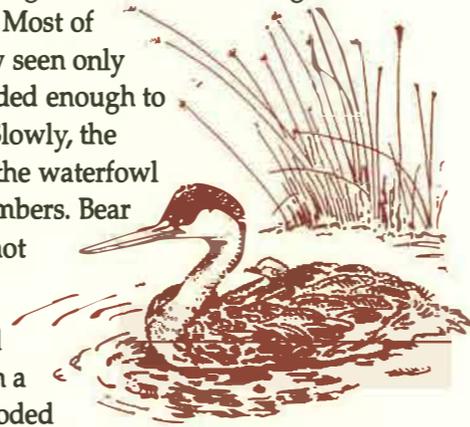


The Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge is located 15 miles west of Brigham City, Utah and covers nearly 74,000 acres comprised of marshes, uplands, and open water. Established in 1928 on a delta of the Bear River in the Great Salt Lake, the refuge attracts thousands of migrating ducks, swans, geese and shorebirds. In the early 1980's after several extremely wet winters and cooler than normal summers, the Great Salt Lake began to rise above its traditional shoreline at an elevation of 4,205 feet above sea level. By 1986 the lake reached its historical high level of 4,212 feet above sea level, destroying everything below that level including the dikes, new visitors center, machine shops, and housing facilities on the refuge. All the trees and vegetation that once grew around the refuge headquarters also perished. Most of the once common passerines associated with the trees are now seen only rarely or uncommonly in migration. In 1989 the lake had receded enough to allow volunteers to begin the long process of reconstruction. Slowly, the refuge is recovering. The wetland vegetation is growing, and the waterfowl and shorebird populations are returning to their pre-flood numbers. Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge is once again the major birding hot spot in northern Utah.



The following list contains 221 species that have been recorded on the refuge. A list of accidental species (one or two records in a ten year period) follows the main list. Seasonal abundance is coded as follows:

KEY

- C Common likely to be seen in suitable habitat
- U Uncommon present, but not always seen
- O Occasional seen only a few times per season
- R Rare few records over several years
- P Permanent year round resident
- S Summer present during nesting season
- W Winter Nov. through March
- T Transient seen as a migrant, spring or fall

BIRD LIST

Species nesting on refuge (*)

LOONS

- Pacific Loon RT
- Common Loon UT

GREBES

- Pied-billed Grebe* CS UW
- Horned Grebe RT RW
- Eared Grebe* US CT
- Western Grebe* CS RW
- Clark's Grebe* CS RW

PELICANS & CORMORANTS

- American White Pelican CS
- Double-crested Cormorant* CS

HERONS

- American Bittern RS
- Great Blue Heron CP
- Great Egret RS
- Snowy Egret* CS
- Cattle Egret CS
- Black-crowned Night Heron* CS

IBIS

- White-faced Ibis* CS

SWANS, GEESE, & DUCKS

- Tundra Swan CT RW
- Trumpeter Swan RW
- Snow Goose UT
- Ross' Goose RT
- Canada Goose* CP
- Wood Duck RW
- Green-winged Teal* CW US
- Mallard* CP
- Northern Pintail* CS UW
- Blue-winged Teal US
- Cinnamon Teal* CS RW
- Northern Shoveler* CS UW
- Gadwall* CS UW
- Eurasian Wigeon RT
- American Wigeon CT UW
- Canvasback UT RW
- Redhead* CS RW
- Ring-necked Duck RT RW
- Greater Scaup RT
- Lesser Scaup CT UW
- Oldsquaw RW
- Surf Scoter RW
- White-winged Scoter RW
- Common Goldeneye CT UW
- Barrow's Goldeneye RW
- Bufflehead CT UW
- Hooded Merganser RT RW
- Red-breasted Merganser RW CT
- Ruddy Duck* CS UW

VULTURES

- Turkey Vulture CS

HAWKS, FALCONS & EAGLES

- Osprey RT
- Bald Eagle CW
- Northern Harrier* CP
- Sharp-shinned Hawk UT UW
- Cooper's Hawk UT UW
- Northern Goshawk RT RW
- Swainson's Hawk CS
- Red-tailed Hawk CP
- Ferruginous Hawk US

- Rough-legged Hawk CW
- Golden Eagle UP
- American Kestrel CP
- Merlin UW
- Peregrine Falcon UP
- Prairie Falcon UP

GROUSE & PHEASANT

- Ring-necked Pheasant* UP

CRANES, RAILS, & COOT

- Virginia Rail* CS
- Sora* CS
- Common Moorhen* RP
- American Coot* CP
- Sandhill Crane CT US

SHOREBIRDS

- Black-bellied Plover UT
- American Golden Plover RT
- Snowy Plover* CS
- Semipalmated Plover RT
- Killdeer* RW CS
- Black-necked Stilt* CS
- American Avocet* CS
- Greater Yellowlegs CT
- Lesser Yellowlegs CT
- Solitary Sandpiper UT
- Willet* CS
- Spotted Sandpiper UT
- Whimbrel RT
- Long-billed Curlew* CS
- Marbled Godwit CT
- Ruddy Turnstone RT
- Red Knot RT
- Sanderling RT UW
- Semipalmated Sandpiper RT
- Western Sandpiper CT
- Least Sandpiper CT RW
- Baird's Sandpiper UT
- Pectoral Sandpiper RT
- Dunlin RT
- Stilt Sandpiper RT
- Short-billed Dowitcher RT
- Long-billed Dowitcher CT
- Common Snipe* CS UW
- Red-necked Phalarope CT
- Wilson's Phalarope CS

GULLS & TERNS

- Franklin's Gull CS
- Bonaparte's Gull UT
- Ring-billed Gull* US CW
- California Gull* CP
- Herring Gull UW
- Thayer's Gull RW
- Glaucous Gull RW
- Caspian Tern* US
- Common Tern RT
- Forester's Tern* CS
- Black Tern* CT US

PIGEONS & DOVES

- Rock Dove* CP
- Mourning Dove* CS

OWLS

- Barn Owl UP
- Great-horned Owl UP
- Burrowing Owl* US
- Short-eared Owl* UP

NIGHTHAWKS & POORWILLS

- Common Nighthawk CS
- Common Poorwill US

SWIFTS

- White-throated Swift US

HUMMINGBIRDS

- Black-chinned Hummingbird US
- Broad-tailed Hummingbird US
- Rufous Hummingbird UT

KINGFISHERS

- Belted Kingfisher UP

WOODPECKERS

- Northern Flicker UP
- Downy Woodpecker UP

FLYCATCHERS

- Western Wood-Pewee RT
- Willow Flycatcher RT
- Hammond's Flycatcher RT
- Dusky Flycatcher RT
- Gray Flycatcher RT
- Cordilleran Flycatcher RT
- Say's Phoebe UP
- Ash-throated Flycatcher RT