

## Birding at Minneopa State Park

The forested river corridors in the park are home to breeders such as Scarlet Tanager, Wood Thrush, Ovenbird and occasionally rarer species such as Cerulean Warbler and Louisiana Waterthrush.

A drive through the bison enclosure's prairie and shrublands may yield Orchard Orioles, Eastern Meadowlarks, Brown Thrashers, Bobolinks, and Grasshopper or Clay-colored Sparrows. There are different birds with each season and many reasons to come back again and again.

### 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	U		U		
Cackling Goose	O		U		
Canada Goose	C	C	C		
Trumpeter Swan	U	O	U	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	O	
American Black Duck	O		O		
Northern Pintail	U		U		
Green-winged Teal	U		U		
Canvasback	U		U		
Redhead	U		U		
Ring-necked Duck	U		U		
Greater Scaup	O		O		
Lesser Scaup	U		U		
Bufflehead	U		U		
Common Goldeneye	U		U	O	
Hooded Merganser	U	U	U		
Common Merganser	U		U	O	
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	
<b>GREBES</b>					
Pied-billed Grebe	U	O	U		
Horned Grebe	O		O		
Red-necked Grebe	O		O		
Eared Grebe	O		O		
Western Grebe	O		O		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>PIGEONS AND DOVES</b>					
Rock Pigeon		C	C	C	
Mourning Dove		C	C	C	O
<b>CUCKOOS</b>					
Yellow-billed Cuckoo		U	U	U	
Black-billed Cuckoo		U	U	U	
<b>NIGHTJARS</b>					
Common Nighthawk		U	U	U	
Eastern Whip-poor-will		O	O	O	
<b>SWIFTS</b>					
Chimney Swift		C	C	C	
<b>HUMMINGBIRDS</b>					
Ruby-throated Hummingbird		C	U	C	
<b>RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS</b>					
Virginia Rail		O	O	O	
Sora		O	O	O	
American Coot		O		O	
<b>CRANES</b>					
Sandhill Crane		O		O	
<b>PLOVERS</b>					
Black-bellied Plover		O		O	
American Golden-plover		O		O	
Killdeer		C	C	C	
Semipalmated Plover		O		O	
<b>SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES</b>					
Upland Sandpiper		O	R	O	
Hudsonian Godwit		O			
Marbled Godwit		O			
Ruddy Turnstone		O		O	
Stilt Sandpiper		O		O	
Sanderling		O		O	
Dunlin		O		O	
Baird's Sandpiper		O		O	
Least Sandpiper		O		O	
White-rumped Sandpiper		O		O	
Pectoral Sandpiper		O		O	
Semipalmated Sandpiper		O		O	
Short-billed Dowitcher		O		O	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Long-billed Dowitcher	O		O		
American Woodcock	U	U	U		
Wilson's Snipe	O		O		
Spotted Sandpiper	U	U	U		
Solitary Sandpiper	O		O		
Lesser Yellowlegs	O		O		
Willet	O		O		
Greater Yellowlegs	O		O		
Wilson's Phalarope	O		O		
Red-necked Phalarope	O		O		
<b>GULLS, TERNS</b>					
Bonaparte's Gull	O		O		
Franklin's Gull	U		C		
Ring-billed Gull	C	U	C		
Herring Gull	U		U		
Caspian Tern	O		O		
Black Tern	O	R	O		
Common Tern	O		O		
Forster's Tern	O	R	O		
<b>LOONS</b>					
Common Loon	O		O		
<b>CORMORANTS</b>					
Double-crested Cormorant	U	O	U		
<b>PELICANS</b>					
American White Pelican	U	U	U		
<b>BITTERNS, HERONS, EGRETS, NIGHT-HERONS</b>					
American Bittern	O		O		
Least Bittern	O		O		
Great Blue Heron	U	U	U		
Great Egret	U	U	U		
Green Heron	U	U	U		
Black-crowned Night-heron	O	O	O		
<b>NEW WORLD VULTURES</b>					
Turkey Vulture	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>OSPREY</b>					
Osprey	U		U		
<b>KITES, HAWKS, EAGLES</b>					
Golden Eagle	O		O	O	
Northern Harrier	U	O	U		
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U		U	O	
Cooper's Hawk	U	U	U	O	
Bald Eagle	C	C	C	C	
Red-shouldered Hawk	O	O	O		
Broad-winged Hawk	U	O	U		
Swainson's Hawk	O		O		
Red-tailed Hawk	C	C	C	C	
Rough-legged Hawk	U		U	U	
<b>TYPICAL OWLS</b>					
Eastern Screech Owl	U	U	U	U	
Great Horned Owl	U	U	U	U	
Snowy Owl				O	
Barred Owl	U	U	U	U	
Long-eared Owl	O	O	O	O	
Short-eared Owl	O		O		
Northern Saw-whet Owl	O		O	O	
<b>KINGFISHERS</b>					
Belted Kingfisher	U	U	U	O	
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>					
Red-headed Woodpecker	U	O	U	R	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	C	O	C	R	
Downy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Hairy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Northern Flicker	C	C	C	U	
Pileated Woodpecker	U	U	U	U	
<b>FALCONS</b>					
American Kestrel	U	U	U	O	
Merlin	O		O	O	
Peregrine Falcon	O	O	O		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>					
Great Crested Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Western Kingbird	O	O			
Eastern Kingbird	C	C	C		
Olive-sided Flycatcher	U	R	U		
Eastern Wood-pewee	C	C	C		
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	U		U		
Acadian Flycatcher	O	O			
Alder Flycatcher	U		U		
Willow Flycatcher	U	U	U		
Least Flycatcher	C	O	C		
Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C		
<b>SHRIKES</b>					
Loggerhead Shrike	O	R	O		
Northern Shrike	U		U	U	
<b>VIREOS</b>					
Bell's Vireo	O	O			
Yellow-throated Vireo	U	U	U		
Blue-headed Vireo	U		U		
Philadelphia Vireo	U		U		
Warbling Vireo	U	U	U		
Red-eyed Vireo	C	C	C		
<b>JAYS, MAGPIES, CROWS, RAVENS</b>					
Blue Jay	C	C	C	C	
American Crow	C	C	C	C	
<b>LARKS</b>					
Horned Lark	U	R	U	R	
<b>MARTINS, SWALLOWS</b>					
Bank Swallow	U	U	U		
Tree Swallow	C	C	C		
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	C	C	U		
Purple Martin	U	R	U		
Barn Swallow	C	C	C		
Cliff Swallow	U	U	U		
<b>CHICKADEES, TITMICE</b>					
Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C	

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

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>PIPITS</b>					
American Pipit	U		U		
<b>FINCHES</b>					
House Finch	C	C	C	U	
Purple Finch	U		U	U	
Common Redpoll	O		O	O	
Red Crossbill	O		O	O	
White-winged Crossbill			O	O	
Pine Siskin	U		U	U	
American Goldfinch	C	C	C	C	
<b>LONGSPURS, SNOW BUNTINGS</b>					
Lapland Longspur	O		O	O	
Snow Bunting	O		O	O	
<b>TOWHEES, SPARROWS</b>					
Grasshopper Sparrow	U	U	U		
Lark Sparrow	O	O	O		
Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C		
Clay-colored Sparrow	C	C	U		
Field Sparrow	C	C	U		
Fox Sparrow	C		C	R	
American Tree Sparrow	C		C	C	
Dark-eyed Junco	C		C	C	
White-crowned Sparrow	C		C		
Harris's Sparrow	U		U		
White-throated Sparrow	C		C		
Vesper Sparrow	U	O	U		
LeConte's Sparrow	O		O		
Nelson's Sparrow	O		O		
Henslow's Sparrow	O	O	O		
Savannah Sparrow	U	U	U		
Song Sparrow	C	C	C		
Lincoln's Sparrow	U		U		
Swamp Sparrow	U	O	U		
Eastern Towhee	C	C	U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES</b>					
Yellow-headed Blackbird	O	R	O		
Bobolink	C	C	C		
Eastern Meadowlark	C	C	C		
Western Meadowlark	O	O	O		
Orchard Oriole	C	C	C		
Baltimore Oriole	C	C	C		
Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C		
Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	C		
Rusty Blackbird	U		U		
Brewer's Blackbird	U		U		
Common Grackle	C	C	C		
<b>WARBLERS</b>					
Ovenbird	C	C	C		
Louisiana Waterthrush	O	O			
Northern Waterthrush	U		U		
Golden-winged Warbler	U		U		
Blue-winged Warbler	U	U	U		
Black-and-white Warbler	C		C		
Prothonotary Warbler	O	O			
Tennessee Warbler	C	R	C		
Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U		
Nashville Warbler	C		C		
Conneticut Warbler	U		U		
Mourning Warbler	U		U		
Kentucky Warbler	R	R			
Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C		
American Redstart	C	C	C		
Cape May Warbler	U		U		
Cerulean Warbler	O	O	O		
Northern Parula	U		U		
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		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Black-throated Blue Warbler	O		O		
Palm Warbler	U		U		
Pine Warbler	O		O		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C	O	
Black-throated Green Warbler	U		U		
Canada Warbler	U		U		
Wilson's Warbler	U		U		
<b>TANAGERS, CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS</b>					
Scarlet Tanager	U	U	U		
Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C		
Indigo Bunting	C	C	U		
Dickcissel	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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**m** MINNESOTA  
STATE PARKS AND TRAILS

# BIRD CHECKLIST

## MINNEOPA STATE PARK

