

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Seneey

National Wildlife Refuge

Whitefish Point Bird Checklist





Sanderling, © Laura Wong

Welcome to the Whitefish Point Unit of Seney National Wildlife Refuge

The Whitefish Point Unit of the Seney National Wildlife Refuge is located 80 miles away from the main body of the refuge. This 53-acre tract is known for its concentration of birds during migration. Each year thousands of raptors, perching birds and waterbirds funnel through the point stopping to replenish their energy reserves before or after crossing Lake Superior.

Since its inception, the Whitefish Point Bird Observatory has documented and studied the birds using the point. The data collected by the Observatory has led to the area being recognized as a Globally Important Bird Area for birds migrating between the U.S. and Canada.

Parking and restroom facilities are provided by the Great Lake Shipwreck Historical Society which administers the former Coast Guard buildings, including the lighthouse and gift shop. The Observatory maintains a visitor contact area, bird feeding station and gift shop.

Please keep these ethical wildlife observation tips in mind while visiting the refuge.

1. All refuge property at Whitefish Point has been designated as critical habitat for the Endangered piping plover. Please obey all signs and respect beach closures.
2. Please leave rocks and driftwood on the beach.
3. Drones are not allowed.
4. Observe and photograph wildlife without chasing or repeatedly flushing the animal.
5. Stay an appropriate distance from nests so the parents are not scared away, leaving the chicks exposed to danger.
6. Birds and other wildlife depend on berries and seeds for food. Please harvest wild edibles responsibly.
7. Stay on existing trails and pathways to avoid trampling habitat.
8. Take all trash with you.
9. This list includes birds known to be found on the Whitefish Point Unit and surrounding lands. Primary sources for this list include the Whitefish Point Bird Observatory, Michigan Audubon Society and eBird.

White-crowned Sparrow, USFWS





Spruce Grouse, Katie-Beth Holleran

Legend

- # endangered
- * known to nest in the area
- 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 or heard in suitable habitat, not in large numbers
- u uncommon: present but not always seen
- o occasional: seen only a few times during the season
- r rare: seen every 2 to 5 years

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Swans, Geese and Ducks				
Snow Goose	r	r	u	-
Ross's Goose	-	-	r	-
Greater White-fronted Goose	r	-	-	-
Cackling Goose	r	-	o	-
Canada Goose *	a	c	a	-
Mute Swan	r	-	r	-
Trumpeter Swan	r	-	r	-
Tundra Swan	r	-	r	-
Wood Duck *	u	o	o	-
Blue-winged Teal *	o	c	c	-
Northern Shoveler	o	c	c	-
Gadwall *	o	u	c	-
Eurasian Wigeon	r	-	-	-
American Wigeon *	u	c	a	-
Mallard *	c	c	a	r
American Black Duck *	o	o	c	-
Northern Pintail	u	u	a	r
Green-winged Teal *	u	c	a	-
Canvasback	r	-	r	-
Redhead *	o	u	a	-
Ring-necked Duck *	o	u	c	-
Greater Scaup	c	a	a	-
Lesser Scaup *	u	o	a	-
King Eider	-	r	-	-
Harlequin Duck	r	o	o	-
Surf Scoter	u	c	a	-
White-winged Scoter	c	a	a	u
Black Scoter	o	u	a	r
Long-tailed Duck	c	u	a	c
Bufflehead	c	o	c	u
Common Goldeneye *	c	u	a	u
Hooded Merganser *	o	c	c	r
Common Merganser *	a	a	a	c
Red-breasted Merganser *	a	c	a	o
Ruddy Duck	-	-	r	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Grouse and Turkeys				
Ruffed Grouse *	u	r	c	c
Spruce Grouse *	r	r	r	-
Sharp-tailed Grouse *	r	r	c	c
Grebes				
Pied-billed Grebe *	r	-	-	-
Horned Grebe	u	c	a	r
Red-necked Grebe *	c	a	a	c
Eared Grebe	r	-	-	-
Western Grebe	r	-	r	-
Pigeons and Doves				
Rock Pigeon	o	u	o	o
Eurasian Collared-Dove	r	-	-	-
Common Ground Dove	-	-	r	-
White-winged Dove	r	-	r	-
Mourning Dove	c	c	c	c
Cuckoos				
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	r	r	r	-
Black-billed Cuckoo *	r	o	r	-
Nightjars				
Common Nighthawk *	o	o	r	-
Chuck-will's-widow	r	-	-	-
Eastern Whip-poor-will *	r	r	-	-
Swifts				
Chimney Swift *	c	c	o	-
Hummingbirds				
Ruby-throated Hummingbird *	c	a	u	-
Rails and Coots				
Virginia Rail	r	-	-	-
Sora *	r	r	r	-
American Coot *	-	-	r	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Plovers				
Black-bellied Plover	c	c	c	-
American Golden-Plover	r	c	a	-
Killdeer *	a	a	u	-
Semipalmated Plover *	c	a	c	-
Piping Plover *#	c	c	r	-
Sandpipers				
Upland Sandpiper	r	-	-	-
Whimbrel	c	c	o	-
Hudsonian Godwit	r	r	r	-
Marbled Godwit	r	r	r	-
Ruddy Turnstone	c	c	o	-
Red Knot	o	o	r	-
Stilt Sandpiper	-	o	r	-
Sanderling	c	a	a	-
Dunlin	c	u	c	-
Purple Sandpiper	-	-	r	-
Baird's Sandpiper	-	a	c	-
Least Sandpiper *	c	a	c	-
White-rumped Sandpiper	o	r	u	-
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	-	c	u	-
Pectoral Sandpiper	r	c	c	-
Semipalmated Sandpiper *	c	a	u	-
Short-billed Dowitcher	o	o	r	-
Long-billed Dowitcher	r	-	r	-
American Woodcock *	u	r	o	-
Wilson's Snipe *	o	r	u	-
Spotted Sandpiper *	u	c	r	-
Solitary Sandpiper	o	c	o	-
Lesser Yellowlegs	u	c	u	-
Willet	r	r	r	-
Greater Yellowlegs	c	c	c	-
Wilson's Phalarope	r	-	-	-
Red-necked Phalarope	r	r	r	-
Red Phalarope	-	-	o	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Cranes				
Sandhill Crane *	a	c	u	r
Avocets and Stilts				
American Avocet	r	-	r	-
Jaegers				
Pomarine Jaeger	-	-	r	-
Parasitic Jaeger	r	o	u	-
Long-tailed Jaeger	-	r	o	-
Murrelets				
Ancient Murrelet	-	-	r	-
Gulls and Terns				
Black-legged Kittiwake	-	-	o	-
Sabine's Gull	-	r	u	-
Bonaparte's Gull	c	c	c	-
Little Gull	r	-	r	-
Laughing Gull	-	-	r	-
Franklin's Gull	r	-	r	-
Ring-billed Gull *	a	a	a	c
Herring Gull *	a	a	a	a
Iceland Gull	o	-	o	-
Lesser Black-backed Gull	r	r	r	-
Glaucous Gull	u	-	u	c
Great Black-backed Gull	u	r	u	o
Least Tern	r	-	-	-
Caspian Tern *	c	a	r	-
Black Tern	-	o	r	-
Common Tern *	u	a	c	-
Arctic Tern	r	-	r	-
Forster's Tern	r	r	o	-
Loons				
Red-throated Loon	c	c	a	r
Pacific Loon	r	-	o	-
Common Loon *	a	a	a	u

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Gannets				
Northern Gannet	-	-	r	-
Cormorants				
Neotropic Cormorant	r	-	-	-
Double-crested Cormorant *	a	a	c	-
Pelicans				
American White Pelican	r	r	r	-
Hérons and Bitterns				
American Bittern *	r	r	r	-
Great Blue Heron *	c	a	c	-
Great Egret	r	-	-	-
Cattle Egret	-	-	r	-
Green Heron	r	-	-	-
Vultures				
Black Vulture	r	-	-	-
Turkey Vulture *	a	a	c	r
Ospreys				
Osprey *	c	-	-	-
Hawks and Eagles				
Golden Eagle	c	r	-	-
Northern Harrier *	a	c	c	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk *	a	a	c	o
Cooper's Hawk	c	u	r	r
Northern Goshawk *	c	c	c	r
Bald Eagle *	a	a	a	a
Mississippi Kite	r	-	-	-
Red-shouldered Hawk	c	r	r	-
Broad-winged Hawk *	a	c	u	-
Short-tailed Hawk	-	-	r	-
Swainson's Hawk	o	r	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk *	a	c	c	-
Rough-legged Hawk	a	r	c	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Owls				
Great Horned Owl *	r	-	r	-
Snowy Owl	u	r	u	o
Barred Owl *	o	r	o	-
Long-eared Owl	u	o	o	r
Short-eared Owl	o	r	o	r
Boreal Owl	o	-	o	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl *	c	c	c	o
Woodpeckers				
Red-headed Woodpecker	r	-	r	-
Red-bellied Woodpecker	u	r	u	u
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *	u	r	c	-
Black-backed Woodpecker *	o	r	u	r
Downy Woodpecker *	c	c	a	c
Hairy Woodpecker *	c	u	a	a
Northern Flicker *	a	c	a	r
Pileated Woodpecker *	c	o	c	u
Flycatchers				
Great Crested Flycatcher *	r	r	r	-
Tropical Kingbird	-	-	r	-
Western Kingbird	r	r	r	-
Eastern Kingbird *	c	u	r	-
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	-	-	r	-
Olive-sided Flycatcher *	r	u	r	-
Eastern Wood-Pewee *	o	u	r	-
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher *	u	c	r	-
Alder Flycatcher *	u	c	r	-
Willow Flycatcher *	-	r	-	-
Least Flycatcher *	c	u	o	-
Eastern Phoebe *	c	o	r	-
Say's Phoebe	r	-	r	-
Vermilion Flycatcher	-	-	r	-
Shrikes				
Loggerhead Shrike	r	-	r	-
Northern Shrike	r	-	u	u

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Kingfishers				
Belted Kingfisher *	c	c	c	-
Falcons				
American Kestrel *	a	c	c	r
Merlin *	a	a	a	r
Peregrine Falcon	c	u	c	-
Vireos				
White-eyed Vireo	r	-	r	-
Yellow-throated Vireo	-	-	r	-
Blue-headed Vireo *	u	o	o	-
Philadelphia Vireo	u	o	o	-
Warbling Vireo *	r	r	-	-
Red-eyed Vireo *	c	c	c	-
Jays and Crows				
Canada Jay *	r	r	r	-
Blue Jay *	a	a	a	a
Black-billed Magpie	r	-	-	-
American Crow *	a	a	a	c
Common Raven *	a	a	a	a
Larks				
Horned Lark *	c	o	a	-

Piping Plover, © Laura Wong



Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Swallows				
Bank Swallow	o	u	r	-
Tree Swallow *	c	c	r	-
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	o	u	r	-
Purple Martin	r	r	-	-
Barn Swallow *	c	a	u	-
Cliff Swallow *	c	c	u	-
Cave Swallow	-	-	r	-
Chickadees and Titmice				
Black-capped Chickadee *	a	a	a	a
Boreal Chickadee *	o	r	r	-
Tufted Titmouse	r	-	r	-
Nuthatches				
Red-breasted Nuthatch *	a	a	a	a
White-breasted Nuthatch *	c	r	c	a
Creepers				
Brown Creeper *	c	o	c	u
Wrens				
House Wren *	r	r	r	-
Winter Wren *	u	r	c	-
Sedge Wren *	r	-	-	-
Marsh Wren *	r	-	-	-
Carolina Wren	r	r	r	-
Thrushes				
Eastern Bluebird *	c	c	o	-
Mountain Bluebird	r	-	-	-
Townsend's Solitaire	r	r	u	r
Veery *	o	r	r	-
Gray-cheeked Thrush	r	r	c	-
Swainson's Thrush *	u	u	c	-
Hermit Thrush *	c	o	c	-
Wood Thrush *	r	-	-	-
American Robin *	a	a	a	u

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Gnatcatchers				
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher *	u	c	c	-
Kinglets				
Golden-crowned Kinglet *	c	u	a	o
Ruby-crowned Kinglet *	c	u	a	-
Mockingbirds and Thrashers				
Gray Catbird *	u	o	u	-
Brown Thrasher *	c	u	o	-
Northern Mockingbird	o	r	r	-
Starlings				
European Starling *	a	u	u	r
Waxwings				
Bohemian Waxwing	c	-	c	c
Cedar Waxwing *	a	a	a	r
Pipits				
American Pipit	c	o	a	-
Finches				
Evening Grosbeak *	c	c	c	o
Pine Grosbeak	u	-	c	a
House Finch *	r	r	r	-
Purple Finch *	a	a	a	u
Common Redpoll	c	-	c	a
Hoary Redpoll	o	-	r	a
Red Crossbill *	c	c	a	c
White-winged Crossbill *	o	o	c	c
Pine Siskin *	a	a	a	c
American Goldfinch *	a	a	a	c
Longspurs				
Lapland Longspur	c	-	a	-
Chestnut-collared Longspur	-	r	-	-
Smith's Longspur	-	-	r	-
Snow Bunting	c	-	a	c
Indigo Bunting	r	u	r	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Old World Sparrows				
House Sparrow *	o	r	c	-
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	c	c	-	-
Sparrows				
Grasshopper Sparrow	-	-	r	-
Lark Sparrow	r	r	o	r
Lark Bunting	r	-	r	-
Chipping Sparrow *	a	a	c	o
Clay-colored Sparrow *	c	u	u	-
Field Sparrow	r	-	r	-
Fox Sparrow	c	r	c	-
American Tree Sparrow	a	r	a	r
Dark-eyed Junco *	a	u	a	u
White-crowned Sparrow	a	c	a	u
Golden-crowned Sparrow	o	-	-	-
Harris's Sparrow	r	-	u	-
White-throated Sparrow *	a	c	a	-
Sagebrush Sparrow	-	-	o	-
Vesper Sparrow *	u	r	o	-
LeConte's Sparrow	r	-	r	-
Nelson's Sparrow	-	-	r	-
Savannah Sparrow *	c	c	a	-
Song Sparrow *	a	c	c	r
Lincoln's Sparrow	c	u	c	-
Swamp Sparrow *	u	o	c	-
Green-tailed Towhee	-	-	r	-
Spotted Towhee	-	-	r	-
Eastern Towhee *	o	r	o	-

Caspian Tern, Donovan Moxley



Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Chats				
Yellow-breasted Chat	r	-	-	-
Blackbirds and Orioles				
Yellow-headed Blackbird	r	o	r	-
Bobolink	u	o	r	-
Eastern Meadowlark *	o	r	r	-
Western Meadowlark	r	-	r	-
Orchard Oriole	r	r	-	-
Baltimore Oriole *	c	o	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird *	a	c	c	c
Shiny Cowbird	-	u	-	-
Brown-headed Cowbird *	a	u	o	-
Rusty Blackbird	c	-	a	-
Brewer's Blackbird *	r	-	r	-
Common Grackle *	a	c	c	o
Wood Warblers				
Ovenbird *	u	o	r	-
Northern Waterthrush *	r	o	u	-
Golden-winged Warbler	r	-	r	-
Black-and-white Warbler *	c	u	o	-
Tennessee Warbler *	u	c	c	-
Orange-crowned Warbler	u	-	u	-
Lucy's Warbler	-	-	r	-
Nashville Warbler *	c	a	c	-
Connecticut Warbler *	r	-	r	-
Mourning Warbler *	o	o	r	-
Common Yellowthroat *	c	c	c	-
American Redstart *	c	a	c	-
Kirtland's Warbler	r	-	-	-
Cape May Warbler *	c	c	u	-
Northern Parula *	c	u	u	-
Magnolia Warbler *	u	u	o	-
Bay-breasted Warbler *	o	o	o	-
Blackburnian Warbler *	c	c	r	-
Yellow Warbler *	c	c	r	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Wood Warblers				
Chestnut-sided Warbler *	c	u	r	-
Blackpoll Warbler	o	u	c	-
Black-throated Blue Warbler *	c	o	r	-
Palm Warbler *	c	c	a	-
Pine Warbler *	u	u	o	-
Yellow-rumped Warbler *	a	a	a	-
Yellow-throated Warbler	r	-	r	-
Prairie Warbler	r	-	r	-
Black-throated Green Warbler *	c	c	u	-
Canada Warbler *	u	o	r	-
Wilson's Warbler *	c	c	o	-
Tanagers and Buntings				
Hepatic Tanager	-	-	r	-
Summer Tanager	r	-	r	-
Scarlet Tanager	u	r	r	-
Western Tanager	r	-	-	-
Northern Cardinal	o	u	o	-
Rose-breasted Grosbeak *	c	u	r	-
Lazuli Bunting	o	o	-	-
Indigo Bunting *	u	u	o	-
Painted Bunting	-	-	r	-
Dickcissel	r	r	r	-

Dunlin, © Larry McGahey



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TTY users may reach Seney through
Michigan's State Relay System at
1-800-649 3777 or,
if outstate, 1-800-855 2880

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1-800-344-WILD
www.fws.gov

