

## **BIRDS**

The birds of the San Joaquin Valley come in all sizes, shapes, and colors. Small, inconspicuous sparrows flit from bush to bush, hawks hunt from the sky, burrowing owls nest in holes in the ground, and waterfowl land in and around rivers, canals, reservoirs, and temporary ponds. Some species of birds live here permanently, while others migrate. Many of these birds require a specific habitat in order to feed and nest successfully. Our activities can affect birds by causing harm to part of their habitat or food chain

### **ALEUTIAN CANADA GOOSE (BRANTA CANADENSIS LEUCOPAREIA)**

Federal/California status: Threatened/--



### *Description*

The Aleutian Canada goose is a subspecies of the Canada goose. Smaller than the common Canada goose, the Aleutian Canada goose averages about 25 inches (64 cm) in length (tip of bill to tip of tail) and has the familiar markings of the species. The head and neck are black with white cheeks; there is a conspicuous white ring at the base of the neck. The wings and back are dark, the rump is white. Tail feathers, legs, and feet are black.

### *Habitat/Range*

This goose winters in the central San Joaquin Valley, where it can be found in pastures, row crops (such as corn, wheat, oats, barley, and rice), farm ponds, regulating reservoirs, lakes, and wetlands.

Photo: Sherry Ballard from Calphotos:  
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