

**Seney National Wildlife Refuge**  
1674 Refuge Entrance Road  
Seney, MI 49883  
906/586 9851

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

**Web:** [www.fws.gov/refuge/seney](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/seney)  
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**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

# Seney

## *National Wildlife Refuge Bird Checklist*





*This goose, designed by J.N. "Ding" Darling in the 1930s, has become a symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.*

## Welcome to Seney National Wildlife Refuge

Seney National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) was established in 1935 for the protection and production of migratory birds and other wildlife. The refuge's 95,238 acres include a rich mosaic of marshes, swamps, bogs and forests, which provide habitat for over 200 species of birds. Seney NWR is known for its abundance of trumpeter swans, common loons, bald eagles, osprey and sandhill cranes, which are commonly seen while driving the Marshland Wildlife Drive or walking the Pine Ridge Nature Trail. Other familiar favorites include the American bittern, rails, and numerous warbler species found on the refuge.

If you are searching for a specific bird, a little research into its favorite habitat and typical behaviors may be helpful. Bird identification guides and binoculars can be checked out from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Visitor Center from May 15th to October 20th for your viewing pleasure.

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

1. Observe and photograph wildlife without chasing or repeatedly flushing the animal.
2. Stay an appropriate distance from nests so the parents are not scared away, leaving the chicks exposed to danger.
3. Overwintering birds need all their energy to survive. Avoid disturbing them if possible.
4. Birds and other wildlife depend on plants such as berries and seeds for food. Please be considerate of these needs.
5. Stay on existing roads, trails and pathways to avoid trampling habitat.
6. Be sure to take all trash with you, as wildlife has been known to die when becoming entangled in fishing line or after consuming litter.

7. Respect all signs, laws and regulations. Areas may be closed to reduce disturbance to nesting or migrating birds.

The Marshland Wildlife Drive is closed to motorized vehicles from October 21<sup>st</sup> to May 14<sup>th</sup> each year for the protection of migratory, resident and nesting birds.

Primary sources for this list include the Seney Comprehensive Conservation Plan, volunteers, researchers, staff members, and the American Birding Association. This list includes birds known to be found on the Seney NWR and surrounding lands. If you should find an interesting or unusual species, please stop by the Visitor Center and record it in the observation log. Photos are always appreciated.

### 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
<b>Swans, Geese, and Ducks</b>				
___ Greater White-fronted Goose..... r	-	-	-	-
___ Snow Goose..... o	-	r	-	-
___ Canada Goose* ..... a	a	a	u	-
___ Trumpeter Swan*..... c	a	c	u	-
___ Tundra Swan..... o	r	o	-	-
___ Wood Duck* ..... c	c	a	-	-
___ Gadwall..... o	o	o	-	-
___ Eurasian Widgeon..... r	-	-	-	-
___ American Wigeon*..... c	o	c	-	-
___ American Black Duck* ..... o	u	o	-	-
___ Mallard* ..... a	c	a	-	-
___ Blue-winged Teal*..... c	u	c	-	-
___ Green-winged Teal..... o	o	u	-	-
___ Northern Shoveler..... o	r	o	-	-
___ Northern Pintail..... o	r	o	-	-
___ Canvasback..... o	o	o	-	-
___ Redhead..... o	r	o	-	-
___ Ring-necked Duck* ..... a	a	a	-	-
___ Greater Scaup..... r	o	o	-	-
___ Lesser Scaup ..... u	r	u	-	-
___ Long-tailed Duck ..... r	r	r	-	-
___ Bufflehead ..... c	r	u	-	-
___ Common Goldeneye* ..... c	r	c	-	-
___ Hooded Merganser*..... c	u	c	-	-
___ Common Merganser*..... c	u	c	-	-
___ Red-breasted Merganser..... u	o	u	-	-
___ Ruddy Duck ..... r	r	r	-	-



Common Terns, *Laura Wong*

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Grouse and Turkeys</b>				
___ Ruffed Grouse*..... c	c	c	c	c
___ Spruce Grouse* ..... u	u	u	u	u
___ Sharp-tailed Grouse* ..... c	c	c	c	c
___ Wild Turkey ..... o	o	r	-	-
<b>Loons</b>				
___ Common Loon* ..... c	c	c	-	-
<b>Grebes</b>				
___ Pied-billed Grebe* ..... c	c	c	-	-
___ Horned Grebe..... o	r	o	-	-
___ Red-necked Grebe ..... o	r	o	-	-
<b>Cormorants</b>				
___ Double-crested Cormorant..... o	o	o	-	-
<b>Pelicans</b>				
___ American White Pelican ..... o	r	o	-	-
<b>Hérons and Bitterns</b>				
___ American Bittern* ..... c	c	u	-	-
___ Least Bittern* ..... r	r	-	-	-
___ Great Blue Heron* ..... c	c	c	-	-
___ Snowy Egret..... -	r	-	-	-
___ Great Egret..... o	o	o	-	-
___ Green Heron ..... o	o	r	-	-
___ Black-crowned Night-Heron ..... r	r	-	-	-
___ Little Blue Heron..... -	r	-	-	-
<b>Vultures</b>				
___ Turkey Vulture* ..... c	c	c	-	-



Osprey on Nest, *Laura Wong*

**Common Name**      **Sp**    **S**    **F**    **W**

**Ospreys**

— Osprey\* ..... c    c    c    -

**Hawks and Eagles**

— Bald Eagle\* ..... c    c    c    c  
— Northern Harrier\* ..... c    c    c    -  
— Sharp-shinned Hawk\* ..... u    u    u    -  
— Cooper's Hawk\* ..... u    u    o    -  
— Northern Goshawk\* ..... o    o    o    o  
— Red-shouldered Hawk ..... o    o    o    -  
— Broad-winged Hawk\* ..... c    c    c    -  
— Red-tailed Hawk\* ..... u    u    u    -  
— Rough-legged Hawk ..... u    -    u    -  
— Golden Eagle ..... r    -    -    r

**Falcons**

— American Kestrel\* ..... u    u    u    -  
— Merlin\* ..... c    c    c    o  
— Peregrine Falcon ..... r    r    r    -

**Rails and Coots**

— Yellow Rail\* ..... o    o    o    -  
— Virginia Rail\* ..... u    c    u    -  
— Sora\* ..... u    c    u    -  
— American Coot ..... o    r    u    -

**Cranes**

— Sandhill Crane\* ..... c    c    c    -

**Plovers**

— Black-bellied Plover ..... o    r    o    -  
— American Golden-Plover ..... o    r    u    -  
— Semipalmated Plover ..... u    o    u    -  
— Killdeer\* ..... u    u    u    -

**Sandpipers**

— Spotted Sandpiper\* ..... c    c    c    -  
— Solitary Sandpiper ..... u    u    u    -  
— Greater Yellowlegs ..... c    u    c    -  
— Lesser Yellowlegs ..... u    u    u    -  
— Upland Sandpiper\* ..... o    u    o    -  
— Wimbrel ..... r    -    -    -  
— Semipalmated Sandpiper ..... u    o    u    -  
— Least Sandpiper ..... o    u    -    -  
— White-rumped Sandpiper ..... -    r    r    -  
— Baird's Sandpiper ..... -    r    r    -  
— Pectoral Sandpiper ..... o    r    o    -  
— Dunlin ..... o    -    o    -  
— Wilson's Snipe\* ..... a    a    a    -  
— American Woodcock\* ..... u    u    u    -  
— Buff-breasted Sandpiper ..... -    -    r    -  
— Short-billed Dowitcher ..... o    r    o    -  
— Stilt Sandpiper ..... r    r    r    -  
— Sanderling ..... -    -    u    -

**Common Name**      **Sp**    **S**    **F**    **W**

**Gulls and Terns**

— Bonaparte's Gull ..... o    r    o    -  
— Ring-billed Gull ..... c    c    c    -  
— Herring Gull ..... c    c    c    -  
— Caspian Tern ..... c    c    c    -  
— Black Tern\* ..... o    u    o    -  
— Common Tern\* ..... c    c    u    -

**Pigeons and Doves**

— Mourning Dove ..... c    c    c    -  
— Rock Pigeon ..... u    u    u    -

**Cuckoos**

— Black-billed Cuckoo\* ..... u    u    u    -  
— Yellow-billed Cuckoo ..... -    r    -    -

**Owls**

— Great Horned Owl\* ..... u    o    u    u  
— Snowy Owl ..... r    -    r    r  
— Northern Hawk Owl ..... r    -    -    r  
— Barred Owl\* ..... c    c    c    c  
— Great Gray Owl\* ..... r    o    r    r  
— Long-eared Owl ..... o    o    o    -  
— Short-eared Owl ..... o    o    o    -  
— Boreal Owl ..... o    -    o    o  
— Northern Saw-whet Owl\* ..... o    o    o    o

**Nightjars**

— Common Nighthawk\* ..... u    u    u    -  
— Eastern Whip-poor-will\* ..... o    o    o    -

**Swifts**

— Chimney Swift ..... u    u    -    -

**Hummingbirds**

— Ruby-throated Hummingbird\* ..... u    c    u    -

**Kingfishers**

— Belted Kingfisher\* ..... c    c    c    -

**Woodpeckers**

— Red-headed Woodpecker ..... r    r    r    -  
— Red-bellied Woodpecker ..... r    r    r    r  
— Yellow-bellied Sapsucker\* ..... c    c    c    -  
— Downy Woodpecker\* ..... c    c    c    c  
— Hairy Woodpecker\* ..... c    c    c    c  
— Black-backed Woodpecker\* ..... u    u    u    r  
— Northern Flicker\* ..... c    c    c    r  
— Pileated Woodpecker\* ..... c    c    c    c

**Flycatchers**

— Olive-sided Flycatcher\* ..... u    u    u    -  
— Eastern Wood-Pewee\* ..... u    u    u    -  
— Yellow-bellied Flycatcher\* ..... o    u    o    -  
— Alder Flycatcher\* ..... u    c    u    -  
— Least Flycatcher\* ..... u    c    u    -  
— Eastern Phoebe\* ..... c    c    c    -

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
___Great Crested Flycatcher* .....	u		u	-
___Eastern Kingbird* .....	c		u	-
<b>Shrikes</b>				
___Northern Shrike.....	o	-	o	o
<b>Vireos</b>				
___Blue-headed Vireo*.....	u		u	-
___Warbling Vireo.....	u		u	-
___Red-eyed Vireo* .....	c		c	-
___Philadelphia Vireo.....	o		r	-
<b>Jays and Crows</b>				
___Blue Jay* .....	c		c	c
___Gray Jay* .....	u		u	c
___American Crow*.....	a		a	e
___Common Raven* .....	c		c	c
<b>Larks</b>				
___Horned Lark* .....	r		r	u
<b>Swallows</b>				
___Purple Martin* .....	o		o	-
___Tree Swallow* .....	c		c	-
___Northern Rough-winged Swallow* .....	u		u	-
___Bank Swallow* .....	u		o	u
___Cliff Swallow* .....	u		o	u
___Barn Swallow* .....	u		u	-
<b>Chickadees and Titmice</b>				
___Black-capped Chickadee* .....	a		a	a
___Boreal Chickadee* .....	r		r	o
<b>Nuthatches</b>				
___Red-breasted Nuthatch* .....	c		c	c
___White-breasted Nuthatch* .....	u		u	u
<b>Creepers</b>				
___Brown Creeper* .....	u		u	u
<b>Wrens</b>				
___House Wren .....	o		o	-
___Winter Wren* .....	u		o	-
___Sedge Wren* .....	u		c	u
___Marsh Wren* .....	u		u	-
<b>Kinglets and Gnatcatchers</b>				
___Golden-crowned Kinglet* .....	c		c	c
___Ruby-crowned Kinglet* .....	u		u	-
___Blue-gray Gnatcatcher .....	u		r	r
<b>Thrushes</b>				
___Eastern Bluebird* .....	u		u	-
___Veery* .....	u		u	-
___Swainson's Thrush* .....	u		u	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
___Hermit Thrush* .....	c		c	-
___Gray-cheeked Thrush.....	o		-	-
___Wood Thrush* .....	u		o	u
___American Robin* .....	a		a	a
<b>Mockingbirds and Thrashers</b>				
___Gray Catbird* .....	u		c	u
___Northern Mockingbird.....	r		r	-
___Brown Thrasher* .....	u		u	o
<b>Starlings</b>				
___European Starling* .....	c		a	c
<b>Pipits</b>				
___American Pipit.....	o		-	c
<b>Waxwings</b>				
___Bohemian Waxwing.....	o		-	o
___Cedar Waxwing* .....	a		a	a
<b>Longspurs</b>				
___Lapland Longspur .....	o		-	o
___Snow Bunting .....	c		r	c
<b>Wood Warblers</b>				
___Golden-winged Warbler* .....	o		o	-
___Tennessee Warbler.....	c		u	c
___Orange-crowned Warbler.....	o		r	o
___Nashville Warbler* .....	c		c	c
___Northern Parula* .....	u		u	u
___Yellow Warbler*.....	a		a	c
___Chestnut-sided Warbler* .....	u		u	u
___Magnolia Warbler* .....	u		u	c
___Cape May Warbler* .....	c		u	c
___Black-throated Blue Warbler* .....	u		o	u
___Yellow-rumped Warbler*.....	a		a	a
___Black-throated Green Warbler*....	c		c	c
___Blackburnian Warbler* .....	u		u	u
___Pine Warbler* .....	a		a	a
___Palm Warbler* .....	c		u	c
___Bay-breasted Warbler .....	c		o	c
___Blackpoll Warbler .....	u		-	u
___Black-and-white Warbler* .....	c		c	c
___American Redstart* .....	c		c	c
___Ovenbird* .....	a		a	c
___Northern Waterthrush.....	u		o	u
___Connecticut Warbler.....	u		o	o
___Mourning Warbler* .....	u		o	u
___Common Yellowthroat* .....	a		a	a
___Wilson's Warbler .....	u		o	u
___Canada Warbler.....	u		o	u
___Blue-winged Warbler.....	-		r	-
___Prothonotary Warbler .....	u		-	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Sparrows</b>				
—Eastern Towhee .....	o	u	o	-
—American Tree Sparrow .....	c	-	c	o
—Chipping Sparrow* .....	c	c	c	-
—Clay-colored Sparrow .....	o	u	o	-
—Vesper Sparrow* .....	c	u	c	-
—Lark Sparrow .....	r	-	-	-
—Savannah Sparrow* .....	c	c	c	-
—Le Conte's Sparrow* .....	u	u	o	-
—Fox Sparrow .....	o	-	o	-
—Song Sparrow* .....	a	a	a	-
—Lincoln's Sparrow* .....	u	u	u	-
—Swamp Sparrow* .....	a	a	a	-
—White-throated Sparrow* .....	c	a	c	-
—Harris's Sparrow .....	o	r	o	o
—White-crowned Sparrow .....	c	u	c	-
—Dark-eyed Junco* .....	a	c	a	o
—Grasshopper Sparrow .....	r	-	-	-
<b>Tanagers and Buntings</b>				
—Northern Cardinal .....	o	o	u	r
—Rose-breasted Grosbeak* .....	u	c	c	-
—Blue Grosbeak .....	-	r	-	-
—Indigo Bunting .....	u	c	u	-
—Field Sparrow .....	o	o	-	-
—Scarlet Tanager .....	o	o	-	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Blackbirds and Orioles</b>				
—Bobolink* .....	u	u	u	-
—Red-winged Blackbird* .....	a	a	a	-
—Eastern Meadowlark* .....	o	o	o	-
—Western Meadowlark .....	-	r	r	-
—Rusty Blackbird .....	u	-	u	o
—Brewer's Blackbird* .....	o	-	o	-
—Common Grackle* .....	a	a	a	o
—Brown-headed Cowbird* .....	c	c	c	-
—Baltimore Oriole* .....	u	u	o	-
—Yellow-headed Blackbird .....	-	r	-	-
<b>Finches</b>				
—Pine Grosbeak .....	u	r	u	c
—Purple Finch* .....	c	c	c	-
—Red Crossbill* .....	u	r	u	u
—White-winged Crossbill* .....	o	r	r	u
—Common Redpoll .....	c	-	c	a
—Hoary Redpoll .....	-	r	-	r
—Pine Siskin .....	c	r	c	c
—American Goldfinch* .....	c	a	c	o
—Evening Grosbeak* .....	u	u	u	c
<b>Old World Sparrows</b>				
—House Sparrow* .....	o	r	o	r



Ringed-neck Duck ducklings, *Laura Wong*