

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge
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1 800/877 8339

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov/>

August 2020



Eastern Neck

National Wildlife Refuge

Bird Checklist



printed on recycled paper with vegetable based inks



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

Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge is one of more than 560 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.

Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge, located in Kent County on Maryland's Eastern Shore, was established in 1962 for the protection and management of migratory birds.

The 2,285 acres of diversified habitat on the island, plus the waters of the Chester River and Chesapeake Bay, provide habitat for a wide variety of bird life. Ducks, swans and geese concentrate around the island in late fall and early winter. Peak concentrations occur from November to January.

This brochure lists the birds that are found in the area of Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge. A total of 266 species have been recorded on the refuge. Twenty-three accidental species are also listed.



Canada Geese

This checklist incorporates changes thorough the 60th supplement to the seventh American Ornithological Society checklist. It was updated in 2020 by Walter Ellison and Nancy Martin.

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

SEASON

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

- Birds known to nest on or near the refuge

	Sp	S	F	W
SWANS – GEESE – DUCKS				
___ Snow Goose	o		o	o
___ Greater White-fronted Goose			r	r
___ Brant			r	r
___ Cackling Goose			o	o
___ •Canada Goose	a	o	a	a
___ Mute Swan	r	r	r	r
___ Tundra Swan	c		a	a
___ •Wood Duck	u	u	u	o
___ Blue-winged Teal	o		o	r
___ Northern Shoveler	o		o	r
___ Gadwall	u	r	u	u
___ Eurasian Wigeon			r	r
___ American Wigeon	u		u	u
___ •Mallard	a	c	a	a
___ •American Black Duck	u	u	u	c
___ Northern Pintail	u		u	u
___ Green-winged Teal	u		u	r
___ Canvasback	u		u	c
___ Redhead	o		o	o
___ Ring-necked Duck	u		u	u
___ Greater Scaup	u		u	c
___ Lesser Scaup	c		c	c
___ Surf Scoter	o		o	o
___ White-winged Scoter	r		r	r
___ Black Scoter	o		o	o
___ Long-tailed Duck	u		u	u
___ Bufflehead	c		c	c
___ Common Goldeneye	c		c	c
___ Hooded Merganser	o		o	o
___ Common Merganser	o		o	o
___ Red-breasted Merganser	u		u	u
___ Ruddy Duck	u		c	c

NEW WORLD QUAIL

___ Northern Bobwhite	r	r		r
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TURKEYS

___ •Wild Turkey	u	u	u	u
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GREBES

___ Pied-billed Grebe	o	r	o	o
___ Horned Grebe	o		u	u
___ Red-necked Grebe.....	r		r	r

PIGEONS – DOVES

___ Rock Pigeon	o	o	o	o
___ •Mourning Dove	c	c	c	c

CUCKOOS

___ •Yellow-billed Cuckoo	u	u	u	
___ Black-billed Cuckoo	o	o	o	

NIGHTJARS

___ Common Nighthawk	o	o	o	
___ Chuck-will's widow	o	r	r	
___ Eastern Whip-poor-will	r	r	r	

SWIFTS

___ •Chimney Swift	u	u	u	
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HUMMINGBIRDS

___ •Ruby-throated Hummingbird	u	u	u	
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RAILS

___ •Black Rail	r	r		
___ Clapper Rail	r	r	r	
___ •King Rail	o	o	o	o
___ •Virginia Rail	u	u	u	u
___ Sora	r		r	r
___ Common Gallinule	r	r	r	
___ American Coot	o		u	o

PLOVERS

___ Black-bellied Plover	o	o	o	
___ American Golden Plover			r	
___ •Killdeer	u	u	u	o
___ Semipalmated Plover	o	o	o	

SANDPIPERS

___ Ruddy Turnstone			r	
___ Stilt Sandpiper		r	r	
___ Sanderling			r	
___ Dunlin	u		u	r
___ Least Sandpiper	u	u	u	
___ White-rumped Sandpiper		o	o	
___ Pectoral Sandpiper	o	o	o	
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper	o	o	o	
___ Western Sandpiper	r	r	r	
___ Short-billed Dowitcher	o	o	o	
___ American Woodcock	o	r	o	r
___ Wilson's Snipe	o		o	o
___ Spotted Sandpiper	o	o	o	
___ Solitary Sandpiper	o	o	o	
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	u	u	u	
___ Willet	r		r	
___ Greater Yellowlegs	u	u	u	

GULLS – TERNS

___ Bonaparte's Gull	u		u	o
___ Laughing Gull	c	u	c	r
___ Ring-billed Gull	a	c	a	c
___ Herring Gull	c	u	c	c
___ Lesser Black-backed Gull	r		o	r

	Sp	S	F	W
___ Great Black-backed Gull	u	o	u	u
___ Least Tern	o	u		
___ Caspian Tern	u		u	
___ Black Tern		r	r	
___ Common Tern	o	o	o	
___ Forster's Tern	c	o	c	r
___ Royal Tern	r		u	

LOONS

___ Red-throated Loon	o			o
___ Common Loon	u		u	u

GANNETS

___ Northern Gannet	r			
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CORMORANTS

___ Double-crested Cormorant	c	c	c	o
___ Great Cormorant			r	r

PELICANS

___ American White Pelican			r	r
___ Brown Pelican		r	r	

BITTERNS – HERONS

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

IBISES

___ Glossy Ibis		r	r	
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VULTURES

___ •Black Vulture	u	u	u	u
___ •Turkey Vulture	a	a	a	a

OSPREY

___ •Osprey	a	a	c	
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HAWKS – EAGLES

___ Golden Eagle	r		r	r
___ Northern Harrier	u		u	u
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	u		c	u
___ Cooper's Hawk	u		u	u
___ Northern Goshawk			r	

	Sp	S	F	W
___ •Bald Eagle	c	u	c	c
___ Red-shouldered Hawk	o	o	o	o
___ Broad-winged Hawk	o		o	
___ •Red-tailed Hawk	u	u	u	u
___ Rough-legged Hawk	r		r	r

OWLS

___ Barn Owl	r	r	r	r
___ •Eastern Screech-Owl	u	u	u	u
___ •Great Horned Owl	u	u	u	u
___ Snowy Owl				r
___ Barred Owl	o	o	o	o
___ Long-eared Owl				r
___ Short-eared Owl	r		r	r
___ Northern Saw-whet Owl			r	r



Blue jay

KINGFISHERS

___ Belted Kingfisher	o	o	o	o
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WOODPECKERS

___ •Red-headed Woodpecker	o	o	o	o
___ •Red-bellied Woodpecker	c	c	c	c
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	u		u	u
___ •Downy Woodpecker	c	c	c	c
___ •Hairy Woodpecker	c	c	c	c
___ •Northern Flicker	c	c	c	c
___ Pileated Woodpecker	o	o	o	o

FALCONS – CARACARAS

___ American Kestrel	u	r	u	u
___ Merlin	o	o	o	o
___ Peregrine Falcon	o	o	o	o

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

___ •Great Crested Flycatcher	c	c	u	
___ Western Kingbird			r	r
___ •Eastern Kingbird	c	c	c	
___ Olive-sided Flycatcher	r		r	

	Sp	S	F	W
___ •Eastern Wood-Pewee	c	c	c	
___ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	r		r	
___ •Acadian Flycatcher	u	u	u	
___ Willow Flycatcher	r		o	
___ Least Flycatcher			o	
___ •Eastern Phoebe	c	o	c	r

VIREOS

___ •White-eyed Vireo	c	u	u	
___ Yellow-throated Vireo	o	o	o	
___ Blue-headed Vireo	o		r	
___ Philadelphia Vireo			o	
___ Warbling Vireo	r	r	r	
___ •Red-eyed Vireo	c	u	c	

JAYS – CROWS

___ •Blue Jay	c	c	a	c
___ •American Crow	c	c	c	c
___ •Fish Crow	c	c	u	o

LARKS

___ Horned Lark	o		o	
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SWALLOWS

___ Bank Swallow	o	o	o	
___ •Tree Swallow	c	c	c	r
___ Northern Rough-winged Swallow ...	u	u	u	
___ Purple Martin	u	u	u	
___ •Barn Swallow	c	c	c	
___ Cliff Swallow	r		r	

CHICKADEES – TITMICE

___ •Carolina Chickadee	c	c	c	c
___ Black-capped Chickadee			r	r
___ •Tufted Titmouse	c	c	c	c

NUTHATCHES

___ Red-breasted Nuthatch	u		u	u
___ White-breasted Nuthatch	u	r	u	u
___ •Brown-headed Nuthatch	u	u	u	u

CREEPERS

___ Brown Creeper	u		u	u
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WRENS

___ •House Wren	c	c	u	r
___ Winter Wren	o		o	o
___ Sedge Wren	r		r	r
___ •Marsh Wren	o	o	o	r
___ •Carolina Wren	c	c	c	c

GNATCATCHERS

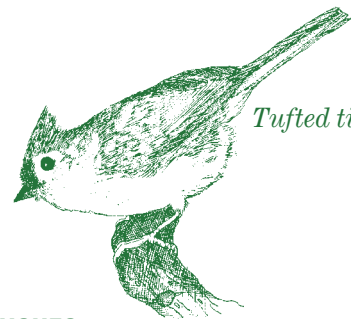
___ •Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	c	u	u	r
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KINGLETS

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

THRUSHES

___ •Eastern Bluebird	c	c	c	c
___ Veery	o		o	
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush	o		o	
___ Swainson's Thrush	o		o	
___ Hermit Thrush	u		u	u
___ •Wood Thrush	u	u	u	
___ •American Robin	a	c	a	c



Tufted titmouse

MIMIC THRUSHES

___ •Gray Catbird	c	c	c	o
___ •Brown Thrasher	c	c	c	o
___ •Northern Mockingbird	c	c	c	c

STARLINGS

___ •European Starling	c	c	a	c
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WAXWINGS

___ •Cedar Waxwing	c	u	c	u
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OLD WORLD SPARROWS

___ •House Sparrow	o	o	o	o
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PIPITS

___ American Pipit	r		o	r
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FINCHES

___ Evening Grosbeak	r		r	r
___ •House Finch	o	o	o	o
___ Purple Finch	o		o	o
___ Common Redpoll				r
___ Red Crossbill				r
___ Pine Siskin	o		o	o
___ •American Goldfinch	c	c	c	c

	Sp	S	F	W
SNOW BUNTING				
___ Snow Bunting			r	o

NEW WORLD SPARROWS

___ Grasshopper Sparrow	o	o	o	
___ • Chipping Sparrow	c	c	c	o
___ • Field Sparrow	o	o	o	o
___ Fox Sparrow	o		u	u
___ American Tree Sparrow	o		o	o
___ Dark-eyed Junco	c		c	c
___ White-crowned Sparrow	o		o	o
___ White-throated Sparrow	c		c	a
___ Vesper Sparrow	r		r	r
___ Seaside Sparrow	o	o	o	o
___ Nelson's Sparrow			r	
___ Savannah Sparrow	u		u	u
___ • Song Sparrow	c	c	c	c
___ Lincoln's Sparrow			o	
___ • Swamp Sparrow	c	r	c	c
___ • Eastern Towhee	c	c	c	u

BLACKBIRDS

___ Bobolink	o		o	
___ Eastern Meadowlark			o	o
___ • Orchard Oriole	c	c	o	
___ • Baltimore Oriole	u	o	u	r
___ • Red-winged Blackbird	a	c	a	a
___ • Brown-headed Cowbird	c	c	c	o
___ Rusty Blackbird	o		o	r
___ • Common Grackle	c	c	c	c

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

___ Ovenbird	u	r	u	
___ Worm-eating Warbler	r		r	
___ Louisiana Waterthrush	r	r		
___ Northern Waterthrush	u		u	
___ Golden-winged Warbler			r	
___ Blue-winged Warbler	o		o	
___ Black-and-white Warbler	c		c	
___ Prothonotary Warbler	r	r	r	
___ Tennessee Warbler	r		o	
___ Orange-crowned Warbler			r	
___ Nashville Warbler	r		o	
___ Connecticut Warbler			r	
___ Mourning Warbler	r		r	
___ Kentucky Warbler	o	r	o	
___ • Common Yellowthroat	c	c	c	r
___ Hooded Warbler	r			
___ American Redstart	c	r	c	
___ Cape May Warbler	r		o	
___ Cerulean Warbler	r			

	Sp	S	F	W
___ Northern Parula	c	r	c	
___ Magnolia Warbler	u		c	
___ Bay-breasted Warbler	r		o	
___ Blackburnian Warbler	o		u	
___ • Yellow Warbler	c	c	u	
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler	u		u	
___ Blackpoll Warbler	u		u	
___ Black-throated Blue Warbler	u		c	
___ Palm Warbler	u		u	r
___ • Pine Warbler	c	c	c	r
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	c		c	u
___ • Yellow-throated Warbler	u	o	o	
___ Prairie Warbler	o		o	
___ Black-throated Green Warbler	o		u	
___ Canada Warbler	o		o	
___ Wilson's Warbler	r		r	
___ • Yellow-breasted Chat	u	u	u	r

CARDINALS – GROSBEAKS – RELATIVES

___ Summer Tanager	r	r	r	
___ • Scarlet Tanager	u	o	u	
___ • Northern Cardinal	c	c	c	c
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	o		u	
___ • Blue Grosbeak	c	c	u	
___ • Indigo Bunting	c	c	c	

VAGRANTS

Fulvous Whistling-Duck	Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Ross's Goose	Fork-tailed Flycatcher
Cinnamon Teal	Loggerhead Shrike
Western Grebe	Northern Shrike
Sandhill Crane	White-winged Crossbill
American Avocet	Lark Bunting
Parasitic Jaeger	Clay-colored Sparrow
Little Gull	Henslow's Sparrow
Iceland Gull	Yellow-headed Blackbird
Black Skimmer	Lawrence's Warbler
Brown Booby	Painted Bunting
Mississippi Kite	

Please report any sightings of birds not in agreement with this list to refuge staff using the contact information on the back of this brochure.