

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Seneey

*National Wildlife Refuge  
Bird Checklist*





*This goose, designed by J.N. "Ding" Darling in the 1930s, has become a symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.*

## Welcome to Seney National Wildlife Refuge

Seney National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) was established in 1935 for the protection and production of migratory birds and other wildlife. The refuge's 95,238 acres include a rich mosaic of marshes, swamps, bogs and forests, which provide habitat for over 200 species of birds. Seney NWR is known for its abundance of trumpeter swans, common loons, bald eagles, osprey and sandhill cranes, which are commonly seen while driving the Marshland Wildlife Drive or walking the Pine Ridge Nature Trail. Other familiar favorites include the American bittern, rails, and numerous warbler species found on the refuge.

If you are searching for a specific bird, a little research into its favorite habitat and typical behaviors may be helpful. Bird identification guides and binoculars can be checked out from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Visitor Center from May 15th to October 15th for your viewing pleasure.

*Please keep these ethical wildlife observation tips in mind while visiting the refuge.*

1. Observe and photograph wildlife without chasing or repeatedly flushing the animal.
2. Stay an appropriate distance from nests so the parents are not scared away, leaving the chicks exposed to danger.
3. Overwintering birds need all their energy to survive. Avoid disturbing them if possible.
4. Birds and other wildlife depend on plants such as berries and seeds for food. Please be considerate of these needs.
5. Stay on existing roads, trails and pathways to avoid trampling habitat.
6. Be sure to take all trash with you, as wildlife has been known to die when becoming entangled in fishing line or after consuming litter.

7. Respect all signs, laws and regulations. Areas may be closed to reduce disturbance to nesting or migrating birds.

The Marshland Wildlife Drive is closed to motorized vehicles from October 15th to May 15th each year for the protection of migratory, resident and nesting birds.

Primary sources for this list include the Seney Comprehensive Conservation Plan, volunteers, researchers, staff members, and the American Birding Association. This list includes birds known to be found on the Seney NWR and surrounding lands. If you should find an interesting or unusual species, please stop by the Visitor Center and record it in the observation log. Photos are always appreciated.

### Legend

# .....endangered  
\* .....known to nest in the area

**Sp** ... March - May  
**S** ..... June - August  
**F** ..... September - November  
**W** .... December - February

**a** ..... abundant: a common species which is very numerous  
**c** ..... common: certain to be seen or heard in suitable habitat, not in large numbers  
**u** ..... uncommon: present but not always seen  
**o** ..... occasional: seen only a few times during the season  
**r** ..... rare: seen every 2 to 5 years

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Swans, Geese, and Ducks</b>				
—Greater White-fronted Goose.....	r	-	-	-
—Snow Goose.....	o	-	u	-
—Canada Goose*.....	a	a	a	u
—Trumpeter Swan*.....	c	c	c	u
—Tundra Swan.....	o	r	o	-
—Wood Duck*.....	c	c	c	-
—Gadwall.....	o	o	o	-
—American Wigeon*.....	c	o	c	-
—American Black Duck*.....	o	u	o	-
—Mallard*.....	c	c	c	-
—Blue-winged Teal*.....	c	u	c	-
—Northern Shoveler.....	o	r	o	-
—Northern Pintail.....	o	r	o	-
—Canvasback.....	o	r	o	-
—Redhead.....	o	r	o	-
—Ring-necked Duck*.....	a	a	c	-
—Greater Scaup.....	r	-	-	-
—Lesser Scaup.....	u	r	u	-
—Long-tailed Duck.....	-	r	r	-
—Bufflehead.....	c	r	c	-
—Common Goldeneye*.....	c	r	c	-
—Hooded Merganser*.....	c	u	c	-
—Common Merganser*.....	c	u	c	-
—Red-breasted Merganser.....	u	r	u	-
—Ruddy Duck.....	r	r	r	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Grouse and Turkeys</b>				
—Ruffed Grouse*.....	c	c	c	c
—Spruce Grouse*.....	u	u	u	u
—Sharp-tailed Grouse*.....	c	c	c	c
<b>Loons</b>				
—Common Loon*.....	c	c	c	-
<b>Grebes</b>				
—Pied-billed Grebe*.....	c	c	c	-
—Horned Grebe.....	o	r	o	-
—Red-necked Grebe.....	o	r	o	-
<b>Cormorants</b>				
—Double-crested Cormorant.....	o	o	o	-
<b>Pelicans</b>				
—American White Pelican.....	r	r	-	-
<b>Hérons and Bitterns</b>				
—American Bittern*.....	c	c	u	-
—Least Bittern*.....	r	r	-	-
—Great Blue Heron*.....	c	c	c	-
—Snowy Egret.....	-	r	-	-
—Green Heron.....	o	o	r	-
—Black-crowned Night-Heron.....	r	r	-	-

Ruffed Grouse  
USFWS Photo



Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Vultures</b>				
—Turkey Vulture*	c	c	c	-
<b>Ospreys</b>				
—Osprey*	c	c	c	-
<b>Hawks and Eagles</b>				
—Bald Eagle*	c	c	c	c
—Northern Harrier*	c	c	c	-
—Sharp-shinned Hawk*	c	c	c	-
—Cooper's Hawk*	u	u	o	-
—Northern Goshawk*	o	o	o	o
—Red-shouldered Hawk	o	o	o	-
—Broad-winged Hawk*	c	c	c	-
—Red-tailed Hawk*	u	u	u	-
—Rough-legged Hawk	u	-	u	-
—Golden Eagle	-	-	-	r
<b>Falcons</b>				
—American Kestrel*	c	c	c	-
—Merlin*	c	c	c	o
—Peregrine Falcon	r	r	r	-
<b>Rails and Coots</b>				
—Yellow Rail*	u	u	u	-
—Virginia Rail*	u	c	u	-
—Sora*	u	c	u	-
—American Coot	o	r	o	-
<b>Cranes</b>				
—Sandhill Crane*	c	c	c	-
<b>Plovers</b>				
—Black-bellied Plover	o	r	o	-
—American Golden-Plover	o	r	r	-
—Semipalmated Plover	u	o	u	-
—Killdeer*	u	u	u	-
<b>Sandpipers</b>				
—Spotted Sandpiper*	c	c	c	-
—Solitary Sandpiper	u	u	u	-
—Greater Yellowlegs	c	u	c	-
—Lesser Yellowlegs	u	u	u	-
—Upland Sandpiper*	o	u	o	-
—Whimbrel	r	-	-	-
—Semipalmated Sandpiper	u	o	u	-
—Least Sandpiper	u	o	u	-
—White-rumped Sandpiper	-	r	r	-
—Baird's Sandpiper	-	r	r	-
—Pectoral Sandpiper	o	r	o	-
—Dunlin	o	-	o	-
—Wilson's Snipe*	c	c	c	-
—American Woodcock*	c	c	c	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
<b>Gulls and Terns</b>				
—Bonaparte's Gull	o	-	o	-
—Ring-billed Gull	c	c	c	-
—Herring Gull	c	a	c	-
—Caspian Tern	c	e	c	-
—Black Tern*	u	u	o	-
—Common Tern*	c	c	u	-
<b>Pigeons and Doves</b>				
—Mourning Dove	c	c	c	-
<b>Cuckoos</b>				
—Black-billed Cuckoo*	u	u	u	-
<b>Owls</b>				
—Great Horned Owl*	u	o	u	u
—Snowy Owl	r	-	r	r
—Northern Hawk Owl	r	-	-	r
—Barred Owl*	c	e	c	c
—Great Gray Owl*	r	o	r	r
—Long-eared Owl	o	o	o	-
—Short-eared Owl	o	o	o	-
—Boreal Owl	o	-	o	o
—Northern Saw-whet Owl*	o	o	o	o
<b>Nightjars</b>				
—Common Nighthawk*	u	u	u	-
—Eastern Whip-poor-will*	o	o	o	-
<b>Swifts</b>				
—Chimney Swift	u	o	-	-
<b>Hummingbirds</b>				
—Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	u	c	u	-
<b>Kingfishers</b>				
—Belted Kingfisher*	c	c	c	-
<b>Woodpeckers</b>				
—Red-headed Woodpecker	r	r	r	-
—Red-bellied Woodpecker	-	-	r	r
—Yellow-bellied Sapsucker*	c	c	c	-
—Downy Woodpecker*	c	e	c	c
—Hairy Woodpecker*	c	e	c	c
—Black-backed Woodpecker*	r	o	r	r
—Northern Flicker*	c	e	c	r
—Pileated Woodpecker*	u	c	u	u
<b>Flycatchers</b>				
—Olive-sided Flycatcher*	u	u	u	-
—Eastern Wood-Pewee*	c	e	u	-
—Yellow-bellied Flycatcher*	o	u	o	-
—Alder Flycatcher*	c	e	u	-
—Least Flycatcher*	c	e	u	-
—Eastern Phoebe*	c	e	c	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
—Great Crested Flycatcher* .....	u	u	u	-
—Eastern Kingbird* .....	c	c	u	-
<b>Shrikes</b>				
—Northern Shrike.....	o	-	o	o
<b>Vireos</b>				
—Blue-headed Vireo* .....	u	u	o	-
—Warbling Vireo.....	o	u	o	-
—Red-eyed Vireo* .....	c	c	c	-
<b>Jays and Crows</b>				
—Blue Jay* .....	c	c	c	c
—Gray Jay* .....	o	u	u	c
—American Crow* .....	c	c	c	-
—Common Raven* .....	c	c	c	c
<b>Larks</b>				
—Horned Lark* .....	u	r	c	-
<b>Swallows</b>				
—Purple Martin* .....	r	r	r	-
—Tree Swallow* .....	c	c	c	-
—Northern Rough-winged Swallow* .....	u	u	u	-
—Bank Swallow* .....	u	o	u	-
—Cliff Swallow* .....	u	o	u	-
—Barn Swallow* .....	u	u	u	-
<b>Chickadees and Titmice</b>				
—Black-capped Chickadee* .....	a	c	a	a
—Boreal Chickadee* .....	r	r	r	o
<b>Nuthatches</b>				
—Red-breasted Nuthatch* .....	c	c	c	c
—White-breasted Nuthatch* .....	c	c	c	c
<b>Creepers</b>				
—Brown Creeper* .....	u	u	u	u
<b>Wrens</b>				
—House Wren .....	o	o	o	-
—Winter Wren* .....	o	u	o	-
—Sedge Wren* .....	u	c	u	-
—Marsh Wren* .....	u	o	u	-
<b>Kinglets</b>				
—Golden-crowned Kinglet* .....	c	c	c	c
—Ruby-crowned Kinglet* .....	u	u	u	-
<b>Thrushes</b>				
—Eastern Bluebird* .....	u	u	c	-
—Veery* .....	u	u	u	-
—Swainson's Thrush* .....	u	r	u	-
—Hermit Thrush* .....	c	c	c	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
—Wood Thrush* .....	u	r	u	-
—American Robin* .....	a	a	c	-
<b>Mockingbirds and Thrashers</b>				
—Gray Catbird* .....	o	u	o	-
—Northern Mockingbird .....	r	r	-	-
—Brown Thrasher* .....	u	c	u	-
<b>Starlings</b>				
—European Starling* .....	c	a	c	a
<b>Pipits</b>				
—American Pipit.....	u	-	c	-
<b>Waxwings</b>				
—Bohemian Waxwing.....	o	-	o	-
—Cedar Waxwing* .....	a	a	a	-
<b>Longspurs</b>				
—Lapland Longspur .....	o	-	o	r
—Snow Bunting .....	c	r	c	a
<b>Wood Warblers</b>				
—Golden-winged Warbler* .....	r	r	-	-
—Tennessee Warbler.....	c	r	c	-
—Orange-crowned Warbler.....	-	-	o	-
—Nashville Warbler* .....	c	c	c	-
—Northern Parula* .....	u	u	u	-
—Yellow Warbler* .....	c	c	c	-
—Chestnut-sided Warbler* .....	c	u	c	-
—Magnolia Warbler* .....	c	u	c	-
—Cape May Warbler* .....	c	o	c	-
—Black-throated Blue Warbler* .....	u	u	u	-
—Yellow-rumped Warbler* .....	a	a	a	-
—Black-throated Green Warbler* .....	c	c	c	-
—Blackburnian Warbler* .....	u	u	u	-
—Pine Warbler* .....	c	c	c	-
—Palm Warbler* .....	c	u	c	-
—Bay-breasted Warbler .....	c	-	c	-
—Blackpoll Warbler .....	c	-	c	-
—Black-and-white Warbler* .....	c	u	c	-
—American Redstart* .....	c	c	c	-
—Ovenbird* .....	a	a	c	-
—Northern Waterthrush .....	u	r	u	-
—Connecticut Warbler.....	o	r	o	-
—Mourning Warbler* .....	u	o	u	-
—Common Yellowthroat* .....	a	a	c	-
—Wilson's Warbler .....	u	o	u	-
—Canada Warbler.....	u	o	u	-
<b>Sparrows</b>				
—Eastern Towhee .....	o	o	o	-
—American Tree Sparrow .....	c	-	c	o
—Chipping Sparrow* .....	c	c	c	-
—Clay-colored Sparrow.....	o	u	o	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
—Le Conte's Sparrow* .....	o	u	o	-
—Fox Sparrow.....	o	-	o	-
—Song Sparrow* .....	a	a	a	-
—Lincoln's Sparrow* .....	u	u	u	-
—Swamp Sparrow* .....	a	a	a	-
—White-throated Sparrow* .....	c	a	c	-
—Harris's Sparrow.....	o	r	o	o
—White-crowned Sparrow .....	c	-	c	-
—Dark-eyed Junco* .....	a	u	a	o

#### Tanagers and Buntings

—Northern Cardinal .....	-	-	r	r
—Rose-breasted Grosbeak* .....	u	c	c	-
—Blue Grosbeak .....	-	r	-	-
—Indigo Bunting .....	c	c	o	-

#### Blackbirds and Orioles

—Bobolink* .....	u	c	u	-
—Red-winged Blackbird* .....	a	a	a	-
—Eastern Meadowlark* .....	o	o	o	-

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
—Vesper Sparrow* .....	c	u	c	-
—Lark Sparrow .....	r	-	-	-
—Savannah Sparrow* .....	c	c	c	-
—Western Meadowlark.....	-	r	r	-
—Rusty Blackbird .....	u	-	u	o
—Brewer's Blackbird* .....	u	o	u	-
—Common Grackle* .....	a	a	a	o
—Brown-headed Cowbird* .....	c	c	c	-
—Baltimore Oriole* .....	u	u	o	-

#### Finches

—Pine Grosbeak .....	u	r	u	c
—Purple Finch* .....	c	u	c	-
—Red Crossbill* .....	u	r	o	u
—White-winged Crossbill* .....	o	r	r	u
—Common Redpoll.....	c	-	c	a
—Hoary Redpoll .....	-	-	-	r
—Pine Siskin .....	c	r	u	c
—American Goldfinch* .....	c	c	c	o
—Evening Grosbeak* .....	u	u	u	c

#### Old World Sparrows

—House Sparrow* .....	o	r	o	o
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Blue-winged Teal  
USFWS Photo

Seney National Wildlife Refuge  
1674 Refuge Entrance Road  
Seney, MI 49883  
906/586 9851

TTY users may reach Seney through  
Michigan's State Relay System at  
1-800-649 3777 or,  
if outstate, 1-800/855 2880

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