



Birds of *Little River National Wildlife Refuge*

How to Use Your Checklist

Little River National Wildlife Refuge was established on February 10, 1987 to protect the largest remaining tract of bottomland hardwood forest in the state of Oklahoma. Currently it comprises 15,000 acres. The bottomland hardwood forest on the Refuge is dissected by an intricate system of creeks, sloughs and oxbow lakes that creates a dynamic wetland forest environment extremely rich in wildlife abundance and diversity.

The refuge supports a large diversity of bird species that use the wetland forests as a place to nest and forage. The refuge is home to over 191 species of birds that spend all or part of the year here. The most colorful and abundant species present from spring to fall are the neotropical migrant songbirds. These birds utilize the diverse habitats on the refuge as migratory stopover sites and to nest and raise their young. Birders might view or hear the rare Swainson's warbler among the many birds on the refuge. This forest is one of the few known nesting locations in Oklahoma for this secretive songbird that winters in the Caribbean. The large cypress trees, found along the sloughs and oxbow lakes, provide nesting habitat for great blue herons and egrets during spring and summer. The refuge also serves as the only Oklahoma destination for viewing nesting anhingas.

The checklist that follows is based on refuge observations and studies reported since 1941. Help us expand our list. If you see an unlisted or rare species during your visit, contact the Refuge Headquarters and provide a description and location of the observed bird. Birds do not recognize traditional calendar seasons, therefore, seasonal designations are intended as general guidelines. The 191 species are listed in accordance with the 7th edition (1998) A.O.U. checklist and the 45th Supplement (July 2004). Eighty-five species have been documented as nesting on the refuge.

Symbols used in this list follows.

Occurrence

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

* Nesting Species

m Migrates overhead

Italics equals an endangered species

Abundance

- A Abundant
A very numerous species.
- C Common
Likely to be seen or heard in suitable habitats.
- U Uncommon
Present, might not be seen.
- O Occasional
Seen only a few times during the season.
- R Rare
Unexpected, seen at intervals of 2 to 5 years.
- X Accidental
Fewer than 3 records; migrants outside their range.

Habitat

- a Upland oak-pine forest
- b Bottomland swamps oxbows
- c Rivers, streams, or shoreline
- d Marshes
- e Old clear cuts or brush
- f Open grasslands or fields



Great Egrets Nesting.
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Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	Hab.
Ducks, Geese, and Swans					
___ Greater White-fr. Goose	O	O	O	m	
___ Snow Goose	O	O	O	m	
___ Canada Goose	O	O	O	m	
___ Wood Duck*	C	U	C	C	b,c,d
___ Gadwall	U	C	C	b,c,d	
___ American Wigeon	U	C	C	b,c,d	
___ Mallard	U	C	C	b,c,d	
___ Blue-winged Teal	U	U	b	b,c,d	
___ Northern Shoveler	U	U	O	b,c,d	
___ Northern Pintail	O	O	O	b,c,d	
___ Green-winged Teal	U	U	U	b,c,d	
___ Ring-necked Duck	O	O	O	c	
___ Lesser Scaup	O	O	O	c	
___ Bufflehead	O	O	O	c	
___ Common Goldeneye	O	O	O	c	
___ Hooded Merganser	U	U	U	b,c,d	
___ Ruddy Duck	O	O	O	b,c,d	
Turkeys					
___ Wild Turkey*	U	U	U	U	a,b,e,f
New World Quail					
___ Northern Bobwhite*	O	O	O	O	e,f
Grebes					
___ Pied-billed Grebe*	O	O	O	c	
Pelicans					
___ American White Pelican	O	O		m	
Cormorants					
___ Double-cr. Cormorant	U	U	U	c	
Anhingas					
___ Anhinga*	O	O	O	b,c,d	
Hérons, Bitterns, and Egrets					
___ American Bittern	R	R		d	
___ Least Bittern	R	R		d	
___ Great Blue Heron*	C	C	C	O	b,c,d
___ Great Egret*	U	U	U	b,c,d	
___ Snowy Egret	O	O	O	b,d	
___ Little Blue Heron*	U	U	U	b,d	
___ Cattle Egret	U	U	U	b,c,d	
___ Green Heron	U	U	U	b,d	
___ Yellow-cr. Night-Heron*	O	O	O	b,c,d	
Ibis					
___ White-faced Ibis	R	R		d	
Vultures					
___ Black Vulture*	C	C	C	C	a,b,f
___ Turkey Vulture*	C	C	C	C	a,b,f
Hawks, Kites, Eagles, and Allies					
___ Osprey	O	O		c	
___ Mississippi Kite*	U	U	U	a,b	
___ Bald Eagle	O	O	O	c,e,f	
___ Northern Harrier	R	R		d,f	
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	U	U	U	a,b	
___ Cooper's Hawk	U	U	U	a,b	
___ Red-shouldered Hawk*	C	U	C	C	b
___ Broad-winged Hawk	O	O		a	
___ Swainson's Hawk	O	O		m	
___ Red-tailed Hawk*	U	U	U	U	a,b
___ Golden Eagle	O	O		m	
Falcons					
___ American Kestrel	O	O	O	O	f
Rails, Gallinules, and Coots					
___ Virginia Rail	R	R	O	d	
___ Sora	R	R		d	
___ American Coot	O	O	O	b,c,d	
Plovers					
___ Killdeer*	U	U	U	O	d,f

Sandpipers and Allies

___ Greater Yellowlegs	R	R	d
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	R	R	d
___ Solitary Sandpiper	R	R	b,c,d
___ Spotted Sandpiper	R	R	d
___ Least Sandpiper	R	R	d
___ American Woodcock*	O	R	O Ob,d,e,f

Gulls and Terns

___ Franklin's Gull	O	O	m
___ Ring-billed Gull	O	O	m

Pigeons and Doves

___ Mourning Dove*	U	U	U U e,f
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Cuckoos and Roadrunners

___ Black-billed Cuckoo	O	O	a,b
___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	C	C	C a,b

Typical Owls

___ Eastern Screech-Owl*	O	O	O O a
___ Great Horned Owl*	O	O	O O a
___ Barred Owl*	C	C	C C a,b

Goatsuckers

___ Common Nighthawk*	U	C	U f
___ Chuck-will's-widow*	C	C	C a,b

Swifts

___ Chimney Swift*	U	U	U a
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Hummingbirds

___ Ruby-thr. Hummingbird*	C	C	C a,b,e
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Kingfishers

___ Belted Kingfisher*	O	O	O O b,c
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Woodpeckers

___ Red-headed Woodpecker*	O	O	O O a,b
___ Red-bellied Woodpecker*	C	C	C C a,b
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	U	U	U a,b
___ Downy Woodpecker*	C	C	C C a,b
___ Hairy Woodpecker*	O	O	O O a,b
___ Northern Flicker*	C	U	C a,b
___ Pileated Woodpecker*	U	U	U a,b

Tyrant Flycatchers

___ Olive-sided Flycatcher	O	O	a,b
___ Eastern Wood-Pewee*	C	C	C a,b,c
___ Acadian Flycatcher*	C	C	U b
___ Least Flycatcher	O	O	a,b,e
___ Eastern Phoebe*	U	O	U a,b,e
___ Great Cr. Flycatcher*	C	C	C a,b
___ Eastern Kingbird*	C	C	U a,e
___ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	U	U	U e,f

Shrikes

___ Loggerhead Shrike	R	R	R R f
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Vireos

___ White-eyed Vireo*	C	C	U b,e
___ Bell's Vireo*	O	R	O e
___ Blue-headed Vireo	O	O	O a,b
___ Yellow-throated Vireo*	U	U	U a,b
___ Warbling Vireo*	U	U	U a,b,e
___ Philadelphia Vireo	R	R	a,b
___ Red-eyed Vireo*	C	C	U a,b

Crows and Jays

___ Blue Jay*	C	C	C C a,b,e
___ American Crow*	C	C	C C a,e
___ Fish Crow*	C	C	C Ob,c,d

Swallows

___ Purple Martin*	U	U	U f
___ Tree Swallow	U	U	m
___ No. Rough-w. Swallow	O	O	f
___ Bank Swallow	U	U	m
___ Cliff Swallow	O	O	f
___ Barn Swallow	U	U	f

Chickadees and Titmice

___ Carolina Chickadee*	C	C	C Ca,b,e,f
___ Tufted Titmouse*	C	C	C Ca,b,e,f

Nuthatches

___ Red-breasted Nuthatch	O	O	O a
___ White-br. Nuthatch*	U	U	U a,b

Creepers

___ Brown Creeper	U	U	U a,b
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Wrens

___ Carolina Wren*	C	C	C U a,b,e
___ Bewick's Wren	O	O	O a,b,e
___ House Wren	O	O	a,b,e
___ Winter Wren	U	U	U b
___ Sedge Wren	R	R	R d
___ Marsh Wren	R	R	R d

*Painted Bunting*

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Kinglets

___ Golden-crowned Kinglet	U	U	U a,b,e
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C	C	Ca,b,e

Gnatcatchers

___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	C	C	U a,b,e
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Thrushes

___ Eastern Bluebird*	C	C	C Ca,b,e
___ Veery	R	R	a,b
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush	R	R	a,b
___ Swainson's Thrush	C	U	a,b
___ Hermit Thrush	C	C	C a,b
___ Wood Thrush*	U	U	a,b
___ American Robin*	C	C	U Ca,b,f

Mockingbirds and Thrashers

___ Gray Catbird*	U	U	U R b,e
___ Northern Mockingbird*	O	O	O e,f
___ Brown Thrasher*	C	C	C U a,b,e,f

Waxwings

___ Cedar Waxwing	U	U	U a,b
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Starlings

___ European Starling*	O	O	O O f
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Wood-Warblers

___ Blue-winged Warbler	R	R	b,c
___ Tennessee Warbler	U	O	a
___ Golden-winged Warbler	R	R	a,b
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	U	U	O a,b,e
___ Nashville Warbler	U	U	a,b,e
___ Northern Parula*	C	U	O a,b
___ Yellow Warbler	O	O	a,b,e
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler	O	O	a,b,e
___ Magnolia Warbler	O	O	a,b,e
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	U	C	U a,b,e
___ Black-thr. Green Warbler	U	O	a,b,e
___ Blackburnian Warbler	O	O	a,b,e
___ Yellow-throated Warbler*	C	U	U a,b,e
___ Pine Warbler*	C	U	C a
___ Prairie Warbler*	O	O	O a,b,e
___ Blackpoll Warbler	R	R	a,b,e
___ Cerulean Warbler	R	R	a,b,e
___ Black-and-white Warbler*	C	U	U a,b,e
___ American Redstart*	U	O	U a,b,e
___ Prothonotary Warbler*	C	C	U b,c
___ Worm-eating Warbler	R	R	b,c
___ Swainson's Warbler*	U	U	R b,c
___ Ovenbird	U	U	b,c
___ Northern Waterthrush	O	O	b,c
___ Louisiana Waterthrush*	U	U	U b,c
___ Kentucky Warbler*	C	C	U b,c
___ Mourning Warbler	R	R	a,b,e
___ Common Yellowthroat*	U	U	U R b,c,d

___ Hooded Warbler*	C	C	C b,c
___ Wilson's Warbler	O	O	b,c
___ Yellow-breasted Chat*	C	C	O e,f

Tanagers

___ Summer Tanager*	C	C	C a,b
___ Scarlet Tanager	R	R	a,b

Towhees, Sparrows, and Allies

___ Eastern Towhee	U	U	U e,f
___ Spotted Towhee	O	O	O e,f
___ Chipping Sparrow*	U	U	U O e,f
___ Field Sparrow*	U	U	U U e,f
___ Lark Sparrow*	R	R	R e,f
___ Savannah Sparrow	O	R	R e,f
___ Le Conte's Sparrow	R	R	R a,e,f
___ Fox Sparrow	O	U	U a,b,e,f
___ Song Sparrow	C	C	Ca,b,e,f
___ Lincoln's Sparrow	U	U	O a,b,e,f
___ Swamp Sparrow	U	U	U b,d,e,f
___ White-thr. Sparrow	C	C	Ca,b,e,f
___ White-cr. Sparrow	O	O	O a,b,e,f
___ Dark-eyed Junco	C	C	Ca,b,e,f

Cardinals, Grosbeaks, and Buntings

___ Northern Cardinal*	C	C	C Ca,b,e
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	O	O	O a,b
___ Blue Grosbeak*	U	U	O a,b,e
___ Indigo Bunting*	C	C	C a,b,e
___ Painted Bunting	R	R	a,b,e

Blackbirds

___ Red-winged Blackbird*	C	U	C Cc,d,e,f
___ Eastern Meadowlark*	O	O	O O f
___ Rusty Blackbird	O	O	Ob,c,d,f
___ Common Grackle*	C	C	C Ob,d,e,f
___ Brown-hd. Cowbird*	U	U	U U a,d,e,f
___ Orchard Oriole*	U	U	O a,b,e,f
___ Baltimore Oriole*	U	U	O a,b,e

Finches

___ Purple Finch	O	U	U a,b,e,f
___ Pine Siskin	O	O	U a,b,e,f
___ American Goldfinch*	U	U	U U a,b,e,f
___ House Finch	R	R	R Ra,b,e,f