

Birding Opportunities at Savage Fen SNA

Savage Fen SNA is made up of two separate parcels totaling 45 acres and is located in Scott County. The SNA protects rare, calcareous fen plant communities.

A series of alkaline seeps and springs emerge from the base of a bluff formed of calcareous glacial deposits, which were left by the Des Moines lobe at the end of the Wisconsin Glacial period. Many rare plant species are found in the fen, and some unique birds as well. Rarities have included a Connecticut warbler, and purple finch. It is a great place to see common yellowthroat, yellow warbler, cedar waxwing, American goldfinch, and swamp sparrow. The unit can be accessed from 128th St. where it dead ends. An old field road access leads south from the wood-routed sign the entry sign area. Birder access is difficult due to brush, wetland vegetation, and wet soils, but it is worth a visit just to see the rare fen habitat.

Taxonomy, Season and Abundance Key

The names and taxonomic arrangement of species follows that of the Checklist of the Birds of Minnesota (January, 2005) prepared by the Minnesota Ornithological Union (MOU) Records Committee.

The seasons in the checklist are defined as follows:

Sp (Spring) = March, April, May
 Su (Summer) = June, July
 Fa (Fall) = August, September, October, November
 Wi (Winter) = December, January, February

Abundance codes are defined as follows:

C = Common — present, relatively easy to find
 U = Uncommon — observed, may be difficult to find
 O = Occasional — may or may not be present in any year
 R = Rare — has occurred at least once, may recur

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Goose	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Duck	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mallard	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Pheasant	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Wild Turkey	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> American White Pelican	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey Vulture	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-shinned Hawk	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Broad-winged Hawk	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Killdeer	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Woodcock	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-billed Gull	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Herring Gull	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rock Pigeon	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chimney Swift	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-throated Hummingbird	U	O	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Downy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Flicker	U	U	U	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Olive-sided Flycatcher	O	O	O	O

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Willow Flycatcher	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Flycatcher	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Crested Flycatcher	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Warbling Vireo	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-eyed Vireo	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Jay	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> American Crow	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Martin	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Rough-winged Swallow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bank Swallow	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn Swallow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> House Wren	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sedge Wren	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Bluebird	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hermit Thrush	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Robin	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Catbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Thrasher	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> European Starling	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Cedar Waxwing	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Nashville Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Warbler	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut-sided Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bay-breasted Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Redstart	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Waterthrush	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut Warbler	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Tree Sparrow	O		O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Fox Sparrow	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Song Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln's Sparrow	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Sparrow	C		C	

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Harris's Sparrow	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> White-crowned Sparrow	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark-eyed Junco	U		U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigo Bunting	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Grackle	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore Oriole	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Finch			U	
<input type="checkbox"/> House Finch	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> American Goldfinch	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> House Sparrow	C	C	C	C

Additional Observations

This checklist contains the names of all birds that have been documented at this site by reliable observers, including Bob Janssen, volunteer observers, as well as MOU records, and data contained in research reports. Funding for this project was provided in part by the State Wildlife Grants program administered by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Checklist layout by Jennifer Lintemann. Persons interested in the sources used in preparation of this list may contact Project Supervisor/Nongame Specialist Katie Haws at 218-308-2641.

Savage Fen

Scientific and Natural Area

BIIRD

Checklist



Date: _____

Weather: _____

Observers: _____

Notes: _____

For more information contact DNR Information Center, 500 Lafayette Rd. St. Paul, MN 53155-4000, 651-296-6157 or toll-free 888-MIN-NDNR (646-6367).

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