

## Birding at Interstate State Park

Though small, this park offers diverse habitat for many bird species. Hike the wooded Sandstone Bluffs Trail to search for thrushes, vireos, warblers, woodpeckers and scarlet tanagers. Look for upland streams and you may even spot a Louisiana waterthrush.

Along the River Trail, watch for warblers, flycatchers, sparrows and soaring birds like turkey vultures, bald eagles and osprey. The tall cliffs near the Glacial Potholes Area offer excellent nesting sites for northern rough-winged swallows.

### 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
<b>GEESE, SWANS, DUCKS</b>					
Snow Goose	O		O		
Canada Goose	C	C	C	O	
Trumpeter Swan	U		U	O	
Tundra Swan	O		O		
Wood Duck	C	C	C		
Blue-winged Teal	U		U		
Northern Shoveler	O		O		
American Wigeon	O		O		
Mallard	C	C	C	O	
Green-winged Teal	O		O		
Ring-necked Duck	O		O		
Lesser Scaup	O		O		
Bufflehead	U		U		
Common Goldeneye	U		U		
Hooded Merganser	U		U		
Common Merganser	U		U		
Red-breasted Merganser	O		O		
<b>PARTRIDGE, PHEASANTS, GROUSE, TURKEYS</b>					
Ruffed Grouse	U	U	U	U	
Wild Turkey	U	U	U	U	
<b>GREBES</b>					
Pied-billed Grebe	O		O		
<b>PIGEONS, DOVES</b>					
Rock Pigeon	C	C	C	C	
Mourning Dove	C	C	C	O	
<b>CUCKOOS</b>					
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	U	U	O		
Black-billed Cuckoo	U	U	U		
<b>NIGHTJARS</b>					
Common Nighthawk	U	U	U		
Eastern Whip-poor-will	O	O			
<b>SWIFTS</b>					
Chimney Swift	C	C	C		
<b>HUMMINGBIRDS</b>					
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	C	O	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS</b>					
Sora	O	O	O		
American Coot	U	U	U		
<b>PLOVERS</b>					
Killdeer	U	U	U		
<b>SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES</b>					
Spotted Sandpiper	U	U	U		
Solitary Sandpiper	O	O	O		
<b>GULLS, TERNS</b>					
Bonaparte's Gull	O		O		
Franklin's Gull			O		
Ring-billed Gull	C		C		
Herring Gull	U		U		
Black Tern	O	O	O		
Common Tern	O				
Forster's Tern	O				
<b>LOONS</b>					
Common Loon	O		O		
<b>CORMORANTS</b>					
Double-crested Cormorant	O		O		
<b>BITTERNS, HERONS, EGRETS, NIGHT-HERONS</b>					
Great Blue Heron	C	C	C		
Great Egret			O		
Green Heron	U	U	U		
<b>NEW WORLD VULTURES</b>					
Turkey Vulture	C	C	C		
<b>OSPREY</b>					
Osprey	U	U	U		
<b>KITES, HAWKS, EAGLES</b>					
Northern Harrier	U	U	U	O	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U		U	O	
Cooper's Hawk	U	U	U	O	
Northern Goshawk	O		O	O	
Bald Eagle	C	C	C	U	
Red-shouldered Hawk	U	U	U	O	
Broad-winged Hawk	U	U	U		
Red-tailed Hawk	U	U	U	O	
Rough-legged Hawk	O		O	O	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>TYPICAL OWLS</b>					
Great Horned Owl	U	U	U	U	
Barred Owl	U	U	U	U	
Northern Saw-whet Owl			O	O	
<b>KINGFISHERS</b>					
Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C		
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>					
Red-headed Woodpecker	O	O	O		
Red-bellied Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	C	O	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	
<b>FALCONS</b>					
American Kestrel	U	U	U	O	
Merlin			O		
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>					
Great Crested Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Eastern Kingbird	O	O	O		
Olive-sided Flycatcher	O		O		
Eastern Wood-pewee	C	C	C		
Alder Flycatcher	O	O	O		
Least Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C		
<b>SHRIKES</b>					
Northern Shrike	O		O	O	
<b>VIREOS</b>					
Yellow-throated Vireo	U	U	U		
Blue-headed Vireo	U		U		
Philadelphia Vireo	O		O		
Warbling Vireo	C	C	C		
Red-eyed Vireo	C	C	C		
<b>JAYS, MAGPIES, CROWS, RAVENS</b>					
Blue Jay	C	C	C	C	
American Crow	C	C	C	C	
Common Raven	O		O	O	

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>LARKS</b>					
Horned Lark	O		O		
<b>MARTINS, SWALLOWS</b>					
Bank Swallow	U	U	U		
Tree Swallow	C	C	C		
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	C	C	C		
Purple Martin	O	O			
Barn Swallow	C	C	C		
Cliff Swallow	U	U	U		
<b>CHICKADEES, TITMICE</b>					
Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C	
Tufted Titmouse	R		R		
<b>NUTHATCHES</b>					
Red-breasted Nuthatch	U		U	U	
White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	C	
<b>CREEPERS</b>					
Brown Creeper	U	O	U	O	
<b>WRENS</b>					
House Wren	C	C	C		
Winter Wren	O	O	O		
Sedge Wren	O	O	O		
Marsh Wren	O	O	O		
<b>GNATCATCHERS</b>					
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	U	U	U		
<b>KINGLETS</b>					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	C		C	O	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C		
<b>THRUSHES</b>					
Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C		
Veery	U	U			
Gray-cheeked Thrush	U		U		
Swainson's Thrush	U		U		
Hermit Thrush	U		U		
Wood Thrush	U	U			
American Robin	C	C	C		
<b>THRASHERS, MOCKINGBIRDS</b>					
Gray Catbird	C	C	C		
Brown Thrasher	U	U	U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>STARLINGS</b>					
European Starling	C	C	C	C	
<b>WAXWINGS</b>					
Cedar Waxwing	C	C	C	U	
<b>OLD WORLD SPARROWS</b>					
House Sparrow	C	C	C	C	
<b>FINCHES</b>					
Evening Grosbeak			O	O	
Pine Grosbeak				O	
House Finch	U	U	U	O	
Purple Finch	C		C	C	
Common Redpoll	O		O	O	
Red Crossbill			O	O	
White-winged Crossbill			O	O	
Pine Siskin	U		U	U	
American Goldfinch	C	C	C	C	
<b>TOWHEES, SPARROWS</b>					
Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C		
Clay-colored Sparrow	O		O		
Field Sparrow	U	U	U		
Fox Sparrow	U		U		
American Tree Sparrow	C		C	C	
Dark-eyed Junco	C		C	C	
White-crowned Sparrow	U		U		
Harris's Sparrow	U		U		
White-throated Sparrow	C		C		
Le Conte's Sparrow			U		
Savannah Sparrow	C	C	C		
Song Sparrow	C	C	C		
Lincoln's Sparrow	U		U		
Swamp Sparrow	U	U	U		
Eastern Towhee	O	O	O		
<b>BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES</b>					
Bobolink	O	O	O		
Eastern Meadowlark	O	O	O		
Western Meadowlark	O	O	O		
Baltimore Oriole	C	C	C		
Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	U		
Rusty Blackbird	O		O		
Brewer's Blackbird	O	O	O		
Common Grackle	U	U	U		
<b>WARBLERS</b>					
Ovenbird	C	C	C		
Louisiana Waterthrush	U	U			
Northern Waterthrush	U		U		
Golden-winged Warbler	U		U		
Blue-winged Warbler	O	O	O		
Black-and-white Warbler	U	O	U		
Tennessee Warbler	C		C		
Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U		
Nashville Warbler	C		C		
Conneticut Warbler	O		O		
Mourning Warbler	U	R	U		
Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C		
American Redstart	C	C	C		
Cerulean Warbler	O	R	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		
Black-throated Blue Warbler	O		O		
Palm Warbler	C		C		
Pine Warbler	C	C	U		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C		
Black-throated Green Warbler	U		U		
Canada Warbler	U		U		
Wilson's Warbler	U		U		
<b>TANAGERS, CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS</b>					
Scarlet Tanager	U	U	U		
Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C		
Indigo Bunting	C	C	C		

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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STATE PARKS AND TRAILS

# BIRD CHECKLIST

## INTERSTATE STATE PARK

