



Birds

Resource Brief

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Downy Woodpecker
.38



Brown-headed Cowbird
.41



Eastern Towhee
.61



Red-eyed Vireo
.63



Carolina Wren
.67



American Goldfinch
.74



Eastern Tufted Titmouse
.87



Northern Cardinal
1.09



Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
1.32



Unidentified Chickadee¹
1.66

Regional Bird Monitoring

Since 2007, the National Capital Region Network (NCRN) Inventory & Monitoring program has conducted long-term monitoring of birds at almost 400 forest points throughout the NCRN. Sites are visited twice every summer. NCRN monitoring occurs within forest habitats and can only account for birds and communities of forests.

Top 10 Most Common Birds at Manassas

The pictures of birds stacked on the left side of the page represent the most commonly found birds in the forests of Manassas. The largest picture in the stack, the chickadee¹, represents the species with the highest density of birds per hectare (ha) of forest. There are 1.66 chickadees per hectare (although we don't actually have fractions of birds).

The smaller the image, the lower the density rate and the less likely you are to find that species of bird. That means you're about twice as likely to find a chickadee as an Eastern Tufted Titmouse (.87 birds/ha).

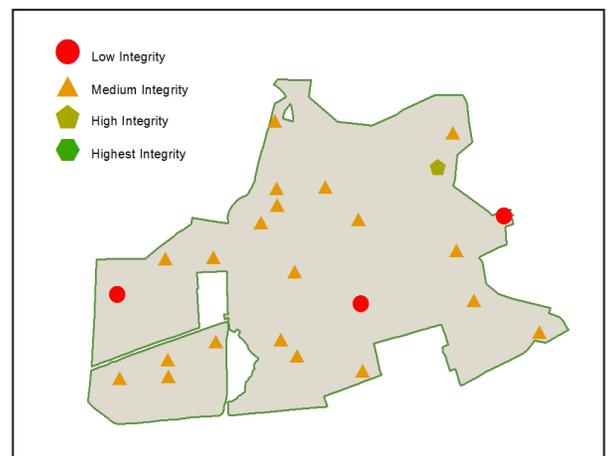
What's impressive about this list is that it includes 2 species of conservation concern. That means birds that are declining or vulnerable as a species, are finding valuable habitat at Manassas. The Eastern Towhee and Carolina Wren, framed in red, are Partners in Flight "stewardship species." For a full list of bird species found in the forests of Manassas, see reverse.

Bird Monitoring Plots & Habitat Quality

Birds are monitored at twenty-four points in Manassas forests. Based on the types of birds detected at each point, sites are rated for their habitat quality.

Points with large numbers of generalist and habitat-insensitive species score poorly and those with high numbers of specialist or habitat-sensitive species get higher scores.

In this map, red circles mark Low integrity habitat, orange triangles mark Medium integrity habitat, and light green pentagons mark High integrity habitat.



Bird monitoring plots, rated for habitat quality.

¹Detections of Carolina Chickadees and Black-capped Chickadees are combined.



Birds in the Forests of Manassas

Each year the number of different species detected during bird monitoring at Manassas ranges from 57 to 64. Manassas is home to 15 species of conservation concern, marked below with asterisks.

Acadian Flycatcher**	Eastern Kingbird	Red-eyed Vireo
American Crow	Eastern Meadowlark	Red-shouldered Hawk**
American Goldfinch	Eastern Towhee**	Red-tailed Hawk
American Kestrel	Eastern Tufted Titmouse	Red-winged Blackbird
American Redstart	Eastern Wood-Pewee	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
American Robin	Field Sparrow	Scarlet Tanager
American Woodcock	Fish Crow	Song Sparrow
Barn Swallow	Golden-crowned Kinglet	Swainson's Thrush
Barred Owl	Grasshopper Sparrow	Turkey Vulture
Black Vulture	Gray Catbird	Unidentified Chickadee ⁺
Black-billed Cuckoo	Great Blue Heron	Veery
Blackpoll Warbler	Great Crested Flycatcher	White-breasted Nuthatch
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Hairy Woodpecker	White-eyed Vireo**
Black-throated Green Warbler	Indigo Bunting**	Wild Turkey
Blue Jay	Killdeer	Wood Thrush*
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Louisiana Waterthrush**	Worm-eating Warbler*
Blue-headed Vireo	Mallard	Yellow Warbler
Brown Thrasher**	Mourning Dove	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
Brown-headed Cowbird	Northern Cardinal	Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Canada Goose	Northern Flicker	Yellow-breasted Chat
Carolina Wren**	Northern Mockingbird	Yellow-throated Warbler**
Cedar Waxwing	Northern Parula	
Chimney Swift	Orchard Oriole	*Partners in Flight Watchlist species are vulnerable at a continental scale
Chipping Sparrow	Ovenbird	**Stewardship Species have most of their global population within the region.
Common Grackle	Pileated Woodpecker	⁺ Detections of Carolina and Black-capped Chickadees are combined.
Common Nighthawk	Pine Warbler**	
Common Yellowthroat	Prairie Warbler*	
Downy Woodpecker	Prothonotary Warbler*	
Eastern Bluebird	Red-bellied Woodpecker**	

For further information

Ladin, Z., S. E. Goodwin, and W. G. Shriver. In Press. Avian Monitoring in the National Capital Region Network: 2007 – 2011. Natural Resource Data Series Report NPS/NCRN/NRDS—2011/TBD. National Park Service, Fort Collins, Colorado. Will be available online at: http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/ncrn/monitoring_birds.cfm

Sinclair, J., M. Koenen, S. Hood, M. Milton, and C. Wright. 2004. Avian Inventory at Six National Capital Region Parks Final Report (Revised). TIC#: NCRO D-48
Available online at: http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/ncrn/inventories_avian.cfm

Photography: Black-capped Chickadee- Bruce Echols; Carolina Chickadee- Cameron Rognan; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and American Goldfinch- Laura Erickson; Northern Cardinal- Neil D Scott; Eastern Tufted Titmouse- Judy Howle; Carolina Wren and Brown-headed Cowbird- Richard Lee; Red-eyed Vireo- AccuSoft Co.; Eastern Towhee- Tim Gallagher; Downy Woodpecker- Terri Gueck