

BIRDS OF FORT DRUM



FISH & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
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NATURAL RESOURCES BRANCH
ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION
DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC WORKS

2018

BIRDING ON FORT DRUM

Fort Drum is a 108,000+ acre military installation located in Jefferson and Lewis Counties in northern New York. Mostly undeveloped, the installation contains a variety of habitats including coniferous, deciduous, and mixed forests; oak savannah; grasslands; shrublands; and wetlands. This mixture of biological communities supports a varied avifauna, particularly during the breeding season. More than 250 species of birds have been documented on Fort Drum, including 146 for which nesting has been confirmed or suspected, and 27 that are listed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation as Threatened, Endangered, or of Special Concern.

The western portion of Fort Drum contains a mosaic of habitats, including the installation's most extensive grasslands. The fields surrounding Antwerp Tank Trail north of Birch Road provide nesting habitat for grassland species such as Sedge Wren, Savannah and Henslow's Sparrows, and Bobolink, and is also the best location for open country raptors including Northern Harrier, Rough-legged Hawk, and Short-eared and Snowy Owls. The sandy grasslands near Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield support a different community of grassland birds, including Upland Sandpiper, Horned Lark and Grasshopper and Vesper Sparrows. Nearby oak savannah and open oak woodlands are home to an important population of nesting Red-headed Woodpecker and is among the best locations on Fort Drum for Common Nighthawk and Eastern Whip-poor-will.

The western Training Areas also provide excellent habitat for shrubland and wetland birds. Pleasant, Reedville, and Carr Roads provide access to extensive successional habitats where Brown Thrasher, Golden-winged and Blue-winged Warblers, Eastern Towhee and other shrubland bird species are common. The best location for seeing wetland birds—such as Pied-billed Grebe, Least and American Bitterns, Common Gallinule, and Marsh Wren—is the marsh along Matoon Creek in Training Area 17B.

The largest stands of mature forest occur in the south-central and northeastern portions of Fort Drum, and are accessible via Lake School Road and FUSA Blvd, respectively. These areas are home to a diverse assemblage of thrushes, warblers, vireos, and other forest species. Osprey and Common Loon nest at some of the ponds and lakes located along FUSA Blvd, and Bald Eagles are regularly seen near Indian and Mud Lakes.

This checklist contains species of birds that have been observed by Fort Drum personnel and follows the American Ornithologists Union's 7th edition checklist of North American birds, including taxonomic revisions through the 58th supplement. Visitors who observe species not listed on this checklist are requested to provide documentation to the Fort Drum Fish and Wildlife Management Program.

To learn more about accessing Fort Drum for wildlife viewing or other recreational activities, please see the web site listed below.

Fish and Wildlife Management Program
4896 Nininger Street
Fort Drum, NY 13602-5097
Phone: 315-772-6187 or 772-9636
www.fortdrum.isportsman.net

ORDER FAMILY / COMMON NAME	SEASON / ABUNDANCE			
	Sp	Su	F	W
ANSERIFORMES				
ANATIDAE				
___ Snow Goose	u		u	o
___ Ross's Goose	v			
___ Greater White-fronted Goose	v			
___ Brant	r		r	
___ Cackling Goose	v		v	
___ Canada Goose*	a	u	a	o
___ Trumpeter Swan	v			
___ Tundra Swan	r			
___ Wood Duck*	c	c	c	
___ Blue-winged Teal*	u	o	u	
___ Northern Shoveler	r		r	
___ Gadwall*	u	o	u	
___ American Wigeon	u		u	
___ Mallard*	c	c	c	u
___ American Black Duck*	u	u	u	u
___ Northern Pintail	u		u	
___ Green-winged Teal*	u	u	c	
___ Canvasback	v		v	
___ Redhead	v		v	
___ Ring-necked Duck	u		u	
___ Greater Scaup	r		o	r
___ Lesser Scaup	o		u	r
___ Surf Scoter			v	
___ White-winged Scoter	v			
___ Black Scoter			v	
___ Long-tailed Duck	v		v	
___ Bufflehead	u		u	u
___ Common Goldeneye	u		u	c
___ Hooded Merganser*	u	u	u	o
___ Common Merganser	u	r	u	o
___ Red-breasted Merganser			v	v
___ Ruddy Duck			v	
GALLIFORMES				
ODONTOPHORIDAE				
___ Northern Bobwhite (I)		v		
PHASIANIDAE				
___ Ring-necked Pheasant (I)	o	o	o	o
___ Ruffed Grouse*	u	u	u	u
___ Wild Turkey*	c	c	c	c
PODICIPEDIFORMES				
PODICIPEDIDAE				
___ Pied-billed Grebe* (ST)	u	u	u	
___ Horned Grebe	v			
COLUMBIFORMES				
COLUMBIDAE				
___ Rock Pigeon*	c	c	c	c
___ Mourning Dove*	c	c	c	u
CUCULIFORMES				
CUCULIDAE				
___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	o	o	o	
___ Black-billed Cuckoo*	u	u	u	
CAPRIMULGIFORMES				
CAPRIMULGIDAE				
___ Common Nighthawk* (SSC)	c	c	c	
___ Chuck-will's-widow		v		
___ Eastern Whip-poor-will* (SSC)	c	c	o	

ORDER FAMILY / COMMON NAME	SEASON / ABUNDANCE			
	Sp	Su	F	W
APODIFORMES				
APODIDAE				
___ Chimney Swift*	u	u		
TROCHILIDAE				
___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	u	u	o	
GRUIFORMES				
RALLIDAE				
___ Virginia Rail*	u	u	o	
___ Sora*	u	u	o	
___ Common Gallinule*	u	u	o	
___ American Coot	r		r	
GRUIDAE				
___ Sandhill Crane	v			
CHARADRIIFORMES				
CHARADRIIDAE				
___ Black-bellied Plover	o	o	o	
___ American Golden-Plover		r	o	
___ Semipalmated Plover	o	o	o	
___ Killdeer*	c	c	c	
SCOLOPACIDAE				
___ Upland Sandpiper* (ST)	r	r		
___ Whimbrel			v	
___ Dunlin		r	r	
___ Baird's Sandpiper		r	r	
___ Least Sandpiper	u	u	u	
___ White-rumped Sandpiper		r	r	
___ Pectoral Sandpiper			o	
___ Semipalmated Sandpiper	o	o	o	
___ Short-billed Dowitcher		o	o	
___ American Woodcock*	c	c	c	
___ Wilson's Snipe*	c	c	c	
___ Spotted Sandpiper*	u	u	u	
___ Solitary Sandpiper	u	u	u	
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	o	u	u	
___ Willet	v			
___ Greater Yellowlegs	u	u	u	
LARIDAE				
___ Bonaparte's Gull	v			
___ Ring-billed Gull	c	c	c	r
___ Herring Gull	o	o	o	o
___ Glaucous Gull				v
___ Great Black-backed Gull	o		o	o
___ Caspian Tern	o	o		
___ Black Tern		r		
___ Common Tern		v		
GAVIIFORMES				
GAVIIDAE				
___ Red-throated Loon			v	
___ Common Loon* (SCC)	u	u	u	
SULIFORMES				
PHALACROCORACIDAE				
___ Double-Crested Cormorant	o	o	o	
PELICANIFORMES				
ARDEIDAE				
___ American Bittern* (SSC)	u	u	u	
___ Least Bittern* (ST)	r	r		

ORDER FAMILY / COMMON NAME	SEASON / ABUNDANCE			
	Sp	Su	F	W

ARDEIDAE (cont)				
___ Great Blue Heron*	c	c	c	r
___ Great Egret	o	o	o	
___ Green Heron*	u	u	u	
___ Black Crowned Night Heron	o	o		

CATHARTIFORMES				
CATHARTIDAE				

___ Turkey Vulture*	c	c	c	
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ACCIPITRIFORMES				
PANDIONIDAE				

___ Osprey* (SSC)	u	u	o	
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ACCIPITRIDAE				
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___ Bald Eagle (ST/FT)	u	u	u	u
___ Northern Harrier* (ST)	u	u	u	u
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk* (SSC)	u	u	u	u
___ Cooper's Hawk* (SSC)	u	u	u	u
___ Northern Goshawk* (SSC)	u	u	u	u
___ Red-shouldered Hawk* (SSC)	u	u	u	v
___ Broad-winged Hawk*	u	u	u	
___ Red-tailed Hawk*	u	u	u	u
___ Rough-legged Hawk	u	o	u	c
___ Golden Eagle (SE)	r	v	r	

STRIGIFORMES				
STRIGIDAE				

___ Eastern Screech Owl*	o	o	o	o
___ Great-horned Owl*	u	u	u	u
___ Snowy Owl	o	o	o	
___ Barred Owl*	u	u	u	u
___ Long-eared Owl*	o	o	o	o
___ Short-eared Owl* (SE)	o	o	o	o
___ Northern Saw-whet Owl*	o	o	o	o

CORACIIFORMES				
ALCEDINIDAE				

___ Belted Kingfisher*	u	u	u	r
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PICIFORMES				
PICIDAE				

___ Lewis's Woodpecker	v			
___ Red-headed Woodpecker* (SSC)	u	u	u	r
___ Red-bellied Woodpecker*	o	o	o	o
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker*	c	c	c	
___ Downy Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
___ Hairy Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
___ Black-backed Woodpecker	v			v
___ Northern Flicker*	c	c	c	o
___ Pileated Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u

FALCONIFORMES				
FALCONIDAE				

___ American Kestrel*	u	u	u	o
___ Merlin*	u	o	u	o
___ Peregrine Falcon (SE)	r	v	r	r

PASSERIFORMES				
TYRANNIDAE				

___ Olive-sided Flycatcher	o	r	o	
___ Eastern Wood-Pee-wee*	c	c	u	
___ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	u	u	o	
___ Alder Flycatcher*	c	c	r	
___ Willow Flycatcher*	u	u	r	
___ Least Flycatcher*	c	c	u	

ORDER FAMILY / COMMON NAME	SEASON / ABUNDANCE			
	Sp	Su	F	W

TYRANNIDAE (cont)				
___ Eastern Phoebe*	c	c	c	
___ Great-crested Flycatcher*	c	c	r	
___ Western Kingbird		v		
___ Eastern Kingbird*	c	c	r	

LANIIDAE				
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___ Northern Shrike	u		u	u
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VIREONIDAE				
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___ White-eyed Vireo	v		v	
___ Yellow-throated Vireo*	u	u	o	
___ Blue-headed Vireo*	u	u	u	
___ Philadelphia Vireo	r	v	u	
___ Warbling Vireo*	c	c	u	
___ Red-eyed Vireo*	c	a	c	

CORVIDAE				
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___ Blue Jay*	c	c	c	c
___ American Crow*	c	c	c	c
___ Fish Crow	v			
___ Common Raven*	u	u	u	u

ALAUDIDAE				
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___ Horned Lark* (SSC)	u	u	u	u
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HIRUNDINIDAE				
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___ Purple Martin	o	o		
___ Tree Swallow*	c	c	c	
___ Northern Rough-winged Swallow*	u	u	u	
___ Bank Swallow*	u	u	u	
___ Cliff Swallow*	u	u		
___ Barn Swallow*	c	c	c	

PARIDAE				
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___ Black-capped Chickadee*	c	c	c	c
___ Boreal Chickadee				
___ Tufted Titmouse*	o	o	o	o

SITTIDAE				
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___ Red-breasted Nuthatch*	u	u	u	u
___ White-breasted Nuthatch*	u	u	u	u

CERTHIIDAE				
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___ Brown Creeper*	u	u	u	u
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TROGLODYTIDAE				
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___ House Wren*	c	c	u	
___ Winter Wren*	u	u	u	v
___ Sedge Wren* (ST)	o	u	o	
___ Marsh Wren*	u	u	o	
___ Carolina Wren	r	r	r	r

SYLVIIDAE				
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___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	u	u		
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REGULIDAE				
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___ Golden-crowned Kinglet*	c	r	c	u
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	c		c	

TURDIDAE				
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___ Eastern Bluebird*	c	c	c	r
___ Veery*	c	c	u	
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush	o		u	
___ Swainson's Thrush	u	o	u	
___ Hermit Thrush*	c	c	c	
___ Wood Thrush*	c	c	o	

ORDER FAMILY / COMMON NAME	SEASON / ABUNDANCE			
	Sp	Su	F	W
TURDIDAE (cont)				
___ American Robin*	a	a	a	u
MIMIDAE				
___ Gray Catbird*	c	c	c	
___ Brown Thrasher*	c	c	u	
___ Northern Mockingbird*	u	u	o	
STURNIDAE				
___ European Starling* (I)	c	c	c	c
BOMBYCILLIDAE				
___ Bohemian Waxwing	o		o	o
___ Cedar Waxwing*	c	c	c	u
PASSERIDAE				
___ House Sparrow* (I)	u	u	u	u
MOTACILLIDAE				
___ American Pipit	u		u	
FRINGILLIDAE				
___ Evening Grosbeak	o	o	o	o
___ Pine Grosbeak	r		o	o
___ House Finch* (I)	u	u	u	u
___ Purple Finch*	u	u	u	u
___ Common Redpoll	u		u	c
___ Hoary Redpoll	r		r	r
___ Red Crossbill*	o	r	o	o
___ White-winged Crossbill*	o	r	o	o
___ Pine Siskin*	o	o	u	o
___ American Goldfinch*	c	c	c	u
CALCARIIDAE				
___ Lapland Longspur	o		o	u
___ Snow Bunting	o		o	c
PASSERELLIDAE				
___ Eastern Towhee*	c	c	u	
___ American Tree Sparrow	u		u	c
___ Chipping Sparrow*	c	c	u	
___ Clay-colored Sparrow*	u	u	o	
___ Field Sparrow*	c	c	u	
___ Vesper Sparrow* (SSC)	c	c	u	
___ Lark Sparrow			v	
___ Savannah Sparrow*	c	a	c	
___ Grasshopper Sparrow* (SSC)	u	u		
___ Henslow's Sparrow* (ST)	u	u	r	
___ LeConte's Sparrow			v	
___ Nelson's Sparrow		v	v	
___ Fox Sparrow	u		u	r
___ Song Sparrow*	c	c	c	r
___ Lincoln's Sparrow	r		u	
___ Swamp Sparrow*	c	c	c	
___ White-throated Sparrow*	c	c	c	o
___ White-crowned Sparrow	u		u	
___ Dark-eyed Junco*	c	r	c	u
ICTERIIDAE				
___ Yellow-breasted Chat (SSC)	r	r		
ICTERIDAE				
___ Bobolink*	c	a	u	
___ Eastern Meadowlark*	u	o	u	
___ Orchard Oriole	r	r		
___ Baltimore Oriole*	c	c		

ORDER FAMILY / COMMON NAME	SEASON / ABUNDANCE			
	Sp	Su	F	W
ICTERIDAE (cont)				
___ Red-winged Blackbird*	a	a	a	o
___ Brown-headed Cowbird*	c	c	c	o
___ Rusty Blackbird	u		u	
___ Common Grackle*	c	c	c	
PARULIDAE				
___ Ovenbird*	a	a	u	
___ Worm-eating Warbler	v	v		
___ Louisiana Waterthrush	v	v		
___ Northern Waterthrush*	u	u		
___ Golden-winged Warbler* (SSC)	u	u		
___ Blue-winged Warbler*	u	u		
___ Black-and-white Warbler*	c	c	u	
___ Tennessee Warbler	u	r	u	
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	v		o	
___ Nashville Warbler*	c	c	u	
___ Connecticut Warbler	v		r	
___ Mourning Warbler*	u	u	o	
___ Common Yellowthroat*	a	a	u	
___ Hooded Warbler	r	r		
___ American Redstart*	a	a	u	
___ Kirtland's Warbler (FE)		v		
___ Cape May Warbler	u	o	u	
___ Cerulean Warbler* (SSC)	u	u		
___ Northern Parula	u	o	u	
___ Magnolia Warbler*	c	u	c	
___ Bay-breasted Warbler*	u	o	u	
___ Blackburnian Warbler*	u	u	u	
___ Yellow Warbler*	c	a	o	
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler*	c	a	u	
___ Blackpoll Warbler	c	o	c	
___ Black-throated Blue Warbler*	u	u	u	
___ Palm Warbler	u		u	
___ Pine Warbler*	c	c	u	
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler*	c	u	c	
___ Prairie Warbler*	u	u	r	
___ Black-throated Green Warbler*	c	c	u	
___ Canada Warbler*	u	u	o	
___ Wilson's Warbler	u	o	u	
CARDINALIDAE				
___ Summer Tanager		v		
___ Scarlet Tanager*	c	c	u	
___ Northern Cardinal*	u	u	u	u
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak*	c	c	u	
___ Indigo Bunting*	u	u	u	
___ Dickcissel		v	v	

CARDINALIDAE				
___ Summer Tanager		v		
___ Scarlet Tanager*	c	c	u	
___ Northern Cardinal*	u	u	u	u
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak*	c	c	u	
___ Indigo Bunting*	u	u	u	
___ Dickcissel		v	v	

Season Occurrence:
 Sp = Spring (March - May) F = Fall (September - November)
 Su = Summer (June - August) W = Winter (December - February)

Relative Abundance:
 a = abundant (hard to miss)
 c = common (easily observed in suitable habitat)
 u = uncommon (present but not always seen)
 o = occasional (seen infrequently)
 r = rare (not seen every year)
 v = vagrant (fewer than 5 records)

State/Federal Status:
 SSC = State Species of Concern FT = Federal Threatened
 ST = State Threatened FE = Federal Endangered
 SE = State Endangered I = Introduced

***Breeding has been documented or is probable.**