

In 1962, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services initiated its Small Wetlands Program to protect critical waterfowl/wildlife habitat. Since that time, some 165 parcels of land in Becker, Polk, Clay, Mahnomen and Norman Counties, totaling more than 42,000 acres, have been preserved in the Detroit Lakes Wetland Management District (WMD). These areas are known as Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs) and range in size from 40 to nearly 2,000 acres.

The Detroit Lakes WMD lies within the prairie/hardwood transition zone that displays a rich diversity of upland and wetland habitats. Because of the district's location, its bird communities range from the prairie, to the transition, to the forest. With such varied ecosystems, the WPAs in this region offer excellent birding opportunities.

The following list of 289 species has been developed from past and existing records and first-hand knowledge of local and visiting birding enthusiasts. Visiting birders are encouraged to stop in at our office in Detroit Lakes to share their sightings with district staff, and to learn more about specific birding locations. Enjoy your visit. Good birding!

**Legend**

S..... Spring..... March - May  
s..... Summer..... June - July  
F..... Fall..... August - November  
W..... Winter..... December - February

a..... Abundant-Common species that is very numerous  
c..... Common-Certain to be seen or heard in suitable habitat  
u .... Uncommon-Present but not certain to be seen  
o..... Occasional-Seen only a few times during the season  
r..... Rare-Seen at intervals of 2-5 years  
ac... Accidental  
\* ....Denotes species nesting on the District  
(I) .. Denotes species introduced into the area

Common Name	S	s	F	W
<b>Swans, Geese, and Ducks</b>				
Greater White-fronted Goose	r		r	
Snow Goose	o		o	
Ross's Goose	r		r	
Canada Goose*	a	a	a	u
Mute Swan(I)	r	r	r	
Trumpeter Swan	c	c	c	c
Tundra Swan	c		c	
Wood Duck*	a	a	a	
Gadwall*	c	o	c	
American Wigeon	c	r	c	
American Black Duck	o		o	
Mallard*	a	a	a	o
Blue-winged Teal*	a	a	a	
Northern Shoveler*	c	u	c	

Common Name	S	s	F	W
Green-winged Teal*	a	u	a	
Canvasback*	c	c	c	
Redhead*	c	u	c	
Ring-necked Duck*	a	c	a	
Greater Scaup	r		r	
Lesser Scaup*	c	r	c	
White-winged Scoter	o	o	r	o
Black Scoter			r	
Long-tailed Duck				r
Bufflehead	c		c	
Common Goldeneye*	c	u	c	
Hooded Merganser*	c	c	c	
Common Merganser	u		u	
Red-breasted Merganser	u		r	
Ruddy Duck*	c	c	c	

<b>Grouse and Turkeys</b>				
Gray Partridge*(I)	o	o	o	o
Ring-necked Pheasant*(I)	u	u	u	u
Ruffed Grouse*	c	c	c	c
Sharp-tailed Grouse*	o	o	o	o
Greater Prairie-Chicken*	c	c	c	c
Wild Turkey*	u	u	u	u

<b>Loons</b>				
Common Loon*	c	c	c	

<b>Grebes</b>				
Pied-billed Grebe*	c	c	c	
Horned Grebe	o	ac	o	
Red-necked Grebe*	c	c	c	
Eared Grebe	o	ac	o	
Western Grebe*	o	r	o	
Clark's Grebe	ac		ac	

<b>Pelicans</b>				
American White Pelican	u	u	u	

<b>Cormorants</b>				
Double-crested Cormorant*	c	c	c	

<b>Hérons and Bitterns</b>				
American Bittern*	c	c	c	
Least Bittern*	o	o	o	
Great Blue Heron*	c	c	c	
Great Egret*	c	c	o	
Cattle Egret	r	r	r	
Green Heron*	c	c	u	
Black-crowned Night-Heron*	o	r	o	
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	r	r	r	

<b>Vultures</b>				
Turkey Vulture	c	c	c	

Common Name	S	s	F	W
<b>Hawks and Eagles</b>				
Osprey*	c	c	u	
Bald Eagle*	c	c	c	u
Northern Harrier*	c	c	c	
Sharp-shinned Hawk*	u	u	u	r
Cooper's Hawk*	u	u	u	r
Northern Goshawk	r	r	r	o
Red-shouldered Hawk*	o	o	o	
Broad-winged Hawk*	c	c	c	
Swainson's Hawk	r		r	
Red-tailed Hawk*	a	a	a	r
Rough-legged Hawk	u		u	r
Golden Eagle	r		r	r

<b>Falcons</b>				
American Kestrel*	c	c	c	r
Merlin	o	o	o	
Gyr Falcon				ac
Peregrine Falcon	u	u	u	
Prairie Falcon	r		r	

<b>Rails and Coots</b>				
Yellow Rail*	o	o	r	
Virginia Rail*	u	u	u	
Sora*	c	c	c	
Common Moorhen	ac	ac		
American Coot*	a	c	a	

<b>Cranes</b>				
Sandhill Crane*	c	c	c	

<b>Plovers</b>				
Black-bellied Plover	o		o	
American Golden-Plover	o		o	
Semipalmated Plover	o		o	
Piping Plover	ac		ac	
Killdeer*	c	c	c	

<b>Avocet</b>				
American Avocet*	o	o	o	

<b>Sandpipers</b>				
Greater Yellowlegs	c	o	c	
Lesser Yellowlegs	c	o	c	
Solitary Sandpiper	o		o	
Willet	r		r	
Spotted Sandpiper*	c	c	c	
Upland Sandpiper*	u	u	u	
Whimbrel	ac		ac	
Hudsonian Godwit	o		o	
Marbled Godwit*	c	c	c	
Ruddy Turnstone	o		o	
Red Knot	ac		ac	

Common Name	S	s	F	W
Sanderling	o		o	
Semipalmated Sandpiper	o		o	
Least Sandpiper	o	r	o	
White-rumped Sandpiper	r	o		
Baird's Sandpiper	o		o	
Pectoral Sandpiper	o		o	
Dunlin	o		o	
Stilt Sandpiper	o		o	
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	r		r	
Short-billed Dowitcher	o		o	
Long-billed Dowitcher	o		o	
Wilson's Snipe*	c	c	c	
American Woodcock*	u	u	u	
Wilson's Phalarope*	u	o	u	
Red-necked Phalarope	o		o	

<b>Gulls and Terns</b>				
Franklin's Gull	o	r	o	
Bonaparte's Gull	o	r	o	
Ring-billed Gull	c	c	c	
Herring Gull	o	r	o	
Caspian Tern	o	r	o	
Common Tern*	o	r	o	
Forster's Tern*	o	o	o	
Black Tern*	c	c	c	

<b>Pigeons &amp; Doves</b>				
Rock Pigeon*(I)	c	c	c	c
Mourning Dove*	c	c	c	o

<b>Cuckoos</b>				
Black-billed Cuckoo*	o	o	o	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	r	r	r	

<b>Owls</b>				
Eastern Screech-Owl*	r	r	r	r
Great Horned Owl*	c	c	c	c
Snowy Owl			o	
Northern Hawk Owl			r	
Barred Owl*	u	u	u	u
Great Gray Owl*	r	r	r	r
Long-eared Owl*	o	r	o	r
Short-eared Owl*	o	r	o	r
Boreal Owl				ac
Northern Saw-whet Owl	r	r	r	o

<b>Nightjars</b>				
Common Nighthawk*	c	c	c	
Whip-poor-will	r	r	r	

Common Name	S	s	F	W
<b>Swifts</b>				
Chimney Swift*	c	c	c	
Hummingbirds				
Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	c	c	c	

<b>Kingfishers</b>				
Belted Kingfisher*	c	c	c	

<b>Woodpeckers</b>				
Red-headed Woodpecker*	o	o	o	
Red-bellied Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker*	c	c	c	
Downy Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
Hairy Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
American Three-toed Woodpecker	r		r	
Black-backed Woodpecker	r		r	
Northern Flicker*	a	c	a	r
Pileated Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u

<b>Flycatchers</b>				
Olive-sided Flycatcher	o	o	o	
Eastern Wood-Pewee*	c	c	c	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	r		r	
Alder Flycatcher*	u	u	u	
Willow Flycatcher	r	r	r	
Least Flycatcher*	c	c	c	
Eastern Phoebe*	c	c	c	
Say's Phoebe	ac	ac		
Great Crested Flycatcher*	c	c	c	
Western Kingbird*	u	u	u	
Eastern Kingbird*	c	c	c	

<b>Shrikes</b>				
Loggerhead Shrike	o	o	o	
Northern Shrike	o		o	o

<b>Vireos</b>				
White-eyed Vireo	ac	ac		
Yellow-throated Vireo*	u	u	u	u
Blue-headed Vireo	u		u	u
Warbling Vireo*	c	c	c	
Philadelphia Vireo	u		u	
Red-eyed Vireo*	c	a	u	

<b>Crows and Jays</b>				
Gray Jay	r		r	r
Blue Jay*	c	c	c	c
Black-billed Magpie*	c	c	c	c
American Crow*	a	a	a	u
Common Raven	u	o	u	c

<b>Larks</b>				
Horned Lark*	c	u	u	r

Common Name	S	s	F	W
<b>Creepers</b>				
Brown Creeper .....	u	u	u	u
<b>Wrens</b>				
Carolina Wren .....	ac		ac	
House Wren* .....	c	c	c	
Winter Wren* .....	u	u	u	
Sedge Wren* .....	c	c	c	
Marsh Wren* .....	c	c	c	
Rock Wren .....	ac	ac	ac	
<b>Kinglets and Gnatcatchers</b>				
Golden-crowned Kinglet .....	c		c	r
Ruby-crowned Kinglet .....	c		c	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher .....	u	r	u	
<b>Thrushes</b>				
Eastern Bluebird* .....	c	c	c	
Mountain Bluebird .....	r		r	
Townsend's Solitaire .....	r		r	
Veery* .....	c	c	c	
Gray-cheeked Thrush .....	u		u	
Swainson's Thrush .....	u		u	
Hermit Thrush* .....	u	u	u	
Wood Thrush* .....	u	u	u	
American Robin* .....	a	a	a	o
Varied Thrush .....	ac		ac	ac
<b>Thrashers</b>				
Gray Catbird* .....	c	c	c	
Northern Mockingbird .....	ac		ac	
Brown Thrasher* .....	u	u	u	
<b>Starlings</b>				
European Starling*(I) .....	c	c	c	u
<b>Pipits</b>				
American Pipit .....	o		o	
<b>Waxwings</b>				
Bohemian Waxwing .....	o		o	o
Cedar Waxwing* .....	u	u	c	u
<b>Wood Warblers</b>				
Blue-winged Warbler .....	r	ac	r	
Golden-winged Warbler* .....	u	u	u	
Tennessee Warbler .....	c	r	c	
Orange-crowned Warbler .....	c		c	
Nashville Warbler* .....	c	u	c	
Northern Parula* .....	u	o	u	
Yellow Warbler* .....	c	c	c	
Chestnut-sided Warbler* .....	c	u	c	
Magnolia Warbler .....			c	

Common Name	S	s	F	W
Black-throated Blue Warbler.....	r		r	
Yellow-rumped Warbler .....	a	r	a	
Black-throated Green Warbler* .....	u	u	u	
Blackburnian Warbler* .....	u	o	u	
Pine Warbler* .....	c	u	c	
Palm Warbler .....	c		c	
Bay-breasted Warbler .....	u		u	
Blackpoll Warbler .....	c		c	
Cerulean Warbler .....	o	r	r	
Black-and-white Warbler* .....	c	u	c	
American Redstart* .....	c	c	c	
Prothonotary Warbler .....	r		r	
Ovenbird* .....	c	c	c	
Northern Waterthrush .....	u		u	
Connecticut Warbler .....	o	r	o	
Mourning Warbler* .....	u	u	u	
Common Yellowthroat* .....	c	c	c	
Wilson's Warbler .....	u		u	
Canada Warbler .....	u	r	u	
<b>Tanagers</b>				
Scarlet Tanager* .....	u	u	u	
<b>Sparrows</b>				
Spotted Towhee .....	ac		ac	
Eastern Towhee* .....	u	u	u	
American Tree Sparrow .....	c		c	r
Chipping Sparrow* .....	c	c	c	
Clay-colored Sparrow* .....	c	c	c	
Field Sparrow* .....	u	u	u	
Vesper Sparrow* .....	c	c	c	
Lark Sparrow* .....	u	o	o	
Savannah Sparrow* .....	c	c	c	
Grasshopper Sparrow* .....	u	u	u	
Henslow's Sparrow .....	r	r	r	
Le Conte's Sparrow* .....	u	u	u	
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow* .....	o	r	o	
Fox Sparrow .....	c		c	
Song Sparrow* .....	a	a	c	
Lincoln's Sparrow .....	u		u	
Swamp Sparrow* .....	c	c	c	
Harris's Sparrow .....	c		c	
White-crowned Sparrow .....	u		u	
Dark-eyed Junco .....	a	a	u	
Lapland Longspur .....	c	c	r	
Smith's Longspur .....	r		r	
Chestnut-collared Longspur* .....	o	o	o	
Snow Bunting .....	o		o	c
<b>Grosbeaks and Buntings</b>				
Northern Cardinal* .....	r	r	r	r
Rose-breasted Grosbeak* .....	c	c	c	

Common Name	S	s	F	W
Painted Bunting.....	ac	ac		
Dickcissel* .....	o	o	o	
<b>Blackbirds and Orioles</b>				
Bobolink* .....	c	a	c	
Red-winged Blackbird* .....	a	a	a	r
Eastern Meadowlark* .....	o	r	r	
Western Meadowlark* .....	u	u	u	
Yellow-headed Blackbird* .....	a	a	a	
Rusty Blackbird .....	c		c	
Brewer's Blackbird* .....	c	u	c	
Common Grackle* .....	a	a	a	r
Brown-headed Cowbird* .....	c	c	c	
Orchard Oriole* .....	o	o	r	
Baltimore Oriole* .....	c	c	c	
<b>Finches</b>				
Pine Grosbeak .....	o	r	o	o
Purple Finch* .....	c	c	c	c
House Finch* .....	c	c	c	c
Red Crossbill .....	o	o	o	o
White-winged Crossbill .....	o	o	o	o
Common Redpoll .....	c		c	c
Hoary Redpoll .....	r		r	c
Pine Siskin .....	c	o	c	c
American Goldfinch* .....	c	a	c	c
Evening Grosbeak .....	o	r	o	o
<b>Old World Sparrows</b>				
House Sparrow*(I) .....	a	a	a	a

Detroit Lakes Wetland Management District  
26624 North Tower Road  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

Hearing impaired persons may contact  
Detroit Lakes WMD through the Federal Relay  
Number at 1 800/877 8339.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
1 800/344 WILD



**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

# Detroit Lakes

## Wetland Management District Bird List

