

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Tualatin River

*National Wildlife
Refuge*

Watchable Wildlife





Welcome to Tualatin River NWR

Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge means different things to different creatures. For some it's a place where they raise their young, and others just a stopover during migration. It's also a place that some only spend the winter, and to others, it is a year-round home.

Established in 1992, the Refuge is located within the floodplain of the Tualatin River basin near Sherwood, Oregon. Refuge habitats are varied and include rivers and streams, seasonal and forested wetlands, riparian areas, grasslands, and forested uplands.

An important breeding area for neotropical migratory songbirds, the Refuge also supports a significant breeding population of wood ducks and hooded mergansers. There is something to experience in every season. From thousands of waterfowl in the winter to breeding songbirds in summer, the Refuge is ever changing.

Enjoying the Refuge's Wildlife

We encourage you to explore the beauty of this area and stop, look, and listen to the abundant wildlife that call it home. The Refuge is a place where wildlife comes first so think of yourself as a visitor to their home. You will be a more successful wildlife observer if you: move slowly, talk softly, use binoculars, and leave only footprints behind.

The wildlife species in this brochure have been grouped into four categories: birds, mammals, amphibians, and reptiles.

*Red-tailed hawks
can be seen and
heard soaring the
open spaces over
the Refuge*

Enjoying the Refuge's Birdlife

Numbers and species of birds you will see here varies according to season, with the greatest numbers present from October to May. Heavy migrations of waterfowl occur during fall and winter. They come here to feed on wetland plants when their northern breeding grounds freeze over. Then, as water levels in the wetlands are drawn down in the spring, a wide variety of shorebirds are attracted to our invertebrate filled mudflats. When the wetlands dry out in spring and summer, songbirds arrive to breed and take shelter on the Refuge.

Getting the Most from Your Visit

Binoculars or spotting scopes are helpful for observing birds and a good field guide will help you identify what you see. You will see more birds if you time your visit for early morning or evening hours. Sit quietly and wait for the birds to come to you.

When looking at a bird, pay close attention to characteristics such as color, size, shape, wing, and head markings. Always observe first and then refer to your identification book, because the bird may move out of sight quickly. This is especially true of perching birds.

Also, be sure to listen for their calls and sounds. Take note of the type of habitat in which you see the bird, and where in the habitat they are likely to be found – canopy, tree trunk, brushy areas, open water, or ground area.

You Can Help

Since the establishment of the Refuge, the number of bird species seen here has quadrupled. We are still discovering species that are returning to the area. Keep notes – you may help us record the return of a species to the Tualatin River Valley!

Seasons

Sp - Spring, March through May
S - Summer, June through August
F - Fall, September through November
W - Winter, December through February

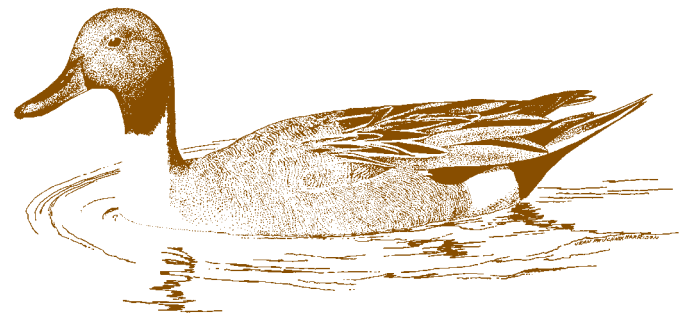
Seasonal Abundance Codes

a - Abundant – species very numerous and easily seen or heard in suitable habitat.
c - Common – species likely to be seen or heard in suitable habitat.
u - Uncommon – usually present but may not be seen or heard in suitable habitat.
o - Occasional – seen or heard only a few times a season in suitable habitat.
r - Rare – may not be seen or heard every year in suitable habitat.

Notes

e - Endangered
t - Threatened
s - Special of concern
b - Breeding – confirmed or presumed to breed and/or nest on the Refuge.
x - Accidental

The following list of birds contains species that have been recorded on Tualatin River NWR. The common name and taxonomic order used in this list follows that appearing in the 7th edition of the American Ornithologist's Union Check List of North American Birds, published in 1998, and subsequent revisions.



Northern pintail

Birds of Tualatin River NWR

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	N
Grebes					
Pied-billed Grebe	c	c	c	c	b
Horned Grebe				r	
Red-necked Grebe	r				x
Eared Grebe	r				
Western Grebe	r				
Cormorants					
Double-crested Cormorant	u	c	u	c	
Bitterns, Herons and Egrets					
American Bittern	o	o			
Great Blue Heron	c	c	c	c	b
Great Egret	u	u	u	u	
Snowy Egret					x
Green Heron		u			
Ibises and Spoonbills					
White-faced Ibis					sx
New World Vultures					
Turkey Vulture	u	u	u		
Swans, Geese and Ducks					
Greater White-fronted Goose	o		o	o	
Tule White-fronted Goose					x
Snow Goose			r	r	
Ross's Goose				r	
Black Brant				r	
Aleutian Canada Goose					x
Cackling Canada Goose	u		a	a	
Taverner's Canada Goose	u		c	a	
Western Canada Goose	c	c	a	a	b
Dusky Canada Goose	o		o	u	
Lesser Canada Goose	u		c	c	
Tundra Swan			u	u	
Wood Duck	u	c	c	u	b
Gadwall	c	u	o	o	b
Eurasian Wigeon	o		u	u	
American Wigeon	c		a	a	
Mallard	a	a	a	a	b
Blue-winged Teal	u	c	o		b
Cinnamon Teal	c	c	o		b

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	N
Northern Shoveler	c	u	c	c	b
Northern Pintail	c	o	a	a	
Green-winged Teal	u	r	a	a	
Canvasback	o		o	o	
Redhead	r				
Ring-necked Duck	c		a	c	
Lesser Scaup	u		r	o	
Bufflehead	c	o	c	c	b
Common Goldeneye				r	
Hooded Merganser	u	u	u	u	b
Common Merganser	r		r	r	
Ruddy Duck	u	r	u	c	b

Osprey, Kites, Hawks and Eagles

Osprey	o	o			
Bald Eagle	u	o	u	c	t
Northern Harrier	u	u	c	u	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	u	u			
Cooper's Hawk	u	u	u	u	b
Red-shouldered Hawk					x
Red-tailed Hawk	c	c	c	c	b
Rough-legged Hawk				r	

Falcons and Caracaras

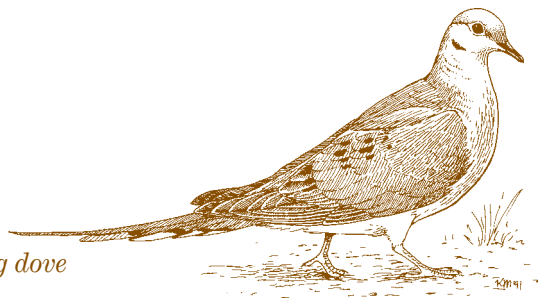
American Kestrel	u	u	c	c	b
Merlin	r		r	r	
Peregrine Falcon	u		u	c	

Gallinaceous Birds

Ring-necked Pheasant	c	c	c	c	b
California Quail	c	c	c	c	b
Northern Bobwhite					x



Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	N
Rails					
Virginia Rail	u	u	u	o	b
Sora	u	u	o	r	b
American Coot	c	c	u	c	b
Cranes					
Sandhill Crane			r		
Plovers					
Black-bellied Plover	o				
Semipalmated Plover	o				
Killdeer	a	a	u	u	b
Stilts and Avocets					
Black-necked Stilt	r				
Sandpipers and Phalaropes					
Greater Yellowlegs	c	o	u		
Lesser Yellowlegs	o				
Solitary Sandpiper	r	r			
Spotted Sandpiper	u	c			b
Long-billed Curlew					x
Marbled Godwit					x
Western Sandpiper	o		o		
Least Sandpiper	u		o		
Pectoral Sandpiper					x
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper					x
Dunlin	u		o		
Stilt Sandpiper					x
Short-billed Dowitcher				o	
Long-billed Dowitcher	c		o		
Wilson's Snipe	u	u	o	o	b
Wilson's Phalarope	o	r			
Red-necked Phalarope	o				
Red Phalarope					x



Mourning dove
© Morris

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	N
Skuas, Jaegers, Gulls and Terns					
Bonaparte's Gull	r				
Mew Gull			u		
California Gull			r		
Caspian Tern		r			
Forster's Tern	r				
Black Tern					sx
Pigeons and Doves					
Rock Pigeon		o			
Band-tailed Pigeon	u				
Mourning Dove	c	c	u	o	b
Barn Owls					
Barn Owl	u	u	u	u	b
Typical Owls					
Western Screech-Owl	u	u	u	u	b
Great Horned Owl	u	u	u	u	b
Short-eared Owl	r			r	
Swifts					
Vaux's Swift	c	c			b
Hummingbirds					
Anna's Hummingbird				r	
Rufous Hummingbird	u	u			b
Kingfishers					
Belted Kingfisher	c	c	c	c	b
Woodpeckers					
Red-breasted Sapsucker	o	o	o	o	b
Downy Woodpecker	c	c	c	c	b
Hairy Woodpecker	o	o	o	o	
Northern Flicker	c	c	c	c	b
Pileated Woodpecker	u	u	u	u	b
Tyrant Flycatchers					
Olive-sided Flycatcher	u	u			s
Western Wood-Pewee	u	u			b
Willow Flycatcher	u	u			
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	c	c			b
Say's Phoebe	r				
Western Kingbird	o				
Eastern Kingbird					x

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	N
Shrikes					
Northern Shrike	o		o	o	
Vireos					
Cassin's Vireo	o	o	o		b
Hutton's Vireo		u			
Warbling Vireo					
Crows, Jays and Magpies					
Steller's Jay	u	u	u	u	b
Western Scrub-Jay	c	c	u	u	b
American Crow	c	c	c	c	b
Swallows					
Tree Swallow	c	c			b
Violet-green Swallow	a	c		o	b
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	u	c			
Bank Swallow	u				b
Cliff Swallow	u	u			b
Barn Swallow	a	c			b
Titmice and Chickadees					
Black-capped Chickadee	c	c	c	c	b
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	c	c	c	c	b
Bushtits					
Bushtit	u	u	u	u	b
Nuthatches					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	c	c	c	c	b
White-breasted Nuthatch	r	r	r	r	
Creepers					
Brown Creeper	u	u	u	u	b
Wrens					
Bewick's Wren	c	c	c	c	b
House Wren	u	u	u		b
Winter Wren	u	u	u	u	b
Marsh Wren	u	u	u	o	b
Kinglets					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	u	u	u	u	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	u		u	u	

Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	N
Thrushes					
Western Bluebird	c	c		r	b
Swainson's Thrush	u	u			
American Robin	a	a	c	c	b
Varied Thrush				u	
Starlings					
European Starling	c	c	a	c	b
Wagtails and Pipits					
American Pipit	o	o			
Waxwings					
Cedar Waxwing	u	u			
Wood Warblers					
Orange-crowned Warbler	c	c			
Yellow Warbler	o	o			
Yellow-rumped Warbler	c		c		
Black-throated Gray Warbler	o				
Townsend's Warbler	o			r	
Common Yellowthroat	o	u			b
Wilson's Warbler	o	o			
Yellow-breasted Chat	r				
Tanagers					
Western Tanager	u	u			



Common Name	Sp	S	F	W	N
Sparrows and Towhees					
Spotted Towhee	c	c	c	c	b
Chipping Sparrow	o				
Savannah Sparrow	c	c			b
Fox Sparrow	u		u	u	
Song Sparrow	c	c	c	c	b
Lincoln's Sparrow	o				
White-throated Sparrow	o				
White-crowned Sparrow	u	u			
Golden-crowned Sparrow	o				
Dark-eyed Junco	c	u	c	c	b
Cardinals, Grosbeaks and Allies					
Black-headed Grosbeak	c	u			
Lazuli Bunting	u	u			
Blackbirds and Orioles					
Red-winged Blackbird	c	c	c	c	b
Western Meadowlark			o	o	
Yellow-headed Blackbird	r				
Brewer's Blackbird	c	c	c	c	b
Brown-headed Cowbird	c	c	u		b
Bullock's Oriole	o				
Finches					
Purple Finch	c	c			
House Finch	u	c	u	c	b
Red Crossbill	r				
Pine Siskin	u				
Lesser Goldfinch	o				
American Goldfinch	u	c			
Evening Grosbeak	o	o			
Old World Sparrows					
House Sparrow	u	u	u	u	b

Northern shovelers use specially designed holes on the edge of their bills to filter food out of the water



Mammals of Tualatin River NWR

All mammals listed are considered resident species with the exception of the bats, which migrate seasonally.

Pouched Mammals

Opossum

(family *Didelphiidae*)
Virginia opossum

Shrews and Moles

Shrews

(family *Soricidae*)
Vagrant shrew
Dusky shrew
Pacific water shrew
Trowbridge's shrew

Moles

(family *Talpidae*)
Shrew-mole
Townsend's mole
Coast mole

Bats

Evening Bats

(family *Vespertilionidae*)
Little brown myotis
Yuma myotis
Long-eared myotis
Long-legged myotis
California myotis
Silver-haired bat
Red bat
Big brown bat
Hoary bat
Townsend's big-eared bat

Pikas, Rabbits and Hares

Rabbits and Hares

(family *Leporidae*)
Brush rabbit
Snowshoe hare

Rodents

Squirrels

(family *Sciuridae*)
California ground squirrel
Townsend's chipmunk
Western grey squirrel
Fox squirrel
Douglas squirrel (Chickaree)
Northern flying squirrel

Pocket Gophers

(family *Geomysidae*)
Western pocket gopher

Beaver

(family *Castoridae*)
Beaver

New World Rats and Mice

(family *Cricetidae*)
Deer mouse
Bushy-tailed woodrat
Western red-backed vole
White-footed vole
Red tree vole
Townsend's vole
Long-tailed vole
Oregon vole
Muskrat

Old World Rats and Mice

(family *Muridae*)
Black rat
Norway rat
House mouse

Jumping Mice

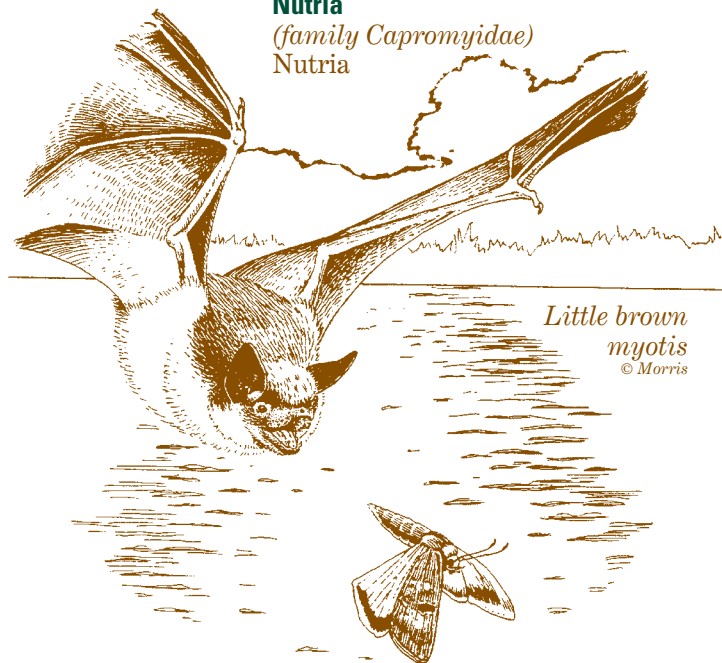
(family *Zapodidae*)
Pacific jumping mouse

New World Porcupines

(family *Erethizontidae*)
Porcupine

Nutria

(family *Capromyidae*)
Nutria



Little brown
myotis
© Morris

Carnivores

Wolves, Foxes and the Coyote

(family Canidae)

Coyote

Red fox

Raccoon, Ringtail and Coati

(family Procyonidae)

Raccoon

Weasels, Skunks, Badgers, Otters and Allies

(family Mustelidae)

Ermine

Long-tailed weasel

Mink

Western spotted skunk

Striped skunk

River Otter

Cats

(family Felidae)

Mountain lion

Bobcat

Hoofed Mammals

Deer

(family Cervidae)

Elk

Black-tailed deer

*Look for black-tailed
deer feeding along
forest edges at dawn
and dusk*



Amphibians of Tualatin River NWR

The name amphibian means "double life" and refers to the fact that most amphibians spend part of the year on land but return to water to breed. It also reflects the change of an aquatic tadpole to a terrestrial adult frog or toad. In the spring and early summer look for them gathering in shallow ponds where they mate and lay eggs.

Salamanders

- Northwestern salamander
- Long-toed salamander
- Pacific giant salamander
- Rough-skinned newt
- Dunn's salamander
- Western red-backed salamander
- Ensatina
- Clouded salamander
- Oregon slender salamander

Frogs and Toads

- Tailed frog
- Western toad
- Pacific treefrog
- Northern red-legged frog
- Bullfrog

Rough-skinned newts are one of the most poisonous animals known to science. Their only predators are garter snakes, which have adapted to barely tolerate the toxins contained on the newts' skin.

Reptiles of Tualatin River NWR

Reptiles are egg laying animals that are protected by scales or horny plates. Look for them in grassy areas on the refuge. The exception are the turtles which are found near water.

Turtles

- Painted turtle
- Western pond turtle

Lizards

- Northern alligator lizard
- Western fence lizard
- Western skink

Snakes

- Rubber boa
- Yellow-bellied racer
- Sharptail snake
- Ringneck snake
- Pacific gopher snake
- Western terrestrial garter snake
- Northwestern garter snake
- Common garter snake



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Refuge Information
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Cover photo black-capped chickadee
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