

Monomoy
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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
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July 2001



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Monomoy

*National Wildlife
Refuge*

Birds





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



Stephanie Koch/USFWS

Birding at Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge

Welcome to Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge. This bird list applies only to the Monomoy Islands, including the portion of Morris Island near refuge headquarters. A longtime favorite among birding enthusiasts, the refuge provides important resting, nesting and feeding habitat for migratory birds. The refuge is so important to migratory shorebirds that, in 1999, North and South Monomoy were designated a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN) regional site. WHSRN is comprised of organizations that promote and support the conservation of shorebirds. The designation brings needed attention to the refuge's critical role.

North and South Monomoy islands are accessible by boat only. You may reach the islands by private boat, or by the seasonal commercial ferry. Portions of the islands may be closed seasonally; check ahead by contacting the refuge visitor center. There is road access to Morris Island, with limited parking available at the visitor center.

This newly revised bird list was prepared with the able assistance of refuge volunteer Blair Nikula. Species are listed in accordance with the seventh edition (1998) American Ornithologists Union checklist and the 42nd supplement to that checklist (July, 2000).

Symbols used in this list are defined as follows:

Season

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

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
x	accidental	far outside normal range

- birds that have been recorded nesting on the refuge

Italics indicate threatened/endangered species

* Exotic species (introduced or escaped)

		Sp	S	F	W
Loons					
___	Red-throated Loon _____	a	r	a	c
___	Common Loon _____	a	u	a	c
Grebes					
___	• Pied-billed Grebe _____	u	r	c	
___	Horned Grebe _____	o		u	o
___	Red-necked Grebe _____	r		r	r
___	Eared Grebe _____		x	x	
Fulmars – Shearwaters					
___	Northern Fulmar _____	r		r	r
___	Cory's Shearwater _____		o	o	
___	Greater Shearwater _____		o	o	
___	Sooty Shearwater _____	o	u	r	
___	Manx Shearwater _____	r	o	r	
Storm – Petrels					
___	Wilson's Storm-Petrel _____		u		
___	Leach's Storm-Petrel _____	r	r	r	
Boobies – Gannets					
___	Northern Gannet _____	a	u	a	u
___	Brown Booby _____			x	

	Sp	S	F	W
Cormorants				
___ Great Cormorant _____	c	r	c	c
___ Double-crested Cormorant _____	a	a	a	r

Frigatebirds

___ Magnificent Frigatebird _____		x		
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Bitterns – Herons – Egrets

___ American Bittern _____	r		o	r
___ Least Bittern _____	r	r		
___ Great Blue Heron _____	c	u	c	u
___ • Great Egret _____	u	u	u	
___ • Snowy Egret _____	c	c	c	
___ Little Blue Heron _____	o	o	o	
___ Tricolored Heron _____	r	o	r	
___ Reddish Egret _____		x		
___ Cattle Egret _____	r		r	
___ Green Heron _____	u	u	o	
___ • Black-crowned Night-Heron _____	c	c	c	r
___ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron _____		r	r	

Ibises

___ • Glossy Ibis _____	o	u	o	
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New World Vultures

___ Black Vulture _____				r
___ Turkey Vulture _____	o	o		r

Swans – Geese – Ducks

___ Fulvous Whistling-Duck _____	x		x	
___ White-fronted Goose _____				x
___ Snow Goose _____	r		o	
___ • Canada Goose _____	a	c	a	a
___ Brant _____	c	r	c	c
___ • Mute Swan* _____	c	c	c	c
___ Tundra Swan _____				r
___ Wood Duck _____	r		r	
___ • Gadwall _____	c	c	c	o
___ Eurasian Wigeon _____	r		r	r
___ • American Wigeon _____	c	o	c	u
___ • American Black Duck _____	a	c	a	a
___ • Mallard _____	c	c	c	c

	Sp	S	F	W
___ • Blue-winged Teal _____	c	u	c	
___ • Northern Shoveler _____	u	u	c	
___ • Northern Pintail _____	c	u	c	o
___ • Green-winged Teal _____	c	c	c	r
___ Canvasback _____	o		u	o
___ Redhead _____	r		r	r
___ Ring-necked Duck _____	o		c	o
___ Tufted Duck _____		x	x	
___ Greater Scaup _____	u		c	o
___ Lesser Scaup _____	u		c	o
___ King Eider _____	r		r	r
___ Common Eider _____	a	u	a	a
___ Harlequin Duck _____			r	r
___ Surf Scoter _____	c	r	c	c
___ White-winged Scoter _____	c	r	a	c
___ Black Scoter _____	c	r	c	c
___ Long-tailed Duck _____	c	r	a	c
___ Bufflehead _____	c		c	c
___ Common Goldeneye _____	o		c	c
___ Barrow's Goldeneye _____				r
___ Hooded Merganser _____	o		c	o
___ Common Merganser _____	o		u	o
___ • Red-breasted Merganser _____	a	o	a	a
___ • Ruddy Duck _____	o	r	c	o



	Sp	S	F	W
Osprey – Kites – Hawks – Eagles				
___ Osprey _____	c	u	u	
___ Mississippi Kite _____	x			
___ <i>Bald Eagle</i> _____	o	o	o	r
___ • Northern Harrier _____	c	u	c	c
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk _____	u		c	o
___ Cooper's Hawk _____	u		u	o
___ Northern Goshawk _____	r		r	r
___ Red-shouldered Hawk _____	r		r	
___ Broad-winged Hawk _____	r	r	r	
___ Swainson's Hawk _____			x	
___ Red-tailed Hawk _____	c	c	c	c
___ Rough-legged Hawk _____			r	r

Falcons

___ American Kestrel _____	u		u	
___ Merlin _____	o		u	o
___ Gyrfalcon _____			r	r
___ Peregrine Falcon _____	u		c	o

Gallinaceous Birds

___ Ring-necked Pheasant _____	r		r	r
___ Northern Bobwhite _____	r		r	r

Rails

___ Clapper Rail _____			r	
___ King Rail _____			r	
___ • Virginia Rail _____	r	r	o	
___ • Sora _____	o	r	o	
___ Purple Gallinule _____			x	
___ Common Moorhen _____	r		r	
___ American Coot _____	o		c	o

Cranes

___ Sandhill Crane _____			x	
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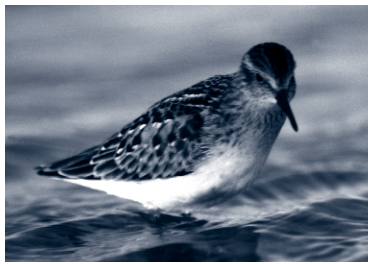
Plovers

___ Black-bellied Plover _____	a	c	a	o
___ American Golden Plover _____	r	r	u	
___ Wilson's Plover _____	x	x		
___ Semipalmated Plover _____	u	a	c	
___ • <i>Piping Plover</i> _____	u	u	u	
___ Killdeer _____	u		u	



USFWS

	Sp	S	F	W
Oystercatchers				
___ • American Oystercatcher _____	c	c	c	
Stilts – Avocets				
___ Black-necked Stilt _____		x		
___ American Avocet _____		x	x	
Sandpipers – Phalaropes				
___ Greater Yellowlegs _____	c	a	c	
___ Lesser Yellowlegs _____	r	c	c	
___ Solitary Sandpiper _____	r	r	r	
___ • Willet _____	c	c	u	
___ Wandering Tattler _____	x			
___ • Spotted Sandpiper _____	o	o	r	
___ Upland Sandpiper _____	r	o		
___ Whimbrel _____	r	c	c	
___ Eurasian Curlew _____				x
___ Long-billed Curlew _____		x		
___ Black-tailed Godwit _____		x		
___ Hudsonian Godwit _____		c	o	
___ Bar-tailed Godwit _____	x	x		
___ Marbled Godwit _____		o	u	
___ Ruddy Turnstone _____	c	o	c	
___ Red Knot _____	c	c	c	r
___ Sanderling _____	a	a	a	u
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper _____	a	a	c	
___ Western Sandpiper _____		o	u	
___ Red-necked Stint _____	x	x		
___ Little Stint _____		x		
___ • Least Sandpiper _____	c	a	c	
___ White-rumped Sandpiper _____	u	u	u	
___ Baird's Sandpiper _____				r



Blair Nikula

	Sp	S	F	W
___ Pectoral Sandpiper _____	r	o	c	
___ Purple Sandpiper _____			r	
___ Dunlin _____	a	u	a	u
___ Curlew Sandpiper _____	r	r		
___ Stilt Sandpiper _____		u	o	
___ Buff-breasted Sandpiper _____			r	
___ Ruff _____	r	r		
___ Short-billed Dowitcher _____	c	a	c	
___ Long-billed Dowitcher _____		o	o	
___ Common Snipe _____	r		o	
___ American Woodcock _____	r		r	
___ • Wilson's Phalarope _____	r	o	r	
___ Red-necked Phalarope _____	r	r	r	
___ Red Phalarope _____	r		r	
Jaegers – Gulls – Terns				
___ Pomarine Jaeger _____	r	r	o	
___ Parasitic Jaeger _____	o	o	u	
___ Long-tailed Jaeger _____			r	
___ • Laughing Gull _____	c	a	c	
___ Franklin's Gull _____			r	
___ Little Gull _____	r	r	r	
___ • Black-headed Gull _____	r	r	r	
___ Bonaparte's Gull _____	u	o	c	o
___ Mew Gull _____			x	
___ Ring-billed Gull _____	c	c	c	c
___ • Herring Gull _____	a	a	a	a
___ Iceland Gull _____	r		r	o
___ Lesser Black-backed Gull _____	r	r	u	o
___ Glaucous Gull _____	r		r	r
___ • Great Black-backed Gull _____	a	a	a	a
___ Sabine's Gull _____	r	r	r	

	Sp	S	F	W
___ Black-legged Kittiwake _____	u	o	c	c
___ Ivory Gull _____				x
___ Gull-billed Tern _____		r		
___ Caspian Tern _____	r	r	r	
___ Royal Tern _____		o		
___ Sandwich Tern _____		r		
___ • Roseate Tern _____	u	c	c	
___ • Common Tern _____	a	a	c	
___ • Arctic Tern _____	o	o		
___ Forster's Tern _____		u	u	
___ • Least Tern _____	c	c		
___ Bridled Tern _____			x	
___ Sooty Tern _____		x	x	
___ Black Tern _____	o	u	u	
___ • Black Skimmer _____	o	u	o	

Auks – Puffins

___ Dovekie _____			r	o
___ Common Murre _____				r
___ Thick-billed Murre _____				r
___ Razorbill _____	r		o	u
___ Black Guillemot _____				r
___ Atlantic Puffin _____			r	r

Doves

___ Rock Dove* _____	o	o	o	o
___ • Mourning Dove _____	c	c	c	c

Cuckoos

___ Black-billed Cuckoo _____	r	r	o	
___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo _____	r	r	o	

Barn Owls

___ Barn Owl _____	r		r	
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Typical Owls

___ Eastern Screech-Owl _____			r	r
___ • Great Horned Owl _____	u	u	u	u
___ Snowy Owl _____				r
___ Burrowing Owl _____		x		
___ Long-eared Owl _____			r	
___ • Short-eared Owl _____	r	r	o	r
___ Northern Saw-whet Owl _____			r	

	Sp	S	F	W
Nightjars				
___ Common Nighthawk _____	r		r	
___ Whip-poor-will _____	r		r	
Swifts				
___ Chimney Swift _____	o	o	o	
Hummingbirds				
___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird ___	r		u	
Kingfishers				
___ • Belted Kingfisher _____	u	u	u	r
Woodpeckers				
___ Red-headed Woodpecker _____			r	
___ Red-bellied Woodpecker _____	r		r	r
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker _____	r		o	
___ • Downy Woodpecker _____	u	u	u	u
___ Hairy Woodpecker _____	o		o	o
___ • Northern Flicker _____	c	u	c	u
Tyrant Flycatchers				
___ Olive-striped Flycatcher _____	r		r	
___ Eastern Wood-Pewee _____	o	o	u	
___ Western Wood-Pewee _____			x	
___ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher _____	r		r	
___ Acadian Flycatcher _____	r		r	
___ Alder Flycatcher _____	r		r	
___ Willow Flycatcher _____	o		o	
___ Least Flycatcher _____	o		o	
___ Eastern Phoebe _____	r		o	
___ Say's Phoebe _____			x	
___ Ash-throated Flycatcher _____			x	
___ Great Crested Flycatcher _____	o	u	r	
___ Cassin's Kingbird _____			x	
___ Western Kingbird _____		r	r	
___ • Eastern Kingbird _____	u	u	u	
___ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher _____			x	
Shrikes				
___ Loggerhead Shrike _____			r	
___ Northern Shrike _____	r		r	r

Vireos

	Sp	S	F	W
___ White-eyed Vireo _____				r
___ Yellow-throated Vireo _____				r
___ Blue-headed Vireo _____	r			u
___ Warbling Vireo _____	r			r
___ Philadelphia Vireo _____				o
___ Red-eyed Vireo _____	o			u

Crows – Jays

___ Blue Jay _____	c	c	c	u
___ • American Crow _____	c	c	c	c
___ Fish Crow _____	r	r		

Larks

___ • Horned Lark _____	c	c	c	u
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Swallows

___ Purple Martin _____	r	r		
___ Brown-chested Martin _____		x		
___ • Tree Swallow _____	c	c		a
___ • Northern Rough-winged Swallow _____	u	u		
___ Bank Swallow _____	o	o		
___ Cliff Swallow _____	r	r		r
___ • Barn Swallow _____	c	u		o

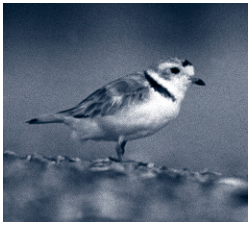
Titmice – Chickadees

___ • Black-capped Chickadee _____	c	c	c	c
___ • Tufted Titmouse _____	c	c	c	c

Nuthatches

___ Red-breasted Nuthatch _____	u		u	u
___ White-breasted Nuthatch _____	u	u	u	u





Bruce Flaig

Creepers

	Sp	S	F	W
___ Brown Creeper _____	o		u	

Wrens

___ Carolina Wren _____	u	u	u	u
___ House Wren _____			r	
___ Winter Wren _____	r		o	
___ Sedge Wren _____			r	
___ Marsh Wren _____			o	

Kinglets

___ Golden-crowned Kinglet _____	o		c	u
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet _____	o		c	

Old World Warblers

___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher _____	o		o	
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Thrushes

___ Northern Wheatear _____			x	
___ Eastern Bluebird _____	r	r	o	r
___ Veery _____	r		o	
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush _____	r		r	
___ Bicknell's Thrush _____	r		r	
___ Swainson's Thrush _____	o		u	
___ Hermit Thrush _____	r		u	
___ Wood Thrush _____	r		r	
___ • American Robin _____	c	c	c	u

Mimic Thrushes

___ • Gray Catbird _____	c	c	c	r
___ • Northern Mockingbird _____	u	u	u	o
___ • Brown Thrasher _____	r		o	

Starlings

___ • European Starling* _____	c	c	c	c
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Pipits

___ American Pipit _____	o		u	
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Waxwings

___ Cedar Waxwing _____	u	u	c	o
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Wood Warblers

___ Blue-winged Warbler _____				o
___ Golden-winged Warbler _____	r		r	
___ Tennessee Warbler _____	r		o	
___ Orange-crowned Warbler _____				o
___ Nashville Warbler _____	r		o	
___ Northern Parula _____	o		o	
___ • Yellow Warbler _____	c	c	o	
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler _____	r		o	
___ Magnolia Warbler _____	o		o	
___ Cape May Warbler _____	r		o	
___ Black-throated Blue Warbler _____	r		o	
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler _____	c		a	o
___ Black-throated Green Warbler _____	o		o	
___ Blackburnian Warbler _____	r		o	
___ Yellow-throated Warbler _____				r
___ • Pine Warbler _____	u	o	o	
___ Prairie Warbler _____	r		o	
___ Palm Warbler _____	o		c	
___ Bay-breasted Warbler _____	r		o	
___ Blackpoll Warbler _____	o		u	
___ Cerulean Warbler _____				r
___ Black-and-white Warbler _____	u		u	
___ American Redstart _____	o		u	
___ Prothonotary Warbler _____	r		r	
___ Worm-eating Warbler _____				r
___ Ovenbird _____	r		o	
___ Northern Waterthrush _____	o		u	
___ Kentucky Warbler _____				r
___ Connecticut Warbler _____				r
___ Mourning Warbler _____	r		r	
___ • Common Yellowthroat _____	c	c	c	
___ Hooded Warbler _____				r
___ Wilson's Warbler _____	r		o	
___ Canada Warbler _____	r		o	
___ Yellow-breasted Chat _____				o

	Sp	S	F	W
Tanagers				
___ Summer Tanager _____	r		r	
___ Scarlet Tanager _____	r		o	
Sparrows – Towhees				
___ • Eastern Towhee _____	u	r	u	
___ American Tree Sparrow _____			o	o
___ • Chipping Sparrow _____	u	u	u	
___ Clay-colored Sparrow _____			r	
___ Field Sparrow _____	r		o	
___ Vesper Sparrow _____			r	
___ Lark Sparrow _____		r	r	
___ Lark Bunting _____			r	
___ • Savannah Sparrow _____	c	c	c	c
___ Grasshopper Sparrow _____			r	
___ Henslow's Sparrow _____			r	
___ LeConte's Sparrow _____			x	
___ Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow _____			r	
___ • Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow _____	c	c	o	
___ • Seaside Sparrow _____		r	r	
___ Fox Sparrow _____			o	
___ • Song Sparrow _____	c	c	c	c
___ Lincoln's Sparrow _____			o	
___ Swamp Sparrow _____	r		u	
___ White-throated Sparrow _____	u		c	
___ White-crowned Sparrow _____	r		u	
___ Dark-eyed Junco _____	u		c	o
___ Lapland Longspur _____	u		u	o
___ Snow Bunting _____	o		c	c

Cardinals – Grosbeaks				
___ • Northern Cardinal _____	c	c	c	c
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak _____	o		u	
___ Blue Grosbeak _____	r		r	
___ Indigo Bunting _____	o		u	
___ Painted Bunting _____	x		x	
___ Dickcissel _____			r	

	Sp	S	F	W
Blackbirds – Orioles				
___ Bobolink _____	o		c	
___ • Red-winged Blackbird _____	c	c	c	
___ Eastern Meadowlark _____	r		o	
___ Yellow-headed Blackbird _____		r	r	
___ Rusty Blackbird _____			u	
___ • Common Grackle _____	c	c	c	
___ Brown-headed Cowbird _____	u	u	u	
___ Orchard Oriole _____	r	r		
___ Baltimore Oriole _____	u	u	c	

Finches				
___ Pine Grosbeak _____				r
___ Purple Finch _____	o		o	r
___ • House Finch* _____	c	c	c	c
___ Red Crossbill _____	r		r	r
___ White-winged Crossbill _____	r		r	r
___ Common Redpoll _____				r
___ Pine Siskin _____	r		o	r
___ • American Goldfinch _____	c	c	c	c
___ Evening Grosbeak _____	r		r	r

Old World Sparrows				
___ • House Sparrow* _____	c	c	c	c

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Lindsey Brown