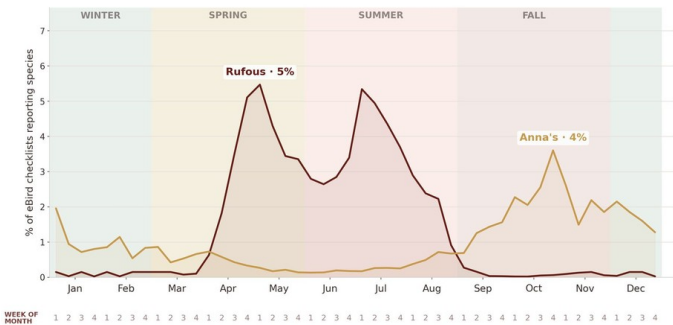


SPECIES YOU'LL SEE

Rufous Hummingbird	Alaska's breeding hummingbird, and the northernmost-nesting hummingbird in the world. Common in the Southeast.	BREEDER
Anna's Hummingbird	A newcomer expanding north along the coast. Present in fall and winter — not summer.	FALL & WINTER

Also recorded: Costa's Hummingbird as a casual visitor, and a handful of Ruby-throated as genuine vagrants. Anything but Rufous or Anna's is worth photographing.

ALASKA'S HUMMINGBIRD SEASON, STATEWIDE



Source: eBird bar chart data (Cornell Lab of Ornithology), 2016–2025 (pulled Aug 2026)

MIGRATION WINDOW

REGION	HUMMINGBIRDS PRESENT	HANG FEEDERS BY
Southeast (Juneau, Sitka, Ketchikan)	Early April – mid-Sept	Late March
Southcentral (Anchorage, Kenai, Mat-Su)	Early May – early Aug	Mid-April
Interior & North (Fairbanks, Nome)	None in 10 years of data	—

The Interior row isn't a data gap. Ten years of records show **no hummingbirds around Fairbanks** — a few extreme vagrants have turned up in Interior Alaska over the decades, but there's no population and no season.

TOP NATIVE PLANTS

Best Overall

SalmonberryWestern ColumbineFireweed

Indian Paintbrush

Salmonberry matters most. It's one of the first things blooming when Rufous arrive in April, which makes it the single most valuable plant you can have.

ALASKA HAS A WINTER HUMMINGBIRD

And it isn't the one that breeds here. **Anna's Hummingbirds** are now reported around Juneau right through December, January and February — months after every Rufous has left for Mexico.

They survive on milder coastal winters, backyard feeders, and torpor — dropping their body temperature overnight to save energy. In Southeast Alaska, a maintained winter feeder is how most of them are found.

THE RECORD HOLDER

On 13 January 2010 a bander in Tallahassee, Florida fitted a numbered band to a one-year-old female Rufous weighing about as much as a penny.

Six months later she was caught again in **Chenega Bay, Alaska — 3,530 miles away**. It remains the longest hummingbird migration ever documented. The two banders had never met.

COLD-WEATHER FEEDER CARE

Nectar ratio	4 parts water : 1 part sugar
Red dye	Never needed
Change nectar (typical summer)	Every 5–6 days
Change nectar (warm spell 80°F+)	Every 2–3 days
Winter feeding	Heated feeder, or rotate two so one never freezes
Pest control	No insecticide — use HummGuard™ tips

Standard advice to bring feeders in overnight doesn't work here — Southeast Alaska's wintering Anna's need a feeder available around the clock. A heated feeder, or swapping between two so one is always thawed, is the real fix.

RESOURCES

Injured hummingbird? Contact Bird TLC (Anchorage) at 907-562-4852 for statewide placement help, or the Juneau Raptor Center at 907-586-8393 for Southeast Alaska.

Alaska Audubon chapters in Anchorage and Juneau both track winter Anna's reports — a good place to report a sighting outside the usual season.