

Checklist of the Birds of the Corpus Christi Area

Revised 2024

This checklist covers the area within 50 miles of downtown Corpus Christi. *It extends south to about Sarita, west to about San Diego, northwest to about Beeville and north to about 10 miles north of Refugio. It includes all of Baffin Bay, Lake Corpus Christi and almost all of Aransas National Wildlife Refuge. This checklist does not include accidental species.*

LEGEND

- SP Spring: March, April and May
- SU Summer: June and July
- EF Early fall: August and September
- LF Late fall: October and November
- W Winter: December, January and February
- C Common: numerous and/or seen on most trips
- F Fairly common: seen or heard on about half of trips
- U Uncommon: present but not often seen or heard
- R Rare: seen perhaps a few times per season
- I Irregular: may be rare or absent in some years
- L Local: occurs only in a few locations
- N Occurs mostly or entirely in the northern part of the area
- W Occurs mostly or entirely in the western part of the area
- S Occurs mostly or entirely in the southern part of the area
- G Occurs mostly or entirely on or near the gulf coast

	<u>SP</u>	<u>SU</u>	<u>EF</u>	<u>LF</u>	<u>W</u>
Ducks and Geese					
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	C	C	C	C	F
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	F	U	F	U	R
Snow Goose	F			F	F
Ross's Goose	U			U	U
Greater White-front Goose	R		U	F	C
Cackling Goose	R			R	R
Wood Duck	R			R	R
Blue-winged Teal	C	R	C	C	C
Cinnamon Teal	L	U		U	U
Northern Shoveler	C	R	U	C	C
Gadwall	C			C	C
American Wigeon	C			C	C
Mallard	N	R		U	U
Mottled Duck	C	C	C	C	C
Northern Pintail	C		R	C	C
Green-winged Teal	C			F	C
Canvasback	R			R	U
Redhead	F	R	R	F	C
Ring-necked Duck	U			U	C
Greater Scaup	G	U			U
Lesser Scaup	C		R	R	C

		SP	SU	EF	LF	W
Surf Scoter	G					R
White-winged Scoter	G					R
Black Scoter	G					R
Long-tailed Duck						R
Bufflehead		U			U	C
Common Goldeneye	G	R				U
Hooded Merganser		U			U	U
Red-breasted Merganser	G	C			U	C
Ruddy Duck		C	U	U	F	C

Quail and Turkey

Northern Bobwhite		U	U	U	U	U
Wild Turkey		F	F	F	F	F

Grebes

Least Grebe		U	U	U	U	U
Pied-billed Grebe		C	C	C	C	C
Horned Grebe	N,G					R
Eared Grebe		F			U	F

Doves

Rock Pigeon		C	C	C	C	C
Eurasian Collared-Dove		C	C	C	C	C
Inca Dove		C	C	C	C	C
Common Ground-Dove		F	F	F	F	F
White-tipped Dove		F	F	F	U	U
White-winged Dove		C	C	C	C	F
Mourning Dove		C	C	C	C	C

Cuckoos

Groove-billed Ani		F	F	F	U	R
Greater Roadrunner		F	F	F	F	F
Yellow-billed Cuckoo		C	C	C	R	
Black-billed Cuckoo		U				

Nightjars

Lesser Nighthawk		C	C	C		
Common Nighthawk		C	C	C		
Common Pauraque		C	C	C	F	U
Common Poorwill	W	U	U	U		
Chuck-will's-widow		C		C		
Eastern Whip-poor-will		F		U	R	

Swifts and Hummingbirds

Chimney Swift		C	C	C	U	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird		C	C	C	F	R
Black-chinned Hummingbird		C	C	C	R	R
Anna's Hummingbird						R
Rufous Hummingbird				R	U	U
Buff-bellied Hummingbird		C	C	C	F	U

	SP	SU	EF	LF	W
Rails through Cranes					
King Rail		U		U	U
Clapper Rail	G	C	C	C	C
Virginia Rail		C		U	C
Sora		C		U	C
Common Gallinule		C	C	C	C
American Coot		C	C	C	C
Purple Gallinule		U	R	U	
Black Rail	L	R	R	R	R
Sandhill Crane		F			C
Whooping Crane	N	F		U	F

Stilts and Oystercatcher					
Black-necked Stilt		C	C	C	C
American Avocet		C	C	C	C
American Oystercatcher	G	F	F	F	F

Plovers					
Black-bellied Plover	G	C	F	C	C
Am Golden Plover		F		R	
Killdeer		C	C	C	C
Semipalmated Plover		C	U	C	C
Piping Plover	G	F		F	F
Wilson's Plover	G	C	C	C	U
Mountain Plover		U		R	U
Snowy Plover	G	F	F	F	F

Sandpipers					
Upland Sandpiper		C		C	R
Whimbrel	G	F			R
Long-billed Curlew		C	U	C	C
Hudsonian Godwit		F			
Marbled Godwit	G	C	U	C	C
Short-billed Dowitcher	G	C		C	C
Long-billed Dowitcher		C	R	C	C
American Woodcock	I				U
Wilson's Snipe		U			F
Wilson's Phalarope		C	R	C	U
Spotted Sandpiper		C		C	F
Solitary Sandpiper		F		F	U
Lesser Yellowlegs		C	F	C	C
Willet	G	C	C	C	C
Greater Yellowlegs		C	U	C	C
Ruddy Turnstone	G	C	C	C	C
Red Knot	G	U		R	U
Stilt Sandpiper		F		F	U
Buff-breasted Sandpiper		F		F	
Sanderling		C	U	C	C
Dunlin		C			F
Baird's Sandpiper		C		F	U
White-rumped Sandpiper		C	U		
Least Sandpiper		C	U	C	C

	SP	SU	EF	LF	W
Pectoral Sandpiper	F		F	F	
Western Sandpiper	C		C	C	C
Semipalmated Sandpiper	C		C	R	

Gulls, Terns and Skimmer

Pomarine Jaeger	G	U		U	U
Bonaparte's Gull	G	U			F
Laughing Gull		C	C	C	C
Franklin's Gull		C		C	R
Ring-billed Gull		C		U	C
Herring Gull		F		U	C
Glaucous Gull	G	R			R
Lesser Black-backed Gull	G	R			U
California Gull	G			R	R
Iceland Gull	G				R
Black Skimmer	G	C	C	C	C
Sooty Tern	G, L	U	U		
Least Tern		C	C	C	U
Gull-billed Tern		F	F	F	F
Caspian Tern	G	C	C	C	C
Black Tern		C	C	C	R
Forster's Tern		C	C	C	C
Common Tern	G	C	U	C	C
Sandwich Tern	G	C	C	C	C
Royal Tern	G	C	C	C	C

Loons through Gannet

Common Loon		U			U	F
Wood Stork			F	F	U	
Magnificent Frigatebird	G	U	F	F	U	
Northern Gannet	G	U			U	U
Brown Booby	G	U	U	U	U	U
Masked Booby	G	R	R	R	R	R

Cormorants and Pelicans

Anhinga		F	F	F	F	U
Double-crested Cormorant		C			F	C
Neotropic Cormorant		C	C	C	C	C
American White Pelican		C	F	F	C	C
Brown Pelican	G	C	C	C	C	C

Hérons and Egrets

American Bittern		U			U	U
Least Bittern	L	U	U	U	U	R
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron		F	U	F	F	U
Black-crowned Night-Heron		F	F	F	F	F
Little Blue Heron		F	F	F	F	F
Tricolored Heron		C	C	C	C	C
Reddish Egret	G	C	C	C	C	C
Snowy Egret		C	C	C	C	C
Green Heron		F	F	F	U	R

	SP	SU	EF	LF	W
Western Cattle Egret	C	C	C	C	U
Great Egret	C	C	C	C	C
Great Blue Heron	C	C	C	C	C

Ibises and Spoonbill

White Ibis		C	C	C	C	C
Glossy Ibis	N	R	R	R	R	R
White-faced Ibis		F	F	F	F	U
Roseate Spoonbill		C	C	C	C	C

Vultures and Hawks

Black Vulture		C	C	C	C	C
Turkey Vulture		C	C	C	C	C
Osprey		C	R	F	C	C
White-tailed Kite		U	R	R	U	U
Swallow-tailed Kite		U		U		
Mississippi Kite		F		C		
Northern Harrier		C		U	C	C
Sharp-shinned Hawk		F		F	F	U
Cooper's Hawk		C	U	F	C	C
Bald Eagle	L,N	U	U	U	U	U
Harris's Hawk		F	F	F	F	F
White-tailed Hawk		F	F	F	F	F
Red-shouldered Hawk		C	C	C	C	C
Broad-winged Hawk		C		C	C	
Swainson's Hawk		C	U	U	C	R
Zone-tailed Hawk		R		R	R	R
Red-tailed Hawk		C	U	U	C	C
Ferruginous Hawk						U

Owls

Barn Owl		U	U	U	U	U
Eastern Screech Owl		F	F	F	F	F
Great Horned Owl		C	C	C	C	C
Burrowing Owl					U	U
Barred Owl		F	F	F	F	F
Short-eared Owl	I				U	U

Kingfishers

Belted Kingfisher		F		F	C	C
Green Kingfisher		U	R	R	U	U

Woodpeckers

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		F			F	F
Golden-fronted Woodpecker		C	C	C	C	C
Red-bellied Woodpecker	N	C	C	C	C	C
Downy Woodpecker	N					F
Ladder-backed Woodpecker		F	F	F	F	F
Northern Flicker	I	U			U	U

		<u>SP</u>	<u>SU</u>	<u>EF</u>	<u>LF</u>	<u>W</u>
Falcons through Parrots						
Crested Caracara		C	C	C	C	C
American Kestrel		F		U	C	C
Merlin		U			U	U
Aplomado Falcon	L, G	U	U	U	U	U
Peregrine		F		U	F	F
Prairie Falcon						R
Monk Parakeet	L	F	F	F	F	F

Flycatchers

Olive-sided Flycatcher		F		F		
Eastern Wood Pewee		C		C	F	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		F		F	U	
Acadian Flycatcher		F		F	U	
Alder Flycatcher		F		F	U	
Willow Flycatcher		F		F	U	
Least Flycatcher		F		F	U	R
Black Phoebe						R
Eastern Phoebe		C			F	C
Say's Phoebe	W					U
Vermilion Flycatcher		F	R	R	U	F
Ash-throat Flycatcher	W	F	F	U	R	R
Great-crested Flycatcher		C		C	U	
Brown-crested Flycatcher		C	C	C	R	
Great Kiskadee		C	C	C	C	C
Tropical Kingbird		U	U	U	U	U
Couch's Kingbird		C	C	C	C	F
Western Kingbird		C	C	F	U	
Eastern Kingbird		C		C	U	
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher		C	C	C	C	R

Vireos and Shrike

White-eyed Vireo		C	C	C	C	C
Bell's Vireo		R		R		
Yellow-throat Vireo		U		R		
Blue-headed Vireo		C			U	C
Philadelphia Vireo		F		U	R	
Warbling Vireo		C		U		
Red-eyed Vireo		C		F		
Loggerhead Shrike		C	C	C	C	C

Jays and Crow

Green Jay		F	F	F	F	F
Blue Jay	I, N					R
American Crow	N	R	R	R	R	R

Chickadees and allies

Carolina Chickadee	N	U	U	U	U	U
Black-crested Titmouse		C	C	C	C	C
Verdin	W	U	U	U	U	U

SP SU EF LF W

Larks

Horned Lark		C	C	C	C	C
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Swallows

Bank Swallow		F		F	F	
Tree Swallow		C		F	C	U
Purple Martin		C	C	C	U	
Rough-winged Swallow		C		C	C	R
Barn Swallow		C	U	C	C	R
Cliff Swallow		C	C	C	U	
Cave Swallow		C	C	C	U	U

Kinglets to Gnatcatcher

Ruby-crowned Kinglet		C		C	C	C
Golden-crowned Kinglet	I				U	U
Red-breasted Nuthatch	I,N				R	R
Brown Creeper	I,N				R	R
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher		C		C	C	C

Wrens

House Wren		C			F	C
Winter Wren		R			R	U
Sedge Wren		C			F	C
Marsh Wren		C			C	C
Carolina Wren		C	C	C	C	C
Bewick's Wren		F	F	F	F	F
Cactus Wren	W,S	U	U	U	U	U

Starlings

European Starling		C	C	C	C	C
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Thrashers

Gray Catbird		C		U	C	U
Curve-billed Thrasher	W	F	F	F	F	F
Brown Thrasher	N	U			U	U
Long-billed Thrasher		C	C	C	C	C
Sage Thrasher	W, I					R
Northern Mockingbird		C	C	C	C	C

Thrushes

Eastern Bluebird		F	U	U	F	F
Veery		U		R	R	
Gray-cheeked Thrush		F		R	R	
Swainson's Thrush		C		R	U	
Hermit Thrush		U			F	F
Wood Thrush		F		R	R	
Clay-colored Thrush		R	R	R	R	R
American Robin	I	F			U	F

Waxwings through House Sparrows

Cedar Waxwing	I	F			U	F
House Sparrow		C	C	C	C	C
		<u>SP</u>	<u>SU</u>	<u>EF</u>	<u>LF</u>	<u>W</u>

American Pipit		F			C	C
Sprague's Pipit		U			U	U

Finches

House Finch	W	R	R	R	R	R
Pine Siskin	I	U			U	U
Lesser Goldfinch		F	U	U	F	F
American Goldfinch		F			F	C

Sparrows and allies

Botteri's Sparrow	L,S	F	F	F		
Cassin's Sparrow	W	F	F	F	U	U
Grasshopper Sparrow		F	R	R	U	F
Olive Sparrow		F	F	F	F	F
Chipping Sparrow		C			F	C
Clay-colored Sparrow		C		R	F	R
Field Sparrow		U	U	U	F	F
Black-throated Sparrow	W	U	U	U	U	U
Lark Sparrow		C	C	C	C	C
Lark Bunting	I,W	R			R	R
Dark-eyed Junco	N				R	R
White-crowned Sparrow	W	U			U	F
White-throated Sparrow		F			U	F
Vesper Sparrow		F			C	C
Le Conte's Sparrow		U			U	U
Seaside Sparrow	G	F	F	F	F	F
Nelson's Sparrow	G	R			R	R
Savannah Sparrow		C			C	C
Song Sparrow		R			R	U
Lincoln's Sparrow		C			C	C
Swamp Sparrow		F			U	F
Green-tailed Towhee	W	R			R	R
Spotted Towhee		U			U	U
Eastern Towhee		R				R

Chat

Yellow-breast Chat		C		C	U	
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Blackbirds and Orioles

Yellow-headed Blackbird		F		R	U	U
Bobolink		R				
Western Meadowlark		U			U	C
Eastern Meadowlark		C	C	C	C	C
Orchard Oriole		C	R	C	U	
Hooded Oriole	S	F	F	F		
Bullock's Oriole	W	F	F	U		
Audubon's Oriole	W	U	U	U	U	U
Baltimore Oriole		C		C	U	
Red-winged Blackbird		C	C	C	C	C
Bronzed Cowbird		C	C	C	C	U
Brown-headed Cowbird		C	C	C	C	C

	SP	SU	EF	LF	W
Brewer's Blackbird				U	F
Common Grackle	N	U	U	F	F
Boat-tailed Grackle	L,N	F	F	F	F
Great-tailed Grackle		C	C	C	C

Wood Warblers

Ovenbird		F		U	R
Worm-eating Warbler		F	R		
Louisiana Waterthrush		F	U		
Northern Waterthrush		C	U	U	
Golden-winged Warbler		U	R		
Blue-winged Warbler		F	R		
Black-&-white Warbler		C	F	F	U
Prothonotary Warbler		F	U		
Swainson's Warbler		U	U	R	
Tennessee Warbler		C	F	F	
Orange-crowned Warbler		C	R	C	C
Nashville Warbler		C		F	R
MacGillivray's Warbler		R		R	
Mourning Warbler		F	F	U	
Kentucky Warbler		F	U		
Common Yellowthroat		C	R	F	C
Hooded Warbler		C		U	U
American Redstart		C		F	R
Cape May Warbler		U			
Cerulean Warbler		U		R	R
Northern Parula		C		F	F
Tropical Parula	S	R	R		
Magnolia Warbler		C		F	U
Bay-breasted Warbler		F		R	R
Blackburnian Warbler		F		R	R
Yellow Warbler		C		C	U
Chestnut-sided Warbler		C			R
Blackpoll Warbler		U			
Black-throated Blue Warbler		R			
Palm Warbler		U		U	U
Pine Warbler		R			F
Yellow-rumped Warbler		C		F	C
Yellow-throated Warbler		F		R	R
Prairie Warbler		R			
Townsend's Warbler		R		R	R
Black-throated Green Warbler		C		F	R
Canada Warbler		F		F	R
Wilson's Warbler		F		U	F

Tanagers

Summer Tanager		C	U	F	R
Scarlet Tanager		F		R	R
Western Tanager		R		R	

	<u>SP</u>	<u>SU</u>	<u>EF</u>	<u>LF</u>	<u>W</u>
Grosbeaks and Buntings					
Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C	C
Pyrrhuloxia	C	C	C	C	C
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C			U	
Black-headed Grosbeak	R			R	R
Blue Grosbeak	C	U	C	U	
Lazuli Bunting	R				
Indigo Bunting	C		R	C	U
Painted Bunting	C	C	C	U	
Dickcissel	C	C	C	U	R

Pelagic species (normally found only well offshore in the Gulf of Mexico)

Bridled Tern	U	U	U		
Band-rumped Storm Petrel	F	F	R		
Cory's Shearwater		U	F	F	U
Audubon's Shearwater	F	F	F		