

Seasonal Abundance of Birds of Southeast Louisiana



Produced by the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary Program

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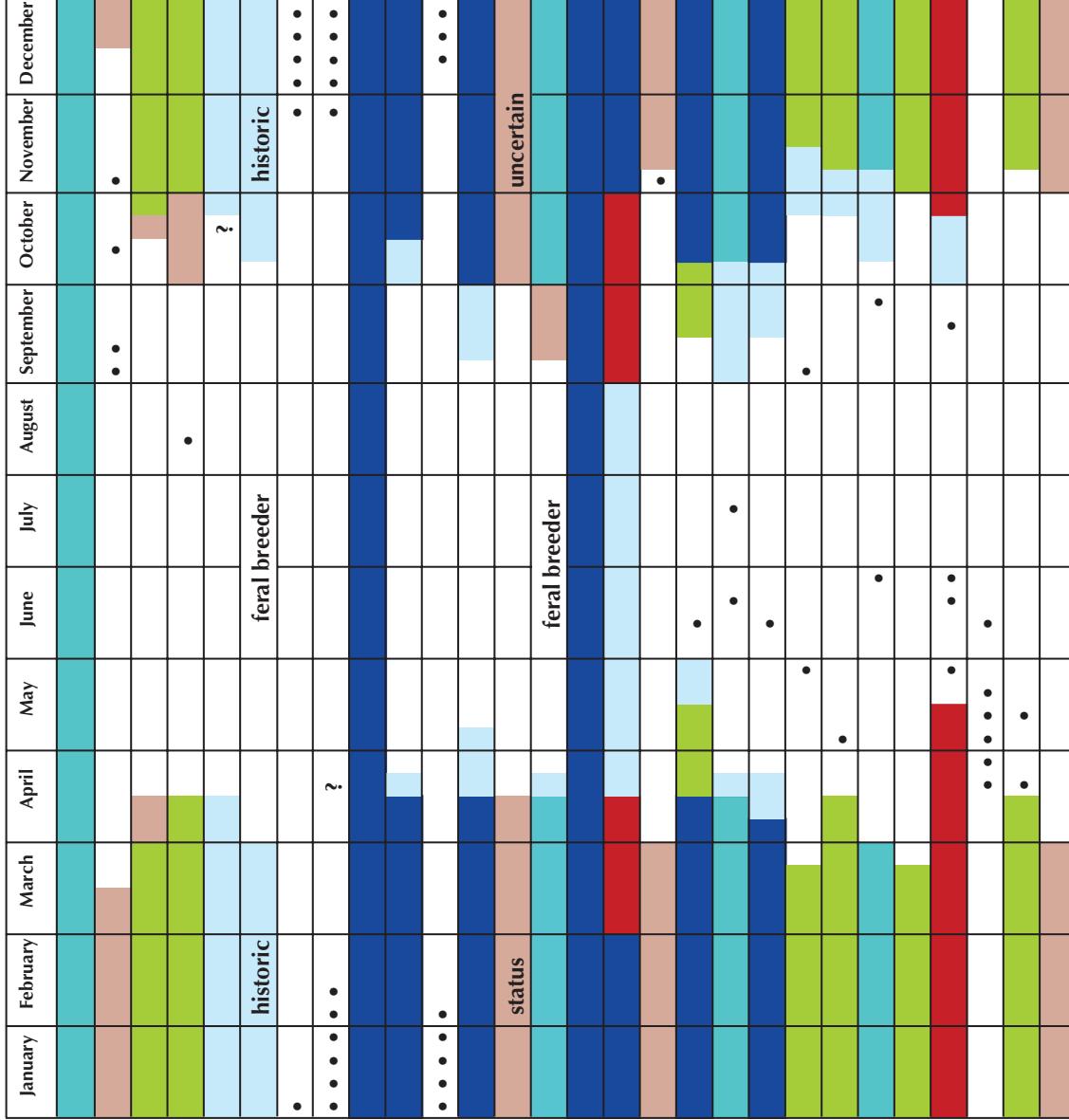
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BIRD DISTRIBUTION

The occurrence chart on the following pages is based on data compiled during the last 40 years in Southeast Louisiana, an area broadly representative of the Barataria-Terrebonne Estuary, but including the Florida Parishes as well. It reflects tens of thousands of hours in the field by dozens of observers who must remain nameless here, including the early records of Audubon and the irrepid observers who studied the birdlife of this area in the early 1900s. Any work of this sort necessarily simplifies in places the complex temporal character of bird distribution. Many species which can be found at any time of the year are nonetheless migratory, with populations reflecting the influx of individuals from north or south, depending on the season. Examples include Marsh Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, and Gray Catbird. It is also true that, for better or worse, the abundances given here cannot be considered static. Land use patterns and introduction of exotics have caused some species to become more common, while others have suffered notable declines over the period during which these data have been accumulated.

Matrix complied by:

Dan Purrington with David Muth, Phillip Wallace, Mac Myers, Steve Cardiff,
Nancy Newfield and Richard DeMay, September 2008



Abundance **Breeding record(s)** *

Pine Woods (breeding) ***

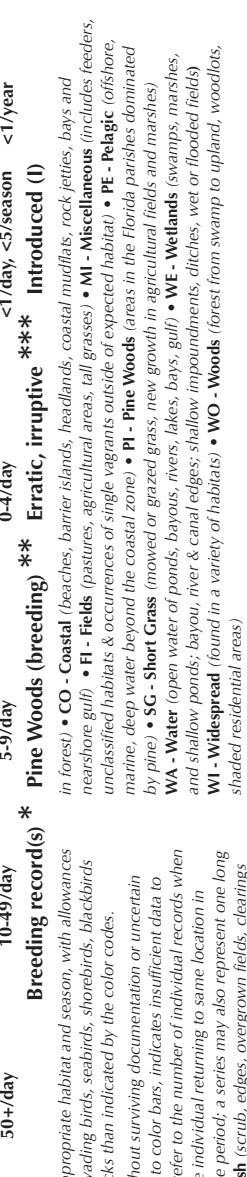
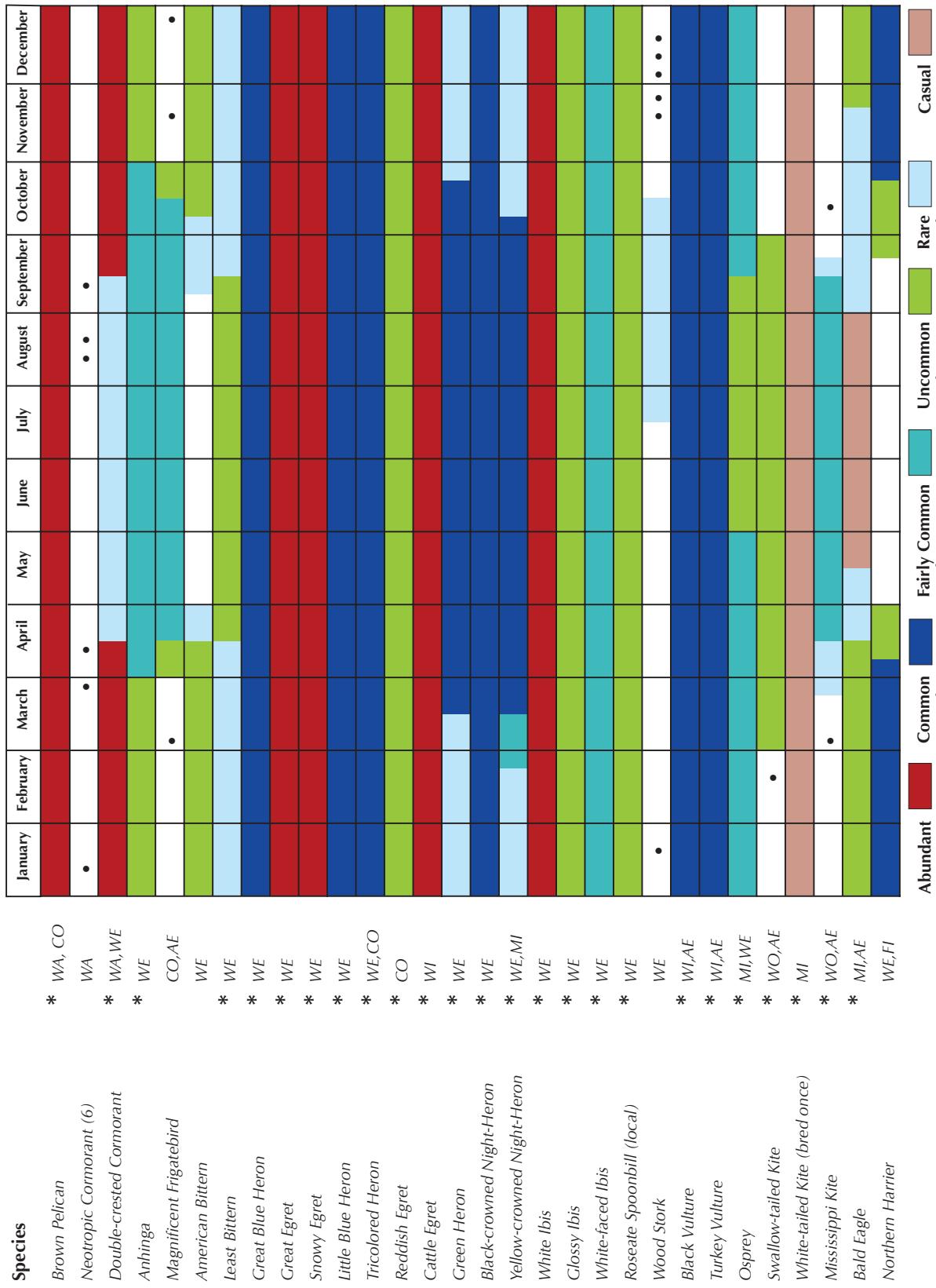
Erratic, irruptive ***

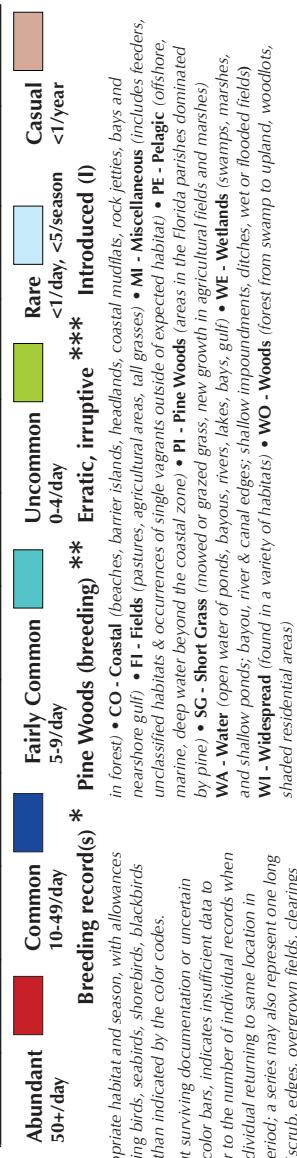
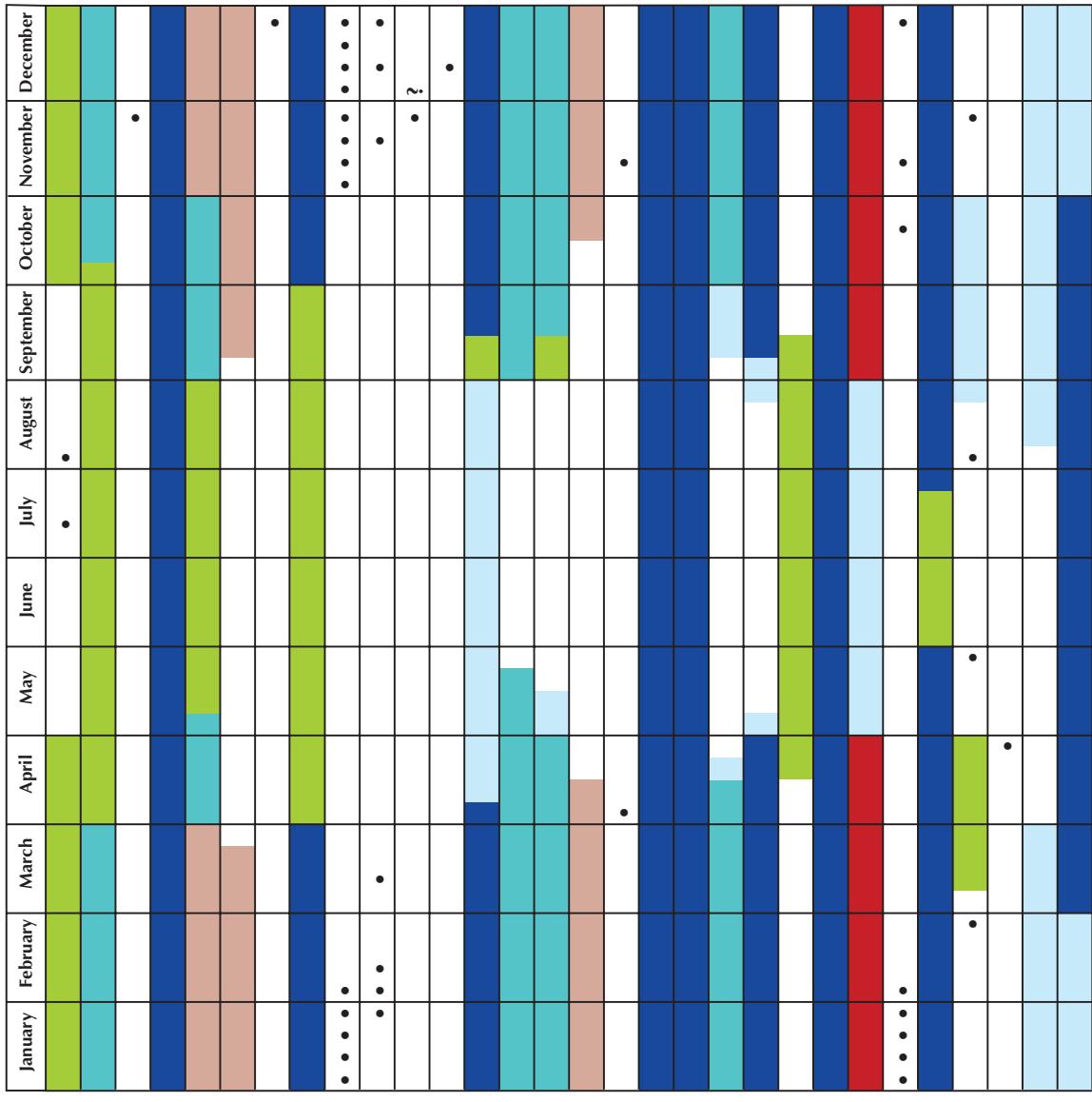
Introduced (1)

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• **CO - Coastal** (beaches, barrier islands, headlands, coastal mudflats, rock jetties, bays and nearshore gulf) • **FI - Fields** (pastures, agricultural areas, tall grasses) • **MI - Miscellaneous** (includes feeders, unclassified habitats & occurrences of single vagrants outside of expected habitat) • **PE - Pelagic** (offshore, marine, deep water beyond the coastal zone) • **PI - Pine Woods** (areas in the Florida parishes dominated by pine) • **SC - Short Grass** (mown or grazed grass, new growth in agricultural fields and marshes) • **WA - Water** (open water of ponds, bayous, rivers, lakes, bays; gulf) • **WE - Wetlands** (swamps, marshes, and shallow ponds; bayou, river & canal edges; shallow impoundments, ditches, wet or flooded fields) • **WI - Widespread** (found in a variety of habitats) • **WO - Woods** (forest from swamp to upland, woodlots)





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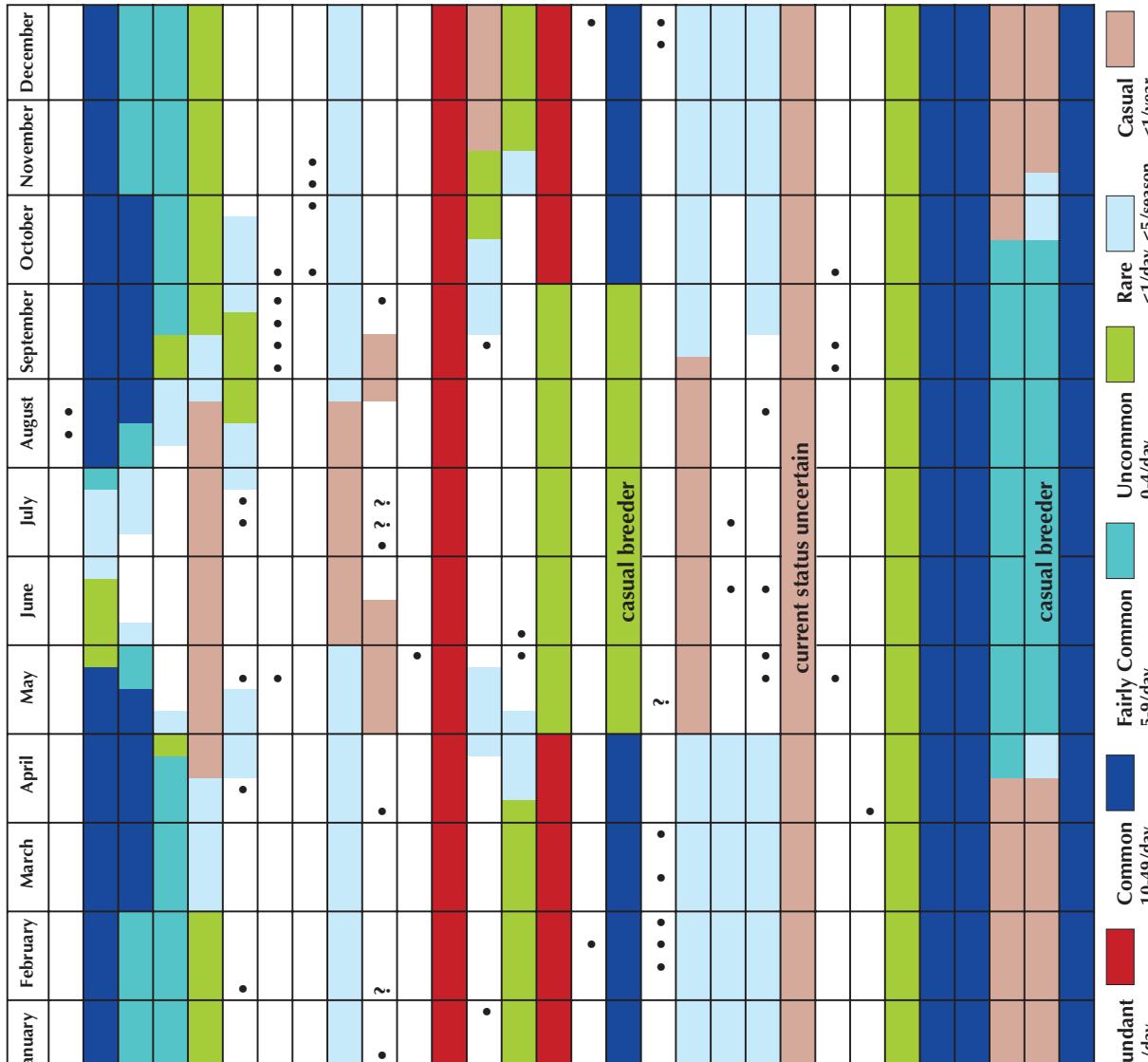
Species

Species	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Semipalmated Plover	CO,WE											
Piping Plover	CO											
Killdeer	* SG, WI											
American Oystercatcher (local)	* CO											
Black-necked Stilt	* WE											
American Avocet	WE,CO											
Greater Yellowlegs	WE											
Lesser Yellowlegs	WE											
Solitary Sandpiper	* CO											
Willet	WE											
Spotted Sandpiper	SG											
Upland Sandpiper	CO											
Whimbrel	CO											
Long-billed Curlew (local)	WE,CO											
Hudsonian Godwit (7)	WE,CO											
Marbled Godwit	CO											
Ruddy Turnstone	CO											
Red Knot	CO											
Sanderling	WE,CO											
Semipalmated Sandpiper	WE,CO											
Western Sandpiper	WE,CO											
Least Sandpiper	WE											
White-rumped Sandpiper	WE											
Baird's Sandpiper	SG											
Pectoral Sandpiper	WE											
Purple Sandpiper (2)	CO											
Dunlin	WE,CO											
Curlew Sandpiper (2)	WE											
Stilt Sandpiper	WE											
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	SG											

Abundant	Common	Fairly Common	Uncommon	Rare	Casual	Introduced (I)
50+/day	10-49/day	5-9/day	0-4/day	<1/day, <5/season	<1/year	

Breeding record(s) * Pine Woods (breeding) ** Erratic, irruptive *** Widespread (found in a variety of habitats) • **AF** - Aerial (often seen in flight) • **BR** - Brush (scrub, edges, overgrown fields, clearings in forest) • **CO** - Coastal (beaches, barrier islands, headlands, coastal mudflats, rock jetties, bays and nearshore gulf) • **FI** - Fields (pastures, agricultural areas, tall grasses) • **MI** - Miscellaneous (includes feeders, unclassified habitats & occurrences of single vagrants outside of expected habitat) • **PE** - Peleagic (offshore, marine, deep water beyond the coastal zone) • **PI** - Pine Woods (areas in the Florida panhandle dominated by pine) • **SG** - Short Grass (mowed or grazed grass, new growth in agricultural fields and marshes) • **WA** - Water (open water of ponds, bayous, rivers, lakes, bays, gulf) • **WE** - Wetlands (swamps, marshes, and shallow ponds; bayou, river & canal edges; shallow impoundments, ditches, wet or flooded fields) • **WI** - Widespread (found in a variety of habitats) • **WO** - Woods (forest from swamp to upland, woodlots, shaded residential areas)

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Abundant Common 10-49/day Fairly Common 5-9/day Uncommon 0-4/day Rare <1/day, <5/season Casual <1/year Casual <1/year Casual <1/year Casual <1/year Introduced (I)

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Species	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Least Tern	*	CO, MI, WA										
Bridled Tern		PE			?							
Sooty Tern	*	PE, CO			?							
Black Tern		CO, PE		•								
Brown Noddy (1)	*	CO, MI										
Black Skimmer		WA		•								
Ancient Murrelet (1)	*	WI										
Rock Pigeon (1)		MI		•								
Band-tailed Pigeon (3)	*	WI										
Eurasian Collared-Dove (1)	*	MI										
White-winged Dove	*	MI										
Mourning Dove	*	WI										
Inca Dove	*	MI										
Common Ground-Dove	*	BR, FI										
(Monk Parakeet) (1)	*	MI										
Black-billed Cuckoo		WO										
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	*	WO										
Mangrove Cuckoo (1)		MI										
Smooth-billed Ani (specimen 1893)		BR										
Groove-billed Ani	*	?	BR									
Barn Owl	*	MI										
Eastern Screech Owl	*	WO, MI										
Great Horned Owl	*	WO, WE										
Snowy Owl (2)		MI										
Burrowing Owl		SG										
Barred Owl	*	WO										
Long-eared Owl (1)		WO										
Short-eared Owl		WE										
Northern Saw-whet Owl (2)		WO										
Lesser Nighthawk (10)		MI, AE										

Abundant Common Fairly Common Uncommon Casual
 50+/day 10-49/day 5-9/day 0-4/day <1/day, <5/season <1/year
 Breeding record(s) * Pine Woods (breeding) ** Erratic, irruptive ***

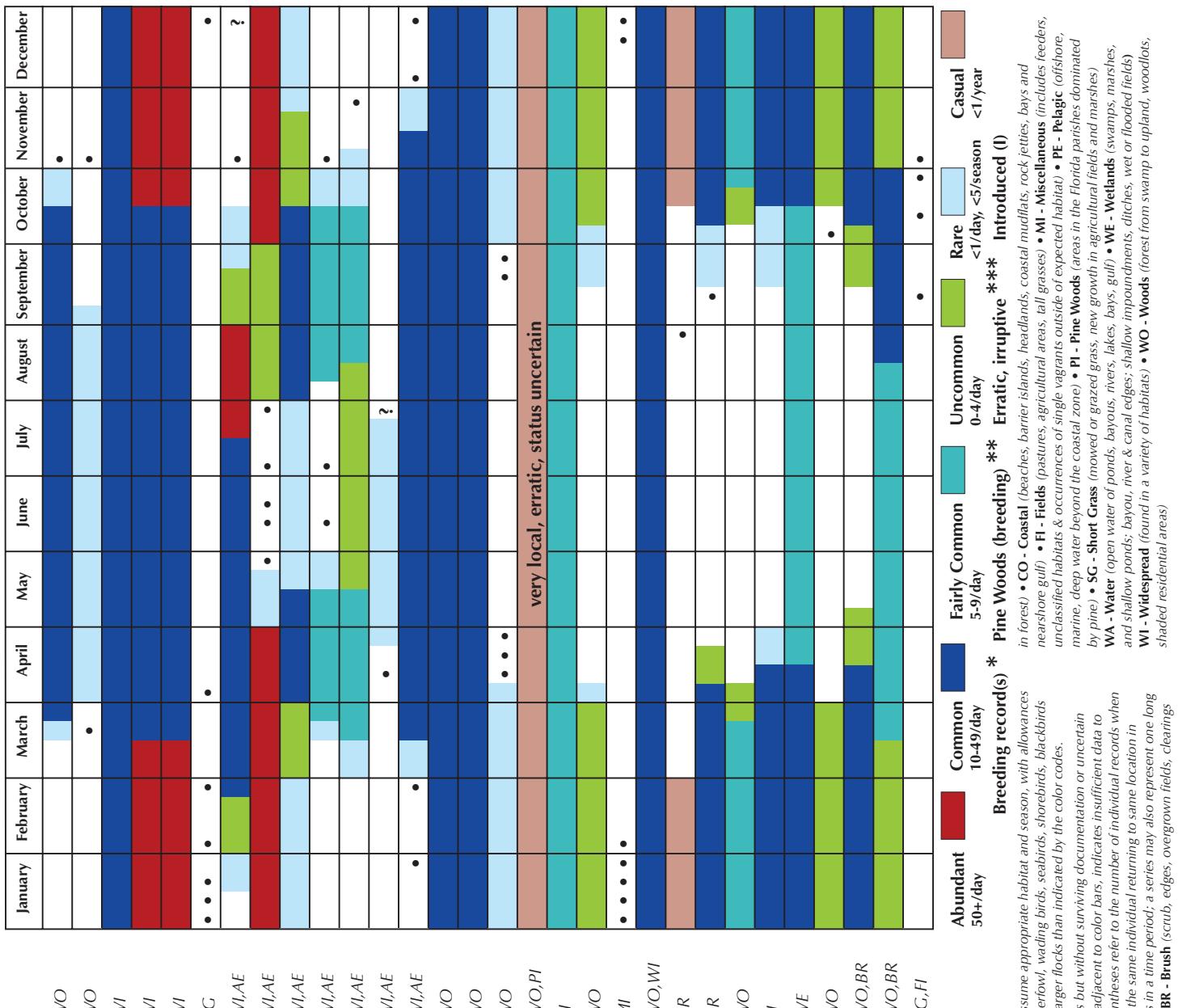
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Species		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	WO, BR				?	?		?	?	?	?		
Acadian Flycatcher	* WO				•								
Alder Flycatcher	WO, BR				?	?		?	?	?	?		
Willow Flycatcher (1 specimen)	WO, BR					?							
(Willow/Alder) Flycatcher	WO, BR												
Least Flycatcher	WO, BR												
Cordilleran Flycatcher (1)	WO, BR	•											
Eastern Phoebe	WO, BR												
Say's Phoebe (4)	WO, BR												
Vermilion Flycatcher	WI				•								
Ash-throated Flycatcher	WO, BR												
Great Crested Flycatcher	* WO												
Brown-crested Flycatcher	WO, BR												
Great Kiskadee (4, returnee)	*? WO												
Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher (1)	MI												
(Tropical/Couch's) Kingbird (4)	MI												
Tropical Kingbird (3)	MI												
Couch's Kingbird (1)	MI												
Western Kingbird	* WI												
Eastern Kingbird	* WI												
Gray Kingbird (1 fall)	SC, MI												
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	* BR, MI												
Fork-tailed Flycatcher (1)	MI												
Loggerhead Shrike	* SG, MI												
White-eyed Vireo	* WO, BR												
Bell's Vireo (7)	BR												
Yellow-throated Vireo	* WO, PI				?								
Blue-headed Vireo	WO												
Warbling Vireo	WO					?	•			•	•		
Philadelphia Vireo	WO												
Abundant	Common	Fairly Common	Common	Common	Common	Common	Common	Common	Common	Common	Common	Common	Common
	50+/day	10-49/day	10-49/day	10-49/day	10-49/day	10-49/day	10-49/day	10-49/day	10-49/day	10-49/day	10-49/day	10-49/day	10-49/day
Breeding record(s)	*	Pine Woods (breeding)	Erratic, irruptive										
Rare	Uncommon	Uncommon	Uncommon	Uncommon	Uncommon	Uncommon	Uncommon	Uncommon	Uncommon	Uncommon	Uncommon	Uncommon	Uncommon
Casual	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Introduced (1)													

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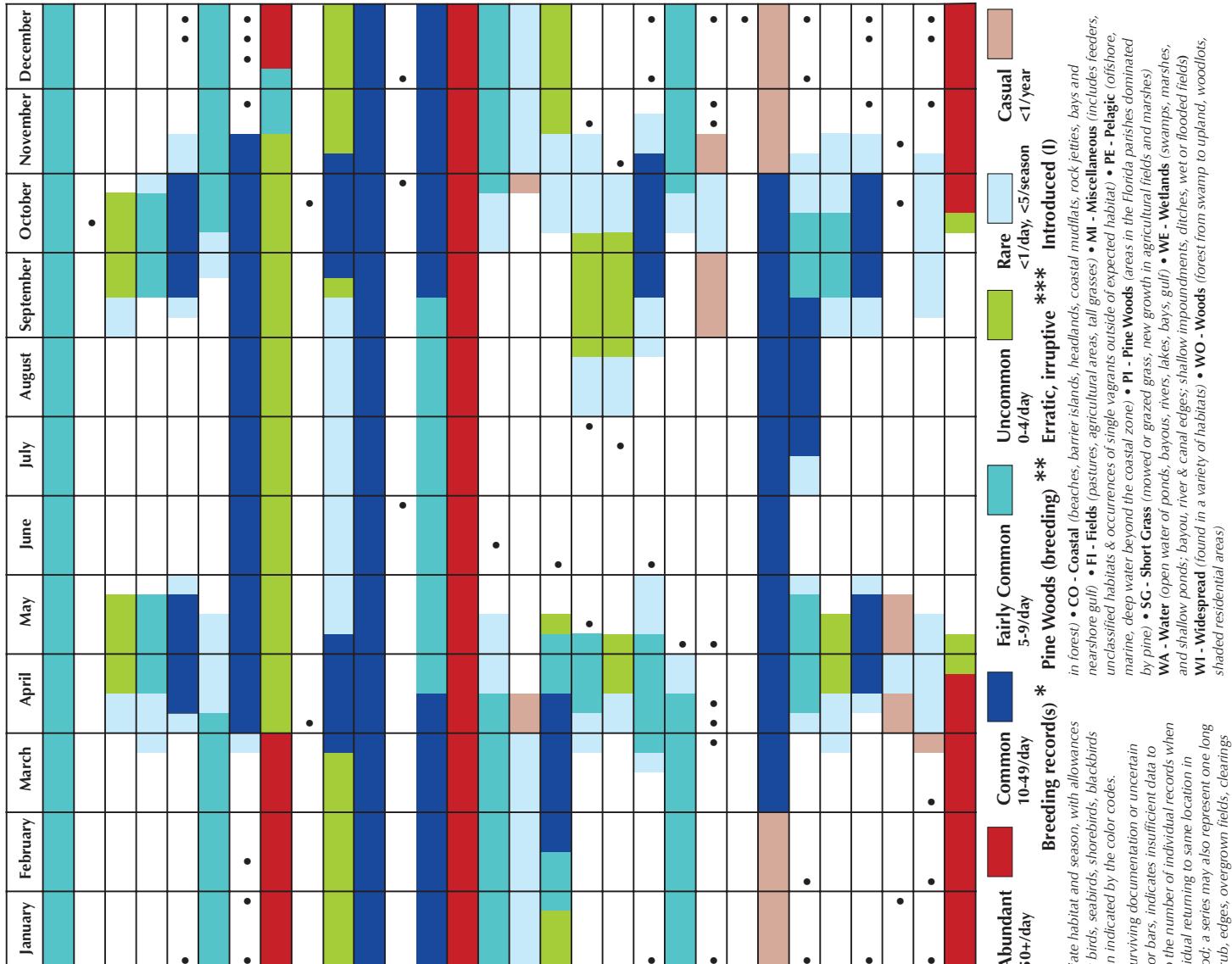
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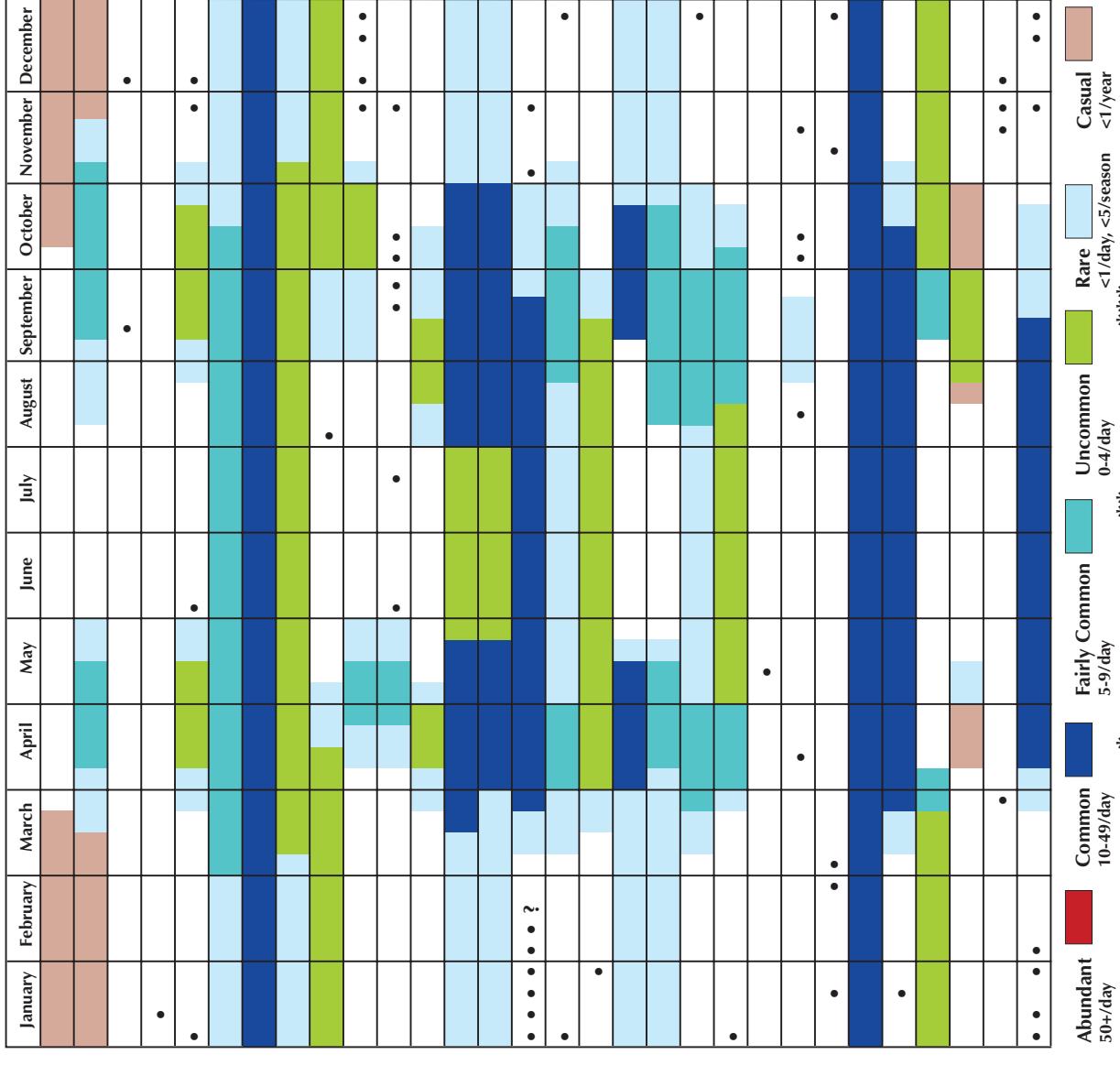
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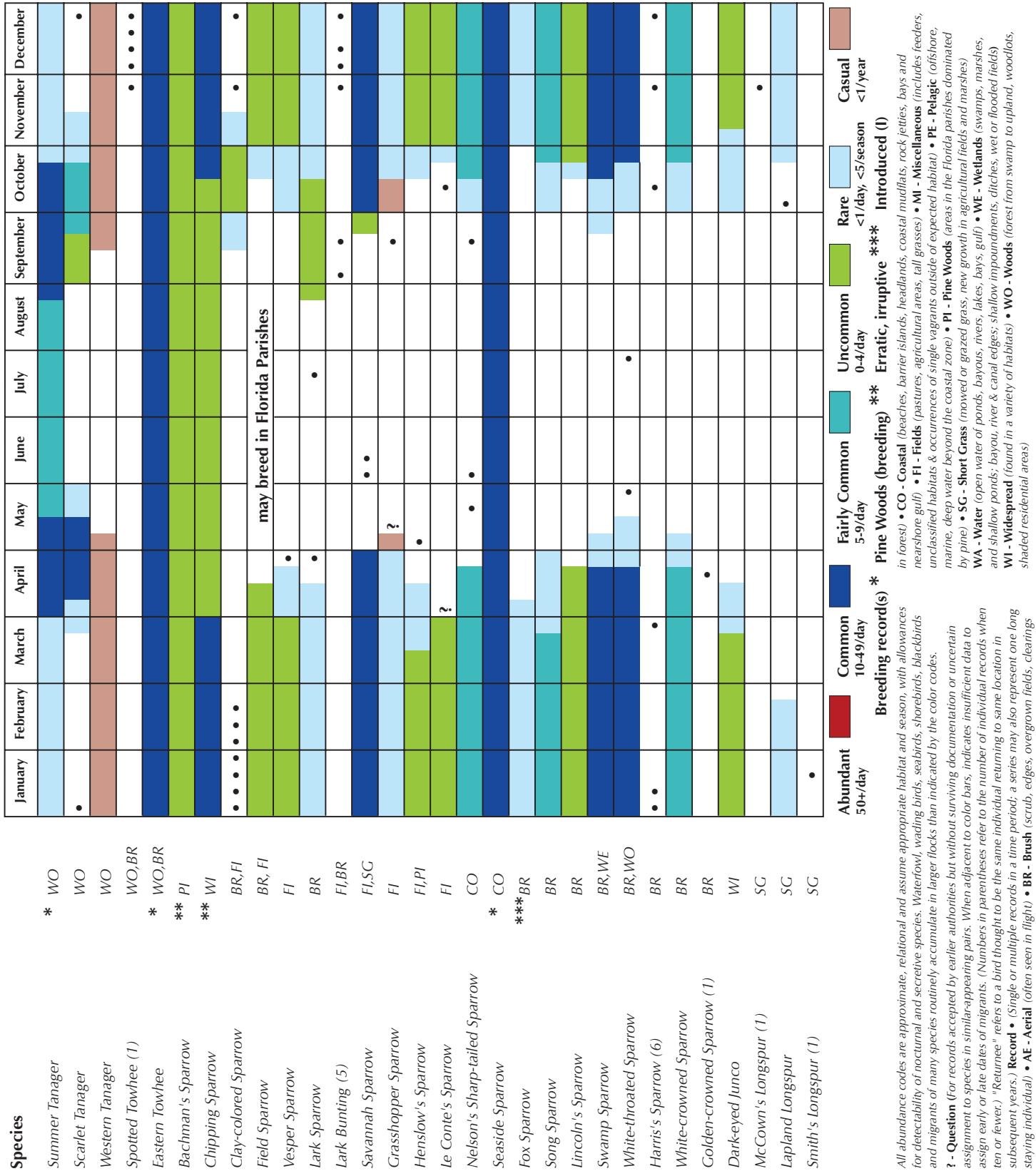
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Black-throated Gray Warbler
Black-throated Green Warbler
Townsend's Warbler (2)
Hermit Warbler (1)
Blackburnian Warbler
Yellow-throated Warbler
Pine Warbler
Prairie Warbler
Palm Warbler
Bay-breasted Warbler
Blackpoll Warbler
Cerulean Warbler
Black-and-white Warbler
American Redstart
Prothonotary Warbler (1 winter)
Worm-eating Warbler
Swainson's Warbler
Ovenbird
Northern Waterthrush
Louisiana Waterthrush
Kentucky Warbler
Connecticut Warbler (1)
Mourning Warbler
MacGillivray's Warbler (6)
Common Yellowthroat
Hooded Warbler
Wilson's Warbler
Canada Warbler
Painted Redstart (2)
Yellow-breasted Chat



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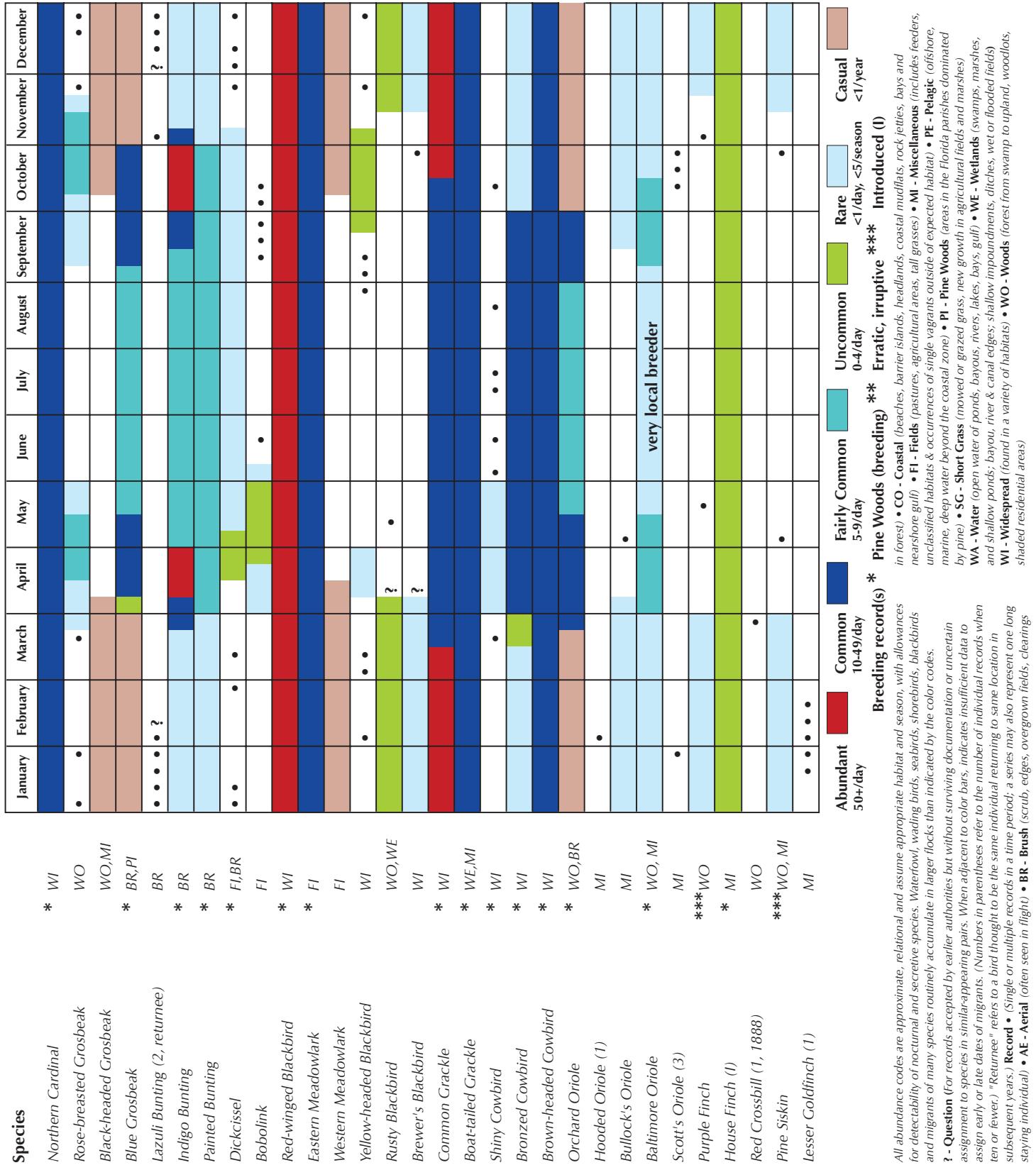
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in forest) • CO - Coastal (beaches, barrier islands, headlands, rock jetties, bays and nearshore gulf) • FI - Fields (pastures, agricultural areas, tall grasses) • MI - Miscellaneous (includes feeders, unclassified habitats & occurrences of single vagrants outside of expected habitat) • PE - Pelagic (offshore, marine, deep water beyond the coastal zone) • PI - Pine Woods (areas in the Florida parishes dominated by pine) • SG - Short Grass (moved or grazed grass, new growth in agricultural fields and marshes) • WA - Water (open water of ponds, bayous, rivers, lakes, bays, gulf) • WE - Wetlands (swamps, marshes, and shallow ponds; bayou, river & canal edges; shallow impoundments, ditches, wet or flooded fields) • WI - Widespread (found in a variety of habitats) • WO - Woods (forest from swamp to upland, woodlots,

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Species	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
American Goldfinch	WI				•					•		
Evening Grosbeak	** MI											
House Sparrow (<i>I.</i>)	*	WI										

Abundant	Common	Fairly Common	Uncommon	Rare	Casual
50+/day	10-49/day	5-9/day	0-4/day	<1/day, >5/year	<1/year

Breeding record(s) *

Pine Woods (breeding) ** * Erratic, irruptive *** Introduced (I)

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421 species (with Monk Parakeet, not yet on the official Louisiana list.)

7 extinct and extirpated species:

- Trumpeter Swan
- Whooping Crane
- Eskimo Curlew
- Pasenger Pigeon
- Carolina Parakeet
- Ivory-billed Woodpecker
- Bachman's Warbler

Total species: 428

Coverage Area

The checklist is useful for all of the Barataria-Terrebonne National Estuary and southeast Louisiana, but individual records are from:

- Plaquemines
- Lafourche
- Terrebonne
- St. Bernard
- Orleans
- Jefferson
- St. Charles
- St. James
- St. John the Baptist
- Ascension
- Livingston
- St. Tammany
- Tangipahoa
- Washington
- and offshore Gulf of Mexico



