

September 2018



# Erie

## National Wildlife Refuge

### Birds

#### Introduction

Erie National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1959, is located in Crawford County in northwestern Pennsylvania. The refuge consists of two separate land units. The Sugar Lake Division, containing 5,206 acres, is 10 miles east of Meadville on the outskirts of the village of Guys Mills. The Seneca Division, containing 3,609 acres, is 10 miles north of the Sugar Lake Division, near Cambridge Springs.

Forests, swamps, beaver ponds, man-made impoundments, grasslands and croplands make up the diverse habitats that have attracted more than 230 species of birds. An additional 18 species have been observed only one or two times and are listed separately as accidentals.

Waterfowl migrations occur in March to early April and again from September to November. There are more wood ducks nesting on the refuge than any other duck; a good place to watch them during the spring migration is from our observation blind. In the spring, goslings and their parents also can be seen as they travel back and forth from Pool C to the Entrance Road Pond.

Spring and summer are the times to look for nesting songbirds. Look for Henslow's sparrow, a rare bird in most areas of the United States. This sparrow is secretive and usually sings its "slick" song from a low perch in an open field.

Shorebirds, such as sandpipers and yellowlegs, can be seen in small groups feeding on mudflats during summer and fall. On a winter walk, black-capped chickadees, nuthatches, downy woodpeckers and dark-eyed juncos are easy to spot.

This list follows the Fifty-first Supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist of North American Birds.

Most birds are migratory and their seasonal occurrence and relative abundance are coded as follows:

#### Season

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

#### Relative Abundance

Relative abundance indicates how frequently you might see a bird in its favored habitat.

- a** abundant: very numerous and readily seen
  - c** common: likely 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: may be present but not every year
- Birds known to nest on or near the refuge.

#### Common Name

##### Geese, Swans & Ducks

	Sp	S	F	W
___ Snow Goose	r		r	r
___ Canada Goose•	a	a	a	a
___ Tundra Swan	c	c	o	
___ Wood Duck•	c	c	c	o
___ Gadwall	c	c	r	
___ American Wigeon	c	r	c	r
___ American Black Duck•	o	o	o	u
___ Mallard•	c	c	c	c
___ Blue-winged Teal•	c	u	c	r
___ Northern Shoveler	u		u	r
___ Northern Pintail	u		o	u
___ Green-winged Teal	c		c	u
___ Canvasback	o		o	r
___ Redhead	o		o	r
___ Ring-necked Duck	c	r	c	o
___ Greater Scaup	r		r	r
___ Lesser Scaup	o		o	r
___ Long-tailed Duck	r		r	
___ Bufflehead	c		c	o
___ Common Goldeneye	o		o	o
___ Hooded Merganser	c	c	c	r
___ Common Merganser	o	r	o	
___ Red-breasted Merganser	o		o	r
___ Ruddy Duck	o		o	r

##### Grouse & Allies

___ Northern Bobwhite	r	r	r	r
___ Ring-necked Pheasant•	u	u	u	u
___ Ruffed Grouse•	c	u	u	u
___ Wild Turkey•	c	c	c	c

##### Loons & Grebes

___ Common Loon	o		o	
___ Pied-billed Grebe•	c	u	u	r



Cedar waxwing

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
___ Horned Grebe	o		o	
<b>Cormorants</b>				
___ Double-crested Cormorant	o		o	
<b>Bitterns, Herons &amp; Ibises</b>				
___ American Bittern•	u	r	u	
___ Least Bittern•	r	r		
___ Great Blue Heron•	c	c	c	u
___ Great Egret	r	r	r	
___ Little Blue Heron	r			
___ Green Heron•	u	c	u	
___ Black-crowned Night-Heron	r	r	r	
<b>Vultures, Hawks &amp; Falcons</b>				
___ Turkey Vulture•	c	c	c	
___ Osprey	o		o	
___ Bald Eagle•	c	c	c	o
___ Northern Harrier•	o	r	r	r
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk•	u	u	u	u
___ Cooper's Hawk•	c	c	c	c
___ Northern Goshawk	r	r	r	r
___ Red-shouldered Hawk•	c	c	c	o
___ Broad-winged Hawk•	u	u	u	
___ Red-tailed Hawk•	c	c	c	c
___ Rough-legged Hawk				r
___ Golden Eagle			r	
___ American Kestrel•	o	o	o	r
___ Merlin	r		r	r
___ Peregrine Falcon	r		r	r
<b>Rails &amp; Cranes</b>				
___ Virginia Rail•	u	u	u	
___ Sora•	u	u	u	
___ Common Gallinule•	o	o	o	
___ American Coot•	o	o	o	r
___ Sandhill Crane•	o	o	o	
<b>Plovers &amp; Sandpipers</b>				
___ Black-bellied Plover			r	
___ American Golden-Plover			r	
___ Semipalmated Plover	u		u	
___ Killdeer•	c	c	c	r
___ Spotted Sandpiper•	u	u	o	
___ Solitary Sandpiper	u	o	u	
___ Greater Yellowlegs	u	o	u	
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	u	o	o	
___ Upland Sandpiper	r	r		
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper	r		u	

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Least Sandpiper	u		u	
Pectoral Sandpiper	u		u	
Dunlin	u		u	
Stilt Sandpiper		r	r	
Short-billed Dowitcher	u		u	
Long-billed Dowitcher			r	
Wilson's Snipe	c	u	c	
American Woodcock	c	u	c	
<b>Gulls &amp; Terns</b>				
Bonaparte's Gull	o		o	
Ring-billed Gull	o		o	r
Herring Gull	o		o	
Black Tern	r		r	
Common Tern	r		r	
Forster's Tern	r		r	
<b>Doves &amp; Cuckoos</b>				
Rock Pigeon	c	c	c	c
Mourning Dove	c	c	c	c
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	u	u	u	
Black-billed Cuckoo	c	c	c	
<b>Owls &amp; Nightjars</b>				
Barn Owl	r	r	r	r
Eastern Screech-Owl	u	u	u	u
Great Horned Owl	c	c	c	c
Snowy Owl				r
Barred Owl	c	c	c	c
Long-eared Owl	r	r	r	r
Short-eared Owl	r		r	r
Northern Saw-whet Owl	r	r	u	r
Common Nighthawk	r	r	r	
Eastern Whip-poor-will			r	
<b>Swifts, Hummingbirds &amp; Kingfishers</b>				
Chimney Swift	c	c	c	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	c	c	c	
Belted Kingfisher	c	c	c	o
<b>Woodpeckers</b>				
Red-headed Woodpecker	u	u	u	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	c	c	c	c
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	o	c	c	r
Downy Woodpecker	c	c	c	c
Hairy Woodpecker	u	u	u	u
Northern Flicker	c	c	c	u
Pileated Woodpecker	u	u	u	u
<b>Flycatchers</b>				
Olive-sided Flycatcher	r		r	
Eastern Wood-Pee-wee	c	c	c	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	r		r	
Acadian Flycatcher	c	c	c	
Alder Flycatcher	c	c	u	
Willow Flycatcher	c	c	c	
Least Flycatcher	c	u	c	
Eastern Phoebe	c	c	c	
Great Crested Flycatcher	c	c	c	
Eastern Kingbird	c	c	c	
<b>Shrikes &amp; Vireos</b>				
Northern Shrike				r
White-eyed Vireo	r	o	r	
Yellow-throated Vireo	o	o	o	
Blue-headed Vireo	c	c	c	
Warbling Vireo	u	c	u	
Philadelphia Vireo	r		r	
Red-eyed Vireo	a	a	a	
<b>Jays, Crows, Larks &amp; Swallows</b>				
Blue Jay	a	a	a	a
American Crow	a	a	a	a
Common Raven	u	u	u	u
Horned Lark	u	o	u	o

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Purple Martin	u	u	u	
Tree Swallow	a	a	a	
N. Rough-winged Swallow	u	c	u	
Bank Swallow	c	c	c	
Cliff Swallow	r	r	r	
Barn Swallow	c	a	a	
<b>Chickadees, Nuthatches &amp; Wrens</b>				
Black-capped Chickadee	a	a	a	a
Tufted Titmouse	u	u	u	u
Red-breasted Nuthatch	u	r	u	u
White-breasted Nuthatch	c	c	c	c
Brown Creeper	u	u	u	u
Carolina Wren	o	o	o	o
House Wren	c	c	c	
Winter Wren	o	r	o	o
Sedge Wren		r		
Marsh Wren		u		
<b>Kinglets, Thrushes &amp; Thrashers</b>				
Golden-crowned Kinglet	u	r	c	u
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	c	c	c	r
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	u	u	u	
Eastern Bluebird	c	c	c	o
Veery	c	c	c	
Gray-cheeked Thrush	o	o		
Swainson's Thrush	c		c	
Hermit Thrush	c	r	c	
Wood Thrush	c	c	c	
American Robin	a	a	a	o
Gray Catbird	c	a	c	r
Northern Mockingbird	r	r	r	r
Brown Thrasher	c	u	u	
<b>Starlings, Pipits &amp; Waxwings</b>				
European Starling	a	a	a	a
American Pipit	r		r	
Cedar Waxwing	c	a	a	u
<b>Snow Bunting</b>				
Snow Bunting			o	o
<b>Wood Warblers</b>				
Blue-Winged Warbler	c	c	c	
Golden-winged Warbler	r	r		
Tennessee Warbler	u		u	
Orange-crowned Warbler			r	
Nashville Warbler	c	r	c	
Northern Parula	o	o		
Yellow Warbler	c	c	c	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	c	c	c	
Magnolia Warbler	c	c	c	
Cape May Warbler	o		u	
Black-throated Blue Warbler	u	r	u	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	a	r	a	o
Black-throated Green Warbler	a	c	c	
Blackburnian Warbler	c	u	c	
Pine Warbler	r	r	r	
Prairie Warbler	r		r	
Palm Warbler	u		u	
Bay-breasted Warbler	u		u	
Blackpoll Warbler	u		c	
Cerulean Warbler	r	r	r	
Black-and-white Warbler	u	o	u	
American Redstart	c	c	c	
Prothonotary Warbler	r		r	
Ovenbird	c	c	c	
Northern Waterthrush	u	u	u	
Louisiana Waterthrush	c	c	u	
Kentucky Warbler	r		r	
Connecticut Warbler	r		r	
Mourning Warbler	u	u	u	

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W
Common Yellowthroat	a	a	a	
Hooded Warbler	c	c	c	
Wilson's Warbler	u		u	
Canada Warbler	u	o	u	
Yellow-breasted Chat	u	u	o	
<b>Sparrows</b>				
Eastern Towhee	c	c	c	r
American Tree Sparrow	c		c	a
Chipping Sparrow	c	c	c	
Field Sparrow	c	c	c	r
Vesper Sparrow	o	o	o	
Savannah Sparrow	u	o	o	
Grasshopper Sparrow	o	o	o	
Henlow's Sparrow	u	u	u	
Fox Sparrow	o		o	
Song Sparrow	a	a	a	u
Lincoln's Sparrow	r		r	
Swamp Sparrow	a	a	a	u
White-throated Sparrow	c		c	u
White-crowned Sparrow	u		u	r
Dark-eyed Junco	c	o	c	a
<b>Tanagers, Buntings &amp; Allies</b>				
Scarlet Tanager	c	c	c	
Northern Cardinal	c	c	c	c
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	c	c	c	
Indigo Bunting	c	c	c	
<b>Blackbirds &amp; Finches</b>				
Bobolink	u	c	u	
Red-winged Blackbird	a	a	a	o
Eastern Meadowlark	u	o	o	r
Rusty Blackbird	u		u	
Common Grackle	a	a	a	o
Brown-headed Cowbird	c	c	c	o
Orchard Oriole	o	r	o	
Baltimore Oriole	c	c	c	
Pine Grosbeak				r
Purple Finch	u	u	u	u
House Finch	o	o	o	o
Red Crossbill				r
White-winged Crossbill				r
Common Redpoll				r
Pine Siskin	o		o	o
American Goldfinch	a	a	a	c
Evening Grosbeak	o		o	o
<b>Finches</b>				
House Sparrow	a	a	a	a
<b>Accidentals (only 1 or 2 records)</b>				
Mute Swan				
Eurasian Wigeon				
Surf Scoter				
White-winged Scoter				
Black Scoter				
Red-throated Loon				
Gyr Falcon				
Willet				
Whimbrel				
Hudsonian Godwit				
White-rumped Sandpiper				
Baird's Sandpiper				
Buff-breasted Sandpiper				
Lapland Longspur				
Clay-colored Sparrow				
Blue Grosbeak				
Dickcissel				
Brewer's Blackbird				