

LOONS AND GREBES

Common Loon

Gavia immer

Status:	Winter resident
Abundance:	Common
When found:	November–May
Habitat:	Bays and the mouths of large bayous
Best locations:	Bayou Heron, Grand Bay, Point aux Chenes Bay

Notes: Large rafts of up to 100 Common Loons must look menacing to the fish beneath them. These excellent divers are built to out-swim the fish they pursue.



Photo courtesy of Donna McDonald-Bailey ©

Pied-billed Grebe

Podilymbus podiceps

Status:	Winter resident
Abundance:	Common
When found:	October–April
Habitat:	Bayous, marsh ponds
Best locations:	Bayou Heron Boat Launch, Bayou Cumbest

Notes: These grebes are shy and dive underwater to avoid detection. Watch carefully, and you may see their head pop up to check if you are still there.



Photo courtesy of Olivia Graves ©



Photo courtesy of Olivia Graves ©

Horned Grebe

Podiceps auritus

Status:	Winter resident
Abundance:	Common
When found:	November–April
Habitat:	Bays and the mouths of large bayou
Best locations:	Bangs Lake, Bayou Heron, Middle Bay

Notes: Rafts of Horned Grebes may instantly vanish as they dive simultaneously to round up prey. Though adept underwater, grebes are not masters of flight and are frequently taken by wintering Peregrine Falcons.

Photo courtesy of Olivia Graves ©

PELECANIFORMS

American White Pelican

Pelecanus erythrorhynchos

Status:	Winter resident
Abundance:	Common
When found:	Common October–March; a few individuals often stay through the summer
Habitat:	Bays, bayous, shell islands & bars
Best locations:	Grand Battures Washover

Notes: At low tide, American White Pelicans form a line and herd fish against the shoreline, where they scoop them up with their pouch-like bills.