

Birds of Shenango

Seasonal Occurrences

Spring (Sp) March- May

Summer (S) June-July

Fall (F) August-November

Winter (W) December-February

Key to Abundance Codes:

A= abundant- numerous in large numbers throughout the site.

C= common- should be seen or heard in suitable habitat.

U= uncommon- usually present in small numbers in suitable habitat but not always seen or heard, may be secretive.

O=occasional- reported only a few times during the season.

R=rare- within species' normal range or irruptive, but not seen annually.

X= accidental, vagrant, out of species' normal range, may include only one sighting.

i=- irruptive, numbers vary from year to year

*= possibly/probable and ** = confirmed nesting species for Shenango Lake and the Big Bend area of the Shenango River.

This checklist was compiled from sightings recorded in the past few years on SAP trips as well as from sightings posted on the PA Birds listserv, some listed in *PA Birds*, and a few documented older sightings of interest. Most data is from the fall when Shenango is heavily birded as a shorebirding hotspot and here we have a good idea of the Abundance Codes for the shorebirds. For the moment, abundance codes of other species are somewhat lacking and more projected and, and may be modified as more data is obtained both in the fall and throughout the year. Information on abundance has also been obtained from the US Army Corps of Engineers, Shenango Lake.

	S	Su	F	W
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LOONS

□ Common Loon	o	.	o	.
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GREBES

□ Pied-billed Grebe	o	.	o	.
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□ Horned Grebe	u	.	u	.
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□ Eared Grebe	x	.	.	.
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CORMORANTS

□ Double-crested Cormorant	c	u	c	.
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BITTERNs, HERONS and EGRETS

□ Great Blue Heron	c	a	c	u
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□ Great Egret	.	.	o	.
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□ Green Heron	u	u	u	.
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□ Black-crowned Night Heron	.	.	r	.
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IBIS

□ Glossy Ibis	.	.	x	.
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NEW WORLD VULTURES

□ Turkey Vulture*	c	u	c	.
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GEESE, SWANS and DUCKS

□ Snow Goose	r	.	.	r
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□ Canada Goose**	a	a	a	a
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□ Mute Swan	.	.	r	.
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□ Trumpeter Swan (reintroduced)	o	o	o	.
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□ Tundra Swan	r	.	o	.
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□ Wood Duck**	c	u	c	.
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□ Gadwall	r	.	.	.
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	S	Su	F	W
□ American Wigeon	u	.	o	.
□ American Black Duck	u	.	u	.
□ Mallard**	a	c	a	c
□ Blue-winged Teal	u	.	u	.
□ Northern Shoveler	u	.	r	.
□ Northern Pintail	u	.	.	.
□ Green-winged Teal	u	.	u	.
□ Canvasback	r	.	.	.
□ Redhead	r	.	.	.
□ Ring-necked Duck	c	.	r	.
□ Greater Scaup	r	.	r	.
□ Lesser Scaup	c	.	c	.
□ Surf Scoter	r	.	.	.
□ Long-tailed Duck	.	.	r	.
□ Bufflehead	c	.	c	c
□ Common Goldeneye	.	.	r	.
□ Hooded Merganser **	u	.	u	.
□ Common Merganser*	c	.	c	.
□ Red-breasted Merganser	c	.	o	r
□ Ruddy Duck	u	.	u	.

KITES, HAWKS, and EAGLES

□ Osprey**	u	u	u	.
□ Bald Eagle**	u	u	u	u
□ Northern Harrier	.	.	o	o
□ Sharp-shinned Hawk	o	.	o	.
□ Cooper's Hawk**	o	o	o	.
□ Northern Goshawk	.	.	r	.
□ Red-shouldered Hawk*	o	o	o	.
□ Broad-winged Hawk*	o	.	o	.
□ Red-tailed Hawk**	c	u	c	c

FALCONS

□ American Kestral	o	o	o	o
□ Merlin	.	.	r	.
□ Peregrine Falcon	.	.	r	.

PHEASANTS, GROUSE, and TURKEYS

□ Ring-necked Pheasant	u	u	o	o
□ Ruffed Grouse**	u	u	u	u
□ Wild Turkey**	c	c	c	c

RAILS and COOTS

□ Virginia Rail	.	r	.	.
□ American Coot	u	.	u	.

PLOVERS

□ Black-bellied Plover	.	.	u	.
□ American Golden-Plover	.	.	u	.
□ Semipalmated Plover	.	.	u	.
□ Killdeer**	c	c	a	.

SANDPIPERS, PHALAROPES, and ALLIES

□ American Avocet	.	.	x	.
□ Greater Yellowlegs	.	.	c	.
□ Lesser Yellowlegs	.	.	c	.
□ Solitary Sandpiper	r	.	c	.
□ Willet	.	.	x	.
□ Spotted Sandpiper*	.	.	c	.
□ Whimbrel	.	.	x	.
□ Ruddy Turnstone	r	.	r	.
□ Red Knot	.	.	x	.
□ Sanderling	.	.	u	.
□ Semipalmated Sandpiper	.	.	c	.
□ Western Sandpiper	.	.	r	.

	S	Su	F	W
□ Least Sandpiper	r	r	c	.
□ White-rumped Sandpiper	.	.	o	.
□ Baird's Sandpiper	.	.	u	.
□ Pectoral Sandpiper	.	.	c	.
□ Dunlin	r	.	r	.
□ Stilt Sandpiper	.	.	u	.
□ Buff-breasted Sandpiper	.	.	o	.
□ Short-billed Dowitcher	.	.	u	.
□ Long-billed Dowitcher	.	.	r	.
□ Common Snipe	.	.	u	.
□ American Woodcock*	u	.	.	.
□ Wilson's Phalarope	.	.	x	.
□ Red-necked Phalarope	.	.	x	.

GULLS and TERNS

□ Franklin's Gull	.	.	x	.
□ Bonaparte's Gull	u	.	u	.
□ Ring-billed Gull	a	c	a	c
□ Herring Gull	u	.	u	u
□ Great Black-backed Gull	r	.	.	.
□ Caspian Tern	u	.	u	.
□ Common Tern	o	.	o	.
□ Forster's Tern	o	.	o	.
□ Black Tern	r	.	r	.

DOVES and PIGEONS

□ Rock Dove	o	o	o	o
□ Mourning Dove**	c	c	c	c

CUCKOOS

□ Black-billed Cuckoo	.	.	o	.
□ Yellow-billed Cuckoo	.	.	r	.

TYPICAL OWLS

□ Eastern Screech Owl*	u	.	u	u
□ Great horned Owl*	.	.	.	r
□ Barred Owl*	r	.	.	.

NIGHTHAWKS and NIGHTJARS

□ Common Nighthawk	.	.	r	.
□ Whip-poor-will	r	.	.	.

SWIFTS

□ Chimney Swift*	c	c	c	.
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HUMMINGBIRDS

□ Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	u	u	u	.
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KINGFISHERS

□ Belted Kingfisher*	u	u	u	.
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WOODPECKERS

□ Red-headed Woodpecker**	u	u	u	u
□ Red-bellied Woodpecker**	u	u	u	u
□ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	.	.	r	.
□ Downy Woodpecker* *	c	c	c	c
□ Hairy Woodpecker**	u	u	u	u
□ Northern Flicker**	u	u	u	r
□ Pileated Woodpecker**	o	o	o	o

FLYCATCHERS

□ Olive-sided Flycatcher	r	.	.	.
□ Eastern Wood-Pewee**	c	c	c	.
□ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	x	.	r	.
□ Acadian Flycatcher**	u	u	u	.
□ Willow Flycatcher* *	.	u	.	.
□ Least Flycatcher**	u	.	.	.
□ Eastern Phoebe**	c	u	c	.
□ Great Crested Flycatcher* *	u	u	u	.

	S	Su	F	W
□ Eastern Kingbird* *	u	u	u	.
SHRIKES				
□ Northern Shrike	r	.	.	.
VIROES				
□ White-eyed Vireo*	u	u	u	.
□ Yellow-throated Vireo*	u	u	u	.
□ Blue-headed Vireo	u	.	u	.
□ Warbling Vireo**	u	u	u	.
□ Philadelphia Vireo	.	.	r	.
□ Red-eyed Vireo **	c	c	c	.

JAYS and CROWS

□ Blue Jay **	c	c	c	c
□ American Crow *	c	c	c	c

LARKS

□ Horned Lark	r	.	.	.
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MARTINS and SWALLOWS

□ Purple Martin**	u	u	u	.
□ Tree Swallow**	c	c	a	.
□ Northern Rough-winged Swallow**	u	u	u	.
□ Bank Swallow*	u	u	u	.
□ Cliff Swallow**	c	c	c	.
□ Barn Swallow**	c	c	a	.

CHICKADEES and TITMICE

□ Black-capped Chickadee**	c	c	c	c
□ Tufted Titmouse**	c	c	c	c

NUTHATCHES

□ Red-breasted Nuthatch	.	.	r/i	.
□ White-breasted Nuthatch* *	c	c	c	c

CREEPERS

□ Brown Creeper	o	.	o	.
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WRENS

□ Carolina Wren**	u	u	u	.
□ House Wren**	c	c	c	.
□ Winter Wren	o	.	o	.

KINGLETS and GNATCATCHERS

□ Golden-crowned Kinglet	u	.	u	r
□ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	u	.	u	.
□ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**	c	u	o	.

THRUSHES

□ Eastern Bluebird**	c	c	c	c
□ Swainson's Thrush	.	.	o	.
□ Hermit Thrush	o	.	o	.
□ Wood Thrush**	c	c	u	.
□ American Robin**	a	a	a	u
□ Gray Catbird**	c	c	c	.

MOCKINGBIRDS and THRASHERS

□ Northern Mockingbird	r	.	r	.
□ Brown Thrasher**	u	u	u	.
□ European Starling**	c	c	c	c

PIPITS

□ American Pipit	.	.	u	.
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WAXWINGS

□ Cedar Waxwing*	u	u	c	u
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WOOD WARBLERS

□ Blue-winged Warbler**	u	u	u	.
□ Tennessee Warbler	u	.	u	.
□ Orange-crowned Warbler	.	.	r	.
□ Nashville Warbler	u	.	u	.
□ Northern Parula	o	.	.	.

	S	Su	F	W
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Warbler**	c	c	c	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut-sided Warbler *	u	u	u	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Magnolia Warbler	u	.	u	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Cape May Warbler	.	.	r	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-throated Blue Warbler	u	.	u	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped Warbler	c	.	c	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-throated Green Warbler	o	.	u	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Blackburnian Warbler	o	.	o	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-throated Warbler*	u	.	.	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Pine Warbler	.	.	r	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Palm Warbler	o	.	o	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Bay-breasted Warbler	.	.	o	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Blackpoll Warbler	.	.	o	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Cerulean Warbler*	u	.	.	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-and-white Warbler*	u	.	u	.
<input type="checkbox"/> American Redstart**	u	u	u	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Ovenbird	u	.	.	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Waterthrush	r	.	r	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Louisiana Waterthrush**	u	.	.	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut Warbler	.	.	r	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Yellowthroat* *	c	c	c	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Warbler**	u	u	u	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Wilson's Warbler	o	.	o	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Warbler	.	.	r	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-breasted Chat *	r	r	.	.
TANAGERS				
<input type="checkbox"/> Scarlet Tanager*	u	u	u	.
TOWHEES, SPARROWS and ALLIES				
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Towhee**	c	c	c	.
<input type="checkbox"/> American Tree Sparrow	c	.	c	c
<input type="checkbox"/> Chipping Sparrow**	c	c	c	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Field Sparrow**	c	c	c	r
<input type="checkbox"/> Vesper Sparrow	r	.	.	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Savannah Sparrow	.	.	o	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Fox Sparrow	r	.	.	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Song Sparrow**	c	c	c	r
<input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln's Sparrow	.	.	o	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Sparrow*	u	u	u	r
<input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Sparrow	u	.	c	u
<input type="checkbox"/> White-crowned Sparrow	u	.	u	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark-eyed Junco	c	.	c	c
CARDINALS, GROSBEAK, and ALLIES				
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Cardinal **	c	c	c	c
<input type="checkbox"/> Rose-breasted Grosbeak**	c	c	c	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Grosbeak	x	.	x	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigo Bunting**	c	c	c	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Bobolink	.	u	u	.
BLACKBIRDS and ORIOLES				
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-winged Blackbird* *	c	c	c	r
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Meadowlark	.	u	.	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Rusty Blackbird	o	.	o	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Grackle*	c	c	c	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown-headed Cowbird**	c	c	u	.
<input type="checkbox"/> Orchard Oriole
<input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore Oriole**	u	u	u	.
FINCHES and ALLIES				
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Finch	o	o	o	.
<input type="checkbox"/> House Finch**	c	c	c	c
<input type="checkbox"/> American Goldfinch*	c	c	c	c

	S	Su	F	W
WEAVER FINCHES				
<input type="checkbox"/> House Sparrow**	c	c	c	c

Shenango Lake, PA- An Important Bird Area and Shorebird Hotspot

Shenango River Lake Reservoir located in Mercer County, PA and Trumbull County, OH is part of the flood control system operated by the Pittsburgh District Corps of Engineers of the Beaver and Upper Ohio Rivers. It was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1938 and began full operation in February 1967. The concrete gravity dam located on the Shenango River near Sharpsville, PA., is about 33 miles above the confluence near New Castle, PA. of the Shenango River with the Mahoning River to form the Beaver River.

Shenango River Lake in Pennsylvania, including the Big Bend area along the Shenango River, is one of 74 sites selected in Pennsylvania by the scientific advisors of the Ornithologic Records Committee as an Important Bird Area (IBA). Previously this area had also been designated a SAP (Special Areas Project) of the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology. The IBA concept was first developed in Europe in 1985 by BirdLife International and is a pivotal part of a dynamic worldwide effort to identify and protect outstanding habitats for birds and all wildlife.

Pennsylvania through the auspices of the National Audubon Society and the Pennsylvania Audubon Society was the first state to develop and implement the IBA program. It is now under the direction of Rob Blye, Important Bird Area Coordinator, and Steve Hoffman, Director of Bird Conservation of the Pennsylvania Audubon Society.

In addition to the data collection protocol for the SAP Surveys, the Louisiana Waterthrush Survey of the IBA program is also being conducted at the site.

During some years, the receding water levels in late July and early August through September at Shenango River Lake create ever expanding mudflats affording opportunities for seeing large varieties and good numbers of shorebirds passing through our area on their southerly fall migration.

When this happens. no where in Western Pennsylvania south of Lake Erie can such impressive numbers and variety of shorebirds be found.

Contributing Birders

Nancy Baker, Harriet Bauer, Kenneth Behrens, Gene Butcher, Suzanne Butcher, Greg Cook, Barb Dean, Mike Fialkovich, Ted Floyd, Carol Guba, Kathie Goodblood, Rita Hawrot, Paul Hess, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Deuane Hoffman, Joyce Hoffmann, Dory Jacobs, Glenda Kemm, Shirley McCarl, Carol McCullough, Mark McConaughy, Fred McCullough, Marty McKay, Dave Rieger, Mary Jane Seipler, Jerry Stanley, Randy Stringer, Russ States, Mark Swansiger, Sandee Swansiger, Chuck Tague, Joan Tague, Eli Troyer, Harvey Troyer, Jerry Troyer, Melvin Troyer, Neil Troyer, Jim Valimont, Linda Wagner, Tom Wescott, Gene Wilhelm, Rick Wiltrout, David Wilton.

Bartramian Audubon Society Three Rivers Birding Club Todd Bird Club

US Army Corps of Engineers, Shenango Lake
Charles Brudowsky, Park Ranger
Richard Egger, Park Ranger

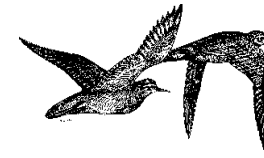
Marty McKay, Mercer County Compiler, *PA Birds*

Work in progress-

The compilation of this checklist is an ever going work in progress as new sightings are made and additional abundance data becomes available. If you have any comments, corrections, or suggestions, please direct them to Suzanne Butcher, 11 Norwick Dr., Youngstown, OH 44505, sarbird@hotmail.com. All additions, and probable or confirmed breeding codes, would be most appreciated.

This IBA adopted
by the

Bartramian Audubon Society Box 315 Slippery Rock, PA 16057



rev. 3/30/03

srb

Checklist of the Birds Of Shenango River Lake, PA and the Big Bend Area

An Important Bird Area
of the
National Audubon Society
Audubon Pennsylvania
Bartramian Audubon Society
and
A Special Areas Project
of the

Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology



Buff-breasted Sandpiper 8-23-93, photo Mike Fialkovich

Observer _____

Date _____