

TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE

BIRDS

OF

T Y L E R

S T A T E P A R K



A FIELD CHECKLIST

2022

INTRODUCTION

T Tyler State Park sits 7 miles due north of the city of Tyler in northeast Texas. It is one of the original Civilian Conservation Corps parks built from 1939 to 1941. The park is 985 acres surrounding a 64-acre spring-fed lake. There are 11 miles of multi-use hiking/biking trails, a 2-mile trail around the lake, and two interpretive trails. The trails take visitors through a variety of habitat types.

The park sits on the edge of two major Texas ecoregions, the East Texas Pineywoods and the Post Oak Savannah to the west, creating a diverse area of plant and animal life. Upland Shortleaf pine forest are home to Pine Warbler, Brown-headed Nuthatch, and seven species of woodpecker. Loblolly pines on the steep dissected hill sides, bottomland hardwood forests, and beaver ponds create prime habitat for migrating warblers, vireos, and orioles.

Active habitat restoration in the Post Oak Savannah attract winter sparrows, towhees, and American Woodcock. The savannah abounds with colorful spring and summer wildflowers and equally colorful Indigo and Painted Buntings, Summer Tanager, and Yellow-breasted Chat. Winter on the savannah brings an abundance of sparrows and an occasional American Woodcock.

This checklist was compiled by Boyd Sanders of Tyler State Park based observations by numerous individuals, in particular members of the Tyler Audubon Society. The organization and nomenclature of the birds listed here follow the American Ornithological Society *Check-list of North American Birds*, 7th edition as currently supplemented.

You can contribute to this checklist by reporting new and unusual sighting or changes in status. You may leave your sightings at the park headquarters or mail them to the Natural Resource Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744.

Please help us protect the natural avian communities in our parks by refraining from using playback tapes of bird songs. Frequent use of these tapes disrupts normal avian activity patterns and essential territorial behavior, and may lead to nest failure. Thank you for your cooperation.

LEGEND

Abundance

- c – Common (Present, easy to find)
- f – Fairly common (Present, should see or hear)
- u – Uncommon (Present, harder to find)
- r – Rare (Present, hard to find, or may not occur every year)
- x – Accidental (not usually present, lost, result of an event)

Seasons

- W – Winter (December, January, February)
- Sp – Spring (March, April, May)
- S – Summer (June, July, August)
- F – Fall (September, October, November)

Cover: Illustration of Downy Woodpecker by Rob Fleming.

CHECKLIST

	W	Sp	S	F
_____ Black-bellied Whistling Duck		R	R	
_____ Snow Goose	R			R
_____ Ross's Goose	R			R
_____ Greater White-fronted Goose.....	R			R
_____ Cackling Goose	R			R
_____ Canada Goose	R			R
_____ Wood Duck.....	U	U	U	U
_____ Blue-winged Teal	R	R		R
_____ Northern Shoveler	U			U
_____ Gadwall	U			U
_____ American Wigeon.....	U			U
_____ Mallard.....	U	R	R	U
_____ Mottled Duck		R		R
_____ Northern Pintail	R			R
_____ Green-winged Teal	R			R
_____ Canvasback	R			R
_____ Redhead	R			R
_____ Ring-necked Duck	U			U
_____ Greater Scaup	R			R
_____ Lesser Scaup.....	R			R
_____ Bufflehead.....	R			R
_____ Common Goldeneye.....	R			R
_____ Hooded Merganser	R			R
_____ Common Merganser	X			
_____ Red-breasted Merganser.....	R			
_____ Ruddy Duck	U			U

	W	Sp	S	F
_____ Northern Bobwhite	X	X	X	X
_____ Common Loon	R	R		R
_____ Pied-billed Grebe	C	C		C
_____ Horned Grebe	R			
_____ Eared Grebe.....	R			
_____ Wood Stork.....		X		X
_____ Neotropic Cormorant.....		U	U	U
_____ Double-crested Cormorant.....	U	U	U	U
_____ Anhinga.....		R		R
_____ American White Pelican	R			R
_____ American Bittern	X			
_____ Least Bittern		X	X	
_____ Great Blue Heron	U	U	U	U
_____ Great Egret	U	U	U	U
_____ Snowy Egret		R	R	
_____ Little Blue Heron.....		U	U	
_____ Tricolored Heron.....		X	X	
_____ Cattle Egret		U	U	
_____ Green Heron.....		C	C	
_____ Black-crowned Night-Heron.....		R	R	
_____ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron		R	R	
_____ White Ibis		R	R	
_____ White-faced Ibis			R	
_____ Black Vulture	C	C	C	C
_____ Turkey Vulture	C	C	C	C
_____ Osprey.....	R		R	R
_____ Mississippi Kite.....		C	C	

	W	Sp	S	F
_____ Northern Harrier	R			R
_____ Sharp-shinned Hawk.....	U	U		U
_____ Cooper's Hawk.....	U	U	U	U
_____ Bald Eagle	U	U	U	U
_____ Red-shouldered Hawk.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Broad-winged Hawk		U	U	
_____ Swainson's Hawk		R		R
_____ Red-tailed Hawk.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Common Gallinule		R	R	
_____ American Coot	R	R	R	R
_____ Killdeer	U	U	U	U
_____ Stilt Sandpiper		R		R
_____ White-rumped Sandpiper		R		R
_____ American Woodcock	U			U
_____ Wilson's Snipe.....	X			
_____ Spotted Sandpiper.....	U			U
_____ Solitary Sandpiper		R		R
_____ Lesser Yellowlegs		R		R
_____ Greater Yellowlegs.....	R			
_____ Franklin's Gull.....		R		R
_____ Ring-billed Gull	U			U
_____ Forster's Tern	R	R		
_____ Rock Pigeon.....	R	R	R	R
_____ Eurasian Collared-Dove	R	R	R	R
_____ Inca Dove	R	R	R	R
_____ Mourning Dove	C	C	C	C
_____ Greater Roadrunner	R	R	R	R

	W	Sp	S	F
_____ Yellow-billed Cuckoo		C	C	
_____ Black-billed Cuckoo.....		R		
_____ Barn Owl	X	X	X	X
_____ Eastern Screech-Owl.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Great Horned Owl	C	C	C	C
_____ Barred Owl	U	U	U	U
_____ Common Nighthawk		C	C	
_____ Chuck-will's-widow.....		U	U	
_____ Eastern Whip-poor-will.....		U		
_____ Chimney Swift.....		C	C	U
_____ Ruby-throated Hummingbird		C	C	U
_____ Belted Kingfisher.....	U	U	U	U
_____ Red-headed Woodpecker	U	U	U	U
_____ Red-bellied Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
_____ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	C	U		C
_____ Downy Woodpecker.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Hairy Woodpecker.....	U	U	U	U
_____ Northern Flicker	U	U	U	U
_____ Pileated Woodpecker.....	U	U	U	U
_____ American Kestrel.....	U	U	U	U
_____ Merlin.....	R			R
_____ Peregrine Falcon.....				R
_____ Olive-sided Flycatcher.....		U		U
_____ Eastern Wood-Pewee.....		C	C	U
_____ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		C	C	U
_____ Acadian Flycatcher		U	U	
_____ Alder Flycatcher		U		R

	W	Sp	S	F
_____ Willow Flycatcher		U		R
_____ Least Flycatcher		U		U
_____ Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C	C
_____ Great Crested Flycatcher.....		C	C	U
_____ Eastern Kingbird.....		C	C	U
_____ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher.....		U	U	U
_____ Loggerhead Shrike.....	R	R	R	R
_____ White-eyed Vireo		C	C	U
_____ Bell's Vireo.....		X	X	
_____ Yellow-throated Vireo		C	C	U
_____ Blue-headed Vireo.....	U	U		U
_____ Philadelphia Vireo		U		R
_____ Warbling Vireo		U		R
_____ Red-eyed Vireo		C	C	U
_____ Blue Jay	C	C	C	C
_____ American Crow	C	C	C	C
_____ Fish Crow	R	R	R	R
_____ Horned Lark.....	R			
_____ Northern Rough-winged Swallow.....		U	U	R
_____ Purple Martin	U	C	C	
_____ Tree Swallow		U	R	U
_____ Bank Swallow.....		U	R	U
_____ Barn Swallow		C	C	R
_____ Cliff Swallow		R	R	R
_____ Cave Swallow		X		
_____ Carolina Chickadee	C	C	C	C
_____ Tufted Titmouse	C	C	C	C

	W	Sp	S	F
_____ Red-breasted Nuthatch.....	U	R		R
_____ White-breasted Nuthatch.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Brown-headed Nuthatch	C	C	C	C
_____ Brown Creeper	C	R		U
_____ House Wren	C	U		U
_____ Winter Wren	U	R		R
_____ Sedge Wren.....	R			R
_____ Marsh Wren.....	U	R		R
_____ Carolina Wren.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Bewick's Wren	R	R		R
_____ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher		C	C	R
_____ Golden-crowned Kinglet.....	U	R		U
_____ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C	R		C
_____ Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C	C
_____ Veery.....		R		
_____ Gray-cheeked Thrush		U		R
_____ Swainson's Thrush		U		R
_____ Hermit Thrush.....	U			U
_____ Wood Thrush		U	U	R
_____ American Robin.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Gray Catbird.....		U	U	U
_____ Brown Thrasher.....	U	U	U	U
_____ Northern Mockingbird.....	C	C	C	C
_____ European Starling	R	R	R	R
_____ American Pipit.....	R			R
_____ Cedar Waxwing	C	C		C
_____ Ovenbird.....		U		U

	W	Sp	S	F
_____ Worm-eating Warbler		R		R
_____ Louisiana Waterthrush		U	U	R
_____ Northern Waterthrush		R		R
_____ Golden-winged Warbler		R		R
_____ Blue-winged Warbler		U		R
_____ Black-and-White Warbler		C	C	U
_____ Prothonotary Warbler.....		R		R
_____ Swainson's Warbler.....		R	R	R
_____ Tennessee Warbler		C		U
_____ Orange-crowned Warbler	U	U		U
_____ Nashville Warbler.....		C		C
_____ Mourning Warbler		R		R
_____ Kentucky Warbler		U	U	R
_____ Common Yellowthroat.....	U	C	C	U
_____ Hooded Warbler		C	C	U
_____ American Redstart		C	C	U
_____ Cerulean Warbler		R		R
_____ Northern Parula		C	C	U
_____ Magnolia Warbler		C		U
_____ Bay-breasted Warbler.....		U		R
_____ Blackburnian Warbler		U		R
_____ Yellow Warbler		U		U
_____ Chestnut-sided Warbler		U		U
_____ Blackpoll Warbler		X		
_____ Black-throated Blue Warbler.....		X		
_____ Palm Warbler		R		R
_____ Prairie Warbler		R		R

	W	Sp	S	F
_____ Black-throated Green Warbler		C		C
_____ Canada Warbler		U		U
_____ Wilson's Warbler		U		U
_____ Grasshopper Sparrow	R	R	R	R
_____ Henslow's Sparrow	X			
_____ LeConte's Sparrow	R			
_____ Nelson's Sparrow		X		X
_____ Chipping Sparrow	C	U	U	C
_____ Clay-colored Sparrow		R		R
_____ Field Sparrow	U	U		U
_____ Lark Sparrow		U	U	U
_____ Fox Sparrow	C			C
_____ Dark-eyed Junco	C	C		C
_____ White-crowned Sparrow	R			R
_____ Harris's Sparrow	R			R
_____ White-throated Sparrow	C	C		C
_____ Vesper Sparrow	U			
_____ Savannah Sparrow	U			
_____ Song Sparrow	C	C		C
_____ Lincoln's Sparrow	U	U		U
_____ Swamp Sparrow	C	U		U
_____ Spotted Towhee	U	R		R
_____ Eastern Towhee	U	U		U
_____ Yellow-breasted Chat		U	U	U
_____ Summer Tanager		C	C	U
_____ Scarlet Tanager		R		
_____ Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C

	W	Sp	S	F
_____ Rose-breasted Grosbeak.....		U		R
_____ Blue Grosbeak.....		U	U	R
_____ Indigo Bunting		C	C	C
_____ Painted Bunting.....		U	U	
_____ Dickcissel.....		U	U	R
_____ Yellow-headed Blackbird		X		X
_____ Eastern Meadowlark.....	U	U	U	U
_____ Western Meadowlark	X			
_____ Orchard Oriole.....		U	U	U
_____ Baltimore Oriole		U		U
_____ Red-Winged Blackbird.....	C	C	U	C
_____ Brown-headed Cowbird	R	C	C	U
_____ Rusty Blackbird.....	X			
_____ Brewer's Blackbird	R			
_____ Common Grackle.....	C	C	C	C
_____ Great-tailed Grackle	X	X	X	X
_____ House Finch	U	U	U	U
_____ Purple Finch	U	R		R
_____ Pine Siskin	U	U		U
_____ American Goldfinch.....	C	C		C
_____ House Sparrow.....	R	R	R	R

CITATION

Sanders, Boyd. March 2022. Birds of Tyler State Park: a field checklist. Natural Resource Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

In 1983, the Texas Legislature created the Special Nongame and Endangered Species Conservation Fund. This fund may be used for nongame wildlife and endangered species research and conservation, habitat acquisition and development and dissemination of information pertaining to nongame management. Money for this fund is obtained through private donations and sale of nongame wildlife art prints and stamps. This fund now gives Texans a unique opportunity to help support this state's valuable and sensitive nongame resources. Your individual contributions and purchases of nongame art prints and stamps will help determine the level of nongame conservation activities in Texas. For more information call toll-free (1-800-792-1112) or contact: **Nongame and Endangered Species Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, 4200 Smith School Road, Austin, Texas 78744.**

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