Savage and Johnson 2013; Amundson et al. 2018; see references in Habitat section). To our knowledge, specific habitat associations have not been studied in Alaska.

Score: 2

Knowledge of Population Trends in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Monitored in parts of its range through the Breeding Bird Survey and off-route survey, however, data are inadequate for estimating statewide trends (Handel and Sauer 2017; Sauer et al. 2017).

Score: 2

Knowledge of Factors Limiting Populations in Alaska (-10 to 10)

Little is known about the ecology of this species or the factors that limit its population and distribution in Alaska or elsewhere in its range.

Score: 10

Action Total: 16**Supplemental Information**

Variables do not receive numerical scores. Instead, they are used to sort taxa to answer specific biological or management questions.

Harvest: None or Prohibited

Seasonal Occurrence: Year-round

Taxonomic Significance: Monotypic genus

% Global Range in Alaska: <10%

% Global Population in Alaska: <25%

Peripheral: No

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