Birding at Father Hennepin State Park

This park is located on the southeast shore of Mille Lacs Lake, making it a great place to view waterfowl and shorebirds. Each spring and fall the lake serves as a stopover for flocks of migrating ducks, geese and swans.

Hike to Pope Point to look for eagles, loons, osprey, or even rare common terns flying overhead. The island just off shore is one of the few places in Minnesota where the common tern nests. Trails that wind through hardwood forest are habitat for songbirds, woodpeckers and hawks. The wetland area near the park entrance also provides great birding opportunities.

Key

Occurrence

- **Sp** Spring (Mar—May) **S** - Summer (Jun—Jul)
- F Fall (Aug—Nov)
- W Winter (Dec—Feb)

<u>Abundance</u>

- **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)

<u>Date</u>: 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	DAT
GEESE, SWANS, DUCKS					
Snow Goose	U		U		
Cackling Goose	U		U		
Canada Goose	С	С	С		
Trumpeter Swan	0	0	0		
Tundra Swan	U		U		
Wood Duck	С	С	С		
Blue-winged Teal	С	С	С		
Northern Shoveler	U		U		
Gadwall	U		U		
American Wigeon	U		U		
Mallard	С	С	С		
American Black Duck	U		U		
Northern Pintail	U		U		
Green-winged Teal	С		С		
Canvasback	U		U		
Redhead	U		U		
Ring-necked Duck	С		С		
Lesser Scaup	С		С		
Long-tailed Duck	0		0		
Bufflehead	С		С		
Common Goldeneye	С		С		
Hooded Merganser	U		U		
Common Merganser	С	U	С		
Red-breasted Merganser	U		U		
Ruddy Duck	0		0		
PARTRIDGE, PHEASANTS, GROUS	Е, ТІ	URK	EYS		
Ring-necked Pheasant	U	U	U	U	
Ruffed Grouse	U	U	U	U	
GREBES					
Pied-billed Grebe	С	С	С		
Horned Grebe	С		С		
Red-necked Grebe	С	U	С		
PIGEONS AND DOVES					
Rock Pigeon	U	U	U	U	
Mourning Dove	С	С	С	0	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
CUCKOOS	_				
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	U	0	0		
Black-billed Cuckoo	U	U	U		
NIGHTJARS					
Common Nighthawk	С	С	С		
Eastern Whip-poor-will	0	0	0		
SWIFTS					
Chimney Swift	С	С	С		
HUMMINGBIRDS					
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	С	С	С		
RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS					
Virginia Rail	U	U	U		
Sora	С	С	U		
American Coot	U	U	С		
CRANES					
Sandhill Crane	U	U	U		
PLOVERS					
Killdeer	С	С	С		
SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES					
Least Sandpiper	С	С	С		
Pectoral Sandpiper	U	U	U		
American Woodcock	U	U	U		
Wilson's Snipe	С	С	С		
Spotted Sandpiper	С	С	С		
GULLS, TERNS					
Bonaparte's Gull	С		С		
Ring-billed Gull	С	С	С		
Herring Gull	С	U	С		
Caspian Tern	U	0	U		
Black Tern	U	U	U		
Common Tern	С	С	С		
Forster's Tern	U	U	U		
LOONS					
Common Loon	С	С	С		
CORMORANTS					
Double-crested Cormorant	С	С	С		
PELICANS					
American White Pelican	0		0		
			_		

STATE PARK BIRDSSpSFWDATEBITTERNS, HERONS, EGRETS, NIGHT-HERONSAmerican BitternOOOLeast BitternOOOGreat Blue HeronCCCGreat EgretUUUGreen HeronCCUNEW WORLD VULTURESTurkey VultureCCOspreyCCCIKITES, HAWKS, EAGLESII
American BitternOOOLeast BitternOOOGreat Blue HeronCCCGreat EgretUUUGreen HeronCCUNEW WORLD VULTURESTurkey VultureCCCOSPREYCCC
Least BitternOOGreat Blue HeronCCCGreat EgretUUGreen HeronCCUNEW WORLD VULTURESTurkey VultureCCCOSPREYCCC
Great Blue HeronCCCGreat EgretUUGreen HeronCCUNEW WORLD VULTURESTurkey VultureCCCOSPREYOspreyCCC
Great EgretUUGreen HeronCCNEW WORLD VULTURESTurkey VultureCCOSPREYOspreyCC
Green HeronCCUNEW WORLD VULTURESTurkey VultureCCCOSPREYCCCC
NEW WORLD VULTURESTurkey VultureCCOSPREYCCOspreyCC
Turkey VultureCCCOSPREYOspreyCCC
OSPREY Osprey C C C
Osprey C C C
KITES. HAWKS. EAGLES
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Northern Harrier C C C
Sharp-shinned Hawk C C
Cooper's Hawk U U U
Northern Goshawk O O O
Bald Eagle C C C
Red-shouldered Hawk U U U
Broad-winged Hawk C C C
Red-tailed Hawk C C C U
Rough-legged Hawk U U U
TYPICAL OWLS
Eastern Screech Owl O O O O
Great Horned Owl U U U U
Snowy Owl O O O
Barred Owl U U U U
Long-eared Owl O O O
Short-eared Owl O O
Northern Saw-whet Owl U U U
KINGFISHERS
Belted Kingfisher C C C
WOODPECKERS
Red-headed Woodpecker U U U
Red-bellied Woodpecker C C C C
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker C C C
Downy Woodpecker C C C C
Hairy Woodpecker C C C C
Northern Flicker C C C
Pileated Woodpecker C C C C

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
FALCONS					
American Kestrel	С	С	С		
Merlin	0		0		
Peregrine Falcon	U		U		
FLYCATCHERS					
Great Crested Flycatcher	С	С	С		
Eastern Kingbird	С	С	С		
Olive-sided Flycatcher	U	0	U		
Eastern Wood-pewee	С	С	С		
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	U		U		
Alder Flycatcher	С	С	U		
Willow Flycatcher	0	0	0		
Least Flycatcher	С	С	С		
Eastern Phoebe	С	С	С		
SHRIKES					
Loggerhead Shrike	0	0	R		
Northern Shrike	U		U	U	
VIREOS					
Yellow-throated Vireo	U	U	U		
Blue-headed Vireo	U	U	U		
Philadelphia Vireo	U		U		
Warbling Vireo	U	U	U		
Red-eyed Vireo	С	С	С		
JAYS, MAGPIES, CROWS, RAVENS					
Blue Jay	С	С	С	С	
American Crow	С	С	С	С	
Common Raven	U	U	U	U	
LARKS					
Horned Lark	U	U	U	0	
MARTINS, SWALLOWS					
Bank Swallow	С	С	С		
Tree Swallow	С	С	С		
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	С	С	С		
Purple Martin	С	С	U		
Barn Swallow	С	С	С		
Cliff Swallow	С	С	С		
CHICKADEES, TITMICE					
Black-capped Chickadee	С	С	С	С	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
NUTHATCHES	_				
Red-breasted Nuthatch	С	С	С	С	
White-breasted Nuthatch	С	С	С	С	
CREEPERS	_				
Brown Creeper	С	С	С	0	
WRENS					
House Wren	С	С	С		
Winter Wren	U	U	U		
Sedge Wren	С	С	С		
Marsh Wren	С	С	С		
GNATCATCHERS					
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	0	0	0		
KINGLETS		_			
Golden-crowned Kinglet	С	С	С	U	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	С		С		
THRUSHES					
Eastern Bluebird	С	С	С		
Veery	U	U	U		
Gray-cheeked Thrush	U		U		
Swainson's Thrush	U		U		
Hermit Thrush	С		С		
Wood Thrush	U	U	0		
American Robin	С	с	С	о	
THRASHERS, MOCKINGBIRDS					
Gray Catbird	С	С	С		
Brown Thrasher	С	С	С		
STARLINGS				-	
European Starling	С	С	С	С	
WAXWINGS					
Bohemian Waxwing	0		0	0	
Cedar Waxwing	С	С	С	υ	
OLD WORLD SPARROWS					
House Sparrow	U	U	U	U	
FINCHES					
Evening Grosbeak	U	U	U	U	
Pine Grosbeak	0		0	о	
House Finch	U	U	U	υ	
Purple Finch	С	с	С	о	

STATE PARK BIRDSSpSFWDATECommon Redpoll00000Hoary Redpoll00000Red Crossbill00000White-winged Crossbill0CUCUAmerican GoldfinchCCCU0TOWSS, SNOW BUNTINGS5Snow BuntingUUUUTOWHEES, SPARROWS00000Clay-colored SparrowCCCUUField Sparrow00000Fox SparrowCCCUUUDark-eyed JuncoCCCUUWhite-throated SparrowUUUUUSavannah SparrowCCCCUSong SparrowCCCCUSong SparrowCCCCUSavannah SparrowCCCCUSong SparrowCCCCUBLACKBIRDS, ORIOLESVestern MeadowlarkUUUUBabolinkUUUUUUBaltimore OrioleCCCCCRed-winged BlackbirdCCCCCRed-winged BlackbirdCCCCCRed-winged BlackbirdC						
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Red CrossbillOIOOWhite-winged CrossbillOICUPine SiskinCUCUAmerican GoldfinchCCCULONGSPURS, SNOW BUNTINGSSnow BuntingUVUUTOWHEES, SPARROWSCCCCGrasshopper SparrowCCCCClay-colored SparrowCCCUField SparrowCCCUFox SparrowCCCUDark-eyed JuncoCCCUWhite-throated SparrowUUUUHarris's SparrowUUUUSavannah SparrowCCCCSong SparrowCCCCULincoln's SparrowCCCUSwamp SparrowCCCEBLACKBIRDS, ORIOLESVestern MeadowlarkUUUWestern MeadowlarkUUUUWestern MeadowlarkOOOGBaltimore OrioleCCCCBrown-headed BlackbirdCCCBrown-headed CowbirdCCCBrown-headed CowbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCUBrown-headed CowbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCUSourd	Common Redpoll	0		0	0	
White-winged CrossbillOIOPine SiskinCUCUAmerican GoldfinchCCCULONGSPURS, SNOW BUNTINGSSnow BuntingUUUUTOWHEES, SPARROWSCCCCGrasshopper SparrowCCCCChipping SparrowCCCCClay-colored SparrowUUUUField SparrowCCCUAmerican Tree SparrowCUUUDark-eyed JuncoCCCUWhite-throated SparrowUUUUHarris's SparrowUUUUVesper SparrowCCCCSong SparrowCCCCSong SparrowCCCCLincoln's SparrowCCCLSwamp SparrowCCCLEastern TowheeUUUUBobolinkUUUUBobolinkUUUUWestern MeadowlarkOOOGBaltimore OrioleCCCCBrown-headed CowbirdCCUURusty BlackbirdCCUUBrewer's BlackbirdCCUU	Hoary Redpoll	0		0	0	
Pine SiskinCUCUUAmerican GoldfinchCCCUULONGSPURS, SNOW BUNTINGSSnow BuntingUVUUTOWHEES, SPARROWSGrasshopper SparrowOOOQLImage: Clay-colored SparrowCCCCCField SparrowCUUUUFox SparrowCCCUUAmerican Tree SparrowCZCUUDark-eyed JuncoCZCUUWhite-throated SparrowUUUUUWhite-throated SparrowCCCCCSong SparrowCCCCUISong SparrowCCCCUIIncoln's SparrowCCCCISwamp SparrowCCCCISubolinkUUUUUIBabbolinkUUUUUIBaltimore OrioleCCCCIRusty BlackbirdCCCUIRusty BlackbirdCCCUIImage: Classen MeadowlarkCCCUImage: Classen MeadowlarkUUUUImage: Classen MeadowlarkUUUUImage:	Red Crossbill	0		0	0	
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White-throated SparrowCCCCVesper SparrowOOOLeConte's SparrowUUUSavannah SparrowCCCSong SparrowCCCLincoln's SparrowCCCSwamp SparrowCCCEastern TowheeUUUBLACKBIRDS, ORIOLESUUUStatern MeadowlarkUUURedstern MeadowlarkOOOOrchard OrioleOOOBaltimore OrioleCCCRed-winged BlackbirdCCCBrown-headed CowbirdCCCRusty BlackbirdCCUBrewer's BlackbirdCCU	White-crowned Sparrow	U		U		
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Savannah SparrowCCCCSong SparrowCCCLincoln's SparrowCCCSwamp SparrowCCCEastern TowheeUUUBLACKBIRDS, ORIOLESUUUYellow-headed BlackbirdUUUBobolinkUUUEastern MeadowlarkUUUWestern MeadowlarkOOOOrchard OrioleCCCBaltimore OrioleCCCBrown-headed CowbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCUBrewer's BlackbirdCCU	Vesper Sparrow	0	0	0		
Song SparrowCCCCLincoln's SparrowCCCSwamp SparrowCCCEastern TowheeUUUBLACKBIRDS, ORIOLESUUUYellow-headed BlackbirdUUUBobolinkUUUEastern MeadowlarkUUUOrchard OrioleOOOBaltimore OrioleCCCRed-winged BlackbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCUBrewer's BlackbirdCCU	LeConte's Sparrow	U	U	U		
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Swamp SparrowCCCCEastern TowheeUUUBLACKBIRDS, ORIOLESYellow-headed BlackbirdUUUBobolinkUUUBobolinkUUUEastern MeadowlarkUUUOrchard OrioleOOOBaltimore OrioleCCCRed-winged BlackbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCUBrewer's BlackbirdCCU	Song Sparrow	С	С	С		
Eastern TowheeUUBLACKBIRDS, ORIOLESYellow-headed BlackbirdUUBobolinkUUUBobolinkUUUEastern MeadowlarkUUUWestern MeadowlarkOOOOrchard OrioleOOOBaltimore OrioleCCCRed-winged BlackbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCUBrewer's BlackbirdCCU	Lincoln's Sparrow	С		С		
BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLESYellow-headed BlackbirdUUUBobolinkUUUBobolinkUUUEastern MeadowlarkUUUWestern MeadowlarkOOOOrchard OrioleOOOBaltimore OrioleCCCRed-winged BlackbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCUBrewer's BlackbirdCCU	Swamp Sparrow	С	С	С		
Yellow-headed BlackbirdUUUBobolinkUUUEastern MeadowlarkUUUWestern MeadowlarkOOOOrchard OrioleOOOBaltimore OrioleCCCRed-winged BlackbirdCUUBrown-headed CowbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCUBrewer's BlackbirdCCU	Eastern Towhee	U		U		
BobolinkUUUEastern MeadowlarkUUUWestern MeadowlarkOOOOrchard OrioleOOOBaltimore OrioleCCCRed-winged BlackbirdCCUBrown-headed CowbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCUBrewer's BlackbirdCCU	BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES					
Eastern MeadowlarkUUUWestern MeadowlarkOOOOrchard OrioleOOOBaltimore OrioleCCCRed-winged BlackbirdCCCBrown-headed CowbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCCBrewer's BlackbirdCCU	Yellow-headed Blackbird	U	U	U		
Western MeadowlarkOOOOrchard OrioleOOOBaltimore OrioleCCCRed-winged BlackbirdCCCBrown-headed CowbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCCBrewer's BlackbirdCCU	Bobolink	U	U	U		
Orchard OrioleOOOBaltimore OrioleCCCRed-winged BlackbirdCCCBrown-headed CowbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCCBrewer's BlackbirdCCU	Eastern Meadowlark	U	U	U		
Baltimore OrioleCCCRed-winged BlackbirdCCCBrown-headed CowbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCCBrewer's BlackbirdCU	Western Meadowlark	0	0	0		
Red-winged BlackbirdCCCBrown-headed CowbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCCBrewer's BlackbirdCCU	Orchard Oriole	0	0	0		
Brown-headed CowbirdCCURusty BlackbirdCCCBrewer's BlackbirdCCU	Baltimore Oriole	С	С	С		
Rusty BlackbirdCCBrewer's BlackbirdCC	Red-winged Blackbird	С	С	С		
Brewer's Blackbird C C U	Brown-headed Cowbird	С	С	U		
	Rusty Blackbird	С		С		
Common Grackle C C C	Brewer's Blackbird	С	С	U		
	Common Grackle	С	С	С		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
WARBLERS	эþ	-5-		VV	DAIL
Ovenbird	С	с	С		
Northern Waterthrush	U	•	U		
Golden-winged Warbler	U	U	U		
Black-and-white Warbler	С	C	С		
Tennessee Warbler	С	R	C		
Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U		
Nashville Warbler	С	о	С		
Conneticut Warbler	0		0		
Mourning Warbler	с	с	υ		
Common Yellowthroat	С	С	С		
Hooded Warbler	R				
American Redstart	с	с	с		
Cape May Warbler	υ		U		
Cerulean Warbler	0	0			
Northern Parula	U		U		
Magnolia Warbler	С	С	С		
Bay-breasted Warbler	U		U		
Blackburnian Warbler	U		U		
Yellow Warbler	С	С	С		
Chestnut-sided Warbler	С	С	С		
Blackpoll Warbler	U		U		
Black-throated Blue Warbler	0	R	0		
Palm Warbler	С		С		
Pine Warbler	U	U	U		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	С	0	С		
Black-throated Green Warbler	U	U	U		
Canada Warbler	U	U	U		
Wilson's Warbler	С		С		
TANAGERS, CARDINALS, GROSBE	AKS				
Scarlet Tanager	U	U	U		
Northern Cardinal	0	0	0	0	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	С	С	С		
Indigo Bunting	С	С	С		

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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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