STATE PARK BIRDS

NUTHATCHES
- Red-breasted Nuthatch
- White-breasted Nuthatch

CREEPERS
- Brown Creeper

WREN
- House Wren
- Winter Wren
- Sedge Wren

KINGLETS
- Golden-crowned Kinglet
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet

CREEPERS
- Brown Creeper

THRUSHES
- Eastern Bluebird
- Veery
- Gray-cheeked Thrush
- Swainson’s Thrush
- Hermit Thrush
- American Robin

THRASHERS, MOCKINGBIRDS
- Gray Catbird

STARLINGS
- European Starling

WAXWINGS
- Bohemian Waxwing
- Cedar Waxwing

PIPITS
- American Pipit

FINCHES
- Evening Grosbeak
- Pine Grosbeak
- House Finch
- Purple Finch
- Red Crossbill
- Common Redpoll
- Pine Siskin
- American Goldfinch

STATE PARK BIRDS

SNOWBUNTINGS, LONGSPURS
- Lapland Longspur
- Snow Bunting

WARBLERS
- Ovenbird
- Northern Waterthrush
- Golden-winged Warbler
- Black-and-white Warbler
- Tennessee Warbler
- Orange-crowned Warbler
- Nashville Warbler
- Mourning Warbler
- Common Yellowthroat
- American Redstart
- Cape May Warbler
- Northern Parula
- Magnolia Warbler
- Blackburnian Warbler
- Yellow Warbler
- Chestnut-sided Warbler
- Blackpoll Warbler
- Palm Warbler
- Pine Warbler
- Yellow-rumped Warbler
- Black-throated Green Warbler
- Canada Warbler
- Wilson’s Warbler

TOWHEES, SPARROWS
- American Tree Sparrow
- Chipping Sparrow
- Clay-colored Sparrow
- Vesper Sparrow
- Savannah Sparrow
- Fox Sparrow
- Song Sparrow
- Lincoln’s Sparrow
- Swamp Sparrow
- White-throated Sparrow

TANAGERS, CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS
- Scarlet Tanager
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak
- Indigo Bunting

BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES
- Bobolink
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Rusty Blackbird
- Common Grackle
- Brown-headed Cowbird

BIRD CHECKLIST
LAKE VERMILION-SOUDAN UNDERGROUND MINE STATE PARK

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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Birding at Lake Vermilion-Soudan
Underground Mine State Park

Encompassing 4,000 acres of state park are forest, lakeshore and wetland. These diverse habitats provide a great variety of birding opportunities.

The shoreline of Lake Vermilion is especially good for migrant warblers, vireos, flycatchers and thrushes. Lake Vermilion is also an excellent place to observe common loon, bald eagle, osprey and herring gull. The Swedetown Trail passes near ponds which harbor a number of duck species and a few species of shorebirds during migration periods. The Miner’s Trail is a good place to see ruffed grouse and evening grosbeak. The Crosscut Trail passes a number of wetlands which provide resting spots for tundra swan and other waterfowl.

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.)

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 or may not return each year)
R - Rare (Observed at least once, may not return)

Date: Enter the date you saw the bird.

STATE PARK BIRDS

GEISE, SWANS, DUCKS

Canada Goose
Trumpeter Swan
Wood Duck
American Wigeon
American Black Duck
Mallard
Blue-winged Teal
Northern Shoveler
Northern Pintail
Green-winged Teal
Redhead
Ring-necked Duck
Greater Scaup
Lesser Scaup
Bufflehead
Common Goldeneye
Hooded Merganser
Common Merganser
Red-breasted Merganser

PARTRIDGE, PHEASANTS, GROUSE, TURKEYS

Ruffed Grouse

GREBES

Pied-billed Grebe

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Rock Pigeon
Mourning Dove

NIGHTJARS

Common Nighthawk
Eastern Whip-poor-will

HUMMINGBIRDS

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS

Virginia Rail

PLOVERS

Killdeer

SANDPIPERS

Least Sandpiper
Pectoral Sandpiper
Spotted Sandpiper
Solitary Sandpiper
Greater Yellowlegs
Lesser Yellowlegs

GULLS, TERNs

Bonaparte’s Gull
Ring-billed Gull
Herring Gull

LOONS

Common Loon

CORIMORANTS

Double-crested Cormorant

BITTERNs, HERONS, EGRETS, NIGHT-HERONS

Great Blue Heron
Green Heron

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

OSPREY

Osprey

KITES, ACCIPETERS, HAWKS, EAGLES

Bald Eagle
Northern Harrier
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Northern Goshawk
Broad-winged Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk

SCREECH-OWLS, OWLS

Great Horned Owl
Barred Owl
Great Gray Owl
Northern Saw-whet Owl

KINGFISHERS

Belted Kingfisher

WOODECKERS

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Downy Woodpecker
Hair Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker

CARRACARAS, FALCONS

American Kestrel
Merlin

FLYCATCHERS

Olive-sided Flycatcher
Eastern Wood-pewee
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
Alder Flycatcher
Least Flycatcher
Eastern Phoebe
Great Crested Flycatcher

SHRIKES

Northern Shrike

VIREOS

Yellow-throated Vireo
Blue-headed Vireo
Philippa Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo

JAYS, NUTCRACKERS, MAGPIES, CROWS

Canada Jay
Blue Jay
American Crow
Common Raven

MARTINS, SWALLOWS

Tree Swallow
Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow

CHICKADEES, TITMICE

Black-capped Chickadee
Boreal Chickadee