

## Gray-cheeked Thrush

(*Catharus minimus*)

- Gray-cheeked Thrush are slightly larger than other *Catharus* thrushes and their upperparts and face are grayish.
- In Newfoundland, they are often seen with chestnut edging on their wings and tail.
- Gray-cheeked Thrush are long-distance migratory birds that winter in South America.



### Provincial Distribution



### Habitat/ Range

Gray-cheeked Thrush breed in boreal forests across North America, as well as in northeastern Siberia. In Newfoundland they have been reported as being most common on the Northern Peninsula, the northeast coast, and the Avalon Peninsula, and less common on the west coast and in the interior. They have been observed throughout most of Labrador.

### Population Trends

The Breeding Bird Survey data shows a decline in Gray-cheeked Thrush numbers (11.5%/year from 1968-2008) in Newfoundland and Labrador; with a precipitous drop in detection rate around 1990. However, true decline are difficult to measure because of data gaps.

### Limiting Factors and Threats

The reason for declines in Gray-cheeked Thrush population have not been identified. It is possible that loss of habitat, nest predation, and mortality during migration as a result of collisions with human-made structures have contributed to population declines.

### Special Significance

Gray-cheeked Thrush are an important component of the avian communities within Newfoundland and Labrador.

### You can help protect the Gray-cheeked Thrush:

- Report any sighting to the Wildlife Division.
- Participate in bird surveys and counts.
- Support habitat protection for all our rare species.

Department of Environment & Conservation

**Wildlife Division**

Endangered Species & Biodiversity

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