

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

This checklist contains the names of all birds that have been documented at this site by reliable observers, including principal observer Bob Janssen, MOU records, and data contained in research reports. 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 55155-4040 651-296-6157 or toll-free 888-MIN-NDNR (646-6367).

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Iona's Beach

Scientific and Natural Area

Checklist



Date: _____

Weather: _____

Observers: _____

Notes: _____



Birding Opportunities at Iona's Beach SNA

This SNA lies on a narrow strip of Lake Superior's North Shore between Gooseberry Falls and Split Rock Lighthouse State Parks, in Lake County. The actual SNA consists of ten acres of beach area that is sandwiched between Lake Superior and Highway 61. The site includes a wooded area of mixed coniferous and deciduous trees and alder swamp, along with one of the most spectacular beaches along the North shore of Lake Superior. The beach is comprised of large pink rhyolite and felsite pebbles, worn from a nearby cliff. As waves pummel the beach, the rocks settle with a unique "tinkling" sound unique to this beach.

Access is very easy with a trail leading to the area from the DNR Twin Points Water Access to Lake Superior. Follow the Gitchigami State Trail to a sign pointing down an unmaintained path to the beach area. The parking area is located 3.1 miles north of Gooseberry Falls State Park, along State Hwy. 61. The unit can also be accessed from the Gitchi-gami State Bike Trail which runs along the northwest boundary of the SNA. A total of 47 species of birds have been recorded on the SNA. Several water-bird species were recorded on the lake just off the beach area including Common Loon, Horned Grebe, Common Goldeneye, Long-tailed and Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup and Bufflehead. Thirteen species of warblers were recorded in this small area, eight of which are potential breeding species. Rare observations included a Connecticut Warbler and a Bay-breasted Warbler in July 2010, possible early fall migrants. Black-capped Chickadees, Red-eyed Vireos and Red-breasted Nuthatches were common on the site.

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Goose		O		
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Duck	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Scaup	C		C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Long-tailed Duck	O		O	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Bufflehead	C		C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Goldeneye	C		C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Loon	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Horned Grebe	C		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Double-crested Cormorant	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle	U	U	U	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-billed Gull	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Herring Gull	C	C	C	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Downy Woodpecker	C	C	C	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Woodpecker	U	U	U	O
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Flicker	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Olive-sided Flycatcher	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Flycatcher	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-eyed Vireo	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blue Jay	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Crow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Raven	U	U	U	U
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn Swallow	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden-crowned Kinglet	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Veery	U	U		
<input type="checkbox"/> Hermit Thrush	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Robin	C	U	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cedar Waxwing	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee Warbler	U		U	

SNA Bird Checklist	Sp	Su	Fa	Wi
<input type="checkbox"/> Nashville Warbler	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Parula	U		U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Warbler	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped Warbler	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-throated Green Warbler	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blackburnian Warbler	U	U	U	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bay-breasted Warbler	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-and-white Warbler	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Redstart	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ovenbird	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Connecticut Warbler	O		O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Yellowthroat	O	O	O	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> Song Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Sparrow	C	C	C	
<input type="checkbox"/> American Goldfinch	C	C	C	