

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Roanoke River

National Wildlife Refuge Bird List



Larry Wade, USFWS
prothonotary warbler



Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge

Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1989, consists of 21,000 acres of forested wetlands. A primary refuge objective is to provide sanctuary for migratory birds.

Larry Wade, USFWS



common yellowthroat

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belted kingfisher

Larry Wade, USFWS



ruby-throated hummingbird

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yellow-crowned night heron

USFWS



Swainson's warbler

Exceptional birding is possible in the Roanoke River wetlands from March through June, the spring migration and nesting season, but is best from mid-April - mid-May. Fifty-one species of neotropical migrants, songbirds that nest in temperate North America and fly south to winter in the West Indies and Central and South America, have been observed.

Over 200 species of birds have been identified on or near the refuge. Other species, especially spring and fall migratory transients, will certainly be added to the list. Your help is needed to develop a more complete list. Please notify refuge staff when you observe additional species or obvious differences in indicated seasonal occurrences.

Most birds are migratory, therefore, their seasonal occurrence is coded as follows:

Seasonal Appearance

Sp - Spring	March - May
S - Summer	June - August
F - Fall	September - November
W - Winter	December - February
* -	Birds known or suspected to nest on or near the refuge.

Italics indicate - threatened/endangered species.

Relative Abundance:

- a** - abundant, a species which is very numerous
- c** - common, likely to be seen or heard in suitable habitat

u - uncommon, present, but not certain to be seen

o - occasional seen only a few times during a season

r - rare, may be present but not every year

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
Loons - Grebes				
___ Pied-billed Grebe.....	u		o	u
___ Common Loon	r		r	r
Pelicans - Cormorants - Allies				
___ Brown Pelican.....			r	
___ Double-crested Cormorant*.....	c	u	u	u
___ Anhinga*.....	u	u		
Bitterns - Herons				
___ Least Bittern*.....	o	o		
___ Great Blue Heron*.....	c	c	c	u
___ Great Egret*.....	c	c	u	r
___ Snowy Egret.....	o	o		
___ Little Blue Heron.....	o	o		
___ Cattle Egret.....	o	o		
___ Green Heron*.....	u	u	u	
___ Black-crowned Night Heron.....	r			r
___ Yellow-crowned Night Heron*.....	u	u	u	
Ibises - Storks				
___ White Ibis.....		o	o	
___ Wood Stork.....	r			
Swans - Geese - Ducks				
___ Tundra Swan.....			u	u
___ Snow Goose.....			r	r
___ Canada Goose*.....	c	c	o	u
___ Wood Duck*.....	c	c	c	c
___ American Black Duck.....	u		u	c
___ Mallard*.....	u	o	c	c
___ Northern Pintail.....			u	u
___ Blue-winged Teal.....	o		o	r
___ Green-winged Teal.....			c	c
___ Northern Shoveler.....			o	o

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
___ Gadwall.....			u	u
___ American Wigeon.....			c	c
___ Greater Scaup.....			r	r
___ Lesser Scaup.....			u	u
___ Ring-necked Duck.....			c	c
___ Bufflehead.....			u	u
___ Hooded Merganser*	c	r	u	c
___ Red-breasted Merganser.....			r	r
___ Ruddy Duck.....			o	o

Vultures - Hawks - Allies

___ Black Vulture*	u	u	u	u
___ Turkey Vulture*	c	c	c	c
___ Osprey*	c	c	u	
___ <i>Bald Eagle</i> *	u	u	u	u
___ Northern Harrier.....	u		u	u
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk.....	u		c	u
___ Cooper's Hawk*	u	r	u	u
___ Red-shouldered Hawk*	c	c	c	c
___ Broad-winged Hawk.....	r		r	
___ Red-tailed Hawk*	c	c	c	c
___ Mississippi Kite*	u	u		
___ Swallow-tailed Kite.....	r			
___ Merlin.....	r		o	r
___ American Kestrel.....	u		u	u
___ <i>Peregrine Falcon</i>			r	

Quail - Turkey

___ Northern Bobwhite*	u	u	u	u
___ Wild Turkey*	c	c	c	c

Rail - Coots - Gallinules

___ King Rail.....	r	r		
___ Sora.....	o		o	
___ Virginia Rail.....	r		r	
___ American Coot.....			u	u
___ Common Moorhen.....	r	r	r	

Plovers - Sandpipers

___ Killdeer*	u	u	u	u
___ Greater Yellowlegs.....	o		o	r
___ Solitary Sandpiper.....	o		o	

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
___ Spotted Sandpiper.....	c		u	
___ Least Sandpiper.....	o		o	
___ Pectoral Sandpiper.....	o		o	
___ Common Snipe.....			o	o
___ American Woodcock*.....	u	o	u	u

Gulls - Terns

___ Herring Gull.....	o		o	o
___ Ring-billed Gull.....	a		c	c
___ Black Tern.....	r		r	
___ Caspian Tern.....	o		o	
___ Common Tern.....	o			
___ Forster's Tern.....	r		r	

Pigeons - Doves

___ Rock Dove*.....	c	c	c	c
___ Mourning Dove*.....	a	a	a	a

Cuckoos

___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo*.....	c	c	c	
___ Black-billed Cuckoo.....	r		r	

Owls

___ Common Barn Owl.....	r	r	r	r
___ Eastern Screech-Owl*.....	u	u	u	u
___ Great Horned Owl*.....	u	u	u	u
___ Barred Owl*.....	c	c	c	c

Nighthawks - Nightjars

___ Chuck-will's widow*.....	u	u	o	
___ Whip-poor-will*.....	u	u	o	
___ Common Nighthawk*.....	u	o	u	

Hummingbirds - Kingfishers

___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird*.....	c	c	c	
___ Belted Kingfisher*.....	c	c	c	c

Woodpeckers

___ Red-headed Woodpecker*.....	u	o	u	u
___ Red-bellied Woodpecker*.....	c	c	c	c
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.....	u		u	u
___ Downy Woodpecker*.....	c	c	c	c
___ Hairy Woodpecker*.....	u	u	u	u

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
___Northern Flicker*.....	u	u	c	c
___Pileated Woodpecker*.....	c	c	c	c
Flycatchers				
___Eastern Wood-Pewee*.....	u	u	u	
___Acadian Flycatcher*.....	a	a	a	
___Eastern Phoebe*.....	u	o	u	u
___Great Crested Flycatcher*.....	c	c	u	
___Eastern Kingbird*.....	u	u	u	
Larks - Pipits - Shallows - Swifts				
___Horned Lark*.....	u	u	u	u
___American Water Pipit.....	u		u	u
___Purple Martin*.....	u	u	u	
___Cliff Swallow*.....	r		r	
___Barn Swallow*.....	c	c	c	
___Tree Swallow*.....	c	r	c	r
___Northern Rough-winged Swallow* ...	u	u	r	
___Bank Swallow.....	r		r	
___Chimney Swift *.....	c	c	c	
Chickadees - Titmice				
___Carolina Chickadee*.....	c	c	c	c
___Tufted Titmouse*.....	a	a	a	a
Nuthatches - Creepers - Wrens				
___Red-breasted Nuthatch.....	o		o	o
___White-breasted Nuthatch*.....	c	c	c	c
___Brown-headed Nuthatch*.....	o	o	o	o
___Brown Creeper.....	u		u	u
___Carolina Wren*.....	a	a	a	a
___House Wren.....	o		o	o
___Winter Wren.....	u		u	u
Gnatcatchers - Kinglets				
___Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*.....	c	c	c	
___Ruby-crowned Kinglet.....	c		c	c
___Golden-crowned Kinglet.....	c		c	c
Bluebirds - Thrushes - Robins				
___Eastern Bluebird*.....	c	c	c	c
___Veery.....	o		o	
___Hermit Thrush.....	u		u	u

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
___Swainson's Thrush.....	o		o	
___Wood Thrush*.....	c	c	u	
___American Robin*.....	u	u	c	c
Mockingbirds - Thrashers				
___Gray Catbird*.....	u	o	u	o
___Northern Mockingbird*.....	c	c	c	c
___Brown Thrasher*.....	u	u	u	u
Jays - Crows				
___Blue Jay*.....	c	c	c	c
___American Crow*.....	c	c	c	c
___Fish Crow*.....	c	c	u	u
Shrikes				
___Loggerhead Shrike.....	r	r	r	r
Waxwings				
___Cedar Waxwing*.....	c	r	c	c
Vireos				
___Red-eyed Vireo*.....	a	a	c	
___Warbling Vireo.....	r	r		
___Philadelphia Vireo.....			o	
___Yellow-throated Vireo*.....	c	c	c	
___White-eyed Vireo*.....	c	c	c	r
___Blue-headed (Solitary) Vireo.....	u		u	r
Wood Warblers				
___Northern Parula Warbler*.....	a	a	c	
___Yellow-throated Warbler*.....	c	c	u	
___Black-throated Green Warbler.....	r	r	r	
___Prothonotary Warbler*.....	a	a	c	
___Black-and-white Warbler*.....	u	o	c	
___Blackpoll Warbler.....	u		u	
___Black-throated Blue Warbler.....	u		u	
___Cerulean Warbler*.....	u	u	u	
___Magnolia Warbler.....			u	
___Yellow-rumped Warbler.....	c		a	a
___Canada Warbler.....	r		o	
___Cape May Warbler.....	r		u	
___Chestnut-sided Warbler.....	r		o	
___Bay-breasted Warbler.....	r		o	
___Blackburnian Warbler.....	r		o	

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
___ American Redstart *.....	c	c	c	
___ Pine Warbler*.....	u	u	u	u
___ Prairie Warbler*.....	u	u	u	
___ Palm Warbler.....	u		u	o
___ Blue-winged Warbler.....	u		u	
___ Yellow Warbler.....	o		u	
___ Swainson's Warbler*.....	u	u	o	
___ Worm-eating Warbler*.....	r	r	r	
___ Tennessee Warbler.....	r		u	
___ Orange-crowned Warbler.....			o	o
___ Wilson's Warbler.....	r		r	
___ Hooded Warbler*.....	u	u	u	
___ Kentucky Warbler*.....	u	u	u	
___ Common Yellow-throat*.....	c	c	c	o
___ Yellow-breasted Chat*.....	u	u	u	r
___ Northern Waterthrush.....	u		u	
___ Louisiana Waterthrush.*.....	u	u	u	
___ Ovenbird*.....	u	u	u	

Tanagers

___ Summer Tanager*.....	c	c	u	
___ Scarlet Tanager*.....	u	u	u	

Cardinals - Grosbeaks - Allies

___ Northern Cardinal*.....	a	a	a	a
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak.....	u		u	
___ Blue Grosbeak*.....	c	c	c	
___ Evening Grosbeak.....	o		o	o
___ Eastern Towhee*.....	u	u	u	u
___ Indigo Bunting*.....	a	a	a	
___ American Goldfinch*.....	c	u	c	c
___ Pine Siskin.....	o		o	o
___ House Finch*.....	o	o	o	o
___ Purple Finch.....	u		u	u
___ Dickcissel.....	r	r	r	

Sparrows

___ White-throated Sparrow.....	a		a	a
___ White-crowned Sparrow.....	o		o	o
___ Chipping Sparrow*.....	u	u	u	u
___ Field Sparrow*.....	u	u	u	u
___ Swamp Sparrow.....	c		c	c

	SP	S	F	W
___ Fox Sparrow.....			o	u
___ Song Sparrow.....	c		c	c
___ Vesper Sparrow.....	r		r	
___ Lincoln's Sparrow.....			r	r
___ Savannah Sparrow.....	c		c	c
___ Dark-eyed Junco.....	c		c	c
___ House Sparrow*	u	u	u	u
Blackbirds				
___ Bobolink.....	u		u	
___ Eastern Meadowlark*	c	u	u	c
___ Red-winged Blackbird*	c	r	a	a
___ Rusty Blackbird.....	o		o	o
___ Common Grackle*	a	a	a	a
___ Brown-headed Cowbird*	c	c	u	u
___ Orchard Oriole*	u	u	o	
___ Northern Oriole.....	o		o	
___ European Starling*	u	u	c	c

USFWS



great blue heron

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the

continuing benefit of the American people. The Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge is one of over 535 refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The National Wildlife Refuge System is a network of lands and waters managed specifically for the protection of wildlife and wildlife habitat and represents the most comprehensive wildlife management program in the world. Units of the system stretch across the United States from northern Alaska to the Florida Keys and include small islands in the Caribbean and South Pacific. The character of the refuges is as diverse as the nation itself.

The Service also manages National Fish Hatcheries, and provides Federal leadership in habitat protection, fish and wildlife research, technical assistance and the conservation and protection of migratory birds, certain marine mammals and threatened and endangered species.

Sighting Notes

Date

Time

Weather

No. of species

Route or area

Observers

Remarks



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

For further information, contact:
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