

## **FORT HOOD BIRDS: SEMI-MONTHLY ABUNDANCES & PROBABILITIES OF LOCATING**













**(30 June 2010)**

Fort Hood Military Reservation covers 214,778 acres within Bell and Coryell Counties in central Texas. It is home to the largest armored force in the U.S. Army. Ecologically, Fort Hood sits at the boundary of two major ecoregions, the Edwards Plateau and the Crosstimbers/Southern Tallgrass Prairie. Landscape and habitat at Fort Hood are reflective of both ecoregions. Cowhouse Creek, which bisects the installation, and the Leon River, which forms the northern boundary of the installation, are the primary drainages on Fort Hood. Both flow into Belton Lake. The Cowhouse Creek arm of Belton Lake is bordered almost entirely by Fort Hood lands. Ornithologically, Fort Hood is best known for its populations of two endangered songbirds, the Black-capped Vireo and the Golden-cheeked Warbler, the largest under single management authority. However, a diversity of birds occurs on the installation. To date, 334 species have been documented on Fort Hood. A handful of hypothetical, insufficiently documented species have also been reported.

This checklist represents our current knowledge & understanding of the Fort Hood avifauna. It is only a snapshot in time. Avian populations are not static, but ebb & flow over time in response to various environmental factors (e.g. active management of species & habitats, changing land use, climate). The current statuses of Fort Hood's birds were derived from ~40,000 species occurrence records dating back to 1989 with greater emphasis placed on records from the past decade. This checklist is best used as a guide to the relative abundances & probabilities of encountering different species during a "typical" birding trip on Fort Hood. A "typical" birding trip is defined as 4-6+ hrs in the field with visits to a various habitats (cantonment, grassland, ponds/lake, riparian, shrubland, woodland). It is possible to observe above/below average numbers of a species, perceive the probability of locating a species as being different than indicated, or even fail to observe an expected species dependent on time spent in the field, amount of ground covered, & focus (e.g. single species research v. more generalized birding). This checklist continues to be a work in progress. Much remains to be learned about Fort Hood's avifauna. While some data gaps have been filled, data are still much more readily available for certain habitats, seasons, & species than others. As more data become available, status of some species will undoubtedly change. Surprisingly, data are sparse or lacking even for some species that are generally expected to occur on Fort Hood as year-round residents. This checklist highlights some of those data gaps. Instead of making assumptions about abundance & probability, I have intentionally left data gaps blank in hopes of eliciting reports for these species. The new, semi-monthly approach to abundances & probabilities displayed in this version of the checklist has both its strengths and weaknesses. In many cases, seasonal transitions & even within-season shifts in abundance and probability are now much more noticeable. However, displaying the data at this finer scale also makes data gaps much more noticeable.

Please direct any bird reports, comments, or questions to Rich Kostecke <rkostecke@tnc.org>.

### ABUNDANCE & PROBABILITY CODES

		Probability of Locating Typical Numbers		
		High >70%	Medium 30-70%	Low <30%
<b>ABUNDANCE</b>  The average number of individuals to be expected in the appropriate habitats(s)	101+ Birds			
	51-100 Birds			
	11-50 Birds			
	1-10 Birds			

#### Additional Codes

● ● ● ● ● ●	Casual - Not reported annually, typically reported every 2-5 years.
●	Accidental - Typically only 2-3 records
?	Has been reliably reported/documented on Fort Hood, but data on exact date of occurrence are missing.
*	Has been documented as breeding on Fort Hood.
c	Found primarily, if not almost exclusively, in cantonment areas.
e	More abundant and likely to be encountered in or near cantonment areas.





SPECIES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>Osprey, Kites &amp; Harrier</b>												
Osprey	.....	• .....	.....	—————	—————	• .....	.....	.....	—————	—————	—————	.....
Swallow-tailed Kite					•			•				
White-tailed Kite			• •	• •	•	•						•
Mississippi Kite				•	—————	.....		•	•			
Northern Harrier	—————	—————	—————	.....	•			•	•	.....	—————	—————
<b>Eagles &amp; Hawks</b>												
Bald Eagle	•	•	•	.....	—————	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sharp-shinned Hawk	—————	.....	•	.....	.....	•	.....	•	•	.....	.....	•
Cooper's Hawk*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	•	•
Harris's Hawk				•	•							
Red-shouldered Hawk*	•	•	•	•	.....	—————	—————	—————	•	•	•	•
Broad-winged Hawk*				•	—————	.....	•	.....	•	•	•	
Swainson's Hawk*			•	.....	—————	.....	•	.....	•	.....	•	
Zone-tailed Hawk		•			•							
Red-tailed Hawk*	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————
Ferruginous Hawk				•								
Golden Eagle								•				
<b>Falcons</b>												
Crested Caracara*		•		.....	.....	•	•		•	•	•	•
American Kestrel*	—————	—————	—————	.....	•	•	•	.....	—————	—————	—————	—————
Merlin	.....	.....	•	.....	.....			•	•	.....	•	.....
Peregrine Falcon				.....	.....		•	•	•		•	
Prairie Falcon	•	•	•	•					•		•	•
<b>Rails &amp; Cranes</b>												
Sora		•	•	•	.....	.....		•	•		•	•
Common Moorhen	•					•	•		•		•	
American Coot	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	•	—————	—————	—————	—————
Sandhill Crane	.....	•	•	•	.....					.....	•	•
Whooping Crane				•	•						•	
<b>Shorebirds</b>												
Black-bellied Plover				•	•							
American Golden-plover				.....	•	•						

SPECIES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Snowy Plover								•	•	•		
Semipalmated Plover				.....	•			•	•			
Killdeer*	—————											
Black-necked Stilt					•	•	•	•				
American Avocet				•	•	•	•	.....	•	•	•	•
Spotted Sandpiper	•	.....	•	.....	.....	.....	•	.....	.....	.....	.....	•
Solitary Sandpiper			•	.....	.....	•	.....	.....	•	•		
Greater Yellowlegs	—————											
Willet				.....	•		•	•	•	•		
Lesser Yellowlegs			•	.....	.....	•	•	•	.....	.....		•
Upland Sandpiper			.....	.....	•	•	•	.....	•	•		
Whimbrel				•	.....							
Long-billed Curlew			•	•			.....	•		•	•	
Hudsonian Godwit					.....	•						
Marbled Godwit									•			
Red Knot					•							
Sanderling					•			•	•	•		
Semipalmated Sandpiper				.....	•		•	•	.....	•	•	•
Western Sandpiper				•	.....	•		•	•	.....	•	
Least Sandpiper	.....	•	.....	.....	•	.....	•	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
White-rumped Sandpiper					.....	.....	.....					
Baird's Sandpiper				.....	.....	.....		.....	•	•		
Pectoral Sandpiper			•	.....	.....	•		.....	.....	•	•	•
Dunlin								•	•			
Stilt Sandpiper					.....	•		•	.....	•	•	
Buff-breasted Sandpiper									•			
Short-billed Dowitcher							•	•	•			
Long-billed Dowitcher		•	.....	•	•	.....	•	•	•	•	•	•
Wilson's Snipe	—————											
American Woodcock*	•	•	•	•		•						•
Wilson's Phalarope				•	.....	.....		•	•		•	
<b>Gulls &amp; Terns</b>												
Laughing Gull			•	•	•	•	•	•				
Franklin's Gull			.....	.....	.....	•				•	.....	•

SPECIES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bonaparte's Gull					•							
Ring-billed Gull					•							
Least Tern					•							
Caspian Tern					•			•				
Black Tern					•	•		•	•			
Common Tern									•			
Forster's Tern	•	•						•	•	•	•	•
<b>Pigeons &amp; Doves</b>												
Rock Pigeon*C												
Eurasian Collared-dove*C	•						•	•	•	•	•	•
White-winged Dove* c												
Mourning Dove*												
Inca Dove*			•	•	•	•	•					
Common Ground-dove*	•						•	•	•		•	
<b>Parrots</b>												
Monk Parakeet						•						
<b>Cuckoos</b>												
Black-billed Cuckoo					•							
Yellow-billed Cuckoo*				•				•	•	•		
Greater Roadrunner*	•	•							•	•		
Groove-billed Ani				•	•							
<b>Owls</b>												
Barn Owl											•	
Eastern Screech-owl*		•	•				•	•	•	•	•	•
Great Horned Owl*		•	•	•		•	•		•	•	•	•
Burrowing Owl			•						•	•		
Barred Owl*	•		•					•	•	•		•
Long-eared Owl			•		•						•	
Short-eared Owl	•		•							•		•
<b>Nightjars &amp; Swifts</b>												
Common Nighthawk*				•						•	•	•
Common Poorwill*			•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	
Chuck-will's-widow*							•	•				
Whip-poor-will				•					•			

SPECIES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Chimney Swift*			•	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————			
<b>Hummingbirds</b>												
Ruby-throated Hummingbird*			•	..... •	.....	•	•	•	•	•		
Black-chinned Hummingbird*			—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	.....	•			
Anna's Hummingbird							•					
Rufous Hummingbird				•						•		
<b>Kingfishers</b>												
Belted Kingfisher*	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————
Green Kingfisher					•					•		
<b>Woodpeckers</b>												
Red-headed Woodpecker	•		•		•				•	•		
Golden-fronted Woodpecker				•	•	•	•					
Red-bellied Woodpecker*	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	.....	.....	.....	•					•	.....	—————	.....
Ladder-backed Woodpecker*	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————
Downy Woodpecker*	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————
Hairy Woodpecker	•				•	•	•					
Northern Flicker	—————	—————	.....	.....	•	•	•	•		.....	—————	—————
Pileated Woodpecker			•	•	•	•						
<b>Flycatchers</b>												
Olive-sided Flycatcher				—————	—————	•		•	—————	—————		
Eastern Wood-pewee*				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	•			
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher				•	•	.....	•	•	•	•		
Acadian Flycatcher*				•	—————	.....	.....	.....				
<i>Trail's Flycatcher</i>					—————	.....	•	•	.....	—————		
Alder Flycatcher					.....			.....				
Willow Flycatcher				•	.....							
Least Flycatcher				•	—————	•	•	.....	—————	•		
Eastern Phoebe*	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	.....	—————	—————	—————	—————
Say's Phoebe	.....	.....	.....	.....	•					•	—————	—————
Vermilion Flycatcher*		•	•	.....	.....	•						
Ash-throated Flycatcher*		•		—————	—————	.....		•				
Great Crested Flycatcher*			•	•	.....	.....	.....	.....	•			
Great Kiskadee					•	•						

SPECIES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Couch's Kingbird				•								
Western Kingbird*			•	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	•			
Eastern Kingbird				•	—————	•	•	—————	.....			
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher*			•	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	•	•
<b>Shrikes</b>												
Loggerhead Shrike*	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	.....	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————
<b>Vireos</b>												
White-eyed Vireo*		•	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	•		
Bell's Vireo*				—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	•	•	•	
Black-capped Vireo*			•	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	.....	•		
Yellow-throated Vireo*				.....	.....	.....	.....					
Plumbeous Vireo					•	•						
Blue-headed Vireo	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
Warbling Vireo				•	.....	•			•	•		
Philadelphia Vireo					.....	•			•			
Red-eyed Vireo*			•	—————	—————	—————	—————	.....	•			
<b>Jays, Crows &amp; Ravens</b>												
Blue Jay*	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————
Western Scrub-jay*	•	•	•	•	.....	.....	.....	•	•	•	•	•
American Crow*	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————
Common Raven		•	•	•	.....	•	•		•			
<b>Larks</b>												
Horned Lark*	.....	.....	•	•	.....	.....	•	•	•	•	•	.....
<b>Swallows</b>												
Purple Martin		•	•	.....	.....	.....	•	•	•			
Tree Swallow*		•	•	—————	—————	.....		•				
Northern Rough-winged Swallow*			.....	—————	—————	.....	•	•	•	•		
Bank Swallow				•	•	.....	•	•	.....			
Cliff Swallow*			—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	•	•		
Cave Swallow*		—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	.....	•	•	
Barn Swallow*		•	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————		
<b>Titmice &amp; Chickadees</b>												
Carolina Chickadee*	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————	—————
Tufted Titmouse		•		.....	•	•	•	•				

SPECIES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Black-crested Titmouse*												
<b>Bushtit, Nuthatches &amp; Creepers</b>												
Bushtit					•	•		•				
Red-breasted Nuthatch	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•		•
Brown Creeper	•	•	•	•	•	•						•
<b>Wrens</b>												
Rock Wren		•		•	•	•	•			•	•	•
Canyon Wren*	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•
Carolina Wren*												
Bewick's Wren*												
House Wren	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
Winter Wren	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•
Sedge Wren	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•
Marsh Wren		•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•
<b>Kinglets &amp; Gnatcatchers</b>												
Golden-crowned Kinglet	•	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•
Ruby-crowned Kinglet									•	•	•	•
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	•									•	•	•
<b>Bluebirds, Solitaires &amp; Thrushes</b>												
Eastern Bluebird*								•	•	•	•	•
Mountain Bluebird	•	•	•	•	•	•	•					•
Townsend's Solitaire	•			•	•	•	•					•
Veery				•	•	•	•					
Gray-cheeked Thrush					•	•	•					
Swainson's Thrush				•	•	•	•					
Hermit Thrush	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•
Wood Thrush				•	•	•	•					
American Robin	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
<b>Mimic Thrushes</b>												
Gray Catbird	•	•	•	•	•	•	•			•	•	•
Northern Mockingbird*												
Sage Thrasher		•										
Brown Thrasher	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
Curve-billed Thrasher				•	•	•	•					

SPECIES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>Starlings, Pipits &amp; Waxwings</b>												
European Starling*	—————											
American Pipit	— •	..... •	• .....	..... —	•					—	.....	• .....
Sprague's Pipit	..... •	.....	.....	• •					•		• • •	• .....
Cedar Waxwing	—	—	—	—	—	•					• •	—
<b>Warblers</b>												
Blue-winged Warbler				.....	•			•				
Golden-winged Warbler				•								
Tennessee Warbler				.....	•	•						
Orange-crowned Warbler	—	—	—	—	•				•	—	—	—
Nashville Warbler			• .....	.....	.....	•	•		•	.....		
Northern Parula			.....	.....	.....	•	•	•				
Yellow Warbler				• .....	—	•	•	—	•	•		
Chestnut-sided Warbler				.....	—							
Magnolia Warbler				.....	—	•						
Yellow-rumped Warbler	—	—	—	—	.....	•				—	—	—
Golden-cheeked Warbler*		•	—	—	—	.....		.....	•			
Black-throated Green Warbler			.....	.....	—			•		•	.....	
Blackburnian Warbler				•	.....							
Yellow-throated Warbler			•			•						
Pine Warbler	• •										•	•
Prairie Warbler			• •			.....		•				
Palm Warbler				•								
Bay-breasted Warbler				•	•							
Blackpoll Warbler					•							
Cerulean Warbler				•								
Black-and-white Warbler*			—	—	—	.....	•	.....	•	•	•	•
American Redstart				.....	—	•	•					
Prothonotary Warbler*				—	—	—	•	.....	•			
Ovenbird				•	.....							
Northern Waterthrush				•	.....	•			•			
Louisiana Waterthrush*			•	—	—	.....	.....	•	•	•		

SPECIES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Kentucky Warbler				• • • •		•						
Mourning Warbler				• •	.....			•	..... •			
MacGillivray's Warbler				•	.....				•			
Common Yellowthroat		.....	.....	.....	.....	..... •		•	•	.....	..... • • •	
Hooded Warbler			•	..... • • •					•			
Wilson's Warbler			•	.....	.....			•	.....	•		
Canada Warbler				•	.....				•			
Yellow-breasted Chat*				.....	.....	.....	.....	• •	.....			
<b>Tanagers</b>												
Summer Tanager*				.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	..... •			
Western Tanager					• •							
Scarlet Tanager			•	• •		•	•					
<b>Sparrows</b>												
Spotted Towhee	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	..... • •	..... •		•	.....	.....	.....
Eastern Towhee	•	..... •	.....	.....	.....	• •						•
Canyon Towhee				• • • •	• • • •	• •						
Cassin's Sparrow*	• • •			.....	.....	.....	•					
Rufous-crowned Sparrow*	• • •	• • •	•	.....	.....	.....		.....	•			•
Chipping Sparrow	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	•			.....	.....	.....
Clay-colored Sparrow		•		.....	.....	•			•	.....	•	•
Field Sparrow*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	• • • •	•	•	.....	.....
Vesper Sparrow	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	•	.....	.....	.....
Lark Sparrow*	.....	..... •	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	•	.....	..... •
Lark Bunting		•			•					•	•	•
Savannah Sparrow	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....			•	..... •	.....	.....
Grasshopper Sparrow*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	• •		•	.....	.....	.....
Le Conte's Sparrow	.....	.....	.....	• • •							• •	.....
Fox Sparrow	.....	..... •	..... • •								..... •	.....
Song Sparrow	.....	.....	.....	.....	•	.....	•			.....	.....	.....
Lincoln's Sparrow	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	•				•	.....	.....
Swamp Sparrow	•	.....	•	.....						.....	•	..... •
White-throated Sparrow	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	•				.....	.....	.....
Harris's Sparrow	.....	.....	.....	.....						.....	.....	.....
White-crowned Sparrow	.....	.....	.....	.....	•					.....	.....	.....

SPECIES	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dark-eyed Junco	█			█	•	•					█	█
McCown's Longspur		•	•	•								
Lapland/Smith's Longspur	•											
Chstnt-collared Longspur	.....	.....	.....	•	•						•	•
<b>Cardinals, Grosbeaks &amp; Buntings</b>												
Northern Cardinal*	█											
Pyrrhuloxia												•
Rose-breasted Grosbeak				.....	█							
Black-headed Grosbeak				•	•	•						
Blue Grosbeak*				.....	█	█	█	█	█	█		
Lazuli Bunting*			•	.....	█	█	█	█	█	█		
Indigo Bunting*			.....	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	.....
Painted Bunting*				•	█	█	█	█	█	█		
Dickcissel*				•	█	█	█	█	█	█		
<b>Blackbirds &amp; Orioles</b>												
Bobolink				•	•							
Red-winged Blackbird*	█											
meadowlark sp.	█			█						.....	█	█
Eastern Meadowlark*	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
Western Meadowlark	•	•	.....	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Yellow-headed Blackbird		•	•	.....	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
Rusty Blackbird			•	•								
Brewer's Blackbird			•	•	.....	•	•				•	
Common Grackle*	•	•	•	•	.....	█	█	█	█	█	█	█
Great-tailed Grackle*C	█											
Shiny Cowbird					•	•						
Bronzed Cowbird*		•	•	•	.....	█	█	█	█	█		
Brown-headed Cowbird*	.....	.....	.....	█	█	█	█	█	█	█	.....	•
Orchard Oriole*			•	•	.....	█	█	█	█	█		
Bullock's Oriole				•	.....							
Baltimore Oriole			•	.....	█	█	█	█	█	█		
Scott's Oriole					•							
<b>Finches &amp; Weavers</b>												
Purple Finch				•	•						•	

