

Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Bird List

Revised June 2026

Season Symbols:
Sp: Spring - March, April, May
S: Summer - June, July, August
F: Fall - September, October, November
W: Winter - December, January, February



Abundance Codes:
C: Common = certain to be seen in suitable habitat
U: Uncommon = Present but not certain to be seen
O: Occasional = Usually seen during a season
R: Rare = known to be present but not seen every year
AC: Accidental = very few reliable records in a season, a few are single records in the last 25 years.
N: Nesting = birds present during nesting-breeding season, including rare confirmed historic nesting.
X: Mark your sightings.

COMMON NAME	X	N	Sp	S	F	W
SWANS, GEESE AND DUCKS						
Emperor Goose					AC	
Snow Goose			O		O	U
Ross’s Goose			R		R	R
Gr. White-fronted Goose			U	R	U	O
Brant			R		R	R
Cackling Goose			C		C	C
Canada Goose		N	C	C	C	C
Trumpeter Swan			O		O	C
Tundra Swan			C	R	C	C
Wood Duck		N	C	C	C	O
Blue-winged Teal		N	U	U	O	R
Cinnamon Teal		N	C	C	C	U
Northern Shoveler		N	C	U	C	C
Gadwall		N	C	C	C	C
Eurasian Wigeon			U	AC	O	U
American Wigeon		N	C	O	C	C
Mallard		N	C	C	C	C
Northern Pintail		N	C	U	C	C
Green-winged Teal			C	U	C	C
Canvasback			O	AC	O	O
Redhead			U	O	R	R
Ring-necked Duck			C	O	U	C
Greater Scaup			O		O	O
Lesser Scaup			C	O	C	C
Surf Scoter			AC		R	
Bufflehead			C	O	C	C
Common Goldeneye			R	AC	R	R
Barrow’s Goldeneye			AC		AC	AC
Hooded Merganser		N	C	O	U	C
Common Merganser		N	U	O	U	U
Red-breasted Merganser			AC		AC	AC
Ruddy Duck		N	C	U	C	C
GALLINACEOUS BIRDS						
California Quail			R	R	R	R
Ruffed Grouse			AC			AC
Ring-necked Pheasant			R		R	R
GREBES						
Pied-billed Grebe		N	C	C	C	C
Horned Grebe		N	R	AC	R	R
Red-necked Grebe					AC	AC
Eared Grebe			AC	AC	AC	AC

COMMON NAME	X	N	Sp	S	F	W
Western Grebe			R		R	R
PIGEONS AND DOVES						
Mourning Dove		N	U	C	U	U
Band-tailed Pigeon			O	O	O	O
Eurasian Collared-Dove			U	U	U	U
Rock Pigeon		N	U	U	U	U
NIGHTJARS						
Common Nighthawk				AC	AC	
SWIFTS						
Black Swift			AC	R	AC	
Vaux’s Swift			U	U	U	
HUMMINGBIRDS						
Black-chinned Hummingbird				AC		
Anna’s Hummingbird		N	C	C	C	C
Rufous Hummingbird		N	U	U	O	
RAILS, COOTS AND CRANES						
Sandhill Crane		N	C	U	C	C
Virginia Rail		N	C	U	U	U
Sora		N	C	U	U	O
American Coot		N	C	C	C	C
STILTS AND AVOCETS						
Black-necked Stilt			R		R	
American Avocet			AC		AC	
PLOVERS						
Black-bellied Plover			R	R	R	R
American Golden-Plover			AC	AC	AC	
Pacific Golden-Plover				AC	AC	
Killdeer		N	C	C	C	U
Semipalmated Plover			O	O	O	
SANDPIPERS AND PHALAROPES						
Whimbrel			AC		AC	
Long-billed Curlew			AC			
Red Knot			AC			
Ruff			AC		AC	AC
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper					R	
Stilt Sandpiper				AC		
Sanderling				R	AC	
Dunlin			U	R	O	U
Baird’s Sandpiper			AC	R	R	
Least Sandpiper			U	C	C	O
Pectoral Sandpiper			AC	O	U	
Semipalmated Sandpiper			R	O	AC	
Western Sandpiper			O	U	U	R

COMMON NAME	X	N	Sp	S	F	W
Short-billed Dowitcher			R	R	O	
Long-billed Dowitcher			U	U	U	O
Wilson’s Snipe		N	C	C	U	U
Spotted Sandpiper		N	O	O	O	
Solitary Sandpiper			O	O	O	
Lesser Yellowlegs			O	O	U	R
Willet					AC	
Greater Yellowlegs			U	C	C	O
Wilson’s Phalarope		N	O	R	R	
Red-necked Phalarope			R	R		
Red Phalarope					AC	
GULLS AND TERNS						
Caspian Tern			O	O	O	
Black Tern		N	R	R		
Forster’s Tern			AC			
Bonaparte’s Gull			R	R	AC	
Short-billed Gull					R	R
Ring-billed Gull			R	O	U	U
Western Gull			AC		AC	AC
California Gull			R	O	O	O
Herring Gull			O		O	U
Iceland Gull			AC			R
Glaucous-winged Gull			U	R	O	U
Glaucous Gull						AC
LOONS						
Red-throated Loon			R		R	R
Common Loon				AC	R	R
CORMORANTS						
Double-crested Cormorant			C	C	C	C
IBIS						
White-faced Ibis			R		R	AC
PELICANS						
American White Pelican			O	O	R	
BITTERNS, HERONS, AND EGRETS						
American Bittern		N	C	U	U	U
Snowy Egret				AC	AC	AC
Black-crowned Night-Heron			AC	O	R	AC
Green Heron			R	O	O	
Great Egret		N	U	U	U	U
Great Blue Heron		N	C	C	C	C
AMERICAN VULTURES						
Turkey Vulture			C	C	C	R
OSPREY, KITES, HAWKS AND EAGLES						

COMMON NAME	X	N	Sp	S	F	W
Osprey		N	C	C	C	R
White-tailed Kite					AC	
Golden Eagle			R			R
Sharp-shinned Hawk			O	O	O	O
Cooper’s Hawk			O	O	O	O
American Goshawk					AC	
Northern Harrier		N	C	C	C	C
Bald Eagle		N	C	U	C	C
Red-shouldered Hawk			O	R	U	U
Swainson’s Hawk			AC		AC	
Red-tailed Hawk		N	C	C	C	C
Rough-legged Hawk			O		O	O
Ferruginous Hawk					AC	
OWLS						
Barn Owl		N	R	R	R	R
Western Screech-Owl		N	R	R	R	R
Great Horned Owl		N	U	U	U	U
Snowy Owl						AC
Northern Pygmy-Owl			R		R	R
Barred Owl				AC	AC	AC
Long-eared Owl					AC	AC
Short-eared Owl			O	R	O	O
Northern Saw-whet Owl			Ac		Ac	
KINGFISHERS						
Belted Kingfisher		N	U	U	U	O
WOODPECKERS						
Lewis’s Woodpecker			R		R	
Red-naped Sapsucker						AC
Red-breasted Sapsucker		N	U	O	O	O
Downy Woodpecker		N	U	U	U	U
Hairy Woodpecker		N	O	O	O	O
Northern Flicker		N	C	C	C	C
Pileated Woodpecker		N	O	O	O	O
FALCONS						
American Kestrel		N	C	U	C	C
Merlin			O	R	U	O
Peregrine Falcon			U	U	U	U
Prairie Falcon			AC			
TYRANT FLYCATCHERS						
Ash-throated Flycatcher			AC			
Western Kingbird		N	R	R		

Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Bird List

COMMON NAME	X	N	Sp	S	F	W
Eastern Kingbird		N		R	AC	
Olive-sided Flycatcher			U	U	R	
Western Wood-Pewee		N	C	C	U	
Willow Flycatcher		N	U	U	U	
Hammond’s Flycatcher			R	R	AC	
Gray Flycatcher			AC			
Dusky Flycatcher			AC			
Western Flycatcher		N	U	U	O	
Black Phoebe		N	U	U	U	U
Say’s Phoebe			R		AC	AC
Vermilion Flycatcher			AC		AC	AC
VIREOS						
Hutton’s Vireo		N	O	O	O	O
Cassin’s Vireo			O	O	R	
Western Warbling Vireo		N	O	O	O	
Red-eyed Vireo		N	R	R		
SHRIKES						
Loggerhead Shrike			AC			
Northern Shrike			R		O	R
JAYS, MAGPIE, CROWS AND RAVENS						
Canada Jay			R			R
Steller’s Jay		N	C	C	C	C
California Scrub-Jay		N	C	C	C	C
Black-billed Magpie					AC	
American Crow		N	C	U	C	C
Common Raven			U	U	U	U
CHICKADEES						
Black-capped Chickadee		N	C	C	C	C
Chestnut-backed Chickadee		N	U	U	U	U
LARKS						
Horned Lark			AC		AC	
SWALLOWS						
Bank Swallow		N	O	U	O	
Tree Swallow		N	C	C	U	O
Violet-green Swallow		N	C	U	U	R
No. Rough-winged Swallow		N	U	U	O	
Purple Martin		N	C	C	U	
Barn Swallow		N	C	C	C	R
Cliff Swallow		N	C	C	U	
BUSHTITS						
Bushtit		N	U	U	U	U
KINGLETS						

COMMON NAME	X	N	Sp	S	F	W
Ruby-crowned Kinglet			C		C	C
Golden-crowned Kinglet			C	R	C	C
WAXWINGS						
Cedar Waxwing		N	U	C	C	AC
NUTHATCHES						
Red-breasted Nuthatch		N	U	U	U	U
White-breasted Nuthatch		N	C	C	C	C
CREEPERS						
Brown Creeper		N	C	C	C	C
GNATCATCHERS						
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher				AC		AC
WRENS						
Bewick’s Wren		N	C	C	C	C
Northern House Wren		N	U	C	U	AC
Pacific Wren		N	U	U	U	C
Marsh Wren		N	C	C	U	U
MIMIDS						
Gray Catbird					AC	
Sage Thrasher			AC	AC		
Northern Mockingbird			AC			
STARLINGS						
European Starling		N	C	C	C	C
THRUSHES						
Western Bluebird			AC	AC	AC	AC
Mountain Bluebird			AC			AC
Townsend’s Solitaire			AC	AC		AC
Swainson’s Thrush		N	C	C	U	
Hermit Thrush			O		O	O
American Robin		N	C	C	C	C
Varied Thrush			O		U	U
OLD WORLD SPARROWS						
House Sparrow		N	U	U	U	U
PIPITS						
American Pipit			O	R	C	U
FINCHES						
Evening Grosbeak			O	R	R	R
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch						AC
House Finch		N	C	C	C	C
Purple Finch		N	U	U	U	U
Redpoll					AC	
Red Crossbill			R	R	R	R
Pine Siskin		N	O	R	O	O
Lesser Goldfinch			O	O	R	R

COMMON NAME	X	N	Sp	S	F	W
American Goldfinch		N	U	C	C	C
LONGSPURS & SNOW BUNTINGS						
Lapland Longspur					AC	
Snow Bunting					AC	
NEW WORLD SPARROWS						
Grasshopper Sparrow				AC		
Black-throated Sparrow			AC	AC		
Chipping Sparrow			R	R	R	
Brewer’s Sparrow			AC			
Fox Sparrow			U		U	U
American Tree Sparrow					AC	AC
Dark-eyed Junco			C	O	C	C
White-crowned Sparrow		N	U		U	U
Golden-crowned Sparrow			C		C	C
Harris’s Sparrow					AC	AC
White-throated Sparrow			R		R	R
Sagebrush Sparrow			AC			AC
Vesper Sparrow			R		AC	
Savannah Sparrow		N	C	C	C	O
Song Sparrow		N	C	C	C	C
Lincoln’s Sparrow			U		U	U
Swamp Sparrow			R		R	R
Green-tailed Towhee			AC			AC
Spotted Towhee		N	C	C	C	C
ICTERIDAE						
Yellow-breasted Chat		N	O	O	O	
ICTERIDS						
Yellow-headed Blackbird		N	C	C	R	
Bobolink					AC	
Western Meadowlark			O	R	U	U
Bullock’s Oriole		N	U	U	AC	
Red-winged Blackbird		N	C	C	C	C
Brown-headed Cowbird		N	C	C	U	R
Brewer’s Blackbird		N	U	U	U	U
Great-tailed Grackle				AC		
NEW WORLD WARBLERS						
Orange-crowned Warbler		N	C	U	U	R
Nashville Warbler			O	R		
MacGillivray’s Warbler		N	R	R	R	
Common Yellowthroat		N	C	C	C	R
Northern Yellow Warbler		N	U	U	O	

COMMON NAME	X	N	Sp	S	F	W
Palm Warbler					AC	AC
Yellow-rumped Warbler			C	O	C	U
Black-throated Gray Warbler			U	O	U	
Townsend’s Warbler			O	R	O	R
Hermit Warbler			O	AC		
Wilson’s Warbler		N	C	U	O	AC
TANAGERS						
Western Tanager		N	U	U	U	
GROSBEAKS AND BUNTINGS						
Rose-breasted Grosbeak			AC		AC	
Black-headed Grosbeak		N	C	C	O	
Lazuli Bunting		N	U	O	R	

Species Total: 257



Notes: This list was compiled from the previously published Wildlife Brochure, records from FWS

staff and Volunteers who participate in regular bird census activities on the refuge, and e-bird accounts. Although there are some records as early as 1975, most information was from the mid-1990s to present. The list follows the American Ornithological Society’s naming convention and current species order, 66th Supplement, August 2025.

This update was supported by Friends of the RNWR in conjunction with FWS.

From time to time, escapees of birds not known to be established in Washington may show up on the refuge. We have seen Black Swans, and Mute Swans along with an odd

Revised June 2026

assortment of domestic and exotic geese and ducks. They are generally not considered countable for the purposes of this list.

Hybrids of various species can be found on occasion. Notables are hybrid gulls and ducks.

Some species don’t exactly follow our seasonal designations. For instance, harriers and kestrels can be hard to find in May and June because it is harder for them to hunt when grasses are high in our fields. A single historical sighting of a species, when well documented, can earn an Accidental or AC abundance code. If you see a bird not listed here or find one that is marked as accidental (AC), please consider documenting it in e-bird. Photos and descriptions are always a plus and will help us keep this list up to date.

Weekly sightings for the River S unit are published on the FWS website or Friends RNWR website.

