Birding Opportunities at Seminary Fen SNA

Seminary Fen is a 73 acre SNA located in Carver County. This SNA is primarily noted for its rare plant communities that are found in the alkaline seeps and springs which emerge from the base of the bluff that leads to the Minnesota River. This moist peat terrain also provides excellent habitat for birds. A total of 81 species were recorded from April to November 2009. Twelve species of warblers were recorded including the rare Hooded Warbler found in September. Eleven species of sparrows were found during the surveys. Fox Lincoln’s, American Tree and White-throated Sparrows and Dark-eyed Junco’s were common especially during the fall migration. Song Sparrows were common throughout the survey. Two Lark Sparrows were found in May, they possibly nested somewhere in the area. Willow Flycatchers were heard and seen in the lowland portion of the Fen during June.

Access to this SNA is from Flying Cloud Drive (Old US 212). The area is 2.75 mi. E. of MN Hwy. 41. Access to the unit for hiking is possible along the south and west boundary area.
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 Bob Janssen, 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 Lintelman. 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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