

## Birding at Lac Qui Parle State Park

Because of its wide variety of habitats, Lac Qui Parle State Park features a large species list –more than most Minnesota state parks. This park is an excellent area for migrant birds, especially waterfowl. Shorebirds are sometimes recorded when the lake is low. The parks woodlands are very productive with twenty-five species of warblers having been recorded.

Flycatchers, thrushes, vireos, swallows, woodpeckers and sparrows are common. Field sparrows and clay-colored sparrows are especially common in the oak savanna areas.

### 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		
Ross's Goose	O		O		
Greater White-fronted Goose	O		O		
Brant			R		
Cackling Goose	U		U		
Canada Goose	C	C	C	O	
Tundra Swan	U		U		
Wood Duck	C	C	C		
Blue-winged Teal	C	C	C		
Cinnamon Teal	O				
Northern Shoveler	U		U		
Gadwall	U		U		
American Wigeon	U		U		
Mallard	C	C	C		
American Black Duck	O		O		
Northern Pintail	U		U		
Green-winged Teal	U		U		
Canvasback	U		U		
Redhead	U		U		
Ring-necked Duck	C		C		
Greater Scaup	U		U		
Lesser Scaup	U		U		
Surf Scoter			O		
White-winged Scoter			O		
Bufflehead	U		U		
Common Goldeneye	U		U		
Hooded Merganser	C	U	C		
Common Merganser	U		U		
Red-breasted Merganser	U		U		
Ruddy Duck	U		U		
<b>PARTRIDGE, PHEASANTS, GROUSE, TURKEYS</b>					
Gray Partridge	O	O	O	O	
Ring-necked Pheasant	C	C	C	C	
Wild Turkey	C	C	C	C	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>GREBES</b>					
Pied-billed Grebe	C	C	C		
Horned Grebe	O		O		
Red-necked Grebe	O		O		
Eared Grebe	O		O		
Western Grebe	O		O		
<b>PIGEONS AND DOVES</b>					
Rock Pigeon	U	U	U	U	
Mourning Dove	C	C	C	O	
<b>CUCKOOS</b>					
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	U	U	O		
Black-billed Cuckoo	U	U	U		
<b>NIGHTJARS</b>					
Common Nighthawk	U	U	U		
<b>SWIFTS</b>					
Chimney Swift	U	U	U		
<b>HUMMINGBIRDS</b>					
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	C	U	C		
<b>RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS</b>					
Virginia Rail	O	O	O		
Sora	U	U	U		
American Coot	C	U	C		
<b>CRANES</b>					
Sandhill Crane	O		O		
<b>STILTS, AVOCETS</b>					
American Avocet	O		O		
<b>PLOVERS</b>					
Black-bellied Plover	O		O		
American Golden-plover	O		O		
Killdeer	C	C	C		
<b>SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES</b>					
Dunlin	O		O		
Buff-breasted Sandpiper			O		
American Woodcock	O		O		
Wilson's Snipe	C	U	C		
Spotted Sandpiper	C	C	C		
Solitary Sandpiper	O	O	O		
Lesser Yellowlegs	U	U	U		
Greater Yellowlegs	O		O		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>GULLS, TERNS</b>					
Sabine's Gull			R		
Bonaparte's Gull	U		U		
Franklin's Gull	U	U	C		
Ring-billed Gull	C	U	C		
Herring Gull	O		O	O	
Caspian Tern	O		O		
Black Tern	U	U	U		
Forster's Tern	C	C	U		
<b>LOONS</b>					
Common Loon	O		O		
<b>CORMORANTS</b>					
Double-crested Cormorant	C	C	C		
<b>PELICANS</b>					
American White Pelican	C	U	C		
<b>BITTERNS, HERONS, EGRETS, NIGHT-HERONS</b>					
American Bittern	O		O		
Least Bittern	O		O		
Great Blue Heron	C	C	C		
Great Egret	U	U	U		
Cattle Egret	O		O		
Green Heron	C	C	C		
Black-crowned Night-heron	O	O	O		
<b>NEW WORLD VULTURES</b>					
Turkey Vulture	U		U		
<b>OSPREY</b>					
Osprey	U	U	U		
<b>KITES, HAWKS, EAGLES</b>					
Northern Harrier	U	U	U	O	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U		U		
Cooper's Hawk	U	U	U	O	
Northern Goshawk	O		O	O	
Bald Eagle	U	U	U	U	
Red-shouldered Hawk	O	O	O		
Broad-winged Hawk	U	O	U		
Swainson's Hawk	O	O	O		
Red-tailed Hawk	C	C	C	U	
Rough-legged Hawk	O		O	O	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>TYPICAL OWLS</b>					
Great Horned Owl	U	U	U	U	
Snowy Owl	O		O	O	
Barred Owl	U	U	U	U	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	O		O	O	
<b>KINGFISHERS</b>					
Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C		
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>					
Red-headed Woodpecker	U	U	U		
Red-bellied Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
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	
<b>FALCONS</b>					
American Kestrel	C	C	C	O	
Merlin	O		O		
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>					
Great Crested Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Western Kingbird	O	O			
Eastern Kingbird	C	C	C		
Olive-sided Flycatcher	U		U		
Eastern Wood-pewee	C	C	C		
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	O		O		
Alder Flycatcher	U		U		
Willow Flycatcher	U		U		
Least Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C		
<b>SHRIKES</b>					
Northern Shrike	O		O	O	
<b>VIREOS</b>					
Yellow-throated Vireo	C	C	C		
Blue-headed Vireo	U		U		
Philadelphia Vireo	O		O		
Warbling Vireo	C	C	C		
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	
<b>LARKS</b>					
Horned Lark	C	C	C	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		
White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	C	
<b>CREEPERS</b>					
Brown Creeper	U		U		
<b>WRENS</b>					
House Wren	C	C	C		
Winter Wren	O		O		
Sedge Wren	C	C	C		
Marsh Wren	C	U	C		
<b>GNATCATCHERS</b>					
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	U	U	U		
<b>KINGLETS</b>					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	C		C	O	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C		
<b>THRUSHES</b>					
Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C		
Veery	U		U		
Gray-cheeked Thrush	U		U		
Swainson's Thrush	U		U		
Hermit Thrush	U		U		
Wood Thrush	U	U	U		
American Robin	C	C	C	O	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>THRASHERS, MOCKINGBIRDS</b>					
Gray Catbird	C	C	C		
Brown Thrasher	U	U	U		
<b>STARLINGS</b>					
European Starling	C	C	C	C	
<b>WAXWINGS</b>					
Cedar Waxwing	C	C	C	O	
<b>OLD WORLD SPARROWS</b>					
House Sparrow	C	C	C	C	
<b>PIPITS</b>					
American Pipit			U		
<b>FINCHES</b>					
House Finch	U	U	U	U	
Purple Finch	U		U	U	
Common Redpoll	O		O	O	
Pine Siskin	O		O	O	
American Goldfinch	C	C	C	U	
<b>LONGSPURS, SNOW BUNTINGS</b>					
Lapland Longspur	U		U	U	
Snow Bunting	U		U	U	
<b>TOWHEES, SPARROWS</b>					
Grasshopper Sparrow	U	U	O		
Lark Sparrow	O	O	O		
Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C		
Clay-colored Sparrow	C	C	C		
Field Sparrow	C	C	C		
Fox Sparrow	C		C		
American Tree Sparrow	C		C	C	
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		
LeConte's Sparrow	O		O		
Savannah Sparrow	C	U	C		
Song Sparrow	C	C	C		
Lincoln's Sparrow	U		U		
Swamp Sparrow	C	C	C		
Eastern Towhee	U	O	U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>CHATS</b>					
Yellow-breasted Chat	R				
<b>BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES</b>					
Yellow-headed Blackbird	C	C	C		
Bobolink	C	C	C		
Western Meadowlark	C	C	C		
Orchard Oriole	U	U			
Baltimore Oriole	C	C	C		
Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C		
Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	U		
Rusty Blackbird	C		C		
Brewer's Blackbird	U	U	U		
Common Grackle	C	C	C	O	
<b>WARBLERS</b>					
Ovenbird	C	O	C		
Northern Waterthrush	U		U		
Golden-winged Warbler	O		O		
Black-and-white Warbler	C		C		
Tennessee Warbler	C		C		
Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U		
Nashville Warbler	C		C		
Conneticut Warbler	O		O		
Mourning Warbler	U		U		
Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C		
American Redstart	C	C	C		
Cape May Warbler	O		O		
Northern Parula	O		O		
Magnolia Warbler	U		U		
Bay-breasted Warbler	U		U		
Blackburnian Warbler	U		U		
Yellow Warbler	C	C	C		
Chestnut-sided Warbler	U		U		
Blackpoll Warbler	U		U		
Black-throated Blue Warbler	R				
Palm Warbler	C		C		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C		
Black-throated Green Warbler	U		U		
Canada Warbler	U		U		
Wilson's Warbler	U		U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>TANAGERS, CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS</b>					
Summer Tanager	R				
Scarlet Tanager	U	U	U		
Northern Cardinal	C	C	U	U	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C		
Indigo Bunting	C	C	C		
Dickcissel	O	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

## LAC QUI PARLE STATE PARK

