

# Migratory Birds Regulations

## Did You Know?

The **Migratory Birds Regulations (MBR)** were amended on July 30, 2022. The objective of the Migratory Birds Regulations is the conservation of migratory birds, including their eggs and nests. MBR 2022 applies anywhere migratory birds are found in Canada, including federal and provincial lands, First Nations reserve lands, and private lands.

### HOW HAS NEST PROTECTION CHANGED IN MBR 2022?

MBR 2022 focuses on protecting nests that are of high conservation value. Rather than always protecting all nests, MBR 2022 protects most nests when they contain a live bird or viable eggs, except for 18 species which receive year-round protection.

### WHAT SPECIES RECEIVE YEAR-ROUND PROTECTION?

Pigeon Guillemot (1\*) Rhinoceros Auklet (1\*)  
Atlantic Puffin (1\*) Tufted Puffin (1\*)  
Horned Puffin (1\*) Manx Shearwater (1\*)  
Northern Gannet (1\*) Cassin's Auklet (1\*)  
Leach's Storm Petrel (1\*) Ancient Murrelet (1\*)  
Fork-tailed Storm Petrel (1\*)  
Black-crowned Night Heron (2\*)  
Great Egret (2\*) Snowy Egret (2\*)  
Great Blue Heron (2\*) Green Heron (2\*)  
Cattle Egret (2\*) Pileated Woodpecker (3\*)

*\*Designated waiting period, in years, before the nest can be disturbed, damaged, removed or destroyed.*

### WHY ARE PILEATED WOODPECKER'S NESTS PROTECTED FOR 3 YEARS, (LONGER THAN MOST SPECIES) AFTER THEY ARE UNOCCUPIED?

Nests of Pileated Woodpeckers are commonly reused for several years by this species as well as other migratory birds who are often not capable of excavating their own cavities.

### CAN I REMOVE A MIGRATORY BIRD NEST FROM LAST YEAR?

The nests of 377 migratory bird species can be removed when they are no longer active, however the nests of the 18 species that reuse their nests are protected year round, even when they do not contain a live bird or viable egg.