

## Birding at Cuyuna State Recreation Area

Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area is over 1800 acres of second-growth woodlands, ponds and lakes in a setting of rolling hills and old iron-mine pits. These rolling hills are excellent habitat for a wide variety of birds. Nearly 170 species have been recorded during migration and during the breeding season. Nineteen species of warblers occur in the area.

You should travel to the top of Miner's Mountain in the summer months to spot the Eastern Towhee and enjoy great views of Huntington Mine Lake.

### Key

#### Occurrence

**Sp** - Spring (Mar—May)

**S** - Summer (Jun—Jul)

**F** - Fall (Aug—Nov)

**W** - Winter (Dec—Feb)

#### Abundance

**C** - Common (Present, relatively easy to find)

**U** - Uncommon (Present, not certain to be seen)

**O** - Occasional (Infrequent, may not return each year)

**R** - Rare (Observed at least once, may not return)

**Date:** Enter the date you saw the bird.

## Bird Identification Tips

When you observe a bird, make note of at least three characteristics.

**Location:** Where did you see the bird? (water, forest, feeder, lower branch, tree trunk, etc.)

**Body size and shape:** Compare to a known bird. (smaller than a...bigger than a...plump like a...slender like a...) Look at tail, legs and bill. (long, short, thick, thin, curved, straight)

**Colors and markings:** Look on wings, tail, back, belly, rump and head. (stripe above eye, white spot on tail, etc.)

**Sounds and movements:** How do they act and sound? (travel alone or in groups, in-flight wing position - soaring, flapping, flap and glide, etc.)

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>GEESE, SWANS, DUCKS</b>					
Canada Goose	U	U	U		
Trumpeter Swan			O		
Wood Duck	C	C	C		
Blue-winged Teal	C	C	C		
Northern Shoveler	U	U	U		
Gadwall	O				
Mallard	C	C	C		
Green-winged Teal	U		U		
Redhead	O		O		
Ring-necked Duck	U	U	U		
Greater Scaup	O		O		
Lesser Scaup	U		U		
Surf Scoter			R		
Bufflehead	U		U		
Common Goldeneye	C	C	C		
Hooded Merganser	C	C	C		
Common Merganser	O		O		
Ruddy Duck	R				

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>PARTRIDGE, PHEASANTS, GROUSE, TURKEYS</b>					
Ring-necked Pheasant	O	O	O	O	
Ruffed Grouse	U	U	U	U	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>GREBES</b>					
Pied-billed Grebe	U	U	U		
Eared Grebe	O				

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>PIGEONS AND DOVES</b>					
Rock Pigeon	U	U	U	U	
Mourning Dove	U	U	U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>CUCKOOS</b>					
Black-billed Cuckoo	O	O	O		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>NIGHTJARS</b>					
Common Nighthawk	O	O	O		
Eastern Whip-poor-will	O	O			

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>SWIFTS</b>					
Chimney Swift	U	U	U		
<b>HUMMINGBIRDS</b>					
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	U	U	U		
<b>RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS</b>					
American Coot	O	O	O		
<b>CRANES</b>					
Sandhill Crane	O	O	O		
Whooping Crane	R				
<b>PLOVERS</b>					
Black-bellied Plover	R		R		
American Golden-plover	O				
Killdeer	C	C	C		
Semipalmated Plover	O		O		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES</b>					
Whimbrel			R		
Marbled Godwit	U		U		
Ruddy Turnstone	R				
Stilt Sandpiper	O		U		
Sanderling	O		O		
Dunlin	U		U		
Baird's Sandpiper	U		U		
Least Sandpiper	U		U		
White-rumped Sandpiper	R				
Buff-breasted Sandpiper			O		
Pectoral Sandpiper	U		U		
Semipalmated Sandpiper	U		U		
Short-billed Dowitcher	O		O		
Long-billed Dowitcher	U		U		
Spotted Sandpiper	U	U	U		
Solitary Sandpiper	U		U		
Lesser Yellowlegs	U		U		
Greater Yellowlegs	U		U		
Wilson's Phalarope	O		O		
Red-necked Phalarope	R		R		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>GULLS, TERNS</b>					
Sabine's Gull			R		
Bonaparte's Gull	U		U		
Little Gull			R		
Franklin's Gull			R		
Ring-billed Gull	U	U	U		
Herring Gull	U		U		
Caspian Tern	U		U		
Black Tern	O		O		
Common Tern	U		U		
Forster's Tern	O		O		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>LOONS</b>					
Common Loon	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>CORMORANTS</b>					
Double-crested Cormorant	O	O	O		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>BITTERNS, HERONS, EGRETS, NIGHT-HERONS</b>					
Great Blue Heron	U	U	U		
Great Egret	U		U		
Green Heron	U	U	U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>NEW WORLD VULTURES</b>					
Turkey Vulture	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>OSPREY</b>					
Osprey	U	U	U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>KITES, HAWKS, EAGLES</b>					
Northern Harrier	U	U	U	O	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U	U	U	O	
Cooper's Hawk	U	U	U		
Northern Goshawk	O		O	O	
Bald Eagle	U	U	U		
Broad-winged Hawk	U	U	U		
Red-tailed Hawk	U	U	U		
Rough-legged Hawk	U			U	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>TYPICAL OWLS</b>					
Eastern Screech Owl	U	U	U	U	
Great Horned Owl	U	U	U	U	
Snowy Owl	O		O	O	
Barred Owl	U	U	U	U	
Great Gray Owl				R	
Long-eared Owl	O		O	O	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	O		O	O	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>KINGFISHERS</b>					
Belted Kingfisher	U	U	U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>					
Red-headed Woodpecker	O	O	O		
Red-bellied Woodpecker	U	U	U	U	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	U	U	U		
Downy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Hairy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Northern Flicker	C	C	C	O	
Pileated Woodpecker	U	U	U	U	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>FALCONS</b>					
American Kestrel	U	U	U	O	
Merlin	U	O	U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>					
Great Crested Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Eastern Kingbird	C	C	C		
Eastern Wood-pewee	U	U	U		
Alder Flycatcher	U	U	U		
Least Flycatcher	U	U	U		
Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>VIREOS</b>					
Yellow-throated Vireo	U	U	U		
Blue-headed Vireo	U		U		
Philadelphia Vireo	O		O		
Warbling Vireo	U	U	U		
Red-eyed Vireo	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>JAYS, MAGPIES, CROWS, RAVENS</b>					
Blue Jay	C	C	C	C	
American Crow	C	C	C	C	
Common Raven	O		O	O	
<b>LARKS</b>					
Horned Lark	O	O	O		
<b>MARTINS, SWALLOWS</b>					
Bank Swallow	U	U	U		
Tree Swallow	C	C	C		
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	C	C	C		
Purple Martin	U	U	U		
Barn Swallow	C	C	C		
Cliff Swallow	C	C	C		
<b>CHICKADEES, TITMICE</b>					
Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C	
<b>NUTHATCHES</b>					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	U	U	U	U	
White-breasted Nuthatch	U	U	U	U	
<b>CREEPERS</b>					
Brown Creeper	U		U	O	
<b>WRENS</b>					
House Wren	C	C	C		
Marsh Wren	U	U	U		
<b>KINGLETS</b>					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	C		C		
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C		
<b>THRUSHES</b>					
Eastern Bluebird	U	U	U		
Veery	U	U	U		
Swainson's Thrush	U		U		
Hermit Thrush	U		U		
Wood Thrush	O	O	O		
American Robin	C	C	C	O	
<b>THRASHERS, MOCKINGBIRDS</b>					
Gray Catbird	C	C	C		
Brown Thrasher	U	U	U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>STARLINGS</b>					
European Starling	C	C	C	C	
<b>WAXWINGS</b>					
Cedar Waxwing	C	C	C	C	
<b>OLD WORLD SPARROWS</b>					
House Sparrow	U	U	U	U	
<b>PIPITS</b>					
American Pipit			O		
<b>FINCHES</b>					
Evening Grosbeak	O		O	U	
House Finch	U	U	U		
Purple Finch	U		U	U	
Common Redpoll			O	U	
Red Crossbill	O		O	O	
White-winged Crossbill	O		O	O	
Pine Siskin	U		U	U	
American Goldfinch	C	C	C	U	
<b>LONGSPURS, SNOW BUNTINGS</b>					
Snow Bunting			U	U	
<b>TOWHEES, SPARROWS</b>					
Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C		
Clay-colored Sparrow	U	U	U		
Fox Sparrow	C		C		
American Tree Sparrow	C		C	U	
Dark-eyed Junco	C		C	U	
White-crowned Sparrow	U		U		
Harris's Sparrow	U		U		
White-throated Sparrow	C		C		
Vesper Sparrow	U	U	U		
Savannah Sparrow	O	O	O		
Song Sparrow	C	C	C		
Lincoln's Sparrow	U		U		
Swamp Sparrow	C	C	C		
Eastern Towhee	U	U	U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES</b>					
Baltimore Oriole	U	U	U		
Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C		
Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	C		
Rusty Blackbird	U		U		
Brewer's Blackbird	U	O	O		
Common Grackle	C	C	C		
<b>WARBLERS</b>					
Ovenbird	C	C	C		
Northern Waterthrush	U		U		
Golden-winged Warbler	U	U	U		
Black-and-white Warbler	C	C	C		
Tennessee Warbler	U		U		
Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U		
Nashville Warbler	U		U		
Mourning Warbler	U		U		
Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C		
American Redstart	C	C	C		
Northern Parula	U		U		
Bay-breasted Warbler	U		U		
Yellow Warbler	C	C	C		
Chestnut-sided Warbler	U	U	U		
Blackpoll Warbler	U		U		
Palm Warbler	C		C		
Pine Warbler	U	U	U		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C		
Wilson's Warbler	U		U		
<b>TANAGERS, CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS</b>					
Scarlet Tanager	U	U	U		
Northern Cardinal	O	O	O	O	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C		
Indigo Bunting	U	U	U		

Checklist created by Robert B. Janssen, Jerry Bonkoski and MNDNR. Data was gathered from MNDNR staff observations, public observations and Minnesota Ornithologist's Union records. Nomenclature and organization of checklist based off of the *Check-list of North American Birds* (7th edition) as currently supplemented.

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STATE PARKS AND TRAILS

# BIRD CHECKLIST

## CUYUNA STATE RECREATION AREA

