

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# National Wildlife Refuges

*Along the  
Souris River Loop*

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*Bird List*



## Welcome



*This goose, designed by J.N. "Ding" Darling, is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.*

The national wildlife refuges along the Souris River in North Dakota -- Des Lacs (19,554 acres), J. Clark Salyer (58,700 acres), and Upper Souris (32,092 acres) -- were all established in 1935. Important habitats found on these refuges include restored marshes, remnant tracts of native grass, lowland meadows, impounded lakes, wooded sandhills, river bottoms, and brush-covered coulees.

While waterfowl, pelicans, tundra swans, grouse, and cranes are spectacular, a variety of other species of interest may be found. Birders come from all over the country looking for Sprague's pipits, and Baird's and LeConte's sparrows. In addition, as many as six species of grebes may be found. Species found on these refuges since 1935 total 308, of which 30 are accidentals and one is extirpated. About 169 species are known to have nested on these refuges, and 150 of these species nest regularly.

## Acknowledgments

Thanks to Gordon Berkey and Ron Martin for their contribution in compiling this list. Observers are encouraged to contact Gordon at PO Box 46, Upham, ND 58789, or Ron at 16900 125th St. SE, Sawyer, ND 58781, for further information and to share observations.

## Accessibility Information

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## Checklist

### *Seasons of Occurrence:*

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

### *Abundance Categories:*

The following abundance categories indicate the peak daily and seasonal totals of birds that may be seen by an active, experienced observer spending at least 8 hours per week sampling all types of habitats on these refuges.

- a Abundant:  
> 125 per day, > 600 per season
- c Common:  
25-125 per day,  
125-600 per season
- f Fairly Common:  
5-25 per day,  
25-125 per season
- u Uncommon:  
1-5 per day,  
5-25 per season
- r Rare:  
1-5 per season
- o Occasional:  
Small numbers seen at  
intervals of 2-10 years
- Nested:  
Species which have nested
- (i) Irregular:  
Indicates a species which is  
irregular; the abundance  
category indicates the  
numbers expected in  
peak years.
- 1 Extirpated as a breeding species
- 2 Last observed 1956

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Loons</b>				
Common Loon	r	o	r	
<b>Grebes</b>				
• Pied-billed Grebe	f	f	f	
• Horned Grebe	f	r	u	
• Red-necked Grebe	o	o	o	
• Eared Grebe	a	a	a	
• Western Grebe	c	c	c	
• Clark's Grebe	r	r	r	
<b>Pelicans</b>				
American White Pelican	c	c	c	
<b>Cormorants</b>				
• Double-crested Cormorant	c	c	c	
<b>Bitterns, Herons, and Egrets</b>				
• American Bittern	u	u	u	
Least Bittern	o	o	o	
• Great Blue Heron	f	f	f	
Great Egret	o	o	o	
• Snowy Egret	o	o	o	
• Little Blue Heron	o	o	o	
• Cattle Egret ( <i>i</i> )	f	f	f	
• Black-crowned Night-Heron	f	f	f	
<b>Ibises and Spoonbills</b>				
White-faced Ibis	o	o	o	
<b>New World Vultures</b>				
Turkey Vulture	r		r	
<b>Swans, Geese, and Ducks</b>				
Greater White-fronted Goose	f		f	
Snow Goose	a	o	a	o
Ross' Goose	u		u	
• Canada Goose	a	c	a	o
1 Trumpeter Swan		o	o	
Tundra Swan	c	o	a	
• Wood Duck	f	f	f	
• Gadwall	a	c	a	
• American Wigeon	c	u	c	
• American Black Duck	o	o	r	
• Mallard	a	c	a	o
• Blue-winged Teal	a	c	a	
Cinnamon Teal	o	o		
• Northern Shoveler	a	c	a	
• Northern Pintail	a	c	c	o
• Green-winged Teal	f	u	c	o
• Canvasback	c	f	c	
• Redhead	c	f	a	
• Ring-necked Duck	f	r	f	

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
Greater Scaup	r		r	
• Lesser Scaup	a	u	a	o
Surf Scoter			r	
White-winged Scoter			r	
Black Scoter			o	
Long-tailed Duck ( <i>formerly Oldsquaw</i> )			r	
• Bufflehead	c	r	c	
Common Goldeneye	c		c	
• Hooded Merganser	f	f	f	
Common Merganser	c		f	
Red-breasted Merganser	o		o	
• Ruddy Duck	a	c	a	
<b>Osprey, Kites, Hawks, and Eagles</b>				
Osprey	r		r	
Bald Eagle	f	o	f	r
• Northern Harrier	c	f	c	o
• Sharp-shinned Hawk	f	f	f	r
• Cooper's Hawk	u	u	u	
Northern Goshawk	o		r	r
• Broad-winged Hawk	u	o	u	
• Swainson's Hawk	f	u	f	
• Red-tailed Hawk	c	f	c	o
• Ferruginous Hawk	r	o	r	
Rough-legged Hawk	u		u	r
Golden Eagle	r		r	r
<b>Falcons and Caracaras</b>				
• American Kestrel	f	u	f	
Merlin	r		u	u
Gyr Falcon			o	o
Peregrine Falcon	r	o	r	o
Prairie Falcon	o		r	r
<b>Gallinaceous Birds</b>				
• Gray Partridge	u	u	u	u
• Ring-necked Pheasant	f	f	f	f
• Ruffed Grouse	u	u	u	u
• Sharp-tailed Grouse	f	f	f	f
2 Greater Prairie-Chicken ( <i>Extirpated</i> )				
• Wild Turkey	u	u	u	u
<b>Rails</b>				
• Yellow Rail	r	o	r	
• Virginia Rail	u	u	u	
• Sora	c	c	c	
• American Coot	a	a	a	
<b>Cranes</b>				
• Sandhill Crane	a	r	a	
Whooping Crane	o		o	

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Plovers</b>				
Black-bellied Plover	f		f	
American Golden-Plover	f		f	
Semipalmated Plover	u	u	u	
• Piping Plover	o	o	o	
• Killdeer	c	c	c	
<b>Stilts and Avocets</b>				
• American Avocet	c	f	c	
<b>Sandpipers and Phalaropes</b>				
Greater Yellowlegs	f	f	f	
Lesser Yellowlegs	c	c	c	
Solitary Sandpiper	u	u	u	
• Willet	f	f	f	
• Spotted Sandpiper	f	f	f	
• Upland Sandpiper	f	f	u	
Hudsonian Godwit	u	o	o	
• Marbled Godwit	f	f	f	
Ruddy Turnstone	r	o	o	
Red Knot	o	o	o	
Sanderling	u	u	u	
Semipalmated Sandpiper	a	c	a	
Western Sandpiper	o	o	o	
Least Sandpiper	c	f	c	
White-rumped Sandpiper	a	f	o	
Baird's Sandpiper	c	f	c	
Pectoral Sandpiper	c	f	c	
Dunlin	u		o	
Stilt Sandpiper	f	c	c	
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	o		o	
Short-billed Dowitcher	f	f	f	
Long-billed Dowitcher	c	c	a	
• Common Snipe	f	u	c	
• Wilson's Phalarope	c	a	a	
Red-necked Phalarope	a	a	a	
<b>Skuas, Jaegers, Gulls, and Terns</b>				
• Franklin's Gull	a	a	a	
Bonaparte's Gull	r	r	u	
• Ring-billed Gull	a	c	a	
• California Gull	u	r	u	
Herring Gull	u		u	
• Common Tern	f	r	f	
• Forster's Tern	f	f	f	
• Black Tern	a	c	a	
<b>Pigeons and Doves</b>				
• Rock Dove	u	u	u	u
• Mourning Dove	c	c	a	o

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Cuckoos and Anis</b>				
• Black-billed Cuckoo	u	u	r	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	o			
<b>Typical Owls</b>				
• Eastern Screech-Owl	r	r	r	r
• Great Horned Owl	f	f	f	f
Snowy Owl	r		r	r
• Burrowing Owl	o	o	o	
• Long-eared Owl (i)	u	u	r	o
• Short-eared Owl (i)	u	u	u	r
Boreal Owl				o
Northern Saw-whet Owl	o		o	o
<b>Nightjars</b>				
• Common Nighthawk	u	r	u	
• Common Poorwill	o	o	o	
Whip-poor-will	o	o		
<b>Swifts</b>				
Chimney Swift	o		o	
<b>Hummingbirds</b>				
• Ruby-throated Hummingbird	r	r	r	
<b>Kingfishers</b>				
• Belted Kingfisher	u	u	u	o
<b>Woodpeckers</b>				
• Red-headed Woodpecker	r	o	r	
• Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	u	u	u	
• Downy Woodpecker	u	u	u	u
• Hairy Woodpecker	u	u	u	u
• Northern Flicker	f	f	f	o
<b>Tyrant Flycatchers</b>				
Olive-sided Flycatcher	r	r	r	
Western Wood-Pewee	o	o	o	
• Eastern Wood-Pewee	f	f	f	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	o		o	
• Alder Flycatcher	u	r	r	
• Willow Flycatcher	f	f	f	
• Least Flycatcher	c	c	c	
• Eastern Phoebe	r	r	r	
• Say's Phoebe	r	r	r	
• Great Crested Flycatcher	f	f	u	
• Western Kingbird	c	c	c	
• Eastern Kingbird	c	c	c	
<b>Shrikes</b>				
• Loggerhead Shrike	r	r	r	o
Northern Shrike	u		u	u

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Vireos</b>				
• Yellow-throated Vireo	u	u	u	
• Blue-headed Vireo	u		u	
• Warbling Vireo	f	f	f	
• Philadelphia Vireo	r	o	r	
• Red-eyed Vireo	c	c	c	
<b>Crows, Jays, and Magpies</b>				
• Blue Jay	f	u	f	u
• Black-billed Magpie	f	f	f	f
• American Crow	a	f	a	u
• Common Raven	r	r	o	o
<b>Larks</b>				
• Horned Lark	a	f	a	f
<b>Swallows</b>				
• Purple Martin	f	f	f	
• Tree Swallow	c	f	u	
• Northern Rough-winged Swallow	f	f	r	
• Bank Swallow	a	c	a	
• Cliff Swallow	a	a	a	
• Barn Swallow	a	c	a	
<b>Titmice and Chickadees</b>				
• Black-capped Chickadee	f	f	f	f
<b>Nuthatches</b>				
• Red-breasted Nuthatch ( <i>i</i> )	u	r	u	r
• White-breasted Nuthatch	u	u	u	u
<b>Creepers</b>				
• Brown Creeper	u		u	r
<b>Wrens</b>				
• Rock Wren	r	r	r	
• House Wren	c	c	c	
• Winter Wren			o	
• Sedge Wren ( <i>i</i> )	c	c	c	
• Marsh Wren	c	c	c	
<b>Kinglets</b>				
• Golden-crowned Kinglet	f		f	r
• Ruby-crowned Kinglet	f		f	
<b>Thrushes</b>				
• Eastern Bluebird	u	u	u	
• Mountain Bluebird	u	u	u	
• Townsend's Solitaire	o		o	o
• Veery	f	f	u	
• Gray-cheeked Thrush	f		r	

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
• Swainson's Thrush	c		f	
• Hermit Thrush	u		u	
• American Robin	a	c	a	r
<b>Mimic Thrushes</b>				
• Gray Catbird	f	f	f	
• Northern Mockingbird	o	o	o	
• Brown Thrasher	f	f	f	
<b>Starlings</b>				
• European Starling	c	f	a	u
<b>Wagtails and Pipits</b>				
• American Pipit	u		f	
• Sprague's Pipit	f	f	u	
<b>Waxwings</b>				
• Bohemian Waxwing ( <i>i</i> )	c		c	c
• Cedar Waxwing	f	c	c	u
<b>Wood Warblers</b>				
• Tennessee Warbler	c	r	f	
• Orange-crowned Warbler	f	r	c	
• Nashville Warbler	u		u	
• Northern Parula	o		o	
• Yellow Warbler	c	c	c	
• Chestnut-sided Warbler	o		r	
• Magnolia Warbler	u		u	
• Cape May Warbler	o		o	
• Black-throated Blue Warbler	o		o	
• Yellow-rumped Warbler	a	o	a	
• Black-throated Green Warbler	o		r	
• Blackburnian Warbler	o		r	
• Palm Warbler	u		u	
• Bay-breasted Warbler	o		r	
• Blackpoll Warbler	c		f	
• Black-and-white Warbler	f	u	f	
• American Redstart	f	u	f	
• Ovenbird	f	f	u	
• Northern Waterthrush	f	r	u	
• Connecticut Warbler	r	o	o	
• Mourning Warbler	u	o	r	
• MacGillivray's Warbler	o		o	
• Common Yellowthroat	c	c	c	
• Wilson's Warbler	u		f	
• Canada Warbler	r		r	
• Yellow-breasted Chat	r	r	o	
<b>Tanagers</b>				
• Scarlet Tanager	o	o		
• Western Tanager			o	

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Sparrows and Towhees</b>				
• Spotted Towhee	f	f	f	
Eastern Towhee	o		o	
American Tree Sparrow	a		a	u
• Chipping Sparrow	c	u	c	
• Clay-colored Sparrow	a	a	a	
• Field Sparrow	r	r	r	
• Vesper Sparrow	c	c	c	
• Lark Sparrow	u	u	r	
• Lark Bunting ( <i>i</i> )	u	u	u	
• Savannah Sparrow	a	c	a	
• Grasshopper Sparrow ( <i>i</i> )	c	c	c	
• Baird's Sparrow ( <i>i</i> )	f	f	f	
• LeConte's Sparrow ( <i>i</i> )	f	f	f	
• Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	f	f	f	
Fox Sparrow	r		u	
• Song Sparrow	c	f	c	o
Lincoln's Sparrow	f		f	
• Swamp Sparrow	f	r	f	
White-throated Sparrow	c		c	o
Harris's Sparrow	c		c	o
White-crowned Sparrow	f		f	
Dark-eyed Junco	a	o	a	r
• McCown's Longspur	o	o	o	
Lapland Longspur	a		a	u
Smith's Longspur	r		r	
• Chestnut-collared Longspur	u	u	u	
Snow Bunting	c		a	c
<b>Cardinals, Grosbeaks, and Allies</b>				
• Rose-breasted Grosbeak	f	f	f	
• Black-headed Grosbeak	r	r	o	
• Lazuli Bunting	r	r	r	
• Indigo Bunting	r	r	r	
• Dickcissel	o	o	o	
<b>Blackbirds and Orioles</b>				
• Bobolink	c	c	f	
• Red-winged Blackbird	a	a	a	o
• Western Meadowlark	a	a	a	o
• Yellow-headed Blackbird	a	a	a	o
Rusty Blackbird	r		f	o
• Brewer's Blackbird	c	f	a	o
• Common Grackle	a	c	a	o
• Brown-headed Cowbird	a	a	u	
• Orchard Oriole	f	f	o	
• Baltimore Oriole	f	f	f	

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Finches</b>				
Pine Grosbeak ( <i>i</i> )	u		u	f
Purple Finch	u		u	r
• House Finch	u	u	u	r
• Red Crossbill ( <i>i</i> )	u	o	u	f
White-winged Crossbill ( <i>i</i> )	o		o	o
Common Redpoll ( <i>i</i> )	a		c	a
Hoary Redpoll	o			o
• Pine Siskin ( <i>i</i> )	c	o	c	f
• American Goldfinch	c	c	c	u
Evening Grosbeak	o		o	o
<b>Old World Sparrows</b>				
• House Sparrow	f	f	f	f

**Birds rarely seen on the refuges  
and are out of their normal range:**

Pacific Loon
Brown Pelican
Tricolored Heron
Green Heron
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
White Ibis
Fulvous Whistling-Duck
Eurasian Wigeon
Harlequin Duck
Red-shouldered Hawk
Black-necked Stilt
Whimbrel
Long-billed Curlew
American Woodcock
Glaucous Gull
Black-legged Kittiwake
Barn Owl
Barred Owl
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Violet-green Swallow
Sage Thrasher
Townsend's Warbler
Prothonotary Warbler
Hooded Warbler
Henslow's Sparrow
Golden-crowned Sparrow
Bullock's Oriole
Lesser Goldfinch

**For more information about the national wildlife refuges  
along the Souris River, contact:**

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