

Arkansas Department of Parks & Tourism One Capitol Mall Little Rock, AR 72201 501-682-1191

www.ArkansasStateParks.com

Birds of Millwood State Park and Vicinity

With varied habitats and abundant food sources, the Millwood Lake area attracts multitudes of birds year-round and is widely regarded as one of Arkansas's premier birding locales. As of October 31, 2000, 331 species of birds have been identified, either on the lake itself or within the adjoining territories of Hempstead, Howard, Little River and Sevier Counties. The region has hosted 18 first Arkansas records. Included among these are those for black-bellied whistling duck, black-necked stilt, parasitic jaeger, pomarine jaeger, long-tailed jaeger, little gull, black-headed gull, glaucous gull, black-legged kittiwake, sabine's gull, bridled tern, inca dove, greater roadrunner, calliope hummingbird, broad-tailed hummingbird, northern wheatear, couch's kingbird and mccown's longspur.

Although landbirds are present in great variety, it is the unsurpassed diversity of waterbirds at Millwood Lake and other wetlands within the region that have crafted the region's reputation for birding excellence. This birding excellence is at its peak during spring and fall migration when resident species are supplemented by numerous migrants.

Opportunities abound for productive birding trips in the Millwood Lake area. Here are some suggestions: within Millwood State Park, a hike through the camping areas and down Waterfowl Way Trail will often produce sightings of a variety of birds, including herons, ducks, woodpeckers, warblers, tanagers, sparrows and orioles. As you walk the 1.5-mile trail, you may make use of strategically located photography blinds. One species especially common throughout the camping areas is the eastern bluebird.

Outside the park, two Corps of Engineers areas offer excellent birding potential. Closest to the state park is Beard's Bluff Recreation Area. During spring and fall migration, Beard's Bluff Overlook frequently attracts flycatchers, vireos, warblers, tanagers and orioles. Scanning from the parking lot at Beard's Bluff Landing will, in the appropriate season, turn up great numbers of grebes, pelicans, ducks, bald eagles, gulls and terns.

The second Corps area worth visiting for birding, especially during fall migration, is the Okay Dike. Although it features many of the same landbird species as Beard's Bluff Recreation Area, it is much better for sparrows. This area has also hosted many of the region's rare landbirds, including groove-billed ani, say's phoebe, vermilion flycatcher, couch's kingbird, northern wheatear and mccown's longspur.

These are but a few of the excellent sites available for birding in the Millwood Lake area. Do some exploring on your own and

if you observe a species not listed here, document your sighting and report it to us. Your information will be helpful as we prepare future updates of this booklet.

Enjoy your time here!

This checklist is based upon records gathered between May, 1960, and October 31, 2000. Taxonomy and nomenclature follow the "Checklist of North American Birds," Seventh edition, 1998, as amended through the Forty-Second Supplement, 2000.

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS AND TERMS

Assuming reasonable skill and time spent in appropriate habitat and season, degrees of relative abundance are defined as follows:

- C = Common, consistently seen, sometimes in large numbers
- FC = Fairly common, less consistently seen, usually in smaller numbers
- Unc = Uncommon, not easily located and may be overlooked
- R = Rare, seen annually or nearly so in small numbers
- VR = Very rare, irregular in occurrence but generally expected to occur 5 or fewer times in a given 10-year period
- 0 = Occasional, 3 or fewer records for the study area but additional observations are possible
- A = Accidental, vagrant to study area; not likely to occur again
- I = Irruptive, appears in numbers which may fluctuate widely from season to season

Additionally, in combination with abundance levels, residency is defined as follows:

- r = resident, present for an extended period
- m = migrant, migrates through the area during spring and/or fall
- v = visitor, when present, usually not for an extended time

A **dagger** "†" designates those species whose occurrence is substantiated by photographs.

An asterisk "*" denotes species which breed or have bred, at least irregularly within the area.

Sp = Spring (March-May)

S = Summer (June-July)

F = Fall (August-November)

W = Winter (December-February)

Season:	Sp	S	F	W
Loons				
Loon, Red-throated	VRv		VRv	VRv
Common	Um		FCm	Ur
Grebes				
Grebe, Pied-billed*	Cm	Ur	Cm	Cr
Horned	Um		Cm	Cr
Eared	Um		FCm	Ur
Western	VRv		VRv	VRv
Pelicans				
Pelican, American White	Cm	Ur	Cm	Ur
Brown †			0v	0v
Cormorants and Anhingas				
Cormorant, Double-crested*	Cm	Ur	Cm	Cr
Neotropic †			0v	
Anhinga*	FCm	FCr	FCm	Rv
Frigatebirds				
Frigatebird, Magnificent †			0v	
Bitterns, Herons, and Egrets				
Bittern, American	Um		Um	
Least		Rv		
Heron, Great Blue*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Egret, Great*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Snowy*	Cm	Cr	Cm	VRv
Heron, Little Blue*	Cm	Cr	Cm	Rv
Tricolored	Um	Ur	Um	
Egret, Cattle*	Cm	Cr	Cm	Rv
Heron, Green*	Cm	Cr	Cr	
Night-Heron, Black-crowned*	Um	Ur	Um	
Yellow-crowned*	Cm	Cr	Cr	
Ibises and Spoonbills				
Ibis, White	Cm	Cr	Cr	Rv
Glossy	VRv		VRv	VRv
White-faced	Rv		Rv	
Spoonbill, Roseate			0v	
Storks and Vultures				
Stork, Wood	0v	Rv	Rv	
Vulture, Black*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Turkey*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Swans, Geese, and Ducks				
Whistling-Duck, Fulvous			0v	
Black-bellied †	Rm	Rr	Um	
Swan, Tundra †	FCm			0v
Goose, Greater White-fronted			FCm	Uv

Season:	Sp	S	F	W
Goose, Snow	Cm		Cm	Uv
Ross's †	Rm		Rm	Rv
Canada	Cm		Cm	Uv
Duck, Wood*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Gadwall	Cm		Cr	Cr
Wigeon, American	Cm		Cm	Cr
Duck, American Black	VRv		VRv	VRv
Mallard	Cm	Rr	Cm	Cr
Duck, Mottled	VRv			
Teal, Blue-winged	Cm	Rv	Cm	Uv
Cinnamon †	0v		0v	
Shoveler, Northern	Cm		Cm	Cr
Pintail, Northern	Cm		Cm	FCr
Teal, Green-winged	Cm		Cm	Cr
Canvasback	Um		FCm	FCr
Redhead	Um		FCm	Ur
Duck, Ring-necked	Cm		Cm	Cr
Scaup, Greater	Um		Um	Ur
Lesser	Cm		Cm	Cr
Scoter, Surf †	0m		VRm	
White-winged †	Rm		Um	Uv
Black			0m	
Duck, Long-tailed			Rm	0v
Bufflehead	Cm		Cm	Cr
Goldeneye, Common	FCm		FCm	FCr
Merganser, Hooded	Cm	Ur	Cm	Cr
Common	Rm		Rm	Rv
Red-breasted	Cm		Cm	Ur
Duck, Ruddy	Cm		Cm	Cr
Ospreys, Hawks, and Falcons				
Osprey	Cm	Rv	Cm	Uv
Kite, Swallow-tailed	0v			
White-tailed †	0v			
Mississippi*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Eagle, Bald*	Cm	Ur	Cm	Cr
Harrier, Northern	Cm		Cm	Cr
Hawk, Sharp-shinned	Cm		Cm	Cr
Cooper's*	Cm	Rr	Cm	Ur
Red-shouldered*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Broad-winged*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Swainson's †	Rm		VRm	
Red-tailed*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Rough-legged				0v
Eagle, Golden			Rv	Rv
Kestrel, American	Cr		Cm	Cr

Season:	Sp	S	F	W
Merlin	Um		Um	Rv
Falcon, Peregrine	Rm		Um	Rv
Prairie				0v
Turkey and Quail				
Turkey, Wild*	Ur	Ur	Ur	Ur
Bobwhite, Northern*	Ur	Ur	Ur	Ur
Rails, Gallinules and Cranes				
Rail, Yellow			0v	
King		0v	Rm	
Virginia	Rm		Rm	
Sora	Cm		Cm	
Gallinule, Purple †	Rr	Rr		
Moorhen, Common*	Um	Ur	Um	
Coot, American	Cm	Ur	Cm	Cr
Crane, Sandhill †				0v
Shorebirds				
Plover, Black-bellied	Rm		FCm	Rv
Golden-Plover, American	Um		Rm	
Plover, Semipalmated	FCm		FCm	
Piping	Rm		Um	
Killdeer*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Stilt, Black-necked	0v			
Avocet, American	Rm		Um	
Yellowlegs, Greater	Cm	Rv	Cm	Rv
Lesser	Cm	Rv	Cm	Rv
Sandpiper, Solitary	FCm		FCm	
Willet	Rm	Rv	Um	
Sandpiper, Spotted	Cm		Cm	Rv
Upland	FCm		FCm	
Godwit, Hudsonian	0m			
Marbled	Om		0m	
Turnstone, Ruddy			Um	
Knot, Red †		_	0m	_
Sanderling	Rv	Rv	FCm	Rv
Sandpiper, Semipalmated	Rm		Cm	
Western	Cm		Cm	Rv
Least	Cm		Cm	Ur
White-rumped	Um		Rm FCm	
Baird's Pectoral	Rm Cm		Cm	
Dunlin	Rm		Um	
Sandpiper, Stilt	Rm		FCm	
Buff-breasted	Rm		FCm	
Ruff	0v		i Cili	
Dowitcher, Short-billed	Rm		Um	
Downteller, Jiloit-Bitted	IXIII		OIII	

Season:	Sp	S	F	W
Dowitcher, Long-billed	Rm		Um	
Snipe, Common	Cm		Cm	Cr
Woodcock, American*	Ur	Rr	Ur	Ur
Phalarope, Wilson's	Rm		Um	
Red-necked †			0v	
Red †			VRv	
Jaegers, Gulls, and Terns				
Jaeger, Pomarine †			0v	
Parasitic †			VRv	VRv
Long-tailed †			0v	
Gull, Laughing †	VRv	Rv	Rv	Rv
Franklin's	FCm		Cm	Uv
Little †			VRm	VRv
Black-headed †			0v	0v
Bonaparte's	Cm		Cm	Cr
Ring-billed	Cm	Rv	Cm	Cr
Herring	Um		Um	Ur
Iceland †			0v	_
Glaucous †				0v
Sabine's †			Rm	_
Kittiwake, Black-legged				0v
Tern, Caspian	Um		Cm	Rv
Common †	•		Rm	F0
Forster's	Cm	Uv	Cm	FCr
Least*	Um	Rv	Um	
Bridled			Av	
Black	Um		Cm	
Pigeons and Doves				_
Dove, Rock*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Collared-Dove, Eurasian*†	Ur	Ur	Ur	Ur
Dove, White-winged †	VRv	0v		VRv
Mourning*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Inca*	Ur	Ur	Ur	Ur
Ground-Dove, Common †	0v		0v	0v
Cuckoos and Roadrunners				
Cuckoo, Black-billed	Um			
Yellow-billed*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Roadrunner, Greater*	Ur	Ur	Ur	Ur
Ani, Groove-billed			0v	0v
Owls				
Owl, Barn*	Rr	Rr	Rr	Rr
Screech-Owl, Eastern*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Owl, Great Horned*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Burrowing			0v	

Season:	Sp	S	F	W
Owl, Barred*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Long-eared			VRv	
Short-eared	Vrv		VRr	
Nighthawks and Nightjars				
Nighthawk, Common*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Chuck-will's-widow*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Whip-poor-will	Cm			
Swifts and Hummingbirds				
Swift, Chimney*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Hummingbird, Ruby-throated*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Black-chinned				0v
Hummingbird, Anna's †			0v	
Calliope †			0v	
Broad-tailed †			0v	
Rufous/Allen's †			0v	0v
Kingfishers				
Kingfisher, Belted*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Woodpeckers				
Woodpecker, Red-headed*	FCr	FCr	FCr	FCr
Red-bellied*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied	Cm		Cm	Cr
Woodpecker, Downy*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Hairy*	FCr	FCr	FCr	FCr
Flicker, Northern*	Cr	Ur	Cr	Cr
Woodpecker, Pileated*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Flycatchers				
Flycatcher, Olive-sided	FCm		FCm	
Wood-Pewee, Eastern*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Flycatcher, Yellow-bellied	Rm		0m	
Acadian*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Alder	0m			
Willow	0m			
Least	FCm		Um	
Phoebe, Eastern*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Say's †			0v	
Flycatcher, Vermilion	0v			0v
Great Crested*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Kingbird, Couch's †	р	р.	VD.	Av
Western*†	Rm	Rr	VRm	
Eastern*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Flycatcher, Scissor-tailed* Shrikes	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Shrike, Loggerhead*	Cm	Ur	Cm	Cr

Season:	Sp	S	F	W
Vireos				
Vireo, White-eyed*	Cm	Cr	Cm	Rv
Bell's	0m	0v	0m	
Yellow-throated*	FCm	Ur	FCm	
Blue-headed	FCm		FCm	Ur
Warbling*	Cm	FCr	Cm	
Philadelphia	Cm		Cm	
Jays and Crows				
Jay, Blue*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Crow, American*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Fish*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Larks				
Lark, Horned	Um	Rr	Um	Uv
Swallows				
Martin, Purple*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Swallow, Tree*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Northern Rough-winged*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Bank			FCm	
Cliff*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Barn*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Chickadees and Titmice				
Chickadee, Carolina*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Titmouse, Tufted*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Nuthatches				
Nuthatch, Red-breasted	Irrm		Irrm	Irrr
White-breasted*	Ur	Ur	Ur	Ur
Brown-headed*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Creepers				
Creeper, Brown	Cm	Αv	Cm	Cr
Wrens				
Wren, Rock †			0v	0v
Carolina*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Bewick's	Um		Um	Ur
House	Cm		Cm	0v
Winter	Cm		Cm	Cr
Sedge	Cm		Cm	Ur
Marsh	Cm		Cm	Ur
Kinglets				
Kinglet, Golden-crowned	FCr		FCr	FCr
Ruby-crowned	Cr		Cr	Cr
Gnatcatchers and Thrushes				
Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray*	Cm	Cr	Cm	0v

Season:	Sp	S	F	W	
Bluebird, Eastern*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr	
Veery	0m				
Thrush, Gray-cheeked	FCm				
Swainson's	Cm		Cm		
Hermit	Cm		Cm	Cr	
Wood*	Cm	Cr	Cm		
Robin, American*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr	
Wheatear, Northern †			Αv		
Mockingbirds and Thrashers					
Catbird, Gray*	Cm	FCr	Cm	0v	
Mockingbird, Northern*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr	
Thrasher, Brown*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr	
Starlings					
Starling, European*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr	
Pipits					
Pipit, American	Cm		Cm	Cr	
Sprague's †			Rm	0v	
Waxwings					
Waxwing, Cedar	Cm		Cm	Cr	
Warblers					
Warbler, Blue-winged	Um		VRm		
Golden-winged	Rm		VRm		
Tennessee	Cm		Cm		
Orange-crowned	Cm		Cm	FCr	
Nashville	Cm		Cm		
Parula, Northern*	Cm	Cr	Cm		
Warbler, Yellow	Cm		Cm		
Chestnut-sided	FCm		Um		
Magnolia	FCm		FCm		
Cape May	Rm		VRm		
Black-throated Blue	0m				
Yellow-rumped	Cm		Cm	Cr	
Black-throated Green	Cm		Cm		
Blackburnian	Cm	_	Um	_	
Yellow-throated*	Cm	Cr	Cm		
Pine*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr	
Prairie*	FCm	FCr	FCm		
Palm	Rm		Rm	Rv	
Bay-breasted	FCm		FCm		
Blackpoll	Cm				
Cerulean	Um				
Black-and-white*	Cm	Cr	Cm		
Redstart, American*	Cm	Ur	Cm		
Warbler, Prothonotary*	Cm	Cr	Cm		

Season:	Sp	S	F	W
Warbler, Worm-eating	Um		Um	
Swainson's*	Um	Ur		
Ovenbird	Um			
Waterthrush, Northern	FCm			
Louisiana*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Warbler, Kentucky*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Mourning	Um		Um	
Yellowthroat, Common*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Warbler, Hooded*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Wilson's*	Cm		Cm	
Canada	Um		Rm	
Chat, Yellow-breasted*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Tanagers				
Tanager, Summer*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Scarlet	Um		Rm	
Towhees and Sparrows				
Towhee, Spotted				0v
Eastern	Cm		Cm	Cr
Sparrow, Bachman's	Um	Ur	Um	
American Tree				0v
Chipping*	Cr	Ur	Cr	Cr
Clay-colored †	0m		VRm	
Field*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Vesper	FCm		Cm	FCr
Lark*	Cm	Cr	Cm	0v
Savannah	Cm		Cm	Cr
Grasshopper*	Rm	Rr	Rm	
Henslow's			Rm	Rv
Le Conte's	FCm		FCm	FCr
Nelson's Sharp-tailed			0m	
Fox	Cm		Cm	Cr
Song	Cm		Cm	Cr
Lincoln's	Cm		Cm	Cr
Swamp	Cm		Cm	Cr
White-throated	Cm		Cm	Cr
Harris's	Um		Um	Ur
White-crowned	Cm		Cm	Cr
Junco, Dark-eyed	Cm		Cm	Cr
Longspur, McCown's			0v	
Lapland				Ur
Smith's			0v	
Grosbeaks and Buntings				
Cardinal, Northern*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Grosbeak, Rose-breasted	FCm		FCm	

Season:	Sp	S	F	W
Grosbeak, Blue*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Bunting, Indigo*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Painted*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Dickcissel*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Blackbirds and Orioles				
Bobolink	FCm			
Blackbird, Red-winged*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Meadowlark, Eastern*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Western	Um		Um	Ur
Blackbird, Yellow-headed	Rm		VRm	
Rusty	Um		Um	Ur
Brewer's	Um		Um	Ur
Grackle, Common*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Great-tailed*	Ur	Ur	Ur	Ur
Cowbird, Brown-headed*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr
Oriole, Orchard*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Baltimore*	Cm	Cr	Cm	
Finches				
Finch, Purple	FCm		FCm	Ur
House*	Cm	Ur	Cm	Cr
Crossbill, Red	0v		0v	
Siskin, Pine	Irrr		Irrr	Irrr
Goldfinch, American	Cm		Cm	Cr
Grosbeak, Evening	Irrr		Irrr	Irrr
Old World Sparrows				
Sparrow, House*	Cr	Cr	Cr	Cr

Report unlisted species to:

Millwood State Park 1564 Hwy 32 E Ashdown AR 71822 (870) 898-2800

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Field Notes: Date: Species total: _____ Weather: _____ Time: _____ Observer(s) name: Species total: _____ Weather: _____ Time: Observer(s) name: Species total: Weather: _____ Time: _____ Observer(s) name:

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The publications and electronic media listed below are but a few of the references available nowadays that will be of interest as you discover the variety of birdlife in the Millwood Lake area. Some of these are available at the park store. The others may be available at your favorite local bookstore or from a variety of mail-order or Internet vendors.

BOOKS

Arkansas Birds—Their Distribution and Abundance, Douglas A. James and Joseph C. Neal, University of Arkansas Press: Fayetteville Arkansas, 1986

Birds of North America (Third edition), National Geographic Society, Educational Services, Washington D.C., 1999

The Sibley Guide to Birds, David A. Sibley, Knopf, 2000

AUDIO

Field Guide to Bird Songs—Eastern/Central North America, Roger Tory Peterson, editor

Stokes Field Guide to Bird Songs (Eastern), Lang Elliott with Donald & Lillian Stokes

COMPUTER

AviSys: http:www.avisys.net/ (Record-keeping database for Windows-based computers)

BirdBrain: http://www.birdwatching.com/ (Record-keeping database for Macintosh computers)

Birds of North America, Thayer Birding Software: http://www.thayerbirding.com/(CD-Rom with pictures and songs)

PERIODICALS

Birding, American Birding Association: http://www.aba.org/

Birder's Digest: http://www.birdwatchersdigest.com/

Birder's World: http://www2.birdersworld.com/

North American Birds: http://www.aba.org/

Cover illustration: long-tailed jaeger (Stercorarius longicaudus Viellot) Long-tailed jaegers are predatory seabirds related to gulls. They nest in Arctic and sub-Arctic latitudes and winter mainly at sea in the southern hemisphere. Although their migration primarily occurs offshore in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, a few pass through the interior of the United States each year. To date, four long-tailed jaegers have been documented in Arkansas. Each observation was made at Millwood Lake during fall migration.

Millwood State Park

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