

## A BIRD Checklist for Mount Mitchell State Park 80 taxa

Of the 473 species known from North Carolina, 80 have been recorded at the state park. Of these, 7 species are known to nest within the park. 24 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:  
Mount Mitchell State Park

(828) 675-4611  
[mount.mitchell@ncparks.gov](mailto:mount.mitchell@ncparks.gov)

### Notes

## BIRD CHECKLIST Mount Mitchell 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>

**80 BIRD taxa****ANATIDAE: Swans, Geese & Ducks [1]**

- Canada Goose ..... - - -  
    *Branta canadensis*

**ODONTOPHORIDAE: Quail [1]**

- Northern Bobwhite ..... v - -  
    *Colinus virginianus*

**PHASIANIDAE: Grouse [2]**

- \*Ruffed Grouse ..... o o o o  
    *Bonasa umbellus*  
— Wild Turkey ..... - - -  
    *Meleagris gallopavo*

**COLUMBIDAE: Doves [1]**

- Mourning Dove ..... - - -  
    *Zenaida macroura*

**APODIDAE: Swifts [1]**

- Chimney Swift ..... - - -  
    *Chaetura pelasgica*

**TROCHILIDAE: Hummingbirds [1]**

- Ruby-throated Hummingbird ..... f - -  
    *Archilochus colubris*

**SCOLOPACIDAE: Sandpipers [2]**

- Sanderling ..... - - x -  
    *Calidris alba*  
— American Woodcock ..... o o - -  
    *Scolopax minor*

**GAVIIDAE: Loons [1]**

- Common Loon ..... - - -  
    *Gavia immer*

**PHALACROCORACIDAE: Cormorants [1]**

- Double-crested Cormorant ..... - - -  
    *Nannopterum auritus*

**ARDEIDAE: Herons [1]**

- Least Bittern ..... - - -  
    *Ixobrychus exilis*

**CATHARTIDAE: New World Vultures [1]**

- Turkey Vulture ..... - - -  
    *Cathartes aura*

**PANDIONIDAE: Osprey [1]**

- Osprey ..... - - -  
    *Pandion haliaetus*

**ACCIPITRIDAE: Eagles, Kites & Hawks [5]**

- Sharp-shinned Hawk ..... - - -  
    *Accipiter striatus*

**ACCIPITRIDAE: Eagles, Kites & Hawks [5]**

- ~Cooper's Hawk ..... - - -  
    *Accipiter cooperii*  
— \*Broad-winged Hawk ..... - - -  
    *Buteo platypterus*  
— Red-tailed Hawk ..... - - -  
    *Buteo jamaicensis*  
— Golden Eagle ..... - - -  
    *Aquila chrysaetos*

**STRIGIDAE: Owls [2]**

- Barred Owl ..... - - -  
    *Strix varia*  
— ~Northern Saw-whet Owl ..... - - -  
    *Aegolius acadicus*

**PICIDAE: Woodpeckers [4]**

- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker ..... - - -  
    *Sphyrapicus varius*  
— ~Downy Woodpecker ..... - - -  
    *Dryobates pubescens*  
— ~Hairy Woodpecker ..... - - -  
    *Picoides villosus*  
— Northern Flicker ..... - - -  
    *Colaptes auratus*

**FALCONIDAE: Falcons [2]**

- Merlin ..... - - -  
    *Falco columbarius*  
— ~Peregrine Falcon ..... - - -  
    *Falco peregrinus*

**TYRANNIDAE: Flycatchers [3]**

- ~Olive-sided Flycatcher ..... - - -  
    *Contopus cooperi*  
— ~Alder Flycatcher ..... - - -  
    *Empidonax alnorum*  
— Least Flycatcher ..... - - -  
    *Empidonax minimus*

**VIREONIDAE: Vireos [1]**

- \*Blue-headed (or Solitary) Vireo ..... - - -  
    *Vireo solitarius*

**CORVIDAE: Jays & Crows [3]**

- Blue Jay ..... - - -  
    *Cyanocitta cristata*  
— American Crow ..... - - -  
    *Corvus brachyrhynchos*  
— \*Common Raven ..... - - -  
    *Corvus corax*

**PARIDAE: Chickadees & Titmice [3]**

- Carolina Chickadee ..... - - -  
    *Poecile carolinensis*  
— Black-capped Chickadee (historical) ..... - - -  
    *Poecile atricapillus*  
— Tufted Titmouse ..... - - -  
    *Baeolophus bicolor*

**SITTIDAE: Nuthatches [2]**

- ~Red-breasted Nuthatch ..... - - -  
    *Sitta canadensis*  
— White-breasted Nuthatch ..... - - -  
    *Sitta carolinensis*

**CERTHIIDAE: Creeper [1]**

- ~Brown Creeper ..... - - -  
    *Certhia americana*

**TROGLODYTIDAE: Wrens [2]**

- House Wren ..... - - -  
    *Troglodytes aedon*  
— ~Winter Wren ..... c - -  
    *Troglodytes hiemalis*

**REGULIDAE: Kinglets [2]**

- ~Golden-crowned Kinglet ..... - - -  
    *Regulus satrapa*  
— Ruby-crowned Kinglet ..... - - -  
    *Corthylio calendula*

**TURDIDAE: Thrushes [6]**

- ~Veery ..... f - -  
    *Catharus fuscescens*  
— Gray-cheeked Thrush ..... - - -  
    *Catharus minimus*  
— Swainson's Thrush ..... - - -  
    *Catharus ustulatus*  
— ~Hermit Thrush ..... u - -  
    *Catharus guttatus*  
— Wood Thrush ..... - - -  
    *Hylocichla mustelina*  
— ~American Robin ..... f - -  
    *Turdus migratorius*

**MIMIDAE: Mockingbirds & Thrashers [2]**

- ~Gray Catbird ..... - - -  
    *Dumetella carolinensis*  
— Brown Thrasher ..... - - -  
    *Toxostoma rufum*

**BOMBYCILLIDAE: Waxwings [1]**

- ~Cedar Waxwing ..... c - -  
    *Bombycilla cedrorum*

**FRINGILLIDAE: Finches [4]**

- House Finch ..... - x - -
- *Haemorhous mexicanus*
- Red Crossbill ..... - - - -
- *Loxia curvirostra*
- \*Pine Siskin ..... - c - -
- *Spinus pinus*
- ~American Goldfinch ..... - f - -
- *Spinus tristis*

**CALCARIIDAE: Longspurs and Snow Bunting [1]**

- Snow Bunting ..... - - - -
- *Plectrophenax nivalis*

**PASSERELLIDAE: [3]**

- Eastern Towhee ..... - - - -
- *Pipilo erythrourhthalmus*
- ~Song Sparrow ..... - - - -
- *Melospiza melodia*
- \*Dark-eyed Junco ..... - c - -
- *Junco hyemalis*

**ICTERIDAE: Blackbirds & Orioles [1]**

- Eastern Meadowlark ..... R - - -
- *Sturnella magna*

**PARULIDAE: Warblers [14]**

- Golden-winged Warbler ..... - - v -
- *Vermivora chrysoptera*
- Tennessee Warbler ..... - - - -
- *Leiothlypis peregrina*
- Orange-crowned Warbler ..... - - - -
- *Leiothlypis celata*
- Connecticut Warbler ..... - - x -
- *Oporornis agilis*
- Kentucky Warbler ..... - - - -
- *Geothlypis formosa*
- Common Yellowthroat ..... - - - -
- *Geothlypis trichas*
- ~Magnolia Warbler ..... - - - -
- *Setophaga magnolia*
- ~Blackburnian Warbler ..... - - - -
- *Setophaga fusca*
- \*Chestnut-sided Warbler ..... - - - -
- *Setophaga pensylvanica*
- Blackpoll Warbler ..... - - - -
- *Setophaga striata*
- Black-throated Blue Warbler ..... - - - -
- *Setophaga caerulescens*

**PARULIDAE: Warblers [14]**

- ~Yellow-rumped Warbler ..... - - - -
- *Setophaga coronata*
- Black-throated Green Warbler ..... - - - -
- *Setophaga virens*
- Canada Warbler ..... - - - -
- *Cardellina canadensis*

**CARDINALIDAE: Grosbeaks & Buntings [4]**

- Scarlet Tanager ..... - - - -
- *Piranga olivacea*
- ~Northern Cardinal ..... - - - -
- *Cardinalis cardinalis*
- ~Rose-breasted Grosbeak ..... - - - -
- *Pheucticus ludovicianus*
- Indigo Bunting ..... - - - -
- *Passerina cyanea*