

Birding Opportunities at Boot Lake SNA

Boot Lake SNA is a large unit (592 acres) located within the Anoka Sandplain Subsection. Boot Lake is part of a chain of ice-block lakes within a tunnel valley system, which was formed by the enormous hydraulic pressure and erosion of sub glacial rivers. The site contains a continuum of plant community types including prominent old white pine stands, oak forest, aspen-shrub thickets, a wooded bog, wet meadows, and a small bog lake. There have been 106 bird species sighted on the SNA. Boot Lake itself hosts several thousand ring-necked ducks at times, and a number of other waterfowl species during migration. Look for sandhill cranes, swamp sparrow and northern waterthrush in the wetter sedge areas. Forest bird species such as red-shouldered hawks, pine warblers, eastern wood peewees can be seen in the forested habitats. Woodland wildflowers make a late spring visit memorable. Aside from old abandoned field roads, there are no developed trails within the unit. Access to the site is from a parking area located in the SE part of the unit off of Jordell Avenue. Birder access would be rated as medium.

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	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Duck	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mallard	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Shoveler	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Duck	O		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bufflehead	O		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Pheasant	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Wild Turkey	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Loon	U	O	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pied-billed Grebe	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Double-crested Cormorant	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Green Heron	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey Vulture	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Osprey	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cooper's Hawk	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-shouldered Hawk	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Broad-winged Hawk	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk	U	U	U	O
<input type="checkbox"/> American Kestrel	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Peregrine Falcon	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sandhill Crane	U	O	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Killdeer	U	U	U	

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Black Tern	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rock Pigeon	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Horned Owl	O	O	O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Saw-whet Owl			O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Nighthawk	U	O	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-throated Hummingbird	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	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Flicker	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Pileated Woodpecker	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Olive-sided Flycatcher	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Wood-Pewee	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Alder Flycatcher	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Willow Flycatcher	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Crested Flycatcher	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Kingbird	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-throated Vireo	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-headed Vireo	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"/> Common Raven	O			
<input type="checkbox"/> Tree Swallow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cliff Swallow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn Swallow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-breasted Nuthatch	O		O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> House Wren	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sedge Wren	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden-crowned Kinglet	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Veery	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Swainson's Thrush	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hermit Thrush	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Thrush	O	O	O	

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> American Robin	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Catbird	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Thrasher	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> European Starling	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Cedar Waxwing	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden-winged Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Warbler	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Nashville Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Warbler	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut-sided Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Magnolia Warbler	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pine Warbler	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Palm Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bay-breasted Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blackpoll Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-and-white Warbler	U	O	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Redstart	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ovenbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Waterthrush	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Yellowthroat	C	C		
<input type="checkbox"/> Scarlet Tanager	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Tree Sparrow	C		C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clay-colored Sparrow	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fox Sparrow	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Song Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Sparrow	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark-eyed Junco	C		C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Indigo Bunting	U	U	U	
<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	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore Oriole	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Finch	O		O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> House Finch	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> American Goldfinch	C	C	C	C
<input type="checkbox"/> House Sparrow	O	O	O	O

Additional Observations

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 Lintemann. 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.

Boot Lake

Scientific and Natural Area

Checklist



Date: _____

Weather: _____

Observers: _____

Notes: _____



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