

Birding Opportunities at Lake Alexander Woods SNA

Lake Alexander Woods SNA is located three miles east of Lincoln and two miles northeast of Cushing, MN. There are three parcels to this SNA, which lie in the heart of lake country. All three parcels are accessible by road. The south parcel can be accessed from County Road 5 on the east boundary, and from the northwest corner of this portion from Beaver Road, which is a minimum maintenance road, but is drivable under most conditions. The center parcel is accessible from County Road 20. The north portion of the SNA is accessed from County Road 3 and then along Thoroughfare and Lakeview Streets. Parking is available along the road shoulders.

The Lake Alexander Woods SNA is a typical example of the "lake country" of Central Minnesota. The SNA contains riparian lakeshore along Fish Trap, Long and Canton Lakes, and includes small ponds, wetlands and upland forested areas. Most of the forested area is mature deciduous forest with some conifers. This SNA has a list of 20 species of warblers that have been recorded during migration or the nesting season. Species of note include Red-shouldered Hawk, Bald Eagle, Veery, Indigo Bunting, Rose-breasted Grosbeak and Baltimore Oriole.

The variety of habitats within Lake Alexander Woods is attractive to many species of birds, with more than 110 species recorded during inventory visits in 2010 and 2011. Good birding opportunities exist in this SNA, which is a good example of deciduous forest of the southern Pine Moraines and Outwash Plains Subsection. There are no maintained trails through the SNA. There is moderately easy hiking throughout.

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Goose	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Duck	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mallard	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-winged Teal	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Shoveler	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Duck	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Scaup	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bufflehead	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Goldeneye	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Merganser	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruffed Grouse	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Loon	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Egret	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Green Heron	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey Vulture	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Harrier	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-shinned Hawk	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-shouldered Hawk	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Broad-winged Hawk	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> American Kestrel	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Killdeer	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Woodcock	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-billed Gull	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Rock Pigeon	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Chimney Swift	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-throated Hummingbird	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-bellied Woodpecker	U	U	U	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Downy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Flicker	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pileated Woodpecker	C	C	C	C

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Olive-sided Flycatcher	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Wood-Pewee	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Alder Flycatcher	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Flycatcher	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Crested Flycatcher	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-headed Vireo	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-eyed Vireo	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Jay	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> American Crow	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Raven	U		U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree Swallow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cliff Swallow	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn Swallow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-breasted Nuthatch	C	U	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Creeper	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> House Wren	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Winter Wren	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden-crowned Kinglet	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Veery	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray-cheeked Thrush	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Swainson's Thrush	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hermit Thrush	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Robin	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Catbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> European Starling	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cedar Waxwing	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Nashville Warbler	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Parula	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Warbler	C	C	C	

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut-sided Warbler	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Magnolia Warbler	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cape May Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-throated Green Warbler	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blackburnian Warbler	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Palm Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pine Warbler	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blackpoll Warbler	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-and-white Warbler	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Redstart	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ovenbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Waterthrush	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Warbler	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Scarlet Tanager	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Tree Sparrow	C		C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clay-colored Sparrow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Vesper Sparrow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Savannah Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fox Sparrow	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Song Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Sparrow	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark-eyed Junco	C		C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigo Bunting	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bobolink	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Grackle	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C		
<input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore Oriole	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Finch	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> House Finch	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Pine Siskin	U	O	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> American Goldfinch	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> House Sparrow	C	C	C	C

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

This checklist contains the names of all birds that have been documented at this site by reliable observers, including principal observer Jerry Bonkoski, MOU records, and data contained in research reports. Checklist layout by Jennifer Lintelmann. Persons interested in the sources used in preparation of this list may contact Project Supervisor/Nongame Specialist Katie Haws at 218-308-2641.

For more information contact DNR Information Center, 500 Lafayette Rd. St. Paul, MN 55155-4040 651-296-6157 or toll-free 888-MIN-NDNR (646-6367).

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Lake Alexander Woods

Scientific and Natural Area

Checklist



Date: _____

Weather: _____

Observers: _____

Notes: _____



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