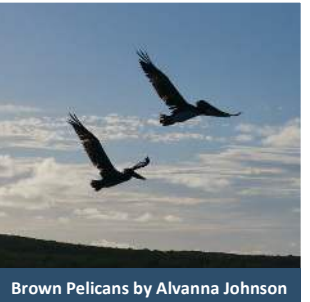




Red-legged Thrush by Sarah Bodbyl



Brown Pelicans by Alvanna Johnson



Bahama Yellowthroat by Sarah Bodbyl

Field Notes

Date: _____ Time: _____

Weather: _____

Observer(s): _____

Notes: _____

Birds in Bahamian Culture (cont.)

- **Tobacco Dove - White-crowned Pigeon.** It's unclear why this frequently observed species has this local name. But it has been hunted for many years, is skittish, and will fly away without hesitation if threatened.
- **Frightener - Northern Mockingbird.** These birds are very tricky; aside from stealing pieces of songs from other species to create their song, "Frighteners" harass cats and dogs to steal tufts of fur for nesting material. Protective of their nest and young, they will attack anything threatening, including humans.



Great Lizard-Cuckoo by Greg Homel

Responsible Wildlife Viewing

- Maintain a respectful distance from wildlife, especially near nesting areas and feeding sites.
- Try not to disturb or harass wildlife.
- Ask permission before entering private property.
- Take photos and make memories, leave only footprints.

Bird Conservation Tips

- Plant native vegetation.
- Keep house cats indoors.
- Increase window visibility with bird tape or stickers to reduce collisions.
- Join local birding organizations.
- Encourage others to become more environmentally conscious.

The development of this checklist is ongoing! If you observe a species that is not listed, please report it to wingitbahamas@gmail.com. We encourage you to upload data to ebird.org.



Kirtland's Warbler by George Wallace



Bahama Mockingbird by Sarah Bodbyl



Black-necked Stilt by Alvanna Johnson

**Eleuthera's
Bird Checklist**

A stylized map of the island of Eleuthera in the Bahamas, with a silhouette of a bird in flight over it.

Birding on Eleuthera

Eleuthera is a 110-mile-long paradise featuring diverse bird habitats. Common habitat types include sandy and rocky beaches, mangrove wetlands, and broadleaf coppice. These environments teem with birds of various shapes, sizes, and colors in every season of the year.

Eleuthera is a birder's haven, offering opportunities to observe Lucayan endemics such as the Bahama Woodstar and Bahama Yellowthroat, the resident White-crowned Pigeon, and migratory birds such as the Kirtland's Warbler, which winters in young coppice. Approximately 200 species have been recorded.

This checklist was created to help visitors and residents keep records of birds they encounter on Eleuthera. The checklist uses widely accepted English common names and species are categorized by scientific family.

Birds in Bahamian Culture

The culture of The Bahamas is rich and diverse, extending beyond music, dance, and food. The unique names of birds and plants, which vary from island to island, add to this richness. Here are some fun common Bahamian bird names and their origins.

- **Chimney - Any small bird.** Examples: Black-faced Grassquit, Bananaquit, Kirtland's Warbler, Black-whiskered Vireo.
- **Weather Bird - Magnificent Frigatebird.** Older Bahamians often remark that terrible weather is approaching whenever they see this species soaring overhead.
- **Rain Crow - Great Lizard-Cuckoo.** Bahamian folklore says this beautiful and curious bird appears before a heavy downpour.
- **Policeman Bird - Greater Antillean Bullfinch.** The male Bullfinch has black plumage with bright reddish-orange patches, reminiscent of the Royal Bahamas Police Force uniform.
- **Gaulin - Yellow-crowned Night-Heron.** This bird has a not-so-great reputation as a "sperrit," a Bahamian term describing an evil spirit.
- **Po' Joe (Poor Joe) - Green Heron.** Due to its short, stout body and posture when resting, the Green Heron is said to resemble an unfortunate person who is down on their luck.
- **Thrasher - Gray Kingbird.** Aggressive when breeding, Gray Kingbirds will not hesitate to swoop down on intruders, whether a bird, cat, dog, or human, to defend their territory.

WI SP SU FA

Ducks 					
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck			*		
West Indian Whistling-Duck		*			
Blue-winged Teal	R	U	*	R	
Northern Shoveler	*	*		*	
Gadwall	*				
American Widgeon	R	*		*	
Mallard	*	*		*	
White-cheeked Pintail	U	C	U	U	
Ring-necked Duck	R	*			
Lesser Scaup	R	*	*		
Hooded Merganser	*				
Red-breasted Merganser	*	*		*	
Ruddy Duck	*	*	*	*	
Pheasants					
Red Junglefowl 		C	C	C	C
Grebes 					
Least Grebe		U	U	*	*
Pied-billed Grebe		*	R	*	*
Doves & Pigeons 					
Rock Pigeon		R	R	R	R
White-crowned Pigeon		C	C	C	C
Eurasian Collared-Dove		U	C	R	U
Common Ground Dove		C	C	C	C
Key West Quail-Dove		R	R	R	R
White-winged Dove		*	R	R	*
Zenaida Dove		U	U	U	R
Mourning Dove		U	C	R	U
Cuckoos 					
Smooth-billed Ani		C	C	U	C
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			R	*	R
Mangrove Cuckoo		C	C	U	C
Great Lizard-Cuckoo		U	U	R	U
Nightjars 					
Antillean Nighthawk			U	C	R
Common Nighthawk			*		
Chuck-will's-widow			*		*
Swifts 					
Chimney Swift					*
Hummingbirds 					
Ruby-throated Hummingbird			*		
Bahama Woodstar		C	C	C	C
Rails, Coots & Gallinules 					
Clapper Rail		U	R	*	U
Sora		R	R		
American Coot		U	U	*	*
Purple Gallinule		*			
Common Gallinule		U	U	*	R












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Limpkin 						
Limpkin			*	C	U	U
Stilts 						
Black-necked Stilt			U	C	U	R
Oystercatchers 						
American Oystercatcher			C	C	U	U
Plovers 						
Black-bellied Plover			U	U	R	U
Killdeer			C	C	U	U
Semipalmated Plover				R	*	R
Piping Plover			U	R		R
Wilson's Plover			U	U	R	U
Sandpipers 						
Whimbrel			*	*		*
Ruddy Turnstone			C	C	R	C
Stilt Sandpiper			*	*	*	
Sanderling			U	U		R
Dunlin			*			*
Least Sandpiper			R	U	*	U
Pectoral Sandpiper						*
Semipalmated Sandpiper				R	*	R
Western Sandpiper			*	*	*	
Short-billed Dowitcher			U	U		U
Wilson's Snipe			R	R		R
Spotted Sandpiper			C	C	R	U
Solitary Sandpiper			*	R	R	R
Lesser Yellowlegs			U	U		U
Willet			U	U	U	U
Greater Yellowlegs			U	U	*	U
Gulls 						
Bonaparte's Gull			R	R		
Laughing Gull			C	C	C	C
Ring-billed Gull			*	*		
Herring Gull			*	*		
Lesser Black-backed Gull			U	U		*
Great Black-backed Gull			*	*		
Terns 						
Brown Noddy					*	
Sooty Tern				*	*	*
Bridled Tern				*	U	
Least Tern			U	U		C
Gull-billed Tern				U	U	R
Caspian Tern			C	C	C	C
Roseate Tern				*		*
Common Tern					*	*
Forster's Tern			*			
Royal Tern				C	C	C
Sandwich Tern			U			U

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Skimmers 						
Black Skimmer			*		*	
Tropicbirds 						
White-tailed Tropicbird			*	*	R	*
Petrels 						
Band-rumped Storm-Petrel				*		
Cory's Shearwater			R	*	U	
Great Shearwater			*		*	*
Audubon's Shearwater			*		R	*
Frigatebirds 						
Magnificent Frigatebird			U		*	*
Boobies 						
Masked Booby			*	*	*	*
Brown Booby				*	*	*
Cormorants 						
Double-crested Cormorant			*	U	*	*
Neotropical Cormorant			R	U	R	U
Pelicans 						
Brown Pelican			R	U	C	U
Hérons and Egrets 						
American Bittern						*
Little Blue Heron			U	U	U	U
Tricolored Heron			U	U	U	C
Reddish Egret			R	R	R	R
Snowy Egret			U	U	U	U
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron			C	C	C	C
Black-crowned Night-Heron			*	*		
Green Heron			C	C	C	C
Western Cattle Egret			R	R	*	R
Ibises and Spoonbills 						
White Ibis			*	*		*
Glossy Ibis			*	*	*	*
Roseate Spoonbill						*
Hawks, Vultures, and Osprey 						
Turkey Vulture			*	*		*
Osprey			C	C	U	C
Swallow-tailed Kite				*		
Northern Harrier			*			*
Owls 						
Barn Owl			R	*	*	
Burrowing Owl			*	*		R
Kingfishers 						
Belted Kingfisher			U	U	*	U
Woodpeckers 						
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			U	R	*	R
Hairy Woodpecker				*	*	
Falcons 						
American Kestrel			C	C	*	U
Merlin			U	U		C
Peregrine Falcon			*	*		R

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Tyrant Flycatchers 						
Great Crested Flycatcher			*			
La Sagra's Flycatcher			U	C	U	U
Eastern Kingbird						*
Gray Kingbird			*	C	C	C
Eastern Wood-Pewee						*
Cuban (Crescent-eyed) Pewee			R	U	R	U
Vireos 						
White-eyed Vireo			R	R		*
Thick-billed Vireo			C	C	C	C
Yellow-throated Vireo			R	R		R
Red-eyed Vireo				*	U	R
Black-whiskered Vireo				U	U	U
Blue-headed Vireo			R			
Swallows 						
Tree Swallow			*	*		*
Barn Swallow			R	R	*	R
Waxwings 						
Cedar Waxwing				*		
Gnatcatchers 						
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher			*			
Mockingbirds, Thrashers, and Allies 						
Gray Catbird			C	C		U
Pearly-eyed Thrasher				*		
Bahama Mockingbird			C	C	C	C
Northern Mockingbird			C	C	C	C
Thrushes 						
Western Red-legged Thrush			U	U	U	U
Hermit Thrush			*	*		
Bicknell's Thrush				*		*
Swainson's Thrush						R
Wood Thrush						*
Old World Sparrows 						
House Sparrow			U	U	U	U
New World Sparrows 						
Clay-colored Sparrow			*			
White-crowned Sparrow			*			
Savannah Sparrow			*	*		
Lincoln's Sparrow						*
Spindalis 						
Western Spindalis			U	U	U	U
New World Blackbirds 						
Bobolink			*			*
Baltimore Oriole			*	*		*
Red-winged Blackbird			*		*	
Seasons Key						
SU	Summer	JUN-AUG				
FA	Fall	SEPT-NOV				
WI	Winter	DEC-MAR				
SP	Spring	APR-MAY				

WI SP SU FA

New World Warblers 						
Ovenbird			U	U		U
Worm-eating Warbler			U	U		U
Northern Waterthrush			U	U		U
Louisiana Waterthrush			R	R		R
Blue-winged Warbler				*		*
Black-and-white Warbler			C	U		U
Prothonotary Warbler				*	*	
Swainson's Warbler			R	R		R
Tennessee Warbler			*			*
Nashville Warbler			*			*
Kentucky Warbler						*
Bahama Yellowthroat			R	R	R	R
Common Yellowthroat			U	U		U
Hooded Warbler			*	*		*
American Redstart			C	C	*	C
Kirtland's Warbler			R	R		R
Cape May Warbler			C	C		C
Northern Parula			C	C		U
Magnolia Warbler			R	R		*
Yellow Warbler			U	U	R	U
Blackpoll Warbler				*		*
Black-throated Blue Warbler			U	U		U
Palm Warbler			C	C		C
Yellow-rumped Warbler			U	U		R
Yellow-throated Warbler			U	U	*	U
Prairie Warbler			C	C		C
Black-throated Green Warbler			R	R		U
Cardinals & Allies 						
Summer Tanager			*	R		*
Scarlet Tanager						*
Rose-breasted Grosbeak						*
Blue Grosbeak						R
Indigo Bunting			U	U		U
Painted Bunting			R	R		*
Honey Creepers, Tanagers, & Allies 						
Bananaquit			C	C	C	C
Greater Antillean Bullfinch			C	C	U	C
Black-faced Grassquit			C	C	U	C

Occurrence Key

C	Common	Regularly found in season.
U	Uncommon	Infrequent sightings.
R	Rare	Not expected but likely occurs annually.
*	Very rare/Accidental	Few historical records.