U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Bon Secour

National Wildlife Refuge Bird List







Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge was established by legislative act in 1980 to protect and preserve rapidly vanishing coastal barrier habitat. The maritime forests, coastal marsh, beaches and open waters of the refuge provide essential habitat for an amazing diversity of birds. The refuge's strategic location along the flyway of millions of spring and fall migrants, combined with the habitat provided, makes Bon Secour one of the most important refuges in the refuge system.

How to use your checklist Seasonal appearance Seasonal abundance

The bird checklist was designed to be informative and simple to use. The list is arranged in the order established by the American Ornithological Union. Symbols which appear in this checklist

represent the following:

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

a. abundant (a common species which is very numerous)c. common (certain to be seen in

u. uncommon (present but not certain to be seen)

suitable habitat)

o. occasional (seen only a few times during a season)r. rare (seen at intervals of 2 to 5

years)
x. vagrant (less than 10 valid

records)

* not recorded on refuge but may

occur based on nearby records.

 known or suspected to have nested on refuge or known to nest locally.

This checklist includes 379 species of birds and is based on observations by refuge personnel and visiting ornithologists. If you should find an unlisted species, please let us know at Refuge Headquarters. We will appreciate your help in updating our records.

	SP	S	F	W
Loons	*			
Red-throated Loon	*			r
Arctic/Pacific Loon		***	.,,	X
Common Loon	u	r	u	a
Grebes				
•Pied-billed Grebe	u	0	u	u
Horned Grebe	u		u	c
Red-necked Grebe			di.	*
Eared Grebe	r *		*	r *
Western Grebe	*			*
Shearwaters, Petrels				
Wilson's Storm-petrel	*	X	*	
Cory's Shearwater	*		*	
Greater Shearwater		*	X	
Sooty Shearwater			*	X
Manx Shearwater				*
Audubon's Shearwater		*		*
ridduson's shear water				
Tropicbirds				
White-tailed Tropicbird	*			
Boobies and Gannets				
Masked Booby	*	r	X	*
Brown Booby	X	r		
Northern Gannet	u	r	u	c
Daliaana and Marin alliaa				
Pelicans and their allies				
American White Pelican	0	r	0	0
Brown Pelican	a	С	a	a
Double-crested Cormorant	a	С	a	a
Olivaceous Cormorant			X	
Great Cormorant	X			X
•Anhinga	u	0	u	r
Magnificent Frigatebird	u	u	u	r
Herons, egrets and allies				
American Bittern	u		u	u
•Least Bittern	u	u	u	r
•Great Blue Heron	a	a	a	a
•Great Egret	С	С	С	С
•Snowy Egret	a	c	a	a
•Little Blue Heron	u	c	c	0
• Tricolored Heron	С	c	c	c
- Reddish Egret	u	u	u	u
•Cattle Egret	a	C	u C	u
•Green-backed Heron	C	c	С	0
Black-crowned Night-Heron	u	u	u	
• Yellow-crowned Night-Heron				u
renow-crowned mignt-meton	С	С	С	r

	SP	S	F	W
bises, Spoonbill, Stork				
•Glossy Ibis	0	0	0	
•White Ibis	u	0	u	0
•White-faced Ibis	*	0	*	
Roseate Spoonbill		*	*	
Wood Stork	*	0		*
Vaterfowl				
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	X		X	
Tundra Swan				*
White-fronted Goose			0	0
_Snow Goose	0		u	0
Ross' Goose				*
Brant			*	*
_Canada Goose	0		0	0
•Wood Duck	u	u	u	u
 _Green-winged Teal	u		u	u
American Black Duck	*			*
-•Mottled Duck	r	r	r	r
•Mallard	0	0	0	u
White-cheeked Pintail	*			*
Northern Pintail	0		0	u
_Blue-winged Teal	a		a	C
Northern Shoveler	u		u	u
_Gadwall	u		u	C
_addwan _American Wigeon	0		0	u
Canvasback	0			u
_Canvasback _Redhead	0			u
_Ring-necked Duck	0		u	u
_Greater Scaup	u		u	u
_Greater Scaup _Lesser Scaup			,,	C
	u		u	
_Harlequin Duck				X
_Oldsquaw _Black Scoter	0			u
Black Scoter Surf Scoter	0			u
	0			0
White-winged Scoter	_			r
_Common Goldeneye	0			u
_Bufflehead	u			u
_Hooded Merganser	0		0	u
_Common Merganser	r			r
_Red-breasted Merganser	С	0	С	a
_Ruddy Duck	u		u	u
ıltures, Hawks and Allies				
_•Black Vulture	u	0	u	u
_•Turkey Vulture	u	0	u	u
_•Osprey	C	С	С	0
_•American Swallow-tailed Kite	u	r		
_Black-shouldered Kite			X	X

	SP	S	F	W
•Mississippi Kite	u	0	u	
•Bald Eagle	r	r	0	
Northern Harrier	c		u	c
Sharp-shinned Hawk	u		c	u
•Cooper's Hawk	u	0	c	u
•Red-shouldered Hawk	u	0	c	u
•Broad-winged Hawk	c	0	a	*
Short-tailed Hawk		*		
Swainson's Hawk			X	*
•Red-tailed Hawk	c	0	c	C
Ferruginous Hawk				*
Rough-legged Hawk	*		X	X
Golden Eagle			X	X
American Kestrel	C		c	a
Merlin	0		u	0
Peregrine Falcon	u		u	0
O III Tolom				
Gallinaceous Birds (Quail, Turkey	and Allies	*	*	*
Wild TurkeyNorthern Bobwhite				
•Northern Bobwnite	u	u	u	u
Rails, Gallinules, Coots and Crane	S			
Yellow Rail	*			*
Black Rail	X		X	
•Clapper Rail	c	С	С	С
Clapper Rail King Rail Virginia Rail	u	0	u	u
Virginia Rail	u		u	u
Sora	c	0	С	c
Purple Gallinule	u	0	u	*
-Common Moorhen	С	С	С	u
	c	*	С	a
Sandhill Crane			r	r
Shorebirds				
Black-bellied Plover	c	u	С	С
Lesser Golden-Plover	u		u	
•Snowy Plover	0	0	0	0
• Wilson's Plover	u	u	u	
Semipalmated Plover	u		С	С
Piping Plover	u		u	u
•Killdeer	a	a	a	a
Mountain Plover	*			*
• American Oystercatcher	u	u	u	u
•Black-necked Stilt	u		u	*
American Avocet	u		u	0
Greater Yellowlegs	u	u	С	u
Lesser Yellowlegs	u	u	u	u
Solitary Sandpiper	u	0	u	*

	SP	S	F	W
•Willet	c	c	c	С
Spotted Sandpiper	c	u	c	0
Upland Sandpiper	c	0	c	
Whimbrel	u		u	r
Long-billed Curlew	X	X	X	X
Hudsonian Godwit	X		*	
Marbled Godwit	r		r	X
Ruddy Turnstone	u		u	u
Red Knot	u	0	u	u
Sanderling	a	u	a	a
Semipalmated Sandpiper	u	u	u	
Western Sandpiper	u	u	u	u
Least Sandpiper	u	u	u	u
White-rumped Sandpiper	0	0	0	
Baird's Sandpiper	r	r	r	
Pectoral Sandpiper	u	0	С	
Dunlin	С		С	С
Curlew Sandpiper	*		*	
Stilt Sandpiper	0	0	0	*
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	0	r	u	
Short-billed Dowitcher	c	0	c	С
Long-billed Dowitcher	u	0	u	u
Common Snipe	c	0	c	C
- •American Woodcock	u	*	u	u
Wilson's Phalarope	r		0	
Wilson's Phalarope Red-necked Phalarope		*	*	*
Red Phalarope		*	*	*
Pomarine Jaeger	0		0	0
Parasitic Jaeger	0		0	0
Long-tailed Jaeger	*			
•Laughing Gull	a	a	a	С
Franklin's Gull	r		r	*
Bonaparte's Gull	u		r	С
Ring-billed Gull •Herring Gull	c	0	C	a
•Herring Gull	u	0	u	С
Iceland Gull	X			
Lesser Black-backed Gull	X		X *	X
Glaucous Gull	X *		*	X
Great Black-backed Gull	*		*	X
Black-legged Kittiwake		ale.		X
Sabine's Gull	X	*	X	
Little Gull				X
•Gull-billed Tern	u	u	u	r
•Caspian Tern	u	0	u	u
•Royal Tern	С	u	С	С
•Sandwich Tern	u	u	C	u
Roseate Tern	X		*	
• Common Tern	C	0	c	0
• Forster's Tern	С	u	С	a

	SP	S	F	W
•Least Tern	c	u	С	*
Bridled Tern	*	*	*	
Sooty Tern	*	*	*	
Black Tern	C	a	a	r
•Black Skimmer	c	u	С	С
Brown Noddy			*	
Discoura Douge				
Pigeons, Doves				
• Rock Dove	u	u	u *	u
Band-tailed Pigeon	_			
White-winged Dove	0		0	r
• Mourning Dove	С	С	С	С
•Common Ground-Dove	u	u	u	u
Eurasian-collared Dove	С	С	С	С
Ring-Turtle Dove				X
Cuckoos				
Black-billed Cuckoo	u		u	
• Yellow-billed Cuckoo	C	u	c	
Groove-billed Ani	C		X	X
Owls				
•Barn Owl	u	u	u	u
•Eastern Screech-Owl	u	u	С	С
• Great Horned Owl	C	С	С	С
Snowy Owl	*			
Burrowing Owl	r		r	r
•Barred Owl	0	0	0	u
Long-eared Owl			X	*
Short-eared Owl			r	r
Goatsuckers				
Lesser Nighthawk	X			*
•Common Nighthawk	c	С	a	
- Chuck-will's-widow	c	c	С	X
Whip-poor-will	u		u	0
wiiip poor wiii	ч		u	J
Swifts, Hummingbirds				
•Chimney Swift	c	u	С	
• Ruby-throated Hummingbird	c	u	С	
Black-chinned Hummingbird*			*	
Rufous Hummingbird	X		X	X
Vingfichere				
Kingfishers •Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C	C
— • Deffed Milkhaller	С	С	С	С
Woodpeckers				
• Red-headed Woodpecker	c	u	u	u
- Red-bellied Woodpecker	c	c	С	c

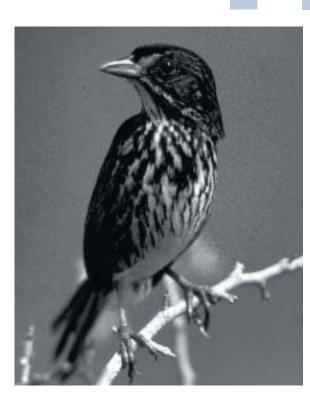
	CD.	0	_	147
Vallow balliad Sanguekar	SP	S	F	W
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker • Downy Woodpecker	С	0	С	С
- • Hairy Woodpecker	С	С	С	С
- •Red-cockaded Woodpecker	0 *	0 *	0 *	0
- Northern Flicker				X
	С	0	С	С
•Pileated Woodpecker	С	u	С	С
Flycatchers				
Olive-sided Flycatcher	r	*	r	
•Eastern Wood-Pewee	u	0	С	
Western Wood-Pewee	0		0	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	0		0	
•Acadian Flycatcher	u	0	u	
Alder Flycatcher	X	X	r	
Willow Flycatcher	X	*	u	
Least Flycatcher	u		u	
Eastern Phoebe	c		С	С
Say's Phoebe			X	
Vermilion Flycatcher	X		X	X
Ash-throated Flycatcher	r		r	
•Great Crested Flycatcher	c	c	С	
•Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher			X	
Tropical/Couch's Kingbird			X	
Western Kingbird	u	r	С	r
•Eastern Kingbird	a	u	a	
•Gray Kingbird	u	u	u	
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	u	X	u	r
Fork-tailed Flycatcher	X			
Brown-Headed Flycatcher				X
Martins and Swallows				
Purple Martin	a	а	С	
Tree Swallow	a	r	С	С
- Northern Rough-winged	а	1	C	C
Swallow	u	0	u	r
Bank Swallow	C	u	C	1
• Cliff Swallow		0	u	
Cave Swallow	u r	U	u	
•Barn Swallow	a	u	a	r
· Bai ii Swanow	а	u	α	1
Jays and Crows				
•Blue Jay	C	u	a	c
American Crow	*	*	*	*
•Fish Crow	u	u	u	u
Chickadees and Titmice				
• Carolina Chickadee	c	c	С	c
- Tufted Titmouse	c	c	С	c

	SP	S	F	W
Nuthatches				
Red-breasted Nuthatch	r		r	r
• White-breasted Nuthatch	*	*	*	*
•Brown-headed Nuthatch	С	c	c	c
Creepers				
Brown Creeper	r		r	u
Wrens				
Rock Wren			*	*
•Carolina Wren	c	С	c	С
Bewick's Wren	r		r	r
House Wren	c		a	С
Winter Wren	r		r	r
Sedge Wren	С		С	С
•Marsh Wren	c	u	c	c
Kinglets and Gnatcatchers				
Golden-crowned Kinglet	0		0	u
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	c		c	a
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	a	0	a	С
Bluebirds, Thrushes and Robin				
Northern Wheatear				37
• Eastern Bluebird	- 11		11	X
	u	u	u	u
Veery	u		u	
Gray-cheeked Thrush Bicknell's Thrush	u		u	
	u		u	
Swainson's Thrush	С		С	
Hermit Thrush	u		u	С
• Wood Thrush	С	u	С	
•American Robin	С	r	С	a
Thrashers				
Gray Catbird	a		a	С
• Northern Mockingbird	a	a	a	a
Sage Thrasher			X	
•Brown Thrasher	С	С	С	С
Pipits				
American Pipit	C		c	С
Sprague's Pipit	*		*	X
Waxwings				
Cedar Waxwing	c		c	С
Starling • European Starling	0	2	2	2
• European Starting	a	a	a	a

	SP	S	F	W
Shrike				
•Loggerhead Shrike	c	u	c	С
Vireos				
•White-eyed Vireo	a	С	a	u
Bell's Vireo	*		X	
Blue-Headed Vireo	u		u	u
• Yellow-throated Vireo	u	u	u	*
Warbling Vireo	r		r	
Philadelphia Vireo	u		u	
• Red-eyed Vireo	a		С	
•Red-eyed Vireo Black-whiskered Vireo	0		X	
Yellow-Green Vireo			X	X
Warblers				
Blue-winged Warbler	u		u	
Golden-winged Warbler	u		u	
Tennessee Warbler	u		c	
Orange-crowned Warbler	u		u	u
Nashville Warbler	0		0	ч
- Northern Parula	a	u	a	X
Yellow Warbler	u	u	C	Λ
Chestnut-sided Warbler	u		u	
Magnolia Warbler				
Cape May Warbler	u		a	
Black-throated Blue Warbler	u		r	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	0		0	
renow-rumped warbier	C *		С	a
Black-throated Gray Warbler			r	*
Black-throated Green Warbler			С	7
Blackburnian Warbler	u		u	
Yellow-throated Warbler	C	u	С	0
Pine Warbler	C	С	С	С
Prairie Warbler	u	u	С	
Palm Warbler	u		С	u
Bay-breasted Warbler	u		u	
Blackpoll Warbler	u		*	
Cerulean Warbler	u	r	u	
•Black-and-white Warbler	a		a	
•American Redstart	c		a	
•Prothonotary Warbler	c	u	C	
Worm-eating Warbler	u		u	
•Swainson's Warbler	0	0	0	
Ovenbird	c	u	C	
Northern Waterthrush	u		С	X
Louisiana Waterthrush	u	u	u	
•Kentucky Warbler	C *	0	C *	
Connecticut Warbler	*			
 Mourning Warbler •Common Yellowthroat			0	
Common renowthroat	a	u	a	a

	SP	S	F	W
• Hooded Warbler	a	u	c	
Wilson's Warbler	0		u	X
Canada Warbler	u	u	u	
• Yellow-breasted Chat	u	u	u	X
Tanagers				
•Summer Tanager	a		a	
Scarlet Tanager	a		a	
Western Tanager	*		X	X
New World Finches				
•Northern Cardinal	a	a	a	a
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	u	c	*
Black-headed Grosbeak	X		X	X
Blue Grosbeak	C	u	a	0
•Indigo Bunting	a	u	a	X
• Painted Bunting	u	0	u	Λ
• Dickcissel	u U	U	u C	0
Dickeissei	u		C	U
Sparrows				
Green-tailed Towhee			*	*
• Rufous-sided Towhee	a	a	a	a
•Bachman's Sparrow	0	*	0	*
American Tree Sparrow	X			
Chipping Sparrow	u	0	С	u
Clay-colored Sparrow	0		0	0
•Field Sparrow	u	0	u	u
Vesper Sparrow	u		С	u
Lark Sparrow	0		u	0
Lark Bunting		X		
Savannah Sparrow	c		c	a
Grasshopper Sparrow	0		0	0
Henslow's Sparrow	*		*	*
Le Conte's Sparrow	0		0	0
Sharp-tailed Sparrow	u		u	u
•Seaside Sparrow	u	u	u	u
Fox Sparrow	0		0	0
Song Sparrow	C		С	c
Lincoln's Sparrow	0		0	0
Swamp Sparrow	C		С	С
White-throated Sparrow	c	*	С	a
White-crowned Sparrow	u		u	u
Harris' Sparrow	X			X
Dark-eyed Junco	0		0	0
Lapland Longspur				*
Smith's Longspur				*

	SP	S	F	W
Blackbirds, Grackles, Cowbirds and	Orioles			
Bobolink		c	u	u
•Red-winged Blackbird	a	С	a	a
•Eastern Meadowlark	a	a	a	a
Western Meadowlark	X		X	X
Yellow-headed Blackbird	0		0	X
Rusty Blackbird	r		r	r
Brewer's Blackbird	r		r	r
•Boat-tailed Grackle	u	u	u	u
•Common Grackle	c	С	c	С
Bronzed Cowbird				X
•Brown-headed Cowbird	c	С	С	С
•Orchard Oriole	a	u	c	X
Northern Oriole	u		u	
Old World Finches				
Purple Finch	0		0	u
• House Finch	u	u	u	u
Pine Siskin	0		0	0
American Goldfinch	С	r	С	С
Evening Grosbeak	*			*
Weaver Finches				
• House Sparrow	a	a	a	a



Ethics for Birdwatching

Take care not to disturb nesting birds, exposing eggs and young to extreme temperatures and predation.

Disturb wintering wildlife as little as possible, particularly during critical feeding and resting periods. They need all of their energy reserves to withstand the stresses of harsh weather and migration.

Do not litter Many birds die when they become entangled in fishing lines, 6-pack rings and other trash, or when they mistake garbage for food.

Signing Notes	
Date	
Time	
Weather	
No. of species	
•	
Route or area	
Observers	
Obscivers	
Remarks	
For additional	
For additional information	
contact:	
Refuge Manager Bon Secour NWR	
12295 State	
HWY 180, Gulf Shores, AL	
36542	

Sighting Notes

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