

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Washita

*National Wildlife
Refuge*

Birds



**Welcome to
Birding at
Washita
National Wildlife
Refuge**

Washita National Wildlife Refuge is operated by the U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service primarily to provide a resting and feeding area for migrating and wintering waterfowl. The 8,200 acre refuge on the mixed grass plains of west-central Oklahoma is superimposed on the upper reaches of Foss Reservoir. The reservoir was developed by the Bureau of Reclamation. The southern portion of the lake is administered as a State Park. The reservoir and waterfowl refuge are ideally located in the Central Flyway.

Washita's open waters, shallow marshes and 2,100 acres of planted crops are heavily used by migrating waterfowl and sandhill cranes. Other water and marsh birds enjoy the refuge in lesser numbers. Diversity of habitats attracts and provides for many other species of migratory and resident birds. Fields of native and introduced grasses are part of the refuge uplands. Brushy draws and bottomlands and wooded creek and river banks are scattered throughout. Washita lies within the transition zone between the tall grass and short grass prairies. Both eastern and western species of birds occur on the refuge.

This list includes 271 species of birds that have been identified on or adjacent to Washita National Wildlife Refuge since its establishment in 1961. They are listed in accordance with the 7th edition (1998) A.O.U. checklist through the 43rd Supplement to the AOU Checklist (July 2002). All visitors are welcome to report unusual bird sightings to the refuge headquarters.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Photograph by Nova Silvy

How to use your checklist

Symbols used in this list are defined as follows:

Occurrence

Sp Spring March - May

S Summer June - August

F Fall September - November

W Winter December - February

* Nests locally

Federally Endangered or Threatened Species are listed in italics

Abundance

A Abundant

A common species that is very numerous.

C Common

Certain to be seen in suitable habitats.

U Uncommon

Present, not certain to be seen.

O Occasional

Seen few times during the season

R Rare

Seen at intervals of 2 to 5 years.

X Accidental

Has been seen only once or twice.



Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Loons				
___ Red-throated Loon			x	
___ Pacific Loon				x
___ Common Loon	u	x	u	u
Grebes				
___ Pied-billed Grebe	c	u	c	u
___ Horned Grebe	o		c	c
___ Eared Grebe	u		o	
___ Western Grebe		x	o	r
Pelicans				
___ American White Pelican	c	o	u	r
___ <i>Brown Pelican</i>			x	
Cormorants				
___ Neotropic Cormorant			x	
___ Double-crested Cormorant	c	o	c	c
Darters				
___ Anhinga	x	x		
Hérons, Bitterns and Egrets				
___ American Bittern	u		u	
___ Least Bittern	r		r	
___ Great Blue Heron*	c	c	c	u
___ Great Egret	u	u	u	
___ Snowy Egret	u	u	u	
___ Little Blue Heron	u	o	u	
___ Tricolored Heron		x		
___ Cattle Egret	u	u	u	
___ Green Heron	c	u	u	
___ Black-crowned Night-Heron	u	o	u	
___ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	o	o	o	
Ibises				
___ White Ibis	x			
___ White-faced Ibis	c	r	u	
Vultures				
___ Turkey Vulture*	c	c	c	
Ducks, Geese, and Swans				
___ Greater White-fronted Goose	u		u	c
___ Snow Goose	u		u	c
___ Ross's Goose	u		u	c
___ Canada Goose*	c	u	a	a
___ Brant			x	x
___ Trumpeter Swan				x
___ Tundra Swan	r			o
___ Wood Duck*	u	u	u	r
___ Gadwall	c		c	c
___ American Wigeon	c		a	a
___ American Black Duck			x	x
___ Mallard*	a	u	a	a
___ Blue-winged Teal*	c	o	c	r
___ Cinnamon Teal	o		r	
___ Northern Shoveler	c	o	c	u

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Ducks, Geese, and Swans (cont.)				
___ Northern Pintail	c		u	c
___ Green-winged Teal	c		c	c
___ Canvasback	u		c	u
___ Redhead	c	r	c	c
___ Ring-necked Duck	c		c	c
___ Greater Scaup			r	r
___ Lesser Scaup	u		u	o
___ Long-tailed Duck				x
___ Bufflehead	u		c	u
___ Common Goldeneye	u		o	u
___ Hooded Merganser	u	x	c	c
___ Common Merganser	o	x	o	c
___ Red-breasted Merganser	r		u	u
___ Ruddy Duck	u	r	c	o
Hawks, Kites, and Eagles				
___ Osprey	c	r	u	
___ Mississippi Kite*	c	c	u	
___ <i>Bald Eagle</i>	o		o	u
___ Northern Harrier*	c	o	c	c
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	u		u	u
___ Cooper's Hawk*	u	o	u	u
___ Northern Goshawk			x	
___ Harris's Hawk				x
___ Red-shouldered Hawk				x
___ Swainson's Hawk*	c	u	c	
___ Red-tailed Hawk*	c	c	c	c
___ Ferruginous Hawk	o		o	u
___ Rough-legged Hawk	r		r	o
___ Golden Eagle	r		r	o
Falcons				
___ American Kestrel*	c	u	c	u
___ Merlin	o		o	o
___ Peregrine Falcon	r	x	r	
___ Prairie Falcon	o		o	u
Pheasants, Grouse, and Turkeys				
___ Ring-necked Pheasant	r		r	r
___ Lesser Prairie-Chicken			r	r
___ Wild Turkey*	c	c	c	c
New World Quail				
___ Northern Bobwhite*	c	c	c	c
Rails, Gallinules and Coots				
___ Sora	o	o	o	
___ Common Moorhen	r	r		
___ American Coot	c	r	a	c
Cranes				
___ Sandhill Crane	u		c	u
___ <i>Whooping Crane</i>	r		r	

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Plovers				
___ Black-bellied Plover	u		o	
___ American Golden-Plover	o		r	
___ Snowy Plover	o	r	o	
___ Semipalmated Plover	o		o	
___ Killdeer*	c	c	c	c
Stilts and Avocets				
___ Black-necked Stilt	r			
___ American Avocet	u	o	u	
Sandpipers and Phalaropes				
___ Greater Yellowlegs	c	o	u	r
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	c	u	o	
___ Solitary Sandpiper	u	o	o	
___ Willet	u	o		
___ Spotted Sandpiper	c	o	u	
___ Upland Sandpiper	u	u	o	
___ Whimbrel	o			
___ Long-billed Curlew	u	r		
___ Hudsonian Godwit	r			
___ Marbled Godwit	u	o		
___ Ruddy Turnstone	r			
___ Sanderling	o		o	
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper	c	u	u	
___ Western Sandpiper	u	u	u	
___ Least Sandpiper	c	u	u	r
___ White-rumped Sandpiper	u	o		
___ Baird's Sandpiper	c	u	u	
___ Pectoral Sandpiper	u	o	o	
___ Stilt Sandpiper	c	o	o	
___ Long-billed Dowitcher	c	o	o	
___ Wilson's Snipe	u		u	o
___ Wilson's Phalarope	c	o	o	
Gulls and Terns				
___ Franklin's Gull	c	o	o	
___ Bonaparte's Gull	u		u	c
___ Ring-billed Gull	c	r	c	c
___ Herring Gull	o		o	u
___ Lesser Black-backed Gull				x
___ Common Tern		r	r	
___ Forster's Tern	u	o	o	
___ <i>Least Tern</i>	o	o	o	
___ Black Tern	u	u	u	
Pigeons and Doves				
___ Rock Dove	o	o	o	o
___ Eurasian Collared-Dove			x	x
___ White-winged Dove	x			
___ Mourning Dove*	c	a	a	c
___ Inca Dove			r	

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Cuckoos and Roadrunners				
___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	c	c	u	
___ Greater Roadrunner*	u	u	u	u
Barn Owls				
___ Barn Owl*	u	u	u	u
Typical Owls				
___ Eastern Screech-Owl*	o	o	o	o
___ Great Horned Owl*	c	c	c	c
___ Snowy Owl			x	x
___ Burrowing Owl	r	r	r	r
___ Barred Owl	u	u	u	u
___ Long-eared Owl	r		r	r
___ Short-eared Owl	o		o	o
Goatsuckers				
___ Common Nighthawk*	c	c	c	
___ Common Poorwill	o		o	
___ Chuck-will's-widow	o			
___ Whip-poor-will	x			
Swifts				
___ Chimney Swift	u	o	u	
Hummingbirds				
___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird	u	o	u	
___ Black-chinned Hummingbird	u	u	u	
___ Rufous Hummingbird		r	r	
Kingfishers				
___ Belted Kingfisher*	c	c	c	o
Woodpeckers				
___ Red-headed Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
___ Golden-fronted Woodpecker	r		r	
___ Red-bellied Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	o		o	o
___ Ladder-backed Woodpecker	r			r
___ Downy Woodpecker	u	u	u	c
___ Hairy Woodpecker	u	u	u	c
___ Northern Flicker*	c	u	c	c
Tyrant Flycatchers				
___ Eastern Wood-Pewee	o			
___ Least Flycatcher	o			
___ Eastern Phoebe*	c	c	u	x
___ Say's Phoebe	r			
___ Ash-throated Flycatcher	r		r	
___ Great Crested Flycatcher*	c	c	u	
___ Western Kingbird*	c	u	c	
___ Eastern Kingbird*	c	c	c	
___ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher*	c	c	a	
Shrikes				
___ Loggerhead Shrike*	u	u	u	u

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Vireos				
___ White-eyed Vireo	x			
___ Bell's Vireo*	u	u	o	
___ Yellow-throated Vireo	r			
___ Blue-headed Vireo	r			
___ Warbling Vireo*	c	c	u	
___ Red-eyed Vireo	r			
Crows and Jays				
___ Blue Jay*	c	u	c	o
___ Western Scrub-Jay			x	x
___ American Crow*	c	c	c	c
Larks				
___ Horned Lark*	u	u	u	u
Swallows				
___ Purple Martin	o	o	o	
___ Tree Swallow*	u	u	u	
___ Bank Swallow	u		u	
___ N. Rough-winged Swallow*	u	u	u	
___ Cliff Swallow*	c	a	c	
___ Barn Swallow*	c	a	c	
Chickadees and Titmice				
___ Carolina Chickadee*	c	c	c	c
___ Tufted Titmouse	o	o	o	o
Nuthatches				
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch	o		o	o
___ White-breasted Nuthatch	o		o	o
Creepers				
___ Brown Creeper			o	u
Wrens				
___ Rock Wren	r			
___ Carolina Wren*	u	u	u	o
___ Bewick's Wren*	u	u	u	u
___ House Wren*	o	r	o	
___ Winter Wren	r		r	o
___ Sedge Wren	r		r	r
___ Marsh Wren	o		o	o
Kinglets				
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet	o		o	o
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	u		u	u
Gnatcatchers				
___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	u	u	u	
Thrushes				
___ Eastern Bluebird*	u	u	u	u
___ Mountain Bluebird	o		u	u
___ Townsend's Solitaire			r	r
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush	x			
___ Swainson's Thrush	o		r	
___ Hermit Thrush	o		o	o
___ American Robin*	c	o	c	c

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Mockingbirds and Thrashers				
___ Gray Catbird*	o	o	o	
___ Northern Mockingbird*	c	c	c	u
___ Sage Thrasher	x		x	x
___ Brown Thrasher*	c	c	c	o
___ Curve-billed Thrasher				x
Starlings				
___ European Starling*	u	u	u	u
Pipits				
___ American Pipit	u		u	u
___ Sprague's Pipit	r		r	x
Waxwings				
___ Cedar Waxwing	c		u	c
Wood-Warblers				
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	o		u	r
___ Nashville Warbler	r		r	
___ Yellow Warbler	u	u	u	
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler				u
___ Black-throated Green Warbler	r			
___ Pine Warbler				x
___ American Redstart	r			
___ Common Yellowthroat*	u	u	o	
___ Wilson's Warbler	r			
___ Yellow-breasted Chat	r		r	
Towhees, Sparrows, and Allies				
___ Spotted Towhee	u		u	u
___ Cassin's Sparrow	o	o		
___ Rufous-crowned Sparrow	r			
___ American Tree Sparrow	u		u	c
___ Chipping Sparrow	c	r	o	
___ Clay-colored Sparrow	c		o	
___ Field Sparrow*	u	u	u	u
___ Vesper Sparrow	c		c	x
___ Lark Sparrow	c	c	u	
___ Lark Bunting	o		o	u
___ Savannah Sparrow	c		c	o
___ Grasshopper Sparrow*	c	c	c	
___ Le Conte's Sparrow	r		r	o
___ Fox Sparrow	o		o	u
___ Song Sparrow	u		u	c
___ Lincoln's Sparrow	o		o	o
___ Swamp Sparrow				o
___ White-throated Sparrow	o		o	o
___ Harris's Sparrow	c		c	c
___ White-crowned Sparrow	c		c	c
___ Dark-eyed Junco	c		c	c
___ McCown's Longspur	o		r	o
___ Lapland Longspur	u		o	u
___ Smith's Longspur				r
___ Chestnut-collared Longspur	o		r	o

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Cardinals and Allies				
___ Northern Cardinal*	c	c	c	c
___ Black-headed Grosbeak	o		r	
___ Blue Grosbeak*	u	u	u	
___ Lazuli Bunting	o			
___ Indigo Bunting*	u	u	u	
___ Painted Bunting*	u	u	u	
___ Dickcissel*	c	c	c	
Blackbirds				
___ Bobolink	r		r	
___ Red-winged Blackbird*	c	c	c	a
___ Eastern Meadowlark*	c	c	c	c
___ Western Meadowlark*	u	u	u	u
___ Yellow-headed Blackbird	u	o	u	x
___ Rusty Blackbird	o		o	o
___ Brewer's Blackbird	u		u	a
___ Common Grackle*	u	c	u	o
___ Great-tailed Grackle	o	o	o	r
___ Brown-headed Cowbird*	c	c	c	a
___ Orchard Oriole*	c	c		
___ Baltimore Oriole*	c	c	u	
___ Bullock's Oriole	o	r	o	
Finches				
___ Purple Finch				x
___ House Finch	u	u	u	u
___ Red Crossbill				x
___ Pine Siskin	u		o	u
___ American Goldfinch*	u	u	u	c
___ Evening Grosbeak				r
Old World Sparrows				
___ House Sparrow*	u	u	u	u



*Northern
Bobwhite*
FWS Photograph

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<http://southwest.fws.gov/refuges/oklahoma/washita/index.htm>

For information on the
National Wildlife Refuge System
1 800/344-WILD

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
<http://www.fws.gov>

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