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Lake ILO

National Wildlife Refuge

Wildlife List

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Welcome



This goose, designed by J.N. "Ding" Darling, has become the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Lake Ilo National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) lies in gently rolling, mixed grass prairie in a semi-arid region. It is an oasis for many species of wildlife. The Refuge was established in 1939 after the Federal government built a dam near the confluence of Spring and Murphy creeks creating 1,240-acre Lake Ilo. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manages the land for a diversity of wildlife, with emphasis on migratory birds. The grasslands, planted forested areas, Lake Ilo, and numerous smaller wetlands provide habitat for many species of animals.

Lake Ilo NWR is one of over 530 refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System – a network of lands set aside specifically for wildlife. Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Refuge System is a living heritage, conserving wildlife and habitat for people today and for generations to come.

Checklist

This checklist includes all wildlife species seen on the Refuge: 227 birds, 36 mammals, 6 reptiles, 3 amphibians, and 11 fish species. All bird species names are in accordance with the *American Ornithologists' Union, 1998. Check-list of North American Birds. 7th ed. Am. Ornithol. Union, Washington, D.C.*

Bird species listed as "Accidentals" have been sighted only a few times. They are found at the end of the common bird name list. Since most birds are migratory, their seasonal occurrence and relative abundance are coded as follows:

Seasons of Occurrence:

Sp Spring (March-May)
S Summer (June-August)
F Fall (September-November)
W Winter (December-February)

Seasonal Abundance:

c common, certain to be seen in suitable habitat
p present, but not certain to be seen
r rare, seen at intervals of 2 to 5 years

Other Codes:

• denotes a breeding species

Common Bird Name

Sp S F W

Loons

Common Loon r r

Grebes

• Pied-billed Grebe c c c
Horned Grebe p p p
Red-necked Grebe p r p
• Eared Grebe c c c
• Western Grebe c p c

Pelicans

American White Pelican c c c

Cormorants

• Double-crested Cormorant c c c

Bitterns, Herons, and Egrets

• American Bittern p c
• Great Blue Heron c c c
Great Egret r r r
Snowy Egret r r r
Little Blue Heron r r r
Cattle Egret r r r
• Black-crowned Night-Heron c c c

Ibises and Spoonbills

White-faced Ibis r r r

New World Vultures

Turkey Vulture p p p

Swans, Geese, and Ducks

Greater White-fronted Goose c r c
Snow Goose c r c
Ross' Goose r r
• Canada Goose c c c p
Tundra Swan p p
• Wood Duck p p p
• Gadwall c c c
• American Wigeon c c c
American Black Duck r r
• Mallard c c c p
• Blue-winged Teal c c c
Cinnamon Teal r r r
• Northern Shoveler c c c
• Northern Pintail c c c r
• Green-winged Teal c c c r
• Canvasback c c c
• Redhead c c c

Swans, Geese, and Ducks, continued on next page

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
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Swans, Geese, and Ducks, continued

Ring-necked Duck	c		c	
• Lesser Scaup	c	c	c	
Bufflehead	c	p	c	
Common Goldeneye	c	r	c	r
Hooded Merganser	r		p	
Common Merganser	p		p	r
Red-breasted Merganser	r		r	
• Ruddy Duck	c	c	c	

Osprey, Kites, Hawks, and Eagles

Osprey	p	p	r	
Bald Eagle	p	r	p	p
• Northern Harrier	c	c	c	r
Sharp-shinned Hawk	p	r	p	r
Cooper's Hawk	p	r	p	p
Northern Goshawk	p	r	p	p
Broad-winged Hawk	p	r	p	
Swainson's Hawk	p	p	p	
• Red-tailed Hawk	p	p	p	
Ferruginous Hawk	p	r	p	
Rough-legged Hawk	p		p	r
Golden Eagle	p	p	p	p

Falcons and Caracaras

• American Kestrel	c	c	c	
Merlin	p	r	p	
Gyr Falcon				r
Peregrine Falcon	p		p	r
Prairie Falcon	p	r	p	r

Gallinaceous Birds

• Gray Partridge	c	c	c	c
• Ring-necked Pheasant	c	c	c	c
• Sharp-tailed Grouse	c	c	c	c

Rails

Yellow Rail	p	p	p	
• Virginia Rail	p	p	p	
• Sora	c	c	c	
• American Coot	c	c	c	

Cranes

Sandhill Crane	c	r	c	
Whooping Crane	r		r	

Plovers

Black-bellied Plover	r		r	
American Golden-Plover	p		r	
Semipalmated Plover	p		p	

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
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• Piping Plover	p	p	r	
• Killdeer	c	c	c	

Stilts and Avocets

• American Avocet	c	c	p	
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Sandpipers and Phalaropes

Greater Yellowlegs	p		p	
Lesser Yellowlegs	c	p	c	
Solitary Sandpiper	p		p	
• Willet	c	c	p	
• Spotted Sandpiper	c	c	p	
• Upland Sandpiper	c	c	p	
Long-billed Curlew	r			
Hudsonian Godwit	r			
• Marbled Godwit	c	c	p	
Ruddy Turnstone	p		r	
Sanderling	p		p	
Semipalmated Sandpiper	c		c	
Western Sandpiper	c		c	
Least Sandpiper	c		c	
White-rumped Sandpiper	c		r	
Baird's Sandpiper	p		p	
Pectoral Sandpiper	p		p	
Dunlin	p		p	
Stilt Sandpiper	p		p	
Short-billed Dowitcher	p		p	
Long-billed Dowitcher	c		c	
• Common Snipe	c	c	c	
• Wilson's Phalarope	c	c	c	
Red-necked Phalarope	p		p	

Skuas, Jaegers, Gulls, and Terns

Franklin's Gull	c	c	c	
Bonaparte's Gull	p		p	
• Ring-billed Gull	c	c	c	
• California Gull	c	c	c	
Herring Gull	p	p	p	
Caspian Tern	r	r		
• Common Tern	c	c	p	
Forster's Tern	p	p	p	
Least Tern	r	r		
• Black Tern	c	c	c	

Pigeons and Doves

Rock Dove	p	p	p	
• Mourning Dove	c	c	c	

Cuckoos and Anis

• Black-billed Cuckoo	p	p	p	
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Common Bird Name Sp S F W

Typical Owls

Eastern Screech-Owl	r	r	r	r
• Great Horned Owl	c	c	c	c
Snowy Owl	p		p	p
• Burrowing Owl	r	r	r	
• Long-eared Owl	p	p	p	
• Short-eared Owl	p	p	p	r

Nightjars

• Common Nighthawk	p	p	p	
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Hummingbirds

Ruby-throated Hummingbird	p	r	p	
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Kingfishers

Belted Kingfisher	p	p	p	
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Woodpeckers

Red-headed Woodpecker	p	p	p	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	p	p	p	
Downy Woodpecker	c	c	c	c
Hairy Woodpecker	c	c	c	c
• Northern Flicker	c	c	c	r

Tyrant Flycatchers

Least Flycatcher	p	p	r	
Eastern Phoebe	p	p	p	
Say's Phoebe	p	p	p	
• Western Kingbird	c	c	c	
• Eastern Kingbird	c	c	c	

Shrikes

Loggerhead Shrike	p	p	p	
Northern Shrike	r	p	p	

Vireos

Blue-headed Vireo	p	p		
Warbling Vireo	p	p		
Red-eyed Vireo	p	p	p	

Crows, Jays, and Magpies

• Blue Jay	p	p	p	p
• Black-billed Magpie	p	p	p	p
• American Crow	c	p	c	p

Larks

• Horned Lark	c	c	c	c
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Common Bird Name Sp S F W

Swallows

• Purple Martin	p	p	p	
• Tree Swallow	c	c	c	
• Northern Rough-winged Swallow	p	p	p	
• Bank Swallow	c	c	c	
• Cliff Swallow	p	p	p	
• Barn Swallow	c	c	c	

Titmice and Chickadees

• Black-capped Chickadee	c	c	c	c
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Nuthatches

Red-breasted Nuthatch	p	p	p	
White-breasted Nuthatch	p	p	p	p

Creepers

Brown Creeper	p	p		
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Wrens

• House Wren	c	c	p	
• Sedge Wren	c	c	p	
• Marsh Wren	p	p	p	

Kinglets

Golden-crowned Kinglet	r	p		
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	r	p		

Thrushes

• Eastern Bluebird	p	p	p	
Mountain Bluebird	p	p	p	
• Swainson's Thrush	p	p	p	
• American Robin	c	c	c	r

Mimic Thrushes

• Gray Catbird	p	p	p	
• Brown Thrasher	c	c	p	

Starlings

• European Starling	p	p	p	p
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Wagtails and Pipits

American Pipit	p	p		
• Sprague's Pipit	p	p	p	

Waxwings

Bohemian Waxwing	r	p	p	
• Cedar Waxwing	c	c	p	p

Common Mammal Name **Abundance**

• Masked Shrew	p
• Little Brown Myotis	p
• Long-eared Myotis	p
• Keen Myotis	p
• Silver-haired Bat	p
• Big Brown Bat	p
• Hoary Bat	p
• Eastern Cottontail	c
• White-tailed Jackrabbit	p
• Thirteen-lined Ground Squirrel	p
• Fox Squirrel	c
• Northern Pocket Gopher	p
• Beaver	c
• Deer Mouse	c
• Northern Grasshopper Mouse	p
• Meadow Vole	c
• Prairie Vole	c
• Sagebrush Vole	p
• Muskrat	c
• Norway Rat	p
• House Mouse	c
• Meadow Jumping Mouse	p
• Western Jumping Mouse	p
• Porcupine	p
• Coyote	c
• Red Fox	p
• Raccoon	c
• Long-tailed Weasel	p
• Short-tailed Weasel	p
• Least Weasel	p
• Mink	c
• Badger	p
• Striped Skunk	c
• White-tailed Deer	c
• Mule Deer	r
• Pronghorn	p

Common Reptile Name

• Painted Turtle	c
• Snapping Turtle	p
• Plains Garter Snake	c
• Red Garter Snake	p
• Smooth Green Snake	p
• Bull Snake	c

Common Amphibian Name

• Tiger Salamander	p
• Leopard Frog	c
• Chorus Frog	p

Common Fish Name **Abundance**

• Northern Pike	c
• Walleye	r
• Yellow Perch	c
• Johnny Darter	p
• Iowa Darter	p
• Black Crappie	r
• Black Bullhead	c
• White Sucker	c
• Common Carp	c
• Fathead Minnow	c
• Brook Stickleback	c

Date	Time	Total
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Observers

Weather

Notes

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and activities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of physical or mental ability. For visitors using TTY, contact the North Dakota Relay Service at 711 or 1 800 / 366 6888. For more information or to address accessibility needs, please contact the Refuge staff at 701 / 548 8110 or the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.