

## Birding Opportunities at Swedes Forest, Homme-Kollin Unit SNA

Swedes Forest SNA is located within the Minnesota River Valley in Swedes Forest Township, Yellow Medicine County. The SNA contains the granite outcrop community type that supports the rare five-lined skink. The SNA is 202 acres in size, and consists of cedar forest, oak forest, old quarry sites, and granite outcrops interspersed with small wetlands. Some shoreline on Iverson Lake is included in the unit. A total of 99 bird species have been sighted here. Gadwalls, ring-necked ducks and buffleheads have all been sighted on the lake, as well as American white pelican and double-crested cormorant. Look for six different woodpecker species in the woodlands, along with yellow-throated vireo, ruby-crowned kinglet, indigo bunting and chipping sparrow. Sparrows can be found in the open areas as well, and nine sparrow species have been seen on the SNA. The area is accessible from Redwood County Road 1 (Township Road 131 in Yellow Medicine County). There is a parking area with a gate on the south side of this road. There are no developed trails on the SNA. A maintenance road runs about a ½ mile South through the unit. The birding is great, but off of the maintenance road, foot travel can be difficult on the rocky terrain, and through dense forest and brush.

### Taxonomy, Season and Abundance Key

The names and taxonomic arrangement of species follows that of the Checklist of the Birds of Minnesota (January, 2005) prepared by the Minnesota Ornithological Union (MOU) Records Committee.

The seasons in the checklist are defined as follows:

Sp (Spring) = March, April, May  
 Su (Summer) = June, July  
 Fa (Fall) = August, September, October, November  
 Wi (Winter) = December, January, February

Abundance codes are defined as follows:

C = Common — present, relatively easy to find  
 U = Uncommon — observed, may be difficult to find  
 O = Occasional — may or may not be present in any year  
 R = Rare — has occurred at least once, may recur

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Goose	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Duck	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gadwall	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mallard	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Duck	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bufflehead	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Merganser	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruffed Grouse	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Wild Turkey	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Pied-billed Grebe	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> American White Pelican	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Double-crested Cormorant	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey Vulture	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-shinned Hawk	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cooper's Hawk	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk	U	U	U	O
<input type="checkbox"/> American Kestrel	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Merlin			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Killdeer	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-billed Gull	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-billed Cuckoo	O	O		

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-throated Hummingbird	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Belted Kingfisher	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-bellied Woodpecker	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Downy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Woodpecker	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Flicker	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Pileated Woodpecker	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Olive-sided Flycatcher	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Wood-Pewee	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Alder Flycatcher	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Willow Flycatcher	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Flycatcher	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Phoebe	U	O	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Crested Flycatcher	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Kingbird	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Shrike			O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-throated Vireo	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Warbling Vireo	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-eyed Vireo	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Jay	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> American Crow	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree Swallow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Rough-winged Swallow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bank Swallow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn Swallow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-breasted Nuthatch	O		O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Creeper	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> House Wren	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Winter Wren	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden-crowned Kinglet	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Bluebird	U	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Swainson's Thrush	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hermit Thrush	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Robin	C	U	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Catbird	U	U	U	

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> European Starling	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Cedar Waxwing	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Nashville Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Parula	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Magnolia Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blackburnian Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bay-breasted Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Redstart	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ovenbird	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Scarlet Tanager	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Towhee	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Tree Sparrow	O		O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clay-colored Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Vesper Sparrow	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Lark Sparrow	O	O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fox Sparrow	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Song Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln's Sparrow	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Sparrow	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark-eyed Junco	C		C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Rose-breasted Grosbeak	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigo Bunting	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dickcissel		O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Grackle	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore Oriole	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Finch			O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> American Goldfinch	C	C	C	U

Additional Observations

Additional Observations (Continued)

This checklist contains the names of all birds that have been documented at this site by reliable observers, including Bob Janssen, volunteer observers, as well as MOU records, and data contained in research reports. Funding for this project was provided in part by the State Wildlife Grants program administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Checklist layout by Jennifer Lintelmann. Persons interested in the sources used in preparation of this list may contact Project Supervisor/Nongame Specialist Katie Haws at 218-308-2641.

For more information contact DNR Information Center, 500 Lafayette Rd. St. Paul, MN 53155-4000, 651-296-6157 or toll-free 888-MIN-NDNR (646-6367).

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Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild and Rare is the state's conservation action plan for protecting Minnesota's native animal species that are rare or likely to become rare in the near future.

# Swedes Forest

## Scientific and Natural Area

# Checklist



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Weather: \_\_\_\_\_

Observers: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

