

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Mattamuskeet and Swanquarter

*National
Wildlife
Refuges
Wildlife
List*



*photo: F. Eugene Hester
tundra swan*

*Mattamuskeet and
Swanquarter National
Wildlife Refuges are
located in Hyde County,
North Carolina. They
are two of over 548
National Wildlife Refuges
administered by the U.S.
Fish and Wildlife Service,
Department of the Interior.
The National Wildlife
Refuge System is an
extensive network of lands
and waters protected and
managed especially for*



*Mattamuskeet
and
Swanquarter
National
Wildlife
Refuges*



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

Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1934, consists of 50,180 acres of open water, marsh, timber, and cropland. The refuge's main feature is Lake Mattamuskeet, the largest natural lake in North Carolina. Although 40,000 acres in size, the lake only averages two feet deep. The Refuge is well known for the thousands of wintering waterfowl it attracts each year.

Swanquarter National Wildlife Refuge is 16,411 acres of saltmarsh islands and forested wetlands interspersed with potholes, creeks, and drains. Established in 1932, the refuge provides wintering habitat for puddle and diving ducks, and nesting habitat for colonial waterbirds.

Approximately 8,800 acres are included in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

This wildlife checklist is provided to acquaint refuge visitors with birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians of both Mattamuskeet and Swanquarter Refuges. Observing

wildlife can be enjoyable. Field guides and binoculars are recommended to help identify wildlife that you observe. Visitors are encouraged to report any rare or unusual sightings to the refuge headquarters.

Mammals

Most mammals are secretive and wary of humans. Many of them are active at night. So don't expect to see all the mammalian species on this list. Mattamuskeet and Swanquarter Refuges host 41 species of mammals. Tracks and scats may be the only traces of mammals that you will see during your visit. A field guide will be helpful to identify a mammal by the evidence it leaves behind.

photo: F. Eugene Hester



northern shoveler

photo: F. Eugene Hester



bald eagle

photo: Keith Sylvester



wood duck

Marsupials

Opossum

Insectivores

Southeastern Shrew

Short-tailed Shrew

Least Shrew

Eastern Mole

Star-nosed Mole

Bats

Big Brown Bat

Silver-haired Bat

Eastern Pipistrelle Bat

Brazilian Free-tailed Bat

Red Bat

Hoary Bat

Evening Bat

Rabbits

Eastern Cottontail

Marsh Rabbit

Rodents

Gray Squirrel

Southern Flying Squirrel

Beaver

Rice Rat

Eastern Harvest Mouse

Golden Mouse

White-footed Mouse

Cotton Mouse

Hispid Cotton Rat

Meadow Vole

Muskrat

Black Rat

Norway Rat

House Mouse

Nutria

Carnivores

Red Fox

Gray Fox

Red Wolf

Black Bear

Raccoon

Long-tailed Weasel

Mink

River Otter

Bobcat

Marine Mammals

Atlantic Bottlenosed Dolphin

Manatee

Hoofed Mammals

White-tailed Deer

Amphibians

Toads, frogs, and salamanders belong to the class Amphibia, derived from the Greek “amphibious” meaning “living a double life.” These clawless, moist-skinned animals pass through a larval stage as young, usually in an aquatic environment, before growing into adults. Mattamuskeet and Swanquarter Refuges provide habitat for 24 amphibian species.

Salamanders

Greater Siren
Eastern Newt
Dwarf Mudpuppy
Two-toed Amphiuma

Marbled Salamander
Southern Dusky Salamander
Slimy Salamander

Toads

Eastern Spadefoot Toad
Oak Toad
Southern Toad

Fowler's Toad
Eastern Narrowmouth Toad

Frogs

Southern Cricket Frog
Gray Treefrog
Green Treefrog
Spring Peeper
Pine Woods Treefrog
Squirrel Treefrog

Little Grass Frog
Brimley's Chorus Frog
Bullfrog
Green Frog
Southern Leopard Frog
Carpenter Frog

Reptiles

Reptiles have skin covered with scales or plates. Snakes and a few lizards are legless. Other reptiles have two pairs of limbs each with five clawed toes. Reptiles include turtles, snakes, lizards and the alligator. The diversity of habitats at Mattamuskeet and Swanquarter Refuges supports 44 reptilian species.

Alligator

American Alligator

Turtles

Snapping Turtle
Eastern Mud Turtle
River Cooter
Florida Cooter
Painted Turtle

Redbelly Turtle
Yellowbelly Slider
Spotted Turtle
Diamondback Terrapin
Eastern Box Turtle

Lizards

Carolina Anole
Five-lined Skink
Southeastern Five-lined Skink

Broadhead Skink
Ground Skink
Eastern Glass Lizard

Snakes

Worm Snake
Black Racer
Ringneck Snake
Corn Snake
Greenish Rat Snake
Mud Snake
Rainbow Snake
Eastern Hognose Snake
Eastern Kingsnake

Brown Water Snake
Rough Green Snake
Glossy Crayfish Snake
Brown Snake
Redbelly Snake
Carolina Watersnake
Eastern Ribbon Snake
Eastern Garter Snake
Rough Earth Snake

Scarlet Kingsnake
 Redbelly Water Snake
 Banded Water Snake
 Northern Water Snake
 Carolina Swamp Snake

Copperhead
 Cottonmouth
 Canebrake Rattlesnake
 Pygmy Rattlesnake

Birds

Mattamuskeet and Swanquarter Refuges are wintering grounds for large numbers of ducks, geese and swans. Ospreys nest in low cypress trees near the edge of Lake Mattamuskeet and are seen at both refuges. The marshes and woodlands provide a variety of habitat for over 200 avian species. To maximize your avian encounters, learn bird field marks and songs, explore a variety of habitats and visit the refuge often. The seasonal occurrence and abundance of these species are coded as follows:

Seasonal appearance

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

Seasonal abundance

- a - abundant (a species which is 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)
- * - nests on the refuge

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
Swans, Geese & Ducks				
___ Fulvous Whistling-Duck			r	r
___ Greater White-fronted Goose			r	r
___ Snow Goose			c	c
___ Ross's Goose.....			o	o
___ Brant			r	r
___ Cackling Goose			o	o
___ Canada Goose*	c	c	c	c
___ Mute Swan.....	r	r		r
___ Tundra Swan	o	r	a	a
___ Wood Duck*	u	u	c	c
___ Gadwall	u	o	c	c
___ Eurasian Wigeon			o	o
___ American Wigeon	u		c	c

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
___ American Black Duck*	u	o	c	c
___ Mallard*	u	u	c	c
___ Blue-winged Teal	u		c	u
___ Northern Shoveler	o		c	c
___ Northern Pintail			c	c
___ Green-winged Teal			c	a
___ Canvasback			u	u
___ Redhead			u	u
___ Ring-necked Duck			c	c
___ Greater Scaup			u	u
___ Lesser Scaup			u	u
___ Harlequin Duck				r
___ Surf Scoter			u	u
___ White-winged Scoter			o	o
___ Black Scoter			u	u
___ Long-tailed Duck			u	u
___ Bufflehead			c	c
___ Common Goldeneye			u	u
___ Hooded Merganser			u	u
___ Common Merganser			r	u
___ Red-breasted Merganser			u	u
___ Ruddy Duck			c	c

Turkey & New World Quail

___ Wild Turkey	o	o	o	o
___ Northern Bobwhite*	u	u	u	u

Loons

___ Red-throated Loon			u	c
___ Common Loon			u	c

Grebes

___ Pied-billed Grebe*	u	u	c	c
___ Horned Grebe	u			u
___ Eared Grebe			r	r

Gannets

___ Northern Gannet			r	u
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Pelicans, Cormorants & Anhinga

___ American White Pelican			u	u
___ Brown Pelican	u	u	u	u
___ Double-crested Cormorant	c	u	c	c
___ Great Cormorant			r	r
___ Anhinga	o	o	o	o

Bitterns & Herons

___ American Bittern*	u	u	u	u
___ Least Bittern*	u	u	o	r
___ Great Blue Heron*	c	c	c	c
___ Great Egret	c	c	c	c
___ Snowy Egret	c	c	u	u
___ Little Blue Heron	u	u	u	u

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
___ Tricolored Heron	u	u	u	u
___ Reddish Egret			r	r
___ Cattle Egret	o	u	u	r
___ Green Heron*	c	c	u	r
___ Black-crowned Night-Heron*	u	u	u	u
___ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	o	o	r	

Ibises

___ White Ibis	o	o	u	o
___ Glossy Ibis	u	u	u	o

Vultures

___ Black Vulture*	u	u	u	u
___ Turkey Vulture*	c	c	c	c

Hawks & Eagles

___ Osprey*	c	c	u	o
___ Bald Eagle	o	o	u	u
___ Northern Harrier	u		c	c
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk*	o	r	u	u
___ Cooper's Hawk	u	u	u	u
___ Red-shouldered Hawk	u	u	u	u
___ Broad-winged Hawk			o	
___ Red-tailed Hawk*	u	u	c	c
___ Rough-legged Hawk				r
___ Golden Eagle			r	r

Falcons

___ American Kestrel			c	c
___ Merlin			u	u
___ Peregrine Falcon			u	u

Rails, Gallinules & Coots

___ Yellow Rail			r	r
___ Black Rail	u	u		r
___ Clapper Rail*	u	u	u	u
___ King Rail*	u	u	u	u
___ Virginia Rail	u		u	u
___ Sora	u		u	
___ Common Moorhen	u	u	o	o
___ American Coot	c	o	a	c

Cranes

___ Sandhill Crane		r		r
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Plovers

___ Black-bellied Plover	u	u	u	u
___ American Golden-Plover	r		o	
___ Wilson's Plover	u		u	o
___ Semipalmated Plover	u	u	u	o
___ Killdeer*	o	o	o	u

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
Oystercatchers				
___ American Oystercatcher		o		
Avocets & Stilts				
___ Black-necked Stilt	o		r	
___ American Avocet.....		r	r	r
Sandpipers				
___ Spotted Sandpiper.....	u	u		
___ Solitary Sandpiper		u		
___ Greater Yellowlegs	o	o	u	u
___ Willet*	u	u	o	o
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	u	o	u	o
___ Upland Sandpiper	r		r	
___ Whimbrel.....	o		o	
___ Hudsonian Godwit.....			r	
___ Marbled Godwit.....	o	o	o	
___ Ruddy Turnstone.....	o		r	
___ Red Knot	o		o	
___ Sanderling	o		o	
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper	u	u	u	
___ Western Sandpiper.....	u	u	u	u
___ Least Sandpiper	u		u	u
___ Baird's Sandpiper.....			r	
___ Pectoral Sandpiper.....	o	u	u	
___ Dunlin.....	o	u	u	o
___ Ruff.....			r	r
___ Short-billed Dowitcher	o		u	u
___ Long-billed Dowitcher	o		u	u
___ Wilson's Snipe.....	u	u	u	u
___ American Woodcock.....	o	o	u	c
___ Red-necked Phalarope.....			r	
Gulls, Terns, & Skimmers				
___ Laughing Gull	c	c	c	o
___ Black-headed Gull			r	r
___ Bonaparte's Gull	o		u	u
___ Ring-billed Gull.....	c	c	c	c
___ Herring Gull.....	c	c	c	c
___ Great Black-backed Gull	o		c	c
___ Least Tern	u			
___ Gull-billed Tern.....	o			
___ Caspian Tern.....	o	o	o	
___ Black Tern			o	
___ Common Tern*	u	u	u	
___ Forster's Tern*	u	u	u	u
___ Royal Tern.....	o	o	o	r
___ Sandwich Tern	r			
___ Black Skimmer	o	o	r	r

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
Doves				
___ Mourning Dove*	c	c	c	c
Cuckoos				
___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	u	u	o	
___ Black-billed Cuckoo	r	r	r	
Owls				
___ Barn Owl.....	o	o	o	o
___ Eastern Screech-Owl*	u	u	u	u
___ Great Horned Owl*	u	u	u	u
___ Barred Owl*	u	u	u	u
___ Northern Saw-whet Owl.....			r	r
Nightjars				
___ Common Nighthawk	u	u	u	
___ Chuck-will's-widow*	u	u	u	
___ Whip-poor-will	u	u	u	
Swifts				
___ Chimney Swift	u	u	o	
Hummingbirds				
___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	u	u	o	r
Kingfishers				
___ Belted Kingfisher	c	c	c	c
Woodpeckers				
___ Red-headed Woodpecker*	o	o	o	o
___ Red-bellied Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.....			u	u
___ Downy Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
___ Hairy Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
___ Northern Flicker*	c	c	c	c
___ Pileated Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
Flycatchers				
___ Eastern Wood-Pewee*	u	u		
___ Acadian Flycatcher	u			
___ Eastern Phoebe	u	u		c
___ Ash-throated Flycatcher.....		r		r
___ Great Crested Flycatcher*	u	o		
___ Tropical Kingbird				r
___ Western Kingbird.....			r	
___ Eastern Kingbird*	u	o		
Shrikes				
___ Loggerhead Shrike				r
Vireos				
___ White-eyed Vireo*	u	u		r
___ Bell's Vireo				r

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
___ Yellow-throated Vireo	o	o	o	
___ Blue-headed Vireo	o		o	o
___ Red-eyed Vireo*	u	u	u	
Jays & Crows				
___ Blue Jay*	u	u	u	u
___ American Crow*	c	c	c	c
___ Fish Crow*	c	c	c	c
Larks				
___ Horned Lark				r
Swallows				
___ Purple Martin	u			
___ Tree Swallow	u	a	a	
___ Northern Rough-winged Swallow....	u			
___ Cave Swallow				r
___ Barn Swallow*	c	o		r
Titmice, Nuthatches & Creepers				
___ Carolina Chickadee*	c	c	c	c
___ Tufted Titmouse*	c	c	c	c
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch			r	r
___ White-breasted Nuthatch*	o	o	o	o
___ Brown-headed Nuthatch*	u	u	u	u
___ Brown Creeper		o	o	
Wrens				
___ Carolina Wren*	c	c	c	c
___ House Wren*	u	u	u	u
___ Winter Wren		u	u	
___ Sedge Wren		u	u	
___ Marsh Wren*	u	u	u	u
Kinglets & Gnatcatchers				
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet				u
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	u		u	c
___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	o	o	o	o
Thrushes				
___ Eastern Bluebird*	u			o
___ Swainson's Thrush	o		o	
___ Hermit Thrush	u		u	u
___ Wood Thrush*	u	u		
___ American Robin*	c	u	u	u
Mockingbirds & Thrashers				
___ Gray Catbird*	u	u	u	u
___ Northern Mockingbird*	c	c	c	c
___ Brown Thrasher*	u	u	u	u

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
Starling				
___ European Starling*	c	c	c	c
Pipits				
___ American Pipit			u	u
Waxwings				
___ Cedar Waxwing	u		u	u
Wood Warblers				
___ Orange-crowned Warbler			u	u
___ Nashville Warbler			o	r
___ Northern Parula	u	o	u	r
___ Yellow Warbler*	o	o	r	r
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler	r		u	r
___ Magnolia Warbler	r			
___ Cape May Warbler	r		r	
___ Black-throated Blue Warbler	o	o	o	
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	c		c	c
___ Black-throated Green Warbler	o	o		
___ Blackburnian Warbler	r			
___ Yellow-throated Warbler*	u	u	o	r
___ Pine Warbler*	u	u	u	u
___ Prairie Warbler*	u	u	o	o
___ Palm Warbler	u		u	u
___ Blackpoll Warbler	o			
___ Black-and-white Warbler	o	u	u	o
___ American Redstart	u	u	u	
___ Prothonotary Warbler*	u	u		
___ Worm-eating Warbler	o	o		
___ Swainson's Warbler	r	r		
___ Ovenbird	u	u	u	
___ Northern Waterthrush	o		o	r
___ MacGillivray's Warbler				r
___ Common Yellowthroat*	c	c	c	c
___ Hooded Warbler*	u	u		
___ Canada Warbler	r		u	r
___ Yellow-breasted Chat	o		o	r
Sparrows & Allies				
___ Eastern Towhee*	c	c	c	c
___ American Tree Sparrow				r
___ Chipping Sparrow	o	o	u	u
___ Field Sparrow	u	u	u	u
___ Vesper Sparrow				o
___ Lark Sparrow			r	
___ Savannah Sparrow	u		u	c
___ Grasshopper Sparrow				r
___ Henslow's Sparrow			r	
___ Saltmarsh Sparrow			o	o
___ Seaside Sparrow*	u	u	u	u
___ Fox Sparrow	u		u	u
___ Song Sparrow	u		u	c

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
___ Swamp Sparrow	u		u	c
___ White-throated Sparrow	u		u	c
___ White-crowned Sparrow.....			o	o
___ Dark-eyed Junco	u		u	u
___ Snow Bunting.....				r

Tanagers

___ Summer Tanager	u			
___ Scarlet Tanager	r			

Cardinals & Allies

___ Northern Cardinal*	c	c	c	c
___ Blue Grosbeak*	u	u		
___ Indigo Bunting*	u	u		
___ Painted Bunting.....		r	r	r

Blackbirds

___ Bobolink.....	o		o	
___ Red-winged Blackbird*	a	a	a	a
___ Eastern Meadowlark*	c	c	c	c
___ Yellow-headed Blackbird	r		r	r
___ Rusty Blackbird.....				o
___ Brewer's Blackbird				r
___ Common Grackle*	c	c	c	a
___ Boat-tailed Grackle	u	u	u	u
___ Brown-headed Cowbird*	c	u	u	c
___ Orchard Oriole*	u	u	o	
___ Baltimore Oriole			o	r

Finches

___ Purple Finch	o		o	u
___ House Finch	u		u	u
___ Pine Siskin.....				r
___ American Goldfinch.....	u			u
___ Evening Grosbeak.....				r

Old World Sparrows

___ House Sparrow*	u	u	u	u
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photo: F. Eugene Hester

lesser yellowlegs

Sighting Notes

Date _____

Time _____

Weather _____

No. of species _____

Route or area _____

Observers _____

Remarks _____

photo: Larry Ditto



northern pintail

photo: F. Eugene Hester



king rail



photo: F. Eugene Hester

pileated woodpecker

**Mattamuskeet
National Wildlife Refuge
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<http://fws.gov/mattamuskeet>**

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD**

December 2010

