

Birding Opportunities at Holthe Prairie SNA

Holthe Prairie SNA is a 148 acre SNA located in the central portion of Jackson County. This unit is located about 2 miles north of Kilen Woods State Park off of Jackson County Hwy. 19.

The SNA is primarily upland prairie with a few trees and is located in the Des Moines River Valley. This SNA is an excellent example of the rolling topography of the SW MN prairie.

A total of 94 bird species have been recored. Highlights include numerous Grasshopper and Song Sparrows, Sedge Wrens, Bobolink, Red-winged Blackbird, Western Meadowlark and Common Yellowthroats. Most unusual were three male Henslow's Sparrows heard calling on the NE facing slope across the small stream. There were Willow Flycatchers calling near the willow trees along the small stream, and an Orchard Oriole was also heard singing. Other birds observed included Great Crested Flycatcher, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Downy, Hairy and Pileated Woodpecker and a few warbler species. A Northern Shrike was observed on the SNA in December.

A parking lot in the NE corner of the SNA. provides an area of exposed dirt which attracts Longspurs, Horned Lark and Snow Bunting. Migrating blackbirds also use this area.

This prairie grassland is a good example of the landscape from pre-settlement times. The surrounding agricultural area attracts many species of grassland birds.

The SNA is located about ¾ of a mile west of Co. 19 and a minimum maintenance road leads to a parking lot, established in 2009, in the NE corner of the SNA. All access to the SNA is from this parking lot. There is a small stream that flows through the middle of the SNA from east to west and fording this stream is necessary to reach the southern ½ of the SNA. Hiking is easy to moderate in the grassland habitat.

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Goose	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Duck	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mallard	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-winged Teal	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Shoveler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Pheasant	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> American White Pelican	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey Vulture	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Harrier	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-shinned Hawk	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Swainson's Hawk	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Rough-legged Hawk	U		U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> American Kestrel	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Sora	U	U		
<input type="checkbox"/> Killdeer	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-billed Gull	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rock Pigeon	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-throated Hummingbird	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Belted Kingfisher	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-bellied Woodpecker	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	U	U	U	

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Downy Woodpecker	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Woodpecker	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Flicker	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pileated Woodpecker	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Wood-Pewee	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Willow Flycatcher	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Flycatcher	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Crested Flycatcher	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Kingbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Shrike	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-throated Vireo	U	U	U	
<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"/> Horned Lark	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree Swallow	C	C	C	
<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	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Swainson's Thrush	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Robin	C	C	C	U

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Catbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Thrasher	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> European Starling	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> American Pipit	O		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cedar Waxwing	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Warbler	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Warbler	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Palm Warbler	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blackpoll Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Redstart	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Tree Sparrow	C		C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clay-colored Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Field Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Vesper Sparrow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Savannah Sparrow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grasshopper Sparrow	U	C	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Henslow's Sparrow	O	U		
<input type="checkbox"/> LeConte's Sparrow	O		O	
<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	
<input type="checkbox"/> Harris's Sparrow	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> White-crowned Sparrow	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark-eyed Junco	C		C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Lapland Longspur	U		U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Snow Bunting	U		U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigo Bunting	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dickcissel		U		

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Bobolink	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Western Meadowlark	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Grackle	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Orchard Oriole	C	C	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore Oriole	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Goldfinch	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> House Sparrow	C	C	C	C

Abundance Key

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. 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 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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Holthe Prairie

Scientific and Natural Area

Checklist



Date: _____

Weather: _____

Observers: _____

Notes: _____



MINNESOTA'S
WILD & RARE

Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare is the state's conservation action plan for protecting Minnesota's native animal species that are rare or likely to become rare in the near future.

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