

BIRDS OF FORT HOOD, TEXAS: CHECKLIST AND MONTHLY ABUNDANCES

Compiled by Rich Kostecke, David Cimprich, and Mike Stake (11 November 2005)

Fort Hood Military Reservation (219,000 acres) is located within Bell and Coryell counties along the border of the Edwards Plateau and Crosstimbers and Southern Tallgrass Prairie ecoregions in central Texas. To date, 302 species have been documented on Fort Hood. Monthly abundances are based on the number of individuals of a species that are likely to be seen during a typical birding visit to Fort Hood. For some species, we lack information on when exactly they were seen on Fort Hood and monthly abundance codes are not provided for these species. This checklist only represents our current knowledge of the Fort Hood avifauna. Much remains to be learned about Fort Hood's birds. Several expected species have not yet been documented on Fort Hood or during expected months. Additionally, birding efforts have been biased towards shrublands and mature Ashe juniper-oak woodlands where research on the endangered Black-capped Vireo and Golden-cheeked Warbler is conducted during March through July. Other habitats (e.g., grasslands, riparian woodlands, and wetlands) and times of year (e.g., fall and winter) have received less attention.

This checklist is a work in progress. We would appreciate receiving any information on the occurrence and abundance of birds on Fort Hood. In particular, data on arrival and departure dates of migrant species; species which are currently designated as rare, very rare, casual, accidental, or hypothetical; evidence of breeding activity (particularly for species which have not previously been documented as breeding on the Reservation; new records for a given month; new species for the checklist; unusual (low or high) numbers; etc. would be greatly appreciated. Please forward such information to:

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ABUNDANCE CODES

- A Abundant: >100/day **usually seen daily** in appropriate habitat
 - C Common: 25–100/day **usually seen daily** in appropriate habitat
 - FC Fairly Common: 10–25/day **usually seen daily** in appropriate habitat
 - U Uncommon: 1–10/day; **usually seen daily** in appropriate habitat
 - R Rare: typically 1–5/day and 1–10/month; **usually not seen daily**
 - VR Very Rare: 10–40 records for the month
 - Ca Casual: 4–10 records for the month
 - X Accidental: 1–3 records for the month
 - H Hypothetical: Sighting is unsubstantiated.
 - * Has bred on base at least once or is suspected to breed on base
 - ** Regular breeder
- R (A) Certain species may only be seen a few times during a month, but may occur in high abundance at those times. In those instances, two codes are provided. The first code indicates the probability of observing a flock of the species, whereas the code in parentheses indicates the potential number of individuals in that flock



Institute for Bird Populations
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SPECIES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Waterfowl												
Greater White-frntd Goose		X								X		
Snow Goose	X								X			
"Canada" Goose				X							X	
Wood Duck**	R	FC	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Gadwall	U	U	U	R					R	FC	C	FC
American Wigeon	U	R							R	U	C	U
Mallard	R	FC	R	R					R	R	U	U
Blue-winged Teal			FC	C	U	X		FC	C			
Cinnamon Teal				X								
Northern Shoveler			R	R							FC	R
Northern Pintail		FC							R	FC	FC	
Green-winged Teal		C	U	X					R	U	C	C
Canvasback		R									FC	C
Redhead		A	A	R						FC	C	
Ring-necked Duck	U	U	U	R							C	C
Greater Scaup	X		X									X
Lesser Scaup	C	C	C	C				X		FC	A	C
Bufflehead												
Hooded Merganser											R	
Common Merganser												
Red-breasted Merganser												
Ruddy Duck	U	U	U	FC						R	U	FC
Turkey & Quail												
Wild Turkey**	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
Northern Bobwhite**	R	R	R	U	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R
Loons & Grebes												
Common Loon											X	
Pied-billed Grebe*	U	U	U	R	CA	CA	CA	CA	U	U	U	U
Horned Grebe			X								R	R
Eared Grebe											X	X
Red-necked Grebe				X								
Pelicans & Cormorants												
American White Pelican	X	X	R (FC)	U (A)	R (C)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Brown Pelican							X					
Neotropic Cormorant			X	X	CA	X						
Double-crested Cormorant	FC	FC	C	C	U				R	C	FC	A
Hérons												
Least Bittern												
Great Blue Heron**	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
Great Egret			R	FC	U	U	U	U	FC	R	X	
Snowy Egret				U	R		R	FC	U	R		

SPECIES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Mourning Dove**	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	A	A
Inca Dove**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Common Ground-dove**				VR	R	R	R					
Parrots												
Monk Parakeet						X						
Cuckoos												
Black-billed Cuckoo					Ca							
Yellow-billed Cuckoo**				R	FC	U	U	U	U			
Greater Roadrunner**	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
Groove-billed Ani				X	X							
Owls												
Barn Owl												
Eastern Screech-owl**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Great Horned Owl**	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Burrowing Owl	R	R	R							X	R	R
Barred Owl*				X	Ca	X						
Long-eared Owl					X							
Short-eared Owl	VR	Ca	X								X	Ca
Nightjars & Swifts												
Common Nighthawk**				R	FC	FC	FC	FC	R			X
Common Poorwill*			X	X	Ca	X					X	
Chucks-will's-widow**				U	U	U	U					
Chimney Swift**			Ca	R	U	U	U	U	U	R		
Hummingbirds												
Ruby-thrted Hummingbird*			X	VR	VR		X	X	R			
Blck-chinned Hummingbird**			R	U	U	U	U	X				
Anna's Hummingbird							X					
Broad-tailed Hummingbird				X								
Rufous Hummingbird												
Kingfishers												
Belted Kingfisher**	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	U	U	U	U
Woodpeckers												
Red-headed Woodpecker									X			
Golden-fronted Woodpecker					Ca	X	X					
Red-bellied Woodpecker**	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			R							R		
Ladder-bckd Woodpecker**	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
Downy Woodpecker**	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
Hairy Woodpecker					X	X						
Northern Flicker	R	R	R	Ca	X	X	X			U	U	U
Flycatchers												
Olive-sided Flycatcher					U	X						

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Eastern Wood-pewee*				R	U	R	R	R				
<i>Empidonax</i> species				R	U	Ca	R	U				
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher					R	X	X	R				
Acadian Flycatcher*				X	VR	Ca	Ca	X				
Traill's Flycatcher				X	R	Ca	Ca	Ca				
Alder Flycatcher					R							
Willow Flycatcher				X	R							
Least Flycatcher				R	U		VR	R	R			
Eastern Phoebe*	U	U	U	U	R	R	R	R	R	FC	U	U
Say's Phoebe				X								
Vermilion Flycatcher*				X	X	X						
Ash-throated Flycatcher**			R	U	U	U	U	X				
Great-crested Flycatcher***				U	U	U	U	R				
Great Kiskadee						X						
Western Kingbird**				U	FC	FC	FC					
Eastern Kingbird*				R	U	X						
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**			U	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	C	U	R	X
Shrikes												
Loggerhead Shrike**	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
Vireos												
White-eyed Vireo**			C	C	C	C	C	C	U	R		
Bell's Vireo**			R	U	U	U	U					
Black-capped Vireo**			U	FC	FC	FC	FC	U	U	X		
Yellow-Throated Vireo*				R	R	R	R					
Plumbeous Vireo				X	X							
Blue-headed Vireo			X	R	R	R			R	R		
Warbling Vireo				R	R				R			
Philadelphia Vireo					X							
Red-eyed Vireo**				U	U	U	U	FC	U			
Jays & Crows												
Blue Jay**	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
Western Scrub-jay**	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
American Crow**	C	C	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	C	C	C
Common Raven				Ca	X	X						
Larks												
Horned Lark*	A	A	A	U	U	U	U	U	U	A	A	A
Swallows												
Purple Martin**		R	R	R	R	R	R					
Tree Swallow*			R	U	R	R		X				
N Rough-winged Swallow**			R	R	R	R	R			X		
Bank Swallow*				X	R							
Cliff Swallow**			C	A	A	A	A	A				

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Cave Swallow**		R	U	U	U	U	U	U	U		X	
Barn Swallow**			U	U	U	U	U	U	FC	C		
Titmice & Chickadees												
Carolina Chickadee**	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC
Tufted Titmouse							X					
Black-crested Titmouse**	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC
Bushtit, Nuthatches & Creepers												
Bushtit					X	X		X				
Red-breasted Nuthatch			X	VR	Ca							X
Brown Creeper				Ca	Ca							X
Wrens												
Rock Wren						X						
Canyon Wren**	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
Carolina Wren**	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC
Bewick's Wren**	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC
House Wren			R	U	R				R	U	U	
Winter Wren												
Marsh Wren					X						X	
Kinglets & Gnatcatchers												
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	FC	FC	FC	U	R				U	U	FC	FC
Golden-crowned Kinglet	R	R	R	Ca							R	R
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**			C	C	C	C	FC	U	U	R		
Bluebirds												
Eastern Bluebird**	FC	FC	FC	U	U	U	FC	U	U	FC	FC	FC
Mountain Bluebird	X											X
Mimic Thrushes												
Gray Catbird*		X	X	R	U	X	X					
Northern Mockingbird**	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC
Brown Thrasher*			U	U	R				X	U	R	
Curve-billed Thrasher				X	X		X					
Thrushes												
Veery					X							
Gray-cheeked Thrush					X							
Swainson's Thrush			X	R	R							
Hermit Thrush			R	R	X						R	R
Wood Thrush				Ca	X							
American Robin*	C	C	C	R	VR	Ca	Ca			R	A	C
Townsend's Solitaire			X									
Starlings												
European Starling**	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
Pipits												
American Pipit	C	C	C	U	X					U	C	C

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Sprague's Pipit			X						X			
Waxwings												
Cedar Waxwing	C	C	C	C	C	X					C	C
Warblers												
Blue-winged Warbler								X				
Tennessee Warbler				R	R	X						
Orange-crowned Warbler	U	U	U	FC	R					U	U	U
Nashville Warbler			R	U	U	X	X		U	U		
Northern Parula				R	R		X	X				
Yellow Warbler				R	U			U	U			
Chestnut-sided Warbler				R	R							
Magnolia Warbler				R	R	X						
Yellow-rumped Warbler	U	U	FC	C	R					U	U	U
Golden-cheeked Warbler**			FC	FC	FC	U	R	X				
Black-thrtd Green Warbler			R	R	R			X		R		
Yellow-throated Warbler								X				
Blackburnian Warbler					R							
Palm Warbler				X								
Pine Warbler												X
Bay-breasted Warbler				X								
Prairie Warbler			X									
Blackpoll Warbler					X							
Cerulean Warbler				X								
Black-and-white Warbler**			U	U	U	R	R	U				
American Redstart					R							
Prothonotary Warbler*				R	R	R	R					
Ovenbird				X	R							
Louisiana Waterthrush*				R	R	R	R	R	R			
Mourning Warbler					R				X			
MacGillivray's Warbler					X							
Common Yellowthroat*				R	R	R	X		U	U	R	
Hooded Warbler			X	X	X							
Wilson's Warbler			X		R				R			
Canada Warbler				R	R							
Yellow-breasted Chat**				U	U	U	U					
Tanagers												
Summer Tanager**				U	U	U	U	U	U			
Western Tanager					X							
Scarlet Tanager			X	X		X	X					
Sparrows												
Spotted Towhee	U	U	FC	FC	R	Ca	X			U	U	U
Eastern Towhee			R	R	Ca	X						

SPECIES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Canyon Towhee				X	Ca	X						
Cassin's Sparrow*				Ca	VR	VR	X					
Rufous-crowned Sparrow**	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
Chipping Sparrow	U	U	FC	U	U		X			C	C	A
Clay-colored Sparrow		X		R	R					H		
Field Sparrow**	FC	FC	FC	FC	U	U	U	U	U	U	FC	FC
Vesper Sparrow	FC	FC	U	R	Ca					FC	C	FC
Lark Sparrow**			U	FC	FC	FC	C	FC	U	U	U	
Lark Bunting												
Savannah Sparrow	FC	FC	FC	FC	R					U	FC	FC
Grasshopper Sparrow**			U	FC	FC					R	R	
LeConte's Sparrow	R	R	R	X	X							
Fox Sparrow	R	R										R
Song Sparrow	U	U	U	R	R	X				R	U	U
Lincoln's Sparrow	U	U	U	U	R	X				U	FC	U
Swamp Sparrow				R						R	R	
White-throated Sparrow	U	U	FC	FC	R					R	U	U
Harris's Sparrow			R							X	R	R
White-crowned Sparrow	U	U	U	U	R					R	FC	C
Dark-eyed Junco	U	FC	U	VR						X	U	U
Cardinals, Grosbeaks & Buntings												
Northern Cardinal**	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				R	R							
Black-headed Grosbeak				X								
Blue Grosbeak**				U	U	U	U	U				
Lazuli Bunting*			X	R	R	VR	VR					
Indigo Bunting**				U	FC	U	U	U	U	R		
Painted Bunting**				FC	C	C	C	FC	FC	R		
Dickcissel**				C	C	U	R	R	R			
Blackbirds												
Bobolink				X								
Red-winged Blackbird**	C	C	C	FC	FC	FC	FC	FC	C	C	C	C
Eastern Meadowlark**	C	C	FC	U	U	U	U	U	U	FC	C	C
Yellow-headed Blackbird		X		C	FC	X	X					
Brewer's Blackbird	R	R	R	Ca	X						X	
Common Grackle**			U	FC	FC	U	U					
Great-tailed Grackle**	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
Shiny Cowbird					X	X						
Bronzed Cowbird*				R	R	R	R					
Brown-headed Cowbird**	C	C	A	C	FC	FC	FC	U	FC	FC	FC	FC
Orchard Oriole**			X	R	U	U	U					
Bullock's Oriole					X							

