

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
WRENS					
House Wren	C	C	C		
Winter Wren	U		U		
Sedge Wren	C	C	C		
GNATCATCHERS					
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	U	U	U		
KINGLETS					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	C		C	O	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C		
THRUSHES					
Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C	O	
Veery	O	O	O		
Gray-cheeked Thrush	U		U		
Swainson’s Thrush	U		U		
Hermit Thrush	U		U		
Wood Thrush	U		O		
American Robin	C	C	C	U	
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	C	
FINCHES					
House Finch	C	C	C	C	
Purple Finch	U		U	U	
Pine Siskin	U		U	U	
American Goldfinch	C	C	C	U	
LONGSPURS, SNOW BUNTINGS					
Snow Bunting	U		U	U	
TOWHEES, SPARROWS					
Grasshopper Sparrow	U	U	U		
Lark Sparrow	O	O			
Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C		
Clay-colored Sparrow	U	U	U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Field Sparrow	U	U	U		
Fox Sparrow	C		C		
American Tree Sparrow	C		C	C	
Dark-eyed Junco	C		C	U	
White-crowned Sparrow	U		U		
Harris’s Sparrow	C		C		
White-throated Sparrow	C		C		
Vesper Sparrow	C	C	C		
Savannah Sparrow	C	C	C		
Song Sparrow	C	C	C		
Lincoln’s Sparrow	U		U		
Swamp Sparrow	C	U	C		
Eastern Towhee	C	C	C		
BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES					
Bobolink	C	C	C		
Western Meadowlark	C	C	C	O	
Orchard Oriole	U	U	U		
Baltimore Oriole	C	C	C		
Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C	O	
Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	U	O	
Rusty Blackbird	C		C	O	
Common Grackle	C	C	C	O	
WARBLERS					
Ovenbird	C	U	C		
Northern Waterthrush	U		U		
Golden-winged Warbler	U		U		
Blue-winged Warbler	O	O	O		
Black-and-white Warbler	C		C		
Tennessee Warbler	C		C		
Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U		
Nashville Warbler	C		C		
Connecticut Warbler	O		O		
Mourning Warbler	U		U		
Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C		
American Redstart	C	C	C		
Cerulean Warbler	O	O			
Northern Parula	U		U		
Magnolia Warbler	U		U		


STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Blackburnian Warbler	U		U		
Yellow Warbler	C	C	C		
Chestnut-sided Warbler	C	U	U		
Blackpoll Warbler	U		U		
Palm Warbler	C		C		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C		
Black-throated Green Warbler	U		U		
Canada Warbler	U		U		
Wilson’s Warbler	U		U		
TANAGERS, CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS					
Scarlet Tanager	U	U	U		
Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C		
Indigo Bunting	C	C	C		
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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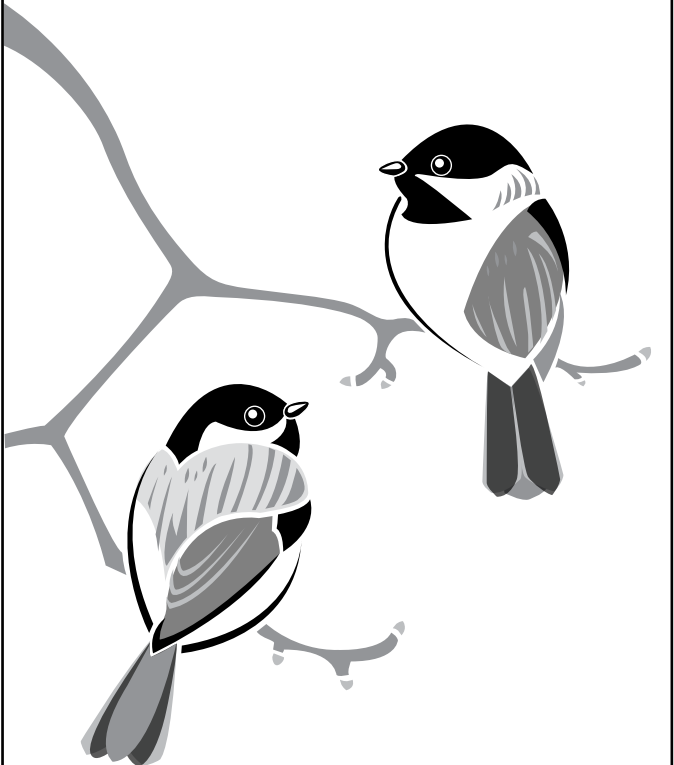
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DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

BIRD CHECKLIST

FORT RIDGELY STATE PARK



Birding at Fort Ridgely State Park

Fort Ridgely State Park is situated on high bluffs overlooking the Minnesota River Valley. This valley is a natural migration corridor for birds and the wooded bluffs attract a wide variety of species. More than 24 species of warblers have been recorded in this 500-acre park along with numerous vireos, flycatchers, thrushes and sparrows. Restored prairie and old fields provide habitat for grassland birds such as bobolinks and grasshopper sparrows.

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		
Wood Duck	C	C	C		
Mallard	C	C	C		
Common Merganser	U		U		
PARTRIDGE, PHEASANTS, GROUSE, TURKEYS					
Gray Partridge	U	U	U	U	
Ring-necked Pheasant	C	C	C	C	
Wild Turkey	U	U	U	U	
PIGEONS, DOVES					
Rock Pigeon	C	C	C	C	
Mourning Dove	C	C	C	U	
CUCKOOS					
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	U	U	O		
Black-billed Cuckoo	U	U	U		
NIGHTJARS					
Common Nighthawk	U	U	U		
SWIFTS					
Chimney Swift	C	C	C		
HUMMINGBIRDS					
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	C	C	C		
PLOVERS					
Killdeer	C	C	C		
SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES					
American Woodcock	U	O	U		
Wilson's Snipe	C	C	C		
Spotted Sandpiper	C	C	C		
Solitary Sandpiper	U	O	U		
GULLS, TERNS					
Franklin's Gull	C	O	C		
Ring-billed Gull	C	C	C		
Forster's Tern	O	O	O		
PELICANS					
American White Pelican	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
BITTERNS, HERONS, EGRETS, NIGHT-HERONS					
Great Blue Heron	C	C	C		
Great Egret	U	U	U		
Green Heron	C	C	C		
NEW WORLD VULTURES					
Turkey Vulture	C	C	C		
OSPREY					
Osprey	U	U	U		
KITES, HAWKS, EAGLES					
Northern Harrier	U	U	U	O	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U		U	O	
Cooper's Hawk	U	U	U	O	
Bald Eagle	C	C	C	O	
Red-shouldered Hawk	U	U	U	O	
Broad-winged Hawk	U	O	U		
Swainson's Hawk	U	O	U		
Red-tailed Hawk	C	C	C	U	
Rough-legged Hawk	U		U	U	
TYPICAL OWLS					
Eastern Screech Owl	U	U	U	U	
Great Horned Owl	U	U	U	U	
Barred Owl	U	U	U	U	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	O		O		
KINGFISHERS					
Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C	O	
WOODPECKERS					
Red-headed Woodpecker	U	U	U	O	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	C	C	C	U	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	C	U	C		
Downy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Hairy Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Northern Flicker	C	C	C	O	
Pileated Woodpecker	U	U	U	U	
FALCONS					
American Kestrel	C	C	C	U	
Peregrine Falcon	O		O		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
FLYCATCHERS					
Great Crested Flycatcher	U	U	U		
Eastern Kingbird	C	C	C		
Olive-sided Flycatcher	U		U		
Eastern Wood-Pewee	C	C	C		
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	U		U		
Alder Flycatcher	U		U		
Least Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C		
SHRIKES					
Northern Shrike	O		O	O	
VIREOS					
Yellow-throated Vireo	U	U	U		
Blue-headed Vireo	U		U		
Philadelphia Vireo	U		U		
Warbling Vireo	C	C	C		
Red-eyed Vireo	C	U	C		
JAYS, MAGPIES, CROWS, RAVENS					
Blue Jay	C	C	C	C	
American Crow	C	C	C	C	
LARKS					
Horned Lark	C	C	C	U	
MARTINS, SWALLOWS					
Bank Swallow	C	C	C		
Tree Swallow	C	C	C		
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	C	C	C		
Purple Martin	U	U	U		
Barn Swallow	C	C	C		
Cliff Swallow	C	C	C		
CHICKADEES, TITMICE					
Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C	
NUTHATCHES					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	U		U	U	
White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	C	
CREEPERS					
Brown Creeper	C		C	U	