

**A BIRD Checklist
for Goose Creek State Park
188 taxa**

Of the 473 species known from North Carolina, 188 have been recorded at the state park. Of these, 24 species are known to nest within the park. 44 are suspected of nesting. We would appreciate any report of sightings that increase our knowledge of the park's bird life.

**For more information, contact:
Goose Creek State Park**

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Notes

**BIRD
CHECKLIST
Goose Creek State Park**



Seasons:

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

A - Abundant, always present in large numbers.
C - Common, almost always present in good numbers in proper habitat.
F - Fairly common, usually present and seen most days in proper habitat.
U - Uncommon, usually present, but not seen most days.
O - Occasional, often present, but not seen most weeks or only in limited area.
R - Rare, not seen most years, or seen only in very low numbers in limited area.
V - Very Rare, usually not present, seen once every five or more years.
I - Irregular, highly variable from year to year.
X - Accidental, not to be expected.
E - Escaped from captivity.
* - Known to breed.
~ - Suspected of breeding.

Web Links

NC Birds Website
<<https://carolinabirdclub.org/ncbirds/index.html>>

Resources



<https://www.ncparks.gov/junior-rangers>

188 BIRD taxa**ANATIDAE: Swans, Geese & Ducks [22]**

__ ~Canada Goose	U O U U
__ <i>Branta canadensis</i>	
__ Tundra Swan	- - - O
__ <i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	
__ *Wood Duck	F F F F
__ <i>Aix sponsa</i>	
__ Northern Shoveler	- - - -
__ <i>Spatula clypeata</i>	
__ Gadwall	- - - R
__ <i>Mareca strepera</i>	
__ American Wigeon	- - - R
__ <i>Mareca americana</i>	
__ Mallard	F U U U
__ <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	
__ American Black Duck	- - - R
__ <i>Anas rubripes</i>	
__ Green-winged Teal	- - - R
__ <i>Anas crecca</i>	
__ Canvasback	- - - V
__ <i>Aythya valisineria</i>	
__ Redhead	- - - V
__ <i>Aythya americana</i>	
__ Ring-necked Duck	O - O U
__ <i>Aythya collaris</i>	
__ Lesser Scaup	U - F C
__ <i>Aythya affinis</i>	
__ Surf Scoter	- - - R
__ <i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>	
__ Black Scoter	- - - V
__ <i>Melanitta americana</i>	
__ Long-tailed Duck (Oldsquaw)	- - - V
__ <i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	
__ Bufflehead	F - F C
__ <i>Bucephala albeola</i>	
__ Common Goldeneye	- - - O
__ <i>Bucephala clangula</i>	
__ Hooded Merganser	- - - U
__ <i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	
__ Common Merganser	R - - R
__ <i>Mergus merganser</i>	
__ Red-breasted Merganser	U - - U
__ <i>Mergus serrator</i>	

ANATIDAE: Swans, Geese & Ducks [22]

__ Ruddy Duck	U - U C
__ <i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	

ODONTOPHORIDAE: Quail [1]

__ *Northern Bobwhite	C C C C
__ <i>Colinus virginianus</i>	

PHASIANIDAE: Grouse [1]

__ ~Wild Turkey	F O O O
__ <i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>	

PODICIPEDIDAE: Grebes [2]

__ Pied-billed Grebe	F - F C
__ <i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>	
__ Horned Grebe	O - - U
__ <i>Podiceps auritus</i>	

COLUMBIDAE: Doves [2]

__ ~Rock Pigeon, Rock Dove	R R R R
__ <i>Columba livia</i>	
__ ~Mourning Dove	C C C C
__ <i>Zenaidura macroura</i>	

CUCULIDAE: Cuckoos, Roadrunner & Anis [1]

__ ~Yellow-billed Cuckoo	C C U -
__ <i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	

CAPRIMULGIDAE: Goatsuckers [3]

__ Common Nighthawk	- O O -
__ <i>Chordeiles minor</i>	
__ *Chuck-will's-widow	C F - -
__ <i>Antrostomus carolinensis</i>	
__ Eastern whip-poor-will	O - - -
__ <i>Antrostomus vociferus</i>	

APODIDAE: Swifts [1]

__ Chimney Swift	U U U -
__ <i>Chaetura pelagica</i>	

TROCHILIDAE: Hummingbirds [1]

__ ~Ruby-throated Hummingbird	C C U -
__ <i>Archilochus colubris</i>	

RALLIDAE: Rails [3]

__ King Rail	R R R R
__ <i>Rallus elegans</i>	
__ Virginia Rail	O - O U
__ <i>Rallus limicola</i>	
__ American Coot	R - R R
__ <i>Fulica americana</i>	

CHARADRIIDAE: Plovers [1]

__ Killdeer	F F F F
__ <i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	

SCOLOPACIDAE: Sandpipers [6]

__ Sanderling	- R - -
__ <i>Calidris alba</i>	
__ American Woodcock	O O O O
__ <i>Scolopax minor</i>	
__ Wilson's Snipe	- - - O
__ <i>Gallinago delicata</i>	
__ ~Spotted Sandpiper	C C F -
__ <i>Actitis macularius</i>	
__ Solitary Sandpiper	- - - -
__ <i>Tringa solitaria</i>	
__ Greater Yellowlegs	U - - -
__ <i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	

LARIDAE: Gulls & Terns [9]

__ Bonaparte's Gull	R - R O
__ <i>Chroicocephalus philadelphia</i>	
__ Laughing Gull	C C F U
__ <i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>	
__ Ring-billed Gull	F - F C
__ <i>Larus delawarensis</i>	
__ Herring Gull	F - F C
__ <i>Larus argentatus</i>	
__ Lesser Black-backed Gull	- - - V
__ <i>Larus fuscus</i>	
__ Great Black-backed Gull	U U U F
__ <i>Larus marinus</i>	
__ Common Tern	R R - -
__ <i>Sterna hirundo</i>	
__ ~Forster's Tern	F F U U
__ <i>Sterna forsteri</i>	
__ Royal Tern	F F U O
__ <i>Thalasseus maximus</i>	

GAVIIDAE: Loons [2]

__ Red-throated Loon	- - - R
__ <i>Gavia stellata</i>	
__ Common Loon	U - U U
__ <i>Gavia immer</i>	

SULIDAE: Boobies [1]

__ Northern Gannet	R - - R
__ <i>Morus bassanus</i>	

PHALACROCORACIDAE: Cormorants [1]

__ Double-crested Cormorant	C F C C
__ <i>Nannopterum auritus</i>	

ANHINGIDAE: Anhinga [1]

__ Anhinga	R - - -
__ <i>Anhinga anhinga</i>	

PELECANIDAE: Pelicans [2]

___ American White Pelican	- - - -
<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	
___ Brown Pelican	U - - F
<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	

ARDEIDAE: Herons [8]

___ American Bittern	- - - -
<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	
___ ~Great Blue Heron	C C C C
<i>Ardea herodias</i>	
___ Great Egret	U U - -
<i>Ardea alba</i>	
___ Snowy Egret	R - - -
<i>Egretta thula</i>	
___ Tricolored Heron	- O O -
<i>Egretta tricolor</i>	
___ ~Green Heron	C C U -
<i>Butorides virescens</i>	
___ Black-crowned Night-heron	R R - -
<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	
___ Yellow-crowned Night-heron	R R - -
<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	

THRESKIORNITHIDAE: Ibis [1]

___ White Ibis	- R R -
<i>Eudocimus albus</i>	

CATHARTIDAE: New World Vultures [2]

___ Black Vulture	U U U U
<i>Coragyps atratus</i>	
___ Turkey Vulture	C C C C
<i>Cathartes aura</i>	

PANDIONIDAE: Osprey [1]

___ *Osprey	C C U R
<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	

ACCIPITRIDAE: Eagles, Kites & Hawks [7]

___ ~Bald Eagle	F F F F
<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	
___ Northern Harrier	R - R O
<i>Circus hudsonius</i>	
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	O - O U
<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	
___ Cooper's Hawk	O O O U
<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	
___ ~Red-shouldered Hawk	F F U U
<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	

ACCIPITRIDAE: Eagles, Kites & Hawks [7]

___ Broad-winged Hawk	- V - -
<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	
___ ~Red-tailed Hawk	U U F F
<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	

TYTONIDAE: Barn-owl [1]

___ Barn Owl	- - - -
<i>Tyto alba</i>	

STRIGIDAE: Owls [3]

___ ~Eastern Screech-owl	F F F F
<i>Megascops asio</i>	
___ *Great Horned Owl	F F F F
<i>Bubo virginianus</i>	
___ ~Barred Owl	F F F F
<i>Strix varia</i>	

ALCEDINIDAE: Kingfisher [1]

___ ~Belted Kingfisher	C C C C
<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>	

PICIDAE: Woodpeckers [8]

___ *Red-headed Woodpecker	C C F I
<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>	
___ *Red-bellied Woodpecker	C C C C
<i>Melanerpes carolinus</i>	
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	U - F C
<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	
___ ~Downy Woodpecker	C C C C
<i>Dryobates pubescens</i>	
___ *Hairy Woodpecker	F F F F
<i>Picoides villosus</i>	
___ Red-cockaded Woodpecker (historical)	- - - -
<i>Dryobates borealis</i>	
___ Northern Flicker	C C C C
<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	
___ *Pileated Woodpecker	C C C C
<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>	

FALCONIDAE: Falcons [3]

___ American Kestrel	O - U U
<i>Falco sparverius</i>	
___ Merlin	- - O O
<i>Falco columbarius</i>	
___ Peregrine Falcon	- - V V
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	

TYRANNIDAE: Flycatchers [6]

___ ~Eastern Wood-pewee	C C U -
<i>Contopus virens</i>	

TYRANNIDAE: Flycatchers [6]

___ *Acadian Flycatcher	C C - -
<i>Empidonax virescens</i>	
___ Least Flycatcher	- - - -
<i>Empidonax minimus</i>	
___ Eastern Phoebe	U - F C
<i>Sayornis phoebe</i>	
___ *Great Crested Flycatcher	C C U -
<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>	
___ ~Eastern Kingbird	F F U -
<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>	

VIREONIDAE: Vireos [5]

___ ~White-eyed Vireo	C C U R
<i>Vireo griseus</i>	
___ ~Yellow-throated Vireo	C C U R
<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>	
___ Blue-headed (or Solitary) Vireo	U - U O
<i>Vireo solitarius</i>	
___ Warbling Vireo	- - - -
<i>Vireo gilvus</i>	
___ ~Red-eyed Vireo	C C U -
<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	

CORVIDAE: Jays & Crows [3]

___ ~Blue Jay	F F C C
<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>	
___ ~American Crow	C C C C
<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	
___ ~Fish Crow	C C F U
<i>Corvus ossifragus</i>	

HIRUNDINIDAE: Swallows [4]

___ Purple Martin	C C - -
<i>Progne subis</i>	
___ Tree Swallow	C U C U
<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	
___ Northern Rough-winged Swallow	O O O -
<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>	
___ ~Barn Swallow	F F - -
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	

PARIDAE: Chickadees & Titmice [2]

___ *Carolina Chickadee	C C C C
<i>Poecile carolinensis</i>	
___ *Tufted Titmouse	C C C C
<i>Baeolophus bicolor</i>	

SITTIDAE: Nuthatches [3]

___ Red-breasted Nuthatch	- - - R
<i>Sitta canadensis</i>	

SITTIDAE: Nuthatches [3]

__ ~White-breasted Nuthatch	C C C C
<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>	
__ *Brown-headed Nuthatch	C C C C
<i>Sitta pusilla</i>	

CERTHIIDAE: Creeper [1]

__ Brown Creeper	- - - U
<i>Certhia americana</i>	

TROGLODYTIDAE: Wrens [4]

__ House Wren	O - - O
<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	
__ Winter Wren	U - U F
<i>Troglodytes hiemalis</i>	
__ Marsh Wren	U - - U
<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>	
__ *Carolina Wren	C C C C
<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>	

POLIOPTILIDAE: Gnatcatchers [1]

__ *Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	C C U O
<i>Poliophtila caerulea</i>	

REGULIDAE: Kinglets [2]

__ Golden-crowned Kinglet	F - F C
<i>Regulus satrapa</i>	
__ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C - F C
<i>Corthylio calendula</i>	

TURDIDAE: Thrushes [7]

__ *Eastern Bluebird	C C C C
<i>Sialia sialis</i>	
__ Veery	R - - -
<i>Catharus fuscescens</i>	
__ Gray-cheeked Thrush	R - R -
<i>Catharus minimus</i>	
__ Swainson's Thrush	R - R -
<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>	
__ Hermit Thrush	F - F C
<i>Catharus guttatus</i>	
__ *Wood Thrush	C C - -
<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	
__ ~American Robin	C C C C
<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	

MIMIDAE: Mockingbirds & Thrashers [3]

__ ~Gray Catbird	F F U U
<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>	
__ ~Brown Thrasher	C C F F
<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>	

MIMIDAE: Mockingbirds & Thrashers [3]

__ ~Northern Mockingbird	C C C C
<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	

STURNIDAE: Starling [1]

__ European Starling	F U U U
<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	

BOMBYCILLIDAE: Waxwings [1]

__ Cedar Waxwing	U - - U
<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>	

PASSERIDAE: Old World Sparrows [1]

__ House Sparrow	R R R R
<i>Passer domesticus</i>	

MOTACILLIDAE: Wagtails & Pipits [1]

__ American Pipit	- - - R
<i>Anthus rubescens</i>	

FRINGILLIDAE: Finches [4]

__ ~House Finch	F F F F
<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>	
__ Purple Finch	U - - U
<i>Haemorhous purpureus</i>	
__ Pine Siskin	- - - -
<i>Spinus pinus</i>	
__ ~American Goldfinch	C C C C
<i>Spinus tristis</i>	

PARULIDAE: Warblers [22]

__ Worm-eating Warbler (Coastal Plain population).....	U O R -
<i>Helmitheros vermivorum pop. 1</i>	

PASSERELLIDAE: [8]

__ *Eastern Towhee	C C C C
<i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>	
__ ~Chipping Sparrow	C C C C
<i>Spizella passerina</i>	
__ Field Sparrow	O O O O
<i>Spizella pusilla</i>	
__ Fox Sparrow	- - - U
<i>Passerella iliaca</i>	
__ Song Sparrow	U - F F
<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	
__ Swamp Sparrow	F - F C
<i>Melospiza georgiana</i>	
__ White-throated Sparrow	C - C C
<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>	
__ Dark-eyed Junco	F - F C
<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	

ICTERIIDAE: [1]

__ Yellow-breasted Chat	O O R V
<i>Icteria virens</i>	

ICTERIDAE: Blackbirds & Orioles [6]

__ Eastern Meadowlark	R R R R
<i>Sturnella magna</i>	
__ ~Orchard Oriole	F U - -
<i>Icterus spurius</i>	
__ ~Red-winged Blackbird	C C C C
<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	
__ Shiny Cowbird	- - - X
<i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>	
__ *Brown-headed Cowbird	C C U O
<i>Molothrus ater</i>	
__ ~Common Grackle	C C C C
<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>	

PARULIDAE: Warblers [22]

__ Ovenbird	C C U -
<i>Seiurus aurocapilla</i>	
__ ~Louisiana Waterthrush	U O - -
<i>Parkesia motacilla</i>	
__ Northern Waterthrush	R - O -
<i>Parkesia noveboracensis</i>	
__ Blue-winged Warbler	- - - -
<i>Vermivora cyanoptera</i>	
__ Black-and-white Warbler	U O U -
<i>Mniotilta varia</i>	
__ ~Prothonotary Warbler	C C - -
<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>	
__ Orange-crowned Warbler	- - - O
<i>Leiothlypis celata</i>	
__ Nashville Warbler	- - R -
<i>Leiothlypis ruficapilla</i>	
__ ~Common Yellowthroat	C C U O
<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	
__ ~Hooded Warbler	O - O -
<i>Setophaga citrina</i>	
__ American Redstart	R - U -
<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	
__ *Northern Parula	C C F -
<i>Setophaga americana</i>	
__ Magnolia Warbler	- - U -
<i>Setophaga magnolia</i>	
__ Yellow Warbler	U - R -
<i>Setophaga petechia</i>	

PARULIDAE: Warblers [22]

- ___ Blackpoll Warbler O - - -
Setophaga striata
- ___ Black-throated Blue Warbler U - U -
Setophaga caerulescens
- ___ Palm Warbler O - - O
Setophaga palmarum
- ___ ~Pine Warbler C C C C
Setophaga pinus
- ___ Yellow-rumped Warbler F - C C
Setophaga coronata
- ___ *Yellow-throated Warbler C C U V
Setophaga dominica
- ___ Prairie Warbler F U O -
Setophaga discolor
- ___ Black-throated Green Warbler O - - -
Setophaga virens

CARDINALIDAE: Grosbeaks & Buntings [6]

- ___ *Summer Tanager C C U -
Piranga rubra
- ___ Scarlet Tanager O - - -
Piranga olivacea
- ___ *Northern Cardinal C C C C
Cardinalis cardinalis
- ___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak - - - -
Pheucticus ludovicianus
- ___ ~Blue Grosbeak F F - -
Passerina caerulea
- ___ ~Indigo Bunting C C U -
Passerina cyanea