



Kinglet

The **Golden-crowned Kinglet** is typically found in coniferous trees within the Boreal Forest, Foothills, and Rocky Mountain Natural Regions of Alberta. This species has also benefited from the reforestation of spruce trees in the eastern states.

As indicated by its name, the Golden-crowned Kinglet has a bright orange crown patch on the head, bordered by yellow and black. It has olive-green to gray upperparts and pale breasts.

The **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** is one of the province's smallest songbirds, yet has a loud and complex song. It can be found in the Boreal Forest, Foothills, Parkland, and Rocky Mountain Natural Regions of Alberta where forests have a large coniferous component. These birds forage near the tops of densely distributed coniferous trees and also inhabit spruce-fir forests in the north and throughout the western United States and Canada.

The Ruby-crowned Kinglet has olive-green upperparts and gray-washed, pale yellow underparts. The head has a tuft of red crown feathers and the eyes are encompassed by white feathers. They can be easily recognized by their constant wing-flickering. This species is able to lay up to 12 eggs, making that the largest amount for a North American bird of its size.

For both the Golden-crowned Kinglet and the Ruby-crowned Kinglet, breeding biology has been poorly studied due to their remote habitats and the placement of their hidden and high nests. So far, they have both escaped human disturbances because of their migration habits.



Above: Golden-crowned Kinglet.

Below: Ruby-crowned Kinglet.



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CITATION ON FILE

Birds of Alberta, "Golden-crowned Kinglet" Accessed 26 May 2014.
<http://birdsofalberta.com/List/detail.php?id=286>

Birds of Alberta, "Ruby-crowned Kinglet" Accessed 26 May 2014.
<http://birdsofalberta.com/List/detail.php?id=287>

Federation of Alberta Naturalists. The Atlas of Breeding Birds of Alberta: A Second Look (Altona: Freisens Printers, 2007), 412-414.