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For Refuge Information  
1 800 / 344 WILD

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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Audubon

## *National Wildlife Refuge*

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### *Wildlife List*



## Welcome to Audubon National Wildlife Refuge



*This goose,  
designed by J.N.  
“Ding” Darling,  
has become the  
symbol of the  
National Wildlife  
Refuge System.*

### *About This Wildlife Checklist*

Audubon National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) was established in 1956 to replace wildlife habitat that was flooded when the Garrison Dam was built, creating Lake Sakakawea. The Refuge’s 14,735 acres are situated on the southern and eastern areas of Lake Audubon, a sub-impoundment of Lake Sakakawea.

Audubon NWR is managed for optimum protection and enhancement of wildlife habitat with an emphasis on migratory birds. The landscape is marked by numerous “potholes,” or shallow wetlands, amidst the grasslands. These areas, along with the many islands of Lake Audubon, are sanctuaries for many types of nesting birds including waterfowl, shorebirds, and songbirds. Lake Audubon is also highly utilized as a refueling area during spring and fall migrations.

This checklist includes wildlife species seen on the Refuge since 1956 - 246 birds, 34 mammals, 5 reptiles, 4 amphibians, and 37 fish species.

## Seasonal Occurrence

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

c common, certain to be seen  
in suitable habitat  
p present, but not certain to  
be seen  
r rare, seen at intervals of  
2 to 5 years

### *Other Codes*

- denotes a breeding species on the Refuge

Bird species listed as “accidentals” have been sighted very few times. They are found at the end of the common bird name list. Since most birds are migratory, their seasonal occurrence and relative abundance are coded as follows.

## Accessibility Information

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Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Swans, Geese, and Ducks</b>				
Greater White-fronted Goose	c	r	c	
Snow Goose	c	r	c	
Ross's Goose	p		p	
Brant			r	
• Canada Goose	c	c	c	p
Tundra Swan	p		c	
Wood Duck	p	p	p	
• Gadwall	c	c	c	
• American Wigeon	c	c	c	
American Black Duck	r		r	
• Mallard	c	c	c	p
• Blue-winged Teal	c	c	c	
Cinnamon Teal	r	r	r	
• Northern Shoveler	c	c	c	
• Northern Pintail	c	c	c	r
• Green-winged Teal	c	p	c	
• Canvasback	c	c	c	
• Redhead	c	c	c	
Ring-necked Duck	c		c	
Greater Scaup	p		p	
• Lesser Scaup	c	c	c	
White-winged Scoter			p	
Long-tailed Duck ( <i>formerly Oldsquaw</i> )			r	
Bufflehead	c	p	c	
Common Goldeneye	c		c	r
Barrow's Goldeneye			r	
Hooded Merganser	p		p	
Common Merganser	p		p	r
Red-breasted Merganser	r		r	
• Ruddy Duck	c	c	c	
<b>Gallinaceous Birds</b>				
• Gray Partridge	c	c	c	c
• Ring-necked Pheasant	c	c	c	c
• Sharp-tailed Grouse	c	c	c	c
<b>Loons</b>				
Common Loon	r		r	
<b>Grebes</b>				
• Pied-billed Grebe	c	c	c	
Horned Grebe	p	p	p	
Red-necked Grebe	p	r	p	
• Eared Grebe	c	c	p	
• Western Grebe	c	p	c	
<b>Pelicans</b>				
American White Pelican	c	c	c	

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Cormorants</b>				
• Double-crested Cormorant	c	c	c	
<b>Bitterns, Herons, and Egrets</b>				
• American Bittern	c	p	c	
Great Blue Heron	c	p	c	
Great Egret	r	r	r	
Snowy Egret	r	r	r	
Little Blue Heron	r	r	r	
Cattle Egret	r	r	r	
Green Heron	p	p	p	
• Black-crowned Night-Heron	c	c	c	
<b>Ibises and Spoonbills</b>				
White-faced Ibis	r	r	r	
<b>New World Vultures</b>				
Turkey Vulture	r	r	r	
<b>Osprey, Kites, Hawks, and Eagles</b>				
Osprey	r	r	r	
Bald Eagle	p	r	c	p
• Northern Harrier	c	c	c	r
Sharp-shinned Hawk	p		p	
• Cooper's Hawk	r		p	r
Northern Goshawk	r		p	r
Broad-winged Hawk	r		r	
Swainson's Hawk	p	p	p	
• Red-tailed Hawk	p	p	p	
Ferruginous Hawk	p	p	p	
Rough-legged Hawk	p		p	p
Golden Eagle	p	r	p	r
<b>Falcons and Caracaras</b>				
• American Kestrel	c	r	c	
Merlin	p	r	p	
Gyrfalcon				p
Peregrine Falcon	r		r	r
Prairie Falcon	p	r	p	r
<b>Rails</b>				
Yellow Rail	p	p	p	
King Rail	p	p	p	
• Virginia Rail	p	p	p	
• Sora	c	c	c	
• American Coot	c	c	c	
<b>Cranes</b>				
Sandhill Crane	c	r	c	
Whooping Crane	r		r	

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

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Pigeons and Doves</b>				
Rock Pigeon	p	p	p	
• Mourning Dove	c	c	c	
<b>Cuckoos and Anis</b>				
• Black-billed Cuckoo	p	p	p	
<b>Typical Owls</b>				
Eastern Screech-Owl	r	r	r	r
• Great Horned Owl	c	c	c	c
Snowy Owl	p		p	p
• Burrowing Owl	p	r	r	
• Long-eared Owl	p		p	
• Short-eared Owl	c	c	c	r
<b>Nightjars</b>				
• Common Nighthawk	p	r	p	
<b>Swifts</b>				
Chimney Swift	r	r	r	
<b>Hummingbirds</b>				
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	r	r	r	
<b>Kingfishers</b>				
Belted Kingfisher	p	p	p	
<b>Woodpeckers</b>				
Red-headed Woodpecker	p	p	p	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	p	p	p	
Downy Woodpecker	c	p	c	p
Hairy Woodpecker	c	p	c	p
• Northern Flicker	c	c	c	
<b>Tyrant Flycatchers</b>				
Eastern Wood-Pewee	p			
Willow Flycatcher	p	p	p	
Least Flycatcher	p	p	r	
Eastern Phoebe	p	p	p	
Say's Phoebe	p	p	p	
• Western Kingbird	c	c	c	
• Eastern Kingbird	c	c	c	
<b>Shrikes</b>				
Loggerhead Shrike	p	p	p	
Northern Shrike	p		p	p
<b>Vireos</b>				
Blue-headed Vireo	p		p	
Warbling Vireo	p		p	
Red-eyed Vireo	p	p	p	

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Crows, Jays, and Magpies</b>				
• Blue Jay	p	p	p	
• Black-billed Magpie	p	p	p	p
• American Crow	c	p	c	p
<b>Larks</b>				
• Horned Lark	c	c	c	c
<b>Swallows</b>				
• Purple Martin	p	p	p	
• Tree Swallow	p	c	p	
• Northern Rough-winged Swallow	p	p	p	
• Bank Swallow	c	c	c	
• Cliff Swallow	p	p	p	
• Barn Swallow	c	c	c	
<b>Titmice and Chickadees</b>				
• Black-capped Chickadee	c	c	c	c
<b>Nuthatches</b>				
Red-breasted Nuthatch	p		p	p
White-breasted Nuthatch	p	p	p	r
<b>Creepers</b>				
Brown Creeper	p		p	
<b>Wrens</b>				
• House Wren	c	c	p	
• Sedge Wren	c	c	p	
• Marsh Wren	p	p	p	
<b>Kinglets</b>				
Golden-crowned Kinglet	p		p	p
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	p		p	
<b>Thrushes</b>				
Eastern Bluebird	p	p	p	
Mountain Bluebird	p	p	p	
• Swainson's Thrush	p	p	p	
Hermit Thrush	r			
• American Robin	c	c	c	r
<b>Mimic Thrushes</b>				
• Gray Catbird	p	p	p	
Northern Mockingbird		r		
• Brown Thrasher	c	c	p	
<b>Starlings</b>				
• European Starling	p	p	p	p

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Wagtails and Pipits</b>				
American (Water) Pipit	p		p	
• Sprague's Pipit	p	p	p	
<b>Waxwings</b>				
Bohemian Waxwing	p		p	p
• Cedar Waxwing	c	c	c	c
<b>Wood Warblers</b>				
Tennessee Warbler	p	p	p	
Orange-crowned Warbler	p		p	
• Yellow Warbler	c	c	p	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	r			
Magnolia Warbler	p		p	
Cape May Warbler	r			
Yellow-rumped Warbler	p	p	p	
Blackburnian Warbler	p			
Palm Warbler	p			
Blackpoll Warbler	p		p	
Black-and-white Warbler	p		p	
American Redstart	p		p	
Ovenbird	p	p	p	
Northern Waterthrush	p		p	
• Common Yellowthroat	c	c	c	
Wilson's Warbler	r			
• Yellow-breasted Chat	p	p	p	
<b>Sparrows and Towhees</b>				
• Spotted Towhee	p	p	p	
• American Tree Sparrow	c	p	c	p
• Chipping Sparrow	c	c	c	
• Clay-colored Sparrow	c	c	c	
• Brewer's Sparrow	r			
Field Sparrow	p	p	p	
• Vesper Sparrow	p	p	p	
Lark Sparrow	p	p	p	
• Lark Bunting	p	p	p	
• Savannah Sparrow	c	c	c	
• Grasshopper Sparrow	c	c	c	
• Baird's Sparrow	p	p	p	
• Le Conte's Sparrow	p	p	p	
• Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	p	p	p	
• Song Sparrow	c	c	c	
Lincoln's Sparrow	p		p	
Swamp Sparrow	p		p	
White-throated Sparrow	p	p	p	
Harris's Sparrow	p		p	
White-crowned Sparrow	p		p	
Dark-eyed Junco	c		c	c
McCown's Longspur	p		p	p

**Sparrows and Towhees** *continued on next page*

Common Bird Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Sparrows and Towhees</b> <i>continued from previous page</i>				
Lapland Longspur	p		p	p
• Chestnut-collared Longspur	c	c	p	
Snow Bunting	p		p	p
<b>Cardinals, Grosbeaks, and Allies</b>				
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	r			r
Black-headed Grosbeak	p	p		r
Lazuli Bunting	r			
• Dickcissel	p	p	p	
<b>Blackbirds and Orioles</b>				
• Bobolink	c	c	c	
• Red-winged Blackbird	c	c	c	r
• Western Meadowlark	c	c	c	r
• Yellow-headed Blackbird	c	c	c	
• Brewer's Blackbird	p	p	p	
• Common Grackle	c	c	c	
• Brown-headed Cowbird	c	c	c	
• Orchard Oriole	p	p	r	
• Baltimore Oriole	p	p	p	

<b>Finches</b>				
Pine Grosbeak	p		p	p
Purple Finch	p	p	p	
House Finch	p	p	p	
Red Crossbill	p	r	p	r
White-winged Crossbill	r			
Common Redpoll	p		p	p
Pine Siskin	p		p	p
• American Goldfinch	c	c	c	p
Evening Grosbeak				p

<b>Old World Sparrows</b>				
• House Sparrow	c	c	c	c

<b>Accidentals</b>				
Red-throated Loon				
Harlequin Duck				

Reference: *American Ornithologists' Union. 1998. Check-list of North American Birds, 7th ed. American Ornithologists' Union, Washington, D.C. and the AOU (2000, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005) supplements*

Common Mammal Name	Abundance
<b>Shrews</b>	
• Cinerus or Masked Shrew	p
<b>Vesper Bats</b>	
• Little Brown Myotis	p
• Silver-haired Bat	p
• Big Brown Bat	p
<b>Hares and Rabbits</b>	
• Eastern Cottontail	c
• White-tailed Jackrabbit	p
<b>Squirrels</b>	
• Franklin's Ground Squirrel	p
• Richardson's Ground Squirrel	p
• Thirteen-lined Ground Squirrel	p
• Eastern Fox Squirrel	p
<b>Beavers</b>	
• American Beaver	c
<b>Mice, Rats, and Voles</b>	
• Deer Mouse	c
• Northern Grasshopper Mouse	p
• Norway or Brown Rat	p
• House Mouse	c
• Prairie Vole	c
• Meadow Vole	c
• Common Muskrat	c
<b>Jumping Mice</b>	
• Meadow Jumping Mouse	p
• Western Jumping Mouse	p
<b>New World Porcupines</b>	
North American Porcupine	r
<b>Dogs, Foxes, and Wolves</b>	
• Coyote	c
• Red Fox	c
<b>Raccoons, Ringtails, and Coatis</b>	
• Northern Raccoon	c
<b>Weasels, Otters, and Badgers</b>	
• Ermine or Short-tailed Weasel	p
• Long-tailed Weasel	p
• Least Weasel	p
• American Mink	p
• American Badger	p

Common Mammal Name	Abundance
<b>Skunks</b>	
• Striped Skunk	c
<b>Deer</b>	
Wapiti or Elk	r
• White-tailed Deer	c
Moose	r
<b>Pronghorn</b>	
Pronghorn	r

Reference: *Revised Checklist of North American Mammals North of Mexico, 2003*

Common Reptile Name	Abundance
• Common Snapping Turtle	p
• Western Painted Turtle	c
• Plains Garter Snake	c
• Smooth Green Snake	p
• Bull Snake	r

Reference: *The Center for North American Herpetology*, <<http://www.cnah.org>>

Common Amphibian Name	Abundance
• Plains Spadefoot Toad	p
• Leopard Frog	c
• Chorus Frog	p
• Tiger Salamander	p

Reference: *U.S. Geological Survey's Checklist of Amphibian Species and Identification Guide*, <<http://npwrc.usgs.gov/narcam/idguide>>

Common Fish Name	Abundance
<b>Sturgeons</b>	
Pallid Sturgeon	r
Shovelnose Sturgeon	r
<b>Paddlefishes</b>	
Paddlefish	r
<b>Mooneyes</b>	
• Goldeye	c
<b>Carp and Minnows</b>	
Common Carp	c
Western Silvery Minnow	p
• Spottail Shiner	p
• Fathead Minnow	c
Creek Chub	p
<b>Suckers</b>	
• River Carpsucker	p
• White Sucker	p
• Bigmouth Buffalo	p
• Shorthead Redhorse	p
<b>North American Catfishes</b>	
• Black Bullhead	p
Channel Catfish	p
<b>Pikes and Pickerels</b>	
• Northern Pike	p
Muskellunge	r
<b>Smelts</b>	
• Rainbow Smelt	p
<b>Trout, Salmon, and Whitefish</b>	
• Lake Herring or Cisco	p
• Lake Whitefish	p
Rainbow Trout	p
Chinook Salmon	p
Brown Trout	p
<b>Cods</b>	
• Burbot	p
<b>Sticklebacks</b>	
• Brook Stickleback	p
<b>Temperate basses</b>	
• White Bass	p

