

Solitary Sandpiper *Tringa solitaria*



Folk Name: Solitary Tattler

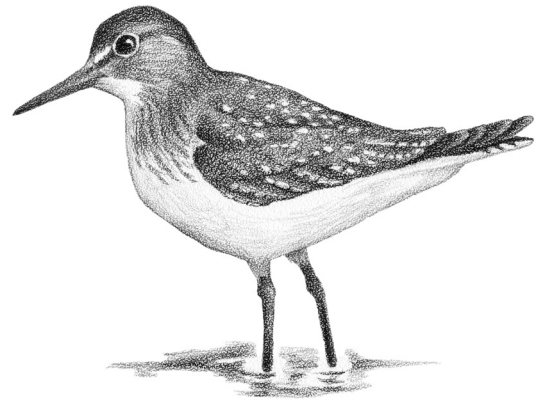
Status: Migrant

Abundance: Fairly Common

Habitat: Mudflats, lakes, ponds, creeks

The Solitary Sandpiper is occasionally confused with the Spotted Sandpiper, but it is actually more closely related to the Yellowlegs and the Willet. At 8 ½ inches, it is about an inch larger than the Spotted Sandpiper, and the two are often found here in the same habitats during spring and fall migration. The Solitary Sandpiper lacks the spotting on the breast that the Spotted has during breeding season. In breeding, it has a dusky, streaked neck and upper breast and white underparts. It also has an obvious white eye-ring.

In the spring, this bird moves through the region from late March through May. Charlotte Spring Bird Count observers tallied about 60 Solitary Sandpipers on count days in both 1989 and 2012. We have a single record from the month of June. Leverett Loomis collected a



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specimen in Chester County on 4 June in the late 1870s. Fall migrants can appear as early as mid-July, and they are gone by mid- to late October. We have no records from November through February.