

The Southeast South Dakota Birding Trail  
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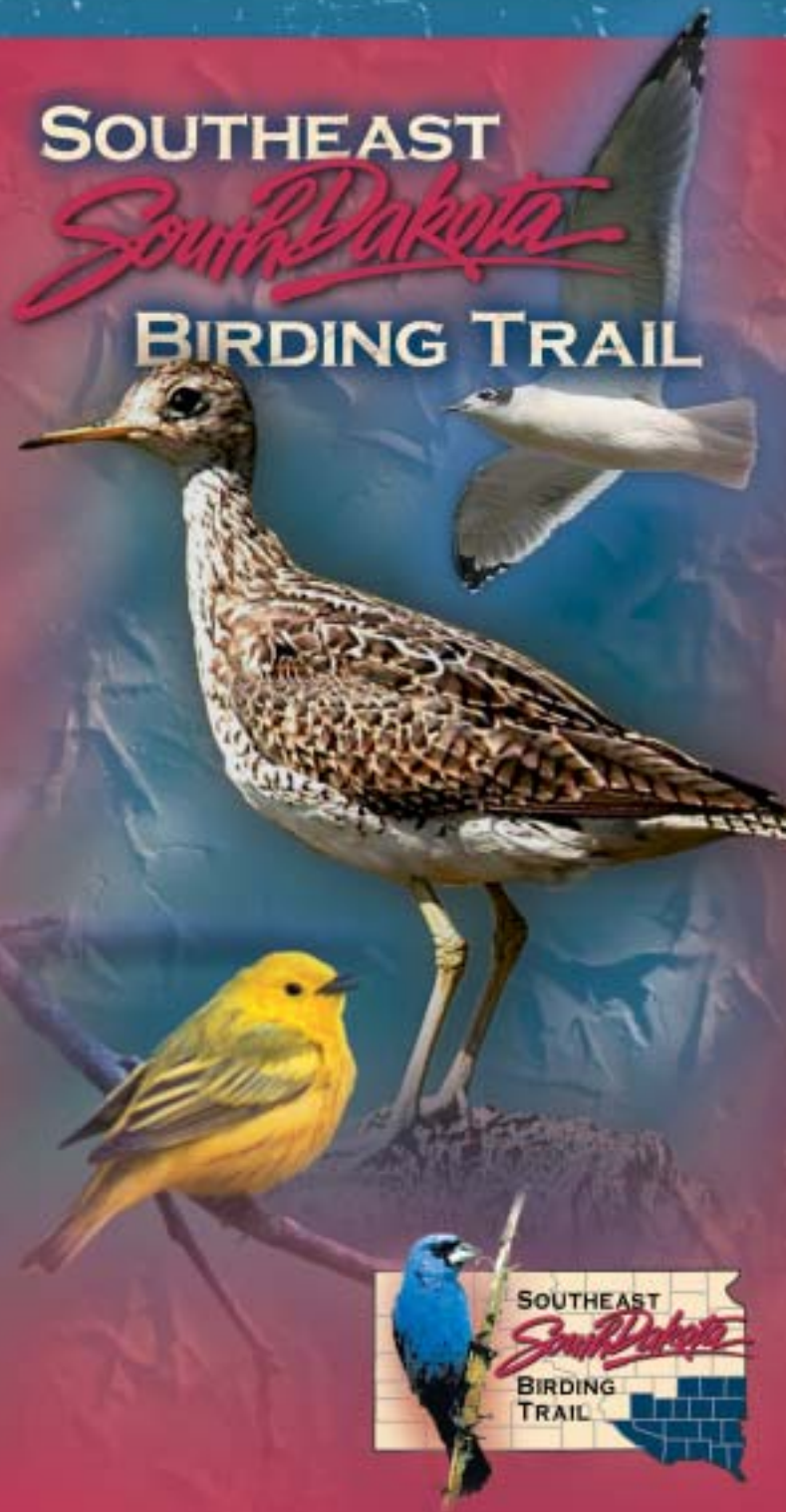


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Consultant: Rosemary Draeger

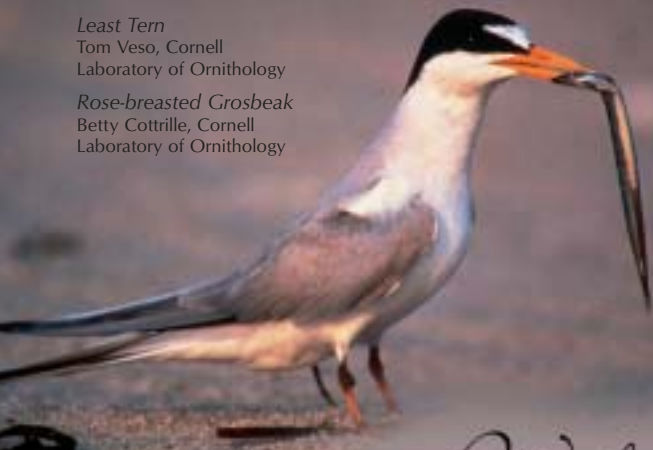
Cover photos:  
Franklin's Gull in flight Terry Sohl  
Upland Sandpiper Doug Backlund  
Yellow Warbler South Dakota Tourism

Logo: Doug Backlund  
Blue Grosbeak



*Least Tern*  
Tom Veso, Cornell  
Laboratory of Ornithology

*Rose-breasted Grosbeak*  
Betty Cottrille, Cornell  
Laboratory of Ornithology



## Welcome to South Dakota's **SOUTHEAST**



**This guide provides information about each site on the trail, how to get there, what birds you should look for, the best months to visit and tips on birding each location.**

More than 300 species of birds may be observed among the 33 points along the trail. Eastern South Dakota is a stopping place for millions of birds following both the Central and Mississippi migratory flyways in spring and fall. Its varied habitats offer the right environment for nearly 150 nesting species, and a number of species that nest in the northern reaches of the continent spend each winter here.

Southeastern South Dakota, as Lewis and Clark saw it 200 years ago, was largely undulating prairie cut longitudinally by three large rivers and their tributaries. The most western-reaching fingers of the nation's vast eastern deciduous forests extended to the Big Sioux River near the eastern border of South Dakota. Prairie forests of cottonwood, ash, boxelder and elm dotted the James River and the Missouri River corridors. These rivers of eastern South Dakota provided large areas of floodplains and oxbows. Glacier-formed pothole lakes were scattered throughout the region.

Today, while agriculture is the region's dominant industry, significant areas of grassland habitat remain, allowing birders to observe prairie species such as Upland Sandpiper, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Bobolink and Short-eared Owl. Sandhill Cranes are annual migrants, stopping in fields throughout the western counties of the region. Whooping Cranes have been observed on rare occasions during spring and fall migration in this same area.

The Missouri River provides sandbars, on which may be found nesting Piping Plovers and Least Terns, and miles-long reservoirs with quiet bays where one may find many species of waterfowl, gulls and terns, including Common Goldeneye, Canvasback, Canada and Cackling geese, and Franklin's Gull. Sabine's Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake and Arctic Tern have been found at Gavins Point Dam. Riparian and cottonwood habitats along the shores of the Missouri, James and Big Sioux rivers attract dozens of songbird species, including Bell's Vireo, Baltimore Oriole, Yellow-billed Cuckoo and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.



Sandhill Crane in flight Fire Sky Imaging

## GENERAL BIRDING TRAIL TIPS:

**Roads** Slow down when driving on gravel roads. Some gravel roads may be impassable when muddy or snow-covered. Check with local contacts if in doubt. Less-traveled gravel roads provide great birding. Watch for good places to pull over and bird as you drive between the trail hot spots.

**Vehicle trails** Many of the trail's state game production areas (**GPAs**) and federal waterfowl production areas (**WPAs**) have rough roads. It is recommended you walk rather than attempt to drive on these dirt roads. Please respect "No vehicles beyond this point" signs.

**Multiple use** Although southeastern South Dakota has an abundance of public land, be aware of and considerate of others. Site contacts can provide specific information about hunting or other activities at locations you plan to visit.

**Weather** Air temperature and precipitation can change quickly in South Dakota. Be prepared with outerwear suitable to the season. Plan to include insect repellent for summer birding.

**Parks** All state parks and recreation areas require a park entrance license, except Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve and Spirit Mound Historic Prairie. All state parks offer parking and toilets. Most offer camping.

**Finding Birds** Timing is important in birding. Check your birding field guide and other references before embarking on a search for a specific species listed in this trail guide. We have not attempted to duplicate reference information regarding the best time of year, time of day or habitat in which individual species may be found.

**Birding Ethics** The best birding is the least intrusive to birds and their habitat. Disturbing a bird – making it flush from cover, call in alarm or focus on your presence – stresses it and may expose it to predators. Use binoculars, stay back, avoid damaging habitat and enjoy. (See American Birding Association's Code of Birding Ethics.)

Sites included in this guide may not always be accessible due to changes in local flooding and road conditions.

## BIRDING TRAIL

The region's woodlands are a magnet for three dozen species of warblers during spring migration, such as Blackburnian, Cape May, Magnolia and Mourning warblers. The woods are alive with nesting species throughout spring and summer, such as Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and Eastern Wood-Pewee. Eastern Screech-Owls are common in the region. One may regularly find American Woodcock and Wood Thrush in the woodlands along the Big Sioux and Missouri rivers.

Prairie pothole lakes and other wetlands teem with migrating and nesting ducks, wading birds, shorebirds and wetland species, including Hooded Merganser, Wilson's Phalarope, Willet, Least Bittern and Sedge Wren.













Soaring over the entire region are the raptors, including Bald Eagle, Swainson's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Cooper's Hawk and American Kestrel.

Welcome to  
Southeast  
South Dakota's  
birding trail.  
Good birding!



Eastern Bluebird  
Doug Backlund

## Map Legend

	Birding Locations		S.D. GFP Game Production Area (GPA) and S.D. GFP Water Access Area (WAA)
	Interstate Highway		Parks and Recreation Areas
	United States Highway		Cities/Towns
	State Highway		Lake
	County Highway		County Boundary
	Rivers/Streams/ Temporary Waters	<b>P</b>	Parking
	U.S. FWS Waterfowl Production Area	<b>T</b>	Vault Toilet
		<b>CS</b>	Comfort Station

## BIRDING TRAIL RESOURCES ONLINE

Contact information is listed in this guide for each trail stop. General information is available online from several sources. Log onto the following:

Southeast South Dakota Tourism Association's Web site for links to accommodations and regional activities  
[www.southeastsouthdakota.com](http://www.southeastsouthdakota.com)

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Web site for state parks and recreation area information  
[www.sdgifp.info/parks](http://www.sdgifp.info/parks)

South Dakota Office of Tourism Web site for links to lodging, food and travel information [www.TravelSD.com](http://www.TravelSD.com)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Madison Wetland Management District Office Web site for regional wetland information [www.madisonwetlands.fws.gov](http://www.madisonwetlands.fws.gov)

South Dakota Ornithologists' Union Web site for current sightings and birding information  
[www.homepages.dsu.edu/palmerj/SDOU/SDOU.html](http://www.homepages.dsu.edu/palmerj/SDOU/SDOU.html)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Web site for information about corps-controlled land at the Fort Randall and Gavins Point dams [www.nwo.usace.army.mil](http://www.nwo.usace.army.mil)

U.S. Government recreation site [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)

## 1 Great Bear Recreation Area

**Habitat** In winter, Great Bear Recreation Area focuses on cross-country and downhill skiing. From March through November, the many trails in the 277-acre park offer excellent birding. Great Bear is a deciduous woodland with two small reservoirs, open grassy areas and ski slopes, which are grass-covered in late spring and summer.

**Look for these birds** Wood Thrush, Eastern Bluebird, Black-throated Green Warbler, Northern Parula, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Yellow-throated Vireo, Lark Sparrow, Willow

Flycatcher, Scarlet Tanager, American Kestrel, Black-and-white Warbler, Harris' Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow, Field Sparrow. Winter: Purple Finch, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Brown Creeper.  
*Rarity: Summer Tanager*

**Best birding months** March through September

**Tips** The Valley Trail starts at the information kiosk beside the parking lot, runs along the north side of the ski lodge, then south-east past two small ponds, and continues through a draw, with a slight incline, and connects to two other trails, the American Plum Trail and the Shady Glen Trail, which continue away from the ski lodge with a gentle incline. This is easy walking, one mile each way, and offers varied habitat and species, differing by season. Additional trails run through the park, some gently inclined and some steep.

**Contact** Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation Department, 600 E. Seventh St., Sioux Falls, SD 57103-1338. (605) 367-8222

*Scarlet Tanager*  
William Paff,  
Cornell Laboratory  
of Ornithology



## 2 The Outdoor Campus

**Habitat** This facility, operated by the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks in south central Sioux Falls, houses a small natural history museum in its main building and provides maintained trails looping through native prairie-planted fields, along an oxbow of the Big Sioux River and around a constructed pond.

**Look for these birds** Eastern Screech-Owl, Baltimore Oriole, Alder Flycatcher, Nashville Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Tree Swallow, Clay-colored Sparrow, Wood Duck, Red-tailed Hawk, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Swainson's Thrush, Hermit Thrush, White-crowned Sparrow, Sedge Wren. Winter: Brown Creeper. *Rarity: Northern Goshawk*

**Best birding months** April through September  
 Building hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.; Sunday, 1–4 p.m. Closed state holidays. No entrance license required. Trails are open year-round. (P, CS)

**Tips** Trails throughout the grounds.

**Contact** The Outdoor Campus, 4500 S. Oxbow Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57106. (605) 362-2777. TOC@state.sd.us  
 South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, Wildlife Division, Sioux Falls Regional Office. (605) 362-2700  
[www.sdgfp.info/Wildlife/Education/OutdoorCampus/index.htm](http://www.sdgfp.info/Wildlife/Education/OutdoorCampus/index.htm)

## 3 The Northwest Stretch of the Sioux Falls Bike Trail

**Habitat** The Sioux Falls Bike Trail runs for approximately 16 miles beside the Big Sioux River as it flows through the city. The three-mile northwest stretch of the bike trail runs along the northern boundary of the Sioux Falls Municipal Airport, passes the west side of Elmwood Golf Course and heads south to Elmwood Park. It offers a rich diversity of habitat ranging from open grassland on the airport grounds with farmland on the opposite side of the river to dense deciduous woods surrounding an old river oxbow at Elmwood Park. In late summer, sandbars appear in the river.

**Look for these birds** Blue Grosbeak, Western Kingbird, Great Blue Heron, Belted Kingfisher, Green Heron, Bobolink, Upland Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Vesper Sparrow. At Elmwood Park, look for Baltimore Oriole, Blackburnian Warbler, Canada Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Eastern Bluebird, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Swainson's Thrush. *Rarities: Hooded Warbler, Summer Tanager, Golden-winged Warbler, Wood Thrush*

**Best birding months** April through May, August through September

**Tips** Upland Sandpipers may occasionally be seen and heard whistling in the fields across from the airport during fall migration. Great Blue Herons are common along this river stretch in late August and early September. Elmwood Park is a great spot to find warblers and other songbirds during spring migration. Check the trees scattered on the lawn next to the bike trail, and walk into the woods to find those warblers that prefer the understory. Park at the Maple Street cul-de-sac on the west side of Elmwood Golf Course, cross the bridge and walk north on the gravel trail along the airport boundary. At Elmwood Park, from the south parking lot, you may circle the perimeter of the park, ducking into the woods here and there to look for spring migrants.

**Contact** Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation Department, 600 E. Seventh St., Sioux Falls, SD 57103-1338. (605) 367-8222





## 4 Big Sioux Recreation Area

**Habitat** This 430-acre park includes river bottom with huge cottonwood trees, steep draws densely covered with bur oaks and hillsides covered in prairie grasses. The Big Sioux River runs through the park.

**Look for these birds** Broad-winged Hawk, Swainson's Hawk, Green Heron, Solitary Sandpiper, Eastern Bluebird, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Eastern Towhee, Black-capped Chickadee, Eastern Screech-Owl, Wood Duck, Scarlet Tanager, Yellow-throated Vireo, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Northern Rough-winged Swallow. Migrants: Blue-headed Vireo, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler. *Rarities:* Cape May Warbler, Winter Wren

**Best birding months** March through September  
State park entrance license is required. (P, T)

**Tips** Park trails lead through different habitats. Check the trail map at the main parking area to select the habitat you wish to walk. Valley of the Giants Trail offers steep hiking through bur oak draws and cottonwood river bottom. The bike trail follows the Big Sioux River, riparian habitat, trees and brush. Prairie Vista Trail climbs to prairie-covered hillside with broad views of park. Several miles east of Big Sioux Recreation Area is Beaver Creek Nature Area with maintained trails throughout. No entrance fee required. Contact the South Dakota Division of Parks and Recreation for a canoeing map of the Big Sioux River.

**Contact** Park Manager, 410 Park Ave., Brandon, SD 57005.  
(605) 582-7243 BigSioux@state.sd.us www.sdgrp.info/parks



Osprey  
Fire Sky Imaging

## 5 Prairie Pothole Lake Loop

**Habitat** A series of prairie pothole lakes and smaller wetlands scattered through farmland, with shelterbelts, pasture and grassland along driving loop.

**Look for these birds** Horned Grebe, Osprey, Wilson's Snipe, Wilson's Phalarope, American Golden-Plover, White-rumped Sandpiper, Dunlin, American Bittern, American Avocet, Hooded Merganser, Semipalmated Plover, California Gull, Franklin's Gull, Great Horned Owl, Swainson's Hawk, American Kestrel, Green-winged Teal, Snowy Egret, thousands of Snow and Ross' geese, Canada and Cackling geese, White-fronted Goose, Savannah Sparrow, Western Kingbird. Winter: Rough-legged Hawk, Bald Eagle, Northern Shrike, Snow Bunting. *Rarities:* Prairie Falcon, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Great-tailed Grackle

**Best birding months** March through May, August through September

**Tips** From Sioux Falls, drive west to Wall Lake, stopping along the southeast corner and south side boat ramp area, then one-half mile west. Drive north on 462nd Ave. for two miles. From this corner, crisscross back and forth from 462nd Ave. to 454th Ave. as you move north toward Humboldt, stopping at the south end of Weisensee Slough on 263rd St. between 454th and 455th Ave. Drive east to 459th and north to the parking area on the east side of Grass Lake. Continue north to 259th St. and west to the south side of Beaver Lake. Drive west to 457th Ave., north through Humboldt and east to Scott Lake on 258th St.

# SOUTHEAST SOUTH DAKOTA BIRDING TRAIL



## 6 Lake Vermillion Recreation Area and GPA

**Habitat** This includes a 270-acre recreation area on each side of the 500-acre Lake Vermillion, plus 1,800-acre GPA extending north along the east branch of the Vermillion River which feeds into Lake Vermillion. Brushy draws with deciduous groves extend from the lakeshore to bluffs overlooking the lake. Stands of conifers are scattered throughout the area.

**Look for these birds** Cattle and Snowy egrets, Willow Flycatcher, Bell's Vireo, Wood Duck, American Wigeon, Canvasback. Migrants: California Gull, Red-breasted Merganser, Osprey, Snow and Ross' geese, Canada and Cackling geese, Greater White-fronted Goose. Winter: Northern Goshawk, Red Crossbill in pines on southeast side. *Winter rarities: Bohemian Waxwing, Common Redpoll*

**Best birding months** March through September  
State park entrance license is required. (P, T)

**Tips** In the northeast corner of the lake, a gravel road to the GPA offers access to the lake. Willow Flycatcher and Bell's Vireo are possible here. Ice breaks up earlier on Lake Vermillion than on other lakes in the region. Early migrating geese and ducks may be found on the southeast side.



As you crisscross your way back to Sioux Falls, you will pass a number of WPAs and GPAs. Each WPA and GPA on the route offers parking and walking access onto public property with a mix of wetlands and grasslands. Or from Scott Lake, you can drive east to Lake Vermillion State Recreation Area, trail stop No. 6.

**Contact** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Madison Wetland Management District. (605) 256-2974  
South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, Wildlife Division, Sioux Falls Regional Office. (605) 362-2700

**Wetland and Prairie Driving Loop** From the west side of Lake Vermillion, drive west through Canistota to the Hyde WPA, which you will see on the south side of the road. Continue to 435th Ave. Traveling north from Bridgewater, go north two miles then west four miles to Lehrman Slough, a GPA with deep water wetland and grassy upland. Leaving Lehrman Slough, go north one mile, east seven miles and continue to crisscross back and forth across 435th Ave. Continue north past many wetlands and potholes to Hwy 38. Turn west and continue to Hwy 25. Go north to 247th St. and west two miles to the north end of Long Lake in Hanson County.

Look for shorebirds, ducks, geese, prairie sparrows and songbirds. Each WPA and GPA on the route offers parking and walking access onto public property with a mix of wetlands and grasslands. From the north end of Long Lake you may return to Hwy 25 and travel south to I-90, or you may continue north and west to Chip Allen GPA, trail stop No. 13.

**Contact** Park Manager, 26140 451st St., Canistota, SD 57012. (605) 296-3643 [LakeVermillion@state.sd.us](mailto:LakeVermillion@state.sd.us)  
[www.sdgifp.info/parks](http://www.sdgifp.info/parks)



## 7 Flandreau City Park

**Habitat** This 15-acre park, located one mile east of the city of Flandreau, provides a deciduous tree belt and brushy shoreline along the Big Sioux River. A wetland borders the entrance road on the west, and a municipal golf course is to the east on the far side of the river.

**Look for these birds** Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Black-and-white Warbler, Baltimore Oriole, Red-tailed Hawk, Indigo Bunting. Migrants: Veery, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler. *Rarity: Blue-headed Vireo*

**Best birding months** April through May, August through September

**Tips** Walk along the road looping through the park, as well as the campground area. The Moody County Sportsman's Club leases a small area from the city. You may walk the river beyond the clubhouse when the sportsman's club is not conducting an event. Just east of the entrance to the park from Hwy 32 is the entrance to the municipal golf course, on the east bank of the river. You may walk the river on the golf course side when golfers are not on the course. If the golf course is open, please stop in at the clubhouse. Watch for warblers and songbirds migrating in spring and fall. A Blue-headed Vireo is occasionally spotted in the trees along the river.

**Contact** Flandreau City Office. (605) 997-2492

## 8 Milwaukee Lake

**Habitat** This large shallow lake has both marshy and rocky edges. A stretch of deciduous trees lines the abandoned township road that runs through and divides the lake.

**Look for these birds** Most shorebirds that migrate through South Dakota may be found here during the spring migration. Western Grebes have nested here. Look for Horned Grebe, Green Heron, Baird's Sandpiper, Dunlin, Hudsonian Godwit, American Avocet, Wilson's Phalarope, Sanderling, Stilt Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper, Ruddy Duck, Redhead. *Rarities: Peregrine Falcon, Piping Plover during May*

**Best birding months** March through October

**Tips** The main access to the slough is 463rd Ave., one mile east of Wentworth. You will want to park well off the road and walk along the edge for best viewing. One mile west of 463rd Ave. is an abandoned township road easily approached from the north. Access from the south may be muddier in spring. Plan to park at the north edge of the lake and walk south along the vehicle trail, where many shorebirds are found at the sandy gravel edge of the lake during migration. One mile farther west, 461st Ave. runs north and south along the western edge of the slough. In addition to shorebirds and herons, look for migrating warblers and resident songbirds in the trees and shrubs lining the road as it borders the slough.

**Wetland Driving Loop** From Milwaukee Lake, known locally as Milwaukee Slough, an interesting driving loop during spring migration and summer breeding season runs east six miles, crossing into Moody County. Drive north to the Brookings County line, back into Lake County, traveling south again to Milwaukee Lake. The loop passes several WPAs and two GPAs, all of which have parking areas and public access. These allow you to walk into prairie wetlands, scattered with deciduous and coniferous groves. From the corner of 463rd Ave. and 231st St., drive east eight miles, then south one-half mile on 471st Ave. to Sioux Prairie, a 200-acre native prairie maintained by The Nature Conservancy. Sioux Prairie may also be reached by going three and one-half miles north on 471st St. (old Hwy 77) from Hwy 34. Leaving Sioux Prairie, go north one and one-half miles, head west on 230th St. for two miles, then crisscross back and forth through several WPAs. As you travel north to 220th St. on the Brookings County line, pass along the east side of Lake Campbell on 467th Ave. Turn west on 220th St., continue four miles to 463rd Ave., crisscross down



# SOUTHEAST SOUTH DAKOTA BIRDING TRAIL



*Horned Grebe*  
E. Greene, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology

to Mud Lake and drive between two sections of the lake on 222nd St. Drive north one mile and west five miles to Gardner GPA. Continue north on 456th Ave. and west on 220th St. to Green GPA. Drive south on Hwy 81 to 223rd St., returning east to 463rd Ave., then crisscross between 463rd and 465th Ave. as you travel south back to Milwaukee Lake. Between April and June, when wetlands are full, many species of waterfowl, shorebirds, marsh birds and songbirds may be seen along this drive. The WPAs and GPAs have native grass-planted uplands.

**Contact** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,  
Madison Wetland Management District.  
(605) 256-2974 [MadisonWetlands@fws.gov](mailto:MadisonWetlands@fws.gov)



*Peregrine Falcon*

Doug Backlund



*American Avocet*  
South Dakota Tourism



## 9 Madison Wetland Management District Headquarters and Madison WPA

**Habitat** This U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service district office sits on the northwest end of Lake Madison. The office has a visitor center and viewing platform overlooking Bourne Slough. Madison WPA, one-quarter mile south of the headquarters, provides a 450-acre upland prairie with permanent wetlands.

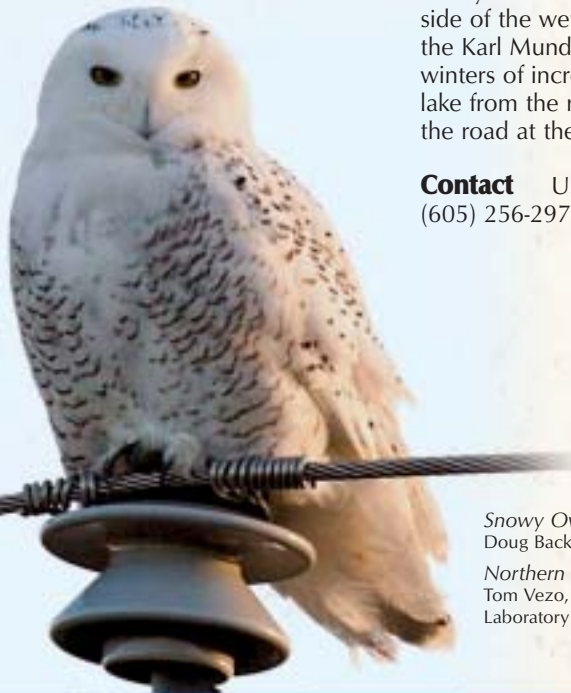
**Look for these birds** Virginia Rail, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Marsh Wren, Sedge Wren, Snowy Egret, Least Bittern, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Eared Grebe, American Wigeon, Ruddy Duck, Common Merganser, Black Tern, Common Yellowthroat, Tennessee Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Yellow-throated Vireo, Bald Eagle, Common Loon, Orchard Oriole. *Rarities: Eurasian Collared-Dove, Snowy Owl in winter*

**Best birding months** March through October  
Headquarters visitor center is open 8 a.m.–4:30 p.m. on regular business days. (**CS** at headquarters, **P, T** at Madison WPA)

**Tips** From the headquarters, drive 400 yards south on Hwy 19 to a Game, Fish and Parks Lake Madison access parking lot next to the lake. From this parking lot you may walk along the shore to the north and onto a strip of land separating the main body of the lake from the northwest tip, known as Bourne Slough. A cormorant colony may be found in the trees along this peninsula. During high

water periods in spring, the lake shore may be muddy or partially submerged, making it necessary to walk in the brush. At the Madison WPA there is a drive-through trail along the north side of the wetland. It is possible to walk completely around the permanent wetland. Park at the Karl Mundt rest stop along Hwy 19, on the west side of the road, to begin your hike. In winters of increased migration into South Dakota, Snowy Owls have been seen on the frozen lake from the road that runs along the far east end of Lake Madison and also in trees beside the road at the same spot.

**Contact** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Madison Wetland Management District.  
(605) 256-2974 [MadisonWetlands@fws.gov](mailto:MadisonWetlands@fws.gov) <http://madisonwetlands.fws.gov>



Snowy Owl  
Doug Backlund

Northern Cardinal  
Tom Vezo, Cornell  
Laboratory of Ornithology



## 10 Lake Herman State Park

**Habitat** This is a 227-acre park on a peninsula jutting into 1,350-acre Lake Herman. Cover includes deciduous oak and ash woodland with scattered ponderosa pine and spruce stands, large cattail and bulrush wetland, and lake edge with both sandy and gravel shoreline.

**Look for these birds** Red-breasted Merganser, Hooded Merganser, Ring-necked Duck, Virginia Rail, Sora, Marsh Wren, Least Flycatcher, Long-eared Owl, Great Horned Owl, thousands of Snow, Ross', Canada, and Cackling geese in migration. Migrants: Northern Parula, Yellow-throated Vireo, Pine Warbler, Canada Warbler. *Rarities: Red-shouldered Hawk, Prothonotary Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, White-winged Crossbill in winter*

**Best birding months** March through October  
State park entrance license is required. **(P, T)**

**Tips** Roads and walking trails throughout the park. Look around the Luce Cabin for Northern Cardinals, woodpeckers and warblers in migration. Check the wetland just inside the park for marsh birds, and look around the conifer area in the southeast corner of the park for Long-eared Owls in migration in early March.

**Contact** Park Supervisor, 23409 State Park Drive, Madison, SD 57042. (605) 256-5003 LakeHerman@state.sd.us  
[www.sdgfp.info/parks](http://www.sdgfp.info/parks)



## 11 Reynolds Slough GPA

**Habitat** This 570-acre slough has prairie uplands with spring and summer-blooming wildflowers on both north and south sides of a large wetland with open water.

**Look for these birds** Cattle Egret, Swainson's Hawk, American Bittern, Sedge Wren, Cooper's Hawk, Upland Sandpiper, Bobolink, Dickcissel, Western Kingbird, huge Snow, Ross', Canada, and Cackling geese flocks in late fall. *Rarity: Broad-winged Hawk*

**Best birding months** Late March through September

**Tips** Parking at the southwest corner, this highest point gives a view of the whole area. Wildflowers bloom in profusion in June and July. Hunting is popular here in October and November.

**Contact** South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, Wildlife Division, Sioux Falls Regional Office. (605) 362-2700



*Hooded Merganser*  
Terry Sohl

## 12 Lake Carthage GPA

**Habitat** This 500-acre GPA provides a large deciduous woodland along the south and east sides of Lake Carthage and a large grove of evergreens along the north side. The rest of the GPA and the surrounding countryside are grassland and farmland.

**Look for these birds** Harris' Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Blackpoll Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, Baltimore Oriole, Red-headed Woodpecker, Brown Thrasher, Broad-winged Hawk. Winter: Purple Finch. *Winter Rarity: Snowy Owl*

**Best birding months** April through June

**Tips** A good birding drive from Madison during spring migration is north from Hwy 34 on the first gravel road inside the eastern boundary of Miner County. Criss-cross the Vermillion River and tributaries to McCart Slough, looking for waterfowl and shorebirds. Drive north to two GPAs, Eimers and Pester, that receive drainage from Lake Thompson, checking again for shorebirds and waterfowl. Drive west to Lake Carthage GPA, visiting the wooded areas on the north and east sides for resident and migrating songbirds. Continue on to the city park in Carthage, one mile southwest of the GPA. It offers good woodland habitat and a stream that attracts spring migrants. This loop can yield many species of sparrows, warblers, waterfowl and shorebirds.

**Contact** South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, Wildlife Division, Sioux Falls Regional Office. (605) 362-2700

## 13 Chip Allen GPA

**Habitat** Grassland surrounding several small permanent lakes, known locally as the Chain Lakes make up this 2,100-acre GPA. The lakes are clumped near the center of the GPA, and are accessible by walking about one-half mile to the interior. In wet years the entire area is covered with wetlands mixed with uplands.

**Look for these birds** Eared Grebe, Black Tern, White-rumped Sandpiper, Sedge Wren, Grasshopper Sparrow, Dickcissel, Short-billed Dowitcher, Upland Sandpiper, huge flocks of Snow and Ross' geese, Canada and Cackling geese, Greater White-fronted Goose, Red-breasted Merganser, American Bittern, Gray Partridge, Lincoln's Sparrow, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Canvasback, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Blue-winged Teal. *Rarities: Cinnamon Teal, Golden Eagle*

**Best birding months** March through September

**Tips** From the north side, park at the intersection of 242nd St. and 419th Ave. Walk in three-fourths mile along grassland and wetland areas to a high point where you have a good view of several small lakes. Waterfowl and shorebirds are abundant during migration, and resident birds are readily observed during the summer months.

From the southwest corner of Miner County, 418th Ave. goes north for one mile. The wetland on the west side of the road is part of the GPA and easily observed from the road. Another excellent viewing area for shorebirds and waterfowl is along the south side of the GPA at the bend in the road.

**Contact** South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, Wildlife Division, Sioux Falls Regional Office. (605) 362-2700



Blue-winged Teal

Doug Backlund

# SOUTHEAST SOUTH DAKOTA BIRDING TRAIL



## 14 Lake Mitchell

**Habitat** Fed by Firesteel Creek on the north side of Mitchell, this 670-acre reservoir is surrounded by groves of deciduous trees, scattered evergreens and wetlands, intermingled with housing.

**Look for these birds** Osprey, Green Heron, Eastern Wood-pewee, Northern Cardinal, American Woodcock, Common Tern, Western Grebe, Snowy Egret. Migrants: Common Loon, Blackburnian Warbler, Northern Parula, Hermit Thrush, Olive-sided Flycatcher. Winter: Purple Finch, Townsend's Solitaire. *Rarities:* Worm-eating Warbler, California Gull, Philadelphia Vireo, Clark's Grebe

**Best birding months** March through October

**Tips** A road circles the entire lake, with many parking turn-outs and rough dirt trails along the lake shore. A large wetland at the north end of the lake and woodlands at both the north and south ends offer excellent birding. With a canoe, it is possible to paddle up Firesteel Creek for two to three miles, looking for wading birds and shorebirds.

**Contact** Mitchell Park, Recreation and Forestry Department, 1300 N. Main, Mitchell SD 57301. (605) 995-8450

**Spring and Fall Driving Loop** From Mitchell, head west past Mt. Vernon to Fish Lake GPA, then on to White Lake north of the town of White Lake, then south of I-90 to Maine WPA and back to Mitchell or on to Broken Arrow WPA, trail stop No. 17.

**Fish Lake** This is a 420-acre GPA with lake surrounded by smaller wetlands and grasslands. Look for Caspian Terns, Willets, Sandhill Cranes, Marsh Wrens, Yellow-headed Blackbirds and flocks of thousands of Snow Geese during migration. A drive-in area passing two wetlands is accessible from the road through the golf course along the lake shore. Turn off this road onto a vehicle trail, which may be driven in dry weather and walked anytime. *Rarities:* Snowy Owl, Northern Mockingbird, Black-necked Stilt

**Humphrey WPA and Humphrey Slough GPA** This 900-acre combined GPA and WPA with lake, slough, a deciduous shelterbelt, a strip of flooded cottonwoods is surrounded by grassland and cropland. Look for Dunlins, White-faced Ibis, White Pelicans, Black-crowned Night-Herons, Black-bellied Plovers, Eastern Kingbirds, Orchard Orioles, Black Terns, Western Grebes, Hudsonian Godwits, Yellow-headed Blackbirds, American Kestrels. North of the town of White Lake, drive west on 248th St. to the lake and slough. Approach the south side of the slough from 249th St., by parking at the GPA entrance and walking north for several hundred feet along a cedar shelterbelt.

**Maine WPA** This 800-acre wetland has excellent shorebird viewing during April and May, August and September. Look for nesting Marbled Godwits, nesting Upland Sandpipers, Green Herons, Black-crowned Night-Herons, Prairie Falcons, White-rumped Sandpipers, Stilt Sandpipers, Short-billed and Long-billed dowitchers. This wetland, though quite large, may dry up during severe drought periods. During normal rainfall conditions, thousands of shorebirds visit in August and September. Sandhill Cranes may be seen in western Aurora County fields during migration. Watch also for American Golden-Plovers and White-fronted Geese in wet fields in the spring.

## 15 Hogrefe GPA

**Habitat** The 260-acre Hogrefe GPA (pronounced hoe'-gri-fee) sits on a hilltop overlooking the James River. It has deciduous wooded draws leading to the river, riparian bottomland, a dense young cottonwood stand and native sod uplands. A prairie recovery project is underway, with native grass and forb plantings. Cattle are grazed periodically to encourage re-emergence of prairie grasses. Native wildflowers abound on the hillsides.

**Look for these birds** Bobolink, Grasshopper Sparrow, Bald Eagle, Orchard Oriole, Upland Sandpiper, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Eastern Screech-Owl, warblers and shorebirds in migration.

**Best birding months** April through September

**Tips** Eleven miles east of Parkston, the GPA is reached by going north one mile on 422nd Ave. from Hwy 44. Turning off onto a gravel vehicle trail, continue one-eighth mile north into the GPA to a parking area. Proceed one hundred yards on foot to a hillside vantage point overlooking the James River valley. Bald Eagles may be seen from this vantage point in March and April, as they follow migrating geese north. Walk the prairie and wooded draws to find many migrants and summer resident songbirds.

**Contact** South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, Wildlife Division, Sioux Falls Regional Office. (605) 362-2700



## 16 James River Road

**Habitat** The James River Road (County Road 11 in Hutchinson County) runs from Milltown and Hogrefe GPA through Hutchinson County into Yankton County (Jim River Road in Yankton County) to a lake access point just northeast of Yankton. This route provides an excellent view for 40 miles of the James River valley and the bluffs on the east side of the river. River bottom habitat, cottonwood stands, including both living and dead trees, grasslands, cropland and native prairie are also present.

**Look for these birds** Short-eared Owl, Bald Eagle, Swainson's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Black-billed Cuckoo, Bank Swallow, Yellow Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Gray Partridge, Great Blue Heron, Blue Grosbeak, Belted Kingfisher, Loggerhead Shrike, Brown Thrasher, Upland Sandpiper, Grasshopper Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Chestnut-collared Longspur. Winter: Merlin, Northern Shrike. *Rarity: Lark Bunting*

**Best birding months** April through June, September through November

**Tips** Start your trip at the Milltown Dam, a historic rock dam constructed with a grinding wheel for milling grain, one mile east and one-half mile north of Milltown. The foundation for the mill and rock dam are still in place. As you begin traveling south, watch for a silo on the west side with a tree growing out the top. This is a good general area for eagle watching in the winter. The road jogs away from the river in a few places, so a map is useful for staying on course. The south end of the river road is only a few miles from Gavins Point Dam, trail stop No. 24.

**Contact** South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, Wildlife Division, Sioux Falls Regional Office. (605) 362-2700



Sharp-tailed Grouse  
South Dakota Tourism



Ruddy Duck  
Doug Backlund



Greater Prairie-Chicken  
South Dakota Tourism

## 17 Broken Arrow WPA

**Habitat** This 2,720-acre WPA consists of open, rolling grassland dotted with both permanent and temporary wetlands.

**Look for these birds** Sharp-tailed Grouse, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Sandhill Crane, Ruddy Duck, Redhead, Green-winged Teal, Canvasback, Marbled Godwit, Grasshopper Sparrow, Upland Sandpiper, Marsh Wren, Sedge Wren, American Bittern, Blue Grosbeak, Dickcissel, marsh birds. *Rarity: Whooping Crane has been sighted in this area on rare occasions during spring and fall migration*

**Best birding months** March through September

**Tips** Good parking on west side at 269th St. and 373rd Ave. just west of the Douglas County line in Charles Mix County. A trail from this parking area extends one and one-half miles into the WPA through excellent wetland habitat.

**Contact** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Lake Andes Wetland Management District. (605) 487-7603



## 18 Gray GPA and Platte Creek Recreation Area

**Habitat** Side by side at the edge of Lake Francis Case are 1,970-acre Gray GPA and 190-acre Platte Creek Recreation Area. Both of these areas provide prairie uplands, riparian woods and river bottomland.

**Look for these birds** Great Egret, Black-crowned Night-Heron, nesting American Avocet, Wood Duck, Long-eared Owl, Bald and Golden eagles, Broad-winged Hawk, American Woodcock, Black-billed Magpie, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Townsend's Solitaire, migrating warblers and other songbirds, woodpeckers, shorebirds.  
*Rarities: Northern Bobwhite, Red-shouldered Hawk, Barn Owl*

**Best birding months** April through October  
State park entrance license is required at Platte Creek Recreation Area. (P, T)



**Tips** The Gray GPA has a two-mile walking trail going north from the parking area off Hwy 1804. This trail offers bur oak woodland and takes you along Platte Creek and up Castalia Creek. Both the woodland and creek trails are good areas for migrating warblers and other songbirds, woodpeckers and Bald and Golden eagles. Native prairie graces the uplands at Gray GPA.

An interesting drive from Platte Creek Recreation Area to North Point Recreation Area is to wind your way along the river, stopping at Pease Creek Recreation Area to hike the scenic trails that overlook the river. Drive through White Swan GPA, over to Svatos Bay and on to North Point. The drive is indirect, with roads leading to the river then away from it, but offers a chance to see Greater Prairie-Chickens and Sharp-tailed Grouse. A very rough gravel road running north from the boat ramp at Pease Creek Recreation Area makes a good walking trail. Another interesting walk at Pease Creek is the trail at the southernmost end of the recreation area. State park entrance license is required at North Point Recreation Area, Platte Creek Recreation Area and Pease Creek Recreation Area. (P, T)

**Contact** Park Supervisor, Snake Creek Recreation Area, 35316 Hwy 44, Platte, SD 57369. (605) 337-2587  
SnakeCreek@state.sd.us www.sdgif.info/parks



Wood Duck  
South Dakota Tourism



Broad-winged Hawk  
L. Page Brown, Cornell  
Laboratory of Ornithology





## 19 Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge

**Habitat** This 5,600-acre refuge holds a 4,700-acre lake surrounded by grassland, pasture, cropland, wetlands and mixed woodlands.

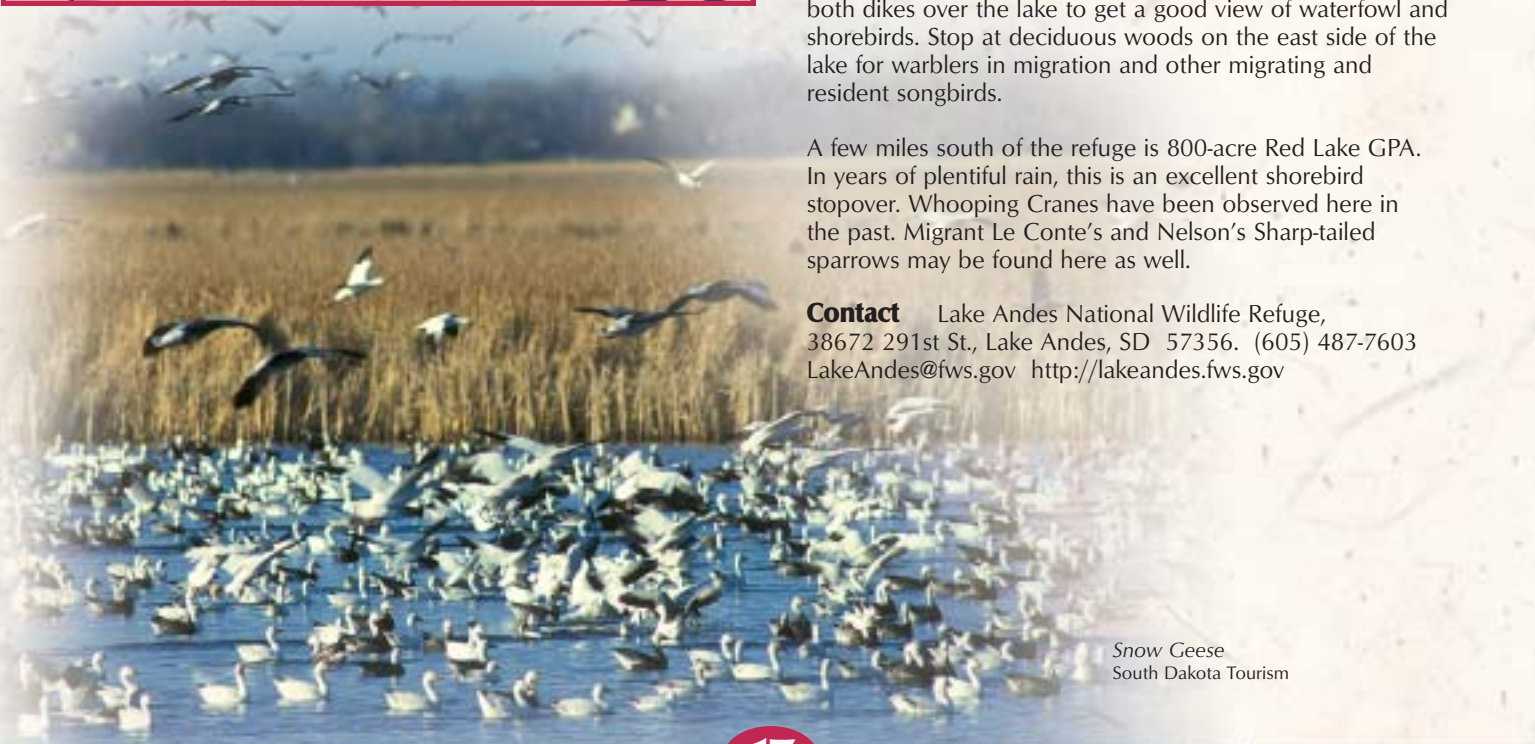
**Look for these birds** Eared Grebe, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Franklin's Gull, Great Egret, Least Bittern, Osprey, Caspian Tern, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Snowy Egret, Northern Pintail, Bald Eagle, Yellow-breasted Chat, Blue Grosbeak, Loggerhead Shrike. Migrants: Bonaparte's Gull, Ruddy Turnstone, Dunlin, Willet, Hooded Merganser, Long-tailed Duck, Snow and Ross' geese, Greater White-fronted Goose, Golden Eagle, Chestnut-sided Warbler, White-throated Sparrow. Winter: Snow Bunting, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Surf Scoter, White-winged Scoter. *Rarities: White-faced Ibis, Little Blue Heron, Great-tailed Grackle*

**Best birding months** March through October (P, T)

**Tips** Across from the headquarters on the south side of the road is a series of wetlands and the Owens Bay Nature Trail, a maintained trail providing access to the area. Many waterfowl, wading birds and marsh birds are found here, including nesting Hooded Mergansers, bitterns, herons and marsh birds. Great-tailed Grackles have been found here. Starting at the headquarters, take a driving loop that crosses both dikes over the lake to get a good view of waterfowl and shorebirds. Stop at deciduous woods on the east side of the lake for warblers in migration and other migrating and resident songbirds.

A few miles south of the refuge is 800-acre Red Lake GPA. In years of plentiful rain, this is an excellent shorebird stopover. Whooping Cranes have been observed here in the past. Migrant Le Conte's and Nelson's Sharp-tailed sparrows may be found here as well.

**Contact** Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge, 38672 291st St., Lake Andes, SD 57356. (605) 487-7603 [LakeAndes@fws.gov](mailto:LakeAndes@fws.gov) <http://lakeandes.fws.gov>



Snow Geese  
South Dakota Tourism

## 20 North Point Recreation Area

**Habitat** This 920-acre recreation area on the east shore of Lake Francis Case just north of Fort Randall Dam includes grassland, cedar draws, cottonwoods, pine stands and deciduous woods, in addition to several miles of shoreline.

**Look for these birds** Red-breasted Nuthatch, Bald Eagle, Long-tailed Duck, Red-breasted Merganser, Northern Cardinal, Harris' Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Yellow Warbler, Broad-winged Hawk, Lazuli Bunting, Spotted Towhee. Winter: Snow Bunting, Purple Finch, Red Crossbill, Northern Goshawk, Rough-legged Hawk. *Rarities: Northern Mockingbird, Evening Grosbeak, Black-headed Grosbeak, Rock Wren*

**Best birding months** March through October  
State park entrance license is required. (P, T)

**Tips** Look for gravel roads off the main park entrance road. Plan to walk these roads when snowy or muddy. Walk and drive paved roads through the park and campground. A walking/biking trail also offers good birding.

**Contact** Park Supervisor, 38180 297th St., Lake Andes, SD 57356. (605) 487-7046 NorthPoint@state.sd.us www.sdgfp.info/parks

An interesting birding area is Svatos Bay, on the north side of Lake Francis Case. Go north from Pickstown on Hwy 18 to 293rd St. just south of Lake Andes. Drive west across Garden Creek, turn south on 381st Ave., then go west and south along the west shore of Svatos Bay. This area offers great diversity of species including Olive-sided Flycatchers in migration, Indigo Buntings, Warbling Vireos, Yellow Warblers, Upland Sandpipers and Greater Prairie-Chickens. A rarity to watch for is the Ferruginous Hawk.



## 21 Randall Creek Recreation Area and Pickstown GPA at Fort Randall Dam

**Habitat** The area around Fort Randall Dam on the Missouri River has habitat ranging from Lake Francis Case (including Svatos Bay) above the dam, to the tailrace below the dam, which includes a park with campground and woodlands. Farther downstream is a wooded area along the river bluffs, and the banks and offshore sandbars of the Missouri River.

**Look for these birds** Red-breasted Merganser, Long-tailed Duck, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Common Merganser, Forster's Tern, Bonaparte's Gull, Franklin's Gull, Bald Eagle, Red-bellied Woodpecker, White-crowned Sparrow, Harris' Sparrow, Eastern Bluebird, White-breasted Nuthatch, American Kestrel, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Fox Sparrow, Yellow-billed and Black-billed cuckoos. Winter: Bald Eagle, Purple Finch, Snow Bunting, Lapland Longspur, several species of gulls. *Rarities: Northern Bobwhite, Barred Owl, Black-legged Kittiwake, Mew Gull, Barrow's Goldeneye, Little Gull, Thayer's Gull, Sabine's Gull, White-winged Scoter, Brant, Glaucous Gull*

**Best birding months** September to December for gulls, November to March for Bald Eagles, April through October for general birding. State park entrance license is required. (P, T)

**Tips** From Pickstown, take Hwy 18 across the dam to an eagle-viewing area on the south side. Bald Eagles wintering in the Karl Mundt Refuge downstream may be easily seen flying up and



*Bald Eagle*  
South Dakota Tourism

*Piping Plover*  
Doug Backlund

down the river, fishing and perching in trees along the banks just downstream from the dam.

The Randall Creek Recreation Area is just south of the eagle-viewing area. It offers roads throughout the park and campground and along the bluffs above the river. Many species may be found in the woods, dense grasses, creek beds and cottonwoods in this recreation area. The road through the area is closed to vehicles Oct. 1-April 30 to help protect Bald Eagles wintering in the nearby Karl E. Mundt National Wildlife Refuge.

Continuing south, turn back toward the dam on Toe Road to the historic, restored Fort Randall Chapel. Take the interpretive trail walk, listen for Northern Bobwhites and look for sparrows, songbirds and hawks in the fields and trees nearby.

**Contact** Park Manager, Randall Creek Recreation Area, 38180 297th St., Lake Andes, SD 57356. (605) 487-7046 NorthPoint@state.sd.us www.sdgrp.info/parks South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office. (605) 734-4530 Lake Manager, USACE, P.O. Box 199, Pickstown, SD 57367.



## 22 Missouri River Bottoms Route

**Habitat** A drive from Pickstown to Running Water and on to Springfield along the Missouri River offers a view of one of the last wild stretches of the Missouri River. Many places along the route have large stands of cottonwoods and riparian habitat.

**Look for these birds** Piping Plover, Least Tern, Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, Swainson's Hawk, Golden Eagle, White-winged Scoter, Bonaparte's Gull, Dickcissel, migrating waterfowl, Bell's Vireo, Bald Eagle, Whip-poor-will, Scarlet Tanager, American Woodcock, Caspian Tern. *Rarities:* Barn Owl, Red-shouldered Hawk, Great-tailed Grackle, Loggerhead Shrike

**Best birding months** Late March through October

**Tips** This driving route offers many stopping places to look for Piping Plovers and Least Terns on sandbars in the river. Negotiating this route from Pickstown means taking little-used gravel roads and doubling back and around where the road ends. Birding can be excellent on these back roads. A popular canoe trip for experienced canoeists is an overnight camping trip from Pickstown to Running Water. Contact the South Dakota Division of Parks and Recreation for a canoeing map of this river section.

**Contact** South Dakota Division of Parks and Recreation. (605) 773-3391 South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office. (605) 734-4530 South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, Wildlife Division, Sioux Falls Regional Office. (605) 362-2700

## 23 Meier's Lake Spring Migration Loop

**Habitat** A series of small prairie pothole lakes and other wetlands mix with grassland in this area.

**Look for these birds** Ruddy Turnstone, Wilson's Phalarope, Red-necked Phalarope, Dunlin, Sanderling, Stilt Sandpiper, Hudsonian Godwit, Sandhill Crane, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Eared Grebe, Blue Grosbeak, herons, marsh birds, grassland sparrows.

**Best birding months** Late March through early June

**Tips** A driving route starts five miles south and five miles west of Tripp. From the intersection of 406th Ave. and 292nd St., drive south one mile and east one mile to 407th Ave. Continue south two miles, east one mile to 408th Ave., south two miles to Hwy 46, then west three miles to Meier's Lake. This route takes you past several WPAs and GPAs, all of which have parking and walking access to wetlands and prairies.

**Contact** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Lake Andes Wetland Management District. (605) 487-7603



## 24 Gavins Point Dam

**Habitat** This includes Lewis and Clark Lake and tailwaters below the dam. Additionally, Lake Yankton is just north of the dike that runs along the tailrace, as well as two campgrounds with cottonwoods, scattered evergreens, grassy open areas and thickets.

**Look for these birds** American Woodcock, Black-billed Magpie, Franklin's Gull, Bonaparte's Gull, Long-tailed Duck, many waterfowl on the lake, tailrace and Lake Yankton, Bald Eagle, Eastern Bluebird, White-breasted Nuthatch, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Magnolia Warbler, Harris' Sparrow, Osprey. *Rarities:* Mew Gull, Iceland Gull, Arctic Tern, King Rail, Lesser Black-

backed Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Black Scoter, Sabine's Gull, Glaucous Gull in winter

**Best birding months** March through December  
State park entrance is required at Chief White Crane Recreation Area. (P, T)

**Tips** Begin your exploration of this area by driving across the dam to a parking area on the north side of the spillway. This is a good vantage point for finding interesting gull species during spring and fall migration. This is also a good place to observe Bald Eagles flying up and down the river during winter months. Drive downstream to the Chief White Crane Recreation Area and walk around the edges of the deciduous woods, looking for migrating warblers and resident songbirds. To protect wintering Bald Eagles, Chief White Crane Recreation Area is closed to vehicular travel Nov. 1-March 31. Drive back toward Hwy 50, stopping in the Cottonwood Campground bordering Lake Yankton. Here you will get a close view of migrating waterfowl on the lake as well as many species of migrating thrush, warblers and sparrows in the campground.

**Contacts** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Gavins Point Project, P.O. Box 710, Yankton, SD 57078. (402) 667-7873  
Park Supervisor, 43349 Hwy 52, Yankton, SD 57078.  
(605) 668-2985 Lewis-Clark@state.sd.us  
[www.sdgifp.info/parks](http://www.sdgifp.info/parks)



## 25 Missouri River Observation Route

**Habitat** Myron Grove GPA, Frost GPA and Burbank Boat Landing all provide good views of Missouri River sandbars and sandy shoreline. Look for cottonwood stands, deciduous woodlands and areas of brushy undergrowth away from the river.

**Look for these birds** Black Scoter, Piping Plover, Least Tern, Sanderling, Bald Eagle, Yellow-throated Vireo, American Redstart, Bell's Vireo, Black-billed and Yellow-billed cuckoos, Blue Grosbeak, Dickcissel, Indigo Bunting, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, waterfowl and shorebirds in migration. Winter: Bald Eagle. *Rarities: Loggerhead Shrike; Louisiana Waterthrush, Carolina Wren and Kentucky Warbler in Myron Grove; White-eyed Vireo in Burbank Boat Landing*

**Best birding months** March through October

**Tips** A spotting scope is helpful to scan distant sandbars in the river. At Myron Grove, look for a small spring on east side of the road between the parking lot and boat ramp. At Burbank Boat Landing, look for White-eyed Vireos around the boat ramp.

**Contact** South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, Wildlife Division, Sioux Falls Regional Office. (605) 362-2700

## 26 Clay County Lakeside Use Area

**Habitat** Cottonwood forest with dogwood understory along Missouri River, with riverbank marked by gravel shore, driftwood piles and scattered cedars.

**Look for these birds** Eastern Bluebird, American Woodcock, Spotted and Eastern towhees, Whip-poor-will, Scarlet Tanager, Wood Thrush, Blue-headed Vireo, Blackburnian Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, White-throated Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Orchard Oriole. *Rarities: Connecticut Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, Carolina Wren*

**Best birding months** March through October  
No park entrance license required. (P, T)

**Tips** Trails throughout park.

**Contact** Park Manager, Lewis and Clark Recreation Area, 43349 Hwy 52, Yankton, SD 57078. (605) 668-2985  
Lewis-Clark@state.sd.us



## 27 Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve

**Habitat** This 1,500-acre preserve along the banks of the Missouri River features sandy river banks, a large cottonwood stand, deciduous woods, open prairie and cropland.

**Look for these birds** Pied-billed Grebe, Wood Duck, Northern Pintail, Wilson's Phalarope, Franklin's Gull, Least Tern, Black Tern, Black-billed Cuckoo, Whip-poor-will, Red-headed Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Bank Swallow, Sedge Wren, Wood Thrush, Brown Thrasher, Bell's Vireo, Blackpoll Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Lark Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Northern Bobwhite. *Rarity: Buff-breasted Sandpiper*

**Best birding months** March through October  
No park entrance license required. **(P, CS)**

**Tips** There are more than 16 miles of trails on the preserve. Guided golf cart tours are available by reservation for visitors with physical limitations. Contact the park for details.

**Contact** Park Manager, 272 Westshore Drive, McCook Lake, SD 57049. (605) 232-0873 AdamsNature@state.sd.us  
www.sdgrp.info/parks



## 28 Spirit Mound Historic Prairie

**Habitat** "from the top of this Mound we beheld a most butifull landscape; Numerous herds of buffalow were Seen feeding in various directions..." William Clark, Aug. 25, 1804.

Spirit Mound is now a 320-acre historic site including a restored prairie with a creek running through it and a walking trail to the top of the famous hill. Spirit Mound juts up above the prairie, from which Lewis and Clark viewed the surrounding plains and where Clark was inspired to pen his enthusiastic journal entry.

**Look for these birds** Le Conte's Sparrow, Harris' Sparrow, Blue Grosbeak, Vesper Sparrow, Upland Sandpiper, Gray Partridge, Red-headed Woodpecker, Bobolink, Brown Thrasher, Orchard Oriole, Sedge Wren. *Rarities: Lark Bunting, Loggerhead Shrike*

**Best birding months** April through October  
No park entrance license required. **(P, T)**

**Tips** Maintained trail with interpretive signs runs through the site.

**Contact** Park Supervisor, 28771 482nd Ave., Canton SD 57013. (605) 987-2263 NewtonHills@state.sd.us  
www.sdgrp.info/parks

## 29 Union Grove State Park

**Habitat** Eastern deciduous woodland, with a stand of pines, a small native prairie and scattered stands of cedars. A few exotic trees and shrubs remain from an experimental planting done in the 1930s. Brule Creek runs through the 500-acre park.

**Look for these birds** Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Long-eared Owl, Scarlet Tanager, Lark Sparrow, Cooper's Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Ovenbird, Indigo Bunting, Bell's Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Migrants: Northern Waterthrush, Cape May Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Clay-colored Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Blackburnian Warbler, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. Winter: Red-breasted Nuthatch, Red Crossbill. Rarities: Louisiana Waterthrush, Black-throated Blue Warbler, White-eyed Vireo, Prothonotary Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Mississippi Kite, Rock Wren

**Best birding months** March through September  
State park entrance license is required. (P, T)

**Tips** Follow roads and trails that take you to Brule Creek to find the Kentucky Warbler and Northern Waterthrush. The campgrounds are in pine woods. A Cooper's Hawk has nested here for several years. A trail leading along the south-facing bluffs of the park starts at the east end of the upper campground. Look for migrating warblers at the edges of the woods at the lower picnic shelter and parking areas along the main road through the park.

**Contact** Park Supervisor, 28771 482nd Ave., Canton SD 57013. (605) 987-2263 NewtonHills@state.sd.us www.sdgfp.info/parks



Ovenbird  
Doug Backlund

Harris' Sparrow  
Fire Sky Imaging



Blue-winged Warbler  
John Dunning, Cornell  
Laboratory of Ornithology

## 30 Oak Ridge GPA

**Habitat** This 650-acre GPA borders the bank of the Big Sioux River for one and one-half miles. It includes floodplain habitat with willows, cottonwoods, dense brush and grasslands, a hillside oak savanna woodland with prairie on top of the south ridge and a large grassland on the north side.

**Look for these birds** Eastern Towhee, Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting, Grasshopper Sparrow, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Eastern Bluebird, Yellow Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Red-tailed Hawk, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Great Blue Heron, American Kestrel, Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Wood Duck, Solitary Sandpiper, Common Yellowthroat, Field Sparrow, Whip-poor-will, Wood Thrush, American Woodcock, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Bank Swallow, Winter Wren.

**Best birding months** March through June

**Tips** Three distinct areas offer different species. The woodlands are accessible from three parking areas. An old vehicle trail aids hiking around this section from the parking area at the foot of the hill as you enter the GPA. The southern floodplain area offers deer trails for walking through grasslands scattered with cottonwoods. The northern river edge requires walking through rough terrain using deer trails when possible. This site requires physical stamina because hiking without trails is required to get to distant areas of the GPA.

**Contact** South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, Wildlife Division, Sioux Falls Regional Office. (605) 362-2700

## 31 Newton Hills State Park

**Habitat** This 1,064-acre park is a heavily-timbered eastern deciduous forest divided by many ravines, spring-fed drainages and a permanent stream running through it. The 270-acre McKee GPA, immediately to the east, runs along the Big Sioux River and offers a strip of open-canopied woodland plus one-half mile of river access. Cottonwoods and deciduous undergrowth edge the river, and cropland is present through the middle. Across the road to the south is 400-acre Lake Lakota. Dense cedar shelterbelts surround the lake. Mudflats appear on both the west end and south side by late summer.

**Look for these birds** Newton Hills State Park and neighboring riverside McKee GPA: Scarlet Tanager, Eastern Towhee, American Woodcock, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Broad-winged Hawk, Lark Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Wood Thrush, Yellow-throated Vireo, Whip-poor-will, Eastern Screech-Owl,



American Redstart, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Eastern Phoebe, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Blue-headed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Wild Turkey, Eastern Bluebird. Winter: Northern Goshawk. *Rarities:* Blue-winged Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Red-shouldered Hawk, Barred Owl

Lake Lakota: Great Egret, Redhead, Ruddy Duck, Baird's Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Willet, American Kestrel, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cedar Waxwing, Clay-colored Sparrow. *Rarities:* Common Loon, Northern Bobwhite

**Best months for birding** April through October  
State park entrance license is required. **(P, T)**

**Tips** Sargeant Creek runs through the northern section of Newton Hills State Park. It offers a rich diversity of species along the trail between the horse camp on the north end of the park and the picnic shelter several hundred yards south. From the picnic shelter, trails go up draws, through the woods and across grassy openings at the top of the ridges, circling back to your starting point. At Lake Lakota, parking areas on the north side allow good views of the lake and the shoreline. There is also access to the lake and additional shoreline from the west side. Drive one and one-half miles east, then two and one-half miles south on 484th Ave. from the north entrance of Lake Lakota GPA area on 288th St. This brings you to Watershed Lake GPA, which is a good place to find shorebirds, waterfowl and herons.

**Contact** Park Supervisor, 28771 482nd Ave., Canton SD 57013. (605) 987-2263 [NewtonHills@state.sd.us](mailto:NewtonHills@state.sd.us)  
[www.sdgfp.info/parks](http://www.sdgfp.info/parks)



## 32 Mud Lake

**Habitat** Mud Lake sits in the middle of the 580-acre Schaeffer GPA. This prairie pothole lake is surrounded by marsh, cattail sloughs and uplands with deciduous shelterbelts on all sides. A cedar grove is present on the west side. Just to the south is the 320-acre Crosley GPA, with native prairie grasses on the north side, and mixed deciduous and coniferous tree groves along the south and east sides of a large wetland complex.

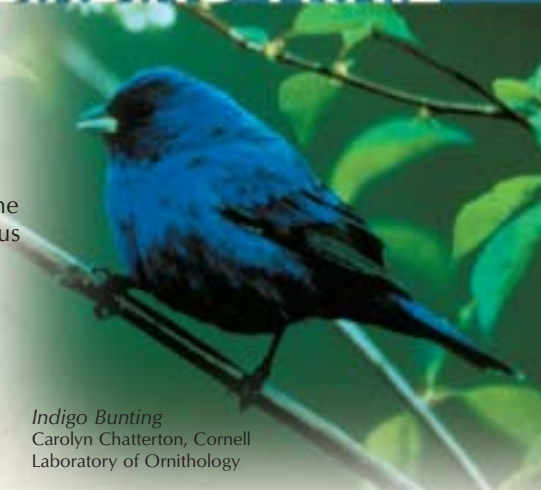
**Look for these birds** Black-crowned Night-Heron, Great Egret, Virginia Rail, Sora, Northern Cardinal, Ruddy Duck, Redhead, Northern Pintail, Northern Shoveler, Canvasback, Northern Harrier, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Yellow Warbler, Baltimore Oriole. Winter: Purple Finch.

**Best birding months** March through September

**Tips** Parking areas are available on all sides of Mud Lake. A canoe launch area is on the east side. Canoeing the lake in late spring will bring you close to nesting herons, blackbirds, bitterns and Marsh Wrens.

**Contact** South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, Wildlife Division, Sioux Falls Regional Office. (605) 362-2700

*Indigo Bunting*  
Carolyn Chatterton, Cornell  
Laboratory of Ornithology



## 33 Atkins Slough WPA

**Habitat** Atkins Slough is a 160-acre wetland with grassy upland at the edge of the city of Tea. It includes a small lake surrounded by cattails and sedge grasses.

**Look for these birds** Least Bittern, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Sedge Wren, Wilson's Snipe, Redhead, Bufflehead, Ring-necked Duck, Great Blue Heron, Savannah Sparrow, Le Conte's Sparrow. *Rarity: Great-tailed Grackle*

**Best birding months** March through September

**Tips** An interpretive trail leaves the parking area (east side entrance) and takes you north and west through a cattail marsh and onto a grassy slope with scattered cottonwoods and other deciduous trees. Walk over to the edge of the lake for a view of the entire area.

**Contact** U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Lake Andes Wetland Management District. (605) 487-7603



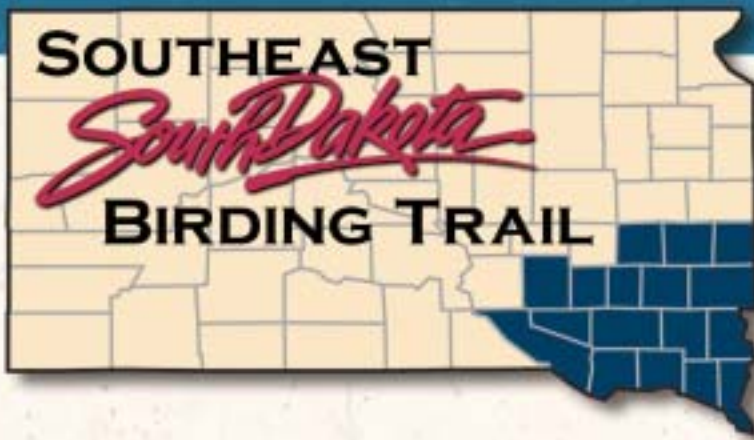
## Birds of the Southeast South Dakota Region

Status is indicated if RARE (R), seen fewer than six times a year or ACCIDENTAL (a), few recorded sightings. Breeding (\*), indicates species nests in suitable habitat.

<b>Loons</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> American Wigeon*		<input type="checkbox"/> Wild Turkey*		<input type="checkbox"/> Wilson's Phalarope*	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Loon	R	<input type="checkbox"/> American Black Duck	R	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Bobwhite*		<input type="checkbox"/> Red-necked Phalarope	
<input type="checkbox"/> Common Loon		<input type="checkbox"/> Mallard*				<input type="checkbox"/> Red Phalarope	a
<b>Grebes</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Blue-winged Teal*		<b>Rails and Coots</b>		<b>Gulls</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pied-billed Grebe*		<input type="checkbox"/> Cinnamon Teal*	R	<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Rail	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Pomarine Jaeger	a
<input type="checkbox"/> Horned Grebe		<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Shoveler*		<input type="checkbox"/> King Rail	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Laughing Gull	a
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-necked Grebe	R	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Pintail*		<input type="checkbox"/> Virginia Rail*		<input type="checkbox"/> Franklin's Gull*	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eared Grebe*		<input type="checkbox"/> Green-winged Teal*		<input type="checkbox"/> Sora*		<input type="checkbox"/> Little Gull	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Western Grebe*		<input type="checkbox"/> Canvasback*		<input type="checkbox"/> Common Moorhen	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Bonaparte's Gull	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clark's Grebe		<input type="checkbox"/> Redhead*		<input type="checkbox"/> American Coot*		<input type="checkbox"/> Mew Gull	R
<b>Pelicans</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Duck		<b>Cranes</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-billed Gull	
<input type="checkbox"/> American White Pelican*		<input type="checkbox"/> Greater Scaup		<input type="checkbox"/> Sandhill Crane		<input type="checkbox"/> California Gull	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Pelican	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Scaup		<input type="checkbox"/> Whooping Crane	R-a	<input type="checkbox"/> Herring Gull	
<b>Cormorants</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Surf Scoter	R	<b>Plovers, Avocets</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Thayer's Gull	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Double-crested Cormorant*		<input type="checkbox"/> White-winged Scoter	R	<input type="checkbox"/> Black-bellied Plover		<input type="checkbox"/> Iceland Gull	a
<b>Bitterns, Herons, Egrets, Ibises</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Black Scoter	R	<input type="checkbox"/> American Golden-Plover		<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Black-backed Gull	R
<input type="checkbox"/> American Bittern*		<input type="checkbox"/> Long-tailed Duck	R	<input type="checkbox"/> Semipalmated Plover		<input type="checkbox"/> Glaucous Gull	
<input type="checkbox"/> Least Bittern*		<input type="checkbox"/> Bufflehead		<input type="checkbox"/> Piping Plover*	R	<input type="checkbox"/> Sabine's Gull	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron*		<input type="checkbox"/> Common Goldeneye		<input type="checkbox"/> Killdeer*		<input type="checkbox"/> Black-legged Kittiwake	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Great Egret*		<input type="checkbox"/> Barrow's Goldeneye	R	<input type="checkbox"/> Black-necked Stilt	R	<b>Terns</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Snowy Egret*		<input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Merganser*		<input type="checkbox"/> American Avocet*		<input type="checkbox"/> Caspian Tern	
<input type="checkbox"/> Little Blue Heron	R	<input type="checkbox"/> Common Merganser		<b>Sandpipers, Phalaropes</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Common Tern	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cattle Egret*		<input type="checkbox"/> Red-breasted Merganser		<input type="checkbox"/> Greater Yellowlegs		<input type="checkbox"/> Arctic Tern	a
<input type="checkbox"/> Green Heron*		<input type="checkbox"/> Ruddy Duck*		<input type="checkbox"/> Lesser Yellowlegs		<input type="checkbox"/> Forster's Tern*	
<input type="checkbox"/> Black-crowned Night-Heron*		<b>Kites, Hawks and Eagles</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Solitary Sandpiper		<input type="checkbox"/> Least Tern*	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	R	<input type="checkbox"/> Osprey		<input type="checkbox"/> Willet*		<input type="checkbox"/> Black Tern*	
<input type="checkbox"/> White Ibis	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Mississippi Kite	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Spotted Sandpiper*		<b>Doves</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> White-faced Ibis		<input type="checkbox"/> Bald Eagle*		<input type="checkbox"/> Upland Sandpiper*		<input type="checkbox"/> Rock Dove*	
<b>Vultures</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Harrier*		<input type="checkbox"/> Whimbrel	R	<input type="checkbox"/> Eurasian Collared-Dove	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Turkey Vulture*		<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-shinned Hawk		<input type="checkbox"/> Long-billed Curlew	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove*	
<b>Geese</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Cooper's Hawk*		<input type="checkbox"/> Hudsonian Godwit		<b>Cuckoos</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Greater White-fronted Goose		<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Goshawk		<input type="checkbox"/> Marbled Godwit*		<input type="checkbox"/> Black-billed Cuckoo*	
<input type="checkbox"/> Snow Goose		<input type="checkbox"/> Red-shouldered Hawk	R	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruddy Turnstone		<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	
<input type="checkbox"/> Ross' Goose		<input type="checkbox"/> Broad-winged Hawk		<input type="checkbox"/> Red Knot	R	<b>Owls</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Goose*		<input type="checkbox"/> Swainson's Hawk*		<input type="checkbox"/> Sanderling		<input type="checkbox"/> Barn Owl*	a
<input type="checkbox"/> Cackling Goose		<input type="checkbox"/> Red-tailed Hawk*		<input type="checkbox"/> Semipalmated Sandpiper		<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Screech-Owl*	
<input type="checkbox"/> Brant	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Ferruginous Hawk	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Western Sandpiper	R	<input type="checkbox"/> Great Horned Owl*	
<b>Swans and Ducks</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Rough-legged Hawk		<input type="checkbox"/> Least Sandpiper		<input type="checkbox"/> Snowy Owl	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Trumpeter Swan	R	<input type="checkbox"/> Golden Eagle		<input type="checkbox"/> White-rumped Sandpiper		<input type="checkbox"/> Burrowing Owl*	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Tundra Swan		<b>Falcons</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Baird's Sandpiper		<input type="checkbox"/> Barred Owl*	R
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Duck*		<input type="checkbox"/> American Kestrel*		<input type="checkbox"/> Pectoral Sandpiper		<input type="checkbox"/> Long-eared Owl*	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gadwall*		<input type="checkbox"/> Merlin		<input type="checkbox"/> Dunlin		<input type="checkbox"/> Short-eared Owl*	
<input type="checkbox"/> Eurasian Wigeon	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Gyrfalcon	R	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruff	a	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Saw-whet Owl	R
		<input type="checkbox"/> Peregrine Falcon		<input type="checkbox"/> Stilt Sandpiper		<b>Goatsuckers</b>	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Prairie Falcon		<input type="checkbox"/> Buff-breasted Sandpiper		<input type="checkbox"/> Common Nighthawk*	
		<b>Grouse, Turkey and Quail</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Short-billed Dowitcher		<input type="checkbox"/> Whip-poor-will*	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Partridge*		<input type="checkbox"/> Long-billed Dowitcher			
		<input type="checkbox"/> Ring-necked Pheasant*		<input type="checkbox"/> Wilson's Snipe*			
		<input type="checkbox"/> Sharp-tailed Grouse*		<input type="checkbox"/> American Woodcock*			
		<input type="checkbox"/> Greater Prairie-Chicken*	R				

# UNION CHECKLIST

- Swifts**  
 Chimney Swift\*
- Hummingbirds**  
 Ruby-throated Hummingbird  
 Rufous Hummingbird a
- Kingfishers**  
 Belted Kingfisher\*
- Woodpeckers**  
 Red-headed Woodpecker\*  
 Red-bellied Woodpecker\*  
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker\*  
 Downy Woodpecker\*  
 Hairy Woodpecker\*  
 Northern Flicker\*
- Flycatchers**  
 Olive-sided Flycatcher  
 Eastern Wood-Pewee\*  
 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher  
 Alder Flycatcher  
 Willow Flycatcher\*  
 Least Flycatcher\*  
 Eastern Phoebe\*  
 Say's Phoebe\* R  
 Great Crested Flycatcher\*  
 Western Kingbird\*  
 Eastern Kingbird\*
- Shrikes**  
 Loggerhead Shrike\*  
 Northern Shrike
- Vireos**  
 White-eyed Vireo R-a  
 Bell's Vireo\*  
 Yellow-throated Vireo\*  
 Blue-headed Vireo  
 Warbling Vireo\*  
 Philadelphia Vireo R  
 Red-eyed Vireo\*
- Jays and Crows**  
 Blue Jay\*  
 Black-billed Magpie  
 American Crow\*
- Larks**  
 Horned Lark\*
- Swallows**  
 Purple Martin\*  
 Tree Swallow\*  
 Northern Rough-winged Swallow\*
- Bank Swallow\*  
 Cliff Swallow\*  
 Barn Swallow\*
- Chickadees and Allies**  
 Black-capped Chickadee\*  
 Tufted Titmouse a  
 Red-breasted Nuthatch  
 White-breasted Nuthatch\*  
 Brown Creeper
- Wrens**  
 Rock Wren R  
 Carolina Wren R  
 House Wren\*  
 Winter Wren  
 Sedge Wren\*  
 Marsh Wren\*
- Kinglets and Gnatcatchers**  
 Golden-crowned Kinglet  
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet  
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher\*
- Thrushes**  
 Eastern Bluebird\*  
 Mountain Bluebird R-a  
 Townsend's Solitaire R  
 Veery  
 Gray-cheeked Thrush  
 Swainson's Thrush  
 Hermit Thrush  
 Wood Thrush\*  
 American Robin\*  
 Varied Thrush R
- Mimids**  
 Gray Catbird\*  
 Northern Mockingbird\* R  
 Brown Thrasher\*
- Starlings, Pipits**  
 European Starling\*  
 American Pipit
- Waxwings**  
 Bohemian Waxwing  
 Cedar Waxwing\*
- Warblers**  
 Blue-winged Warbler R  
 Golden-winged Warbler R  
 Tennessee Warbler  
 Orange-crowned Warbler  
 Nashville Warbler  
 Northern Parula  
 Yellow Warbler\*  
 Chestnut-sided Warbler  
 Magnolia Warbler  
 Cape May Warbler R  
 Black-throated Blue Warbler R  
 Yellow-rumped Warbler  
 Black-throated Gray Warbler a  
 Black-throated Green Warbler  
 Blackburnian Warbler  
 Yellow-throated Warbler a  
 Pine Warbler R  
 Prairie Warbler a  
 Palm Warbler  
 Bay-breasted Warbler  
 Blackpoll Warbler  
 Cerulean Warbler\* R  
 Black-and-white Warbler\*  
 American Redstart\* R  
 Prothonotary Warbler R  
 Worm-eating Warbler  
 Ovenbird\*  
 Northern Waterthrush  
 Louisiana Waterthrush a  
 Kentucky Warbler R  
 Connecticut Warbler R  
 Mourning Warbler  
 MacGillivray's Warbler R  
 Common Yellowthroat\* R  
 Hooded Warbler  
 Wilson's Warbler  
 Canada Warbler  
 Yellow-breasted Chat\*
- Tanagers**  
 Summer Tanager R  
 Scarlet Tanager\*  
 Western Tanager a
- Towhees**  
 Spotted Towhee\*  
 Eastern Towhee\*
- Sparrows**  
 American Tree Sparrow  
 Black-throated Sparrow a  
 Chipping Sparrow\*  
 Clay-colored Sparrow\*  
 Field Sparrow\*  
 Vesper Sparrow\*  
 Lark Sparrow\*  
 Lark Bunting\* R  
 Savannah Sparrow\*  
 Grasshopper Sparrow\*
- Baird's Sparrow a  
 Henslow's Sparrow a  
 Le Conte's Sparrow\*  
 Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow R  
 Fox Sparrow  
 Song Sparrow\*  
 Lincoln's Sparrow  
 Swamp Sparrow\*  
 White-throated Sparrow  
 Golden-crowned Sparrow a  
 Harris' Sparrow\*  
 White-crowned Sparrow  
 Dark-eyed Junco  
 Lapland Longspur  
 Smith's Longspur R  
 Chestnut-collared Longspur\* R  
 Snow Bunting
- Cardinals and Allies**  
 Northern Cardinal\*  
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak\*  
 Black-headed Grosbeak\* R  
 Blue Grosbeak\*  
 Lazuli Bunting R  
 Indigo Bunting\*  
 Dickcissel\*
- Blackbirds**  
 Bobolink\*  
 Red-winged Blackbird\*  
 Eastern Meadowlark a  
 Western Meadowlark\*  
 Yellow-headed Blackbird\*  
 Rusty Blackbird  
 Brewer's Blackbird  
 Common Grackle  
 Great-tailed Grackle\* R  
 Brown-headed Cowbird\*
- Orioles**  
 Orchard Oriole\*  
 Baltimore Oriole\*
- Finches**  
 Pine Grosbeak  
 Purple Finch  
 House Finch\*  
 Red Crossbill\*  
 White-winged Crossbill R  
 Common Redpoll  
 Hoary Redpoll a  
 Pine Siskin  
 American Goldfinch\*  
 Evening Grosbeak R  
 House Sparrow\*



### Map Legend



Birding Trail Site



United States Highway



Birding Trail



Interstate Highway



State Highway

### Useful map resources

South Dakota Highway Map

South Dakota hunting atlas

- 1 Great Bear Recreation Area
- 2 The Outdoor Campus
- 3 The Northwest Stretch of the Sioux Falls Bike Trail
- 4 Big Sioux Recreation Area
- 5 Prairie Pothole Lake Loop
- 6 Lake Vermillion Recreation Area and GPA
- 7 Flandreau City Park
- 8 Milwaukee Lake
- 9 Madison Wetland Management District Headquarters and Madison WPA
- 10 Lake Herman State Park
- 11 Reynolds Slough GPA
- 12 Lake Carthage GPA
- 13 Chip Allen GPA
- 14 Lake Mitchell
- 15 Hogrefe GPA
- 16 James River Road
- 17 Broken Arrow WPA
- 18 Gray GPA and Platte Creek Recreation Area
- 19 Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge
- 20 North Point Recreation Area
- 21 Randall Creek Recreation Area and Pickstown GPA at Fort Randall Dam
- 22 Missouri River Bottoms Route
- 23 Meier's Lake Spring Migration Loop
- 24 Gavins Point Dam
- 25 Missouri River Observation Route
- 26 Clay County Lakeside Use Area
- 27 Adams Homestead and Nature Preserve
- 28 Spirit Mound Historic Prairie
- 29 Union Grove State Park
- 30 Oak Ridge GPA
- 31 Newton Hills State Park
- 32 Mud Lake
- 33 Atkins Slough WPA

