

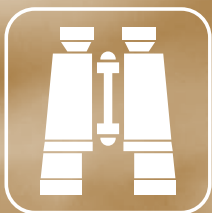
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Tualatin River

*National Wildlife  
Refuge*

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*Watchable Wildlife*





## Welcome to Tualatin River NWR

Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge means different things to different creatures. For some it's a place where they raise their young, and others just a stopover during migration. It's also a place that some only spend the winter, and to others, it is a year-round home.

Established in 1992, the Refuge is located within the floodplain of the Tualatin River basin near Sherwood, Oregon. Refuge habitats are varied and include rivers and streams, seasonal and forested wetlands, riparian areas, grasslands, and forested uplands.

An important breeding area for neotropical migratory songbirds, the Refuge also supports a significant breeding population of wood ducks and hooded mergansers. There is something to experience in every season. From thousands of waterfowl in the winter to breeding songbirds in summer, the Refuge is ever changing.

## Enjoying the Refuge's Wildlife

We encourage you to explore the beauty of this area and stop, look, and listen to the abundant wildlife that call it home. The Refuge is a place where wildlife comes first so think of yourself as a visitor to their home. You will be a more successful wildlife observer if you: move slowly, talk softly, use binoculars, and leave only footprints behind.

The wildlife species in this brochure have been grouped into four categories: birds, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles.

*Red-tailed hawks  
can be seen and  
heard soaring the  
open spaces over  
the Refuge*

## Enjoying the Refuge's Birdlife

Numbers and species of birds you will see here varies according to season, with the greatest numbers present from October to May. Heavy migrations of waterfowl occur during fall and winter. They come here to feed on wetland plants when their northern breeding grounds freeze over. Then, as water levels in the wetlands are drawn down in the spring, a wide variety of shorebirds are attracted to our invertebrate filled mudflats. When the wetlands dry out in spring and summer, songbirds arrive to breed and take shelter on the Refuge.

## Getting the Most from Your Visit

Binoculars or spotting scopes are helpful for observing birds and a good field guide will help you identify what you see. You will see more birds if you time your visit for early morning or evening hours. Sit quietly and wait for the birds to come to you.

When looking at a bird, pay close attention to characteristics such as color, size, shape, wing, and head markings. Always observe first and then refer to your identification book, because the bird may move out of sight quickly. This is especially true of perching birds.

Also, be sure to listen for their calls and sounds. Take note of the type of habitat in which you see the bird, and where in the habitat they are likely to be found – canopy, tree trunk, brushy areas, open water, or ground area.

## You Can Help

Since the establishment of the Refuge, the number of bird species seen here has quadrupled. We are still discovering species that are returning to the area. Keep notes – you may help us record the return of a species to the Tualatin River Valley!

## Seasons

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

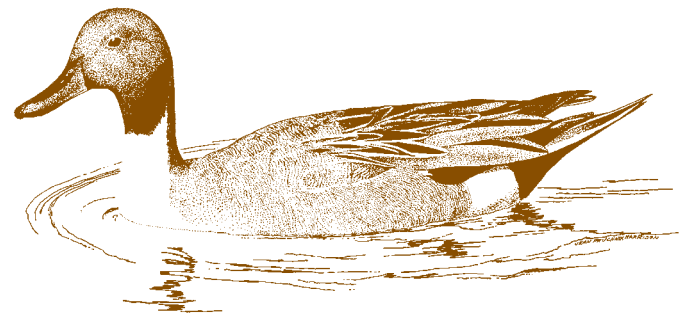
## Seasonal Abundance Codes

a - Abundant – species very numerous and easily seen or heard in suitable habitat.  
c - Common – species likely to be seen or heard in suitable habitat.  
u - Uncommon – usually present but may not be seen or heard in suitable habitat.  
o - Occasional – seen or heard only a few times a season in suitable habitat.  
r - Rare – may not be seen or heard every year in suitable habitat.

## Notes

e - Endangered  
t - Threatened  
s - Special of concern  
b - Breeding – confirmed or presumed to breed and/or nest on the Refuge.  
x - Accidental

The following list of birds contains species that have been recorded on Tualatin River NWR. The common name and taxonomic order used in this list follows that appearing in the 7th edition of the American Ornithologist's Union Check List of North American Birds, published in 1998, and subsequent revisions.



*Northern pintail*



# Birds of Tualatin River NWR

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	N
<b>Grebes</b>					
Pied-billed Grebe	c	c	c	c	b
Horned Grebe				r	
Red-necked Grebe	r				x
Eared Grebe	r				
Western Grebe	r				
<b>Cormorants</b>					
Double-crested Cormorant	u	c	u	c	
<b>Bitterns, Herons and Egrets</b>					
American Bittern	o	o			
Great Blue Heron	c	c	c	c	b
Great Egret	u	u	u	u	
Snowy Egret					x
Green Heron		u			
<b>Ibises and Spoonbills</b>					
White-faced Ibis					sx
<b>New World Vultures</b>					
Turkey Vulture	u	u	u		
<b>Swans, Geese and Ducks</b>					
Greater White-fronted Goose	o		o	o	
Tule White-fronted Goose					x
Snow Goose			r	r	
Ross's Goose				r	
Black Brant				r	
Aleutian Canada Goose					x
Cackling Canada Goose	u		a	a	
Taverner's Canada Goose	u		c	a	
Western Canada Goose	c	c	a	a	b
Dusky Canada Goose	o		o	u	
Lesser Canada Goose	u		c	c	
Tundra Swan			u	u	
Wood Duck	u	c	c	u	b
Gadwall	c	u	o	o	b
Eurasian Wigeon	o		u	u	
American Wigeon	c		a	a	
Mallard	a	a	a	a	b
Blue-winged Teal	u	c	o		b
Cinnamon Teal	c	c	o		b

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	N
Northern Shoveler	c	u	c	c	b
Northern Pintail	c	o	a	a	
Green-winged Teal	u	r	a	a	
Canvasback	o		o	o	
Redhead	r				
Ring-necked Duck	c		a	c	
Lesser Scaup	u		r	o	
Bufflehead	c	o	c	c	b
Common Goldeneye				r	
Hooded Merganser	u	u	u	u	b
Common Merganser	r		r	r	
Ruddy Duck	u	r	u	c	b

## Osprey, Kites, Hawks and Eagles

Osprey	o	o			
Bald Eagle	u	o	u	c	t
Northern Harrier	u	u	c	u	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	u	u			
Cooper's Hawk	u	u	u	u	b
Red-shouldered Hawk					x
Red-tailed Hawk	c	c	c	c	b
Rough-legged Hawk				r	

## Falcons and Caracaras

American Kestrel	u	u	c	c	b
Merlin	r		r	r	
Peregrine Falcon	u		u	c	

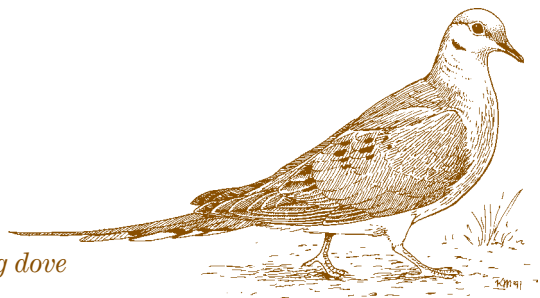
## Gallinaceous Birds

Ring-necked Pheasant	c	c	c	c	b
California Quail	c	c	c	c	b
Northern Bobwhite					x



*California quail*  
© Morris

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	N
<b>Rails</b>					
Virginia Rail	u	u	u	o	b
Sora	u	u	o	r	b
American Coot	c	c	u	c	b
<b>Cranes</b>					
Sandhill Crane			r		
<b>Plovers</b>					
Black-bellied Plover	o				
Semipalmated Plover	o				
Killdeer	a	a	u	u	b
<b>Stilts and Avocets</b>					
Black-necked Stilt	r				
<b>Sandpipers and Phalaropes</b>					
Greater Yellowlegs	c	o	u		
Lesser Yellowlegs	o				
Solitary Sandpiper	r	r			
Spotted Sandpiper	u	c			b
Long-billed Curlew					x
Marbled Godwit					x
Western Sandpiper	o		o		
Least Sandpiper	u		o		
Pectoral Sandpiper					x
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper					x
Dunlin	u		o		
Stilt Sandpiper					x
Short-billed Dowitcher				o	
Long-billed Dowitcher	c		o		
Wilson's Snipe	u	u	o	o	b
Wilson's Phalarope	o	r			
Red-necked Phalarope	o				
Red Phalarope					x



*Mourning dove*  
© Morris

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	N
<b>Skuas, Jaegers, Gulls and Terns</b>					
Bonaparte's Gull	r				
Mew Gull			u		
California Gull			r		
Caspian Tern		r			
Forster's Tern	r				
Black Tern					sx
<b>Pigeons and Doves</b>					
Rock Pigeon		o			
Band-tailed Pigeon	u				
Mourning Dove	c	c	u	o	b
<b>Barn Owls</b>					
Barn Owl	u	u	u	u	b
<b>Typical Owls</b>					
Western Screech-Owl	u	u	u	u	b
Great Horned Owl	u	u	u	u	b
Short-eared Owl	r			r	
<b>Swifts</b>					
Vaux's Swift	c	c			b
<b>Hummingbirds</b>					
Anna's Hummingbird				r	
Rufous Hummingbird	u	u			b
<b>Kingfishers</b>					
Belted Kingfisher	c	c	c	c	b
<b>Woodpeckers</b>					
Red-breasted Sapsucker	o	o	o	o	b
Downy Woodpecker	c	c	c	c	b
Hairy Woodpecker	o	o	o	o	
Northern Flicker	c	c	c	c	b
Pileated Woodpecker	u	u	u	u	b
<b>Tyrant Flycatchers</b>					
Olive-sided Flycatcher	u	u			s
Western Wood-Pewee	u	u			b
Willow Flycatcher	u	u			
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	c	c			b
Say's Phoebe	r				
Western Kingbird	o				
Eastern Kingbird					x

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	N
<b>Shrikes</b>					
Northern Shrike	o		o	o	
<b>Vireos</b>					
Cassin's Vireo	o	o	o		b
Hutton's Vireo		u			
Warbling Vireo					
<b>Crows, Jays and Magpies</b>					
Steller's Jay	u	u	u	u	b
Western Scrub-Jay	c	c	u	u	b
American Crow	c	c	c	c	b
<b>Swallows</b>					
Tree Swallow	c	c			b
Violet-green Swallow	a	c		o	b
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	u	c			
Bank Swallow	u				b
Cliff Swallow	u	u			b
Barn Swallow	a	c			b
<b>Titmice and Chickadees</b>					
Black-capped Chickadee	c	c	c	c	b
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	c	c	c	c	b
<b>Bushtits</b>					
Bushtit	u	u	u	u	b
<b>Nuthatches</b>					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	c	c	c	c	b
White-breasted Nuthatch	r	r	r	r	
<b>Creepers</b>					
Brown Creeper	u	u	u	u	b
<b>Wrens</b>					
Bewick's Wren	c	c	c	c	b
House Wren	u	u	u		b
Winter Wren	u	u	u	u	b
Marsh Wren	u	u	u	o	b
<b>Kinglets</b>					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	u	u	u	u	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	u		u	u	

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	N
<b>Thrushes</b>					
Western Bluebird	c	c		r	b
Swainson's Thrush	u	u			
American Robin	a	a	c	c	b
Varied Thrush				u	
<b>Starlings</b>					
European Starling	c	c	a	c	b
<b>Wagtails and Pipits</b>					
American Pipit	o	o			
<b>Waxwings</b>					
Cedar Waxwing	u	u			
<b>Wood Warblers</b>					
Orange-crowned Warbler	c	c			
Yellow Warbler	o	o			
Yellow-rumped Warbler	c		c		
Black-throated Gray Warbler	o				
Townsend's Warbler	o			r	
Common Yellowthroat	o	u			b
Wilson's Warbler	o	o			
Yellow-breasted Chat	r				
<b>Tanagers</b>					
Western Tanager	u	u			



Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	N
<b>Sparrows and Towhees</b>					
Spotted Towhee	c	c	c	c	b
Chipping Sparrow	o				
Savannah Sparrow	c	c			b
Fox Sparrow	u		u	u	
Song Sparrow	c	c	c	c	b
Lincoln's Sparrow	o				
White-throated Sparrow	o				
White-crowned Sparrow	u	u			
Golden-crowned Sparrow	o				
Dark-eyed Junco	c	u	c	c	b
<b>Cardinals, Grosbeaks and Allies</b>					
Black-headed Grosbeak	c	u			
Lazuli Bunting	u	u			
<b>Blackbirds and Orioles</b>					
Red-winged Blackbird	c	c	c	c	b
Western Meadowlark			o	o	
Yellow-headed Blackbird	r				
Brewer's Blackbird	c	c	c	c	b
Brown-headed Cowbird	c	c	u		b
Bullock's Oriole	o				
<b>Finches</b>					
Purple Finch	c	c			
House Finch	u	c	u	c	b
Red Crossbill	r				
Pine Siskin	u				
Lesser Goldfinch	o				
American Goldfinch	u	c			
Evening Grosbeak	o	o			
<b>Old World Sparrows</b>					
House Sparrow	u	u	u	u	b

*Northern shovelers use specially designed holes on the edge of their bills to filter food out of the water*



# Mammals of Tualatin River NWR

All mammals listed are considered resident species with the exception of the bats, which migrate seasonally.

## Pouched Mammals

### Opossum

(family *Didelphiidae*)  
Virginia opossum

## Shrews and Moles

### Shrews

(family *Soricidae*)  
Vagrant shrew  
Dusky shrew  
Pacific water shrew  
Trowbridge's shrew

### Moles

(family *Talpidae*)  
Shrew-mole  
Townsend's mole  
Coast mole

## Bats

### Evening Bats

(family *Vespertilionidae*)  
Little brown myotis  
Yuma myotis  
Long-eared myotis  
Long-legged myotis  
California myotis  
Silver-haired bat  
Red bat  
Big brown bat  
Hoary bat  
Townsend's big-eared bat

## Pikas, Rabbits and Hares

### Rabbits and Hares

(family *Leporidae*)  
Brush rabbit  
Snowshoe hare

## Rodents

### Squirrels

(family *Sciuridae*)  
California ground squirrel  
Townsend's chipmunk  
Western grey squirrel  
Fox squirrel  
Douglas squirrel (Chickaree)  
Northern flying squirrel

### Pocket Gophers

(family *Geomysidae*)  
Western pocket gopher

## Beaver

(family *Castoridae*)  
Beaver

## New World Rats and Mice

(family *Cricetidae*)  
Deer mouse  
Bushy-tailed woodrat  
Western red-backed vole  
White-footed vole  
Red tree vole  
Townsend's vole  
Long-tailed vole  
Oregon vole  
Muskrat

## Old World Rats and Mice

(family *Muridae*)  
Black rat  
Norway rat  
House mouse

## Jumping Mice

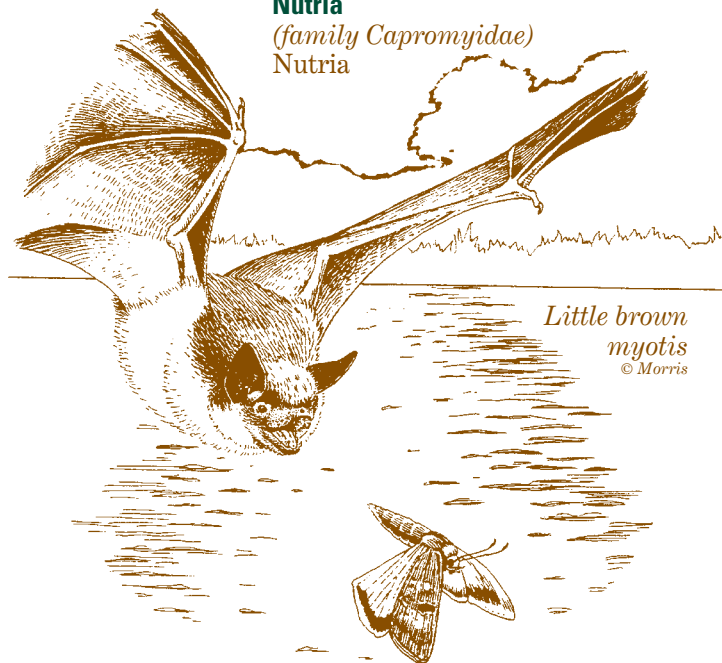
(family *Zapodidae*)  
Pacific jumping mouse

## New World Porcupines

(family *Erethizontidae*)  
Porcupine

## Nutria

(family *Capromyidae*)  
Nutria



Little brown  
myotis  
© Morris



## **Carnivores**

### **Wolves, Foxes and the Coyote**

*(family Canidae)*

Coyote

Red fox

### **Raccoon, Ringtail and Coati**

*(family Procyonidae)*

Raccoon

### **Weasels, Skunks, Badgers, Otters and Allies**

*(family Mustelidae)*

Ermine

Long-tailed weasel

Mink

Western spotted skunk

Striped skunk

River Otter

### **Cats**

*(family Felidae)*

Mountain lion

Bobcat

## **Hoofed Mammals**

### **Deer**

*(family Cervidae)*

Elk

Black-tailed deer

*Look for black-tailed  
deer feeding along  
forest edges at dawn  
and dusk*



## Amphibians of Tualatin River NWR

The name amphibian means "double life" and refers to the fact that most amphibians spend part of the year on land but return to water to breed. It also reflects the change of an aquatic tadpole to a terrestrial adult frog or toad. In the spring and early summer look for them gathering in shallow ponds where they mate and lay eggs.

### Salamanders

- Northwestern salamander
- Long-toed salamander
- Pacific giant salamander
- Rough-skinned newt
- Dunn's salamander
- Western red-backed salamander
- Ensatina
- Clouded salamander
- Oregon slender salamander

### Frogs and Toads

- Tailed frog
- Western toad
- Pacific treefrog
- Northern red-legged frog
- Bullfrog

*Rough-skinned newts are one of the most poisonous animals known to science. Their only predators are garter snakes, which have adapted to barely tolerate the toxins contained on the newts' skin.*

## Reptiles of Tualatin River NWR

Reptiles are egg laying animals that are protected by scales or horny plates. Look for them in grassy areas on the refuge. The exception are the turtles which are found near water.

### Turtles

- Painted turtle
- Western pond turtle

### Lizards

- Northern alligator lizard
- Western fence lizard
- Western skink

### Snakes

- Rubber boa
- Yellow-bellied racer
- Sharptail snake
- Ringneck snake
- Pacific gopher snake
- Western terrestrial garter snake
- Northwestern garter snake
- Common garter snake



**Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge**  
**16507 SW Roy Rogers Road**  
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**Telephone: 503/590 5811**  
**FAX: 503/590 6702**

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

**Refuge Information**  
**1 800/344 WILD**

**Cover photo black-capped chickadee**  
**All photographs © Ed Bustya**

**June 2006**

