

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# St. Marks

## *National Wildlife Refuge Bird List*



*Lou P. Kellenberger*

*St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge is on the shores of Apalachee Bay, in northwestern Florida, about 20 miles south of Tallahassee. Established in 1931, the refuge contains about 70,000 acres of salt and brackish marshes, hardwood swamps, pine flatwoods, and pine-oak uplands; parts of which are in Taylor, Jefferson, and Wakulla Counties. An additional 31,700 acres of water in Apalachee Bay are included as part of the refuge through a Presidential Proclamation. St. Marks Refuge provides an extensive wintering habitat for waterfowl and is one of the earliest such areas acquired by the Government.*

*St. Marks  
National  
Wildlife  
Refuge*



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



*Wild Turkey*



*Barred Owl*



*Scarlet Tanager*



*Black-necked Stilt*

The seasons bring about marked changes in both species and abundance of birdlife. Best opportunities for observing the greatest variety and number of birds are during the fall and spring. Waterfowl are most easily seen on the refuge from mid-November through late December. Shore birds are most common during late spring and early fall.

This list is in accordance with the A.O.U Checklist as amended. Enjoy your visit!

**Symbols used in this list are defined as follows:**

**Sp**-Spring: March-May

**S**-Summer: June-August

**F**-Fall: September-November

**W**-Winter: December-February

\* Nest on Refuge

**a**-abundant a common 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

This folder lists 271 species of birds that are considered part of the refuge's fauna.

USFWS

Nick Baldwin

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The following are additional species that are of such accidental or rare occurrence on the refuge that they have been recorded only one or a few times and are generally considered out of their normal range:

Eared Grebe	*Cave Swallow
Cory's Shearwater	Horned Lark
American Flamingo	White-breasted Nuthatch
Brant	Sprague's Pipit
Mottled Duck	Bell's Vireo
White-winged Scoter	Warbling Vireo
White-tailed Kite	Connecticut Warbler
Short-tailed Hawk	Canada Warbler
Rough-legged Hawk	Clay-colored Sparrow
Hudsonian Godwit	Lark Bunting
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	LeConte's Sparrow
Baird's Sandpiper	Fox Sparrow
Bridled Tern	Lapland Longspur
Sooty Tern	Yellow-headed Blackbird
Inca Dove	Pine Siskin
Budgerigar	Evening Grosbeak
Short-eared Owl	Red-faced Ibis
Canada Goose	Yellow Rail
Long-billed Curlew	Great Black-backed Gull
Groove-billed Ani	American Pipit
House Sparrow	Groove-billed Ani

If you observe any accidental or discontinued birds, please notify a refuge employee.

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
<b>Loons</b>				
_____ Red-throated Loon				r
_____ Common Loon	c		u	c
<b>Grebes</b>				
_____ Pied-billed Grebe*	c	c	a	a
_____ Horned Grebe	c	r	u	c
_____ Red-necked Grebe			r	r
<b>Pelicans and their Allies</b>				
_____ Northern Gannet	o		o	o
_____ American White Pelican	u	r	u	u
_____ Brown Pelican	c	c	c	c
_____ Double-crested Cormorant*	a	a	a	a
_____ Anhinga*	c	c	c	c
_____ Magnificent Frigatebird		r		
<b>Hérons, Egrets and their Allies</b>				
_____ American Bittern	o		o	o
_____ Least Bittern*	c	c	u	r
_____ Great Blue Heron*	c	c	c	c
_____ Great Egret*	a	a	a	a

*SP**S**F**W*

_____ Snowy Egret*	a	a	a	a
_____ Little Blue Heron*	a	a	a	a
_____ Tricolored Heron*	a	a	a	a
_____ Reddish Egret	o	u	u	o
_____ Cattle Egret*	c	c	c	r
_____ Green Heron*	c	c	u	u
_____ Black-crowned Night-Heron*	c	u	u	c
_____ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron*	u	u	r	r

**Ibises, Spoonbill, Stork**

_____ Glossy Ibis*	u	u	u	c
_____ White Ibis*	a	a	c	c
_____ Roseate Spoonbill	r	r	r	
_____ Wood Stork	u	u	u	r
_____ White-faced Ibis			o	u

**Waterfowl**

_____ Fulvous Whistling-Duck	r		r	r
_____ Tundra Swan			r	r
_____ Greater White-fronted Goose			r	r
_____ Snow Goose			o	o
_____ Wood Duck*	c	c	a	a
_____ Green-winged Teal	c		c	c
_____ American Black Duck	u		u	u
_____ Mallard	u		u	c
_____ Northern Pintail	c		c	c
_____ Blue-winged Teal	c	u	c	c
_____ Cinnamon Teal			r	r
_____ Northern Shoveler	c	r	c	c
_____ Gadwall	c		c	c
_____ Eurasian Wigeon			r	r
_____ American Wigeon	c	o	c	c
_____ Canvasback	u		u	u
_____ Redhead	u	o	a	a
_____ Ring-necked Duck	c		c	c
_____ Greater Scaup	u	r	c	c
_____ Lesser Scaup	c	r	c	c
_____ Long-tailed Duck			r	r
_____ Black Scoter	r		r	r
_____ Surf Scoter	r		r	r
_____ Common Goldeneye	u		u	u
_____ Bufflehead	u		c	c
_____ Hooded Merganser			c	c
_____ Common Merganser	r			r
_____ Red-breasted Merganser	c	o	c	c
_____ Ruddy Duck	u	r	u	u

**Vultures, Hawks and Allies**

_____ Black Vulture*	u	u	u	u
_____ Turkey Vulture*	c	c	c	c
_____ Osprey*	c	c	u	o
_____ Swallow-tailed Kite*	u	u		

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
_____ Mississippi Kite*	u	u		
_____ Bald Eagle*	u	o	u	c
_____ Northern Harrier	c	r	c	c
_____ Sharp-shinned Hawk	r		u	u
_____ Cooper's Hawk	r		u	u
_____ Red-shouldered Hawk*	c	c	c	c
_____ Broad-winged Hawk*	u	u	u	
_____ Red-tailed Hawk*	u	u	c	c
_____ Golden Eagle	r			r
_____ American Kestrel	u		u	u
_____ Merlin	o		o	o
_____ Peregrine Falcon	r		o	o

### **Gallinaceous birds (Quail, Turkey and Allies)**

_____ Wild Turkey*	u	u	u	u
_____ Northern Bobwhite*	u	u	u	u

### **Rails, Gallinules, Coots and Cranes**

_____ Black Rail*	o	o	o	
_____ Clapper Rail*	c	c	c	c
_____ King Rail*	u	u	u	u
_____ Virginia Rail	u		u	u
_____ Sora	c		c	u
_____ Purple Gallinule*	u	c	u	r
_____ Common Gallinule *	c	a	a	u
_____ American Coot	a	o	a	a
_____ Limpkin	r	r	r	r
_____ Sandhill Crane			r	r
_____ Whooping Crane			r	r

### **Shorebirds**

_____ Black-bellied Plover	c	u	c	c
_____ American Golden-Plover	r		r	
_____ Wilson's Plover*	u	u	u	u
_____ Semipalmated Plover	c	u	c	c
_____ Piping Plover	r	r	r	
_____ Killdeer*	c	r	c	u
_____ American Oystercatcher*	u	u	u	u
_____ Black-necked Stilt*	c	c	o	
_____ American Avocet		o	o	o
_____ Greater Yellowlegs	c	u	c	u
_____ Lesser Yellowlegs	u	u	u	u
_____ Solitary Sandpiper	o	o	o	
_____ Willet*	c	c	a	a
_____ Spotted Sandpiper	u	u	u	o
_____ Upland Sandpiper	r	r	r	
_____ Whimbrel	o	o	o	o
_____ Marbled Godwit	o	r	o	o
_____ Ruddy Turnstone	c	u	c	u
_____ Red Knot	o	r	o	
_____ Sanderling	o	o	o	o
_____ Semipalmated Sandpiper	c	u	c	

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
_____ Western Sandpiper	c	c	a	c
_____ Least Sandpiper	c	c	c	c
_____ White-rumped Sandpiper	o	r		
_____ Pectoral Sandpiper	o		o	
_____ Dunlin	a	r	c	a
_____ Stilt Sandpiper	o		o	
_____ Short-billed Dowitcher	c	c	a	a
_____ Long-billed Dowitcher	r		o	o
_____ Wilson's Snipe	u		c	u
_____ American Woodcock	u		u	u
_____ Wilson's Phalarope	r	r		
_____ Laughing Gull*	c	a	c	o
_____ Bonaparte's Gull	o		o	o
_____ Ring-billed Gull	a	o	a	a
_____ Herring Gull	u	o	u	u
_____ Gull-billed Tern	r	r	r	
_____ Caspian Tern	r	r	r	o
_____ Royal Tern	o	o	o	o
_____ Sandwich Tern	o	o	o	
_____ Common Tern	u	u	u	
_____ Forster's Tern	c	c	c	c
_____ Least Tern*	c	u	u	
_____ Black Tern	o	u	o	
_____ Black Skimmer	o	u	o	o

### **Pigeons, Doves**

_____ Rock Pigeon	r	r	r	r
_____ Eurasian Collared Dove	o	o	o	o
_____ White-winged Dove			o	
_____ Mourning Dove*	u	u	c	u
_____ Common Ground-Dove*	u	u	u	u

### **Cuckoos**

_____ Black-billed Cuckoo	r	r	r	
_____ Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	c	c	c	

### **Owls**

_____ Barn Owl*	r	r	r	r
_____ Eastern Screech-Owl*	u	u	u	u
_____ Great Horned Owl*	u	u	u	u
_____ Barred Owl*	u	u	u	u

### **Nightjars**

_____ Common Nighthawk*	c	c	c	
_____ Chuck-will's-widow*	c	c	u	
_____ Whip-poor-will	o		o	r

**Swifts, Hummingbirds**

_____ Chimney Swift*	u	u	u	
_____ Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	u	o	u	

**Kingfishers**

_____ Belted Kingfisher*	c	o	c	c
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**Woodpeckers**

_____ Red-headed Woodpecker*	u	u	o	o
_____ Red-bellied Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
_____ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	u		u	u
_____ Downy Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
_____ Hairy Woodpecker*	o	o	o	o
_____ Red-cockaded Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
_____ Northern Flicker*	u	u	u	u
_____ Pileated Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u

**Flycatchers**

_____ Eastern Wood-Pewee*	u	u	u	
_____ Acadian Flycatcher*	c	c	u	
_____ Eastern Phoebe	u		c	c
_____ Vermilion Flycatcher	r		o	o
_____ Great Crested Flycatcher*	c	c	o	
_____ Western Kingbird	r		o	
_____ Eastern Kingbird*	c	c	c	
_____ Gray Kingbird*	c	c	u	
_____ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	r		r	

**Martins and Swallows**

_____ Purple Martin*	c	c	u	u
_____ Tree Swallow	a	u	a	a
_____ Northern Rough-winged Swallow	u		u	
_____ Bank Swallow	o	o	o	
_____ Cliff Swallow			o	
_____ Barn Swallow	c	c	c	r

**Jays and Crows**

_____ Blue Jay*	c	c	c	c
_____ American Crow*	c	c	c	c
_____ Fish Crow*	c	c	c	u

**Chickadees and Titmice**

_____ Carolina Chickadee*	c	c	c	c
_____ Tufted Titmouse*	c	c	c	c

**Nuthatches**

_____ Red-breasted Nuthatch				r
_____ Brown-headed Nuthatch*	u	u	u	u



**Creepers**

\_\_\_\_\_ Brown Creeper                    *r*                    *r*                    *r*

**Wrens**

\_\_\_\_\_ Carolina Wren\*                    *c*                    *c*                    *c*

\_\_\_\_\_ House Wren                    *u*                    *c*                    *u*

\_\_\_\_\_ Winter Wren                    *r*                    *r*                    *r*

\_\_\_\_\_ Sedge Wren                    *u*                    *c*                    *c*

\_\_\_\_\_ Marsh Wren\*                    *c*                    *c*                    *c*

**Kinglets and Gnatcatchers**

\_\_\_\_\_ Golden-crowned Kinglet                                       *o*                    *o*

\_\_\_\_\_ Ruby-crowned Kinglet                    *c*                    *c*                    *c*

\_\_\_\_\_ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher\*                    *c*                    *c*                    *u*

**Bluebirds, Thrushes and Robin**

\_\_\_\_\_ Eastern Bluebird\*                    *u*                    *r*                    *u*                    *u*

\_\_\_\_\_ Veery                    *o*                    *u*

\_\_\_\_\_ Gray-cheeked Thrush                    *o*                    *u*

\_\_\_\_\_ Swainson's Thrush                    *o*                    *u*

\_\_\_\_\_ Hermit Thrush                    *o*                    *u*                    *u*

\_\_\_\_\_ Wood Thrush                    *o*                    *u*

\_\_\_\_\_ American Robin                    *a*                    *c*                    *a*

**Thrashers**

\_\_\_\_\_ Gray Catbird                    *c*                    *a*                    *c*

\_\_\_\_\_ Northern Mockingbird\*                    *c*                    *c*                    *c*

\_\_\_\_\_ Brown Thrasher\*                    *c*                    *c*                    *a*                    *c*

**Waxwings**

\_\_\_\_\_ Cedar Waxwing                    *u*                    *u*                    *u*

**Starling**

\_\_\_\_\_ Starling\*                    *u*                    *u*                    *u*                    *c*

**Shrike**

\_\_\_\_\_ Loggerhead Shrike\*                    *u*                    *u*                    *u*                    *u*

**Vireos**

\_\_\_\_\_ White-eyed Vireo\*                    *c*                    *c*                    *c*                    *u*

\_\_\_\_\_ Blue-headed Vireo                    *u*                    *u*                    *u*

\_\_\_\_\_ Yellow-throated Vireo\*                    *u*                    *u*                    *u*

\_\_\_\_\_ Red-eyed Vireo\*                    *c*                    *u*                    *c*

**Warblers**

\_\_\_\_\_ Blue-winged Warbler                    *r*                    *r*

\_\_\_\_\_ Golden-winged Warbler                                       *r*

\_\_\_\_\_ Tennessee Warbler                    *r*                    *u*

\_\_\_\_\_ Orange-crowned Warbler                    *u*                    *u*                    *u*

\_\_\_\_\_ Northern Parula\*                    *c*                    *c*                    *u*

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
_____ Yellow Warbler	o	c	c	
_____ Chestnut-sided Warbler	r		o	
_____ Magnolia Warbler	r		u	
_____ Cape May Warbler	u			
_____ Black-throated Blue Warbler	r		r	
_____ Yellow-rumped Warbler	a		a	a
_____ Black-throated Green Warbler	r		r	
_____ Blackburnian Warbler	r		r	
_____ Yellow-throated Warbler*	c	c	u	o
_____ Pine Warbler*	c	c	c	c
_____ Prairie Warbler	c	r	c	r
_____ Palm Warbler	c		c	r
_____ Blackpoll Warbler	u			
_____ Cerulean Warbler		r	r	
_____ Black-and-white Warbler	u		u	u
_____ American Redstart	o		o	
_____ Prothonotary Warbler*	c	c	u	
_____ Worm-eating Warbler	r	r	r	
_____ Swainson's Warbler*	r	r	r	
_____ Ovenbird	r		r	
_____ Northern Waterthrush	r		r	
_____ Louisiana Waterthrush	r	r	r	
_____ Kentucky Warbler*	u	u	r	
_____ Common Yellowthroat*	c	c	c	c
_____ Hooded Warbler*	u	u	u	
_____ Wilson's Warbler			r	r
_____ Yellow-breasted Chat*	c	c	r	r

### Tanagers

_____ Summer Tanager*	c	c	c	
_____ Scarlet Tanager	r		o	

### New World Finches

_____ Northern Cardinal*	c	c	c	c
_____ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	r		o	
_____ Blue Grosbeak*	u	u	u	
_____ Indigo Bunting*	c	u	c	
_____ Painted Bunting	r		r	
_____ Dickcissel	r		r	

### Sparrows

_____ Eastern Towhee*	a	a	a	a
_____ Bachman's Sparrow*	u	u	u	u
_____ Chipping Sparrow	u		u	u
_____ Field Sparrow	u		u	u
_____ Vesper Sparrow	u		u	u
_____ Savannah Sparrow	u		u	u
_____ Henslow's Sparrow			o	u
_____ Saltmarsh Sparrow	u		u	u
_____ Nelson's Sparrow	u		u	u
_____ Song Sparrow	c		c	c

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
_____ Swamp Sparrow	c		a	a
_____ White-throated Sparrow	c		c	c
_____ White-crowned Sparrow			r	
_____ Dark-eyed Junco	r		r	r
_____ Grasshopper Sparrow	r		r	
_____ Seaside Sparrow*	u	u	u	u
_____ Lark Sparrow			r	

### Blackbirds, Grackles, Cowbirds and Orioles

_____ Bobolink	o		u	
_____ Red-winged Blackbird*	a	a	a	a
_____ Eastern Meadowlark*	c	u	c	c
_____ Rusty Blackbird	u		u	u
_____ Boat-tailed Grackle*	a	a	a	a
_____ Common Grackle*	c	c	c	c
_____ Shiny Cowbird	r	r		
_____ Brown-headed Cowbird	c	u	u	u
_____ Orchard Oriole*	c	u	o	
_____ Baltimore Oriole	r		u	

### Old World Finches

_____ Purple Finch	r		r	u
_____ American Goldfinch	c		c	c

### Sighting Notes

*Date* \_\_\_\_\_

*Time* \_\_\_\_\_

*Weather* \_\_\_\_\_

*No. of species* \_\_\_\_\_

*Route or area* \_\_\_\_\_

*Observers* \_\_\_\_\_

*Remarks* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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

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### **Ethics for Birdwatching**

Take care not to disturb nesting birds, exposing eggs and wintering wildlife as little as possible, particularly during critical feeding and resting periods. They need all of their energy reserves to withstand the stresses of harsh weather and migration.

**Do not litter!** Many birds die when they become entangled in fishing lines, six-pack rings and other trash, or when they mistake garbage for food.