

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>THRUSHES</b>					
Eastern Bluebird	C	C	C		
Veery	U		U		
Swainson's Thrush	U		U		
Hermit Thrush	U		U		
Wood Thrush	O	O	O		
American Robin	C	C	C		

<b>THRASHERS, MOCKINGBIRDS</b>					
Gray Catbird	C	C	C		
Brown Thrasher	U	U	U		

<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>					
House Finch	U	U	U	U	
Purple Finch	U		U	U	
American Goldfinch	C	C	C	U	

<b>LONGSPURS, SNOW BUNTINGS</b>					
Snow Bunting	O		O	O	

<b>TOWHEES, SPARROWS</b>					
Chipping Sparrow	C	C	C		
Clay-colored Sparrow	U		U		
Field Sparrow	C	C	U		
Fox Sparrow	U		U		
American Tree Sparrow	C		C	C	
Dark-eyed Junco	C		C	U	
White-crowned Sparrow	U		U		
Harris's Sparrow	U		U		
White-throated Sparrow	C		C		
Vesper Sparrow	U	U	U		
Henslow's Sparrow	R				
Savannah Sparrow	C	U	C		
Song Sparrow	C	C	C		
Lincoln's Sparrow	U		U		
Swamp Sparrow	C	C	C		

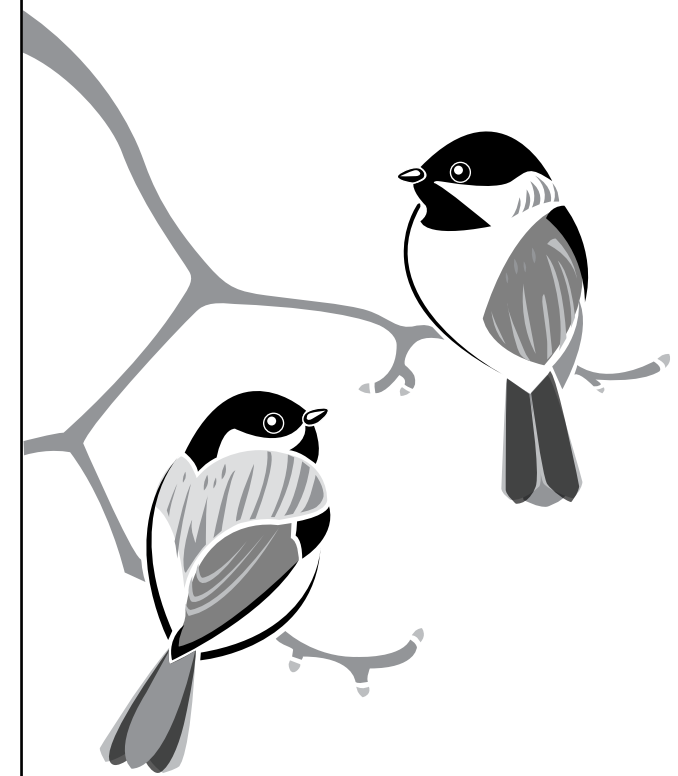
STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES</b>					
Yellow-headed Blackbird	C	C	C		
Bobolink	U	U	U		
Western Meadowlark	U	U	U		
Orchard Oriole	O	O			
Baltimore Oriole	C	C	C		
Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	C		
Brown-headed Cowbird	C	C	U		
Rusty Blackbird	U		U		
Brewer's Blackbird	U		U		
Common Grackle	C	C	C		

<b>WARBLERS</b>					
Ovenbird	C		C		
Northern Waterthrush	O		O		
Black-and-white Warbler	C		C		
Tennessee Warbler	C		C		
Orange-crowned Warbler	U		U		
Nashville Warbler	C		C		
Common Yellowthroat	C	C	C		
American Redstart	C	C	C		
Cape May Warbler	O		O		
Northern Parula	O		O		
Magnolia Warbler	U		U		
Bay-breasted Warbler	U		U		
Blackburnian Warbler	U		U		
Yellow Warbler	C	C	C		
Chestnut-sided Warbler	U		U		
Blackpoll Warbler	U		U		
Palm Warbler	C		C		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C		
Black-throated Green Warbler	U		U		
Canada Warbler	O		O		
Wilson's Warbler	U		U		

<b>TANAGERS, CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS</b>					
Scarlet Tanager	U		U		
Northern Cardinal	C	C	C	C	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	C	C	C		
Indigo Bunting	C	C	C		

# BIRD CHECKLIST

## MONSON LAKE STATE PARK



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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## Birding at Monson Lake State Park

Tucked away in Swift County is a gem of a state park little known to most Minnesotans. Monson Lake State Park contains a variety of habitats that attract birds. A wide variety of waterfowl visit Monson Lake itself, as well as other shallow lakes and marshes within the park. The woodlands surrounding the lake are a haven for migratory warblers, vireos and flycatchers. Twenty-one species of warblers are regularly recorded in this small park during the spring and fall migrations.

### 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>					
Greater White-fronted Goose	O				
Canada Goose	C	C	C		
Trumpeter Swan			O		
Tundra Swan	U		U		
Wood Duck	C	C	C		
Blue-winged Teal	C	C	C		
Northern Shoveler	U		U		
Gadwall	U		U		
American Wigeon	U		U		
Mallard	C	C	C		
American Black Duck	O		O		
Northern Pintail	U		U		
Green-winged Teal	U		U		
Canvasback	U		U		
Redhead	U		U		
Ring-necked Duck	C		C		
Greater Scaup	O		O		
Lesser Scaup	U		U		
Bufflehead	U		U		
Common Goldeneye	U		U		
Hooded Merganser	C	U	C		
Common Merganser	U		U		
Red-breasted Merganser	U		U		
Ruddy Duck	U		U		
<b>PARTRIDGE, PHEASANTS, GROUSE, TURKEYS</b>					
Ring-necked Pheasant	C	C	C	C	
<b>GREBES</b>					
Pied-billed Grebe	C	C	C		
Horned Grebe	O		O		
Red-necked Grebe			O		
Western Grebe			O		
<b>PIGEONS, DOVES</b>					
Rock Pigeon	U	U	U	U	
Mourning Dove	C	C	C	O	
<b>CUCKOOS</b>					
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	O	O	O		
Black-billed Cuckoo	O		O		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>NIGHTJARS</b>					
Eastern Whip-poor-will	O				
<b>SWIFTS</b>					
Chimney Swift	U	U	U		
<b>HUMMINGBIRDS</b>					
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	C	U	C		
<b>RAILS, GALLINULES, COOTS</b>					
Virginia Rail	O	O	O		
American Coot	C	U	C		
<b>PLOVERS</b>					
Killdeer	C	C	C		
<b>SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES</b>					
Pectoral Sandpiper	O				
American Woodcock	O		O		
Wilson's Snipe	C	U	C		
Lesser Yellowlegs	U	U	U		
Greater Yellowlegs	O		O		
<b>GULLS, TERNS</b>					
Bonaparte's Gull	U		U		
Franklin's Gull	C	U	C		
Ring-billed Gull	C	U	C		
Herring Gull	O		O		
Black Tern	U	U	U		
Forster's Tern	O	O	O		
<b>LOONS</b>					
Common Loon	U	O	U		
<b>CORMORANTS</b>					
Double-crested Cormorant	C	C	C		
<b>PELICANS</b>					
American White Pelican	C	U	C		
<b>BITTERNS, HERONS, EGRETS, NIGHT-HERONS</b>					
Least Bittern		O			
Great Blue Heron	C	C	C		
Great Egret	C	U	C		
Green Heron	U	U	U		
<b>NEW WORLD VULTURES</b>					
Turkey Vulture	U		U		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>OSPREY</b>					
Osprey	U		U		
<b>KITES, HAWKS, EAGLES</b>					
Northern Harrier	U		U		
Sharp-shinned Hawk	U		U		
Cooper's Hawk	O				
Bald Eagle	U		U		
Broad-winged Hawk	U		U		
Red-tailed Hawk	C	C	C	U	
Rough-legged Hawk	O		O	O	
<b>TYPICAL OWLS</b>					
Great Horned Owl	U	U	U	U	
Barred Owl	U	U	U	U	
<b>KINGFISHERS</b>					
Belted Kingfisher	C	C	C		
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>					
Red-bellied Woodpecker	C	C	C	C	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	U		U		
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	C	C	C	U	
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>					
Great Crested Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Western Kingbird	O	O			
Eastern Kingbird	C	C	C		
Olive-sided Flycatcher	U		U		
Eastern Wood-Pewee	C	C	C		
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	O		O		
Alder Flycatcher	U		U		
Willow Flycatcher	U		U		
Least Flycatcher	C	C	C		
Eastern Phoebe	C	C	C		

STATE PARK BIRDS	Sp	S	F	W	DATE
<b>VIREOS</b>					
Yellow-throated Vireo	C	C	C		
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	
<b>LARKS</b>					
Horned Lark	C	C	C	O	
<b>MARTINS, SWALLOWS</b>					
Bank Swallow	U	U	U		
Tree Swallow	C	C	C		
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	C	C	C		
Purple Martin	U	U	U		
Barn Swallow	C	C	C		
Cliff Swallow	U	U	U		
<b>CHICKADEES, TITMICE</b>					
Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C	
<b>NUTHATCHES</b>					
White-breasted Nuthatch	C	C	C	C	
<b>CREEPERS</b>					
Brown Creeper	U		U		
<b>WRENS</b>					
House Wren	C	C	C		
Winter Wren	U		U		
Sedge Wren	U	U	U		
Marsh Wren	U	U	U		
<b>GNATCATCHERS</b>					
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	U	U	U		
<b>KINGLETS</b>					
Golden-crowned Kinglet	C		C		
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C		C		