

**CHECKLIST OF**  
**THE BIRDS OF**  
**MINNESOTA**

**THE MINNESOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS'  
UNION RECORDS COMMITTEE**

**2009**



CHECKLIST OF  
**THE BIRDS OF  
MINNESOTA**

Compiled and Annotated by  
**THE MINNESOTA ORNITHOLOGISTS'  
UNION RECORDS COMMITTEE**

A Standing Committee of  
The Minnesota Ornithologists' Union

Kim Eckert, Bruce Fall, Anthony Hertzell, Ann Kessen,  
Jim Lind, Bill Marengo, Jim Mattsson, Drew Smith,  
Steve Stucker, and Peder Svingen (Chair)



**The Minnesota Ornithologists' Union**

James Ford Bell Museum of Natural History  
University of Minnesota  
10 Church Street Southeast  
Minneapolis, MN 55455

January 2009

© 2009 The Minnesota Ornithologists' Union  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

# CHECKLIST OF THE BIRDS OF MINNESOTA

## Introduction

The nomenclature, sequence, and taxonomy of this Checklist are in accordance with the seventh edition of the American Ornithologists' Union *Check-list of North American Birds* (1998) and its supplements.

This Checklist includes 435 species of birds officially recorded in Minnesota through 31 December 2008, and the symbol annotating each species on the list represents its status in the state:

<b>R</b>	=	<b>Regular</b>	(314 species)
<b>C</b>	=	<b>Casual</b>	(42 species)
<b>A</b>	=	<b>Accidental</b>	(76 species)
<b>E</b>	=	<b>Extirpated</b>	(2 species)
<b>X</b>	=	<b>Extinct</b>	(1 species)

### Definition of Status Terms Used for Species on the Checklist

**Regular** species are those for which there are Accepted records in ten or nine years out of the past ten years.

**Casual** species are those for which there are Accepted records in eight, seven, six, five, four, or three years out of the past ten years.

**Accidental** species are those for which there are Accepted records in two, one, or no years out of the past ten years.

**Extirpated** species are those that formerly occurred regularly in the state but disappeared and are not expected to recur.

**Extinct** species are those that formerly occurred in the state but no longer occur anywhere in the world.

**Exceptions:** By majority vote, the Committee may consider and designate the status of a species on an individual basis if it is felt that the number of years in which it has been recorded does not accurately reflect that species' current status. The Committee recognizes that certain species may be difficult to detect for a variety of reasons and that individual birds may return to the same location in one or more subsequent years. (For example, the Lazuli Bunting has been recorded in nine of the past ten years, normally a number reflecting Regular status, but a majority of the Committee feels that this species is more accurately classified as Casual.)

## Other Definitions and Annotations

A record is considered **Accepted** if voted on and accepted by the Committee. A record may be either an identifiable and preserved specimen, photograph, video or audio recording, or a written report.

The **ten-year base period** on which the status of each species on this Checklist is determined is from 1999 through 2008. (The intention is to update the Checklist at five-year intervals, so that the next scheduled ten-year base period will be from 2004 through 2013.)

The **subscript “S”** (e.g., A<sub>S</sub>) indicates a species for which there is no identifiable and preserved specimen, photograph, video or audio recording, or other physical evidence obtained in the state, but for which there is at least one sighting documented in writing that has been voted on and accepted unanimously by the Committee. Currently there are 5 such species: 4 Accidentals, and 1 Extirpated.

The **subscript “O”** (e.g., A<sub>O</sub>) indicates a species for which there is reasonable uncertainty as to its origin and wildness, or uncertainty as to its natural occurrence or arrival in the state. (This does not include those birds which are known or considered to be of captive origin, or those which are known or considered not to have arrived in the state under their own power; such species are excluded from the Checklist.) Currently there are 4 such Accidental species.

An **asterisk (\*)** indicates a species for which there is at least one confirmed breeding record for the state. Currently there are 266 such species: 249 Regulars, 8 Casuals, 7 Accidentals, 1 Extirpated, and 1 Extinct.

**Breeding** is defined as the laying of eggs in a context that indicates an effort to produce young. A breeding record is considered confirmed if any one of the following criteria is documented: nest with egg or eggshells; young in nest seen or heard; young unable to sustain flight seen away from nest; precocial young not yet full-sized. The following superscripts may be used to qualify confirmed breeding (e.g., <sup>I</sup> or <sup>H</sup>):

I = one or both breeding individuals were injured.

H = one of the breeding individuals was, or may have been, a different species.

Brief **annotations** are included for all species, though these are only intended to be basic guidelines as to status and expected occurrence. Ranges within the state are noted but are generalized (e.g., “northeast”). The last date of occurrence is given for Casual and Accidental species. Subscripts, superscripts, and asterisks may be applied to any species regardless of its status.

Included with the annotations, the **conservation status** at the state level as defined and designated by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, is also noted:

- A species is designated **Endangered** if it is threatened with extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range within Minnesota.
- A species is designated **Threatened** if it is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range within Minnesota.
- A species is designated **Special Concern** if, although not Endangered or Threatened, it is extremely uncommon in Minnesota, or has unique or highly specific habitat requirements and deserves careful monitoring of its status. Species on the periphery of their range that are not listed as threatened may be included in this category along with those species that were once Threatened or Endangered but now have increasing or protected, stable populations.

Where applicable, federal conservation status is also indicated as defined and designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

## Order Anseriformes

### Family Anatidae: Whistling-Ducks, Geese, Swans, and Ducks

- Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) C  
 Nine records: 1 spring, 1 spring–summer, and 7 fall; 7 of these records involved birds of uncertain origin. Recorded in 4 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.
- Fulvous Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna bicolor*) A<sub>O</sub>  
 One spring (1929) and 1 fall (1950) record; both records involved birds of uncertain origin.
- Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) R  
 Migrant mostly south and west.
- Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) R  
 Migrant throughout, but rare north-central. Increasing.
- Ross's Goose (*Chen rossii*) R  
 Migrant mostly south and west. Increasing.
- Brant (*Branta bernicla*) C  
 Sixteen records: 6 spring, 1 summer, 8 fall, and 1 fall–winter. Recorded in 3 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008. Formerly Accidental.
- Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) R  
 Migrant throughout.
- \* Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) R  
 Breeds throughout. Locally overwinters.
- \* Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) R  
 Introduced in North America. Rare at any season; some records likely involve birds of captive origin. One breeding record (1988).
- \* Trumpeter Swan (*Cygnus buccinator*) R  
 Reintroduced in Minnesota; summer resident; winters locally. Former summer resident (pre-1900). Increasing. State designation: Threatened.
- \*<sup>1</sup> Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) R  
 Migrant throughout but rare southwest. Two breeding records (1932, 1956) both involving an injured bird.
- \* Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*) R  
 Breeds throughout.
- \* Gadwall (*Anas strepera*) R  
 Breeds mostly west and central. Migrant throughout.
- Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) C  
 Twenty-nine records: 21 spring, 4 summer, and 4 fall. Recorded in 3 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008.
- \* American Wigeon (*Anas americana*) R  
 Breeds mostly north. Migrant throughout.
- \* American Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*) R  
 Breeds north-central and northeast. Migrant throughout but rare southwest. Winter visitant mainly south.
- \* Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) R  
 Breeds throughout. Locally overwinters.
- \* Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) R  
 Breeds throughout.
- Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera*) R  
 Rare summer visitant and migrant, mostly in spring. Formerly Casual.
- \* Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) R  
 Breeds mostly south and west. Migrant throughout.
- \* Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) R  
 Breeds mostly south and west. Migrant throughout.
- Garganey (*Anas querquedula*) A  
 Two spring records (1987, 1993).
- \* Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*) R  
 Rarely breeds, mostly northwest. Migrant throughout.
- \* Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*) R  
 Breeds mostly west and central. Migrant throughout but rare northeast.

- \* Redhead (*Aythya americana*) R  
Breeds mostly west and central. Migrant throughout.
- \* Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*) R  
Breeds throughout except far south. Migrant throughout.
- Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*) R  
Migrant throughout.
- \* Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) R  
Breeds northwest. Migrant throughout.
- King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*) C  
Seventeen records: 12 fall, 3 winter, and 2 spring; all but 5 from Lake Superior. Three additional records of *Somateria* sp. Recorded in 4 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.
- Common Eider (*Somateria collaris*) A  
Four fall records. Last recorded 1966.
- Harlequin Duck (*Histrionicus histrionicus*) R  
Rare migrant and winter visitant primarily on Lake Superior.
- Surf Scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*) R  
Migrant primarily on Lake Superior, rare elsewhere.
- White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*) R  
Migrant primarily on Lake Superior, rare elsewhere.
- Black Scoter (*Melanitta nigra*) R  
Migrant primarily on Lake Superior, rare elsewhere.
- Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*) R  
Migrant and winter visitant throughout, primarily on Lake Superior.
- \* Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*) R  
Rarely breeds, mostly northwest. Migrant throughout.
- \* Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) R  
Breeds north. Migrant throughout, and locally overwinters.
- Barrow's Goldeneye (*Bucephala islandica*) C  
Seventy-four records, from fall through spring. Recorded in 7 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008.
- Smew (*Mergellus albellus*) A<sub>O</sub>  
One spring record (1999). Two Not Accepted records involved birds of presumed captive origin.
- \* Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) R  
Breeds throughout except the far southwest. Migrant throughout.
- \* Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*) R  
Breeds north-central and northeast. Migrant throughout, and locally overwinters.
- \* Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*) R  
Breeds northeast. Migrant throughout, and locally overwinters.
- \* Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*) R  
Breeds mostly west and central. Migrant throughout but rare north-central and northeast.

## Order Galliformes

### Family Phasianidae: Partridges, Grouse, Turkeys, and Allies

- \* Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) R  
Introduced in North America. Permanent resident south and west.
- \* Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) R  
Introduced in North America. Permanent resident south and central.
- \* Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*) R  
Permanent resident north and east.
- \* Spruce Grouse (*Falcipennis canadensis*) R  
Permanent resident far north.
- Willow Ptarmigan (*Lagopus lagopus*) A  
Winter invasion 1933–1934 (200+ individuals), plus single records 1914, 1964.
- Rock Ptarmigan (*Lagopus muta*) A  
One spring record (1996).

- \* Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) R  
Permanent resident north. Declining.
- \* Greater Prairie-Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*) R  
Permanent resident west-central. Re-introductions ongoing west. State designation: Special Concern.
- \* Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) R  
Introduced in Minnesota. Permanent resident south; range expanding northward.

### Family Odontophoridae: New World Quail

- \* Northern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*) E  
Former permanent resident. All recent observations are likely of released or escaped birds.

## Order Gaviiformes

### Family Gaviidae: Loons

- Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*) R  
Rare migrant, primarily on Lake Superior in spring.
- Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) R  
Rare migrant, primarily on Lake Superior in fall.
- \* Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) R  
Breeds north and central, migrant throughout.
- Yellow-billed Loon (*Gavia adamsii*) A  
Six records: 5 fall and 1 winter. Recorded in 2 of the last 10 years, most recently 2005.

## Order Podicipediformes

### Family Podicipedidae: Grebes

- \* Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*) R  
Formerly nested northwest. Declining. Migrant throughout. State designation: Threatened.
- \* Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*) R  
Breeds north and central. Migrant throughout.
- \* Eared Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) R  
Breeds west. Migrant throughout.
- \* Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) R  
Breeds west. Migrant throughout.
- \*<sup>H</sup> Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*) R  
Rare migrant, mostly west. A few breeding records, all possibly involving hybrid pairings with Western Grebe (*A. occidentalis*).

## Order Pelecaniformes

### Family Pelecanidae: Pelicans

- \* American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) R  
Breeds locally mostly west. Migrant throughout. State designation: Special Concern.
- Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) A  
One summer record (2005).

### Family Phalacrocoracidae: Cormorants

- Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) C  
Four records: 1 spring, 1 summer–fall, 2 fall. Recorded in 3 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007. Formerly Accidental.
- \* Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) R  
Breeds throughout.

### Family Fregatidae: Frigatebirds

- Magnificent Frigatebird (*Fregata magnificens*) A  
One fall record (2007). Three fall records of *Fregata* sp.

## Order Ciconiiformes

### Family Ardeidae: Bitterns, Herons, Egrets, and Allies

- \* American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) R  
Breeds mostly north and central. Migrant throughout. Declining.
- \* Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*) R  
Breeds throughout except northeast and portions of southeast.
- \* Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) R  
Breeds throughout except southwest. Migrant throughout.
- \* Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) R  
Breeds mostly south and west.
- \* Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) R  
Rare migrant mostly south and west. Three breeding records.
- \* Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*) R  
Rare migrant mostly south. No breeding records since 1981.
- Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*) C  
Fifteen records: 8 spring, 1 spring–summer, 5 summer, and 1 summer–fall. Recorded in 3 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.
- \* Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) R  
Rare migrant mostly south and west. Rarely breeds.
- \* Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*) R  
Breeds south and central.
- \* Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) R  
Breeds locally south and west.
- \* Yellow-crowned Night-Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) R  
Rare migrant south and summer resident mostly southeast. Last breeding record 1984. Declining.

### Family Threskiornithidae: Ibises

- White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) A  
One spring record (1995).
- Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) A  
Three spring records. Recorded in 2 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.
- \* White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*) R  
Rare migrant mostly west and south; increasing. Two old breeding records (1894, 1895). Formerly Casual.

### Family Ciconiidae: Storks

- Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*) A  
One summer record (2004). Federal designation: Endangered.

## Order Falconiformes

### Family Cathartidae: New World Vultures

- Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) C  
Four records: 3 spring, 1 fall. Recorded in 4 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007. Formerly Accidental.
- \* Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) R  
Breeds north and east. Migrant throughout.

### Family Accipitridae: Osprey, Kites, Eagles, Hawks, and Allies

- \* Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) R  
Breeds north and east, reintroduced in Twin Cities. Migrant throughout.
- \* Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) C  
Former summer resident. Eighteen records since 1900: 7 spring, 3 summer, 6 fall, 1 spring–fall, and 1 undated. Recorded in 5 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008. Formerly Accidental.
- White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) A  
Two spring records (2000, 2008).

- Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) C  
 Twenty-nine records: 11 spring, 2 summer, and 16 fall. Recorded in 5 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008.
- \* Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) R  
 Breeds mostly north and east. Migrant and winter visitant throughout. State designation: Special Concern.
- \* Northern Harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) R  
 Breeds mostly throughout except southeast. Migrant throughout.
- \* Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*) R  
 Breeds north. Migrant and winter visitant throughout.
- \* Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*) R  
 Breeds throughout except far north-central and northeast.
- \* Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) R  
 Breeds north-central and northeast. Irruptive migrant and winter visitant throughout. Declining.
- \* Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) R  
 Breeds mostly south and east. State designation: Special Concern.
- \* Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*) R  
 Breeds north and east. Migrant throughout.
- \* Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) R  
 Breeds south and west. Migrant mostly south and west.
- \* Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) R  
 Breeds throughout. Winter visitant mostly south and central.
- Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*) C  
 Rare migrant mostly west. Declining. Recorded in 9 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008. Formerly Regular.
- Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*) R  
 Migrant and winter visitant throughout.
- Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) R  
 Rare migrant and winter visitant throughout.

### Family Falconidae: Caracaras and Falcons

- Crested Caracara (*Caracara cheriway*) A<sub>OS</sub>  
 One summer record (1994).
- \* American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) R  
 Breeds throughout. Winter visitant mostly south.
- \* Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) R  
 Breeds mostly north. Migrant and winter visitant throughout.
- Gyr Falcon (*Falco rusticolus*) C  
 Rare migrant and winter visitant, mostly north. Recorded in 8 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008.
- \* Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) R  
 Reintroduced. Breeds east. Migrant throughout. State designation: Threatened.
- Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*) R  
 Rare migrant mostly west.

## Order Gruiformes

### Family Rallidae: Rails, Gallinules, and Coots

- \* Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*) R  
 Breeds northwest and north-central. Rare migrant throughout. State designation: Special Concern.
- Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) A  
 Seven records: 4 spring, 1 summer, and 2 fall. Last recorded 1979.
- \* King Rail (*Rallus elegans*) A  
 Former summer resident south. Last recorded 1992. State designation: Endangered.
- \* Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*) R  
 Breeds throughout.

- \* Sora (*Porzana carolina*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinica*) A  
Three records: 1 summer and 2 fall. Last recorded 1970.
- \* Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) R  
Breeds south. Declining. State designation: Special Concern.
- \* American Coot (*Fulica americana*) R  
Breeds throughout except far northeast.

### Family Gruidae: Cranes

- \* Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis*) R  
Breeds north and east. Migrant throughout.
- \* Whooping Crane (*Grus americana*) A  
Former summer resident west. Eight records since 1900: 3 spring, 4 fall, and 1 undated. One record (2007) in the last 10 years. Federal designation: Endangered.

## Order Charadriiformes

### Family Charadriidae: Plovers

- Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*) R  
Migrant throughout.
- American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*) R  
Migrant throughout.
- \* Snowy Plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*) C  
Ten records: 4 spring, 5 summer, and 1 fall. One nesting record (2006). Recorded in 3 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007. Formerly Accidental.
- Wilson's Plover (*Charadrius wilsonia*) A  
Two records: one spring (1981) and one summer (1982).
- Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) R  
Migrant throughout.
- \* Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) R  
Breeds locally north-central. Rare migrant throughout. State designation: Endangered. Federal designations: Great Lakes population, Endangered; Northern Great Plains population, Threatened.
- \* Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*) R  
Breeds throughout.

### Family Recurvirostridae: Stilts and Avocets

- Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) C  
Fifteen records: 12 spring and 3 summer. Recorded in 7 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008. Formerly Accidental.
- \* American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) R  
Rare breeder west. Migrant mostly west and south.

### Family Scolopacidae: Sandpipers, Phalaropes, and Allies

- \* Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*) R  
Migrant throughout. Two breeding records (1973, 1982).
- Greater Yellowlegs (*Tringa melanoleuca*) R  
Migrant throughout.
- \* Willet (*Tringa semipalmata*) R  
Former summer resident south and west. Migrant throughout.
- Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*) R  
Migrant throughout.
- \* Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) R  
Breeds throughout except far northeast and north-central. Declining.
- Eskimo Curlew (*Numenius borealis*) E<sub>s</sub>  
Former spring migrant west. Last recorded 1886. Federal designation: Endangered.

Whimbrel ( <i>Numenius phaeopus</i> )	R
Rare migrant on Lake Superior. Accidental elsewhere.	
* Long-billed Curlew ( <i>Numenius americanus</i> )	C
Former summer resident. Twenty-five records since 1900: 18 spring, 3 summer, and 4 fall. Recorded in 4 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008. Formerly Accidental.	
Hudsonian Godwit ( <i>Limosa haemastica</i> )	R
Migrant mostly west, primarily in spring.	
* Marbled Godwit ( <i>Limosa fedoa</i> )	R
Breeds northwest and west-central. Migrant mostly west. State designation: Special Concern.	
Ruddy Turnstone ( <i>Arenaria interpres</i> )	R
Migrant throughout.	
Red Knot ( <i>Calidris canutus</i> )	R
Rare migrant throughout. Declining.	
Sanderling ( <i>Calidris alba</i> )	R
Migrant throughout.	
Semipalmated Sandpiper ( <i>Calidris pusilla</i> )	R
Migrant throughout.	
Western Sandpiper ( <i>Calidris mauri</i> )	C
Six documented records: 2 spring, 1 summer, and 3 fall. Prior to 1990, assumed to be Regular with numerous undocumented reports. Recorded in 3 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007. Formerly Accidental.	
Least Sandpiper ( <i>Calidris minutilla</i> )	R
Migrant throughout.	
White-rumped Sandpiper ( <i>Calidris fuscicollis</i> )	R
Migrant throughout.	
Baird's Sandpiper ( <i>Calidris bairdii</i> )	R
Migrant throughout.	
Pectoral Sandpiper ( <i>Calidris melanotos</i> )	R
Migrant throughout.	
Purple Sandpiper ( <i>Calidris maritima</i> )	A
Five records: 4 fall and 1 winter. One record (2006) in the last 10 years.	
Dunlin ( <i>Calidris alpina</i> )	R
Migrant throughout.	
Curlew Sandpiper ( <i>Calidris ferruginea</i> )	A
Three spring records. Recorded in 2 of the last 10 years, most recently 2006.	
Stilt Sandpiper ( <i>Calidris himantopus</i> )	R
Migrant throughout.	
Buff-breasted Sandpiper ( <i>Tryngites subruficollis</i> )	R
Rare fall migrant throughout.	
Ruff ( <i>Philomachus pugnax</i> )	C
Forty-three records: 24 spring, 9 summer, and 10 fall. Recorded in 6 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.	
Short-billed Dowitcher ( <i>Limnodromus griseus</i> )	R
Migrant throughout.	
Long-billed Dowitcher ( <i>Limnodromus scolopaceus</i> )	R
Migrant throughout, mostly south and west.	
* Wilson's Snipe ( <i>Gallinago delicata</i> )	R
Breeds throughout except far south. Migrant throughout.	
* American Woodcock ( <i>Scolopax minor</i> )	R
Breeds throughout except far south and west. Migrant throughout.	
* Wilson's Phalarope ( <i>Phalaropus tricolor</i> )	R
Breeds locally west and central. Migrant throughout. State designation: Threatened.	
Red-necked Phalarope ( <i>Phalaropus lobatus</i> )	R
Migrant throughout, mostly south and west.	
Red Phalarope ( <i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i> )	C
Sixteen records: 3 spring and 13 fall. Recorded in 6 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008.	

## Family Laridae: Gulls and Terns

- Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) C  
 Thirty-four records: 3 spring, 1 summer, 22 fall, and 8 winter. Recorded in 5 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.
- Ivory Gull (*Pagophila eburnea*) A  
 Eleven records: 1 spring and 10 winter. One record (2008) in the last 10 years.
- Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*) C  
 Fifty-four records: 1 spring, 1 summer, and 52 fall. Recorded in 8 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008.
- Bonaparte's Gull (*Chroicocephalus philadelphia*) R  
 Migrant throughout.
- Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*) C  
 Fourteen records, all from Jackson County: 3 spring, 1 spring–summer, 1 summer–fall, and 9 fall. Recorded in 8 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.
- \* Little Gull (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*) R  
 Rare migrant, mostly at Duluth in spring. One breeding record (1986).
- Ross's Gull (*Rhodostethia rosea*) A  
 Three records: 2 spring and 1 winter. One record (2007) in the last 10 years.
- Laughing Gull (*Leucophaeus atricilla*) A  
 Twelve records: 5 spring, 2 summer, and 5 fall. Last recorded 1997. Formerly Casual.
- \* Franklin's Gull (*Leucophaeus pipixcan*) R  
 Breeds locally west. Migrant throughout. State designation: Special Concern.
- Mew Gull (*Larus canus*) A  
 Three records: 2 fall and 1 winter. Last recorded 1998.
- \* Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*) R  
 Breeds locally. Migrant throughout.
- California Gull (*Larus californicus*) C  
 Thirty-five records: 17 spring, 4 summer, 13 fall, and 1 fall–winter. Recorded in 8 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.
- \* Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) R  
 Breeds north-central and northeast. Migrant throughout.
- Thayer's Gull (*Larus thayeri*) R  
 Rare migrant and winter visitant, primarily on Lake Superior and in Twin Cities.
- Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucooides*) R  
 Rare migrant and winter visitant on Lake Superior and in Twin Cities.
- Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) R  
 Rare migrant, primarily on Lake Superior and in Twin Cities.
- Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*) A  
 Four records: 1 summer–fall, 2 winter, and 1 winter–spring. Recorded in 3 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008.
- Glaucous-winged Gull (*Larus glaucescens*) A  
 Three records: 2 fall–winter and 1 winter. Last recorded 1997.
- Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) R  
 Rare migrant and winter visitant, primarily on Lake Superior and in Twin Cities.
- Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) R  
 Rare migrant and winter visitant, mostly on Lake Superior.
- Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) C  
 Twenty-one records: 4 spring, 11 summer, and 6 fall. Recorded in 3 of the last 10 years, most recently 2006. Federal status: Endangered.
- \* Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*) R  
 Migrant throughout. Four breeding records.
- \* Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*) R  
 Breeds throughout except far northeast. Migrant throughout.
- \* Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*) R  
 Breeds locally north. Migrant throughout. Declining. State designation: Threatened.
- Arctic Tern (*Sterna paradisaea*) C  
 Twenty-three records, mostly from Duluth: 8 spring, 3 spring–summer, 6 summer, and 6 fall. Recorded in 7 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.

- \* Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*) R  
Breeds mostly west. Migrant throughout. State designation: Special Concern.
- Sandwich Tern (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*) A  
One summer record (1986).
- Elegant Tern (*Thalasseus elegans*) A  
One summer record (2007).

### Family Stercorariidae: Jaegers

- Pomarine Jaeger (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) C  
Seventeen records: 1 spring and 16 fall. Recorded in 5 of the last 10 years, most recently 2006.
- Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) R  
Rare migrant mostly on Lake Superior, primarily in fall.
- Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) A  
Nine records: 1 spring, 1 summer, and 7 fall. Recorded in 2 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.

### Family Alcidae: Auks

- Dovekie (*Alle alle*) A  
Two fall records (1931, 1962).
- Long-billed Murrelet (*Brachyramphus perdix*) A  
One fall record (2008).
- Ancient Murrelet (*Synthliboramphus antiquus*) A  
Seven records: 6 fall and 1 winter. One record (1999) in the last 10 years.

## Order Columbiformes

### Family Columbidae: Pigeons and Doves

- \* Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) R  
Introduced in North America. Permanent resident throughout.
- Band-tailed Pigeon (*Patagioenas fasciata*) A  
Nine records: 3 summer, 5 fall, and 1 fall-spring. Recorded in 2 of the last 10 years, most recently 2003. Formerly Casual.
- \* Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) R  
Introduced in North America. An increasing permanent resident, mainly south and west. First northeast records in 2008.
- White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) C  
Fifteen records, 6 spring, 5 summer, and 4 fall. Recorded in 6 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008. Formerly Accidental.
- \* Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) R  
Breeds throughout, winter visitant mostly south.
- \* Passenger Pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*) X  
Extinct. Former migrant and summer resident; last specimen record 1895.
- Inca Dove (*Columbina inca*) A  
One fall record (2007).
- Common Ground-Dove (*Columbina passerina*) A  
Three fall records. Recorded in 2 of the last 10 years, most recently 2005.

## Order Cuculiformes

### Family Cuculidae: Cuckoos and Anis

- \* Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) R  
Breeds throughout, mostly south and west, but absent in the far north-central and northeast.
- \* Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- Groove-billed Ani (*Crotophaga sulcirostris*) A  
Eight records: 1 summer and 7 fall. Two additional records of *Crotophaga* sp. Last recorded 1995.

## Order Strigiformes

### Family Tytonidae: Barn Owls

- \* Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) A  
Formerly nested south and east-central. One record (2006) in the last 10 years.

### Family Strigidae: Typical Owls

- \* Eastern Screech-Owl (*Megascops asio*) R  
Permanent resident throughout, but rare northwest and absent north-central and northeast.
- \* Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) R  
Permanent resident throughout.
- Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiacus*) R  
Irruptive winter visitant mostly north.
- \* Northern Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula*) R  
Irruptive winter visitant mostly north; rarely breeds.
- \* Burrowing Owl (*Athene cucularia*) C  
Formerly summer resident southwest and west-central. Recorded in 7 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008. State designation: Endangered.
- \* Barred Owl (*Strix varia*) R  
Permanent resident throughout, but absent southwest.
- \* Great Gray Owl (*Strix nebulosa*) R  
Permanent resident north-central and northeast; irruptive in winter mostly north.
- \* Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*) R  
Breeds throughout but absent southwest; winter visitant throughout but rare north.
- \* Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) R  
Breeds northwest, rare migrant throughout. State designation: Special Concern.
- \* Boreal Owl (*Aegolius funereus*) R  
Permanent resident northeast; irruptive in winter mostly north. Declining.
- \* Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) R  
Permanent resident north-central and northeast, rare breeder southeast, rare migrant and winter visitant throughout.

## Order Caprimulgiformes

### Family Caprimulgidae: Nighthawks and Nightjars

- \* Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) R  
Breeds throughout. Declining.
- Common Poorwill (*Phalaenoptilus nuttallii*) A  
One spring record (1963).
- Chuck-will's-widow (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*) A  
Five summer records: four from the same locality in successive years (1981–1984).  
Last recorded 1984.
- \* Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus vociferus*) R  
Breeds locally southeast, central, and north; migrant throughout. Declining.

## Order Apodiformes

### Family Apodidae: Swifts

- \* Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- White-throated Swift (*Aeronautes saxatalis*) A  
One spring record (2000).

### Family Trochilidae: Hummingbirds

- Green Violetear (*Colibri thalassinus*) A  
Two summer records (2004, 2005).
- Magnificent Hummingbird (*Eugenes fulgens*) A  
Three summer records. Last recorded 1994.
- \* Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*) R  
Breeds throughout.

- Anna's Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*) A  
Four records: 2 fall, 1 fall–winter, and 1 winter. Recorded in 2 of the last 10 years, most recently 2006.
- Costa's Hummingbird (*Calypte costae*) A  
One fall record (2003).
- Calliope Hummingbird (*Stellula calliope*) A  
One fall–winter record (1994).
- Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*) A  
Twelve records: 4 summer, 1 summer–fall, and 7 fall. Three additional records of *Selasphorus* sp. Last recorded 1999.

## Order Coraciiformes

### Family Alcedinidae: Kingfishers

- \* Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*) R  
Breeds throughout.

## Order Piciformes

### Family Picidae: Woodpeckers

- Lewis's Woodpecker (*Melanerpes lewis*) A  
Three records: 2 spring and 1 winter–spring. Last recorded 1994.
- \* Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) R  
Breeds throughout but absent northeast. Declining.
- \* Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) R  
Breeds south and central. Range expanding northward.
- Williamson's Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus thyroideus*) A  
Three records: 2 spring and 1 fall. Last recorded 1999.
- \* Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) R  
Breeds throughout but absent far southwest.
- \* Downy Woodpecker (*Picoides pubescens*) R  
Permanent resident throughout.
- \* Hairy Woodpecker (*Picoides villosus*) R  
Permanent resident throughout.
- \* American Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides dorsalis*) R  
Rare permanent resident north-central and northeast.
- \* Black-backed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*) R  
Permanent resident north-central and northeast; irruptive winter visitant.
- \* Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) R  
Permanent resident throughout but absent southwest.

## Order Passeriformes

### Family Tyrannidae: Tyrant Flycatchers

- \* Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) R  
Breeds northeast and north-central. Migrant throughout.
- \*<sup>H</sup> Western Wood-Pewee (*Contopus sordidulus*) A  
Eight records: 3 summer and 3 fall, plus 2 breeding records involving unidentified wood-pewee (1977, 2007). One record (2007) in the last 10 years.
- \* Eastern Wood-Pewee (*Contopus virens*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) R  
Breeds northeast and north-central. Migrant throughout.
- \* Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*) R  
Breeds southeast. State designation: Special Concern.
- \* Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax alnorum*) R  
Breeds north and central. Migrant throughout.
- \* Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) R  
Breeds south and west.

- \* Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*) C  
Thirty records: 15 spring, 3 spring–summer, 1 summer, and 11 fall. Recorded in 7 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008.
- Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) A  
Three fall records. Last recorded 1994.
- Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) A  
Two fall records (1990, 2000).
- \* Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) R  
Breeds west and east-central. Rare migrant elsewhere.
- \* Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) C  
Seventy-six records: 30 spring, 27 summer, 18 fall, and 1 undated. One breeding attempt (1997), a mixed-pair effort involving Western Kingbird (*T. verticalis*). Recorded in 8 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.
- Fork-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus savana*) A  
Two records: 1 spring (1992) and 1 fall (1991).

### Family Laniidae: Shrikes

- \* Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) R  
Breeds locally west and south. Declining. State designation: Threatened.
- Northern Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*) R  
Winter visitant throughout.

### Family Vireonidae: Vireos

- \* White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*) R  
Rare migrant, mostly south. Two breeding records (1991, 2001). Formerly Casual.
- \* Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii*) R  
Breeds locally southeast and south-central.
- \* Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*) R  
Breeds throughout except southwest and northeast; migrant throughout.
- \* Blue-headed Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*) R  
Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.
- \* Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphicus*) R  
Rare breeder northeast, migrant throughout.
- \* Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) R  
Breeds throughout.

### Family Corvidae: Jays, Magpies, and Crows

- \* Gray Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*) R  
Permanent resident north-central and northeast.
- \* Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*) R  
Permanent resident throughout.
- Clark's Nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*) A  
Nineteen records: 13 fall, 5 winter and 1 fall–spring. One record (2004) in the last 10 years.
- \* Black-billed Magpie (*Pica hudsonia*) R  
Permanent resident northwest, local north-central and northeast.
- \* American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) R  
Permanent resident throughout.

- \* Common Raven (*Corvus corax*) R  
Permanent resident mostly north-central and northeast.

### Family Alaudidae: Larks

- \* Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*) R  
Breeds throughout, overwinters south and west. Declining.

### Family Hirundinidae: Swallows

- \* Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Tree Swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- Violet-green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina*) A<sub>S</sub>  
Two records: 1 summer (1990) and 1 fall (1942).
- \* Northern Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) R  
Breeds throughout.

### Family Paridae: Chickadees and Titmice

- \* Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*) R  
Permanent resident throughout.
- \* Boreal Chickadee (*Poecile hudsonica*) R  
Permanent resident north-central and northeast. Declining.
- \* Tufted Titmouse (*Baeolophus bicolor*) R  
Permanent resident southeast.

### Family Sittidae: Nuthatches

- \* Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*) R  
Permanent resident north-central, northeast, and east-central, migrant and winter visitant throughout.
- \* White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*) R  
Permanent resident throughout.
- Pygmy Nuthatch (*Sitta pygmaea*) A<sub>O</sub>  
One fall record (1996).

### Family Certhiidae: Creepers

- \* Brown Creeper (*Certhia americana*) R  
Breeds north and east, migrant and winter visitant throughout.

### Family Troglodytidae: Wrens

- \* Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) C  
Twenty-six records: 12 spring, 2 spring–summer, 1 spring–fall, 2 summer, 9 fall. One nesting record (2004). Recorded in 7 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008.
- \* Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) R  
Rare in all seasons, mostly southeast.
- \* Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*) A  
Fifty-three records since 1900: 26 spring, 6 spring–summer, 12 summer, 7 fall, and 2 undated. Last breeding record 1959. Last recorded 1998.
- \* House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Winter Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*) R  
Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.

- \* Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*) R  
Breeds throughout except the northeast.

### Family Cinclidae: Dippers

- American Dipper (*Cinclus mexicanus*) A  
Three records: 2 summer and 1 winter–spring. Last recorded 1993.

### Family Regulidae: Kinglets

- \* Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) R  
Breeds northeast and north-central, migrant throughout.
- \* Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*) R  
Breeds northeast and north-central, migrant throughout.

### Family Sylviidae: Gnatcatchers

- \* Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliptila caerulea*) R  
Breeds south and central. Increasing.

### Family Turdidae: Thrushes

- Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*) A  
One spring and two fall records. One record (2005) in the last 10 years.
- \* Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia currucoides*) R  
Rare migrant throughout but mostly west. One breeding record (1991); five mixed-pair breeding records with Eastern Bluebird (*S. sialis*).
- Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) R  
Rare migrant and winter visitant throughout.
- \* Veery (*Catharus fuscescens*) R  
Breeds east and north, migrant throughout.
- Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus*) R  
Migrant throughout.
- \* Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulatus*) R  
Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.
- \* Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) R  
Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.
- \* Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) R  
Breeds mostly east and central.
- Fieldfare (*Turdus pilaris*) A  
One fall record (1991).
- \* American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) R  
Breeds throughout, winter visitant throughout.
- Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) R  
Rare migrant and winter visitant throughout.

### Family Mimidae: Mockingbirds, Thrashers, and Allies

- \* Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) R  
Rare throughout in all seasons. Five breeding records.
- Sage Thrasher (*Oreoscoptes montanus*) C  
Eleven records: 4 spring, 3 summer, 3 fall, and 1 winter–spring. Recorded in 3 of the last 10 years, most recently 2004.
- \* Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) R  
Breeds throughout.

Curve-billed Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre*)

Four records: 1 spring, 1 fall, 1 fall–winter, and 1 fall–spring. Recorded in 2 of the last 10 years, most recently 2006.

A

**Family Sturnidae: Starlings**\* European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*)

Introduced in North America. Permanent resident throughout.

R

**Family Motacillidae: Pipits**American Pipit (*Anthus rubescens*)

Primarily a fall migrant throughout.

R

\* Sprague's Pipit (*Anthus spragueii*)

Former summer resident northwest. Last breeding record 1988. Recorded in 4 of the last 10 years, most recently 2006. Declining. State designation: Endangered.

C

**Family Bombycillidae: Waxwings**Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*)

Irruptive winter visitant mostly north and central.

R

\* Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*)

Breeds throughout, winter visitant mostly south and central.

R

**Family Parulidae: Wood-Warblers**\* Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*)

Breeds southeast and east-central.

R

\* Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*)

Breeds mostly north and east-central, migrant throughout.

R

\* Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*)

Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.

R

Orange-crowned Warbler (*Vermivora celata*)

Migrant throughout.

R

\* Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora ruficapilla*)

Breeds mostly north and east-central, migrant throughout.

R

\* Northern Parula (*Parula americana*)

Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.

R

\* Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*)

Breeds throughout.

R

\* Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*)

Breeds north, central, and east-central; migrant throughout.

R

\* Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica magnolia*)

Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.

R

\* Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*)

Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.

R

\* Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Dendroica caerulescens*)

Breeds northeast, rare mostly fall migrant east.

R

\* Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*)

Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.

R

Black-throated Gray Warbler (*Dendroica nigrescens*)

Six records: 3 spring and 3 fall. Recorded in 2 of the last 10 years, most recently 2005.

A

\* Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*)

Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.

R

Townsend's Warbler (*Dendroica townsendi*)

Five records: 3 spring and 2 fall. One record (2004) in the last 10 years.

A

Hermit Warbler (*Dendroica occidentalis*)

Two spring records (1931, 1983).

A

\* Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*)

Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.

R

- \* **Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*)** C  
Thirty-three records: 16 spring, 5 spring–summer, 2 spring–fall, 1 summer, 2 summer–fall, 6 fall, and 1 winter. One breeding record (2001). Recorded in 6 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008.
- \* **Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*)** R  
Breeds mostly north-central and east-central, migrant throughout but rare southwest.
- Kirtland’s Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*)** A  
Two spring records (1892, 1944). Federal designation: Endangered.
- Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*)** C  
Twenty-one records: 11 spring, 8 summer, and 2 fall. Recorded in 8 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.
- \* **Palm Warbler (*Dendroica palmarum*)** R  
Breeds north-central and locally northeast, migrant throughout.
- \* **Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*)** R  
Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.
- Blackpoll Warbler (*Dendroica striata*)** R  
Migrant throughout.
- \* **Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*)** R  
Breeds southeast and central. State designation: Special Concern.
- \* **Black-and-white Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*)** R  
Breeds north-central, northeast, and east-central; migrant throughout.
- \* **American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*)** R  
Breeds throughout, but rare southwest; migrant throughout.
- \* **Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*)** R  
Breeds mostly southeast and east-central.
- Worm-eating Warbler (*Helmitheros vermivorum*)** C  
Sixty records: 54 spring, 2 summer, and 4 fall. Recorded in 5 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.
- \* **Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*)** R  
Breeds throughout, but mostly absent far west; migrant throughout.
- \* **Northern Waterthrush (*Seiurus noveboracensis*)** R  
Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.
- \* **Louisiana Waterthrush (*Seiurus motacilla*)** R  
Breeds locally southeast, east-central, and south-central. State designation: Special Concern.
- \* **Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*)** R  
Rare migrant and summer visitant south. One breeding record (1994).
- \* **Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*)** R  
Breeds north-central and northeast.
- \* **Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*)** R  
Breeds north and east-central, migrant throughout.
- MacGillivray’s Warbler (*Oporornis tolmiei*)** A  
One spring record (1958).
- \* **Common Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*)** R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* **Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*)** R  
Breeds very locally central and east-central, rare migrant southeast. State designation: Special Concern.
- \* **Wilson’s Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla*)** R  
Rare summer resident northeast, migrant throughout. One breeding record (1980).
- \* **Canada Warbler (*Wilsonia canadensis*)** R  
Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.
- Painted Redstart (*Myioborus pictus*)** A<sub>S</sub>  
One fall record (1992).
- \* **Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*)** R  
Rare spring migrant and summer visitant, mostly west and south. Last breeding record 1976.

**Family Thraupidae: Tanagers**

- \*<sup>H</sup> Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) R  
Rare migrant throughout. Three breeding attempts, all mixed-pair efforts with Scarlet Tanager (*P. olivacea*).
- \* Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*) R  
Breeds throughout, but absent west-central and southwest; migrant throughout.
- Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) R  
Rare migrant throughout.

**Family Emberizidae: Towhees, Sparrows, and Longspurs**

- Green-tailed Towhee (*Pipilo chlorurus*) A  
Five records: 2 spring, 1 fall–spring, and 2 winter. One record (2006–2007) in the last 10 years.
- Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*) R  
Rare migrant primarily southwest and west-central.
- \* Eastern Towhee (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) R  
Breeds locally except northeast; migrant throughout.
- American Tree Sparrow (*Spizella arborea*) R  
Migrant throughout, winter visitant south and central.
- \* Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- Brewer's Sparrow (*Spizella breweri*) A<sub>s</sub>  
Three records: 1 summer and 2 fall. One record (2005) in last 10 years.
- \* Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) R  
Breeds south and central. Declining.
- \* Vesper Sparrow (*Poocetes gramineus*) R  
Breeds throughout but absent northeast.
- \* Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*) R  
Breeds locally except northeast. Declining.
- Black-throated Sparrow (*Amphispiza bilineata*) C  
Seven records: 1 spring, 5 fall, and 1 fall–winter. Recorded in 3 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.
- \* Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*) C  
Former summer resident southwest and west-central. Last breeding record 1964. Recorded in 7 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.
- \* Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*) R  
Breeds throughout but absent northeast. Declining.
- \* Baird's Sparrow (*Ammodramus bairdii*) A  
Former summer resident northwest. State designation: Endangered. One record (2002) in the last 10 years.
- \* Henslow's Sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*) R  
Breeds very locally west-central, central, east-central, and southeast. State designation: Endangered.
- \* Le Conte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*) R  
Breeds mostly north, migrant throughout.
- \* Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) R  
Breeds northwest and north-central. State designation: Special Concern.
- Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*) R  
Migrant throughout.
- \* Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*) R  
Breeds throughout, overwinters south.
- \* Lincoln's Sparrow (*Melospiza lincolni*) R  
Breeds north-central and northeast, migrant throughout.

- \* Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) R  
Breeds mostly north, migrant throughout.
- Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) R  
Migrant throughout.
- White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) R  
Migrant throughout.
- Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*) A  
Six records: 2 spring, 1 fall, 1 fall–winter, and 2 winter–spring. Recorded in 2 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008.
- \* Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) R  
Breeds north-central and northeast, migrants and winter visitant throughout.
- \* McCown's Longspur (*Calcarius mccownii*) A  
Three records since 1900: 1 spring, 1 summer, and 1 fall. Formerly nested west (1890–1899). One record (2000) in the last 10 years.
- Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus*) R  
Migrant throughout, winter visitant south and west.
- Smith's Longspur (*Calcarius pictus*) R  
Rare migrant west and along the shore of Lake Superior.
- \* Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*) R  
Breeds locally northwest. State designation: Endangered.
- Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) R  
Migrant and winter visitant throughout.

### Family Cardinalidae: Cardinals, Grosbeaks, and Allies

- \* Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) R  
Permanent resident south, central, and northeast. Range expanding westward and northward.
- \* Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- Black-headed Grosbeak (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*) C  
Twenty-four records: 17 spring, 1 spring–summer, 1 summer, 1 summer–fall, and 4 fall. Recorded in 6 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.
- \* Blue Grosbeak (*Passerina caerulea*) R  
Breeds southwest.
- Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*) C  
Thirty-five records: 29 spring, 1 spring–summer, 3 summer, and 2 fall. Recorded in 9 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008.
- \* Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) C  
Twenty-one records: 13 spring, 1 spring–summer, 1 spring–fall, 4 summer, and 2 fall. Recorded in 8 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007.
- \* Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) R  
Irruptive breeder mostly south and west.

### Family Icteridae: Blackbirds, Orioles, and Allies

- \* Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) R  
Breeds east and central.
- \* Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) R  
Breeds throughout but absent far northeast, migrant throughout.
- \* Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*) R  
Breeds throughout but absent northeast, migrant throughout.

- \* Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*) R  
Rare summer resident northeast; very few breeding records, last in 1986.  
Migrant throughout.
- \* Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) R  
Breeds throughout except far south, migrant throughout.
- \* Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Great-tailed Grackle (*Quiscalus mexicanus*) R  
Breeds mostly southwest; first breeding record 2000. Increasing.
- \* Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) R  
Breeds throughout.
- \* Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*) R  
Breeds south and west.
- Bullock's Oriole (*Icterus bullockii*) A  
One fall–winter record (1968).
- \* Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) R  
Breeds throughout except far northeast.
- Scott's Oriole (*Icterus parisorum*) A  
Three records: 2 spring and 1 spring–summer. One record (2002) in the last 10 years.

### Family Fringillidae: Finches

- Brambling (*Fringilla montifringilla*) A  
Five records: 2 fall, 1 winter, and 2 winter–spring. One record (2001) in the last 10 years.
- Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch (*Leucosticte tephrocotis*) C  
Fifteen records: 1 fall, 1 fall–spring, 7 winter, 3 winter–spring, and 3 spring. Recorded in 5 of the last 10 years, most recently 2008. Formerly Accidental.
- Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*) R  
Irruptive winter visitant mostly north.
- \* Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*) R  
Breeds mostly north, migrant and winter visitant throughout.
- Cassin's Finch (*Carpodacus cassinii*) A  
One fall record (1987).
- \* House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) R  
Introduced in eastern North America. Permanent resident throughout.
- \* Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*) R  
Irruptive winter visitant mostly north-central and northeast; rarely breeds.
- \* White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) R  
Irruptive winter visitant mostly north-central and northeast; rarely breeds.
- Common Redpoll (*Carduelis flammea*) R  
Irruptive winter visitant mostly north and central.
- Hoary Redpoll (*Carduelis hornemanni*) R  
Rare winter visitant mostly north and central.
- \* Pine Siskin (*Carduelis pinus*) R  
Breeds mostly north, migrant and winter visitant throughout.
- \* American Goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*) R  
Breeds throughout, winter visitant throughout.
- \* Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) R  
Permanent resident north-central and northeast, irruptive winter visitant mostly north and central. Declining.

### Family Passeridae: Old World Sparrows

- \* House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) R  
Introduced in North America. Permanent resident throughout.
- Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*) C  
Introduced in North America. Seven records: 2 spring, 1 spring–summer, 2 summer, 1 summer–fall, and 1 winter. Recorded in 5 of the last 10 years, most recently 2007. Formerly Accidental.

## Appendix A — Species Removed from the Checklist

The following species have been included on earlier authoritative lists of Minnesota birds but have since been removed.

### Chukar (*Alectoris chukar*)

Released into the state 1937–1947; the population never became fully established. Formerly Regular. Moved to Extirpated 1982. Deleted 1988.

### Arctic Loon (*Gavia arctica*)

All published records prior to the species split in 1985 are considered to have been of Pacific Loon (*G. pacifica*).

### Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)

Added 1874 on scant evidence. No basis found for inclusion by later authorities. Deleted 1892.

### Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*)

Five sight records (1982–1988) now all presumed to have been of Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*). Deleted 1988.

### Common Black-Hawk (*Buteogallus anthracinus*)

One fall specimen record (1976), now presumed to have been an escaped bird. Deleted 1987.

### Mountain Plover (*Charadrius montanus*)

One summer sight record (1986) of two birds, now considered to have been American Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*). Deleted 1988.

### Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*).

One fall sight record (1952) originally accepted as Hypothetical. Moved to Accidental 1981. Deleted 2003.

### Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*)

One fall sight record (1869). No basis found for inclusion by later authorities. Deleted 1932.

### Western Bluebird (*Sialia mexicana*)

One fall sight record (1880). No basis found for inclusion by later authorities. Deleted 1932.

### European Goldfinch (*Carduelis carduelis*)

One spring sight record (1967), originally accepted as Hypothetical. This and all subsequent reports now presumed to have been of escaped birds. Deleted 1978.

## Appendix B — Species Added to the Checklist

The following species have been added to the list of Minnesota birds since the most recent publication of this checklist (January 2004).

The initial date for each first record is shown.

### Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*)

Split from Canada Goose (*B. canadensis*) in 2004. First recorded September 1857, northwestern Minnesota, Smithsonian Institution specimen (USNM 9956).

### Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*)

17 June 2004, Grand Marais, Cook County. Video-taped.

### Green Violetear (*Colibri thalassinus*)

12 June 2004, Linwood Township, Anoka County. Photographed.

### Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*)

16 July 2005, Little Spirit Lake, Jackson County. Photographed.

### Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*)

21 July 2006, Grand Marais, Cook County. Photographed.

### Elegant Tern (*Thalasseus elegans*)

28 June 2007, Leech Lake, Cass County. Photographed.

### Inca Dove (*Columbina inca*)

30 October 2007, Two Harbors, Lake County. Photographed.

### Long-billed Murrelet (*Brachyramphus perdix*)

4 November 2008, Duluth, St. Louis County. Photographed.

# **Minnesota Ornithologists' Union**

## **Records Committee Policies and Procedures**

### **Committee Membership**

The Committee currently consists of seven regular members and three alternates. One of the seven regular members serves as Chairperson; this person has no term limit and is subject to selection by and approval of the Minnesota Ornithologists' Union (MOU) Board of Directors in the same way as other MOU committee chairpersons.

Each of the other six regular members can serve a maximum of six consecutive calendar years. After this six-year period, the member must be off the Committee for at least one year before being eligible again for membership as either a regular or alternate member.

Each of the three alternate members can serve a maximum of three consecutive calendar years. The responsibilities of alternate members are outlined below.

When a regular member's position is vacated, either by expiration of his/her term or by resignation, the vacancy can be filled either by a current or former alternate member or by a former regular member who has been off the Committee for at least one year. A vacancy in an alternate member's position can be filled by someone who has either never served on the Committee or has not been a member for at least one year.

If a vacancy occurs by resignation of a regular member before that member has served the maximum six-year period, that member's replacement will be selected by the Committee chairperson and will serve only for the balance of that six-year period.

The names of potential nominees to fill other vacancies must be received no later than the Committee's December meeting. Any current or former member may nominate a candidate for membership. After determining, by consensus, which of these nominees are interested and qualified, the full Committee (all ten members) votes first for new regular members. The number of votes each member casts equals the number of vacancies. The person(s) receiving the most votes is/are selected, with any ties broken by the Chairperson. The same voting procedure then takes place if there are alternate positions to fill.

### **Regular Voting Procedures**

All documented records of Casual and Accidental species are voted on. Documented records of Regular species significantly out-of-range or out-of-season may also be circulated for a vote at the discretion of the Chairperson (undocumented reports of Casuals, Accidentals, and unusual Regular species are considered Not Accepted).

Except in the case of potential first state records and A<sub>5</sub> records (see below), seven members vote either "Accepted" or "Not Accepted" for each record; i.e., whether or not the documentation supports the observer's identification.

The seven regular Committee members vote on each record, unless a member was involved in the original discovery of the bird(s) being voted on; with such a record, that regular member does not vote and is replaced by one of the alternate members in rotation. For potential first state records and for A<sub>5</sub> records, if one or more members were involved in the original discovery of the bird(s) being voted on, the Chairperson appoints the appropriate number of former members to vote on the record. Generally, the circulation and voting of records takes place by U.S. mail and e-mail.

Before a record is sent out to the Committee for a vote, the chairperson can solicit comments on the record from persons with expertise on the species involved, and

these comments are then included with the documentation for consideration by the Committee.

- A record is considered **Accepted** or **Not Accepted** or **Recirculated** (i.e., held for discussion and a second vote) according to its status and the number of votes for acceptance.

**Casual and Regular species:**

Accepted	vote 7-0, 6-1, or 5-2
Recirculated	vote 4-3
Not Accepted	vote 3-4, 2-5, 1-6, or 0-7

**Accidental (A) species:**

Accepted	vote 7-0 or 6-1
Recirculated	vote 5-2 or 4-3
Not Accepted	vote 3-4, 2-5, 1-6, or 0-7

**Accidental (A<sub>s</sub>) species and potential first state records:**

Accepted	vote 10-0 or 9-1
Recirculated	vote 8-2, 7-3, 6-4, or 5-5
Not Accepted	vote 4-6, 3-7, 2-8, 1-9, or 0-10

- A **Recirculated** record is held for discussion at the next meeting of the Committee; a second vote on the record is then taken, and it is considered Accepted or Not Accepted according to the following:

**Casual and Regular species:**

Accepted	vote 7-0, 6-1, or 5-2
Not Accepted	vote 4-3, 3-4, 2-5, 1-6, or 0-7

**Accidental (A) species:**

Accepted	vote 7-0 or 6-1
Not Accepted	vote 5-2, 4-3, 3-4, 2-5, 1-6, or 0-7

**Accidental (A<sub>s</sub>) species and potential first state records:**

Accepted	vote 10-0 or 9-1
Not Accepted	vote 8-2, 7-3, 6-4, 5-5, 4-6, 3-7, 2-8, 1-9, or 0-10

- For a potential **first state record** and for all **records of Accidental (A<sub>s</sub>) species**, the documentation is held for discussion at the next meeting of the Committee and then voted on. The three alternate members also vote on such records, and the vote for acceptance must be 10-0 or 9-1 for the record to be Accepted; if the vote is 8-2 or less for acceptance, the record is either Recirculated or Not Accepted as outlined above.

### Votes on Origin and Natural Occurrence

On records of a species for which there may be reasonable uncertainty as to its origin or wildness, or uncertainty as to its natural occurrence and arrival in the state, the following procedure is followed:

1) The documentation for the record is first voted on as usual; if the identification is found to be Accepted, the record is then held for further consideration if, by consensus of the Committee, there is reasonable uncertainty as to the bird's origin and wildness, or uncertainty as to its natural occurrence or arrival in the state.

A record is not held for consideration of its origin if its identification is voted on and found to be Not Accepted. Documentation for a bird which, by consensus, is considered to be of obviously captive origin — e.g., a Bar-headed Goose, Ruddy Shelduck, Chukar, etc. — is not voted on and is automatically considered Not Accepted.

2) Appropriate research is then undertaken and evidence is collected relative to the bird's origin or natural occurrence.

3) At the Committee's next meeting, the evidence is then discussed and a vote is taken on the bird's wildness or arrival. The three alternate members vote on such records, for a total of 10 votes, with a simple majority vote (6–4 or higher) determining the status. There are three possible ways to vote:

- **Accepted as an Accidental (A or A<sub>S</sub>)** — i.e., there is reasonable certainty the bird was wild and arrived under its own power.
- **Accepted as an Accidental with an origin subscript (A<sub>O</sub> or A<sub>OS</sub>)** — i.e., there is reasonable uncertainty as to the bird's origin and wildness, or uncertainty as to its natural occurrence or arrival in the state.
- **Not Accepted** — i.e., the bird was probably an escape from captivity, or it did not arrive in the state under its own power.

Such votes generally only involve Accidental species. However, Regulars or Casuals could also be voted on in the same way, and such records of uncertain origin or arrival could be filed as R<sub>O</sub> or C<sub>O</sub>.

### **Other Voting Procedures**

A quorum at a Committee meeting is defined as 2/3 of its total membership: i.e., with ten members, the quorum is seven. If there is a quorum, all votes on proposed changes in policy or procedure require approval by a majority of the members present.

In addition to voting on questions of origin, potential first state records, records of A<sub>S</sub> species, and substituting for regular members as outlined under Regular Voting Procedures, the three alternate members also vote in the following situations, with a total of ten votes and a simple majority vote (6–4 or higher) deciding these issues after discussion at a meeting:

- Determining the status of species on the Checklist: i.e., if a species' Regular/Casual/Accidental status is not defined by the number of years it was recorded, or if a species is annotated with an "S" or an "O" subscript, a breeding superscript, or an asterisk (see pages 1–2).
- Whether or not to reconsider and vote on a past record, if it is felt there is information about the record which was not adequately considered. Such a record may be one which the Committee had never reviewed or one previously voted on. If the majority votes to reconsider a record, the procedure for voting will be as defined earlier under Regular Voting Procedures.

### **Voting Results and Archives**

After voting on a record is completed, the Chairperson informs the primary observer who documented the record of the Committee's decision.

The Committee's votes only determine which records are Accepted for inclusion in the MOU's permanent file and official record of Minnesota birds. These votes are not intended to determine what observers include on their personal, unpublished lists.

A summary of all records voted on by the Committee is published semi-annually in *The Loon*, journal of the MOU. These records are placed in the MOU's archives of Minnesota birds, which is located in the James Ford Bell Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota, 10 Church Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455.





