



Birds

Resource Brief



Acadian
Flycatcher
.41



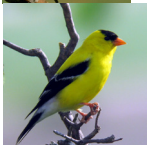
Cedar
Waxwing
.43



Carolina Wren
.63



Red-eyed
Vireo
.65



American
Goldfinch
.72



Indigo
Bunting
.82



Unidentified
Chickadee¹
.85



Eastern Tufted
Titmouse
.92



Wood
Thrush
1.35



Northern
Cardinal
1.48

Regional Bird Monitoring

Since 2007, the National Capital Region Network (NCRN) Inventory & Monitoring program has monitored birds at approximately 385 forest plots throughout the region. Birds are monitored at each plot twice every summer for a total of 770 visits a year. Because this long-term monitoring program occurs within forest habitats, it only accounts for bird species found in forests.

Top 10 Most Common Birds at Monocacy

The pictures of birds stacked on the left side of the page represent the most commonly found birds in the forests of Monocacy. The largest picture in the stack, the Northern Cardinal represents the species with the highest density of birds per hectare (ha) of forest. There are 1.48 cardinals per hectare (although we don't actually have fractions of birds).

The smaller the image, the lower the density rate and the less likely you are to find that species of bird. That means you're about twice as likely to find a cardinal as an American Goldfinch (.72 birds/ha).

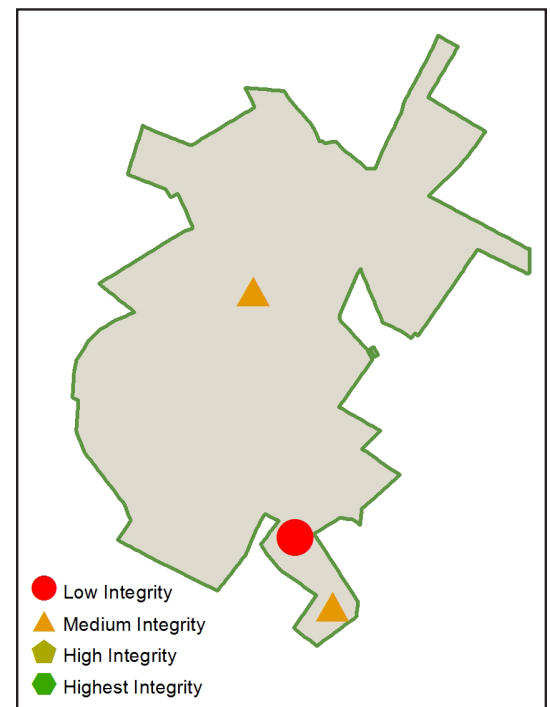
What's impressive about this list is that it includes 4 species of conservation concern. That means birds that are declining or vulnerable as a species, are finding valuable habitat at Monocacy. The Indigo Bunting, Acadian Flycatcher, and Carolina Wren, framed in red, are Partners in Flight "stewardship species," and the Wood Thrush, framed in yellow, is a "watchlist species." For a full list of bird species found in the forests of Monocacy, see reverse.

Bird Monitoring Plots & Habitat Quality

Birds are monitored at 3 forest plots in Monocacy. Based on the types of birds detected, each plot is rated for habitat quality.

Points with large numbers of generalist and habitat-insensitive species score poorly and plots with high numbers of specialist or habitat-sensitive species get higher scores.

In this map, red circles mark Low integrity habitat, and orange triangles mark Medium integrity habitat.



Bird monitoring plots, rated for habitat quality.

¹Detections of Carolina Chickadees and Black-capped Chickadees are combined.



Birds of Monocacy's Forests

From 2007 to 2010, the number of different species detected each year at Monocacy ranged from 23 to 28. Monocacy is home to 6 species of conservation concern, marked below with asterisks.

Acadian Flycatcher**
American Crow
American Goldfinch
American Robin
Black-throated Blue Warbler
Blue Grosbeak
Blue Jay
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Brown-headed Cowbird
Carolina Wren**
Cedar Waxwing
Common Grackle
Downy Woodpecker
Eastern Bluebird
Eastern Towhee**
Eastern Tufted Titmouse
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Field Sparrow
Gray Catbird
Great Crested Flycatcher

Hairy Woodpecker
Indigo Bunting**
Northern Cardinal
Northern Parula
Ovenbird
Red-bellied Woodpecker**
Red-eyed Vireo
Unidentified Chickadee⁺
White-breasted Nuthatch
Wood Thrush*
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
Yellow-billed Cuckoo

*Partners in Flight Watchlist species are vulnerable at a continental scale

**Stewardship Species have most of their global population within the region.

⁺Detections of Carolina and Black-capped Chickadees are combined.

For further information

Ladin, Z., S. E. Goodwin, and W. G. Shriver. In Press. Avian Monitoring in the National Capital Region Network: 2007 – 2011. Natural Resource Data Series Report NPS/NCRN/NRDS—2011/TBD. National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado.
Will be available online at: http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/ncrn/monitoring_birds.cfm

Sinclair, J., M. Koenen, S. Hood, M. Milton, and C. Wright. 2004. Avian Inventory at Six National Capital Region Parks Final Report (Revised). TIC#: NCRO D-48
Available online at: http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/ncrn/inventories_avian.cfm

NCRN Bird Monitoring webpage: http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/ncrn/monitoring_birds.cfm

Photography: Northern Cardinal- Neil D Scott; Wood Thrush- JR Woodward; Eastern Tufted Titmouse- Judy Howle; Black-capped Chickadee- Bruce Echols; Carolina Chickadee- Cameron Rognan; Indigo Bunting- Jim Hendrickson; American Goldfinch- Laura Erickson; Red-eyed Vireo- AccuSoft Co.; Carolina Wren- Richard Lee; Cedar Waxwing- James Hendrickson; Acadian Flycatcher- Greg W. Lasley