

Bogue Chitto National Wildlife Refuge

Bird list



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

Bogue Chitto National Wildlife Refuge offers some of the least disturbed southern swamplands in the United States. It conserves over 36,000 acres of the Pearl River Basin, most of which is accessible only by boat. The refuge's remoteness is the draw for many visitors. The bottomland hardwood forests and cypress and tupelo swamps that make up most of the refuge were set aside in 1980 to preserve and enhance a unique ecosystem threatened by agriculture, residential, and commercial development. It is one of over 560 National Wildlife Refuges in the United States, located only 40 miles north of New Orleans along the Louisiana/Mississippi state line.

Interlaced by the Pearl and Bogue Chitto River systems, the refuge provides nesting, wintering and breeding habitat for nearly 200 species of birds. The forest fills with twittering sound in the fall as neotropical migratory songbirds such as prothonotary and Swainson's warblers, flycatchers, yellow-billed cuckoo, and white-eyed vireo arrive during their migration south for the winter. Many of these birds will rest only briefly before continuing their journey to wintering lands further south, while other birds such as raptors and vultures call the refuge home year round.

The refuge quiets in winter, echoing the low call of wood ducks, mallards and hooded mergansers. With a rush of Spring rains and floods, wild turkey retreat from sandbars to forested areas, but the abundant water draws wading egrets and herons to the rivers and bayous. By summer, the seasonal migration has ended, and most ducks and other wintering birds have returned north to their nesting grounds. Nesting residents such as swallow-tailed and Mississippi kites soar in the thick air of summer, heavy with the soft chirp of year-round residents such as warblers, chickadees, and wrens which can be found in abundance.

The lifeblood of this ecosystem is the Pearl River. The name of the refuge, Bogue Chitto, is derived from a Choctaw phrase meaning "large stream." The original pronunciation is very close to how it is said today: bow-guh chit-uh. Opportunities for bird watching along its banks are plentiful. The boardwalk trail located at the Pearl River turnaround site offers a picturesque sampling of habitats found throughout the refuge, and an ideal setting for wildlife observation. The egret rookery located at this site, is not to be missed during the May-June nesting season. To reach the boardwalk area, take I-59N to the Pearl River Turnaround (Exit 11), then turn right and backtrack down the frontage road about a mile. Entrance to the site is on the left.

Responsible birders should abide by the American Birding Association's Code of Birding Ethics. More information can be found at <http://www.aba.org>

Report your sightings on eBird



This online checklist program provides birders and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff with updated birding reports. The database is populated with bird observations made each year by both recreational and professional bird watchers. The program is one of the largest and fastest growing biodiversity data resources in existence. The reports on

eBird serve as a vital foundation for better understanding bird distribution. The program resources are free to access and are used by a global community of educators, land managers, ornithologists and conservation biologists.

The following bird list contains 183 species, representing observations on and adjacent to Bogue Chitto National Wildlife Refuge. Sightings of unlisted species should be reported to: Refuge Manager, Bogue Chitto NWR.

This list conforms to the nomenclature and arrangement established by the American Ornithologists' Union (1998).

Symbols used in this brochure represent the following:

- Sp Spring (March-May)
- S Summer (June-August)
- F Fall (September-November)
- W Winter (December-February)
- C Common (likely to be seen 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)
- * Species of special concern
- ^ Non-native/exotic species

Four primary habitats common to the refuge are identified as follows:

- F Forest
- A Aerial Flyover
- W Open Water
- S Swamp

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Lacombe, LA 70445
985/882 2000
<http://www.fws.gov/boguechitto/>

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

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photo: USFWS

	<i>Sp</i>	<i>Su</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>Habitat</i>
Species					
Ducks (Anatidae)					
___ Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	U	U	U	U	S
___ Canada Goose	R	R	R	R	A
___ Wood Duck	C	C	C	C	F
___ Mallard	O	R	O	U	W
___ Blue-winged Teal	U	R	U	U	W
___ Ring-necked Duck	U		U	U	W
___ Lesser Scaup				R	W
___ Hooded Merganser *	C	C	C	C	F
___ Ruddy Duck	U		U	C	W
New World Quail (Odontophoridae)					
___ Northern Bobwhite	C	C	C	C	F
Turkeys (Phasianidae)					
___ Wild Turkey	C	C	C	C	F
Grebes (Podicipedae)					
___ Pied-billed Grebe	O		O	U	W
Cormorants (Phalacrocoracidae)					
___ Double-crested Cormorant	C	C	C	C	W
Anhingas (Anhingidae)					
___ Anhinga	C	C	C	C	W
Hérons (Ardeidae)					
___ Great Blue Heron	C	C	C	C	S
___ Great Egret	C	C	C	C	S
___ Snowy Egret	C	C	C	C	S
___ Little Blue Heron	U	C	U	U	S
___ Tricolored Heron	O	O	O	O	S
___ Cattle Egret ^	U	U	U	U	F
___ Green Heron	O	C	O		S
___ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	U	C	U		S
Ibises (Threskiornithidae)					
___ White Ibis	U	U	U	U	S
___ Roseate Spoonbill *		R			S
New World Vultures (Cathartidae)					
___ Black Vulture	C	C	C	C	A
___ Turkey Vulture	C	C	C	C	A
Pandionidae (Osprey)					
___ Osprey	O	O	O	O	A
Hawks, Kites, Eagles, and Allies (Accipitridae)					
___ Swallow-tailed Kite *	U	U			A
___ Mississippi Kite	U	C			A
___ Bald Eagle *	U	R	U	U	A
___ Northern Harrier				R	S
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	U		U	U	F
___ Cooper's Hawk *	U	U	U	U	F
___ Red-shouldered Hawk	C	C	C	C	F
___ Broad-winged Hawk	O	U	O		F
___ Red-tailed Hawk	C	C	C	C	F
Sandpipers (Scolopacidae)					
___ Spotted Sandpiper	O		O	U	S
___ Solitary Sandpiper *	R		R		S
___ Least Sandpiper				R	S
___ Wilson's Snipe	R			O	F
___ American Woodcock *	U		U	U	S

	<i>Sp</i>	<i>Su</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>Habitat</i>
Gulls and Terns (Laridae)					
___ Laughing Gull		O			
___ Least Tern		O			
Pigeons (Columbidae)					
___ Rock Pigeon ^	U	U	U	U	F
___ Eurasian Collared-Dove ^	R	R	R	R	F
___ White-winged Dove			O	O	F
___ Mourning Dove	C	C	C	C	F
Cuckoos (Cuculidae)					
___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo	U	U	U		F
___ Black-billed Cuckoo	R		R		F
Owls (Strigidae)					
___ Eastern Screech-Owl	U	U	U	U	F
___ Great Horned Owl	C	C	C	C	F
___ Barred Owl	C	C	C	C	F
Nightjars (Caprimulgidae)					
___ Common Nighthawk	O	U	O		F
___ Chuck-will's-widow *	U	U	U		F
Swifts (Apodidae)					
___ Chimney Swift	C	C	C		A
Hummingbirds (Trochilidae)					
___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird	C	C	C		F
___ Rufous Hummingbird				R	F
Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)					
___ Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C	C	W
Woodpeckers (Picidae)					
___ Red-headed Woodpecker *	U	U	U	U	F
___ Red-bellied Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	F
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	U		C	C	F
___ Downy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	F
___ Hairy Woodpecker	R	R	R	R	F
___ Northern Flicker	U	U	U	U	F
___ Pileated Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	F
Falcons (Falconidae)					
___ American Kestrel *	U	R	U	U	F
___ Merlin				R	F
___ Peregrine Falcon *			R	R	F
Tyrant Flycatchers (Tyrannidae)					
___ Olive-sided Flycatcher *				R	F
___ Eastern Wood-Pewee	U	C	C		F
___ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher			R		F
___ Acadian Flycatcher	U	C	U		F
___ Alder Flycatcher			O		S
___ Least Flycatcher			O		F
___ Eastern Phoebe	U		C	C	F
___ Great Crested Flycatcher	U	C	U		F
___ Eastern Kingbird	U	U	U		F
Shrikes (Laniidae)					
___ Loggerhead Shrike *	C	C	C	C	F
Vireos (Vireonidae)					
___ White-eyed Vireo	U		U		F
___ Yellow-throated Vireo	U	C	U		F
___ Blue-headed Vireo	U		U	U	F
___ Warbling Vireo	R		R		F
___ Philadelphia Vireo	R		U		F
___ Red-eyed Vireo	C	C	C		F

	<i>Sp</i>	<i>Su</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>Habitat</i>		<i>Sp</i>	<i>Su</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>Habitat</i>
Jays and Crows (Corvidae)											
___ Blue Jay	C	C	C	C	F	___ Swainson's Warbler *	U	C	U		S
___ American Crow	C	C	C	C	F	___ Tennessee Warbler	U		U		F
___ Fish Crow	C	C	C	C	W	___ Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U	C	F
						___ Nashville Warbler	R		R		F
						___ Mourning Warbler	R		R		F
Swallows (Hirundinidae)						___ Kentucky Warbler *	U	C	U		F
___ Purple Martin	U	C	O		A	___ Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C	C	S
___ Tree Swallow	C		C	C	A	___ Hooded Warbler	U	C	U		S
___ Northern Rough-winged						___ American Redstart *	O	U	U		F
___ Swallow	O	O	U		A	___ Cerulean Warbler *	R		R		F
___ Bank Swallow	R		R		A	___ Northern Parula	C	C	C		F
___ Cliff Swallow	U	U	U		A	___ Magnolia Warbler	U		U		F
___ Barn Swallow	C	C	C		A	___ Bay-breasted Warbler	O		O		F
						___ Blackburnian Warbler	O		O		F
Titmice (Paridae)						___ Yellow Warbler	O		U		S
___ Carolina Chickadee	C	C	C	C	F	___ Chestnut-sided Warbler	R		R		F
___ Tufted Titmouse	C	C	C	C	F	___ Palm Warbler	R		R	R	F
						___ Pine Warbler	C	C	C	C	F
Nuthatches (Sittidae)						___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C	C	F
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch			R	R	F	___ Yellow-throated Warbler	O	O	O	R	F
___ Brown-headed Nuthatch *	C	C	C	C	F	___ Prairie Warbler *	R		R		F
						___ Black-throated Green Warbler	U		U		F
Creepers (Certhiidae)						___ Canada Warbler *	R		O		F
___ Brown Creeper	O		U	U	F	___ Wilson's Warbler	R		R	R	F
						___ Yellow-breasted Chat	U	C	U		F
Wrens (Troglodytidae)											
___ House Wren	U		U	C	F	Emberizids (Emberizidae)					
___ Winter Wren	R		R	R	F	___ Eastern Towhee	C	C	C	C	F
___ Carolina Wren	C	C	C	C	F	___ Bachman's Sparrow *	U	U	U	U	F
						___ Chipping Sparrow	U		U	U	F
Kinglets (Regulidae)						___ Field Sparrow	O		O	O	F
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet	U		C	U	F	___ Savannah Sparrow	U		U	U	S
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C	C	F	___ Grasshopper Sparrow *	O		O	O	F
						___ Henslow's Sparrow *	O		O	O	F
Gnatcatchers (Poliopitilidae)						___ Fox Sparrow				R	F
___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	C	C	C	U	F	___ Song Sparrow	U		U	C	S
						___ Swamp Sparrow	C		C	C	S
Thrushes (Turdidae)						___ White-throated Sparrow	U		U	C	F
___ Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C	C	F	___ White-crowned Sparrow	O		O	U	F
___ Veery	R		R		F	___ Dark-eyed Junco	O		U	U	F
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush	O		O		F						
___ Swainson's Thrush	O		O		F	Cardinals and Allies (Cardinalidae)					
___ Hermit Thrush	O		U	O	F	___ Summer Tanager	U	C	U	R	F
___ Wood Thrush *	U	U	U		F	___ Scarlet Tanager	R		R		F
___ American Robin	U		C	C	F	___ Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C	F
						___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	O		U		F
Mockingbirds and Thrashers (Mimidae)						___ Blue Grosbeak	U		U		F
___ Gray Catbird	C		C	U	S	___ Indigo Bunting	U	C	U		F
___ Brown Thrasher	C	C	C	C	S	___ Painted Bunting *	U	U	U		F
___ Northern Mockingbird	C	C	C	C	F	___ Dickcissel *	R	R	R		F
Starlings (Sturnidae)						Blackbirds (Icteridae)					
___ European Starling ^	C	C	C	C	F	___ Red-winged Blackbird	U	U	U	U	S
						___ Eastern Meadowlark	U	U	U	U	F
Pipits (Motacillidae)						___ Rusty Blackbird *	U		U	U	S
___ American Pipit	O		O	U	F	___ Common Grackle	C	C	C	C	F
						___ Boat-tailed Grackle	C	U	U	U	S
Waxwings (Bombycillidae)						___ Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	C	C	F
___ Cedar Waxwing	C		O	C	F	___ Orchard Oriole *	O	U	O		F
						___ Baltimore Oriole	O		O		F
Wood-Warblers (parulidae)						Finches (Fringillidae)					
___ Ovenbird	O		O		F	___ House Finch ^	U	U	U	U	F
___ Worm-eating Warbler *	R	R	R		F	___ Pine Siskin				R	F
___ Louisiana Waterthrush *	U	C			S	___ American Goldfinch	U		U	U	F
___ Northern Waterthrush	R		R	O	S						
___ Golden-winged Warbler *	R		R		S						
___ Blue-winged Warbler *	U		U		F	Old World Sparrows (Passeridae)					
___ Black-and-white Warbler	O	R	O		F	___ House Sparrow ^	U	U	U	U	F
___ Prothonotary Warbler *	C	C	C		S						

