



Birds of the Sandhills

☐ Red-cockaded Woodpecker
Dryobates borealis
"yank, yank"

Whether perching in the trees, flying overhead, or singing from the shrubs, many types of birds specialize in life in the sandhills. Use this brochure to see how many birds you can find on your hike today.

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Field Marks

In addition to size, shape, location and behavior, field marks can be used to help identify birds. If you can't identify a bird on your hike, remembering what certain parts of the bird looked like can help you identify it when you get home. On your birding adventure, try to find a bird you don't know and see if it has any of the following field marks:

☐ **wing bars**
Does the bird have wing bars or patches?

☐ **nape**
Is the bird's nape a different color?

☐ **crown**
Does the bird have a colored "cap" or a crest on its head?

☐ **eyestripe**
Does the bird have a stripe through the eye?

☐ **eyebrow**
Does the bird have an eyebrow? What color?

☐ **beak or bill**
What shape and color are the beak?

☐ **throat**
Is the bird's throat a different color?

☐ **tail bars**
Are there any stripes across the bird's tail?

☐ **belly**
What color is the bird's belly?

☐ **side**
Does the bird have coloring on the sides?

☐ **breast**
Does the breast have speckles or bands of color?

☐ **tail markings**
Does the bird have white edges on its tail or a different color on the tip?

Blue Jay
Cyanocitta cristata
harsh "jayy"

What kind of bird is that?

When identifying birds, start by observing their location and behavior. Is the bird up high, making noise? Or is it on the ground, digging in leaves? Next, observe its appearance. Is it big like a crow, or small like a sparrow? Does it have pointy wings, or a long tail? What color is it? And what sort of markings does it have? These things can help you identify the birds you are looking at!

Check off the birds you find on your hike today!

☐ Turkey Vulture
Cathartes aura
warning "hsssss"

☐ Red-tailed Hawk
Buteo jamaicensis
"keeee-arr" raspy scream

☐ American Goldfinch
Spinus tristis
"per-chik-o-ry" in flight

☐ Brown-headed Nuthatch
Sitta pusilla
"pri-u, de-u, de-u",
"bit-bit-bit"

☐ Carolina Wren
Thryothorus ludovicianus
varied "pidaro pidaro pidaro"

☐ Eastern Towhee
Pipilo erythrophthalmus
"drink your teeeee"

☐ American Robin
Turdus migratorius
"plurri, kliwi, plurri, kliwi"

☐ Red-headed Woodpecker
Melanerpes erythrocephalus
"kerr-uck, kerr-uck"

☐ Northern Cardinal
Cardinalis cardinalis
whistles "woit woit
chew chew chew"

☐ Mourning Dove
Zenaida macroura
mournful "ooOOH
cooo coo coo"

☐ Carolina Chickadee
Poecile carolinensis
"chickadeedeede"

☐ American Crow
Corvus brachyrhynchos
"caww caww"