

## 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)

#### 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>					
Snow Goose	U		U		
Cackling Goose	U		U		
Canada Goose	C	C	C		
Trumpeter Swan	O	O	O		
Tundra Swan	U		U		
Wood Duck	C	C	C		
Blue-winged Teal	C	C	C		
Northern Shoveler	U		U		
Gadwall	U		U		
American Wigeon	U		U		
Mallard	C	C	C		
American Black Duck	U		U		
Northern Pintail	U		U		
Green-winged Teal	C		C		
Canvasback	U		U		
Redhead	U		U		
Ring-necked Duck	C		C		
Lesser Scaup	C		C		
Long-tailed Duck	O		O		
Bufflehead	C		C		
Common Goldeneye	C		C		
Hooded Merganser	U		U		
Common Merganser	C	U	C		
Red-breasted Merganser	U		U		
Ruddy Duck	O		O		

PARTRIDGE, PHEASANTS, GROUSE, TURKEYS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Ring-necked Pheasant	U	U	U	U	
Ruffed Grouse	U	U	U	U	

GREBES	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Pied-billed Grebe	C	C	C		
Horned Grebe	C		C		
Red-necked Grebe	C	U	C		

PIGEONS AND DOVES	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Rock Pigeon	U	U	U	U	
Mourning Dove	C	C	C	O	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>CUCKOOS</b>					
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	U	O	O		
Black-billed Cuckoo	U	U	U		
<b>NIGHTJARS</b>					
Common Nighthawk	C	C	C		
Eastern Whip-poor-will	O	O	O		
<b>SWIFTS</b>					
Chimney Swift	C	C	C		
<b>HUMMINGBIRDS</b>					
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	C	C	C		
<b>RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS</b>					
Virginia Rail	U	U	U		
Sora	C	C	U		
American Coot	U	U	C		
<b>CRANES</b>					
Sandhill Crane	U	U	U		
<b>PLOVERS</b>					
Killdeer	C	C	C		
<b>SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES</b>					
Least Sandpiper	C	C	C		
Pectoral Sandpiper	U	U	U		
American Woodcock	U	U	U		
Wilson's Snipe	C	C	C		
Spotted Sandpiper	C	C	C		

GULLS, TERNS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Bonaparte's Gull	C		C		
Ring-billed Gull	C	C	C		
Herring Gull	C	U	C		
Caspian Tern	U	O	U		
Black Tern	U	U	U		
Common Tern	C	C	C		
Forster's Tern	U	U	U		

LOONS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Common Loon	C	C	C		

CORMORANTS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Double-crested Cormorant	C	C	C		

PELICANS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
American White Pelican	O		O		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>BITTERNS, HERONS, EGRETS, NIGHT-HERONS</b>					
American Bittern	O	O	O		
Least Bittern	O	O			
Great Blue Heron	C	C	C		
Great Egret	U		U		
Green Heron	C	C	U		
<b>NEW WORLD VULTURES</b>					
Turkey Vulture	C	C	C		
<b>OSPREY</b>					
Osprey	C	C	C		
<b>KITES, HAWKS, EAGLES</b>					
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	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
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	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C		

WOODPECKERS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
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
<b>FALCONS</b>					
American Kestrel	C	C	C		
Merlin	O		O		
Peregrine Falcon	U		U		
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>					
Great Crested Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Eastern Kingbird	C	C	C		
Olive-sided Flycatcher	U	O	U		
Eastern Wood-Pewee	C	C	C		
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	U		U		
Alder Flycatcher	C	C	U		
Willow Flycatcher	O	O	O		
Least Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C		

SHRIKES	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Loggerhead Shrike	O	O	R		
Northern Shrike	U		U	U	

VIREOS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Yellow-throated Vireo	U	U	U		
Blue-headed Vireo	U	U	U		
Philadelphia Vireo	U		U		
Warbling Vireo	U	U	U		
Red-eyed Vireo	C	C	C		

JAYS, MAGPIES, CROWS, RAVENS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Blue Jay	C	C	C	C	
American Crow	C	C	C	C	
Common Raven	U	U	U	U	

LARKS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Horned Lark	U	U	U	O	

MARTINS, SWALLOWS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Bank Swallow	C	C	C		
Tree Swallow	C	C	C		
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	C	C	C		
Purple Martin	C	C	U		
Barn Swallow	C	C	C		
Cliff Swallow	C	C	C		

CHICKADEES, TITMICE	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C	

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

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Common Redpoll	O		O	O	
Hoary Redpoll	O		O	O	
Red Crossbill	O		O	O	
White-winged Crossbill	O			O	
Pine Siskin	C	U	C	U	
American Goldfinch	C	C	C	U	
<b>LONGSPURS, SNOW BUNTINGS</b>					
Snow Bunting	U		U	U	
<b>TOWHEES, SPARROWS</b>					
Grasshopper Sparrow	O	O	O		
Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C		
Clay-colored Sparrow	U	U	U		
Field Sparrow	O	O	O		
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	C		
Vesper Sparrow	O	O	O		
LeConte's Sparrow	U	U	U		
Savannah Sparrow	C	C	C		
Song Sparrow	C	C	C		
Lincoln's Sparrow	C		C		
Swamp Sparrow	C	C	C		
Eastern Towhee	U		U		
<b>BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES</b>					
Yellow-headed Blackbird	U	U	U		
Bobolink	U	U	U		
Eastern Meadowlark	U	U	U		
Western Meadowlark	O	O	O		
Orchard Oriole	O	O	O		
Baltimore Oriole	C	C	C		
Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C		
Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	U		
Rusty Blackbird	C		C		
Brewer's Blackbird	C	C	U		
Common Grackle	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<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	C	R	C		
Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U		
Nashville Warbler	C	O	C		
Connecticut Warbler	O		O		
Mourning Warbler	C	C	U		
Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C		
Hooded Warbler	R				
American Redstart	C	C	C		
Cape May Warbler	U		U		
Cerulean Warbler	O	O			
Northern Parula	U		U		
Magnolia Warbler	C	C	C		
Bay-breasted Warbler	U		U		
Blackburnian Warbler	U		U		
Yellow Warbler	C	C	C		
Chestnut-sided Warbler	C	C	C		
Blackpoll Warbler	U		U		
Black-throated Blue Warbler	O	R	O		
Palm Warbler	C		C		
Pine Warbler	U	U	U		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C	O	C		
Black-throated Green Warbler	U	U	U		
Canada Warbler	U	U	U		
Wilson's Warbler	C		C		
<b>TANAGERS, CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS</b>					
Scarlet Tanager	U	U	U		
Northern Cardinal	O	O	O	O	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C		
Indigo Bunting	C	C	C		

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

## FATHER HENNEPIN STATE PARK

