



Birds of the Swamp...

Bird watching is one of the Preserve's principal attractions. Vegetation types such as cypress strands, hardwood hammocks, old-growth pinelands, sawgrass prairies, and mangrove forests support a wonderful array of bird diversity. This is illustrated by the 207 species of birds observed within the Preserve boundaries.

The Big Cypress bird checklist has two primary functions: 1) to inform visitors of the presence and abundance of bird species in the Preserve and 2) to assist the wildlife team in updating the list through visitor observations. Therefore, if you see any unusual birds (those listed as rare or not listed at all), please advise Preserve staff at the visitor center and fill out a wildlife observation card, or write to: Big Cypress National Preserve
Attention: Wildlife Biologist
33100 Tamiami Trail East
Ochopee, FL 34141
Please be as specific as possible. Your reported observations are important and appreciated.

Recommended Birding Sites

Within the Preserve Loop Road, Kirby Storter Trail, Turner River Road, Wagonwheel Road, Birdon Road, and the Florida National Scenic Trail are ideal birding areas. See the Big Cypress National Preserve brochure for locations.

Birding Ethics

- Be careful not to disturb nesting birds. Eggs or chicks left unattended are vulnerable to extreme temperatures or predators.
- Avoid disrupting the natural behavior of birds. Although an isolated disturbance may not be harmful to an individual's survival, cumulative incidents from other visitors may be detrimental.
- Be extremely cautious and courteous when roadside birding; be sure to pull entirely off the road when observing wildlife and to always be aware of other motorists.

Great Florida Birding Trail...

The Great Florida Birding Trail is a collection of 445 sites throughout Florida selected for their excellent birdwatching or bird education opportunities. This 2,000-mile, self-guided highway trail is designed to conserve and enhance Florida's bird habitat by promoting birdwatching activities, conservation education and economic opportunity.

Look for signs along roadways with this symbol that identify the trail. Learn more at: www.floridabirdingtrail.com



Watching wildlife the responsible way...

The thrill of watching a wild animal in its native surroundings is spectacular and awe inspiring. While visiting Big Cypress National Preserve, or any other natural area, remember:

- Never feed wildlife.
- View wildlife with respect.
- All wildlife is wild and unpredictable. Stay a safe distance from any wild animal —15 feet is recommended.
- All plants and animals within national park areas are protected, it is illegal to collect any wildlife without special permits.

How You Behave Can Save Do Not Feed or Harass Wildlife



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA!

Big Cypress Birds



Date: _____ Time: _____
 Location: _____
 Weather: _____
 Observer(s): _____

**KEY:
 SEASON**

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

INDEX

c -- Common (present in the proper habitat and season)
 f -- Fairly common (often present in the proper habitat and season)
 u -- Uncommon (occasionally present in proper habitat and season)
 r -- Rare (seldom present in suitable habitat; few records)

Each species was indexed according to its abundance in the Preserve, not on its likelihood of being observed. The species having no information in the index have never been documented (confirmed) in the Preserve, although suitable habitat is present and Big Cypress lies within their range.

BREEDING STATUS

+ Known to breed in the Preserve
 ? Breeding status unknown
 E Extinct
 * Exotic species

Birds of Big Cypress National Preserve

Top Row -- limpkin, red-cockaded woodpecker, eastern bluebird

Bottom Row -- black-necked stilt, sandhill crane, anhinga

VULTURES

___ Turkey vulture +	SP	S	F	W
___ Black vulture +	c	c	c	c

GREBES

___ Pied-billed grebe +	f	f	f	f
___ Horned grebe				

PELICANS, CORMORANTS, ETC...

___ American white pelican	u	u	u	
___ Brown pelican	u	u	u	u
___ Magnificent frigatebird	r			
___ Double-crested cormorant +	c	c	c	c
___ Anhinga +	c	c	c	c

HERONS, EGRETS, ETC...

___ American bittern	f	r	f	f
___ Least bittern +	f	f	f	f
___ Great blue heron +	c	c	c	c
___ Great egret +	c	c	c	c
___ Snowy egret +	c	c	c	c
___ Little blue heron +	c	c	c	c
___ Tricolored heron +	c	c	c	c
___ Reddish egret	r	r	r	r
___ Cattle egret +	f	f	f	f
___ Green heron +	c	c	c	c
___ Black-crowned night-heron +	f	u	f	f
___ Yellow-crowned night-heron +	u	u	u	u

IBISES, SPOONBILLS, & STORKS

___ White ibis +	SP	S	F	W
___ Glossy ibis +	c	c	c	c
___ Roseate spoonbill ?	u	u	u	u
___ Wood stork +	u	u	u	u
___ Wood stork +	c	c	c	c

Loons

___ Common loon

WATERFOWL

___ Fulvous whistling-duck	r		r	r
___ Black-bellied whistling-duck	r	r	r	r
___ Snow goose			r	
___ Canada goose			r	
___ Egyptian goose	r	r	r	r
___ Wood duck +	u	u	u	u
___ Green-winged teal	u		u	u
___ Mottled duck +	f	f	f	f
___ Mallard			r	
___ Northern pintail	r		r	r
___ Blue-winged teal	f	r	f	f
___ Northern shoveler				r
___ Gadwall				
___ American wigeon				r
___ Canvasback				
___ Redhead				
___ Ring-necked duck	r		r	f



