

NL MarshWatch



Quick Reference Material

Cryptic wetland bird sounds (heard more often than seen)

- **Wilson's Snipe** – winnowing flight display; *kek-kek-kek*
- **American Woodcock** – twittering flight display; *peent peent*
- **American Bittern** – *pumper-lunk*
- **Virginia Rail** – *tick-it tick-it tick-it*; grunting
- **Sora** – *per-wheep*; whinny
- **Mourning Warbler** – descending *chury-chury-chury*
- **Common Yellowthroat** – *witchity-witchity-witch*
- **Olive-sided Flycatcher** – *quick-THREE-beers*

Key field marks for common drakes on the water in breeding season (male ducks)

- **Mallard** – Green head, yellow bill, brown breast
- **American Black Duck** – Dark brown body with pale head, yellow bill, blue speculum bordered in black
- **Northern Pintail** – White spur up side of neck, brown head, long tail, long neck (elegant proportions)
- **Blue-winged Teal** – White crescent on blue face, black and white rump
- **Green-winged Teal** – White spur on forward flank, green eyeshadow on reddish head
- **American Wigeon** – White forehead, pinkish sides, black and white rear
- **Greater Scaup** – Black with grey back and white flank (dark front/back and light in the middle – Oreo)
- **Ring-necked Duck** – Black with black back and white flank, ring around bill
- **Long-tailed Duck** – Dark brown, long tail feathers, dark bill with pink patch, white face patch
- **Surf Scoter** – Black, white eye, white patch on forehead and back of neck, knobby colourful bill
- **Black Scoter** – All black, bright orange knob on top of bill
- **Common Goldeneye** – Black with black back and white flank, round white patch behind bill
- **Barrow's Goldeneye** – Black with black back and white flank, black spur on shoulder, white crescent behind bill
- **Hooded Merganser** – Thin merganser bill, brown flanks, black back and head, large white crest
- **Common Merganser** – Thin merganser bill, black head and back, white body
- **Red-breasted Merganser** – Thin merganser bill, dark head and body, rusty breast, broad white collar

Amphibian Call Codes (Chorus)

Call Code 1	Individuals can be counted; there is space between the start of calls . Calls of individuals of the same species do not start at the same time .
Call Code 2	Some simultaneous calling . This code is assigned when there are a few males of the same species calling simultaneously. There are breaks in the chorus ; individuals can be reasonably estimated.
Call Code 3	Full chorus: calls are constant, continuous and overlapping . Individuals can't be distinguished; sounds like a wall of sound.