

Birds of Sunset Beach and Bird Island, North Carolina*

Species on this list have had their occurrences in Sunset Beach documented by publication in *The Chat* (<http://www.carolinabirdclub.org/chat/index.html>), the journal of the Carolina Bird Club; and by the field work of area birding enthusiasts over the last 35 years. This is a list of documented species as of March 15, 2009. It will be updated periodically. Additions to this list are welcome and expected. Please report sightings of additional species to Taylor Piephoff (piephofft@aol.com) or to Jo O'Keefe (jo@okeefes.org). *Of the 260 species in this list, only the Purple Sandpiper is found exclusively on Bird Island – at the jetty at the NC/SC state line.

✓	Common Name	Scientific Name
	Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	<i>Dendrocygna autumnalis</i>
	Ross's Goose	<i>Chen rossii</i>
	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>
	Tundra Swan	<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>
	Wood Duck	<i>Aix sponsa</i>
	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>
	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>
	American Wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>
	American Black Duck	<i>Anas rubripes</i>
	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
	Mottled Duck	<i>Anas fulvigula</i>
	Blue-winged Teal	<i>Anas discors</i>
	Cinnamon Teal	<i>Anas cyanoptera</i>
	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>
	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>
	Green-winged Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>
	Canvasback	<i>Aythya valisineria</i>
	Redhead	<i>Aythya americana</i>
	Ring-necked Duck	<i>Aythya collaris</i>
	Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>
	Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>
	Surf Scoter	<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>
	White-winged Scoter	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>
	Black Scoter	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>
	Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>
	Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>
	Hooded Merganser	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>
	Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>
	Ruddy Duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>
	Northern Bobwhite	<i>Colinus virginianus</i>
	Red-throated Loon	<i>Gavia stellata</i>
	Common Loon	<i>Gavia immer</i>
	Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>
	Horned Grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>
	Leach's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanodroma leucorhoa</i>
	Northern Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>

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	American White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>
	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>
	Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>
	Anhinga	<i>Anhinga anhinga</i>
	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>
	American Bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>
	Least Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>
	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>
	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
	Snowy Egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>
	Little Blue Heron	<i>Egretta caerulea</i>
	Tricolored Heron	<i>Egretta tricolor</i>
	Reddish Egret	<i>Egretta rufescens</i>
	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
	Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>
	Black-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>
	White Ibis	<i>Eudocimus albus</i>
	Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>
	Roseate Spoonbill	<i>Platalea ajaja</i>
	Wood Stork	<i>Mycteria americana</i>
	Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>
	Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>
	Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
	Mississippi Kite	<i>Ictinia mississippiensis</i>
	Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>
	Northern Harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>
	Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>
	Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>
	Red-shouldered Hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>
	Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>
	Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>
	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>
	Merlin	<i>Falco columbarius</i>
	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
	Yellow Rail	<i>Coturnicops noveboracensis</i>

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	Black Rail	<i>Laterallus jamaicensis</i>
	Clapper Rail	<i>Rallus longirostris</i>
	King Rail	<i>Rallus elegans</i>
	Virginia Rail	<i>Rallus limicola</i>
	Sora	<i>Porzana carolina</i>
	Purple Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio martinica</i>
	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
	American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>
	Black-bellied Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
	Wilson's Plover	<i>Charadrius wilsonia</i>
	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>
	Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>
	Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>
	American Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>
	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>
	American Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>
	Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>
	Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>
	Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>
	Willet	<i>Tringa semipalmata</i>
	Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>
	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
	Long-billed Curlew	<i>Numenius americanus</i>
	Hudsonian Godwit	<i>Limosa haemastica</i>
	Marbled Godwit	<i>Limosa fedoa</i>
	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
	Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>
	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>
	Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Calidris pusilla</i>
	Western Sandpiper	<i>Calidris mauri</i>
	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>
	White-rumped Sandpiper	<i>Calidris fuscicollis</i>
	Pectoral Sandpiper	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>
	Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>
	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>
	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>
	Short-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>
	Long-billed Dowitcher	<i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i>
	Wilson's Snipe	<i>Gallinago delicata</i>
	American Woodcock	<i>Scolopax minor</i>
	Bonaparte's Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus philadelphia</i>
	Laughing Gull	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>
	Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>
	Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>
	Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>
	Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>
	Great Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>
	Least Tern	<i>Sternula antillarum</i>

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	Gull-billed Tern	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>
	Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>
	Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger</i>
	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>
	Forster's Tern	<i>Sterna forsteri</i>
	Royal Tern	<i>Thalasseus maximus</i>
	Sandwich Tern	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>
	Black Skimmer	<i>Rynchops niger</i>
	Parasitic Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>
	Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>
	Eurasian Collared-Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
	Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>
	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>
	Eastern Screech-Owl	<i>Megascops asio</i>
	Great Horned Owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>
	Barred Owl	<i>Strix varia</i>
	Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>
	Common Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>
	Chuck-will's-widow	<i>Caprimulgus carolinensis</i>
	Whip-poor-will	<i>Caprimulgus vociferus</i>
	Chimney Swift	<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>
	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>
	Black-chinned Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus alexandri</i>
	Rufous Hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus rufus</i>
	Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>
	Red-headed Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>
	Red-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes carolinus</i>
	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>
	Downy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>
	Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides villosus</i>
	Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>
	Pileated Woodpecker	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>
	Eastern Wood-Pewee	<i>Contopus virens</i>
	Acadian Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax virens</i>
	Eastern Phoebe	<i>Sayornis phoebe</i>
	Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>
	Eastern Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>
	Gray Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus dominicensis</i>
	Loggerhead Shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>
	White-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo griseus</i>
	Yellow-throated Vireo	<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>
	Blue-headed Vireo	<i>Vireo solitarius</i>
	Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>
	Blue Jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>
	American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>
	Fish Crow	<i>Corvus ossifragus</i>
	Purple Martin	<i>Progne subis</i>
	Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>

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	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>
	Cave Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon fulva</i>
	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
	Carolina Chickadee	<i>Poecile carolinensis</i>
	Tufted Titmouse	<i>Baeolophus bicolor</i>
	Red-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta canadensis</i>
	White-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>
	Brown-headed Nuthatch	<i>Sitta pusilla</i>
	Brown Creeper	<i>Certhia americana</i>
	Carolina Wren	<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>
	House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>
	Winter Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>
	Sedge Wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>
	Marsh Wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>
	Golden-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus satrapa</i>
	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus calendula</i>
	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	<i>Poliophtila caerulea</i>
	Eastern Bluebird	<i>Sialia sialis</i>
	Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>
	Hermit Thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>
	Wood Thrush	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>
	American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>
	Gray Catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>
	Northern Mockingbird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>
	Brown Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>
	European Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
	American Pipit	<i>Anthus rubescens</i>
	Cedar Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>
	Orange-crowned Warbler	<i>Vermivora celata</i>
	Nashville Warbler	<i>Vermivora ruficapilla</i>
	Northern Parula	<i>Parula americana</i>
	Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>
	Chestnut-sided Warbler	<i>Dendroica pensylvanica</i>
	Magnolia Warbler	<i>Dendroica magnolia</i>
	Cape May Warbler	<i>Dendroica tigrina</i>
	Black-throated Blue Warbler	<i>Dendroica caerulescens</i>
	Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>
	Black-throated Green Warbler	<i>Dendroica virens</i>
	Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Dendroica fusca</i>
	Yellow-throated Warbler	<i>Dendroica dominica</i>
	Pine Warbler	<i>Dendroica pinus</i>
	Prairie Warbler	<i>Dendroica discolor</i>
	Palm Warbler	<i>Dendroica palmarum</i>
	Bay-breasted Warbler	<i>Dendroica castanea</i>
	American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>
	Worm-eating Warbler	<i>Helmitheros vermivorum</i>

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	Swainson's Warbler	<i>Limnithlypis swainsonii</i>
	Ovenbird	<i>Seiurus aurocapilla</i>
	Northern Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus noveboracensis</i>
	Louisiana Waterthrush	<i>Seiurus motacilla</i>
	Kentucky Warbler	<i>Oporornis formosus</i>
	Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>
	Hooded Warbler	<i>Wilsonia citrina</i>
	Yellow-breasted Chat	<i>Icteria virens</i>
	Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>
	Scarlet Tanager	<i>Piranga olivacea</i>
	Eastern Towhee	<i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>
	Chipping Sparrow	<i>Spizella passerina</i>
	Clay-colored Sparrow	<i>Spizella pallida</i>
	Field Sparrow	<i>Spizella pusilla</i>
	Vesper Sparrow	<i>Pooecetes gramineus</i>
	Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>
	Grasshopper Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>
	Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus nelsoni</i>
	Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus caudacutus</i>
	Seaside Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus maritimus</i>
	Fox Sparrow	<i>Passerella iliaca</i>
	Song Sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>
	Swamp Sparrow	<i>Melospiza georgiana</i>
	White-throated Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>
	Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>
	Northern Cardinal	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>
	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>
	Blue Grosbeak	<i>Passerina caerulea</i>
	Indigo Bunting	<i>Passerina cyanea</i>
	Painted Bunting	<i>Passerina ciris</i>
	*Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>
	Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>
	*Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>
	Rusty Blackbird	<i>Euphagus carolinus</i>
	Common Grackle	<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>
	Boat-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus major</i>
	Brown-headed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>
	Orchard Oriole	<i>Icterus spurius</i>
	Baltimore Oriole	<i>Icterus galbula</i>
	Purple Finch	<i>Carpodacus purpureus</i>
	Prothonotary Warbler	<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>
	House Finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>
	Pine Siskin	<i>Carduelis pinus</i>
	American Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis tristis</i>
	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>