

Pictures



Double-crested Cormorant-
Phalacrocorax auritus



Great Blue Heron-*Ardea herodias*



Snowy Egret-*Egretta thula*



Tricolored Heron-*Egretta tricolor*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Ardea Herodias*
Common Name: Great Blue Heron

Description: 39-52" (99-132 cm). W. 5'10" (1.8 m). A common large, mainly grayish heron with a pale or yellowish bill. Often mistaken for a Sandhill Crane, but flies with its neck folded, not extended like that of a crane. In southern Florida an all-white form, "Great White Heron," differs from Great Egret in being larger, with greenish-yellow rather than black legs.

Voice: A harsh squawk

Habitat: Lakes, ponds, rivers, and marshes

Range: Breeds locally from coastal Alaska, south-central Canada, and Nova Scotia south to Mexico and West Indies. Winters as far north as southern Alaska, central United States, and southern New England. Also in Galapagos Islands.

Scientific Name: *Phalacrocorax auritus*
Common Name: Double-crested Cormorant

Description: 30-35 (76-89 cm). A solidly built black cormorant with orange throat pouch and long neck. Long hooked bill tilted upward when bird swims. Adults have short tuft of feathers over each eye during breeding season. Young birds are browner, whitish or buffy on breast, upper belly, and neck. In flight, the neck shows a slight crook, not seen in the similar Brandt's Cormorant, the larger Great Cormorant, or the smaller Neotropic.

Voice: Deep guttural grunts

Habitat: Lakes, rivers, swamps, and coasts

Range: Breeds locally in interior from Alaska, Manitoba, and Newfoundland south to Mexico and Bahamas. Winters mainly on coasts, north to Alaska and southern New England.

Scientific Name: *Egretta tricolor*
Common Name: Tricolored Heron

Description: 25-30" (64-76 cm). W. 3'2" (97 cm). A slender gray-blue heron with rufous neck and white belly.

Voice: Guttural croaks and squawks

Habitat: Swamps, bayous, coastal ponds, salt marshes, mangrove islands, mudflats, and lagoons.

Range: Breeds in southeastern New Mexico and Texas, on Gulf Coast, and along Atlantic Coast north to southern Maine (rare). Winters along coast from Texas and New Jersey south to northern South America and West Indies. Also resident in tropical America.

Scientific Name: *Egretta thula*
Common Name: Snowy Egret

Description: 20-27" (51-69 cm). W. 3'2" (97 cm). A small, delicate white heron with a slender black bill, black legs, and yellow feet. In breeding season, it has long lacy plumes on its head, neck, and back. Immature bird similar to adult, but lacks plumes and has yellow stripe up back of leg. Adult Cattle Egret has pale bill, legs, and feet; immature has dark bill, legs, and feet. Much larger Great Egret has yellow bill and black legs and feet. Similar to immature of less common Little Blue Heron, but that species has a stouter, bluish-gray bill, greenish-yellow legs and feet, no yellow skin between eyes and base of bill.

Voice: A harsh squawk

Habitat: Marshes, ponds, swamps, and mudflats

Range: Breeds locally from Oregon and California to New England, mainly along coasts and at scattered localities inland. Winters regularly from California, Arizona, and Virginia south to West Indies and South America. Also resident in tropical America.

Pictures



Cattle Egret-*Bulbucus ibis*



Male

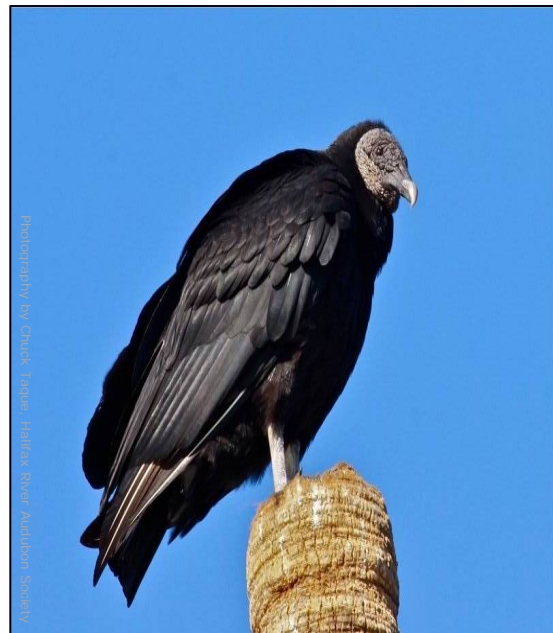


Female

**Black-crowned Night Heron-
*Nycticorax nycticorax***



White Ibis-*Eudocimus albus*



Black Vulture- *Coragyps atratus*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Nycticorax nycticorax*
Common Name: Black-crowned Night Heron

Description: 23-28" (58-71 cm). W. 3'8" (1.1 m). A medium-sized, stocky, rather short-necked heron with black crown and back, gray wings, and white underparts. Bill short and black, legs pinkish or yellowish. In breeding season it has 2 or more long white plumes on back of head. Young birds are dull gray-brown lightly spotted with white. Young Yellow-crowned Night-Herons are grayer, with stouter bills and longer legs.

Voice: Loud, barking kwok! or quawk! often heard at night or at dusk. Utters a variety of croaks, barks, and other harsh calls in nesting colonies.

Habitat: Marshes, swamps, and wooded streams

Range: Breeds throughout United States (except Rocky Mountain region), from Washington, Saskatchewan, Minnesota, and New Brunswick to southern South America. Winters in southern half of United States. Also occurs in much of Old World.

Scientific Name: *Bulbucus ibis*
Common Name: Cattle Egret

Description: 20" (51 cm). A small, stocky white heron, with buff on crown, breast, and back during breeding season. Legs pale yellow or orange in adults, blackish in some immatures. Bill short and yellow or orange; dark in juveniles. No other small white heron has a yellow bill.

Voice: Hoarse croaks

Habitat: Forages mainly alongside livestock in open fields and pastures, but breeds near water with other herons.

Range: Breeds locally from California and most western states east to Great Lakes and Maine, and southward to Gulf Coast. Also in American tropics and Old World.

Scientific Name: *Coragyps atratus*
Common Name: Black Vulture

Description: 22-24" (56-61 cm). W. 4'6" (1.4 m). Black, with white patch near each wing tip, conspicuous in flight; head bare, grayish; feet extend beyond the short tail. Flaps its shorter and rounder wings more often and more rapidly than Turkey Vulture.

Voice: Hisses or grunts; seldom heard

Habitat: Open country, but breeds in light woodlands and thickets.

Range: Resident from western Texas and Arkansas north and east to New Jersey (increasingly seen northward to Vermont and Maine as range is expanding) and south to Florida. Also in American tropics.

Scientific Name: *Eudocimus albus*
Common Name: White Ibis

Description: 23-27" (58-69 cm). W. 3'2" (97 cm). Adult white with black wing tips (usually hidden at rest); bare face and down-curved bill are red; legs red in breeding season, otherwise slate-gray. Immatures brown above and white below, with brown bill and legs.

Voice: Grunts and growls

Habitat: Marshes, mudflats, lagoons, and swampy forests

Range: Coastal resident from North Carolina to Florida and Texas. Also in American tropics.

Pictures



Osprey- *Pandion haliaetus*



Sharp-shinned Hawk- *Accipiter Striatus*



Red-shouldered Hawk- *Buteo lineatus*



Eurasian-collared Dove- *Streptopelia decaoto*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Accipiter straitus*
Common Name: Sharp-shinned Hawk

Description: 10-14" (25-36 cm). W. 21" (53 cm). A jay-sized, fast-flying hawk with a long, narrow, square-tipped tail and short rounded wings. Adult slate-gray above, pale below, with fine rust-colored barring. Immature birds brown above with whitish spots, creamy white below with streaks on breast, barring on flanks. Cooper's Hawk is bigger, with proportionately larger head and more rounded tail tip; flies with slower wingbeats.

Voice: Sharp kik-kik-kik-kik; also a shrill squeal.

Habitat: Breeds in dense coniferous forests, less often in deciduous forests. During migration and in winter, may be seen in almost any habitat.

Range: Breeds from Alaska through Mackenzie to Newfoundland, and south to California, New Mexico, northern Gulf Coast states, and Carolinas. Winters across United States north to British Columbia and Canadian Maritimes.

Scientific Name: *Pandion haliaetus*
Common Name: Osprey

Description: 21-24" (53-61 cm). W. 4' 6"-6' (1.4-1.8 m). A large, long-winged "fish hawk." Brown above and white below; head white with dark line through eye and on side of face. Wing shows distinctive bend at "wrist." At a distance, can resemble a gull.

Voice: Loud musical chirping

Habitat: Lakes, rivers, and seacoasts

Range: Breeds from Alaska, north-central Canada, and Newfoundland south to Arizona and New Mexico; also along Gulf Coast and on Atlantic Coast south to Florida. Winters regularly in North America north to Gulf Coast and California. Also in South America and Old World.

Scientific Name: *Streptopelia decaoto*
Common Name: Eurasian-collared Dove

Description: 13-14" (31-34 cm). W. 25-28" (63-70 cm). Larger than a Mourning Dove. Generally gray-brown with vinous pink flush, especially on chest. Distinctive black collar marking on nape, edged in white, not always visible in the field. Dark primaries and pale gray-brown mantle separated by a silvery patch on the wing wrist; underwings white. Tail not sharply pointed as in Mourning Dove, banded white below, dark near rump. Dark eye and bill; legs red.

Voice: Call a deep, repeated kuk-koouoo-kuk, accented on middle syllable; also a harsh, mewing nasal call note, reminiscent to many observers of a loud Gray Catbird call.

Habitat: Adaptable to human settlement; suburbs, small towns, agricultural areas.

Range: Broadly distributed in Eurasia. U.S. populations, originating in southern Florida, are rapidly expanding to the north and west.

Scientific Name: *Buteo lineatus*
Common Name: Red-shoulder Hawk

Description: 16-24" (41-61 cm). W. 3'4" (1 m). A large, long-winged hawk with white barring on dark wings, rusty shoulders, pale underparts barred with rust, and narrowly banded tail. In flight shows translucent area near tip of wing, visible from below. Young birds streaked below; best distinguished from young Red-tailed Hawks by somewhat smaller size, narrower tail, longer, narrower wings, and absence of white chest.

Voice: Shrill scream, kee-yeeear, with a downward inflection.

Habitat: Deciduous woodlands, especially where there is standing water.

Range: Breeds from Minnesota east to New Brunswick and south to Gulf Coast and Florida, and on Pacific Coast in California. Winters in breeding range north to southern New England.

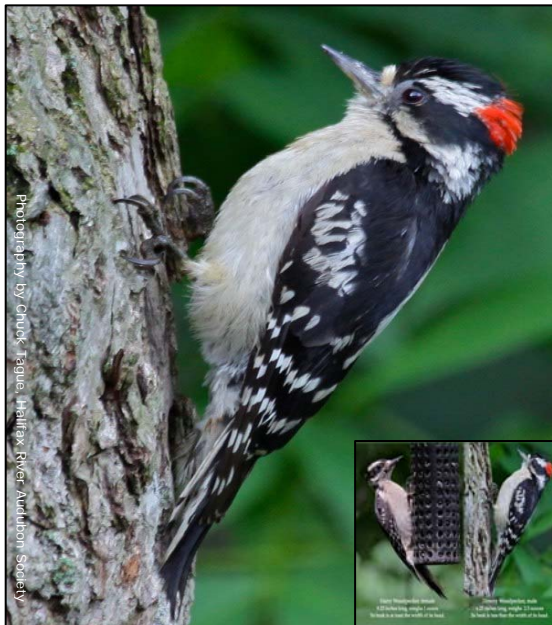
Pictures



Barred Owl- *Strix varia*



Belted Kingfisher- *Megasceryle alcyon*



Downy Woodpecker- *Picoides pubescens*



White-eyed Vireo- *Vireo griseus*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Megaceryle alcyon*
Common Name: Belted Kingfisher

Description: 13" (33 cm). A dove-sized bird, blue-gray above, white below, with bushy crest, dagger-like bill. Male has blue-gray breast band; female similar, but also has chestnut belly band.

Voice: Loud, penetrating rattle, given on the wing and when perched.

Habitat: Rivers, lakes, and saltwater estuaries.

Range: Breeds from Alaska eastward across southern Canada and south throughout most of United States. Winters on Pacific Coast north to southeastern Alaska, and throughout South north to Great Lakes and along Atlantic Coast to New England.

Scientific Name: *Strix varia*
Common Name: Barred Owl

Description: 20" (51 cm). W. 3' 8" (1.1 m). A large, stocky, dark-eyed owl. Gray-brown, with crossbarring on neck and breast and streaks on belly; no ear tufts.

Voice: A loud barking hoo, hoo, hoo-hoo; hoo, hoo; hoo, hooo-aw! and a variety of other barking calls and screams.

Habitat: Low, wet woods and swampy forests.

Range: Breeds from British Columbia, Alberta, Quebec, and Nova Scotia south to northern California and throughout East to Texas and Florida.

Scientific Name: *Vireo griseus*
Common Name: White-eyed Vireo

Description: 5" (13 cm). Warbler-sized. Olive green above and white below with yellow flanks; yellow "spectacles;" white wing bars. Adult has white eye; immature has dark eye.

Voice: Loud, explosive series of notes, chip-a-wheooo-chip or Quick, give me a rain check!

Habitat: Dense swampy thickets and hillsides with blackberry and briar tangles.

Range: Breeds from Nebraska, Illinois, Ohio, southeastern New York, and central New England south to eastern Texas and southern Florida. Winters from Gulf Coast and Florida southward.

Scientific Name: *Picoides pubescens*
Common Name: Downy Woodpecker

Description: 6" (15 cm). A sparrow-sized, black and white woodpecker. Small red patch on nape in males. Similar to Hairy Woodpecker, but smaller and with short, stubby bill.

Voice: A quiet pik. Also a descending rattle.

Habitat: Woodlands, parks, and gardens

Range: Resident from Alaska across Canada, south throughout United States except Southwest.

Pictures



Blue Jay- *Cyanocitta cristata*



Carolina Wren- *Thryothorus ludovicianus*



Blue-grey Gnatcatcher- *Polioptila caerulea*



Northern Mockingbird- *Mimus polyglottos*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Thyothorus ludovicianus*
Common Name: Carolina Wren

Description: 5 1/2" (14 cm). Rich brown above, buff below, with conspicuous white eyebrow.

Voice: Loud whistled tweedle-tweedle-tweedle or tea-kettle, tea-kettle, tea-kettle tea, sung all day long in all seasons.

Habitat: Woodland thickets, ravines, and rocky slopes covered with brush.

Range: Resident in southeastern United States, north to Wisconsin and Michigan, southern Ontario, New York, and southern New England.

Scientific Name: *Cyanocitta cristata*
Common Name: Blue Jay

Description: 12" (30 cm). Bright blue above with much white and black in the wings and tail; dingy white below; black facial markings; prominent crest.

Voice: A raucous jay-jay, harsh cries, and a rich variety of other calls. One is almost identical to the scream of the Red-shouldered Hawk and the calls of Broad-winged Hawk. Also a musical queedle-queedle.

Habitat: A raucous jay-jay, harsh cries, and a rich variety of other calls. One is almost identical to the scream of the Red-shouldered Hawk and the calls of Broad-winged Hawk. Also a musical queedle-queedle.

Range: Resident east of Rockies, from southern Canada to Gulf of Mexico. Slowly encroaching westward.

Scientific Name: *Mimus Polyglottos*
Common Name: Northern Mockingbird

Description: 9-11" (23-28 cm). Robin-sized. A slender, long-tailed gray bird with white patches on wings and tail.

Voice: A long series of musical and grating phrases, each repeated 3 or more times; often imitates other birds and regularly sings at night. Call a harsh chack.

Habitat: Residential areas, city parks, farmlands, open country with thickets, and desert brush.

Range: Breeds from northern California, eastern Nebraska, southern Ontario, and Maritime Canada southward. Winters in southern part of range.

Scientific Name: *Poliophtila caerulea*
Common Name: Blue-grey Gnatcatcher

Description: 4 1/2 -5" (11-13 cm). Smaller than a sparrow. Tiny, slender, long-tailed bird, blue-gray above and white below, with white eye ring and broad white borders on black tail. Looks like a miniature mockingbird.

Voice: Song is a thin, musical warble. Call note a distinctive, whining pzzzz, with a nasal quality.

Habitat: Deciduous woodlands, streamside thickets, live oaks, pinyon-juniper, chaparral.

Range: Breeds from northern California, Colorado, southern Great Lakes region, southern Ontario, and New Hampshire southward. Winters north to southern California, Gulf Coast, and Carolinas.

Pictures



European Starling- *Sturnus vulgaris*



Male



Female

Northern Parula- *Parula americana*



Pine Warbler- *Dendroica pinus*



Male



Female

Northern Cardinal- *Cardinalis cardinalis*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Parula americana*
Common Name: Northern Parula

Description: 4 1/2" (11 cm). A small warbler; blue above with yellow-green "saddle" on its back, yellow throat and breast, and white belly; 2 white wing bars. Male has orange-brown chest band.

Voice: 1 or more rising buzzy notes dropping abruptly at the end, bzzzzz-zip or bz-bz-bz-zip.

Habitat: Breeds in wet, chiefly coniferous woods, in swamps, and along lakes and ponds; more widespread during migration.

Range: Breeds from southeastern Canada to Gulf Coast. Winters from southern Florida southward into tropics.

Scientific Name: *Sturnus vulgaris*
Common Name: European Starling

Description: 7 1/2-8 1/2" (19-22 cm). Smaller than a robin. A short-tailed, chunky, iridescent black bird; long pointed bill, yellow in summer and dark in fall and early winter. Plumage flecked with white in winter. Juvenile is uniform dull gray with dark bill.

Voice: A series of discordant, musical, squeaky, and rasping notes; often imitates other birds. Call a descending whee-ee.

Habitat: Cities, suburban areas, farmlands, and ranches.

Range: Occurs from Alaska and Quebec south throughout continent to Gulf Coast and northern Mexico. Native to Eurasia and widely introduced around the world.

Scientific Name: *Cardinalis cardinalis*
Common Name: Northern Cardinal

Description: 8-9" (20-23 cm). Male bright red with crest, black face, stout red bill. Female buff-brown tinged with red on crest, wings, and tail.

Voice: Rich what-cheer, cheer, cheer; purty-purty-purty-purty or sweet-sweet-sweet-sweet. Also a metallic chip.

Habitat: Woodland edges, thickets, brushy swamps, and gardens.

Range: Resident in eastern United States and southern Canada (locally) south to Gulf Coast, and from southern California, Arizona, and southern Texas southward.

Scientific Name: *Dendroica pinus*
Common Name: Pine Warbler

Description: 5 1/2" (14 cm). Unstreaked olive above, with yellow throat and breast; blurry streaking below; white belly; inconspicuous eye stripe; 2 white wing bars. Female and immature similar but duller; often lack yellowish color on breast.

Voice: Musical and somewhat melancholy, a soft, sweet version of the trill of the Chipping Sparrow.

Habitat: Pine forests.

Range: Breeds from southeastern Manitoba, southern Ontario, and Maine south to eastern Texas, Gulf Coast, and Florida. Winters in southern states, occasionally north to New England.

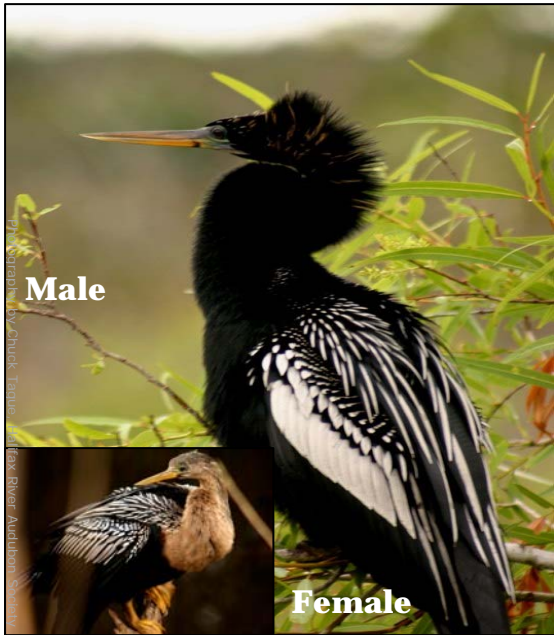
Pictures



Boat-tailed Grackle- *Quiscalus major*



Wood Stork- *Mycteria americana*



Anhinga- *Anhinga anhinga*



Brown Pelican- *Pelecanus occidentalis*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Mycteria americana*
Common Name: Wood Stork

Description: Resident locally on coasts of Texas, Louisiana (rare), and southern Florida. Also in American tropics.

Voice: Dull croak. Usually silent except around nest. Young make clattering noises with their bills.

Habitat: On or near the coast, breeding chiefly in cypress swamps; also in mangroves.

Range: Breeds in Florida and Georgia; very rarely elsewhere along coast from South Carolina to Texas. Outside breeding season wanders as far as California and Massachusetts (very rarely). Also breeds in tropical America.

Scientific Name: *Quiscalus major*
Common Name: Boat-tailed Grackle

Description: Males 16-17" (41-43 cm); females 12-13" (30-33 cm). Tail very long and keel-shaped. Male black, iridescent blue on back and breast; yellow or brown eyes. Female smaller, brown with paler breast. Common Grackle smaller; female lacks paler breast. Great-tailed Grackle of western Louisiana and Texas has iridescent purple back and breast, and always has yellow eyes.

Voice: Harsh jeeb-jeeb-jeeb-jeeb, unlike the whistles and clucks of the Great-tailed Grackle.

Habitat: Marshes along the coast; in Florida, also on farmlands.

Range: Resident along coasts from New Jersey south and west to Louisiana; also inland in peninsular Florida.

Scientific Name: *Pelecanus occidentalis*
Common Name: Brown Pelican

Description: 45-54" (1.1-1.4 m). W. 7'6" (2.3 m). A very large, stocky bird with a dark brown body and a long flat bill. The only non-white pelican in the world. Head whitish in adults, with dark brown on hindneck during breeding season. Young birds have dark brown head and whitish bellies.

Voice: Usually silent, but utters low grunts on nesting grounds.

Habitat: Sandy coastal beaches and lagoons, waterfronts and pilings, and rocky cliffs.

Range: Resident of Pacific Coast from southern California south to Chile, dispersing northward as far as southern British Columbia after nesting season. Also on Atlantic Coast from North Carolina south to Venezuela.

Scientific Name: *Anhinga anhinga*
Common Name: Anhinga

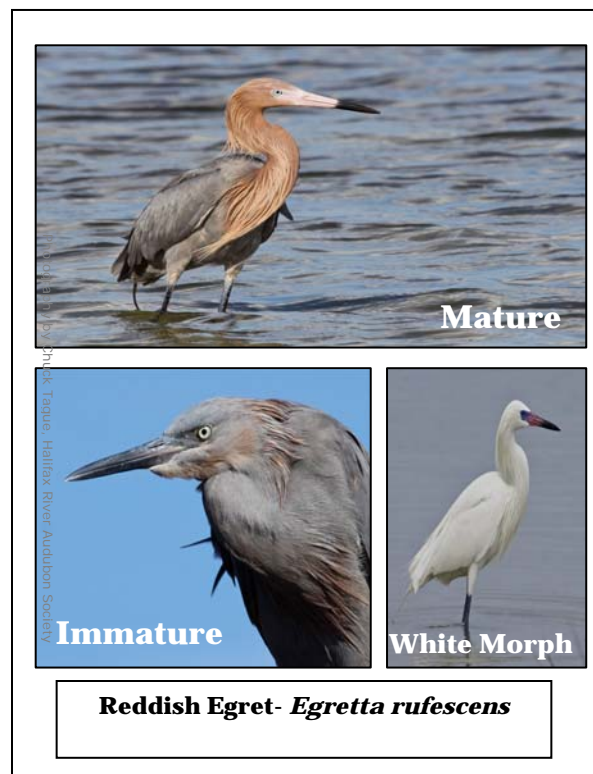
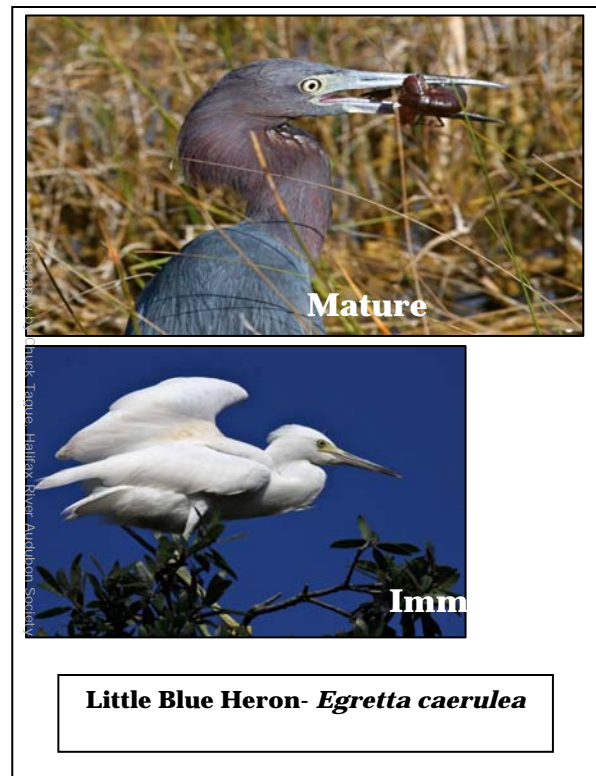
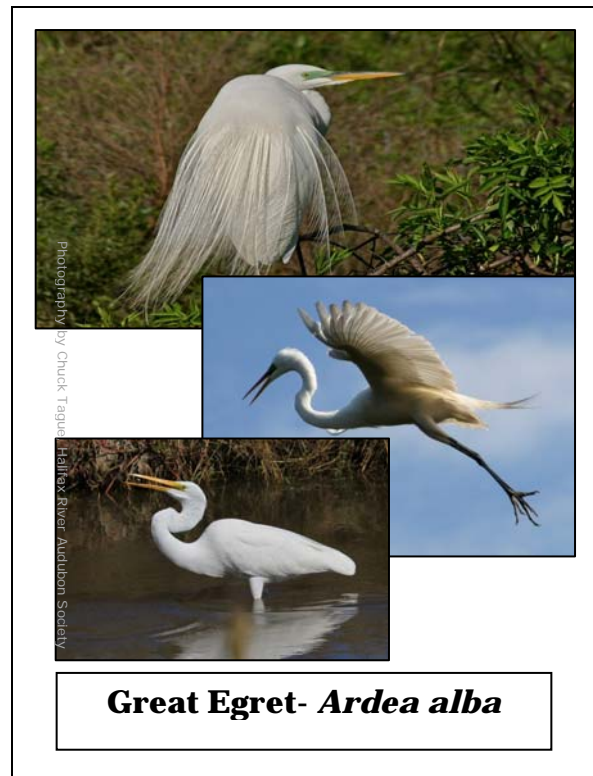
Description: 34-36" (86-91 cm). A blackish bird of southern swamps, shaped like a cormorant but with a very long, slender, S-shaped neck; a long, spear-like bill; and a long, fan-shaped tail. Male's plumage has greenish iridescence; upper surface of wings silvery gray. Female has tawny-brown neck and breast, sharply set off from black belly.

Voice: Low grunts like those of cormorants.

Habitat: Freshwater ponds and swamps with thick vegetation, especially where there are large trees.

Range: Breeds near Atlantic and Gulf coasts from North Carolina to Texas, in Florida, and in Mississippi Valley north to southern Missouri and Kentucky. Winters along Gulf Coast north to South Carolina. Also in tropical America.

Pictures



Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Egretta caerulea*
Common Name: Little Blue Heron

Description: 25-30" (64-76 cm). W. 3'5" (1 m). Adult slate blue with maroon neck. Bill grayish with black tip; legs greenish. Immature is white, usually with dusky tips on primaries. Young birds acquiring adult plumage usually have a piebald appearance. Snowy Egret somewhat smaller, all white, with black bill and legs, yellow lores and feet.

Voice: Usually silent; squawks when alarmed. Various croaks and screams at nesting colonies.

Habitat: Freshwater swamps and lagoons in the South; coastal thickets on islands in the North.

Range: Breeds from southern California (rare), southern New Mexico, Texas, and Oklahoma east to southern Missouri and southern New England, and south to Gulf Coast; more common along coast. Winters along Gulf Coast, in Florida, and on Atlantic Coast north to New Jersey. Also in tropical America.

Scientific Name: *Ardea alba*
Common Name: Great Egret

Description: 35-41" (89-104 cm). W. 4'7" (1.4 m). A large, all-white heron with a yellow bill and black legs. In breeding plumage, has long lacy plumes on back. Much smaller Snowy Egret has black bill and legs and yellow feet. In southern Florida, white form of Great Blue Heron is similar but larger, with greenish-yellow legs.

Voice: A guttural croak. Also loud squawks at nesting colonies.

Habitat: Fresh and salt marshes, marshy ponds, and tidal flats.

Range: Breeds locally from Oregon south to western Mexico, and from Minnesota to Mississippi Valley and Southeast, and along Atlantic Coast north to southern New England. Winters regularly from Oregon south through Southwest, Texas, and Gulf Coast states to Mexico, and on Atlantic Coast north to New Jersey. Also in tropical America and warmer parts of Old World.

Scientific Name: *Butorides virescens*
Common Name: Green Heron

Description: 16-22" (41-56 cm). A dark, crow-sized heron. Crown black, back and wings dark gray-green or gray-blue (depending on lighting); neck chestnut colored. Bill dark; legs bright orange. Immatures have streaks on neck, breast, and sides.

Voice: Call is a sharp kyowk! or skyow!

Habitat: Breeds mainly in freshwater or brackish marshes with clumps of trees. Feeds along margin of any body of water.

Range: Breeds over a wide region from Canadian border to Gulf of Mexico, west to Great Plains, western Texas, and southwestern New Mexico; in West from Fraser River delta of British Columbia south to California and Arizona. Winters from coastal California south to southern Arizona and Texas, along Gulf Coast, and along Atlantic Coast north to South Carolina.

Scientific Name: *Egretta rufescens*
Common Name: Reddish Egret

Description: 30" (76 cm). W. 3'10" (1.2 m). A medium-sized heron, slate-gray with shaggy, pale rufous head and neck, bluish legs, and pink bill with dark tip. White phase has bluish legs and pink bill with dark tip. Adult Little Blue Heron darker, without shaggy neck, and with grayish (not pink) bill. Immature grayish with buff on head, neck, and wings; bill dark.

Voice: Squawks and croaks

Habitat: Salt and brackish waters, breeding in shallow bays and lagoons; in mangroves (Florida); among cacti, willows, and other shrubs (Texas).

Range: Locally resident in extreme southern Florida and along Gulf Coast of Texas and Louisiana. Also in Mexico and West Indies.

Pictures



**Yellow-crowned Night Heron-
*Nyctanassa violacea***



Roseate Spoonbill- *Platalea ajaja*



Turkey Vulture- *Cathartes aura*



Cooper's Hawk- *Accipiter cooperii*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Platalea ajaja*
Common Name: Roseate Spoonbill

Description: 30-32" (76-81 cm). W. 4'5" (1.3 m). Bill long and straight with broad spatulate tip from which the bird gets its name. Mainly white, with brilliant pink wings and flanks, and orange tail; shoulder rich crimson. Immature pale pink and white.

Voice: Low croaks and clucking sounds.

Habitat: Mangroves and saltwater lagoons.

Range: Resident locally on coasts of Texas, Louisiana (rare), and southern Florida. Also in American tropics.

Scientific Name: *Nyctanassa violacea*
Common Name: Yellow-crowned Night Heron

Description: 22-27" (56-69 cm). W. 3'8" (1.1 m). Medium-sized heron. Adult slate-gray with black head, white cheeks, yellowish crown and plumes, black bill, and yellow or orange legs. In flight, feet and part of legs extend beyond tail. Immature grayish brown, finely speckled with white above. Young Black-crowned Night-Herons similar but browner, with legs and feet that scarcely project beyond tail in flight.

Voice: A loud quawk! that is higher pitched than that of Black-crowned Night-Heron.

Habitat: Wooded swamps and coastal thickets.

Range: Breeds from southern New England to Florida and west to Texas, mainly near coasts but in the interior north to Minnesota and along Mississippi River and its larger tributaries. Ranges more widely after nesting season. Winters along Gulf Coast and on Atlantic Coast north to South Carolina. Also in tropical America.

Scientific Name: *Accipiter cooperii*
Common Name: Cooper's Hawk

Description: 14-20" (36-51 cm). W. 28" (71 cm). A crow-sized hawk, with long tail and short rounded wings. Adult slate-gray above, with dark cap, and finely rust-barred below. Immature brown above, whitish below with fine streaks. Tail tip rounded, not squared-off. See Sharp-shinned Hawk.

Voice: Loud cack-cack-cack-cack.

Habitat: Deciduous and, less often, coniferous forests, especially those interrupted by meadows and clearings.

Range: Breeds from British Columbia east to Manitoba and Canadian Maritimes, and south to Mexico, Gulf Coast, and northern Florida; absent or local throughout much of Great Plains. Winters from Central America north to British Columbia and southern New England.

Scientific Name: *Cathartes aura*
Common Name: Turkey Vulture

Description: 25-32" (64-81 cm). W. 6' (1.8 m). Eagle-sized blackish bird, usually seen soaring over the countryside. In flight, the long wings are held upward in a wide, shallow V; flight feathers silvery below. Tail long; head small, bare, and reddish; gray in immatures. Similar to Black Vulture, but wings narrower; flaps wings less frequently and rolls and sways from side to side.

Voice: Usually silent; hisses or grunts when feeding or at nest.

Habitat: Mainly deciduous forests and woodlands; often seen over adjacent farmlands.

Range: Breeds from southern British Columbia, central Saskatchewan, Great Lakes, and New Hampshire southward. Winters in Southwest, and in East northward to southern New England.

Pictures



Photography by Chuck Tague, Halifax River Audubon Society

Red-tailed Hawk- *Buteo jamaicensis*



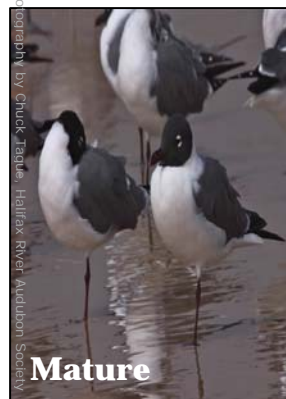
Clapper Rail- *Rallus longirostris*



Male



Immature



Mature



Female

Laughing Gull- *Leucophaeus atricilla*



Mourning Dove- *Zenaida macroura*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Rallus longirostris*
Common Name: Clapper Rail

Description: 14-16" (36-41 cm). A long-billed, chicken-sized rail of salt marshes. All birds have black-and-white barred flanks. Eastern populations are grayish brown without rusty underparts of similar King Rail. Birds on Gulf Coast and in Far West are rustier and more like the King Rail, but do not show rust on shoulders or sides of face. King Rail prefers freshwater marshes.

Voice: Harsh clattering kek-kek-kek-kek-kek.

Habitat: Salt marshes and some freshwater marshes.

Range: Breeds along coasts from central California and Massachusetts southward. Also inland on Salton Sea and lower Colorado River. Winters north to central California and New Jersey, rarely farther north.

Scientific Name: *Buteo jamaicensis*
Common Name: Red-tailed Hawk

Description: 18-25" (46-64 cm). W. 4' (1.2 m). A large stocky hawk. Typical light-phase birds have whitish breast and rust-colored tail. Young birds duller, more streaked, lacking rust-colored tail of adult; they are distinguished from Red-shouldered and Swainson's hawks by their stocky build, broader, more rounded wings, and white chest. This species quite variable in color, especially in West, where blackish individuals occur; these usually retain rusty tail.

Voice: High-pitched descending scream with a hoarse quality, keeeer.

Habitat: Deciduous forests and open country of various kinds, including tundra, plains, and farmlands.

Range: Breeds throughout North America, from Alaska east to Nova Scotia and southward. Winters across United States north to southern British Columbia and Maritime Provinces.

Scientific Name: *Zenaidura macroura*
Common Name: Mourning Dove

Description: 12" (30 cm). Soft, sandy buff with a long pointed tail bordered with white. Black spots on wings.

Voice: Low mournful (hence its name) coo-ah, coo, coo, coo.

Habitat: Open fields, parks, and lawns with many trees and shrubs.

Range: Breeds from southeastern Alaska, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec, and New Brunswick southward to Mexico and Panama. Winters north to northern United States.

Scientific Name: *Leucophaeus atricilla*
Common Name: Laughing Gull

Description: 15-17" (38-43 cm). A slender, medium-sized gull with a black hood in breeding plumage. In summer, the adult's back and wings are dark gray; trailing edge of wing is white, and wing tip is black, without white spots. In winter, lacks a hood. Young bird is dark brown with contrasting rump and broad black tail band. See Franklin's Gull.

Voice: Loud, high-pitched ha-ha-ha-ha-haah-haah-haah-haah-haah.

Habitat: Mainly salt marshes and lagoons in West.

Range: Breeds from Nova Scotia to Caribbean; in summer and fall regularly visits Salton Sea in southern California. Winters regularly north to Virginia, in smaller numbers farther north.

Pictures



**Red-bellied Woodpecker-
*Melanerpes carolinus***



Photography by Chuck Tague, Halifax River Audubon Society



Fish Crow- *Corvus ossifragus*



Photography by Chuck Tague, Halifax River Audubon Society

**Tufted Titmouse- *Baeolophus
bicolor***



Photography by Chuck Tague, Halifax River Audubon Society



**Gray Catbird- *Dumetella
carolinensis***

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Corvus ossifragus*
Common Name: Fish Crow

Description: 17" (43 cm). All black, somewhat smaller than American Crow, but size is deceptive in the field. Best told by voice.

Voice: Two calls, both distinct from the American Crow's familiar caw: a nasal kwok and a nasal, two-noted ah-ah. In breeding season, young American Crows have a similar kwok call.

Habitat: Low coastal country, near tidewater and pine barrens in North; in South, also lakes, rivers, and swamps far inland.

Range: Resident on Atlantic Coast from Massachusetts and extreme southern New England south to Florida, and along Gulf Coast west to Texas; also inland along larger rivers north to Illinois. Some northern birds migrate south in winter.

Scientific Name: *Melanerpes carolinensis*
Common Name: Red-bellied Woodpecker

Description: 10" (25 cm). Barred black and white above; pale buff below and on face; sexes similar except that male has red crown and nape, female red nape only. Reddish patch on lower abdomen is seldom visible in the field.

Voice: Chuck-chuck-chuck, descending in pitch. Also a loud, often repeated churrrr.

Habitat: Open and swampy woodlands; comes into parks during migration and to feeders in winter.

Range: Breeds from South Dakota, Great Lakes, and southern New England south to Gulf Coast and Florida. Northernmost birds sometimes migrate south for winter.

Scientific Name: *Dumetella carolinensis*
Common Name: Gray Catbird

Description: 8-9 1/4" (20-23 cm). Smaller than a robin. A slender, long-tailed, dark gray bird with black cap and rusty undertail coverts.

Voice: A long, irregular succession of musical and mechanical notes and phrases; a cat-like mewing. Sometimes seems to mimic other birds.

Habitat: Thickets and brush, residential areas and gardens.

Range: Breeds from British Columbia, Manitoba, and Nova Scotia south to Washington, Texas, and Georgia. Winters from Carolinas and Gulf Coast southward, small numbers occur regularly to southern New England.

Scientific Name: *Baeolophus bicolor*
Common Name: Tufted Titmouse

Description: 6" (15 cm). Sparrow-sized. Gray above and whitish below, with rust-colored sides and conspicuous gray crest. Black-crested Titmouse, found in southwestern Oklahoma and Texas, is similar but has black crest.

Voice: A whistled series of 4 to 8 notes sounding like Peter-Peter, repeated over and over.

Habitat: Swampy or moist woodlands, and shade trees in villages and city parks; in winter, at feeders.

Range: Resident from eastern Nebraska, southern Michigan, and Maine south to Texas, Gulf Coast, and central Florida.

Pictures



Brown Thrasher- *Toxostoma rufum*



Common Yellowthroat- *Geothlypis trichas*



Female

Red-winged Blackbird- *Agelaius phoeniceus*



Female

House Sparrow- *Passer mexicanus*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Geothlypis trichas*

Common Name: Common Yellowthroat

Description: 4 1/2-6" (11-15 cm). Olive-brown above, bright yellow on throat and upper breast. Male has bold black mask, bordered above with white. Females and young males lack face mask, but may be recognized by bright yellow throat and wren-like behavior.

Voice: Loud, fast witchity-witchity-witchity-witchity-wit or which-is-it, which-is-it, which-is-it. Call a sharp chip.

Habitat: Moist thickets and grassy marshes.

Range: Breeds from Alaska, Ontario, and Newfoundland south throughout United States. Winters in southern states and in tropics.

Scientific Name: *Toxostoma rufum*

Common Name: Brown Thrasher

Description: 11 1/2" (29 cm). Rufous-brown above, white below with dark brown streaks. Curved bill, long tail; yellow eye.

Voice: A variety of musical phrases, each repeated twice; call a sharp smack!

Habitat: Thickets, fields with scrub, and woodland borders.

Range: Breeds from southeastern Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, and northern New England south to Gulf Coast and Florida. Winters in southern part of breeding range.

Scientific Name: *Passer mexicanus*

Common Name: House Sparrow

Description: 5-6 1/2" (13-17 cm). Male has black throat, white cheeks, and chestnut nape; gray crown and rump. Female and young are streaked dull brown above, dingy white below, with pale eyebrow.

Voice: Shrill, monotonous, noisy chirping.

Habitat: Cities, towns, and agricultural areas.

Range: Introduced and resident throughout temperate North America. Native to Eurasia and North Africa, and introduced on all continents, excepting Antarctica, and many islands.

Scientific Name: *Agelaius phoeniceus*

Common Name: Red-winged Blackbird

Description: 7-9 1/2" (18-24 cm). Smaller than a robin. Male is black with bright red shoulder patches. Female and young are heavily streaked with dusky brown. See Tricolored Blackbird.

Voice: A rich, musical o-ka-leeeee!

Habitat: Marshes, swamps, and wet and dry meadows; pastures.

Range: Breeds from Alaska east across Canada to Newfoundland and south to northern Baja California, central Mexico, Gulf Coast, and Florida. Winters regularly across United States north to British Columbia, Great Lakes, and Pennsylvania.

Pictures



American Swallow-tailed Kite-
Elanoides forficatus



Least Tern- *Sternula antillarum*



Palm Warbler- *Dendroica palmarum*



Great-crested Flycatcher-
Myiarchus crinitus

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Sternula antillarum*
Common Name: Least Tern

Description: 8-10" (20-25 cm). A very small tern with a black-tipped yellow bill and a fast, shallow wingbeat. White with black cap, pale gray back and wings, and forked tail; white forehead.

Voice: Sharp killick or kip-kip-kip-kiddeek.

Habitat: Sandy and pebbly beaches along the coast; sandbars in large rivers. Often on landfill.

Range: Breeds along California coast, along rivers in Mississippi Valley, and coastally from Maine south to Florida. Winters from Southern Mexico, Caribbean south to coast of South America.

Scientific Name: *Elanoides forficatus*
Common Name: American Swallow-tail Kite

Description: 22-24" (56-61 cm). W. 4' 2" (1.3 m). A graceful bird of prey, with long pointed wings and deeply forked tail; head and underparts white; back, wings, and tail black.

Voice: A shrill klee-klee-klee.

Habitat: Swamps, marshes, river bottoms, and glades in open forests.

Range: Breeds mainly on or near coasts from Texas east to Florida, and north to South Carolina; local farther inland in Gulf states. Winters in American tropics. Also breeds in tropics.

Scientific Name: *Myiarchus crinitus*
Common Name: Great-crested Flycatcher

Description: 9" (23 cm). Slightly crested. Brown above, with gray throat, yellow belly, rufous wings and tail, and pale brown at base of lower mandible.

Voice: A loud, whistled, slightly buzzy wheep, sometimes repeated. Also a raucous whit-whit-whit.

Habitat: Open forests, orchards, and large trees in farm country.

Range: Breeds from south-central and southeastern Canada to Gulf Coast. Winters in southern Florida; also in tropics.

Scientific Name: *Dendroica palmarum*
Common Name: Palm Warbler

Description: 5 1/2" (14 cm). An olive-drab, streaked, ground-feeding warbler with bright olive rump, bright yellow undertail coverts, and distinctive habit of wagging its tail. Underparts vary from yellow to whitish buff, depending on age and geography; adults in spring have rufous cap.

Voice: Weak dry trill, like that of Chipping Sparrow but slower.

Habitat: In summer, bogs in the North; during migration, open places, especially weedy fields and borders of marshes.

Range: Breeds from west-central Canada east to Labrador and Newfoundland, and south to extreme northern portions of United States. Winters from southeastern United States southward.

Pictures



Male



Female

Lesser Scaup- *Aythya affinis*

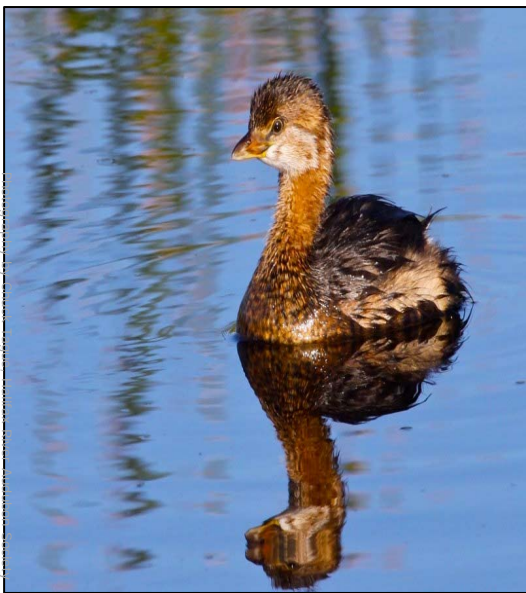
Male

Photography by Cheryl Trague, Halifax River Audubon Society



Female

Red-breasted Merganser- *Mergus serrator*



Pied-billed Grebe- *Podilymbus podiceps*



Photography by Cheryl Trague, Halifax River Audubon Society

American White Pelican- *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Mergus serrator*

Common Name: Red-breasted Merganser

Description: 19-26" (48-66 cm). Male has green head with wispy crest, gray sides, white neck ring, and rusty breast. Female grayish, with reddish-brown head shading gradually into gray of neck. Both sexes are crested and have red bills.

Voice: Usually silent; various croaking and grunting notes during courtship.

Habitat: Breeds on wooded lakes and tundra ponds; winters mainly on salt water.

Range: Breeds in Alaska and across northern Canada to Newfoundland and south to Great Lakes. Winters chiefly along coasts from Alaska south to California, from Maritime Provinces south to Florida, and along Gulf Coast. Also in Eurasia.

Scientific Name: *Aythya affinis*

Common Name: Lesser Scaup

Description: 15-18" (38-46 cm). Male has very light gray body, blackish chest, and black-appearing head. Similar to the Greater Scaup, but crown is higher and forehead steeper, giving the head a more angular appearance. Head of male glossed with purple, not green. Female dark brown with a small white face patch; not easily distinguishable from female Greater Scaup. In flight, white stripe is shorter than that of the Greater Scaup, which extends three-fourths of the wing's length.

Voice: Seldom heard; sharp whistles and guttural scolding notes.

Habitat: Ponds and marshes; during migration and in winter it occurs on lakes, rivers, and ponds, and in the southern states on salt water.

Range: Breeds from interior Alaska and northern Canada south to Colorado and Iowa; occasionally farther east. Winters regularly along coasts south from British Columbia and Massachusetts to Gulf of Mexico; also inland south of Colorado and Great Lakes.

Scientific Name: *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*

Common Name: American White Pelican

Description: 55-70" (1.4-1.8 m). W. 8' (2.4 m). A huge white bird with a long flat bill and black wing tips. In breeding season, has short yellowish crest on back of head and horny plate on upper mandible. Young birds dusker than adults.

Voice: Usually silent; grunts or croaks on nesting grounds.

Habitat: Shallow lakes and coastal lagoons.

Range: Breeds from British Columbia and Mackenzie south to northern California, Utah, and Manitoba; also along Texas Gulf Coast. Winters from central California, Gulf Coast, and Florida south to Panama.

Scientific Name: *Podilymbus podiceps*

Common Name: Pied-billed Grebe

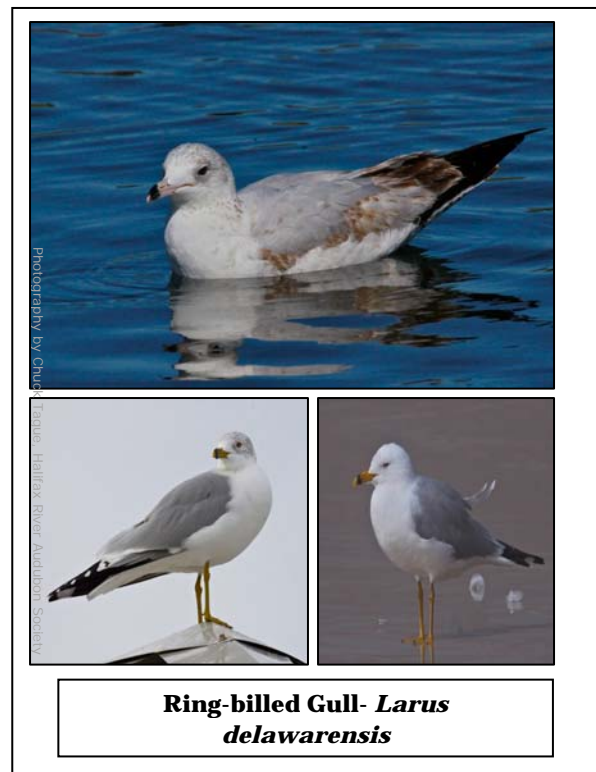
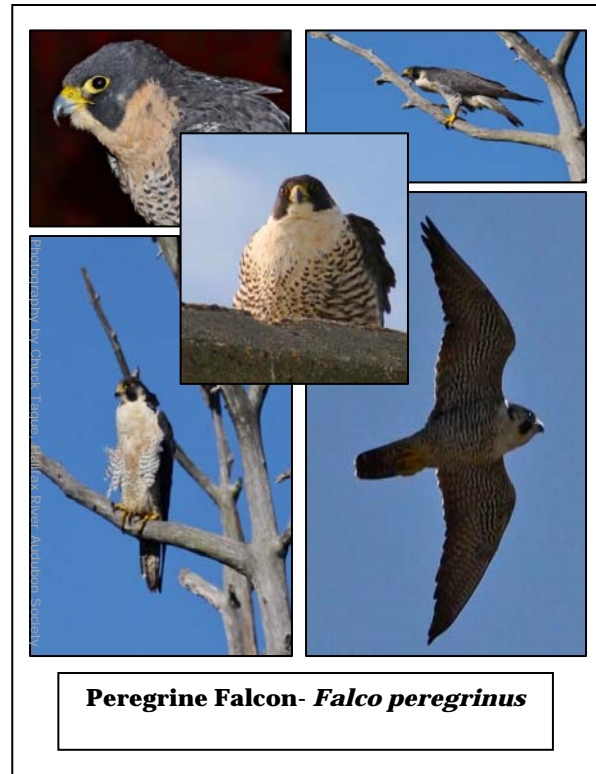
Description: 12-15" (30-38 cm). Pigeon-sized. A stocky, uniformly brownish water bird, with stout whitish bill that has black ring around it during breeding season.

Voice: A series of hollow cuckoo-like notes, cow-cow-cow-cow, cow, cow, cowp, cowp, cowp, that slows down at the end; various clucking sounds.

Habitat: Marshes, ponds; salt water in winter if freshwater habitats freeze.

Range: Marshes, ponds; salt water in winter if freshwater habitats freeze.

Pictures



Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Falco peregrinus*
Common Name: Peregrine Falcon

Description: 15-21" (38-53 cm). W. 3' 4" (1 m). A large robust falcon with a black hood and wide black "mustaches." Adults slate-gray above and pale below, with fine black bars and spots. Young birds brown or brownish slate above, heavily streaked below.

Voice: Rasping kack-kack-kack-kack, usually heard at nest; otherwise generally silent.

Habitat: Open country, especially along rivers; also near lakes, along coasts, and in cities. Migrates chiefly along coasts.

Range: Open country, especially along rivers; also near lakes, along coasts, and in cities. Migrates chiefly along coasts.

Scientific Name: *Falco sparverius*
Common Name: American Kestrel

Description: 9-12" (23-30 cm). W. 21" (53 cm). A jay-sized falcon, often seen hovering. Recognizable in all plumages by rusty tail and back. Adult male has slate-blue wings. Female has rusty wings and back, narrow bands on tail. Both sexes have 2 black stripes on face.

Voice: Shrill killy-killy-killy.

Habitat: Towns and cities, parks, farmlands, and open country.

Range: Breeds from Alaska and Northwest Territories east through Maritime Provinces and south throughout continent. Winters north to British Columbia, Great Lakes, and New England. Also in American tropics.

Scientific Name: *Larus delawarensis*
Common Name: Ring-billed Gull

Description: 18-20" (46-51 cm). Adult silvery gray on back, white on head, tail, and underparts. Similar to Herring Gull but smaller, with greenish-yellow feet and narrow black ring around bill. Young birds mottled brown, paler than young Herring Gulls, with blackish tail band and flesh-colored legs. Acquires adult plumage in 3 years. See Mew Gull.

Voice: Loud, raucous mewing cry, like that of Herring Gull but higher pitched.

Habitat: Lakes and rivers; many move to salt water in winter.

Range: Breeds in Northwest (locally south to California), northern Great Plains, and southern prairie provinces of Canada; also in Great Lakes region, Canadian Maritimes, and northern New England. Winters on coasts, rivers, and lakes from southern New England south to Cuba, from Great Lakes to Gulf Coast, and from British Columbia to southern Mexico.

Scientific Name: *Fulica americana*
Common Name: American Coot

Description: 15" (38 cm). A gray, duck-like bird with white bill and frontal shield, white undertail coverts, and lobed toes. Frontal shield has red swelling at upper edge, visible at close range. Immatures similar but paler, with duller bill.

Voice: A variety of clucks, cackles, grunts, and other harsh notes.

Habitat: Open ponds and marshes; in winter, also on coastal bays and inlets.

Range: Breeds from British Columbia, western Canada, and New York locally southward. Winters north to British Columbia, Kansas, Illinois, and Massachusetts. Also in American tropics.

Pictures



Caspian Tern- *Hydroprogne caspia*



Photography by Chuck



Tree Swallow- *Tachycineta bicolor*



Photography by Chuck Tague, Halifax River Audubon Society

American Robin- *Turdus migratorius*



Photography by Chuck Tague, Halifax River Audubon Society



American Redstart- *Setophaga ruticilla*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Tachycineta bicolor*
Common Name: Tree Swallow

Description: 5-6 1/4" (13-16 cm). Sparrow-sized. Metallic blue or blue-green above and clear white below. Young birds are dull brown above but may be distinguished from Bank and Northern Rough-winged swallows by their clearer white underparts.

Voice: Cheerful series of liquid twitters.

Habitat: Lakeshores, flooded meadows, marshes, and streams.

Range: Breeds from Alaska east through northern Manitoba to Newfoundland and south to California, Colorado, Nebraska, and Maryland. Winters north to southern California, Gulf Coast, and Carolinas; occasionally farther.

Scientific Name: *Hydroprogne caspia*
Common Name: Caspian Tern

Description: 19-23" (48-58 cm). The largest tern. Largely white, with black cap, slight crest, pale gray back and wings, heavy bright red bill, dusky underwing. Royal Tern similar, but has orange-red bill, more obvious crest, paler underwing; almost never seen away from coast.

Voice: Low harsh kraa. Also a shorter kow.

Habitat: Sandy or pebbly shores of lakes and large rivers and along seacoasts.

Range: Breeds in scattered colonies from Mackenzie, Great Lakes, and Newfoundland south to Gulf Coast and Baja California. Winters north to California and North Carolina. Also breeds in Eurasia, Africa, and Australia.

Scientific Name: *Setophaga ruticilla*
Common Name: American Redstart

Description: 4 1/2-5 1/2" (11-14 cm). Male black with bright orange patches on wings and tail; white belly. Females and young birds dull olive-brown above, white below, with yellow wing and tail patches. Immature similar to adult female. Immature male has darker tail and some irregular patches of black on head and body.

Voice: 5 or 6 high-pitched notes or 2-note phrases, ending with an upward or downward inflection: chewy-chewy-chewy, chew-chew-chew.

Habitat: Second-growth woodlands; thickets with saplings.

Range: Breeds from southeastern Alaska east to central Manitoba, Quebec, and Newfoundland, and south to northern California, Colorado, Oklahoma, northern Louisiana, and South Carolina. Winters in California, Texas, and Florida, and in tropics.

Scientific Name: *Turdus migratorius*
Common Name: American Robin

Description: 9-11" (23-28 cm). Gray above, brick red below. Head and tail black in males, dull gray in females. Young birds are spotted below.

Voice: Song is a series of rich caroling notes, rising and falling in pitch: cheer-up, cheerily, cheer-up, cheerily.

Habitat: Towns, gardens, open woodlands, and agricultural land.

Range: Breeds from Alaska east across continent to Newfoundland and south to California, Texas, Arkansas, and South Carolina. Winters north to British Columbia and Newfoundland.

Pictures



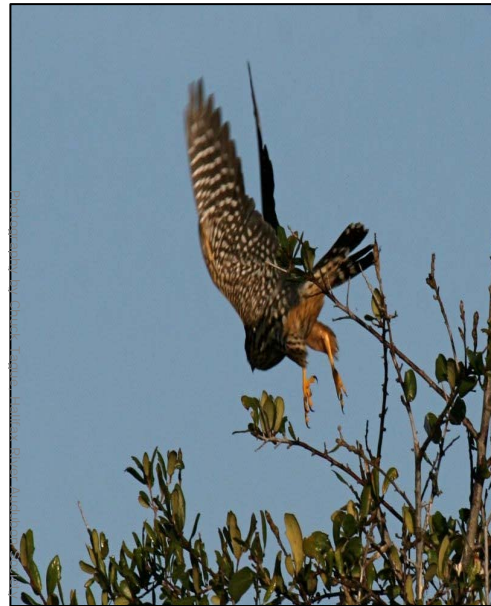
Hooded Merganser- *Lophodytes cucullatus*



Common Loon- *Gavia immer*



Northern Harrier- *Circus cyaneus*



Merlin- *Falco columbarius*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Gavia immer*
Common Name: Common Loon

Description: 28-36" (71-91 cm). A large, heavy-bodied loon with a thick, pointed, usually black or dark gray bill held horizontally. In breeding plumage, head and neck black with white bands on neck; back black with white spots. In winter, crown, hindneck, and upperparts dark grayish; throat and underparts white.

Voice: Best-known call a loud, wailing laugh, also a mournful yodeled oo-AH-ho with middle note higher, and a loud ringing kee-a-ree, kee-a-ree with middle note lower. Often calls at night and sometimes on migration.

Habitat: Nests on forested lakes and rivers; winters mainly on coastal bays and ocean.

Range: Breeds from Aleutian Islands, Alaska, and northern Canada south to California, Montana, and Massachusetts. Winters along Great Lakes, Gulf Coast, Atlantic and Pacific coasts. Also breeds in Greenland and Iceland.

Scientific Name: *Lophodytes cucullatus*
Common Name: Hooded Merganser

Description: 16-19" (41-48 cm). A small duck with a slender pointed bill. Male has white, fan-shaped, black-bordered crest, blackish body with dull rusty flanks, and white breast with 2 black stripes down side. Female is dull gray-brown, with warmer brown head and crest. Both sexes show white wing patch in flight.

Voice: Hoarse grunts and chatters.

Habitat: Breeds on wooded ponds, lakes, and rivers; winters in coastal marshes and inlets.

Range: Breeds from southern Alaska south to Oregon and Montana, and from Manitoba and Nova Scotia south to Arkansas and northern Alabama. Winters near coast from British Columbia south to California and from New England south to Florida and Texas.

Scientific Name: *Falco columbarius*
Common Name: Merlin

Description: 10-14" (25-36 cm). W. 23" (58 cm). A jay-sized falcon, stockier than American Kestrel. Slate colored (males) or brownish (females) above; light and streaked below. Long tail boldly banded. Lacks facial stripes of most other falcons.

Voice: High, loud cackle, also klee-klee-klee like an American Kestrel, but usually silent.

Habitat: Coniferous forests; more widespread in winter.

Range: Breeds from Alaska east through Mackenzie to Newfoundland and south to Wyoming, Montana, and northeastern Maine. Winters mainly in southern United States north along West Coast to British Columbia and on East Coast to southern New England; locally elsewhere north to southern Canada. Also in tropical America and Eurasia.

Scientific Name: *Circus cyaneus*
Common Name: Northern Harrier

Description: 16-24" (41-61 cm). W. 3' 6" (1.1 m). A long-winged, long-tailed hawk with a white rump, usually seen gliding unsteadily over marshes with its wings held in a shallow V. Male has pale gray back, head, and breast; wing tips black. Female and young are brown above, streaked below, young birds with a rusty tone.

Voice: At the nest it utters a kee-kee-kee-kee or a sharp whistle, but usually silent.

Habitat: Marshes and open grasslands.

Range: Breeds from Alaska, northern Canada, and Maritime Provinces south to southern California, Arizona, Kansas, and Virginia. Winters from South America north to British Columbia, Great Lakes, and New Brunswick. Also in Eurasia.

Pictures



Forster's Tern- *Sterna forsteri*



Red-eyed Vireo- *Vireo olivaceus*



Marsh Wren- *Cistothorus palustris*



Ruby-crowned Kinglet- *Regulus calendula*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Vireo olivaceus*
Common Name: Red-eyed Vireo

Description: 5 1/2 -6 1/2" (14-17 cm). Sparrow-sized. Olive green above, whitish below, with a narrow white eyebrow bordered above with black. Gray crown; red eye (eye dark in immature); no wing bars. Warbling Vireo similar, but lacks gray crown and black border over bold white eyebrow.

Voice: A series of short, musical, robin-like phrases endlessly repeated; like that of Solitary Vireo but faster and not so musical.

Habitat: Broad-leaved forests; shade trees in residential areas.

Range: Breeds from British Columbia, Ontario, and Gulf of Saint Lawrence south to Oregon, Colorado, Gulf Coast, and Florida. Winters in tropics.

Scientific Name: *Sterna forsteri*
Common Name: Forster's Tern

Description: 14-15" (36-38 cm). White with pale gray back and wings, black cap, and deeply forked tail. Bill orange with black tip. Similar to Common Tern, but wing tips frosty white, bill more orange. In winter, lacks black cap but has distinctive black mark behind eye.

Voice: Harsh nasal beep.

Habitat: Freshwater marshes in West; salt marshes in East.

Range: Breeds along Atlantic Coast from Massachusetts to Texas and in interior from Alberta and California east to Great Lakes. Winters along coasts from California and Virginia southward.

Scientific Name: *Regulus calendula*
Common Name: Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Description: 3 3/4-4 1/2" (10-11 cm). Tiny. Similar to Golden-crowned Kinglet, but greener, with no face pattern except for narrow white eye ring. 2 white wing bars with dark area beyond second. Males have tuft of red feathers on crown, kept concealed unless bird is aroused. Hutton's Vireo is larger, with thicker bill, larger head, and no dark area beyond second wing bar.

Voice: Song an excited musical chattering.

Habitat: Coniferous forests in summer; also deciduous forests and thickets in winter.

Range: Breeds from Alaska east across Canada to Newfoundland, south to southern California and New Mexico in West, and to Great Lakes region and northern New England in East. Winters south from southern British Columbia and California across southern tier of states to southern England.

Scientific Name: *Cistothorus palustris*
Common Name: Marsh Wren

Description: 4-5 1/2" (10-14 cm). Smaller than a sparrow. Brown above, pale buff below, with bold white eyebrow and white-streaked back.

Voice: Liquid gurgling song ending in a mechanical chatter that sounds like a sewing machine.

Habitat: Freshwater and brackish marshes with cattails, reeds, bulrushes, or sedges.

Range: Breeds from British Columbia, central interior Canada, Manitoba, and Nova Scotia south to Mexico, Gulf Coast, and Florida. Winters across southern tier of states, north to Washington on West Coast and in East to New Jersey.

Pictures



Cedar Waxwing- *Bombycilla cedrorum*



Yellow-rumped Warbler- *Dendroica coronata*



Bald Eagle - *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*

Descriptions

Scientific Name: *Dendroica coronata*
Common Name: Yellow-rumped Warbler

Description: 5-6" (13-15 cm). Breeding male dull bluish above, streaked with black; breast and flanks blackish. Rump, crown, and small area at sides of breast yellow. Western male ("Audubon's Warbler") has yellow throat, large white patch in folded wing. Eastern male ("Myrtle Warbler") has white throat, 2 white wing bars. Females, fall males, and young are streaked gray-brown but always have yellow rump and white spots in tail.

Voice: A colorless buzzy warble; a sharp chek!

Habitat: Coniferous and mixed forests; widespread during migration and in winter.

Range: Breeds from northern Alaska, northern Manitoba, central Quebec, and Newfoundland south in West to northern Mexico and in East to Michigan, northern New York, Massachusetts, and Maine. Winters from southern part of breeding range southward into tropics.

Scientific Name: *Bombycilla cedrorum*
Common Name: Cedar Waxwing

Description: 6 1/2-8" (17-20 cm). Smaller than a robin. A sleek, crested, brown bird with black mask, yellow tips (sometimes reddish) on tail feathers, and hard red wax-like tips on secondary wing feathers. Almost always seen in flocks.

Voice: A thin lisp, tseee.

Habitat: Open woodlands, orchards, and residential areas.

Range: Breeds from southeastern Alaska east to Newfoundland and south to California, Illinois, and Virginia. Winters from British Columbia, Great Lakes region, and New England southward.

Scientific Name: *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*
Common Name: Bald Eagle

Description: 30-31" (76-79 cm). W. 6-7' 6" (1.8-2.3 m). A large blackish eagle with white head and tail and heavy yellow bill. Young birds lack the white head and tail, and resemble adult Golden Eagles, but are variably marked with white and have a black, more massive bill.

Voice: Squeaky cackling and thin squeals.

Habitat: Lakes, rivers, marshes, and seacoasts.

Range: Breeds from Alaska east to Newfoundland and south locally to California, Great Lakes, and Virginia; also in Arizona, along Gulf Coast, and in Florida. Formerly more widespread. Winters along coasts and large rivers in much of United States.