



A Checklist of Birds in the Big South Fork



The Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area is comprised of an area of about 125,000 acres located in McCreary County, Kentucky, and Fentress, Morgan, Pickett, and Scott counties, Tennessee. It was established in 1974 to provide protection for the watershed of the Big South Fork of the Cumberland River and the many fine natural features found nearby.

About 160 species of birds have been recorded within the Big South Fork NRRRA during the past two decades. Prior to the establishment of the National Area, some species of birds occurred within its present-day boundaries or nearby, but they have not been recorded since. The following species may one day be recorded in the area again, but they are not expected at this time: Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Common Raven, Bewick's Wren.

The National Area is especially rich as a haven for species of Neotropical migrant birds. Neotropical migrants, indicated by boldfacing in the checklist, are species that breed in North America and then migrate to the tropical regions of Central and South America to spend the northern winter. Some birds may be termed partial Neotropical migrants; that is, a portion of their population migrates to the tropics for the winter, but a large fraction winters in the southern parts of North America. Italics in the checklist indicate partial Neotropical migrants.

Some species of Neotropical migrants are currently undergoing population declines throughout their ranges as a result of the effects of forest fragmentation and clear cutting. Protecting large tracts of mature forest may be the best means of ensuring the survival of these species.

If you encounter species of birds not on the park checklist, please send information about when and where you noted them to the Park Headquarters (Attn: Chief of Resource Management, BSFNRRRA, 4564 Leatherwood Road, Oneida, TN 37841).

Status Codes

PR	Permanent Resident
SR	Summer Resident
WR	Winter Resident
Tr	Transient
Vi	Visitor (no pattern to occurrence)

Asterisks indicate confirmed (**) and highly probable (*) breeding in the area.

Abundance Codes

a	Abundant (26+ likely to be seen/heard in appropriate habitat in one day)
c	Common (11-25 likely to be seen/heard in appropriate habitat in one day)
fc	Fairly Common (3-10 likely to be seen/heard in appropriate habitat in one day)
u	Uncommon (1-2 likely to be seen/heard in appropriate habitat in one day)
vu	Very uncommon (1 to 5 records during a season likely)
r	Rare (only 1-3 records ever made)

Seasons of Occurrence

Sp	Spring (March-May)
Su	Summer (June-July)
Fa	Fall (August-November)
W	Winter (December-February)

Habitat Obligates and Generalists

Some species breeding in or migrating through the Big South Fork are often habitat obligates, that is, their occurrence is often restricted to certain habitats found within the area, while other species are habitat generalists and may be found in a wide variety of habitats within the area. The following codes are used to indicate the preferences of species with habitat restrictions:

G	Largely confined to the gorge of the Big South Fork and its tributaries.
A	Usually associated with aquatic habitats, such as rivers, lakes and ponds.
P	Usually associated with upland pine forests.
O	Usually associated with open habitats, such as old fields, pastures, homesteads, and recently developed areas

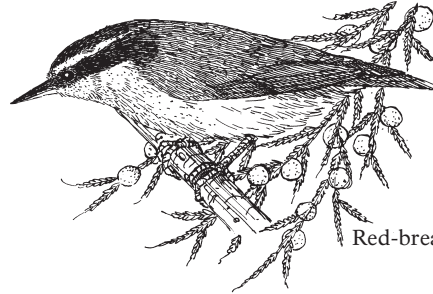
Field Information

The following space is provided for those wishing to keep a record of their Big South Fork birding experience.

Date Time _____ Afield _____
 Observer(s) _____
 Sky/Wind/Temp _____ Total # Species _____
 Places Visited _____
 Notes _____

Species	Status	Hab.	Sp	Su	F	W
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Loon	Vi	A	r			
<input type="checkbox"/> Pied-billed Grebe	Vi	A	vu		vu	r
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron	PR	A	u	u	u	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Green Heron	SR*	A	vu	vu	vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Goose	PR	A	vu	vu	vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Duck	SR*	A	u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mallard	Vi	A	vu		vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-winged Teal	Tr	A	vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Shoveler	Tr	A	vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black Vulture	PR		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey Vulture	PR		fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Osprey	Tr	A	vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle	VI	G				vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Harrier	WR	O	vu		vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-shinned Hawk	PR**	P	vu	vu	vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Cooper's Hawk	PR		vu	vu	vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-shouldered Hawk	PR**	A	u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Broad-winged Hawk	SR*		u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk	PR*		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> American Kestrel	PR	O	vu	vu	vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruffed Grouse	PR**		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Wild Turkey	PR**		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Bobwhite	PR	O	vu	vu	vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Sandhill Crane	Tr		vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Killdeer	PR*	O	u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Solitary Sandpiper	Tr	A	vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Spotted Sandpiper	Tr	A	vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Snipe	WR	A	vu		vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> American Woodcock	PR**		vu	vu	vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Rock Dove	PR*		vu	vu	vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove	PR*		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-billed Cuckoo	Tr		vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-billed Cuckoo	SR*		u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Screech-Owl	PR*		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Horned Owl	PR*		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Barred Owl	PR*	G	u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Nighthawk	Tr		vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Whip-poor-will	SR*		fc	fc	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chimney Swift	SR*		u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	SR*		u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Belted Kingfisher	PR*	A	u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-headed Woodpecker	PR		vu	vu	vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-bellied Woodpecker	PR*		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	WR		u		u	u

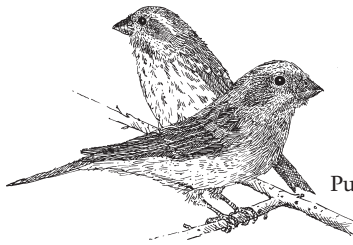
Species	Status	Hab.	Sp	Su	F	W
<input type="checkbox"/> Downy Woodpecker	PR*		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Woodpecker	PR*		fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Flicker	PR*		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Pileated Woodpecker	PR*		fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Olive-sided Flycatcher	Tr			vu		vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Wood-Pewee	SR*		u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Acadian Flycatcher	SR**	G	fc	fc	fc	
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Flycatcher	Tr		vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Phoebe	PR*	A	u	u	u	vu



Red-breasted Nuthatch

<input type="checkbox"/> Great Cr. Flycatcher	SR*		u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Kingbird	SR*	O	fc	fc	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Martin	SR		vu	vu	vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree Swallow	Tr		vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> N. Rough-winged Swallow	SR*	A	u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bank Swallow	Tr		vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn Swallow	SR**	O	u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Jay	PR*		fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> American Crow	PR*		fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Carolina Chickadee	PR*		c	c	c	c
<input type="checkbox"/> Tufted Titmouse	PR*		fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-breasted Nuthatch	WR	P	vu		vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> White-breasted Nuthatch	PR*		fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Creeper	WR		u		u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Carolina Wren	PR*		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> House Wren	Tr		vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Winter Wren	WR	G	u		u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden-crowned Kinglet	WR	P	c		c	c
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-crowned Kinglet	WR		u		u	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	SR*		fc	fc	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Bluebird	PR**	O	fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Veery	Tr		vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray-cheeked Thrush	Tr		vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Swainson's Thrush	Tr		u		u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hermit Thrush	WR		u		u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Thrush	SR*		fc	fc	fc	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Robin	PR*	O	fc	fc	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Catbird	SR*		u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Thrasher	PR*	O	u	u	u	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Mockingbird	PR*	O	vu	vu	vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Cedar Waxwing	PR		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Loggerhead Shrike	Vi	O	vu	vu	vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> European Starling	PR*		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> White-eyed Vireo	SR*	O	u	u	u	

Species	Status	Hab.	Sp	Su	F	W
<input type="checkbox"/> Solitary Vireo	SR*	G/P	fc	fc	fc	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-throated Vireo	SR*		u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Philadelphia Vireo	Tr		vu	vu	vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-eyed Vireo	SR*	a	a	c		
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-winged Warbler	Tr		u		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden-winged Warbler	Tr		vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Warbler	Tr		u		u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Orange-cr. Warbler	Tr		vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Parula	SR*		fc	fc	fc	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Warbler	SR*	A	u	u	vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut-sided Warbler	Tr		u		u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Magnolia Warbler	Tr		u		u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cape May Warbler	Tr		u		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-thr. Blue Warbler	Tr		vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped Warbler	WR		fc		fc	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-thr. Green Warb.	SR*	G/P	c	c	c	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blackburnian Warbler	Tr		u		u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-throated Warbler	SR*		fc	fc	fc	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pine Warbler	PR*	P	c	c	c	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Prairie Warbler	SR*	O	u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Palm Warbler	Tr		u		u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bay-breasted Warbler	Tr		u		u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blackpoll Warbler	Tr	G	vu			
<input type="checkbox"/> Cerulean Warbler	SR*		u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-and-white Warbler	SR*	G	fc	fc	fc	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Redstart	SR*	G	u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Prothonotary Warbler	SR		vu	vu	vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Worm-eating Warbler	SR**	G	fc	fc	fc	



Purple Finch

<input type="checkbox"/> Swainson's Warbler	SR*		u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ovenbird	SR*	A	a	a	fc	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Waterthrush	TR	G	vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Louisiana Waterthrush	SR*	G	u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Kentucky Warbler	SR*	O	u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Yellowthroat	SR*		fc	fc	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Warbler	SR*		c	c	fc	

Species	Status	Hab.	Sp	Su	F	W
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Warbler	Tr		vu		vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-breasted Chat	SR*	O	u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Summer Tanager	SR*		vu	vu	vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Scarlet Tanager	SR*		c	c	fc	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Cardinal	PR*		fc	fc	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Tr		u		u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Grosbeak	VI	O	vu	vu		
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigo Bunting	SR*		c	c	fc	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rufous-sided Towhee	PR*		fc	fc	fc	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Chipping Sparrow	SR*	O	fc	fc	fc	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Field Sparrow	PR*	O	u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Vesper Sparrow	VI	O				vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Savannah Sparrow	VI	O				vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Fox Sparrow	WR		vu		u	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Song Sparrow	PR*		u	u	fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Sparrow	WR		u		u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Sparrow	WR		u		u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> White-crowned Sparrow	WR		vu		vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark-eyed Junco	WR		fc		fc	fc
<input type="checkbox"/> Bobolink	Vi	O	vu			
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-winged Blackbird	SR*	A	fc	fc	fc	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Meadowlark	PR*	O	fc	fc	fc	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Grackle	PR*		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown-headed Cowbird	SR*		u	u	u	
<input type="checkbox"/> Orchard Oriole	SR*	O	u	u	vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Oriole	SR		vu	vu	vu	
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Finch	WR		vu	vu	vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> House Finch	PR		vu	vu	vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> Red Crossbill	VI	P				r
<input type="checkbox"/> Pine Siskin	W		vu		vu	vu
<input type="checkbox"/> American Goldfinch	PR*		u	u	u	u
<input type="checkbox"/> Evening Grosbeak	WR		r			r
<input type="checkbox"/> House Sparrow	PR*		u	u	u	u

Dr. Stephen J. Stedman (Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, Tennessee) provided much of the information in the preceding checklist.