

Birding at Sibley State Park

Over 3,000 acres of woods, prairie and lakes make Sibley State Park a premier birding area in Central Minnesota. The park is the northwestern-most breeding location for the yellow-throated warbler in the United States. Thrushes, flycatchers, vireos, woodpeckers, swallows and many species of sparrows are commonly found in the park.

Hike to the top of Mount Tom for excellent opportunities to watch migrating hawks. Make time to visit the shores of Lake Andrew and other water bodies in the park for great opportunities to see waterfowl and marsh birds.

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
GEESE, SWANS, DUCKS					
Snow Goose	U		U		
Canada Goose	C	C	C		
Trumpeter Swan	C	C			
Tundra Swan	U		U		
Wood Duck	C	C	C		
Blue-winged Teal	C	C	C		
Northern Shoveler	C		C		
Gadwall	C		C		
American Wigeon	U		U		
Mallard	C	C	C		
Northern Pintail	U		U		
Canvasback	C		C		
Redhead	C		C		
Ring-necked Duck	C		C	R	
Lesser Scaup	C	O	C		
Bufflehead	C		C	R	
Common Goldeneye	C		U	R	
Hooded Merganser	C	U	U	R	
Common Merganser	C		C		
Red-breasted Merganser	U		U		
Ruddy Duck	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
PARTRIDGE, PHEASANTS, GROUSE, TURKEYS					
Ring-necked Pheasant	C	C	C	C	
Ruffed Grouse	R	R	R	R	
Wild Turkey	C	C	C	C	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
GREBES					
Pied-billed Grebe	C	C	C		
Horned Grebe	U		U		
Red-necked Grebe	U	U	U		
Eared Grebe	O		O		
Western Grebe	O	O	O		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
PIGEONS AND DOVES					
Rock Pigeon	C	C	C	C	
Mourning Dove	C	C	C	U	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
CUCKOOS					
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	U	U	O		
Black-billed Cuckoo	U	U	U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
NIGHTJARS					
Common Nighthawk	U	U	U		
SWIFTS					
Chimney Swift	C	C	C		
HUMMINGBIRDS					
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	U	U	U		
RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS					
Virginia Rail	C	C	U		
Sora	C	C	C		
American Coot	C	C	C		
CRANES					
Sandhill Crane	U				
PLOVERS					
Killdeer	C	C	C		
Semipalmated Plover	O	O	O		
SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES					
Upland Sandpiper	O				
Least Sandpiper	U	U	U		
Pectoral Sandpiper	U	U	U		
American Woodcock	U	O	U		
Wilson's Snipe	C	C	C		
Spotted Sandpiper	C	C	C		
Solitary Sandpiper	U	O	U		
Lesser Yellowlegs	C	C	C		
Greater Yellowlegs	U		U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
GULLS, TERNS					
Bonaparte's Gull	U		U		
Franklin's Gull	C	U	C		
Ring-billed Gull	C	U	C		
Herring Gull	U	O	U	R	
Black Tern	C	C	C		
Common Tern	O		O		
Forster's Tern	C	C	U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
LOONS					
Common Loon	C	C	C		
CORMORANTS					
Double-crested Cormorant	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
PELICANS					
American White Pelican	C	C	C		
BITTERNS, HERONS, EGRETS, NIGHT-HERONS					
American Bittern	O		O		
Great Blue Heron	C	C	C		
Great Egret	C	C	C		
Green Heron	C	C	C		
Black-crowned Night-heron	O	O	O		
NEW WORLD VULTURES					
Turkey Vulture	C	C	C		
OSPREY					
Osprey	U	U	U		
KITES, HAWKS, EAGLES					
Northern Harrier	U	U	U		
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U		U		
Cooper's Hawk	U	U	U		
Northern Goshawk	O		O	O	
Bald Eagle	C	C	C	O	
Red-shouldered Hawk	U	U	U		
Broad-winged Hawk	U	U	U		
Swainson's Hawk	R		R		
Red-tailed Hawk	C	C	C	U	
Rough-legged Hawk	U		U	U	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
TYPICAL OWLS					
Eastern Screech Owl	O	O	O	O	
Great Horned Owl	U	U	U	U	
Barred Owl	U	U	U	U	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	O				

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
KINGFISHERS					
Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
WOODPECKERS					
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	U	
Pileated Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
FALCONS					
American Kestrel	C	C	C	U	
FLYCATCHERS					
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	O	O	R		
Least Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
SHRIKES					
Northern Shrike	O		O	O	

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

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
JAYS, MAGPIES, CROWS, RAVENS					
Blue Jay	C	C	C	C	
American Crow	C	C	C	C	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
LARKS					
Horned Lark	R				

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

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

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
NUTHATCHES					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	U		U	O	
White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	C	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
CREEPERS					
Brown Creeper	C	R	C	O	
WRENS					
House Wren	C	C	C		
Sedge Wren	U	U	U		
Marsh Wren	C	C	C		
GNATCATCHERS					
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	U	U	U		
KINGLETS					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	U		U	O	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C		
THRUSHES					
Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C	O	
Townsend's Solitaire			R	O	
Veery	U	O	O		
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	
THRASHERS, MOCKINGBIRDS					
Gray Catbird	C	C	C		
Brown Thrasher	C	C	C		
STARLINGS					
European Starling	C	C	C	C	
WAXWINGS					
Cedar Waxwing	C	C	C	U	
OLD WORLD SPARROWS					
House Sparrow	C	C	C		
FINCHES					
Evening Grosbeak	O		O	R	
House Finch	U	U	U		
Purple Finch	U		U	U	
Common Redpoll	O		O	O	
Pine Siskin	U		U	U	
American Goldfinch	C	C	C	U	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
TOWHEES, SPARROWS					
Grasshopper Sparrow	U	U	O		
Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C		
Clay-colored Sparrow	U	U	U		
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		
Song Sparrow	C	C	C		
Lincoln's Sparrow	U		U		
Swamp Sparrow	C	C	C		
Eastern Towhee	C	C	C		
BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES					
Yellow-headed Blackbird	C	C	C		
Bobolink	C	C	C		
Western Meadowlark	C	C	C		
Orchard Oriole	U	U	O		
Baltimore Oriole	C	C	C		
Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C		
Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	U		
Rusty Blackbird	U		U		
Common Grackle	C	C	C	U	
WARBLERS					
Ovenbird	C	C	C		
Northern Waterthrush	C		C		
Golden-winged Warbler	O		O		
Blue-winged Warbler	R	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	O		O		
Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
American Redstart	C	C	C		
Cape May Warbler	U		U		
Cerulean Warbler	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	C	U	C		
Blackpoll Warbler	U		U		
Palm Warbler	C		C		
Pine Warbler	O		O		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C		
Yellow-throated Warbler	R	R	R		
Black-throated Green Warbler	O		O		
Canada Warbler	U		U		
Wilson's Warbler	C		C		
TANAGERS, CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS					
Scarlet Tanager	O	O			
Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C		
Indigo Bunting	C	C	C		
Dickcissel	O	O			

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

SIBLEY STATE PARK

