

BIRDS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA SANDHILLS (distributed March 2007)

The Carolina Sandhills is an area about 120 miles long and 40 miles wide extending from the vicinity of Lillington, NC in the northeast to near Columbia, SC in the southwest. In North Carolina it includes part of or all of Cumberland, Lee, Harnett, Hoke, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond and Scotland counties.

The habitat is varied with many streams bordered by boggy shrub dominated areas. Upland areas are dominated by longleaf pines with a wiregrass ground cover. Weymouth Woods, and nearby Ft. Bragg, provide excellent examples of Sandhills' habitats.

This checklist covers 226 regularly occurring species with 66 additional species that have been recorded at least once. They are considered accidental. Thus the total species recorded is 292. Seasonal distribution represents a compromise and should be used as a general guideline.

Abundance:

- C - Common, certain to be seen or heard in suitable habitat.
- F - Fairly common, present but may not be seen or heard.
- U - Uncommon, seen only a few times during a season.
- R - Rare, seen less than once a year.
- I - Irregular, variable from year to year.
- A - Reported only one or two times.

Status:

- \* - Known to breed.
- + - Probable breeder.

Federally Endangered in **Bold**.

Seasons:

- Spring - March to May
- Summer - June and July
- Fall - August to November
- Winter - December to February

**Loons/Grebes**

	SP	SU	FA	W
___ Common Loon.....	U	R	U	F
___ Pied-billed Grebe+.....	F	R	F	C
___ Horned Grebe.....	U		U	U

**Cormorants/Anhinga**

___ Anhinga.....	R	R	R	
___ Double-crested Cormorant.....	F	R	U	U

**Bitterns/Herons/Ibis**

___ American Bittern.....	R		R	A
___ Least Bittern*.....	R	R		
___ Great Blue Heron.+.....	F	F	F	F
___ Great Egret.....	U	U	U	A
___ Snowy Egret.....	R	R	R	
___ Little Blue Heron.....	R	R	R	
___ Cattle Egret.....	U	U	U	
___ Green Heron*.....	F	C	F	A
___ Black-crowned Night-Heron.....	R	A	A	

**Swans/Ducks/Geese**

___ Tundra Swan.....	A		A	R
___ Mute Swan*.....	R	R	R	R
___ Snow Goose.....	A		A	R
___ Canada Goose*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Wood Duck*.....	F	F	F	F

	SP	SU	FA	W
___ Green-winged Teal.....	U		U	U
___ American Black Duck.....	U		U	U
___ Mallard*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Northern Pintail.....	R		U	U
___ Blue-winged Teal.....	U		U	R
___ Northern Shoveler.....	R		U	U
___ Gadwall.....	R		U	F
___ American Wigeon.....	U		U	U
___ Canvasback.....	R		U	U
___ Redhead.....	R		R	R
___ Ring-necked Duck.....	C	A	C	C
___ Greater Scaup.....	R		R	R
___ Lesser Scaup.....	U		U	U
___ Long-tailed Duck.....				R
___ Common Goldeneye.....	A		A	R
___ Bufflehead.....	F		F	C
___ Hooded Merganser.....	F		F	F
___ Common Merganser.....	R		A	R
___ Red-breasted Merganser.....	U		U	R
___ Ruddy Duck.....	F	A	F	C

**Vulture/Hawks/Eagles**

___ Black Vulture*.....	F	F	F	F
___ Turkey Vulture*.....	C	C	C	U
___ Osprey.....	F	R	U	R
___ Mississippi Kite*.....	U	U	R	
___ <b>Bald Eagle</b> +.....	U	R	U	U
___ Northern Harrier.....	U	A	U	F
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk*.....	U	U	F	F
___ Coopers Hawk*.....	U	U	F	F
___ Red-shouldered Hawk*.....	F	F	F	F
___ Broad-winged Hawk*.....	U	U	R	
___ Red-tailed Hawk*.....	C	C	C	C
___ American Kestrel*.....	F	U	F	F
___ Merlin.....	R		A	U
___ Peregrine Falcon.....	A		R	A

**Quail/Grouse/Turkey**

___ Wild Turkey*.....	U	U	U	U
___ Northern Bobwhite*.....	U	U	U	U

**Rails/Coots**

___ Sora.....	R		R	A
___ American Coot.....	C	R	C	C

**Plovers**

___ Black-bellied Plover.....	R		R	
___ Lesser-Golden Plover.....	A		R	
___ Semipalmated Plover.....	U	A	U	
___ Killdeer*.....	C	C	C	C

**Sandpipers/Phalaropes**

___ Greater Yellowlegs.....	U	R	U	R
___ Lesser Yellowlegs.....	U	R	U	R
___ Solitary Sandpiper.....	F	R	F	
___ Spotted Sandpiper.....	F	R	R	R
___ Upland Sandpiper.....	A	A	R	
___ Sanderling.....	A		A	A
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper.....	A	A	U	
___ Least Sandpiper.....	U	R	F	R
___ Pectoral Sandpiper.....	R	R	U	A
___ Stilt Sandpiper.....		A	R	

	SP	SU	FA	W
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___ Buff-breasted Sandpiper.....				R
___ Common Snipe.....	U		A	U
___ American Woodcock.....	U		U	U

**Gulls/Terns**

___ Bonaparte's Gull.....	R			U
___ Ringed-billed Gull.....	U			F
___ Herring Gull.....	R			R
___ Caspian Tern.....	U	A		R
___ Common Tern.....	R	R		R
___ Black Tern.....	R	R		U

**Pigeons/Doves**

___ Rock Dove*.....	F	F	F	F
___ Mourning Dove*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Eurasian Collared Dove*.....	U	U	U	U

**Cuckoos**

___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo*.....	F	F	F	
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**Owls/Goatsucker's**

___ Eastern Screech Owl*.....	F	F	F	F
___ Great Horned Owl*.....	F	F	F	F
___ Barred Owl*.....	F	F	F	F
___ Common Nighthawk*.....	F	F	F	
___ Chuck-wills-widow*.....	C	C	F	
___ Whip-poor-will*.....	C	C	F	A

**Swifts/Hummingbirds**

___ Chimney Swift*.....	C	C	C	
___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird*.....	C	C	C	A
___ Rufous Hummingbird*.....			R	R

**Kingfisher/Woodpeckers**

___ Belted Kingfisher*.....	F	F	F	F
___ Red-headed Woodpecker*.....	C	C	F	F
___ Red-bellied Woodpecker*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.....	U		F	F
___ Downy Woodpecker*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Hairy Woodpecker*.....	U	U	U	U
___ <b>Red-cockaded Woodpecker</b> *.....	F	F	F	F
___ Northern Flicker*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Pileated Woodpecker*.....	F	F	F	F

**Flycatchers**

___ Olive-sided Flycatcher.....	A			R
___ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher*.....	R	R		R
___ Eastern Wood-Pewee*.....	C	C		C
___ Acadian Flycatcher*.....	C	C		C
___ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.....				R
___ Eastern Phoebe*.....	F	U		F
___ Great-crested Flycatcher*.....	C	C		C
___ Western Kingbird.....				R
___ Eastern Kingbird*.....	F	C		F

**Larks/Swallows**

___ Horned Lark*.....	U	U		U
___ Purple Martin*.....	F	F		U
___ Tree Swallow.....	F	R		U

___ Northern Rough-Winged Swallow*.....	F	F		U
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___ Bank Swallow.....	U	R	U	
___ Cliff Swallow.....	U	A	A	
___ Barn Swallow*.....	C	C	F	

**Jays/Crows**

___ Blue Jay*.....	C	C	C	C
___ American Crow*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Fish Crow*.....	C	C	C	R

**Titmice/Nuthatches**

___ Carolina Chickadee*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Tufted Titmouse*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch.....	I		I	I
___ White-breasted Nuthatch*.....	F	F	F	F
___ Brown-headed Nuthatch*.....	C	C	C	C

**Creepers/Wrens/Kinglets**

___ Brown Creeper.....	U		U	U
___ Carolina Wren*.....	C	C	C	C
___ House Wren*.....	U	R	U	U
___ Winter Wren.....	U		U	F
___ Marsh Wren.....	R			
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet.....	F		F	C
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet.....	C		C	C
___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*.....	C	C	C	A

**Thrushes/Thrashers**

___ Eastern Bluebird*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Veery.....	U		U	
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush.....	U		U	
___ Swainson's Thrush.....	U		F	
___ Hermit Thrush.....	F		F	C
___ Bicknell's Thrush.....			R	
___ Wood Thrush*.....	C	C	F	
___ American Robin*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Gray Catbird*.....	C	C	F	U
___ Northern Mockingbird*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Brown Thrasher*.....	C	C	C	U

**Waxwings/Pipits**

___ American Pipit.....	U		R	F
___ Cedar Waxwing+.....	F	U	F	F

**Shrikes/Starlings**

___ Loggerhead Shrike*.....	F	F	F	F
___ European Starling*.....	C	C	C	C

**Vireos**

___ White-eyed Vireo*.....	C	C	F	R
___ Blue-headed Vireo*.....	F	U	F	U
___ Yellow-throated Vireo*.....	F	F	F	
___ Warbling Vireo.....	R		R	
___ Philadelphia Vireo.....	A		R	
___ Red-eyed Vireo*.....	C	C	C	

**Warblers**

___ Blue-winged Warbler.....	U		U	
___ Golden-winged Warbler.....	R		R	
	<b>SP</b>	<b>SU</b>	<b>FA</b>	<b>W</b>
___ Tennessee Warbler.....	R		U	
___ Orange-crowned Warbler.....	A		R	R

___ Nashville Warbler.....				R
___ Northern Parula*.....	F	F	F	A
___ Yellow Warbler*.....	U	A	U	A
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler.....	R		U	
___ Magnolia Warbler.....	R		F	
___ Cape May Warbler.....	U		U	A
___ Black-throated Blue Warbler.....	F		F	
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler.....	C		C	C
___ Black-throated Green Warbler.....	U		U	
___ Blackburnian Warbler.....	R		U	
___ Yellow-throated Warbler*.....	C	C	F	
___ Pine Warbler*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Prairie Warbler*.....	C	C	F	
___ Palm Warbler.....	U		U	U
___ Bay-breasted Warbler.....	U		R	
___ Blackpoll Warbler.....	U		R	
___ Black -and -white Warbler*.....	F	U	F	
___ American Redstart*.....	C	F	C	
___ Prothonotary Warbler*.....	C	C	F	
___ Worm-eating Warbler*.....	U	R	U	
___ Swainson's Warbler*.....	U	U		
___ Ovenbird*.....	C	C	F	
___ Northern Waterthrush.....	U		U	
___ Louisiana Waterthrush*.....	U	U	R	
___ Kentucky Warbler*.....	U	U	U	
___ Common Yellowthroat*.....	C	C	C	U
___ Hooded Warbler*.....	F	F	F	
___ Wilson's Warbler.....	R		R	
___ Canada Warbler.....	U		U	
___ Yellow-breasted Chat*.....	F	F	U	

**Tanagers/Sparrow**

___ Summer Tanager*.....	C	C	F	
___ Scarlet Tanager*.....	U	U	U	
___ Northern Cardinal*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak.....	U		U	
___ Blue Grosbeak*.....	C	C	C	A?
___ Indigo Bunting*.....	C	C	F	
___ Eastern Towhee*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Bachman's Sparrow*.....	F	F	U	U
___ Chipping Sparrow*.....	C	C	C	F
___ Field Sparrow*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Vesper Sparrow.....	R		R	R
___ Lark Sparrow*.....	R	R		
___ Savannah Sparrow.....	C		F	C
___ Grasshopper Sparrow*.....	U	F	U	R?
___ Fox Sparrow.....	U		U	F
___ Song Sparrow.....	C	A	C	C
___ Lincoln's Sparrow.....			R	
___ Swamp Sparrow.....	C		C	C
___ White-throated Sparrow.....	C		C	C
___ White-crowned Sparrow.....			R	R
___ Dark-eyed Junco.....	C		C	C
___ Lapland Longspur.....	A		A	R

**Blackbirds/Finches**

___ Bobolink.....	R		R	
___ Red-winged Blackbird*.....	C	C	C	F
___ Eastern Meadowlark*.....	F	F	F	F
___ Rusty Blackbird.....	U		R	U
___ Common Grackle*.....	C	C	C	C

	<b>SP</b>	<b>SU</b>	<b>FA</b>	<b>W</b>
___ Brown-headed Cowbird*.....	C	C	F	F
___ Orchard Oriole*.....	F	F	U	
___ Baltimore Oriole.....	U		U	R
___ Purple Finch.....	I		I	I

___ House Finch*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Red Crossbill.....	I	I	I	I
___ Pine Siskin.....	I	A	I	I
___ American Goldfinch*.....	C	C	C	C
___ Evening Grosbeak.....	I		I	I
___ House Sparrow*.....	C	C	C	C

**ACCIDENTALS**

				Western Sandpiper	Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow
				White-rumped Sandpiper	Sparrow
				Baird's Sandpiper	Snow Bunting
				Dunlin	
				Red-necked Grebe	
				Eared Grebe	
					<b>Blackbirds/Oriole</b>

**Loons/Grebes**

				Short-billed Dowitcher	
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**Gulls/Terns**

					Brewer's Blackbird.
					Bullock's Oriole

**Storm Petrels**

				Laughing Gull	
				Franklin's Gull	
				Royal Tern	
				Sandwich Tern.	
				Forester's Tern	
				Least Tern	
				Bridled Tern	
				Sooty Tern.	

**Bitterns/Herons/Ibis**

				Tricolored Heron.	
				Yellow-crowned Night-Heron.	
				White Ibis	<b>Cuckoo</b>
				Glossy Ibis	
					Black-billed Cuckoo

**Storks**

				Wood Stork.	
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**Ducks/Geese**

				Brant.	<b>Owls</b>
				White-fronted Goose	Barn Owl
				Fulvous Whistling Duck	Short-eared Owl
				Black Scoter	Northern Saw-Whet Owl
				Surf Scoter	
				White-winged Scoter	

**Hawks/Eagles/Kites**

				Golden Eagle	<b>Hummingbirds</b>
				Northern Goshawk.	Black-chinned Hummingbird.
				Swallow-tailed Kite	

**Rails/Gallinules**

				Clapper Rail	<b>Wrens</b>
				King Rail	Sedge Wren.
				Purple Gallinule	Bewick's Wren
				Common Moorhen.	

**Cranes**

				Sandhill Crane	<b>Warblers</b>
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**Avocet**

				American Avocet	Brewster's Warbler
					Mourning Warbler
					Cerulean Warbler

**Tanagers/Sparrows**

					<b>Sandpipers</b>
					Western Tanager
					Black-headed Grosbeak.
					Painted Bunting.
					Willet
					Dickcissel.
					Whimbrel
					Clay-colored Sparrow
					Ruddy Turnstone
					Henslow's Sparrow
					Le Conte's Sparrow