

JAYS AND CROWS

- ___ Blue Jay B
- ___ American Crow B
- ___ Fish Crow B

LARKS

- ___ **Horned Lark**

SWALLOWS

- ___ Purple Martin B
- ___ Tree Swallow
- ___ N. Rough-winged Swallow B
- ___ Bank Swallow
- ___ Cliff Swallow B
- ___ Cave Swallow
- ___ Barn Swallow B

CHICKADEES AND TITMICE

- ___ Carolina Chickadee B
- ___ Tufted Titmouse B

NUTHATCHES

- ___ Red-breasted Nuthatch
- ___ **White-breasted Nuthatch**
- ___ Brown-headed Nuthatch B

CREEPERS

- ___ Brown Creeper

WRENS

- ___ **Rock Wren**
- ___ Carolina Wren B
- ___ Bewick's Wren
- ___ House Wren
- ___ Winter Wren
- ___ Sedge Wren
- ___ Marsh Wren B

GNATCATCHERS

- ___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher B

KINGLETS

- ___ Golden-crowned Kinglet
- ___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet

THRUSHES AND ALLIES

- ___ **Northern Wheatear**
- ___ Eastern Bluebird B
- ___ Veery
- ___ Gray-cheeked Thrush
- ___ Swainson's Thrush
- ___ Hermit Thrush
- ___ Wood Thrush B
- ___ American Robin B
- ___ **Varied Thrush**

MIMIC THRUSHES

- ___ Gray Catbird B
- ___ Northern Mockingbird B
- ___ **Sage Thrasher**
- ___ Brown Thrasher B

STARLINGS

- ___ European Starling B

WAGTAILS AND PIPITS

- ___ **Yellow/Eastern Yellow Wagtail**
- ___ American Pipit
- ___ Sprague's Pipit

WAXWINGS

- ___ Cedar Waxwing

LONGSPURS AND ALLIES

- ___ Lapland Longspur
- ___ **Chestnut-collared Longspur**
- ___ **Smith's Longspur H**
- ___ **Snow Bunting**

WOOD WARBLERS

- ___ Blue-winged Warbler
- ___ Golden-winged Warbler
- ___ Tennessee Warbler
- ___ Orange-crowned Warbler
- ___ Nashville Warbler
- ___ Northern Parula B
- ___ Yellow Warbler
- ___ Chestnut-sided Warbler
- ___ Magnolia Warbler
- ___ Cape May Warbler
- ___ Black-throated Blue Warbler
- ___ Yellow-rumped Warbler
- ___ **Black-throated Gray Warbler**
- ___ Black-throated Green Warbler
- ___ **Townsend's Warbler H**
- ___ Blackburnian Warbler
- ___ Yellow-throated Warbler B
- ___ Pine Warbler B
- ___ Prairie Warbler B
- ___ Palm Warbler
- ___ Bay-breasted Warbler
- ___ Blackpoll Warbler
- ___ Cerulean Warbler
- ___ Black-and-white Warbler
- ___ American Redstart B
- ___ Prothonotary Warbler B
- ___ Worm-eating Warbler
- ___ Swainson's Warbler B
- ___ Ovenbird
- ___ Northern Waterthrush
- ___ Louisiana Waterthrush
- ___ Kentucky Warbler B
- ___ **Connecticut Warbler**
- ___ Mourning Warbler
- ___ **MacGillivray's Warbler**
- ___ Common Yellowthroat B
- ___ Hooded Warbler B
- ___ Wilson's Warbler
- ___ Canada Warbler
- ___ **Painted Redstart**
- ___ Yellow-breasted Chat B



SPARROWS AND ALLIES

- ___ **Green-tailed Towhee**
- ___ Eastern Towhee B
- ___ Bachman's Sparrow B
- ___ **American Tree Sparrow**
- ___ Chipping Sparrow
- ___ Clay-colored Sparrow
- ___ Field Sparrow B
- ___ Vesper Sparrow
- ___ Lark Sparrow
- ___ **Lark Bunting**
- ___ Savannah Sparrow
- ___ Grasshopper Sparrow
- ___ Henslow's Sparrow
- ___ Le Conte's Sparrow
- ___ Nelson's Sparrow
- ___ Seaside Sparrow B
- ___ Fox Sparrow
- ___ Song Sparrow
- ___ Lincoln's Sparrow
- ___ Swamp Sparrow
- ___ White-throated Sparrow
- ___ **Harris's Sparrow**
- ___ White-crowned Sparrow
- ___ Dark-eyed Junco

TANAGERS

- ___ Summer Tanager B
- ___ Scarlet Tanager
- ___ Western Tanager

GROSBEAKS AND ALLIES

- ___ Northern Cardinal B
- ___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak
- ___ Black-headed Grosbeak
- ___ Blue Grosbeak B
- ___ **Lazuli Bunting**
- ___ Indigo Bunting B
- ___ Painted Bunting B
- ___ Dickcissel

BLACKBIRDS AND ALLIES

- ___ Bobolink
- ___ Red-winged Blackbird B
- ___ Eastern Meadowlark B
- ___ Western Meadowlark
- ___ Yellow-headed Blackbird
- ___ Rusty Blackbird
- ___ Brewer's Blackbird
- ___ Common Grackle B
- ___ Boat-tailed Grackle B
- ___ **Great-tailed Grackle H**
- ___ Shiny Cowbird
- ___ Bronzed Cowbird
- ___ Brown-headed Cowbird B
- ___ Orchard Oriole B
- ___ **Hooded Oriole**
- ___ **Bullock's Oriole**
- ___ Baltimore Oriole

CARDUELINE FINCHES AND ALLIES

- ___ Purple Finch
- ___ House Finch B
- ___ **Common Redpoll**
- ___ Pine Siskin
- ___ American Goldfinch
- ___ **Evening Grosbeak**

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

- ___ House Sparrow B

___ Total



NAME: _____

DATE: _____

LOCATION: _____

REMARKS: Nutmeg Mannikins and other unestablished exotics are occasionally seen in Baldwin and Mobile Counties, but are not yet on the official list.

FIELD NOTES:

CHECKLIST OF THE BIRDS OF THE GULF COAST REGION OF ALABAMA



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Introduction

This checklist, updated through 16 Apr 2011, covers the Gulf Coast Region of Alabama, comprised of Baldwin and Mobile Counties. Included is the Gulf of Mexico extending out to 200 nautical miles south of the 30 mile coastline, the Mobile Bay estuary, Gaillard Island, Dauphin Island, and Fort Morgan. The latter two are regionally important resting and staging areas for Neotropical migrants. North of I-10 and the city of Mobile is the 400 square mile Mobile-Tensaw Delta and adjacent uplands of subclimax pine forests, mixed hardwoods, and scattered pastures and croplands.

The Gulf Coast Region is a relatively small area, but it carries a lot of weight. Of the 445 species listed for the entire state, 420, or about 95 percent, have been observed in Baldwin and Mobile Counties. Many of these can be seen in the proper season and habitat at sites along the Alabama Coastal Birding Trail which ties together the best birding locations in the two counties. One hundred and thirty, or 30 percent, of the 420 species listed here breed in Baldwin and Mobile Counties (indicated by a "B").

In the spring when the weather conditions are right, Dauphin Island and Fort Morgan may have spectacular "fallouts" of colorful warblers, tanagers, grosbeaks, buntings, and orioles. In September and October thousands of hawks, mostly Broad-wingeds pass over Fort Morgan. The Fort Morgan peninsula and Dauphin Island are also "vagrant traps" where a number of rarities have been recorded over the years.

In winter thousands of gulls, mostly Laughing, Ring-billed, and Herring, gather at the Magnolia Landfill in south Baldwin. This is the best site on the Alabama Gulf Coast for observing gulls and is known for the occasional rarities that have turned up there including Franklin's, California, Thayer's, Iceland, Lesser Black-backed, Glaucous-winged, and Glaucous Gulls.

Also in winter, ten species of hummingbirds have been documented and banded in the Gulf Coast Region. Ruby-throated, Black-chinned, and Rufous are the most frequently seen, but Buff-bellied and Calliope are usually present most winters as well.

Acknowledgments

This checklist is the result of many years of observations by experienced observers including independents, members of the Mobile Bay Audubon Society, the Eastern Shore Birders, the Coastal Birding Association, and the Alabama Ornithological Society.

John Borom, Venetia Friend, Howard Horne, Greg Jackson, Steve McConnell, and Eric Soehren critically reviewed the list and contributed information from their personal records and the Alabama state database.

- B** = Breeds
- H** = Hypothetical. Record accepted by the Alabama Bird Records Committee but lacking a specimen, photo, or recording, and seen by fewer than three qualified observers.
- P** = Pelagic. Most sightings far off-shore, out of sight of land.

Bold print. Recorded less than ten times or less than two times in the last ten years. *Report sightings to Greg Jackson (g_d_jackson@bellsouth.net).*

Graphic Design by *Kathy Hicks*.
Compilation and paintings by *Bill Summerour*.

For dates of occurrence and relative abundance refer to *A Birder's Guide to Alabama*, John Porter (ed.), University of Alabama Press (2001).

DUCKS, GEESE AND SWANS

- ___ Black-bellied Whistling-Duck B
- ___ **Fulvous Whistling-Duck**
- ___ Greater White-fronted Goose
- ___ Snow Goose
- ___ Ross's Goose
- ___ **Brant**
- ___ **Cackling Goose** H
- ___ Canada Goose B
- ___ **Tundra Swan**
- ___ Wood Duck B
- ___ Gadwall
- ___ American Wigeon
- ___ **American Black Duck**
- ___ Mallard B
- ___ Mottled Duck B
- ___ Blue-winged Teal
- ___ **Cinnamon Teal**
- ___ Northern Shoveler
- ___ **White-cheeked Pintail**
- ___ Northern Pintail
- ___ **Garganey** H
- ___ Green-winged Teal
- ___ Canvasback
- ___ Redhead
- ___ Ring-necked Duck
- ___ Greater Scaup
- ___ Lesser Scaup
- ___ **Harlequin Duck**
- ___ Surf Scoter
- ___ White-winged Scoter
- ___ Black Scoter
- ___ Long-tailed Duck
- ___ Bufflehead
- ___ Common Goldeneye
- ___ Hooded Merganser B
- ___ Common Merganser
- ___ Red-breasted Merganser
- ___ Ruddy Duck

NEW WORLD QUAILS

- ___ Northern Bobwhite B

TURKEYS AND ALLIES

- ___ Wild Turkey B

LOONS

- ___ Red-throated Loon
- ___ Pacific Loon
- ___ Common Loon

GREBES

- ___ Pied-billed Grebe B
- ___ Horned Grebe
- ___ **Red-necked Grebe**
- ___ Eared Grebe

SHEARWATERS

- ___ Cory's Shearwater P
- ___ Great Shearwater P
- ___ **Sooty Shearwater** P
- ___ **Audubon's Shearwater** P

STORM-PETRELS

- ___ Wilson's Storm-Petrel P
- ___ **Leach's Storm-Petrel** P
- ___ Band-rumped Storm-Petrel P

TROPICBIRDS

- ___ **Red-billed Tropicbird** P

STORKS

- ___ Wood Stork

FRIGATEBIRDS

- ___ Magnificent Frigatebird

BOOBIES AND GANNETS

- ___ Masked Booby
- ___ Brown Booby
- ___ Northern Gannet

CORMORANTS

- ___ **Neotropic Cormorant**
- ___ Double-crested Cormorant
- ___ Great Cormorant

DARTERS

- ___ Anhinga B

PELICANS

- ___ American White Pelican
- ___ Brown Pelican B

HERONS AND ALLIES

- ___ American Bittern
- ___ Least Bittern B
- ___ Great Blue Heron B
- ___ Great Egret B
- ___ Snowy Egret B
- ___ Little Blue Heron B
- ___ Tricolored Heron B
- ___ Reddish Egret B
- ___ Cattle Egret B
- ___ Green Heron B
- ___ Black-crowned Night-Heron B
- ___ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron B



IBISES AND SPOONBILLS

- ___ White Ibis B
- ___ Glossy Ibis B
- ___ White-faced Ibis
- ___ Roseate Spoonbill

NEW WORLD VULTURES

- ___ Black Vulture B
- ___ Turkey Vulture B

OSPREY

- ___ Osprey B

KITES, HAWKS, AND EAGLES

- ___ Swallow-tailed Kite B
- ___ **White-tailed Kite**
- ___ Mississippi Kite B
- ___ Bald Eagle B
- ___ Northern Harrier
- ___ Sharp-shinned Hawk
- ___ Cooper's Hawk B
- ___ Red-shouldered Hawk B
- ___ Broad-winged Hawk B
- ___ **Short-tailed Hawk**
- ___ Swainson's Hawk
- ___ Red-tailed Hawk B
- ___ **Ferruginous Hawk** H
- ___ **Rough-legged Hawk**
- ___ Golden Eagle

FALCONS AND ALLIES

- ___ **Crested Caracara**
- ___ American Kestrel
- ___ Merlin
- ___ Peregrine Falcon
- ___ **Prairie Falcon** H

RAILS AND ALLIES

- ___ Yellow Rail
- ___ Black Rail
- ___ Clapper Rail B
- ___ King Rail B
- ___ Virginia Rail
- ___ Sora
- ___ Purple Gallinule B
- ___ Common Moorhen B
- ___ American Coot

CRANES

- ___ Sandhill Crane
- ___ **Whooping Crane** H

PLOVERS

- ___ Black-bellied Plover
- ___ American Golden-Plover
- ___ Snowy Plover B
- ___ Wilson's Plover B
- ___ Semipalmated Plover
- ___ Piping Plover
- ___ Killdeer B
- ___ **Mountain Plover**

OYSTERCATCHERS

- ___ American Oystercatcher B

STILTS AND AVOCETS

- ___ Black-necked Stilt B
- ___ American Avocet

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES

- ___ Spotted Sandpiper
- ___ Solitary Sandpiper
- ___ Greater Yellowlegs
- ___ Willet B
- ___ Lesser Yellowlegs
- ___ Upland Sandpiper
- ___ Whimbrel
- ___ Long-billed Curlew
- ___ **Hudsonian Godwit**
- ___ Marbled Godwit
- ___ Ruddy Turnstone
- ___ Red Knot
- ___ Sanderling
- ___ Semipalmated Sandpiper
- ___ Western Sandpiper
- ___ Least Sandpiper
- ___ White-winged Sandpiper
- ___ Baird's Sandpiper
- ___ Pectoral Sandpiper
- ___ **Purple Sandpiper**
- ___ Dunlin
- ___ **Curlew Sandpiper**
- ___ Stilt Sandpiper
- ___ Buff-breasted Sandpiper
- ___ **Ruff**
- ___ Short-billed Dowitcher
- ___ Long-billed Dowitcher
- ___ Wilson's Snipe
- ___ American Woodcock B
- ___ Wilson's Phalarope
- ___ **Red-necked Phalarope**
- ___ **Red Phalarope** P

GULLS

- ___ Black-legged Kittiwake
- ___ **Sabine's Gull**
- ___ Bonaparte's Gull
- ___ **Little Gull**
- ___ Laughing Gull B
- ___ Franklin's Gull
- ___ Ring-billed Gull
- ___ **California Gull** H
- ___ Herring Gull
- ___ **Thayer's Gull**
- ___ **Iceland Gull**
- ___ Lesser Black-backed Gull
- ___ **Glaucous-winged Gull**
- ___ Glaucous Gull
- ___ Great Black-backed Gull

TERNS

- ___ **Brown Noddy**
- ___ Sooty Tern B
- ___ Bridled Tern
- ___ Least Tern B
- ___ Gull-billed Tern B
- ___ Caspian Tern B
- ___ Black Tern
- ___ **Roseate Tern** H
- ___ Common Tern B
- ___ **Arctic Tern** H
- ___ Forster's Tern
- ___ Royal Tern B
- ___ Sandwich Tern B

SKIMMERS

- ___ Black Skimmer B

SKUAS AND JAEGERERS

- ___ Pomarine Jaeger
- ___ Parasitic Jaeger
- ___ **Long-tailed Jaeger** H

PIGEONS AND DOVES

- ___ Rock Pigeon B
- ___ **Band-tailed Pigeon** H
- ___ Eurasian Collared-Dove B
- ___ White-winged Dove B
- ___ Mourning Dove B
- ___ **Inca Dove**
- ___ Common Ground-Dove B

CUCKOOS AND ALLIES

- ___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo B
- ___ **Mangrove Cuckoo**
- ___ Black-billed Cuckoo
- ___ Groove-billed Ani

BARN OWLS

- ___ Barn Owl B

TYPICAL OWLS

- ___ **Flammulated Owl**
- ___ Eastern Screech-Owl B
- ___ Great Horned Owl B
- ___ **Snowy Owl** H
- ___ **Burrowing Owl**
- ___ Barred Owl B
- ___ **Long-eared Owl**
- ___ **Short-eared Owl**

NIGHTJARS

- ___ **Lesser Nighthawk**
- ___ Common Nighthawk B
- ___ Chuck-will's-widow B
- ___ Eastern Whip-poor-will

SWIFTS

- ___ **Black Swift**
- ___ Chimney Swift B
- ___ **Vaux's Swift** H

HUMMINGBIRDS

- ___ **Green Violetear**
- ___ **Broad-billed Hummingbird**
- ___ Buff-bellied Hummingbird
- ___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird B
- ___ Black-chinned Hummingbird
- ___ **Anna's Hummingbird**
- ___ Calliope Hummingbird
- ___ **Broad-tailed Hummingbird**
- ___ Rufous Hummingbird
- ___ Allen's Hummingbird

KINGFISHERS

- ___ Belted Kingfisher B



WOODPECKERS

- ___ Red-headed Woodpecker B
- ___ Red-bellied Woodpecker B
- ___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
- ___ Downy Woodpecker B
- ___ Hairy Woodpecker B
- ___ **Red-cockaded Woodpecker**
- ___ Northern Flicker B
- ___ Pileated Woodpecker B

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

- ___ Olive-sided Flycatcher
- ___ Eastern Wood-Pewee B
- ___ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
- ___ Acadian Flycatcher B
- ___ **Alder Flycatcher**
- ___ **Willow Flycatcher**
- ___ Least Flycatcher
- ___ **Hammond's Flycatcher**
- ___ **Dusky Flycatcher**
- ___ **Pacific-slope/Cordilleran Flyc.**
- ___ Eastern Phoebe
- ___ **Say's Phoebe**
- ___ Vermilion Flycatcher
- ___ Ash-throated Flycatcher
- ___ Great Crested Flycatcher B
- ___ **Brown-crested Flycatcher**
- ___ **Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher**
- ___ **Couch's Kingbird**
- ___ Western Kingbird
- ___ Eastern Kingbird B
- ___ Gray Kingbird B
- ___ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
- ___ **Fork-tailed Flycatcher**

SHRIKES

- ___ Loggerhead Shrike B

VIREOS

- ___ White-eyed Vireo B
- ___ Bell's Vireo
- ___ Yellow-throated Vireo B
- ___ **Plumbeous Vireo** H
- ___ Blue-headed Vireo
- ___ Warbling Vireo
- ___ Philadelphia Vireo
- ___ Red-eyed Vireo B
- ___ **Yellow-green Vireo**
- ___ Black-whiskered Vireo