

PRELIMINARY LIST OF BIRDS OF FORT PULASKI NATIONAL MONUMENT

Compiled by R. E. Tucker

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Fort Pulaski National Monument consists primarily of two islands and associated waterways: the eastern two-thirds of Cockspur on which the fort is located, and McQueen's which lies south of Cockspur and through which U.S.80 runs from the Bull River on the west to Lazaretto Creek on the east connecting the mainland to Tybee Island. The two islands are separated by the south channel of the Savannah River.

Cockspur is a changing ecological entity which has been drastically altered over the years by the work of man. Originally the island was almost all salt marsh similar to McQueen's today. It has been built up from spoil dredged from the bottom of the Savannah River and deposited on the island over a number of years. Because of this filling, Cockspur's flora and fauna have changed rapidly over the years. Some species which occurred commonly, even nesting here, are no longer present or seen sparingly. Other species have come onto the island within the past decade or two and are now resident; e.g., red-bellied and downy woodpeckers and blue jay. The change has been to the detriment of the water and marsh birds, to the benefit of the land birds.

Several local ornithologists who often visited the area that was to become the national monument between 1909 and 1957 found over those years a total of 96 species. Within recent years (1980's) 157 species have been seen. Only 67% of the species noted during the earlier period have been found during the recent period and only 39% of the recently seen species were found in the earlier period.

This preliminary list contains 200 species recorded to date in the national monument. Undoubtedly more will be added in the future to the list as a number of species which occur on the mainland to the west or on Tybee to the east have not yet been found about the islands.

* prepared 1986, revised 1989

The common names listed are those recommended by and in the order prescribed by the American Ornithologists Union Checklist, Sixth(1983) Edition. Abbreviations used are as follows:

SEASON

- PR Permanent resident, may be seen any time of the year
- WV Winter visitor, present in the winter
- SV Summer visitor, present in the summer
- SR Summer resident, breeds or suspected of breeding
- M Migrant, transient during spring and/or fall

HABITAT*

- W Water; rivers, canals, ditches, moat, etc.
- S, Shore and spoil (soil dredged from the bottom of the river channel)
- M Marsh
- L Lawns, dikes, savanna, and buildings
- H Hardwood; forest and shrub
- P Pine forest
- X Can be expected in or over any habitat

STATUS

- C Common, usually seen in appropriate season and/or habitat
- UC Uncommon, occurs in small numbers and or not seen regularly in appropriate season or habitat
- R Rare, usually not over five occurrences
- A Accidental, usually has not been found more than once and is outside the normal range of the species

* Many species occur in more than one habitat; the preferred habitat at Fort Pulaski National Monument is shown.

LOONS, GREBES, PELICANS, CORMORMORANTS, EGRETS, HERONS, IBIS, AND STORKS

<u>Species</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Habitat</u>	<u>Status</u>
Common Loon	WV	W	UC
Pied-billed Grebe	WV	W	R
Horned Grebe	WV	W	R
White Pelican	M	W	R
Brown Pelican	PR	W	C
Double-crested Cormorant	PR	W	C
Great Blue Heron	PR	M	C
Great Egret	PR	M	C
Snowy Egret	PR	M	C
Little Blue Heron	PR	M	C
Tricolored Heron	PR	M	UC
Cattle Egret	SV	L	C
Green-backed Heron	SR	H	C
Black-crowned Night Heron	SV	M	UC
White Ibis	WV	L	C
Glossy Ibis	SV	M	UC
Wood Stork	SV	M	UC

GEESE, DUCKS, VULTURES, HAWKS, EAGLES, AND FALCONS

Canada Goose	M	W	R
Snow Goose	M	W	R
Wood Duck	WV	W	R
Blue-winged Teal	WV	M	R
Canvasback	M	W	R
Ring-necked Duck	WV	W	R
Lesser Scaup	WV	W	C
Hooded Merganser	WV	W	C
Red-breasted Merganser	WV	W	UC
Ruddy Duck	WV	W	R
Turkey Vulture	PR	X	C
Osprey	PR	W	C
Bald Eagle	WV	W	UC
Northern Harrier	WV	M	UC
Sharp-shinned Hawk	WV	H	UC
Cooper's Hawk	WV	H	R
Red-shouldered Hawk	WV	X	UC
Red-tailed Hawk	WV	X	UC
American Kestrel	WV	L	C
Merlin	WV	L	R

QUAIL, RAILS, SHOREBIRDS, GULLS, AND SKIMMERS

Species	Season	Habitat	Status
Northern Bobwhite	PR	L	C
Clapper Rail	PR	M	C
Virginia Rail	M	M	R
Sora	M	M	R
Black-bellied Plover	WR	S	C
Lesser Golden Plover	M	M	R
Wilson's Plover	SR	S	UC
Semipalmated Plover	WV	S	C
Piping Plover	WV	S	R
Killdeer	PR	L	C
American Oystercatcher	WV	S	UC
Black-necked Stilt	M	M	R
Greater Yellowlegs	WV	S	UC
Lesser Yellowlegs	M	S	UC
Solitary Sandpiper	M	W	UC
Willet	PR	S	C
Spotted Sandpiper	M	W	UC
Whimbrel	WV	M	UC
Long-billed Curlew	M	M	R
Ruddy Turnstone	WV	S	UC
Red Knot	M	S	C
Semipalmated Sandpiper	M	S	UC
Western Sandpiper	WV	S	UC
Least Sandpiper	M	S	UC
Percoral Sandpiper	M	S	UC
Dunlin	M	S	C
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	M	L	R
Dowitcher	M	S	C
Common Snipe	WV	W	C
American Woodcock	M	H	R
Laughing Gull	PR	W	C
Bonaparte's Gull	WV	W	UC
Ring-billed Gull	PR	W	C
Great Black-backed Gull	WV	W	R
Herring Gull	PR	W	C
Caspian Tern	M	W	UC
Royal Tern	PR	W	C
Sandwich Tern	M	W	UC
Common Tern	M	W	C
Forster's Tern	PR	W	C
Least Tern	SR	W	UC
Black Tern	M	W	UC
Black Skimmer	PR	W	UC

DOVES, CUCKOOS, OWLS, GOATSUCKERS, SWIFTS, HUMMINGBIRDS, KINGFISHERS
AND WOODPECKERS

<u>Species</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Habitat</u>	<u>Status</u>
Rock Dove	PR	L	C
Mourning Dove	PR	L	C
Common Ground Dove	SR	L	R
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	SR	H	UC
Common Barn Owl	PR	L	UC
Great Horned Owl	PR	L	UC
Snowy Owl	WV	L	A
Barred Owl	WV	H	R
Short-eared Owl	WV	M	R
Common Nighthawk	SR	X	UC
Chuck-wills widow	SR	H	UC
Whip-poor-will	M	H	UC
Chimney Swift	SR	X	C
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	M	L	UC
Belted Kingfisher	PR	W	C
Red-bellied Woodpecker	PR	H	C
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	WV	H	UC
Downy Woodpecker	PR	H	UC
Northern Flicker	WV	H	C
Pileated Woodpecker	WV	H	R

FLYCATCHERS, SWALLOWS, CROWS, JAYS, TITMICE, NUTHATCHES, WRENS
AND KINGLETS

Eastern Wood Pewee	M	H	UC
Eastern Phoebe	WV	H	UC
Great Crested Flycatcher	SR	H	UC
Eastern Kingbird	SR	L	C
Gray Kingbird	SR	L	R
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	SV	L	A
Purple Martin	M	L	C
Tree Swallow	M	X	C
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	M	X	UC
Bank Swallow	M	X	R
Barn Swallow	SR	X	C
Blue Jay	PR	H	C
American Crow	WV	X	UC
Fish Crow	PR	X	C
Carolina Chicksdee	PR	H	C
Tufted Titmouse	PR	H	UC
Red-breasted Nuthatch	WV	P	UC
Brown-headed Nuthatch	M	P	R
Carolina Wren	PR	H	C
House Wren	WV	H	UC
Sedge Wren	M	M	R
Marsh Wren	PR	M	C
Golden-crowned Kinglet	WV	H	UC
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	WV	H	C
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	PR	H	UC

THRUSHES, PIPITS, SHRIKES, STARLINGS, VIREOS AND WOOD WARBLERS

<u>Species</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Habitat</u>	<u>Status</u>
Eastern Bluebird	PR	L	UC
Veery	M	H	R
Gray-cheeked Thrush	M	H	R
Swainson's Thrush	M	H	R
Hermit Thrush	WV	H	UC
Wood Thrush	M	H	UC
American Robin	WV	H	C
Gray Catbird	WV	H	C
Northern Mockingbird	PR	L	C
Brown Thrasher	PR	H	UC
Water Pipit	WV	L	UC
Cedar Waxwing	WV	H	C
Loggerhead Shrike	SR	L	UC
European Starling	PR	L	C
White-eyed Vireo	SR	H	C
Solitary Vireo	WV	H	UC
Philadelphia Vireo	M	H	R
Red-eyed Vireo	M	H	C
Tennessee Warbler	M	H	R
Orange-crowned Warbler	WV	H	UC
Northern Parula Warbler	SR	H	UC
Yellow Warbler	M	H	UC
Chestnut-sided Warbler	M	H	R
Magnolia Warbler	M.	H	R
Cape May Warbler	M	H	UC
Black-throated Blue Warbler	M	H	UC
Yellow-rumped Warbler	WV.	H	C
Blackburnian Warbler	M	H	R
Yellow-throated Warbler	M	H	UC
Pine Warbler	SR	P	C
Prairie Warbler	M	H	C
Palm Warbler	WV	H	UC
Black-poll Warbler	M	H	UC
Black-and-White Warbler	M	H	UC
American Redstart	M	H	C
Prothonotary Warbler	M	H	R
Worm-eating Warbler	M	H	UC
Ovenbird	M	H	UC
Northern Waterthrush	M	H	UC
Louisiana Waterthrush	M	H	R
Kentucky Warbler	M	H	R
Connecticut Warbler	M	H	R
Common Yellowthroat	PR	W	UC
Hooded Warbler	M	H	R
Canada Warbler	M	H	R
Yellow-breasted Chat	M	H	UC

TANAGERS, GROSBEAKS, BUNTINGS, SPARROWS, BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES
AND FINCHES

<u>Species</u>	<u>Season</u>	<u>Habitat</u>	<u>Status</u>
Summer Tanager	SR	H	UC
Northern Cardinal	PR	H	C
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	M	H	R
Blue Grosbeak	M	H	UC
Indigo Bunting	M	H	UC
Painted Bunting	SR	H	C
Rufous-sided Towhee	PR	H	UC
Chipping Sparrow	WV	L	UC
Field Sparrow	PR	L	UC
Lark Sparrow	M	L	A
Savannah Sparrow	WV	L	C
Sharp-tailed Sparrow	M	M	UC
Seaside Sparrow	WV	M	UC
Song Sparrow	WV	L	C
Lincoln's Sparrow	M	H	R
Swamp Sparrow	WV	H	C
White-throated Sparrow	WV	H	C
White-crowned Sparrow	WV	H	R
Northern Junco	WV	L	R
Bobolink	M	L	UC
Red-winged Blackbird	PR	M	C
Eastern Meadowlark	WV	L	UC
Boat-tailed Grackle	PR	L	C
Common Grackle	PR	H	C
Brown-headed Cowbird	PR	H	C
Orchard Oriole	SR	L	C
Northern Oriole	M	L	R
Purple Finch	WV	H	UC
American Goldfinch	WV	H	C