

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Catahoula

*National Wildlife Refuge
Bird List*



wood duck



northern cardinal

Catahoula National Wildlife Refuge was established on October 28, 1958 to provide wintering habitat for migratory waterfowl. It is one of the earliest such areas in central Louisiana acquired by the Government for conservation purposes. The Refuge is located in east central Louisiana, 12 miles east of Jena, and encompasses 25,162 acres within LaSalle and Catahoula Parishes. The Refuge borders nine miles of the northeast shore of Catahoula Lake, a 26,000 acre natural wetland renowned for its large concentrations of migratory waterfowl.

The list contains 219 species of birds that have been observed by refuge personnel, visiting ornithologists, and local birders, either on a part-time or year-round basis. Waterfowl, wading birds, raptors, and songbirds abound at various times of the year. They can be seen by driving the Wildlife Drive or hiking along levees, field or wooded roads. The 42 species that nest on the Refuge are noted with an asterisk (*). All Species names are in accordance with the *American Ornithologists' Union. 2004. Checklist of North American Birds. 7th ed. Am. Ornithol. Union, Washington, D.C.* Enjoy your visit!

The relative abundance of birds for each season is coded as follows:



snowy egret

Sp - March-May

S - June-August

F - September-November

W - December-February

a - abundant: a common species which is very numerous

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 a season

r - rare: seen at intervals of 2 to 5 years



northern pintail

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
Waterfowl				
___ Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	-	r	r	-
___ Fulvous Whistling-Duck	-	r	r	-
___ Greater White-fronted Goose	r	-	o	r
___ Snow Goose	r	-	o	r
___ Canada Goose	r	-	r	r
___ Wood Duck*	c	c	c	c
___ Gadwall	c	r	c	c
___ American Wigeon	c	r	c	c
___ American Black Duck	r	-	r	r
___ Mallard	c	o	a	a
___ Mottled Duck	u	u	u	r
___ Blue-winged Teal	o	r	c	o
___ Northern Shoveler	o	r	c	c
___ Northern Pintail	c	r	c	c
___ Green-winged Teal	o	r	c	u
___ Canvasback	u	r	o	u
___ Redhead	r	-	o	r
___ Ring-necked Duck	c	r	c	a
___ Greater Scaup	r	-	r	r
___ Lesser Scaup	u	r	u	u
___ Bufflehead	-	-	r	r
___ Common Goldeneye	-	-	r	r
___ Hooded Merganser	o	r	o	o
___ Common Merganser	o	-	-	-
___ Ruddy Duck	r	-	o	o
Turkeys & New World Quail				
___ Wild Turkey	r	r	r	r
___ Northern Bobwhite*	r	r	r	r
Grebes				
___ Least Grebe	-	-	r	r
___ Pied-billed Grebe*	c	u	c	c
___ Horned Grebe	-	-	r	r
Pelicans				
___ American White Pelican	o	r	u	u
Cormorants, Anhingas				
___ Double-crested Cormorant	c	o	u	a
___ Anhinga*	c	c	o	o
Hérons & Bitterns				
___ American Bittern	o	r	o	-
___ Least Bittern	r	o	r	-
___ Great Blue Heron*	c	c	c	c
___ Great Egret*	c	a	u	o
___ Snowy Egret	u	c	c	o
___ Little Blue Heron	u	c	c	o
___ Tricolored Heron	r	o	o	r
___ Cattle Egret	c	a	a	u

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
___ Green Heron*	u	c	c	r
___ Black-crowned Night-Heron	-	o	o	-
___ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	-	c	u	-
Ibises				
___ White Ibis	r	u	u	r
___ Glossy Ibis	-	r	r	-
___ White-faced Ibis	-	-	o	o
___ Roseate Spoonbill	-	o	r	-
Storks				
___ Wood Stork	-	u	o	-
American Vultures				
___ Black Vulture	u	u	u	u
___ Turkey Vulture	c	c	c	c
Hawks & Harriers				
___ Osprey	r	r	r	r
___ Mississippi Kite	o	o	-	-
___ Bald Eagle	o	r	o	u
___ Northern Harrier	u	-	u	u
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	r	r
___ Cooper's Hawk	r	r	r	r
___ Red-shouldered Hawk*	c	c	c	c
___ Broad-winged Hawk	r	r	u	r
___ Red-tailed Hawk	c	u	c	c
___ Golden Eagle	r	-	r	r
Falcons				
___ American Kestrel	u	-	u	c
___ Merlin	-	-	r	r
___ Peregrine Falcon	-	-	r	r
Rails, Gallinules, Coots				
___ King Rail	r	r	r	r
___ Sora	r	-	r	r
___ Purple Gallinule	r	r	r	-
___ Common Moorhen	r	r	r	-
___ American Coot	c	r	u	c
Plovers				
___ Semipalmated Plover	o	r	o	-
___ Killdeer*	c	c	c	c
Stilts & Avocets				
___ Black-necked Stilt	o	u	o	-
___ American Avocet	-	-	-	r
Sandpipers				
___ Greater Yellowlegs	o	o	o	o
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	o	c	c	o

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
___ Solitary Sandpiper	o	o	o	-
___ Spotted Sandpiper	o	r	o	-
___ Upland Sandpiper	u	u	o	-
___ Sanderling	-	-	o	o
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper	o	-	o	-
___ Western Sandpiper	o	-	o	o
___ Least Sandpiper	u	o	u	u
___ Pectoral Sandpiper	o	r	o	-
___ Dunlin	r	-	-	r
___ Short-billed Dowitcher	r	-	r	o
___ Long-billed Dowitcher	-	-	-	r
___ Common Snipe	c	-	c	c
___ American Woodcock	o	r	u	u
Gulls, Terns & Allies				
___ Bonaparte's Gull	-	-	r	r
___ Ring-billed Gull	o	-	o	o
___ Herring Gull	-	-	o	r
___ Gull-billed Tern	-	-	-	r
___ Caspian Tern	r	r	r	-
___ Royal tern	-	-	-	r
___ Forster's Tern	-	-	o	r
Pigeons & Doves				
___ Rock Pigeon	o	o	o	o
___ Mourning Dove*	c	c	a	a
___ Common Ground-Dove	-	-	r	r
Cuckoos				
___ Black-billed Cuckoo	r	-	r	-
___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	c	c	-	-
___ Greater Roadrunner	r	r	-	-
Owls				
___ Barn Owl	o	o	o	o
___ Eastern Screech-Owl*	u	u	u	u
___ Great Horned Owl	u	u	u	u
___ Barred Owl*	c	c	c	c
Nightjars & Swifts				
___ Common Nighthawk	o	u	u	-
___ Chuck-will's-widow	o	o	r	-
___ Whip-poor-will	r	-	r	-
___ Chimney Swift	o	o	o	-
Hummingbirds				
___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird	o	o	o	-
Kingfishers				
___ Belted Kingfisher	c	o	u	c

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
Woodpeckers				
___ Red-headed Woodpecker	u	u	u	u
___ Red-bellied Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	c	-	u	c
___ Downy Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
___ Hairy Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
___ Northern Flicker*	c	u	u	a
___ Pileated Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
Flycatchers				
___ Eastern Wood-Pewee	u	u	u	-
___ Acadian Flycatcher	c	c	u	-
___ Eastern Phoebe	u	o	o	c
___ Vermilion Flycatcher	-	-	r	o
___ Great Crested Flycatcher*	o	o	-	-
___ Eastern Kingbird	u	u	o	-
___ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	-	-	r	r
Shrikes				
___ Loggerhead Shrike	u	u	u	u
Vireos				
___ White-eyed Vireo*	c	c	c	r
___ Yellow-throated Vireo	r	o	r	-
___ Red-eyed Vireo	r	u	r	-
Jays & Crows				
___ Blue Jay*	c	c	c	c
___ American Crow*	c	c	a	a
___ Fish Crow	u	u	u	u
Larks				
___ Horned Lark	o	-	r	o
Swallows				
___ Purple Martin*	c	c	u	-
___ Tree Swallow	c	-	c	-
___ Northern Rough-winged Swallow	c	c	c	r
___ Barn Swallow	u	o	u	
Titmice & Chickadees				
___ Carolina Chickadee*	c	c	c	c
___ Tufted Titmouse*	c	u	u	c
Nuthatches				
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch	-	-	-	r
___ White-breasted Nuthatch	u	-	-	u
Creepers				
___ Brown Creeper	u	-	u	u

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
Wrens				
___ Carolina Wren*	c	c	c	c
___ House Wren	r	-	r	o
___ Winter Wren	o	-	r	u
___ Sedge Wren	r	-	r	-
___ Marsh Wren	r	-	r	-
Kinglets & Gnatcatchers				
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet	c	-	o	c
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	c	-	o	c
___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	u	c	u	r
Thrushes				
___ Eastern Bluebird*	c	c	c	c
___ Veery	r	-	r	-
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush	r	-	r	-
___ Swainson's Thrush	r	-	r	-
___ Hermit Thrush	o	-	o	u
___ Wood Thrush*	c	c	c	-
___ American Robin	a	u	u	a
Mockingbird & Thrashers				
___ Gray Catbird	u	-	u	r
___ Northern Mockingbird*	a	a	a	a
___ Brown Thrasher*	c	c	c	c
Starlings				
___ European Starling	c	c	c	c
Pipits				
___ American Pipit	r	-	r	o
___ Sprague's Pipit	-	-	-	r
Waxwings				
___ Cedar Waxwing	o	-	o	o
Wood Warblers				
___ Golden-winged Warbler	-	-	r	-
___ Tennessee Warbler	r	-	r	-
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	r	-	r	o
___ Nashville Warbler	-	-	-	r
___ Northern Parula*	u	u	o	-
___ Yellow Warbler	o	-	u	-
___ Magnolia Warbler	o	-	-	-
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	u	-	-	c
___ Black-throated Green Warbler	-	-	o	-
___ Blackburnian Warbler	o	-	-	-
___ Yellow-throated Warbler	u	u	u	-
___ Pine Warbler	-	-	o	r
___ Cerulean Warbler	o	r	o	-
___ Black-and-white Warbler	o	o	o	-
___ Prothonotary Warbler*	c	c	c	r

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
___ Worm-eating Warbler	r	-	r	-
___ Louisiana Waterthrush	-	-	-	r
___ Kentucky Warbler	o	o	r	-
___ Common Yellowthroat	u	u	o	o
___ Hooded Warbler	r	o	r	-
___ Yellow-breasted Chat*	r	o	r	-
Tanagers				
___ Summer Tanager*	c	c	u	-
___ Scarlet Tanager	r	-	-	-
Emberizids				
___ Eastern Towhee	u	u	u	u
___ Chipping Sparrow	u	u	u	u
___ Field Sparrow	u	u	u	u
___ Vesper Sparrow	r	-	r	o
___ Lark Sparrow	-	-	-	r
___ Savannah Sparrow	-	-	r	r
___ Henslow's Sparrow	-	-	-	r
___ Le Conte's Sparrow	-	-	-	c
___ Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	r
___ Song Sparrow	c	-	-	c
___ Lincoln's Sparrow	-	-	-	r
___ Swamp Sparrow	r	-	r	u
___ White-throated Sparrow	r	-	u	c
___ White-crowned Sparrow	-	-	r	r
___ Dark-eyed Junco	-	-	u	c
Cardinals & Allies				
___ Northern Cardinal*	a	a	a	a
___ Blue Grosbeak	u	-	-	u
___ Indigo Bunting*	c	c	u	-
___ Painted Bunting*	c	c	u	-
___ Dickcissel*	o	o	-	-
Blackbirds				
___ Bobolink	-	r	-	-
___ Red-winged Blackbird*	c	c	c	c
___ Eastern Meadowlark*	c	c	c	c
___ Rusty Blackbird	r	-	r	o
___ Brewer's Blackbird	c	-	-	c
___ Common Grackle*	c	c	c	c
___ Brown-headed Cowbird*	c	c	c	c
___ Orchard Oriole	c	c	u	-
___ Baltimore Oriole	c	c	u	-
Cardueline Finches				
___ Purple Finch	r	-	-	r
___ House Finch	-	-	-	r
___ American Goldfinch	u	-	-	u
Old World Sparrows				
___ House Sparrow*	o	o	o	o

Sighting Notes

Date

Time

Weather

No. of species

Route or area

Observers



eastern bluebird



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

Ethics for Bird Watching

Observe birds without disturbing them. Avoid chasing or repeatedly flushing birds. Electronic call devices should be used sparingly even when they are permitted.

Take care not to disturb nesting birds. This exposes 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.

Revised by: Andrew Hammond, Greg Harper, Kim Randall, and Elmer "Tiny" Moore



bald eagle



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