

WRENS, MOCKINGBIRDS,  
THRUSHES

	s	S	F	W
— House Wren†	c	c	c	o
— Winter Wren	u	u	u	
— Carolina Wren†	c	c	c	c
— Long-billed Marsh Wren†	a	a	a	u
— Short-billed Marsh Wren†	u	u	u	o
— Mockingbird†	c	c	c	c
— Gray Catbird†	c	u	c	u
— Brown Thrasher†	c	u	c	u
— American Robin†	c	c	c	u
— Wood Thrush†	a	c	c	
— Hermit Thrush	c	c	u	
— Swainson's Thrush	u	o	u	
— Gray-cheeked Thrush	o	o	o	
— Veery	u	o	u	
— Eastern Bluebird†	u	u	u	u

KINGLETS, WAXWINGS,  
SHRIKES and STARLINGS

— Blue-gray Gnatcatcher†	u	u	u	
— Golden-crowned Kinglet	c	c	c	
— Ruby-crowned Kinglet	c	c	u	
— Water Pipit	o	u	u	
— Cedar Waxwing	u	u	u	
— Loggerhead Shrike	u	o	o	u
— Starling†	a	a	a	a

VIREOS, WARBLERS  
BLACKBIRDS and TANAGERS

— White-eyed Vireo†	c	c	c	
— Yellow-throated Vireo†	u	r	u	
— Solitary Vireo	r	o		
— Red-eyed Vireo†	c	c	c	
— Black-and-white Warbler	c	o	c	
— Prothonotary Warbler	u	o	r	
— Worm-eating Warbler†	u	o	r	
— Golden-winged Warbler	r			
— Blue-winged Warbler	o	u	o	
— Tennessee Warbler	r	o	r	
— Orange-crowned Warbler	r	r		
— Nashville Warbler	r	r		
— Northern Parula†	u	o	u	
— Yellow Warbler†	c	c	c	
— Magnolia Warbler	o	o	u	
— Cape May Warbler	o	o	u	
— Black-throated Blue Warbler	u	o	u	

s S F W

— Yellow-rumped Warbler	a	r	a	a
— Black-throated Green Warbler	u	o	u	
— Blackburnian Warbler	o	o	o	
— Chestnut-sided Warbler	u	o	u	
— Bay-breasted Warbler	r	o	r	
— Blackpoll Warbler	u	o	u	
— Pine Warbler†	c	c	c	u
— Prairie Warbler†	u	u	u	
— Palm Warbler	u	c	o	
— Ovenbird†	c	u	c	
— Northern Waterthrush	r	o	u	
— Louisiana Waterthrush	o	r	o	
— Kentucky Warbler†	u	u	o	
— Common Yellowthroat†	a	c	a	o
— Yellow-breasted Chat†	c	c	c	
— Hooded Warbler	u	o	u	
— Canada Warbler	o	o	u	
— American Redstart	c	u	c	
— House Sparrow†	a	a	a	a

GROSBEAKS, FINCHES  
BUNTINGS and SPARROWS

— Bobolink	u	u	a	
— Eastern Meadowlark†	a	a	a	a
— Red-winged Blackbird†	a	a	a	a
— Orchard Oriole†	c	c	o	
— Northern Oriole†	u	o	u	
— Rusty Blackbird	u	u	u	
— Boat-tailed Grackle	o	o	o	
— Common Grackle†	a	a	a	a
— Brown-headed Cowbird†	c	c	c	c
— Scarlet Tanager†	u	u	u	
— Summer Tanager†	u	u		
— Cardinal†	a	a	a	a
— Rose-breasted Grosbeak	r	r		
— Blue Grosbeak	u	o	o	
— Indigo Bunting†	c	c	u	
— Evening Grosbeak	o	o	u	
— Purple Finch	u	u	o	
— Pine Siskin	o	o	u	
— Common Redpoll	r			
— American Goldfinch†	c	c	c	c
— Rufous-sided Towhee†	c	c	c	u
— Savannah Sparrow	c	r	c	c
— Grasshopper Sparrow†	u	u	u	
— Henslow's Sparrow†	u	u	o	
— Sharp-tailed Sparrow†	u	o	u	r
— Seaside Sparrow†	o	u	o	r
— Vesper Sparrow	u	o	o	r

s S F W

— Dark-eyed Junco	a	a	a	
— Tree Sparrow	u	u	u	
— Chipping Sparrow†	c	c	c	o
— Field Sparrow†	c	c	c	c
— White-crowned Sparrow	o	o	o	o
— White-throated Sparrow	a	a	a	
— Fox Sparrow	u	u	u	
— Swamp Sparrow	c	c	a	
— Song Sparrow†	a	u	a	a
— Snow Bunting	o	o		

NOTES

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Total \_\_\_\_\_

Observers \_\_\_\_\_

Weather \_\_\_\_\_ Wind \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

When waterfowl reach their peak numbers during November and December, about 85,000 Canada geese and 50,000 ducks can be observed on Blackwater Refuge. Nesting ducks include black duck, blue-winged teal, mallard, and wood duck. Other nesting birds of note are the Endangered red-cockaded woodpecker, and southern bald eagle; king and Virginia rails, common gallinule, barn owl, and osprey. Here, near the Northern limit of its range, the brown-headed nuthatch permanently resides in the loblolly pines.

A list of accidental species seen only once or twice on the refuge is available on request. Please report any sightings of birds not in agreement with this list to:

Refuge Manager  
Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge  
Rte. 1, Box 121  
Cambridge, Md. 21613



Refuge Leaflet RL51530

June 1976

# Birds of Blackwater



National  
Wildlife  
Refuge

THE BLACKWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, established in January 1933, is located on the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay in Dorchester County, Maryland, about 10 miles south of Cambridge. It serves as an important resting and feeding area for migrant and wintering waterfowl in the chain of waterfowl refuges along the Atlantic Flyway that extends from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico.

Maryland



This folder lists 238 species of birds identified by refuge personnel and qualified visitors.

Most birds are migratory therefore their seasonal occurrence is coded as follows:

**SEASON**

- s – Spring      March-May
  - S – Summer     June-August
  - F – Fall         September-November
  - W – Winter      December-February
- † = Nesting has occurred on the refuge

**RELATIVE ABUNDANCE**

- a – **abundant**    a species which is very numerous.
- c – **common**     certain to be seen or heard in suitable habitat.
- u – **uncommon**   present, but not certain to be seen.
- o – **occasional**   seen only a few times during a season.
- r – **rare**         seen at intervals of 2 to 5 years.

Species are listed in accordance with the fifth (1959) A.O.U. Check List as amended.

**LOONS – GREBES – CORMORANTS – HERONS and IBISES**

	s	S	F	W
— Common Loon . . . . .	o	o	o	
— Horned Grebe . . . . .	o	o	u	
— Pied-billed Grebe . . . . .	c	o	c	u
— Double-crested Cormorant . . . . .	o	r	o	
— Great Blue Heron† . . . . .	c	c	c	c
— Green Heron† . . . . .	c	c	c	
— Little Blue Heron . . . . .	u	c	u	
— Cattle Egret . . . . .	u	c	c	
— Great Egret . . . . .	u	a	c	r
— Snowy Egret . . . . .	u	a	c	
— Louisiana Heron . . . . .	u	u	r	
— Black-crowned Night Heron† . . . . .	c	c	c	u
— Least Bittern† . . . . .	u	u	u	
— American Bittern† . . . . .	u	u	u	o
— Glossy Ibis . . . . .	o	o	o	

**SWANS, GEESE and DUCKS**

— Whistling Swan . . . . .	u	c	c	
— Canada Goose† . . . . .	a	a	a	
— Brant . . . . .				

	s	S	F	W
— Snow Goose . . . . .	u	c	c	
— Mallard† . . . . .	a	c	a	a
— Black Duck† . . . . .	a	c	a	a
— Gadwall . . . . .	c	o	c	u
— Pintail . . . . .	c	r	c	c
— Green-winged Teal . . . . .	a	r	a	c
— Blue-winged Teal† . . . . .	c	c	c	r
— European Wigeon . . . . .				r
— American Wigeon . . . . .	a	r	a	c
— Northern Shoveler . . . . .	c	o	c	o
— Wood Duck† . . . . .	u	u	u	o
— Redhead . . . . .	o	o	o	
— Ring-necked Duck . . . . .	u	c	o	
— Canvasback . . . . .	r	r	o	
— Greater Scaup . . . . .	r	r	o	
— Lesser Scaup . . . . .	o	o	u	
— Common Goldeneye . . . . .	u	u	u	
— Bufflehead . . . . .	u	u	u	
— Oldsquaw . . . . .		o	u	
— White-winged Scoter . . . . .			r	
— Ruddy Duck . . . . .	u	u	u	
— Hodded Merganser . . . . .	u	r	u	u
— Common Merganser . . . . .	c	c	u	
— Red-breasted Merganser . . . . .	o	o	o	

**VULTURES, HAWKS and EAGLES QUAIL and TURKEYS**

— Turkey Vulture† . . . . .	a	a	a	a
— Black Vulture . . . . .	o	o	o	o
— Goshawk . . . . .				a
— Sharp-shinned Hawk . . . . .	u	u	u	u
— Cooper's Hawk . . . . .	u	u	u	u
— Red-tailed Hawk† . . . . .	u	u	c	c
— Red-shouldered Hawk . . . . .	o	o	u	
— Broad-winged Hawk . . . . .	o	o		
— Rough-legged Hawk . . . . .	o	u	c	
— Golden Eagle . . . . .		o	o	
— Bald Eagle† . . . . .	c	c	c	c
— Marsh Hawk† . . . . .	c	o	c	a
— Osprey† . . . . .	c	c	c	
— Peregrine Falcon . . . . .	o	o	r	
— Merlin . . . . .	o	u	r	
— American Kestrel . . . . .	c	u	c	c
— Bobwhite† . . . . .	c	c	c	c
— Turkey . . . . .	o	o	o	o

**RAILS and COOTS PLOVERS and SANDPIPERS**

— King Rail† . . . . .	c	c	c	r
— Clapper Rail† . . . . .	u	u	u	r

	s	S	F	W
— Virginia Rail† . . . . .	c	u	c	u
— Sora . . . . .	u	u	r	
— Black Rail† . . . . .	r	r	r	
— Common Gallinule . . . . .	u	u	u	
— American Coot . . . . .	c	o	c	c
— Semipalmated Plover . . . . .	c	u	c	
— Killdeer† . . . . .	c	c	c	u
— American Golden Plover . . . . .				r
— Black-bellied Plover . . . . .	o	o	r	
— American Woodcock† . . . . .	c	u	c	o
— Common Snipe . . . . .	c	o	c	u
— Spotted Sandpiper . . . . .	c	u	c	
— Solitary Sandpiper . . . . .	c	c	c	
— Willet† . . . . .	r	u	r	
— Greater Yellowlegs . . . . .	c	c	c	o
— Lesser Yellowlegs . . . . .	c	c	c	o
— Pectoral Sandpiper . . . . .	u	c	c	
— White-rumped Sandpiper . . . . .		o	o	
— Least Sandpiper . . . . .	a	a	a	r
— Dunlin . . . . .	c	o	c	o
— Short-billed Dowitcher . . . . .	u	u	u	r
— Long-billed Dowitcher . . . . .	r			r
— Stilt Sandpiper . . . . .	r	o	o	
— Semipalmated Sandpiper . . . . .	a	a	a	o
— Western Sandpiper . . . . .		o	o	
— Sanderling . . . . .	o	o	r	

**GULLS and TERNS – DOVES – CUCKOOS – OWLS – NIGHTHAWKS**

— Great Black-backed Gull . . . . .	o	u	u	
— Herring Gull . . . . .	u	u	u	u
— Ring-billed Gull . . . . .	u	o	u	u
— Laughing Gull . . . . .	u	u	u	
— Bonaparte's Gull . . . . .	u	u	o	
— Forster's Tern . . . . .	u	u	u	
— Common Tern . . . . .	u	o	o	
— Least Tern . . . . .	u	u	r	
— Caspian Tern . . . . .	u	r	o	
— Black Tern . . . . .	r	u	o	
— Mourning Dove† . . . . .	c	c	c	c
— Yellow-billed Cuckoo† . . . . .	c	c	c	
— Black-billed Cuckoo† . . . . .	u	o	u	
— Barn Owl† . . . . .	c	c	c	c
— Screech Owl† . . . . .	c	c	c	c
— Great Horned Owl† . . . . .	c	c	c	c
— Barred Owl† . . . . .	u	u	u	u
— Long-eared Owl . . . . .				r
— Short-eared Owl . . . . .	o	r	o	u

	s	S	F	W
— Saw-whet Owl . . . . .				r
— Chuck-will's-widow . . . . .	o	o		
— Whip-poor-will† . . . . .	c	c	o	
— Common Nighthawk† . . . . .	u	u	u	

**SWIFTS – HUMMINGBIRDS, KINGFISHERS – WOODPECKERS**

— Chimney Swift† . . . . .	c	c	c	
— Ruby-throated Hummingbird† . . . . .	c	c	c	
— Belted Kingfisher† . . . . .	c	u	c	u
— Common Flicker† . . . . .	c	c	c	c
— Pileated Woodpecker† . . . . .	u	u	u	u
— Red-bellied Woodpecker† . . . . .	c	c	c	c
— Red-headed Woodpecker . . . . .	r	r	r	r
— Yellow-bellied Sapsucker . . . . .	u	u	o	
— Hairy Woodpecker† . . . . .	u	u	u	u
— Downy Woodpecker† . . . . .	c	c	c	c
— Red-cockaded Woodpecker† . . . . .	u	u	u	r

**FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS, JAYS, CROWS, TITMICE and NUTHATCHES**

— Eastern Kingbird† . . . . .	c	c	c		
— Western Kingbird . . . . .				r	
— Great Crested Flycatcher† . . . . .	c	c	c		
— Eastern Phoebe† . . . . .	c	o	c	r	
— Acadian Flycatcher† . . . . .	c	c	c		
— Least Flycatcher . . . . .	r			r	
— Eastern Wood Pewee† . . . . .	c	c	c		
— Horned Lark† . . . . .	c	c	c	c	
— Tree Swallow† . . . . .	c	c	a	o	
— Bank Swallow . . . . .	u	u	r		
— Rough-winged Swallow† . . . . .	u	u	u		
— Barn Swallow† . . . . .	a	a	a		
— Purple Martin† . . . . .	c	c	u		
— Blue Jay† . . . . .	u	u	u	u	
— Common Crow† . . . . .	a	a	a	a	
— Fish Crow† . . . . .	u	u	u	u	
— Black-capped Chickadee . . . . .				o	
— Carolina Chickadee† . . . . .	c	c	c	c	
— Tufted Titmouse† . . . . .	c	c	c	c	
— White-breasted Nuthatch . . . . .	r			r	u
— Red-breasted Nuthatch . . . . .	o	o	u		
— Brown-headed Nuthatch† . . . . .	c	c	c	c	
— Brown Creeper . . . . .	u	u	u		