CHECK LIST OF THE BIRDS OF STARVED ROCK STATE PARK AND SURROUNDING TERRITORY

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The following is a list of the birds observed in Starved Rock State Park, LaSalle County, Illinois and the immediately surrounding territory. A total of 212 species is recorded.

The arrangement of the list is based on the fourth A. O. U. check-list.

This list has been made up from observations made by the authors, as well as by Frank Bellrose and Arthur Hawkins of the Illinois State Natural History Survey, Urbana, Illinois, and Charles J. Alikonis, Ottawa Township High School, Ottawa, Illinois.

Notations are made as to the frequency with which the birds have been observed and the time of year; viz. Common Loon, a migrant—designates that this bird is seen occasionally during spring and fall migrations.

GAVIIDAE-LOONS

Common Loon—(Gavia immer immer)
A migrant. Never very common.

COLYMBIDAE—GREBES

Horned Grebe—(Colymbus auritus)
Scarce during migration. Frequents
sloughs and other still waters.

Pied-billed Grebe—(Podilymbus

podiceps podiceps)
The "Hell-diver". Fairly common during migration, in the same habitats as the former.

PHALACROCORACIDAE—CORMOR-ANTS

Double-crested Cormorant—(Phalacrocorax auritus auritus)

Scarce summer resident, becoming common during migration. Best known as the "Nigger Goose".

ARDEIDAE—HERONS and BITTERNS Great Blue Heron—(Ardea herodias herodias)

Fairly common summer resident. Nests in tall trees on islands in the Illinois River. American Egret—(Casmerodius albus egretta)

Common in the fall. The individuals that reach us are young birds that wander north after they have left the nest.

Little Blue Heron—(Florida caerulea caerulea)

Scarce summer resident and migrant.

Eastern Green Heron—(Butorides virescens virescens)

Fairly common summer resident. Common along Illinois and Michigan Canal State Park.

Black-crowned Night Heron—
(Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli)

Common summer resident. Nests in low trees in the Illinois River valley.

American Bittern—(Botaurus lentiginosus)

Scarce migrant. More common than usually supposed as it is a frequenter of deep cat-tail marshes.

Eastern Least Bittern—(Ixobrychus exilis exilis)

Occasionally found in the cat-tail marshes.

ANSERINAE—GEESE

Canada Goose—(Branta canadensis canadensis)

Frequent during migration. Often seen flying high overhead but only rarely alighting on the river.

American Brant—(Branta bernicla hrota)

A scarce migrant.

ANATINAE—SURFACE-FEEDING DUCKS

Mallard—(Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos)

Fairly common summer resident, nesting here. In January and February large flocks occur in the Illinois valley, often going out into corn fields to feed.

Red-legged Black Duck—(Anas rubripes rubripes)

This and the next occur in flocks intermingling with the Mallard in winter. This subspecies is more common here.

Common Black Duck—(Anas rubripes tristis)

Somewhat scarcer than the former. often occurring in the same flocks. Gadwall—(Chaulelasmus streperus)

A scarce migrant.

Baldpate—(Mareca americana) Scarce migrant of early fall.

Pintail—(Dafila acuta tzitzihoa) Scarce migrant in the late fall and

early spring. Green-winged Teal-(Nettion

carolinense) Scarce early fall migrant.

Blue-winged Teal-(Querquedula discors)

Fairly common early fall migrant. Frequent summer resident.

Shoveller—(Spatula clypeata) Common in early fall, on shallow, still water.

Wood Duck—(Aix sponso)

Quite common during migration some years. Also a frequent summer resident.

NYROCINAE—DIVING DUCKS

Redhead—(Nyroca americana)

Frequent migrant. Seen among the huge flocks of Lesser Scaups along the Illinois River.

Ring-necked Duck—(Nyroca collaris)
Frequent migrant. Here at the same time as the Lesser Scaup, but segregated, nearer shore.

Canvas-back—(Nyroca valisineria) Once rare. Now frequent during

migration.

Lesser Scaup Duck-(Nyroca affinis) Our most common duck. During migration present in thousands. A few nesting here in the summer. The "Bluebill".
American Golden-eye—(Glaucionetta

clangula americana)

In small flocks during migration. Often in faster water than the other ducks. The "Whistler"

Buffle-head—(Charitonella albeola) "Butterball." Now rather scarce, during migration.

Old Squaw-(Clangula hyemalis) Apparently a rare migrant. One specimen taken by a hunter.

White-winged Scoter-(Melanitta deglandi)

Also rare, with a single specimen represented, shot by a hunter.

ERISMATURINAE-RUDDY and MASKED DUCKS

Ruddy Duck-(Erismatura jamaicensis rubida)

Frequent in the fall, along banks of the Illinois River. Rarely shot by hunters as it leaves before the duck season opens.

MERGINAE—MERGANSERS

Hooded Merganser-(Lophodytes cucullatus)

Frequent in sloughs during migration.

American Merganser-(Mergus merganser americanus)

In small flocks on open water during migration.

Red-breasted Merganser—(Mergus serrator)

A scarce migrant.

ACCIPITRIINAE—SHORT-WINGED HAWKS

Sharp-shinned Hawk-(Accipiter velox)

One of the more common hawks. Permanent resident.

Cooper's Hawk-(Accipiter cooperi) Permanent resident. Quite scarce.

BUTEONINAE—BUZZARD HAWKS Eastern Red-tailed Hawk-(Buteo borealis borealis)

A very scarce permanent resident.

Northern Red-shouldered Hawk-(Buteo lineatus lineatus) Scarce permanent resident.

American Rough-legged Hawk-(Buteo lagopus johannis) Frequent permanent resident.

Southern Bald Eagle—(Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus) Once frequently seen but now almost extinct in this region.

CIRCINAE—HARRIERS

Marsh Hawk-(Circus hudsonius) Our second most common hawk, over marshes and fields.

PANDIONINAE—OSPREYS

Osprey-(Pandion haliaetus carolin-

Frequent migrant along the Illinois River.

FALCONIDAE—FALCONS

Eastern Sparrow Hawk—(Falco sparverius sparverius) Our most common hawk. Seen

along roads, etc.

TETRAONIDAE—GROUSE

Greater Prairie Chicken-(Tympanuchus cupido americanus) A species stocked here. Rare.

PERDICIDAE—PARTRIDGE

Eastern Bob-white-(Colinus virginianus virginianus)

Permanent resident, fairly common. Nests in upland fields and thickets.

PHASIANIDAE—PHEASANTS Ring-necked Pheasant-(Phasianus colchicus colchicus) Introduced. Scarce permanent resi-

dent.

RALLIDAE-RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS

King Rail-(Rallus elegans elegans) Summer resident and migrant. In deep marshes and rarely seen. Virginia Rail-(Rallus limicola limi-

cola) Scarce migrant of the deep marshes.

Sora—(Porzana carolina) Common for a short period in the

spring and fall. Coot—(Fulica americana) "Mudhen." A common migrant.

CHARADRIIDAE-PLOVERS and TURNSTONES

Semipalmated Plover—(Charadrius semipalmatus)

Scarce migrant of mud flats. Killdeer-(Oxyechus vociferus vociferus)

Frequent summer resident. Golden Plover-(Pluvialis dominica dominica) A rare migrant.

SCOLOPACIDAE-SNIPE, SAND-PIPERS, etc.

Woodcock—(Philohela minor) Frequent summer resident.

Wilson's Snipe—(Capella delicata) Late spring and early fall migrant. Common when it occurs.

Upland Plover-(Bartramia longicauda)

Frequent summer resident, along roads.

Spotted Sandpiper—(Actitis macularia)

"Tip-up." Common migrant and scarce summer resident.

Eastern Solitary Sandpiper-(Tringa solitaris solitaris)

Quite common on mud flats and along shores during migration.

Greater Yellow-legs-(Totanus melanoleucus)

Fairly common migrant. Occurs on mud flats with the following.

Lesser Yellow-legs-(Totanus Flavipes)

Fairly common migrant. Pectoral Sandpiper-(Pisobia melanotos)

Fairly common migrant. Along shores.

Least Sandpiper—(Pisobia minutilla)

This and the following are hard to separate. Scarce. Migrant.

Semipalmated Sandpiper—(Ereunetes pusillus)

Scarce migrant. Observed along mud flats.

LARINAE—GULLS

Herring Gull-(Larus argentatus argentatus)

Common, but not as common as the following. Present most of the year but much more common in the winter.

Ring-billed Gull-(Larus delawarensis)

Our most common gull at all times. Occurs with the former.

Bonaparte's Gull-(Larus philadelphicus)

A scarce migrant.

STERNINAE-TERNS

Common Tern-(Sterna hirundo hirundo)

A frequent migrant.

Caspian Tern—(Hudroprogne caspia imperator)

A quite scarce migrant. Black Tern-(Chlidonias nigra surinamensis)

A common migrant, passing up and down the Illinois River in large flocks.

COLUMBIDAE—PIGEONS and DOVES Eastern Mourning Dove-(Zenaidura macroura carolinensis)

A common permanent resident.

CUCULIDAE—CUCKOOS and ANIS Yellow-billed Cuckoo—(Coccyzus americanus americanus)

Frequent summer resident.

Black-billed Cuckoo-(Coccyzus erythrophthalmus) A scarce summer resident.

TYTONIDAE—OWLS (in part)

Barn Owl-(Tyto alba pratincola) Rare. Single pair nesting along Illinois River 8 mi. west of

Ottawa.

Eastern Screech Owl-(Otus asio naevius)

Common permanent resident. Great Horned Owl-(Bubo virginianus virginianus)

Frequent permanent resident.

Montana Horned Owl-(Bubo virginianus occidentalis)

Record based on a single specimen brought in to the Ottawa Township High School.

STRIGIDAE-OWLS (in part)

Northern Barred Owl-(Strix varia varia)

Several nesting along the cliffs of Starved Rock State Park.

Long-eared Owl-(Asio wilsonianus) Only one specimen seen.

Short-eared Owl-(Asio flammeus flammeus)

Fairly common. Seen in daytime over marshes.

CAPRIMULGIDAE—GOATSUCKERS

Eastern Whip-poor-will-(Antrostomus vociferus vociferus)

Frequent summer resident in suitable places.

Eastern Nighthawk-(Chordeiles minor minor)

Common summer resident, especially in cities, where it nests on pebbled roofs.

MICROPODIDAE—SWIFTS

Chimney Swift-(Chaetura pelagica) Common summer resident.

TROCHILIDAE—HUMMINGBIRDS

Ruby-throated Hummingbird-(Archilochus colubris)

Quite common summer resident and early fall or late summer migrant, coming through when the Impatiens are in bloom.

ALCEDINIDAE—KINGFISHERS Eastern Belted Kingfisher—(Megaceryle alcyon alcyon)

Common in summer. A few sometimes stay all winter, near places where the water is open. mallards and black ducks often keep patches of water open. these the kingfisher does his fishing when the ducks are feeding in the fields.

PICIDAE—WOODPECKERS

Northern Flicker-(Colaptes auratus

Common summer resident.

Red-bellied Woodpecker-(Centurus carolinus)

A permanent resident.

Red-headed Woodpecker-(Melanerpes erythrocephalus)

A common summer resident.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—(Sphyrapicus varius varius)

Common migrant in early spring and late fall.

Eastern Hairy Woodpecker-(Dryobates villosus villosus) Scarce permanent resident.

Northern Downy Woodpecker-(Dryobates pubescens medianus) Common permanent resident.

Artic Three-toed Woodpecker-(Picoides arcticus)

A rare winter visitor from the north.

TYRANNIDAE-FLYCATCHERS and KINGBIRDS

Eastern Kingbird-(Tyrannus tyrannus

A common summer resident. Northern Crested Flycatcher-

(Myiarchus crinitus boreus) A common summer resident.

Eastern Phoebe-(Sayornis phoebe) Frequent in canyons from early spring to late fall.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher—(Empidonax flaviventris)

Frequent migrant, occurring on the

Acadian Flycatcher-(Empidonax virescens)

Rare migrant.

Alder Flycatcher—(Empidonax trailli trailli) Rare migrant.

Least Flycatcher—(Empidonax minimus)

Rare migrant.

Eastern Wood Pewee-(Myiochanes virens)

Common in upland woods throughout the summer.

Olive-sided Flycatcher-(Nutallornis mesoleucus) Frequent migrant in the uplands.

ALAUDIDAE—LARKS

Prairie Horned Lark-(Otocoris alpestris praticola)

Common in the upland fields in A scarce summer resident. The Northern Horned Lark may be the form in the winter but we have not been able to distinguish between the two.

HIRUNDINIDAE—SWALLOWS

Tree Swallow—(Iridoprocne bicolor) Common in summer. Nests in trees over water.

Bank Swallow—(Riparia riparia

Summer resident. Nests along cliffs. Rough-winged Swallow-(Stelgidopteryx ruficollis serripennis)

Common. Nests in cliffs also. Barn Swallow-(Hirundo erythro-

gaster) Frequent summer resident, near barns.

Northern Cliff Swallow-(Petrochelidon albifrons)

Common in certain places. Nests along cliffs or under bridges.

Purple Martin-(Progne subis subis) Common. Rarely found nesting except in the boxes provided for their use.

CORVIDAE-JAYS and CROWS

Northern Blue Jay-(Cyanocitta cristata cristata)

Common permanent resident.

Eastern Crow-(Corvus brachyrhynchos brachyrhynchos) Common permanent resident.

PARIDAE—CHICKADEES and TIT-MICE

Black-capped Chickadee—(Penthestes atricapillus atricapillus)

Common permanent resident. Tufted Titmouse-(Baeolophus bicolor)

Frequent permanent resident.

SITTIDAE—NUTHATCHES

Northern White-breasted Nuthatch-(Sitta carolinensis carolinensis) Fairly common all year.

Red-breasted Nuthatch-(Sitta canadensis)

A scarce migrant.

CERTHIIDAE—BROWN CREEPER

Brown Creeper-(Certhia familiaris americana)

Frequent permanent resident.

TROGLODYTIDAE—WRENS

Eastern House Wren-(Troglodytes aedon aedon)

Common summer resident.

Eastern Winter Wren—(Nannus hiemalis hiemalis)

Frequent in winter.

Bewicks Wren-(Thryomanes bewicki bewicki)

Scarce summer resident.

Carolina Wren-(Thryothorus ludovicianus ludovicianus)

Fairly common permanent resident. Prairie Marsh Wren—(Telmatodytes palustris palustris)

Frequent summer resident in cattail marshes.

Short-billed Marsh Wren-(Cistothoris stellaris)

Scarce migrant in cat-tail marshes.

MIMIDAE-MOCKERS

Cathird—(Dumatella carolinensis) Common summer resident. Brown Thrasher—(Toxostoma rufum)

Quite common summer resident.

TURDIDAE—THRUSHES

Eastern Robin—(Turdus migratorius migratorius)

Common summer resident. Sometimes a few stay all winter.

Wood Thrush—(Hylocichla mustelina) Frequent summer resident. Often heard in the Park.

Eastern Hermit Thrush-(Hylocichla gattata faxoni)

Common migrant of early spring.

Olive-backed Thrush-(Hylocichla ustalata swainsoni)

Common late migrant.

Gray-cheeked Thrush-(Hylocichla minima)

Common late migrant.

Veery-(Hylocichla fuscescens jusceacens)

Rare migrant.

Eastern Bluebird-(Sialia sia is

Common migrant and frequent summer resident.

SYLVIIDAE-GNATCATCHERS and KINGLETS

Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher — (Polioptila caerulea caerulea)

Frequent migrant and summer resident.

Eastern Golden-crowned Kinglet-(Regulus satrapa satrapa)

Common in migration and frequent in winter.

Eastern Ruby-crowned Kinglet-(Corthylio calendula calendula) Same as the former.

BOMBYCILLIDAE-WAXWINGS

Bohemian Waxwing-(Bombycilia garrula pallidiceps)

Rare migrant. Occurs in flocks of the following.

Cedar Waxwing-(Bombycilla cedrorum)

Frequent migrant but erratic in its appearance.

LANIIDAE—SHRIKES

Northern Shrike-(Lanius borealis) Scarce migrant.

Migrant Shrike—(Lanius ludovicianus migrans)

Common migrant and frequent summer resident. The "butcher-bird".

STURNIDAE—STARLINGS

Starling-(Sturnus vulgaris) Common permanent resident.

VIREONIDAE—VIREOS

Yellow-throated Vireo-(Vireo flavifrons) Frequent migrant.

Blue-headed Vireo-(Vireo solitarius solitarius)

Scarce migrant.

Red-eyed Vireo-(Vireo olivaceus) Common migrant and frequent summer resident.

Eastern Warbling Vireo-(Vireo gilvus)

Frequent to common summer resident.

COMPSOTHLYPIDAE-WOOD WARBLERS

Black and White Warbler—(Mniotilta varia)

One of the commoner warblers during migration.

Prothonotary Warbler-(Protonotaria

At least two pairs probably nesting near the lakes in the Park.

Worm-eating Warbler-(Helmitheros vermivorus)

Rare summer resident.
Golden-winged Warbler—(Vermivora chrysoptera)

Scarce migrant. Occurs in the lowlands.

Tennessee Warbler-(Vermivora peregrina)

Frequent during migration.

Orange-crowned Warbler-(Vermivora celata celata) Frequent migrant.

Nashville Warbler-(Vermivora ruficapilla ruficapilla)

Scarce migrant. Northern Parula Warbler-(Compsothlypis americana pusilla)

Scarce during migration.
Eastern Yellow Warbler—(Dendroica

aestiva aestiva) Common summer resident of the

marshlands.

Magnolia Warbler-(Dendroica mag-Common migrant, usually of upland

woods.

Cape May Warbler-(Dendroica tigrina)

Common migrant of the river bottoms but erratic in its appearance. Some years it does not show up at

Black-throated Blue Warbler-Dendroica caerulescens) Rare migrant.

Myrtle Warbler—(Dendroica nata)

One of the most common migrant warblers, passing through with the first waves of migration in the spring.

Black-throated Green Warbler-(Dendroica virens)

Quite common during migration, seeming to prefer hawthorne trees. Cerulean Warbler—(Dendroica

cerulea) Rare migrant.

Blackburnian Warbler-(Dendroica fusca)

Quite a common migrant but sometimes misses us on its migration paths.

Warbler-(Dendroica do-Sycamore minica albilora)

A single specimen seen at close range in Ottawa by the junior author.

Chestnut-sided Warbler-(Dendroica pennsylvanica)

One of the more common migrants. Bay-breasted Warbler-(Dendroica castanea)

More scarce than the former.

Black-poll Warbler—(Dendroica striata) Frequent during migration.

Pine Warbler—(Dendroica pinus) Scarce migrant of the uplands.

Western Palm Warbler-(Dendroica palmarum palmarum)

This and the following occur in the spring in large numbers. Not as conspicuous in the fall.

Yellow Palm Warbler-(Dendroica palmarum hypochrysea)

Occurs in the flocks with the former but more scarce.

Oven-bird-(Seiurus aurocapillus) Common during migration and a frequent summer resident.

Northern Water-thrush-(Seiurus noveboracensis noveboracensis)

Scarce migrant. We have not been able to distinguish this from the Grinnel's so this record may be of one or both.

Louisiana Water-thrush-(Seiurus motacilla)

Common during migration and nesting in some of the canyons.

Kentucky Warbler-(Oporonis formosus)

Several pairs nest in the Park.

Connecticut Warbler-(Oporornis agilis)

A common migrant.

Mourning Warbler-(Oporornis philadelphica)

Scarce migrant.

Northern Yellow-throat-(Geothlypis trichas brachidactyla) Common summer resident of the

marshes.

Yellow-breasted Chat—(Icteria virens virens)

Frequent migrant.

Hooded Warbler—(Wilsonia citrina)
A scarce migrant.

Wilson's Warbler—(Wilsonia pusilla pusilla)

A scarce migrant of the uplands, preferring hawthorne groves.

Canada Warbler—(Wilsonia canadensis)
Frequent during migration.

American Redstart—(Setophaga ruticilla)

Common migrant and summer resident in the marshlands.

PLOCEIDAE—WEAVER FINCHES

English or House Sparrow—(Passer domesticus domesticus)

Common in the cities and around farms.

ICTERIDAE—BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES, etc.

Bobolink—(Dolichonyx oryzivorus)
Frequent migrant and summer resident.

Eastern Meadowlark—(Sturnella magna magna)

Common in fields in summer.

Eastern Red-wing—(Agelaius phoeniceus phoeniceus)

Common summer and frequent winter resident.

Orchard Oriole—(Icterus spurius)

Scarce migrant, usually of river bottoms.

Baltimore Oriole—(Icterus galbula)

Frequent summer resident.

Rusty Blackbird—(Euphagus carolinus)

Huge flocks pass through during migration. A few winter here. Brewer's Blackbird—(Euphagus

cyanocephalus)

A single small flock seen. A specimen in the O. H. S. collection.

Bronzed Grackle—(Quiscalis quiscula aeneus)

Common in the summer.

Eastern Cowbird—(Molothrus ater

Common in the summer.

THRAUPIDAE—TANAGERS

Scarlet Tanager—(Piranga erythromelas)

Frequent migrant and scarce summer resident.

FRINGILLIDAE—SPARROWS

Eastern Cardinal—(Richmondena cardinalis cardinalis)

Frequent to common permanent resident.

 $\begin{array}{c} {\bf Rose\text{-}breasted \ \ Grosbeak--}(Hedymeles \\ ludovicianus) \end{array}$

Fairly common summer resident.
Indigo Bunting—(Passerina cyanea)

Common in summer. Many nest in Park.

Dickcissel—(Spiza americana)

Common along roads on the upland prairies.

Eastern Evening Grosbeak—(Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina)

One flock seen by the late W. E. Howard of O. H. S.

Eastern Purple Finch—(Carpodacus purpureus purpureus)

Quite common during migration.
Common Redpoll—(Acanthis linaria linaria)

A rare winter visitor.

Pine Siskin—(Spinus pinus pinus)
Scarce migrant.

Eastern Goldfinch—(Spinus tristis tristis)

Common all year but more so in summer.

Red-eyed Towhee—(Pipilo erythrophthalmus erythrophthalmus)

Quite common summer resident. Sometimes known as "Chewink" or "Ground Robin".

Eastern Grasshopper Sparrow—(Ammodramus savannarum australis) A scarce migrant.

Leconte's Sparrow—(Passerherbulus caudacutus)

A quite rare migrant of the upland woods.

Western Henslow's Sparrow—(Passerherbulus henslowi henslowi) Seen only once, during migration.

Eastern Vesper Sparrow—(Pooecetes gramineus gramineus)

A frequent summer resident of the prairies.

Eastern Lark Sparrow—(Chondestes grammacus grammacus)

A scarce summer resident. Seems to prefer the upland thickets.

Slate-colored Junco—(Junco hyemalis hyemalis)

Common winter resident.

Eastern Tree Sparrow—(Spizella arborea arborea)

Common winter resident.

Eastern Chipping Sparrow—(Spizella passerina passerina)

A frequent summer resident.

Eastern Field Sparrow—(Spizella pusilla pusilla)

Common summer resident of the uplands.

White-crowned Sparrow—(Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys)

Common migrant but not nearly as common as the following.

White-throated Sparrow—(Zonotrichia albicollis)

Common migrant.

Eastern Fox Sparrow—(Passerella iliaca iliaca)

A frequent winter resident, seeming to prefer the uplands, especially along hedge fences.

Swamp Sparrow—(Melospiza georgiana)

Quite common during migration in

marshy places and a few nesting here.

Mississippi Song Sparrow—(Melospiza melodia beata)

Common permanent resident of marshy places.

Lapland Longspur—(Calcarius lapponicus lapponicus) A very rare winter visitor.

Eastern Snow Bunting—(Pletrophenax nivalis nivalis)
A very rare winter visitor.