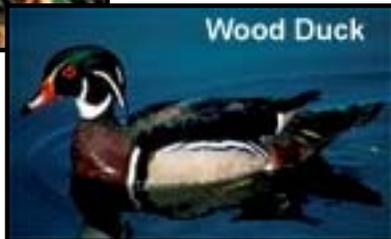


# The Birds of Fort Drum



## BIRDING ON FORT DRUM

Fort Drum is a 107,265-acre military reservation located within Jefferson and Lewis counties of New York. Largely undeveloped, the installation contains a variety of habitats including coniferous/hardwood forests, oak savannahs, open grasslands and wetlands. This mixture of biological communities supports an interesting variety of birdlife, especially during the breeding season. There are 217 species of birds known to occur on Fort Drum, including several that are of special concern in New York State.

**Avian Studies.** Current avian studies on Fort Drum include songbird counts associated with the Land Condition/Trend Analysis (LCTA) program. In addition, waterfowl, Ruffed Grouse, Wild Turkey and American Woodcock surveys are conducted annually. Fort Drum has been identified as an important breeding locale for the American Woodcock and our surveys find more than 100 singing "timberdoodles" annually on the installation. Listen for the nasal *peent* call and watch for their aerial displays in early spring. Additionally, artificial nest programs have been ongoing for many years and provide breeding sites for Eastern Bluebirds, Tree Swallows, Wood Ducks and Hooded Mergansers.

**Western Fort Drum.** The western portion of Fort Drum is comprised mainly of grasslands, oak savannahs and second growth shrub communities. The fields surrounding the Antwerp Tank Trail often produce Upland Sandpipers, Northern Harriers, Savannah Sparrows and Bobolinks. Look for American Bitterns, Blue-winged Teal, and Common Snipe in wet areas. Short-eared Owls and Henslow's Sparrows have been seen along the tank trail as well. The oak savannah areas surrounding the airfield produce Common Nighthawks, Horned Larks, Bluebirds, and Vesper and Grasshopper Sparrows. These areas are also good in the colder months for various raptors, including Rough-legged Hawks and Snowy Owls.



New York State Bird

**Eastern and Central Fort Drum.** The eastern and central portions of Fort Drum are more heavily forested. Mixed deciduous/coniferous forests may contain nesting accipiters, Hermit Thrushes, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Blackburnian Warblers and Purple Finches. The woods and creeks along Lake School Road and the South Tank Trail can yield these species and many more. Birding the numerous beaver swamps in the area is good for Flycatchers and other insectivorous species, as well as an occasional family of Mergansers. The extreme northeastern part of Fort Drum contains large tracts of undisturbed forest and open water where Ospreys and Common Loons have attempted to nest.

**Questions and comments, including sightings of species not included on this list, should be brought to the attention of the Fish and Wildlife Program at the address and phone numbers on the back of this checklist.**

## A Checklist

Environmental Division / Public Works  
Natural Resources Branch  
Fish and Wildlife Program  
85 First Street West  
Fort Drum, NY 13602-5097  
Phone: 315-772-9636 or 772-4999

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

**GAVIIFORMES**

**GAVIIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Common Loon\* (SCC)                    u        u        u

**PODICIPEDIFORMES**

**PODICIPEDIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Pied-billed Grebe\* (ST)                u        u        o

**PELECANIFORMES**

**PHALACROCORACIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Double Crested Cormorant                o        o        o

**CICONIIFORMES**

**ARDEIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ American Bittern\* (SSC)                u        c        u  
 \_\_\_ Least Bittern\* (ST)                    o        o  
 \_\_\_ Great Blue Heron\*                    c        c        c        r  
 \_\_\_ Green Heron\*                        u        c        u

**CATHARTIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Turkey Vulture                        c        c        u

**ANSERIFORMES**

**ANATIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Snow Goose                        u                u  
 \_\_\_ Canada Goose\*                    c            u        c  
 \_\_\_ Brant                                r                r  
 \_\_\_ Tundra Swan                        r  
 \_\_\_ Wood Duck\*                        c        c        c  
 \_\_\_ Gadwall\*                        u        o        u  
 \_\_\_ American Wigeon                    u                c  
 \_\_\_ American Black Duck\*                u        u        c        o  
 \_\_\_ Mallard\*                        c        c        c        u  
 \_\_\_ Blue-winged Teal\*                    u        u        u  
 \_\_\_ Northern Shoveler                    u                u  
 \_\_\_ Northern Pintail                    c                c  
 \_\_\_ Green-winged Teal\*                u        u        u  
 \_\_\_ Canvasback                        r                r  
 \_\_\_ Redhead                        r                r  
 \_\_\_ Ring-necked Duck                    u                u  
 \_\_\_ Lesser Scaup                        o                u  
 \_\_\_ Bufflehead                        u                u        c  
 \_\_\_ Common Goldeneye                    u                u        c  
 \_\_\_ Hooded Merganser\*                u        u        u        r  
 \_\_\_ Common Merganser                o                o        r  
 \_\_\_ Red-breasted Merganser            r  
 \_\_\_ Ruddy Duck                        r                r

**FALCONIFORMES**

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

**FALCONIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ American Kestrel\*                    c        c        c        o  
 \_\_\_ Merlin                                r                r  
 \_\_\_ Peregrine Falcon (SE)                r                r        r

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

**GALLIFORMES**

**PHASIANIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Ring-necked Pheasant (I)                o        o        o        o  
 \_\_\_ Ruffed Grouse\*                        c        c        c        c  
 \_\_\_ Wild Turkey\*                        c        c        c        c

**ODONTOPHORIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Northern Bobwhite (I)                r        r        r        r

**GRUIFORMES**

**RALLIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Virginia Rail\*                        u        u  
 \_\_\_ Sora\*                                u        u  
 \_\_\_ Common Moorhen\*                    u        u  
 \_\_\_ American Coot                        r  
 \_\_\_ Sandhill Crane                        r

**CHARADRIIFORMES**

**CHARADRIIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Black-bellied Plover                        r        o  
 \_\_\_ Killdeer\*                        c        c        c

**SCOLOPACIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Greater Yellowlegs                    o        o        o  
 \_\_\_ Lesser Yellowlegs                    o        o        u  
 \_\_\_ Solitary Sandpiper                    o  
 \_\_\_ Spotted Sandpiper\*                    u        u        u  
 \_\_\_ Upland Sandpiper\* (ST)                u        u  
 \_\_\_ Semipalmated Sandpiper                u        o        o  
 \_\_\_ Least Sandpiper                        u        o        o  
 \_\_\_ Pectoral Sandpiper                    o  
 \_\_\_ Dunlin                                r        r  
 \_\_\_ Short-billed Dowitcher                o        o  
 \_\_\_ Common Snipe\*                        c        c        c  
 \_\_\_ American Woodcock\*                c        c        c  
 \_\_\_ Ring-billed Gull                        c        c        c        o  
 \_\_\_ Black Tern\*                        o

**COLUMBIFORMES**

**COLUMBIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Rock Dove\*                        c        c        c  
 \_\_\_ Mourning Dove\*                        c        c        c

**CUCULIFORMES**

**CUCCULIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Yellow-billed Cuckoo\*                o        o        o  
 \_\_\_ Black-billed Cuckoo\*                u        u        u

**STRIGIFORMES**

**STRIGIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Eastern Screech-Owl\*                o        o        o        o  
 \_\_\_ Great horned Owl\*                    c        c        c        c  
 \_\_\_ Snowy Owl                                o        o  
 \_\_\_ Barred Owl\*                        c        c        c        c  
 \_\_\_ Long-eared Owl                        o        o  
 \_\_\_ Short-eared Owl\* (SE)                o        o        o  
 \_\_\_ Northern Saw-whet Owl\*                o        o

**CAPRIMULGIFORMES**

**CAPRIMULGIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Common Nighthawk\* (SSC)            c        c        c  
 \_\_\_ Whip-poor-will\* (SSC)                c        c        o

**APODIFORMES**

**APODIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Chimney Swift\*                        u        u

**TROCHILIDAE**  
 \_\_\_ Ruby-throated Hummingbird\*        u        u

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

**CORACIIFORMES**

<b>ALCEDINIDAE</b>				
____ Belted Kingfisher*	c	c	u	

**PICIFORMES**

<b>PICIDAE</b>				
____ Lewis's Woodpecker	v			
____ Red-headed Woodpecker* (SSC)	u	u		
____ Red-bellied Woodpecker	r	r	r	r
____ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker*	c	c	c	
____ Downy Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
____ Hairy Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
____ Northern Flicker*	c	c	c	r
____ Pileated Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u

**PASSERIFORMES**

<b>TYRANNIDAE</b>				
____ Olive-sided Flycatcher	o			
____ Eastern Wood-Pee-wee*	c	c	u	
____ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	r			
____ Alder Flycatcher*	c	c		
____ Willow Flycatcher*	u	u		
____ Least Flycatcher*	c	c		
____ Eastern Phoebe*	c	c		
____ Great crested Flycatcher*	c	c		
____ Eastern Kingbird*	c	c	c	

<b>LANIIDAE</b>				
____ Northern Shrike			o	u

<b>VIREONIDAE</b>				
____ Yellow-throated Vireo*	u	u		
____ Blue-headed Vireo*	u	u	u	
____ Warbling Vireo*	c	c		
____ Philadelphia Vireo	r			
____ Red-eyed Vireo*	c	a		

<b>CORVIDAE</b>				
____ Blue Jay*	c	c	c	c
____ American Crow*	c	c	c	c
____ Common Raven*	u	u	u	u

<b>ALAUDIDAE</b>				
____ Horned Lark* (SSC)	u	u	u	u

<b>HIRUNDINIDAE</b>				
____ Purple Martin	r	r		
____ Tree Swallow*	c	a	c	
____ Northern Rough-winged Swallow*	u	u	u	
____ Bank Swallow*	u	u	u	
____ Cliff Swallow*	u	u		
____ Barn Swallow*	c	c	c	

<b>PARIDAE</b>				
____ Black-capped Chickadee*	c	c	c	c
____ Tufted Titmouse	r	r		

<b>SITTIDAE</b>				
____ Red-breasted Nuthatch*	u	u	u	u
____ White-breasted Nuthatch*	c	c	c	c

<b>CERTHIIDAE</b>				
____ Brown Creeper*	c	c	u	u

<b>TROGLODYTIDAE</b>				
____ Carolina Wren	r	r	r	r
____ House Wren*	c	c		
____ Winter Wren*	u	u		
____ Sedge Wren* (ST)		o		
____ Marsh Wren*	o	o		

<b>REGULIDAE</b>				
____ Golden-crowned Kinglet	c		c	u
____ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	u		u	u

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

**PASSERIFORMES (continued)**

<b>SYLVIIDAE</b>				
____ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	o	o		

<b>TURDIDAE</b>				
____ Eastern Bluebird*	c	c	c	
____ Veery*	c	c		
____ Swainson's Thrush	u	o		
____ Hermit Thrush*	c	c		
____ Wood Thrush*	c	c		
____ American Robin*	a	a	c	u

<b>MIMIDAE</b>				
____ Gray Catbird*	c	c	u	
____ Northern Mockingbird*	u	u	o	
____ Brown Thrasher*	c	c		

<b>STURNIDAE</b>				
____ European Starling* (I)	a	a	a	c

<b>MOTACILLIDAE</b>				
____ American Pipit	u		u	

<b>BOMBYCILLIDAE</b>				
____ Bohemian Waxwing				r
____ Cedar Waxwing*	c	c	u	u

<b>PARULIDAE</b>				
____ Blue-winged Warbler*	u	u		
____ Golden-winged Warbler* (SSC)	u	u		
____ Tennessee Warbler	o	r		
____ Orange-crowned Warbler	r		r	
____ Nashville Warbler*	c	c		
____ Northern Parula	o			
____ Yellow Warbler*	c	a		
____ Chestnut-sided Warbler*	c	a		
____ Magnolia Warbler*	u	u		
____ Cape May Warbler*	o			
____ Black-throated Blue Warbler*	c	c		
____ Yellow-rumped Warbler*	c	c	c	r
____ Black-throated Green Warbler*	c	c	u	
____ Blackburnian Warbler*	c	c		
____ Pine Warbler*	c	c	u	r
____ Prairie Warbler*	u	u		
____ Palm Warbler	o			
____ Bay-breasted Warbler*	u		u	
____ Blackpoll Warbler	c	c	u	
____ Cerulean Warbler* (SSC)	u	u		
____ Black-and-white Warbler*	c	c	u	
____ American Redstart*	c	c	u	
____ Worm-eating Warbler	r	r		
____ Ovenbird*	c	c		
____ Northern Waterthrush*	c	c		
____ Louisiana Waterthrush	r			
____ Mourning Warbler*	u	u		
____ Common Yellowthroat*	a	a	u	
____ Hooded Warbler*	r	r		
____ Wilson's Warbler*	o			
____ Canada Warbler*	c	c		
____ Yellow-breasted Chat (SSC)	r	r		

<b>THRAUPIDAE</b>				
____ Scarlet Tanager*	c	c		

<b>EMBERIZIDAE</b>				
____ Eastern Towhee*	c	c	u	
____ American Tree Sparrow			u	c
____ Chipping Sparrow*	c	c	u	
____ Clay-colored Sparrow*	u	u		
____ Field Sparrow*	c	c	u	
____ Vesper Sparrow* (SSC)	c	c	u	

