

Birding Opportunities at Quarry Park SNA

Quarry Park SNA, located in Stearns County, is the most significant remaining example of the granite bedrock outcrop community remaining in central Minnesota. The 323 acre site is on the southwestern edge of St. Cloud, in the southern part of the Stearns County Quarry Park and Nature Preserve. Habitats found here include sedge meadow, wet prairie, oak woodland, and oak forest. This mix of communities supports rare birds and orchids. A total of 95 bird species have been reported from this SNA. The meadows and prairies in the southern portion are where to find field, clay-colored, grasshopper and vesper sparrows. The forested habitats support a suite of species such as red-bellied woodpecker, ruffed grouse, great-crested flycatcher, ruby-crowned kinglet, wood thrush and veery. Fourteen warbler species have been seen here. Rarities have included Acadian flycatcher and red-shouldered hawk. The SNA is easily accessible from the park, which is west of State Highway 15. A Stearns County park entrance/parking fee is required. A well-marked and maintained trail leads from the Park, and circles the SNA, traversing the various habitats. Birder access is excellent.

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"/> Mallard	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Pheasant	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruffed Grouse	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Wild Turkey	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Double-crested Cormorant	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey Vulture	U	O	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cooper's Hawk	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-shouldered Hawk	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Broad-winged Hawk	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Killdeer	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-billed Gull	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Barred Owl	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Chimney Swift	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Belted Kingfisher	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-bellied Woodpecker	C	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	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Pileated Woodpecker	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Olive-sided Flycatcher	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Wood-Pewee	C	C	C	

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Acadian Flycatcher	R	R		
<input type="checkbox"/> Alder Flycatcher	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Flycatcher	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Crested Flycatcher	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-throated Vireo	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-headed Vireo	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Philadelphia Vireo	O		O	
<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	
<input type="checkbox"/> Horned Lark	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Martin	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree Swallow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Rough-winged Swallow	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn Swallow	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-breasted Nuthatch	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Creeper	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> House Wren	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Winter Wren	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sedge Wren	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden-crowned Kinglet	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Veery	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Swainson's Thrush	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hermit Thrush	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Thrush	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Robin	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Catbird	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Thrasher	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> European Starling	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Nashville Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Warbler	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut-sided Warbler	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Magnolia Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C	

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-throated Green Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blackburnian Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bay-breasted Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-and-white Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Redstart	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ovenbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Waterthrush	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wilson's Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Scarlet Tanager	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Towhee	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Tree Sparrow	U		C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clay-colored Sparrow	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Field Sparrow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Vesper Sparrow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Grasshopper Sparrow	O	O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Song Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Sparrow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Sparrow	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark-eyed Junco	C		C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Rose-breasted Grosbeak	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigo Bunting	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Grackle	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> House Finch	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> American Goldfinch	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> House Sparrow	O	O	O	O

Additional Observations

Additional Observations (Continued)

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.

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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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.

Quarry Park

Scientific and Natural Area

BIRD Checklist



Date: _____

Weather: _____

Observers: _____

Notes: _____

