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For Refuge Information 1 800 / 344 WILD

August 2005



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Rainwater Basin Wetland Management District

Bird List



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About the Rainwater Basin Wetland Management District



This goose, designed by J.N. "Ding" Darling, has become the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System The Rainwater Basin of southcentral Nebraska has attracted millions of migratory birds each spring for generations. During migration, millions of snow geese, Canada geese, white-fronted geese, ducks, and ½-million sandhill cranes use the Rainwater Basin and the adjacent Platte River. The shallow wetland basins and surrounding croplands of the area provide the birds with critical resting and feeding sites during their migration north.

The Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs) of the Rainwater Basin Wetland Management District (WMD) are managed as grasslandplaya lake ecosystems. The Rainwater Basin WMD staff currently manages 59 WPAs in the Rainwater Basin. Most of the WPAs must undergo extensive restoration to provide quality habitat for the millions of migrating birds. To restore wetlands, WMD staff employ a variety of management techniques such as pumping groundwater, prescribed burning, grazing, filling in pits, removing trees, and clearing non-native plants. These lands, once used for agricultural purposes, are now reseeded to recover the native plant communities.

About this Bird List The species listed in this leaflet have all been observed in the WPAs. All species names are in accordance with the A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds, 7th edition, 1998. For clarity, some of the former names are shown in parentheses.

Nesting species documented in the WPAs are marked with an round bullet (•) in front of the species name. Some species may be seen during the nesting season, but are not marked as nesters in the WPAs. These birds may be seen, but their nests or nesting behavior have not been documented on the WPAs. For example, frequent nesters in the area, such as northern rough-winged swallows, are not marked as nesters on the WPAs because the WPAs do not provide their preferred nesting habitat.

Please report any additional sightings to the WMD staff.

The definitions for the seasonal categories used in this bird list are listed below. Please note that seasonal abundance codes for some species such as shorebirds may be misleading because their fall migration starts in July or August (Summer season). For example, the Pectoral Sandpiper is coded as ccc_. The bird is commonly seen in Spring, and in the Summer, when peak migration occurs in mid-August, and in the Fall. It is not seen in Winter.

Seasons

Seasonal

Ahundance

Definitions:

Seasonal Abundance F Fall (September - November)W Winter (December - February)

S Summer (June - August)

Sp Spring (March - May)

- a abundant occurring in large numbers
- c common certain to be seen in suitable habitat
- u uncommon present, but not certain to be seen
- o occasional seen only a few times during the season
- r rare seen at intervals of 2 5 years
- h hypothetical within normal range, but never documented
- x outside normal range, but has been documented



Female Bobolink Bob Hines



Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
Swans, Geese, and Ducks	1. m.		1	
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	x	x	x	
Bean Goose	x	-	-	
Greater White-fronted Goose	a	r	a	0
Emperor Goose	x	-		U
Snow Goose	a	0	a	0
Ross' Goose	c	r	c	0
• Canada Goose	a	u	a	c
Trumpeter Swan	h	x	h	r
Tundra Swan	0	Λ	r	-
Wood Duck	c	u	c	-
• Gadwall	с	-	c	0
		u		0
Eurasian Wigeon	X		X	
American Wigeon	a	0	a	0
American Black Duck	x	-	X	X
• Mallard	a	c	a	c
• Blue-winged Teal	a	c	a	r
• Cinnamon Teal	u	0	u	-
Northern Shoveler	a	c	a	r
 Northern Pintail 	a	u	a	0
Garganey	X	100	6	
Green-winged Teal	a	0	a	0
Canvasback	u		u	ĺ
Redhead	с	u	c	
Ring-necked Duck	с	r	u	
Greater Scaup	u		r	
Lesser Scaup	с	0	c	
White-winged Scoter	x			
Black Scoter	x			
Bufflehead	c		с	
Common Goldeneye	0		u	1
Hooded Merganser	u	r	u	-
Common Merganser	0	-	0	0
Ruddy Duck	c	u	c	
- Induly Duck				
allinaceous Birds				
Ring-necked Pheasant	c	с	c	с
Sharp-tailed Grouse	r	h	r	0
Greater Prairie-Chicken	0			
Northern Bobwhite	C	0	0	u c
- HOI MEIN DODWINCE	C	C	C	C
oons				
Common Loon			1 20	
	0		r	-
irebes				
Clark's Grebe				
	X	-	r	-
Pied-billed Grebe	C	C h	C	-
Horned Grebe	<u>u</u>	h	r	-
Red-necked Grebe	h		r	
Eared Grebe	C	0	c	1
Western Grebe	r		r	
	1			

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	N
Pelicans			1	
American White Pelican	с	0	c	
		-	1	
Cormorants				
Double-crested Cormorant	c	u	c	
Bitterns, Herons, and Egrets				
American Bittern	u	с	u	
• Least Bittern	0	0	0	-
Great Blue Heron	c	c	c	r
Great Egret	0	r	u	
Snowy Egret	0	u	u	
Little Blue Heron	r	r	r	
Tricolored Heron	h	r	r	
Cattle Egret	u	0	u	
• Green Heron	u	u.	18	
Black-crowned Night-Heron	C	0	e	
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	r	r	r	
bises and Spoonbills White Ibis Glossy Ibis	h x	x	x	
• White-faced Ibis	u			-
Roseate Spoonbill	u	u x	r	-
Roseate Spoonom	-	х	x	
New World Vultures				
Turkey Vulture	c	u	с	
Sprey, Kites, Hawks, and Eagles	1			
Osprey	0		0	
White-tailed Kite	x			
Mississippi Kite	x		x	
Bald Eagle	c		c	0
Northern Harrier	с	u	c	u
Sharp-shinned Hawk	u	r	u	u
Cooper's Hawk	u		u	r
Northern Goshawk	r		r	r
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	r	r	x
Broad-winged Hawk	r		r	
• Swainson's Hawk	c	u	u	r
• Red-tailed Hawk	c	u	c	u
• Reg-laneg Hawk		X	u	0
Ferruginous Hawk Rough-legged Hawk	u	h	u	u

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
Falcons and Caracaras				
• American Kestrel	c	с	c	с
Merlin	u		u	0
Gyrfalcon				r
Peregrine Falon	u		0	r
Prairie Falcon	0		0	u
Rails	1.			
Yellow Rail	r		r	
Black Rail	X	х		
King Rail	r	r		
• Virginia Rail	u	u	u	
• Sora	c	с	c	
• Common Moorhen	u	u	r	
American Coot	a	с	a	r
Cranes				
• Sandhill Crane	c	r	u	
Common Crane	х			
Whooping Crane	0		0	_
Plovers				
Black-bellied Plover	u		u	
American Golden-Plover	u		u	
Snowy Plover	r	r		
Semipalmated Plover	u	u	u	
Piping Plover	r	h	r	
• Killdeer	с	c	c	
	1			
Stilts and Avocets				
Black-necked Stilt	r	r	r	
American Avocet	u	r	u	



Blue-winged Teal

1

ommon Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
andpipers and Phalaropes				
Greater Yellowlegs	с	0	с	
Lesser Yellowlegs	с	u	с	
Solitary Sandpiper	с	с	u	
Willet	u	0	u	
Spotted Sandpiper	e	u	c	
• Upland Sandpiper	u	u	u	
Eskimo Curlew	h		h	
Whimbrel	0		r	
Long-billed Curlew	r		r	
Hudsonian Godwit	u		x	
Marbled Godwit	u		r	
Ruddy Turnstone	r		r	
Red Knot	x		r	-
Sanderling	0		0	
Semipalmated Sandpiper	a	u	c	-
Western Sandpiper	r	0	0	
Least Sand i er	c	с	c	-
White-rumped Sandpiper	a	0	0	-
Baird's Sandpiper	a	c	u	-
Pectoral Sandpiper	c	c	C	-
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	C	C	X	
Dunlin	u	-	u	
Curlew Sand i er	u	x	u	
Stilt Sandpiper	R	e	e	-
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	u	u	H	-
Ruff	x	м	X	
Short-billed Dowitcher	u	u	r	-
Long-billed Dowitcher	a	Q.	c	
Wilson's Sni e (Common)	c	0	c	-
American Woodcock	r	0	r	-
Wilson's Phalaro e	a	0	e	
Red-necked Phalarope	r	0	r	
Red Phalarope	X	x	-	
neu i nalarope	X	x	-	_
as, Jaegers, Gulls, and Terns				
Laughing Gull	x			
Franklin's Gull	a	r	С	
Bonaparte's Gull	r		r	
Mew Gull	r			
Ring-billed Gull	a	с	c	0
Herring Gull	u		u	u
Common Tern	u		u	
73 . 1 . 173	-		1.00	

			10.000
Forster's Tern	С	u	e
Least Tern	r	r	r
Black Tern	a	с	a
			A COLORADOR

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	V
Pigeons and Doves				
Rock Pi eon	c	с	c	(
Eurasian Collared-Dove	0	0	0	(
White-winged Dove	1	r		
• Mourning Dove	8	a	8	(
Inca Dove			x	
Cuckoos and Anis				and the second
Black-billed Cuckoo	0	0	0	
• Yellow-billed Cuckoo	u	u	u	-
	u	u	u	
Barn Owls				
Barn Owl	0	0	0	(
Typical Owls				
Eastern Screech-Owl	u	u	u	ι
• Great Horned Owl	c	u	c	1
Snowy Owl	Cent		-	2
• Burrowing Owl	u	u	u	
Long-eared Owl	0	r	0	(
Short-eared Owl	u	r	u	1
Boreal Owl			x	
Nightjars				
• Common Nighthawk	0		0	÷
Chuck-will's-widow	c	C	С	-
Chuck-will S-widdw		r	-	-
Swifts				
Chimney Swift	a	a	c	
Hummingbirds				
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	0	0	0	
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	h	r	r	
Rufous Hummingbird		-	r	
Kingfishers			- 1	
Belted Kingfisher	u	u	u	r
Woodpeckers Lewis' Woodpecker	r		x	
Red-headed Woodpecker	c	с	c	0
Red-bellied Woodpecker	u	_		0
• Downy Woodpecker	-	u	u	u
Hairy Woodpecker	C	c c	C	c r
Northern Flicker	c	-	C	r
• Nor ther if I neker	С	с	c	c

ommon Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
rant Flycatchers				
Olive-sided Flycatcher	0		0	
Eastern Wood-Pewee	0	0	0	
Willow Flycatcher	u	r	0	
Least Flycatcher	u		u	
Hammond's Flycatcher			x	
Eastern Phoebe	u	u	u	
Say's Phoebe	u	r	r	
• Great Crested Fl, catcher	c	0	c	
Western Kingbird	c	с	c	
• Eastern Kingbird	c	с	c	-
• <u>Scissor-tailed Flycatcher</u>	r	x	r	
rikes				
Loggerhead Shrike	c	с	e	с
Northern Shrike			u	u
eos				
White-eyed Vireo	r			
• Bell's Vireo	u	0	u	
Yellow-throated Vireo	r	x	r	-
Warbling Vireo	c	u	c	
Philadelphia Vireo	0	u	0	-
Red-eyed Vireo	u	r	u	
ows, Jays, and Magpies •Blue Jay Pinyon Jan	С	с	с	c
Pinyon Jay • Black-billed Magpie				X
American Crow	u	<u>u</u>	u	u
American Crow	a	0	a	С
rks				
Horned Lark	a	c	a	a
vallows				
vallows Purple Martin	с	u	c	
Purple Martin	c c	u o	c c	
Purple Martin Tree Swallow Violet-green Swallow	-	-		
Purple Martin • Tree Swallow <u>Violet-green Swallow</u> Northern Rough-winged Swallow	c	-		
Purple Martin • Tree Swallow <u>Violet-green Swallow</u> Northern <u>Rough-winged</u> Swallow Bank Swallow	c x	0	c	
Purple Martin • Tree Swallow <u>Violet-green Swallow</u> Northern Rough-winged Swallow	c x c	0 C	c c	
Purple Martin • Tree Swallow <u>Violet-green Swallow</u> Northern <u>Rough-winged</u> Swallow Bank Swallow	c x c u	0 C U	c c u	
Purple Martin • Tree Swallow Violet-green Swallow Northern Rough-winged Swallow Bank Swallow Cliff Swallow Barn Swallow	c x c u c	0 C U C	c c u a	
Purple Martin Tree Swallow Violet-green Swallow Northern Rough-winged Swallow Bank Swallow Cliff Swallow Barn Swallow nice and Chickadees	c x c u c a	o c u c a	c c u a a	c
Purple Martin • Tree Swallow Violet-green Swallow Northern Rough-winged Swallow Bank Swallow Cliff Swallow Barn Swallow mice and Chickadees • Black-capped Chickadee	c x c u c a	o c u c a c	c c u a a	c
Purple Martin • Tree Swallow Violet-green Swallow Northern Rough-winged Swallow Bank Swallow Cliff Swallow Barn Swallow mice and Chickadees • Black-capped Chickadee Tufted Titmouse	c x c u c a	o c u c a	c c u a a	с
Tree Swallow Violet-green Swallow Northern Rough-winged Swallow Bank Swallow Cliff Swallow Barn Swallow mice and Chickadees Black-capped Chickadee Tufted Titmouse thatches	c x c u c a	o c u c a a c x	c c u a a	
Purple Martin • Tree Swallow Violet-green Swallow Northern Rough-winged Swallow Bank Swallow Cliff Swallow Barn Swallow mice and Chickadees • Black-capped Chickadee Tufted Titmouse	c x c u c a	o c u c a c	c c u a a	с 0 и

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F
Creepers	1		
Brown Creeper	_	0	0
Wrens			
Carolina Wren	r	0	0
Bewick's Wren	x	0	
House Wren	c	с	c
Winter Wren	r		r
• Sed e Wren	r	u	r
• Marsh Wren	u	u	u
	u	u	
Kinglets			
Golden-crowned Kinglet	u		u
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	0	-	0
Old World Warblers			
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	0		0
	0		U
Thrushes			1000
• Eastern Bluebird	с	u	c
Mountain Bluebird	0		0
Townsend's Solitaire	r		r
Veerv	r		1
Gray-cheeked Thrush	u		r
Swainson's Thrush	с		u
Hermit Thrush	r		r
Wood Thrush	r		r
American Robin	a	C.	a
Mimic Thrushes			
• Gray Catbird	u	u	u
Northern Mockingbird	u	u	u
• Brown Thrasher	c	c	c
Starlings			
• European Starling			a
• European Staring	a	a	a
Wagtails and Pipits			
American Pipit (Water)	с		c
Sprague's Pipit	. 0		0
Waxwings			
Bohemian Waxwing			

mmon Bird Name	Sp	S	F	V
ood Warblers				
Golden-winged Warbler	r			
Tennessee Warbler	c		c	
Orange-crowned Warbler	c		c	
Nashville Warbler	u		u	
Northern Parula	u		r	
Yellow Warbler	с	с	c	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	u		u	
Magnolia Warbler	u		u	
Black-throated Blue Warbler	r	1	r	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	с		c	
Black-throated Green Warbler	0	1	0	
Blackburnian Warbler	0		0	
Yellow-throated Warbler	r		r	
Pine Warbler	h		r	
Prairie Warbler	r		r	
Palm Warbler	0		r	
Bay-breasted Warbler	0		0	
Blackpoll Warbler	c		r	
Black-and-white Warbler	c		u	
American Redstart	c	0	с	
Prothonotary Warbler	r		r	
Ovenbird	u		u	
Northern Waterthrush	u		u	
Louisiana Waterthrush	r		h	
Kentucky Warbler	r		h	
Connecticut Warbler	r		x	ł
Mourning Warbler	r	-	h.	
MacGillivrav's Warbler	0		r	
Common Yellowthroat	C	с	с	
Hooded Warbler	r		r	
Wilson's Warbler	u		u	1
Canada Warbler	r	-	r	
Yellow-breasted Chat	0	0	0	
Worm-eating Warbler	r			
Connecticut Warbler	r	-	x	ł
nagers				
Summer Tanager	r		x	
Scarlet Tanager	0		0	
Western Tanager			x	



Common Yellowthroat Bob Hines

ommon Bird Name	SP	S	F	W
parrows and Towhees				
Green-tailed Towhee	r		r	
Spotted Towhee	u	0	u	
Eastern Towhee	u		u	-
American Tree Sparrow	a	0	a	a
Chipping Sparrow	a	0	a	r
Clay-colored Sparrow	с	h	c	r
Brewer's Sparrow	r		r	
Field Sparrow	с	u	c	r
Vesper Sparrow	с	0	c	X
Lark Sparrow	c	с	с	
Lark Bunting	0	0	0	
Savannah Sparrow	С		c	h
Grasshopper Sparrow	с	с	С	
Baird's Sparrow	r		h	
Henslow's Sparrow	r	х	r	
Le Conte's Sparrow	u		с	
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	r		u	
Fox Sparrow	0		0	r
Song Sparrow	С	u	c	u
Lincoln's Sparrow	с		c	
• Swamp Sparrow	u	0	u	
White-throated Sparrow	с	0	u	r
Harris' Sparrow	с	r	С	u
White-crowned Sparrow	с		u	0
Dark-eyed Junco	С		с	a
McCown's Longspur	x		x	
Lapland Longspur	a		a	a
Snow Bunting	, r		r	0

Cardinals, Grosbeaks, and Allies

Northern Cardinal	c	с	с	с
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	u	u	r	
Black-headed Grosbeak	· 0	r	0	
Blue Grosbeak	: u	u	u	
Lazuli Bunting	х		x	
Indigo Bunting	u	u	u	
Painted Bunting	r		x	
• Dickcissel	С	a	c	

mmon Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
ackbirds and Orioles				
• Bobolink	c	с	c	
Red-winged Black Bird	a	с	8	0
• Eastern Meadowlark	0	0	0	0
Western Meadowlark	а	с	а	C
• Yellow-headed Blackbird	a	0	¢	r
Rusty Blackbird	c	0	H	r
• Brewer's Blackbird	с	0	c	0
Common Grackle	a	a	a	0
Great-tailed Grackle	c	с	c	r
Brown-headed Cowbird	a	с	a	r
Orchard Oriole	с	с	c	
Baltimore Oriole	с	с	c	
ches Pine Grosbeak	x		x	
Purple Finch	0		0	0
• House Finch	e	с	6	C
Red Crossbill		r		0
Common Redpoll	O	r		0
Pine Siskin	u	0	ü	u
Common Redpoll Pine Siskin • American Goldfinch	e	с	6	C
Evening Grosbeak	r		r	r
• House Sparrow	a	a	a	a



Western Meadowlark

Red-winged Blackbird Bob Hines	
Notes	P -
Date	Time

Accessibility Information

Observers

Weather

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. Dial 7-1-1 for a free connection to the State transfer relay service for TTY and voice calls to and from the speech and hearing impaired. For more information or to address accessibility needs, please contact the Refuge staff at 308 / 236 5015 or the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.