South Dakota

GREAT LAKES BIRDING TRAIL

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Welcome to South Dakota’s
Great Lakes Birding Trail
Birds of the Great Lakes Region

This Guide Provides Information About Each Site on the Trail, How to Get There, What Birds to Look For, What Months to Visit and Great Birding Tips.

The Great Lakes Birding Trail boasts at least 322 species, 164 of which are breeding species. This birding trail follows the course of the Missouri River through the center of South Dakota and is named for three huge dam-created lakes on the river. Lake Oahe, 250 miles long, spreads north behind the Oahe Dam near Pierre, the state capital. Downstream of Oahe is the 25-mile-long Lake Sharpe, which lies behind Big Bend Dam at Fort Thompson. Farther south is the 100-mile-long Lake Francis Case, sitting behind the Fort Randall Dam at Pickstown. Below Fort Randall Dam runs 39 miles of one of the last remaining stretches of free-flowing Missouri River in South Dakota. This stretch has been designated a National Recreational River. It is recognized on the birding trail as the Missouri River Bottoms route.

The trail could also have been named the Lewis and Clark Birding Trail because it follows the route of the famous expedition by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, which ran upstream in 1804 and downstream in 1806. South Dakota Highways 1804 and 1806, which roughly parallel the river on the east and west sides respectively, commemorate this historic journey. It was just north of the White River, near modern-day Oacoma, that Messeurs Lewis and Clark discovered the Black-billed Magpie and, through their journals, introduced this species to the world. Ironically, the Black-billed Magpie is now very rare within the area covered by the birding trail.

The Missouri River’s course, through what we now call South Dakota, was set many eons ago. It flows from north to south along what was the western edge of the vast Pleistocene-age glacier fields. On the east side of the river, the birding trail runs through gently rolling, glacially-scoured land, now largely farmland, and passes by small glacially-formed pothole lakes and isolated woodlands and wetlands. On the west side of the river, mixed grass prairie, generally unmarked by glaciers, predominates. On both sides at the river breaks, you will find high bluffs, steep draws filled with cedars and deciduous trees and shrubs, cottonwood groves, and miles of cliff faces and shoreline, offering striking vistas and perfect habitat for a wide variety of bird species, from songbirds to raptors.

The trail offers an extraordinary opportunity for birders to find several very desirable species, including Baird’s Sparrow and Sprague’s Pipit in summer and Gyr Falcon and Snowy Owl in winter. The fast-water tailraces below the three dams occasionally offer surprising finds of waterfowl, terns, and gulls, such as Pomarine Jaeger, Harlequin Duck, Sabine’s Gull, Little Gull and Arctic Tern.

On areas of open prairie, you may find active Greater Prairie-Chicken and Sharp-tailed Grouse leks, Burrowing Owls in prairie dog towns, Long-billed Curlews, flights of Lark Buntings, summer-nesting Chestnut-collared Longspurs and wintering flocks of Lapland Longspurs. You may find Barn Owls nesting and roosting in burrows dug in cliff faces along the river. Look for them wherever Bank Swallows have been nesting. When warblers come through in spring migration, they find wooded oases on the prairie; and you could easily find ten to twelve species of warblers in one late spring day’s visit at trail stops such as Lake Hiddenwood (Stop 8) or Buryanek GPA (Stop 34). And don’t miss the opportunity to walk out over a field of native prairie during blooming season, such as at Hartley/Cowan WPA (Stop 21) or Neugebauer GPA (Stop 36). You will find yourself connected across time to the pioneers who settled this beautiful land 150 years ago.

Baird’s Sparrow
Doug Backlund

Chestnut-collared Longspur
Doug Backlund

Birding Trail Map Legend

- Birding Site
- Birding Trail Main
- Birding Trail Extra
- Interstates
- State Highways
- Rivers
- Lakes
- County Boundary
- City Limits
- Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA)
- Game Production Areas (GPA)
- Parks and Recreation Areas
- USFS Grasslands
- Reservations and Tribal Lands
- Parking
- Vault Toilet
- Comfort Station
Tips and Online Resources

Great Lakes Birding Trail

Birds of the Great Lakes Region

This guide provides general birding trail tips and information. Online resources are also available, just log onto the following web sites.

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.

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 birding 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. Most GPAs and WPAs have access but not a formal parking lot. On GPAs, a sign will be posted to “Park Cars Here” at the end of a trail or will tell you if vehicle travel is restricted. There are no fees required to visit WPAs and GPAs.

Multiple Use
Although the Great Lakes region of 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.

Waterfowl hunting from road rights-of-way is a popular activity in central South Dakota. Be aware of this fall and winter pursuit; and keep a respectful distance from these hunters, who often station themselves in road ditches.

Parks
All state parks and recreation areas require a park entrance license. All state parks offer parking and toilets. Most offer camping as well.

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.

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. This birding trail includes opportunities to view species with special protection from disturbance, such as the Least Tern, Piping Plover, Bald Eagle, and Whooping Crane. Adhere to any signs indicating the presence of nesting terns and plovers or wintering bald eagles. Violating federal or state laws protecting these species can result in serious penalties in addition to the potential harm done to the nesting, migrating or wintering birds. (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.

Online Resources
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Lake Andes and Huron Wetland Management District Office Web sites for regional wetland information.
WWW.FWS.GOV/LAKEANDES/WMD.HTM
WWW.FWS.GOV/HURONWETLANDS/

Great Lakes of South Dakota Tourism Association’s Web site for free Visitor Guide.
WWW.SDGREATLAKES.ORG

South Dakota Office of Tourism Web site for links to lodging, food and travel information.
WWW.TRAVELSD.COM

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe visitor information.
WWW.CRSTGFP.COM
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe visitor information.
WWW.LBST.ORG

Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge.
WWW.FWS.GOV/LAKEANDES

South Dakota Ornithologists’ Union Web site for current sightings and birding information.
WWW.SDOU.ORG/

WWW.RECREATION.GOV/

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Web site for information about corps-controlled land at the Fort Randall and Big Bend dams.
WWW.NNO.USACE.ARMY.MIL/HTML/LAKE_PROJ/
Oahe Downstream Recreation Area

HABITAT
Large cottonwood and deciduous forest, bays, rock-embanked Missouri River tailrace below Oahe Dam, brushy and sandy shorelines, trails and roadways.

BIRDS TO LOOK FOR
Many species of ducks, geese, gulls, terns, shorebirds along the shore and tailrace plus loons and grebes in migration. Songbirds, owls, woodpeckers, and raptors; 69 species have been banded over the years at Fisherman’s Point. In winter, as many as 90 Bald Eagles may be seen in trees near the river. Woody draws and tree plantings harbor five to six species of owls. Rarities: Harlequin Duck, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Mew Gull, all three species of scoters, Caspian Tern, Pacific Loon, Chuck-Wills-Widow, Worm-eating Warbler. Accidental: All three species of jaegers, Arctic Tern, Red-throated Loon.

BEST BIRDING MONTHS
March through October. State park entrance license required. P, T, CS-summer

TIPS
Check West-side tailrace area, the river tail waters, and bays for water birds, gulls, terns and raptors. In the marina area, bird along trails, through campgrounds and out at the point at the southern end of the recreation area. This small forest area is the best place for migrating warblers. Just south of the Oahe Downstream Recreation Area is Fisherman Point. Check the river edge and sandbars for waterfowl and gulls. The trees, shelterbelts, and man-made wetland offer migrating warblers, thrushes, Winter Wren, Fox Sparrow, Lazuli Bunting, Mourning Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Indigo Bunting, Green Heron, Virginia Rail, Sora, American Bittern, and wintering sparrows. At the archery range, a little north on Hwy 1806 of the Oahe Recreation Area turnoff, Common Poorwills may be heard in the evening in the summer.

CONTACT
District Park Supervisor, Oahe Downstream, 20439 Marina Loop Rd., Ft. Pierre, SD 57532 (605) 223-7722.

Peoria Flats Lakeside Use Area

HABITAT
Grassy draws and river bottom, gravel and sandy shore.

BIRDS TO LOOK FOR
Piping Plovers on sandbars off the Flats and Least Terns flying up and down the river, Barn Owl, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Bell’s Vireo, Blue Grosbeak, Dickcissel, Loggerhead Shrike, sparrows, Prairie Falcon, waterfowl and shorebirds. Rarities: Gyrfalcon, Northern Goshawk and Snowy Owl in winter.

BEST BIRDING MONTHS
January through September. P, T

TIPS
From the time you turn north on Highway 1804 north of Pierre and then west toward Peoria Flats, watch along the drive for Gyrfalcons in winter, and other raptors, owls, sparrows, and shrikes.

CONTACT
District Park Supervisor, Oahe Downstream, 20439 Marina Loop Rd., Ft. Pierre, SD 57532 (605) 223-7722.
Okobojo Point, Cow Creek, and Spring Creek Recreation Areas

Habitat
Cedar draws, shoreline, camping areas, deciduous and evergreen shelterbelts, cottonwoods, grassy knolls/fields.

Birds to Look For

Best Birding Months
January through September. State park entrance license required. P, T, CS-summer at Okobojo Point & Cow Creek.

Tips
These three state recreation areas are close to each other and share similar habitat. Follow roads throughout the areas, both walking and driving.

Little Bend GPA and Lakeside Use Area

Habitat
Peninsula into Lake Oahe. Miles of shoreline, grassy slopes, steep and gently sloping cedar draws, exposed cliffs.

Birds to Look For
Excellent birding area for many species of raptors, songbirds, waterfowl, and owls. Barn Owl, Short-eared Owl, Long-eared Owl, and Saw-whet Owl are found here, as are Piping Plover and Least Tern. Sharp-tailed Grouse are common.

Best Birding Months
March through November. State park entrance license required. P, T

Tips
For Saw-whet Owl, try carefully climbing down cedar draws, searching clumps of cedars, November through February. Good area for Northern Shrikes in winter.

Contact
District Park Supervisor, Oahe Downstream, 20439 Marina Loop Rd., Fort Pierre, SD 57532, (605) 223-7722.

Contact
District Park Supervisor, West Whitlock Recreation Area, 16157 A West Whitlock Rd., Gettysburg, SD 57442, (605) 765-9410.
**Stone Lake, Cottonwood Lake and Onida Area GPA**

**HABITAT**

Onida Area GPA: 80 acre wetland with an ash tree planting.
Cottonwood Lake GPA: 160-acre GPA shallow lake with shrubby shoreline, shelterbelt with pine and cedar trees, dead cottonwoods, deciduous grove.
Stone Lake GPA: 748 acres of open sandy and rocky shoreline and shallow lake with a small shelterbelt of deciduous trees alongside road.

**BIRDS TO LOOK FOR**


**BEST BIRDING MONTHS**

March through November.

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**Rice Lake GPA**

**HABITAT**

In years of normal rainfall, this 256-acre GPA has a large wetland. In dry years, the mixed native prairie and CRP grassland still provide good sparrow, longspur and grouse habitat. Area has several large old cottonwood trees.

**BIRDS TO LOOK FOR**

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Grasshopper Sparrow, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Western Meadowlark, Upland Sandpiper. When wetland is active, look for Marsh Wren, shorebirds, waterfowl, Northern Harrier, Short-eared Owl.

**BEST BIRDING MONTHS**

April through September.

**TIPS**

From Rice Lake GPA, take a short drive east to Rezac Lake GPA, where normal rainfall years provide a large wetland. Several shelterbelts are contained on this GPA, providing varied bird habitat. Many species of waterfowl, shorebirds, songbirds and other prairie species have been found here.

**CONTACT**

SDGFP, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office, (605) 734-4530.
Lake Hiddenwood Recreation Area

HABITAT  
Mixed deciduous, cedar and pine woods, small lake and creek in 332-acre recreation area.

BIRDS TO LOOK FOR  
Clay-colored Sparrow, Black-throated Green Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, many warbler species in migration, vireos, thrushes, waterfowl, egrets and herons.

BEST BIRDING MONTHS  
April through September. State park entrance license required.

TIPS  
Good trails along creek, lake shore, and through woods.

CONTACT  
District Park Supervisor, West Whitlock Recreation Area, 16157 A West Whitlock Rd., Gettysburg, SD 57442, (605) 765-9410.

West Whitlock Recreation Area

HABITAT  
At the edge of Oahe Reservoir, this 175-acre recreation area has a large stand of trees in addition to shoreline and grassy slopes.

BIRDS TO LOOK FOR  
Gulls, Sharp-tailed Grouse, songbirds.

BEST BIRDING MONTHS  
April through September. State park entrance license required. P, T, CS-summer

TIPS  
Walk the Louis Badger Trail. Look for the prairie dog town on the Siebrasse GPA between Bob’s Resort and the S. Whitlock area resorts off 212. Park at field entrance; go through gate; walk to top of hill. Burrowing Owls are scattered throughout.

CONTACT  
District Park Supervisor, West Whitlock Recreation Area, 16157 A West Whitlock Rd., Gettysburg, SD 57442, (605) 765-9410.
**Lake Pocasse and Pollock Nature Trail**

**Habitat**
Reservoir with sandy and rocky shore, a long tree belt with the Pollock Nature Trail woven through, and a large marsh with brush and cattails through Pocasse Wildlife Refuge.

**Birds to Look For**
At the lake, shorebirds, ducks, geese. Along the nature trail, warblers, thrashers, flickers, vireos, catbirds, thrushes. At the marsh, in normal rainfall years, excellent for marsh birds, heron.

**Best Birding Months**
April through September.

**Tips**
Go north from Pollock on A Street to boat ramp. The nature trail takes off to the east for approximately a mile along the shore of Lake Pocasse. This is a good vantage point for the lake as well. The west branch of the Nature Trail starts from the east parking lot of the Pollock Sports Complex just west of the Lake Pocasse dam. Highway 10 crosses the lake and offers excellent viewing.

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**Revheim Bay Recreation Area**

**Habitat**
There are 296 acres of grassy bluffs overlooking Oahe Reservoir, several shelterbelts with small trees and dense brush, and native prairie grasses outside picnic areas. Below the high water line, young cottonwoods and sandy beaches prevail.

**Birds to Look For**
Gray Catbird, Spotted Towhee, Yellow Warbler, Lark Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, warblers and thrushes in migration, gulls, waterfowl, grouse.

**Best Birding Months**
April through September. State park entrance license required.

**Tips**
Walk and drive the roads through the area. Walk the sandy beaches in low-water years. Look for a trail that runs along the bluff.

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**Contact**
Park Manager, Indian Creek Recreation Area, 12905 288th Ave., Mobridge, SD 57601, (605) 845-7112.
**Grand River National Grassland**

**Habitat**

Thousands of acres of native mixed-grass prairie with scattered wetlands. Prairie dog colonies are present. Inquire at Forest Service office for locations.

**Birds to Look for**


**Best Birding Months**

March through October.

**Tips**

The best way to explore the grasslands is to purchase a Grand River and Cedar River National Grasslands Visitor’s Map. The Lemmon Lake GPA, Humphrey Draw GPA and North Fork Grand River are excellent for birding; but if roads are rough, you will need a high-clearance vehicle. Ask for a copy of Bird Status and Distribution on the Grand River and Cedar River National Grasslands, 2005. Drive the Forest Service roads, watch for godwits, raptors, curlews, and Burrowing Owls (in prairie dog towns), and listen for pipits, longspurs and sparrows. Baird’s Sparrows move around the grassland but are most often found in the northwestern South Dakota sections.

**Contact**

Park Manager, Shadehill Recreation Area, 19150 Summerville Rd., Box 63, Shadehill, SD 57638, (605) 374-5114.

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**Great Lakes Birding Trail**

**Birds of the Great Lakes Region**

**Shadehill and Llewellyn Johns Memorial Recreation Areas**

**Birds to Look for**


**Best Birding Months**

April through September. State park entrance license required. P, T, CS-summer at Shadehill

**Tips**

At Shadehill Dam spillway, scan for Osprey, Bald Eagle, Bank, Cliff, and Barn Swallows. At Llewellyn Johns Rec. Area, walk north to Flat Creek Lake for grebes, ducks and shorebirds during migration.

**Contact**

Park Manager, Shadehill Recreation Area, 19150 Summerville Rd., Box 63, Shadehill, SD 57638, (605) 374-5114.

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June 3rd - I was just passing through and saw two Lazuli Buntings in the Recreation Area! Thrashers and a few Chats were out in the same afternoon too!
Little Moreau GPA

Habitat
Deciduous forest, spruce and cedars, hilly with grassy areas.

Birds to Look For
Ferruginous Hawk, Wild Turkey, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Black-headed Grosbeak, Great Horned Owl, sparrows, grosbeaks, Yellow Warbler, thrushes, towhees, woodpeckers and owls.

Best Birding Months
April through September.

Tips
Little Moreau is a good stop along the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation Birding Loop. Look for Northern Shrikes along area roads in the winter.

Contact
SDGFP, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office, (605) 734-4530.

Cheyenne River Indian Reservation Birding Loop

Habitat
Vast open grasslands and bluffs overlooking Oahe Reservoir.

Birds to Look For
Burrowing Owl, Grasshopper, Baird’s, and Savannah Sparrows, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Long-billed Curlew, Ferruginous Hawk, Golden Eagle, Prairie Falcon, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Sharp-tailed Grouse, waterfowl and geese, Snowy Owl in winter, plus all the woodland species to be found at the Little Moreau GPA stop on the trail.

Best Birding Months
April through October.

Tips
From Pierre, follow Hwy 34 west through Hayes, turning north on Hwy 63 and crossing the Cheyenne River onto the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation. There are two main loops on this birding trail, the BIA 8-Hwy 212 loop and the Hwy 212-BIA 7/BIA 4/County Rd. 18/Hwy 63 loop. A state scenic byway is part of this birding trail loop. Follow shorter or longer driving loops through different habitats. Look for prairie dog towns to find Burrowing Owls and raptors. This is sparsely populated country, so start with a full tank of gas and a sound vehicle.

Contact
Game, Fish and Parks Tourism Division, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, PO Box 212, E. Hwy 212, Eagle Butte, SD 57625.
**GYRFALCON LOOP**

**HABITAT**
Grasslands, inactive (Foster Bay) and active (Minneconjou) boat launch areas at Cheyenne River delta into Lake Oahe.

**BIRDS TO LOOK FOR**
Gyrfalcons (in winter), Ferruginous Hawk, Swainson’s Hawk, Golden Eagle, Long-billed Curlew, Short-eared Owl, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Baird’s Sparrow, Sharp-tailed Grouse, prairie sparrows.

**BEST BIRDING MONTHS**
January through October.

**TIPS**
From Fort Pierre, turn north on 1806, ending at Minneconjou boat launch; or drive west toward Hayes on Highway 34, through Hayes, then north on Hayes Rd, east on Sansarc and back to Hwy 1806; or continue past Hayes to Hwy 63, drive north past 192nd St. and bear right onto Foster Bay Rd., ending at the Foster Bay boat launch.

**LA FRAMBOISE ISLAND NATURE AREA**

**HABITAT**
Cottonwood and mixed deciduous and cedar woodland with open meadows, ponds and shoreline around the island.

**BIRDS TO LOOK FOR**

**BEST BIRDING MONTHS**
March through October. P, T

**TIPS**
Follow trails throughout island. It is common to find flycatchers and warblers right at the parking lot during migration. Check Hipple Lake, adjacent to the island, and the Missouri River channel for gulls and waterfowl.

**CONTACT**
Regional Park Supervisor, 1301 Farm Island Rd., Pierre, SD 57501, (605) 773-2885.

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**LEWIS AND CLARK TRAIL**

**HABITAT**
This paved walking/bicycling trail follows the east bank of the Missouri River from La Framboise Island to Farm Island through cottonwood groves, wetlands, brushy, sandy and rocky shoreline.

**BIRDS TO LOOK FOR**
Indigo Bunting, Baltimore Oriole, Black-headed Grosbeak, Yellow-breasted Chat, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Cooper’s Hawk, Gray Catbird, many of the species also found on La Framboise and Farm Islands.

**BEST BIRDING MONTHS**
April through October. P, T

**CONTACT**
Regional Park Supervisor, 1301 Farm Island Rd., Pierre, SD 57501, (605) 773-2885.

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**FARM ISLAND RECREATION AREA**

**HABITAT**
Dense cottonwood and deciduous forest, with cedars and willow underbrush, ponds and meadows.

**BIRDS TO LOOK FOR**

**BEST BIRDING MONTHS**
March through October. State park entrance license required. P, T, CS-summer

**TIPS**
Follow trails throughout island. It is common to find flycatchers and warblers right at the parking lot during migration. Check Hipple Lake, adjacent to the island, and the Missouri River channel for gulls and waterfowl.

**CONTACT**
Regional Park Supervisor, 1301 Farm Island Rd., Pierre, SD 57501, (605) 773-2885.
**ARIKARA GPA**

**HABITAT**
Man-made wetland with dense sedges, cattails. Water levels are changed periodically for management purposes, which changes the mix of species here.

**BIRDS TO LOOK FOR**
Sedge Wren, Marsh Wren, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Least Bittern, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Yellow-headed Black-bird, Great-tailed Grackle, Rarities: Le Conte’s Sparrow, Nelson’s Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Little Blue Heron. In years when water level is favorable for shorebirds, look for Hudsonian Godwit, Black-bellied Plover, American Golden-Plover, Red-necked Phalarope, Rarities: Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Red Knot.

**BEST BIRDING MONTHS**
April through September.

**TIPS**
Most years, this is a very good habitat for marsh birds.

**CONTACT**
SDGFP, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office, (605) 734-4530.

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**WEST BEND RECREATION AREA AND NORTH BIG BEND GPA**

**HABITAT**
Woodlands, river bottoms, grasslands.

**BIRDS TO LOOK FOR**
Indigo Bunting, Bay-breasted Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Black-throated Green Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Sabine’s Gull, Long-eared Owl, Bell’s Vireo, Cooper’s Hawk. In winter, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Northern Goshawk.

**BEST BIRDING MONTHS**
April through September. State park entrance license required at West Bend Recreation Area.

**TIPS**
Most years, this is a very good habitat for marsh birds.

**CONTACT**
West Bend Park Manager, 1301 Farm Island Rd., Pierre, SD 57501; (605) 773-2885; Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, PO Box 50, Fort Thompson, SD 57339-0050, (605) 245-2221.
Harter and Cowan WPAs

HABITAT
This 2,500-acre combined WPA includes native mixed and shortgrass prairie, and a huge glacial Kame, caused by glacial melt. Pronghorns can be found on this wide-open prairie with few trees.

BIRDS TO LOOK FOR
Greater Prairie-Chicken, Northern Harrier, Grasshopper Sparrow, Dickcissel, Bobolink, Swamp Sparrow, Yellow-headed Blackbird, many prairie species. Rarity: Baird’s Sparrow.

BEST BIRDING MONTHS
April through September.

TIPS
Drive into the WPA from the north. West side of Harter WPA offers a large population of Greater Prairie-Chickens. The east side of the Cowan WPA holds the ancient Kame and the possibility of Baird’s Sparrows on its native grassland slopes.

Brule Bottom GPA

HABITAT
This 2,000-acre GPA offers native grassland, dense cedar breaks, deciduous groves and designated trails to Missouri River shoreline.

BIRDS TO LOOK FOR
Sharp-tailed Grouse, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Great Horned Owl, Spotted Towhee, woodpeckers, warblers, thrushes, sparrows.

BEST BIRDING MONTHS
April through September.

TIPS
Some road access into the GPA. A nearby GPA to explore is the 172-acre Chamberlain Area GPA.

CONTACT
SDGFP, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office, (605) 734-4530.
**Red Lake and Boyer GPAs**

**HABITAT**
Red Lake GPA is a 65-acre site composed of rushes, cattails, a stand of trees and muddy shoreline. It sits at the north-east edge of Red Lake, a very large and shallow wetland. Boyer GPA is 1,393 acres of combined native prairie, cedar breaks and shoreline along the Missouri River.

**BIRDS TO LOOK FOR**
At Red Lake GPA: Osprey and many species of shorebirds and waterfowl in large numbers during migration. At Boyer GPA: Sharp-tailed Grouse, Grasshopper Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, Bell’s Vireo. Rarities: At Red Lake, Whooping Crane, Le Conte’s Sparrow, Nelson’s Sharp-tailed Sparrow.

**BEST BIRDING MONTHS**
April through September.

**TIPS**
Boyer, look for Sharp-tailed Grouse and Greater Prairie-Chicken on top of the ridge. Enter the GPA on the north, follow trail to the end and walk west along the river.

**CONTACT**

**White Lake, Humphrey Slough GPA and Humphrey WPA**

**HABITAT**
In years of normal rainfall, Humphrey Slough GPA plus Humphrey WPA provide 900 acres of slough, lake shoreline and mudflats, with brushy deciduous shelterbelts and a row of large dead cottonwoods.

**BIRDS TO LOOK FOR**
Dunlin, White-faced Ibis, White Pelican, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Black-bellied Plover, many hawks, shorebirds and waterfowl in migration.

**BEST BIRDING MONTHS**
May through October.

**TIPS**
White Lake and surrounding mudflats dry up completely during drought; but in years of normal rainfall, it is an excellent birding spot. A spotting scope is helpful for scanning the lake; 248th St. takes you right to the edges of the lake and mudflats.

**CONTACT**
GREAT LAKES BIRDING TRAIL

CHAIN LAKE (HOLOUBEK) GPA AND KOSS WPA

HABITAT GPA is a 480-acre site with three ponds, tree belts, shallow wetlands and restored prairie. Koss WPA is an 820-acre combined grassland and shallow wetland area with sedges, cattails, brushy shoreline and old remnant shelterbelts.

BIRDS TO LOOK FOR
Black-billed Cuckoo, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Bobolink, Chimney Swift, Sedge Wren, Willow Flycatcher, Sora, Orchard Oriole, Savannah Sparrow, shorebirds, swallows, ducks, sparrows.

BEST BIRDING MONTHS April through September.

TIPS
Enter Koss WPA from Highway 45 onto two-track, go 1/4 mile to parking area, walk another 1/4 mile to lake and lake bed.

CONTACT
SDGFP, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office, (605) 734-6530.

BROKEN ARROW WPA

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

BIRDS TO LOOK FOR
Sharp-tailed Grouse, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Sandhill Crane in migration, Ruddy Duck, Redhead, Upland Sandpiper, Marsh Wren, American Bittern, Blue Grosbeak. 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 the parking area extends one and one-half miles into the WPA through excellent wetland habitat.

CONTACT
**Great Lakes Birding Trail**

**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.

**Birds to Look for**

**Best Birding Months**
- April through October.

**Tips**
- A two-mile walking trail goes north from the parking area off Highway 1804 through bur oak woodlands and follows Platte Creek and up Castalia Creek. Look for migrating warblers and other songbirds, woodpeckers and eagles. The uplands at Gray GPA are composed of native prairie.

**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.

**Birds to Look for**

**Best Birding Months**
- March through October.

**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, American Bitterns, Green Herons and Marsh Wrens. 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.

**Contact**
- Lake Andes National Wildlife Refuge, 38672 291st St., Lake Andes, SD 57356, (605) 487-7603.
**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.

**BIRDS TO LOOK FOR**


**BEST BIRDING MONTHS**

March through October. State Park entrance license required. P, T, CS-summer.

**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. Another interesting area to drive is Svatos North 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, then go west and south along the west shore of Svatos Bay. This area offers great diversity of species including Olive-sided Flycatcher in migration, Indigo Bunting, Warbling Vireo, Upland Sandpiper and Greater Prairie-Chicken.

**CONTACT**

Park Supervisor, 38180 297th St. Lake Andes, SD 57356, (605) 487-7046.

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**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.

**BIRDS TO LOOK FOR**


**BEST BIRDING MONTHS**

Late March through October.

**TIPS**

This drive 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. Barn Owls can be found in holes in cliffs along the Missouri River. A good place to look is along the north shore cliffs just downstream from Springfield, but a motor boat is a necessity here. A popular canoe trip for experienced canoeists is an overnight camping trip from Pickstown to Running Water.

**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; Sioux Falls Regional Office, (605) 362-2700.
**Great Lakes Birding Trail**

**Burke Lake Recreation Area**

**Habitat**
This 200-acre site includes a small lake surrounded by ponderosa pine, red cedar, apple trees, and prairie grassland.

**Birds to Look For**
Blackpoll and Black-and-white Warblers, Western Grebe, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Red-eyed and Warbling Vireos, several species of ducks and shorebirds. Rarities: Summer Tanager, Chestnut-collared Longspur.

**Best Birding Months**
April through September. P, T

**Tips**
Follow roads and trail through area and around lake. Driving loop: From Burke Lake, drive to Dog Ear Lake (birding trail stop # 33) but also drive to 120-acre Rahn Lake GPA, southeast of Dog Ear Lake, and up to 280-acre Snow Dam GPA just south of Hamill in northern Tripp County. At Snow Dam GPA with boxelder, ash, willow, plum thickets and a few cottonwoods around the lake, look for many species of songbirds and waterfowl.

**Contact**
District Park Supervisor, Snake Creek Recreation Area, 35316 SD Hwy. 44, Platte, SD 57369.

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**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 river.

**Birds to Look For**

**Best Birding Months**
September through December for gulls, November through February 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 closed-to-visitors Karl Mundt National Wildlife Refuge downstream may be easily seen flying up and down the river. Continue south to the Randall Creek Recreation Area. Walk roads through the park, campground and along the bluffs above the river. The road through the area is closed to vehicles October 1 through April 30 to help protect wintering Bald Eagles. Look for the historic, restored Fort Randall Chapel. Take the interpretive trail walk, listen for Northern Bobwhites and look for songbirds and hawks in the fields and trees nearby.

**Contact**
Park Manager, Randall Creek Recreation Area, 38180 297 St., Lake Andes, SD 57356, (605) 487-7046; South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office, (605) 734-4530; Lake Manager, United States Army Corps of Engineers, PO Box 199, Pickstown, SD 57367.
**Great Lakes Birding Trail**

**Dog Ear Lake GPA**

**HABITAT**
This GPA consists of 318 acres with a small lake, cottonwoods, willows, pine and mixed tree plantings, and some patches of cattails.

**BIRDS TO LOOK FOR**
Trumpeter Swan, Wilson’s Snipe, Long-billed Curlew, Sedge Wren, Upland Sandpiper, Great Blue Heron, Red-headed Woodpecker. In migration, Northern Waterthrush, Ovenbird, Palm Warbler, Wilson’s Warbler.

**BEST BIRDING MONTHS**
April through September.

**TIPS**
Dog Ear Lake has consistently had a pair of breeding Trumpeter Swans, though not every year. Access is from the north. Rahn Lake, with dense pine and cedar plantings, is an especially good winter birding spot for Northern Goshawk, Purple Finch, Townsend’s Solitaire, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Black-billed Magpie, Great Horned Owl.

**CONTACT**
SDGFP, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office, (605) 734-4530.

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**Buryanek Recreation Area and Buryanek GPA**

**HABITAT**
Buryanek GPA is over 3,600 acres and sits just to the south of 70-acre Buryanek Recreation Area. Both areas include scattered shrub thickets, woodlands, native grasslands and heavy cedar draws overlooking the Missouri River.

**BIRDS TO LOOK FOR**
Bell’s Vireo, Yellow-breasted Chat, Black-billed and Yellow-billed Cuckoos, Cooper’s Hawk, Eastern Screech-Owl, Savannah Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Baltimore Oriole, Spotted Towhee, Black-headed Grosbeak, Blue Grosbeak.

**BEST BIRDING MONTHS**
April through September. State park entrance license required at recreation area. P, T, CS-summer.

**TIPS**
Walk trails on the GPA. Roads wind through the campgrounds at the Recreation Area. Driving route: Drive south from the GPA on old Hwy 1806 and then gravel road across open rangeland to Whetstone Bay GPA and Whetstone Bay Recreation Area. Look for Lark Bunting, Ferruginous Hawk, Prairie Falcon and Grasshopper Sparrow. Whetstone Bay area includes cottonwoods, river bottoms and willow thickets. Here, look for flycatchers and ten species of warblers in migration, Eastern Bluebird, Upland Sandpiper. Rarity: Clark’s Grebe at Whetstone Bay Recreation Area. The road beyond the recreation area is public up to Mulehead Ranch.

**CONTACT**
District Park Supervisor, Snake Creek Recreation Area, 35316 SD Hwy. 44, Platte, SD 57369; SDGFP, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office, (605) 734-4530.
LINDLEY AREA AND GAMMON BOTTOM GPAS

HABITAT
These large GPAs, together nearly 2,000 acres, consist of river bottom, cottonwoods, willows and grassland.

BIRDS TO LOOK FOR
Bell’s Vireo, Black-headed Grosbeak, Dickcissel, Black-billed and Yellow-billed Cuckoos, shorebirds, hawks, warblers in migration, prairie species, owls, woodpeckers, grouse. Rarity: Lark Bunting, Black-billed Magpie.

BEST BIRDING MONTHS
April through September.

TIPS
Go approximately one half mile south on Hwy 47 from the Hwy 47 and 49 junction and turn east onto the gravel road at the small Public Access sign. Approximately one mile east will be a junction. Turn north to go to Gammon Bottom GPA; continue east into Lindley Area GPA.

CONTACT
SDGFP, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office, (605) 734-4530.

BYRE BOTTOM AND NEUGEBAUER GPAS

HABITAT
Byre Bottom GPA includes deciduous shelterbelts, two small ponds, grassland, cropland and a brush-covered dike overlooking the White River. Neugebauer GPA is a 1,565-acre expanse of native prairie that runs from the top of the White River bluffs down to the river. It is drivable ONLY in dry weather.

BIRDS TO LOOK FOR

BEST BIRDING MONTHS
April through October.

TIPS
At Byre Bottom, enter just north of the White River bridge off Hwy 47; follow the designated two-track nearly 2 miles through different habitats, ending at the ponds and river dikes. At Neugebauer, the 2-mile road through the GPA down to the river may not be driven in wet or potentially rainy weather, but it may be walked any time.

CONTACT
SDGFP, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office, (605) 734-4530.

CARPENTER AREA GPA

HABITAT
This 1,200-acre GPA sits on the bluffs overlooking the Missouri River and includes native grasses, cedar draws and shelterbelts plus scenic vistas of prairie and the river.

BIRDS TO LOOK FOR
Eastern Bluebird, Loggerhead Shrike, Vesper Sparrow and other grassland sparrows, Gray Catbird, Red-tailed Hawk, many songbird species, grouse, prairie-chickens, Long-eared Owl.

BEST BIRDING MONTHS
April through October.

TIPS
Follow gravel roads and two-tracks through GPA, walking where vehicles are restricted during drought conditions.

CONTACT
SDGFP, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office, (605) 734-4530.

KIOWA GPA

HABITAT
GPA offers 1,800 acres of varied habitat with cottonwood stands, cedar stands, deciduous groves, grassland, creeks running into the Missouri River and shoreline.

BIRDS TO LOOK FOR
Gray Partridge, Sandhill Crane in migration, Turkey Vulture, American Kestrel, Eastern Screech-Owl, Common Nighthawk, Hairy Woodpecker, Eastern and Western Kingbirds, Black-headed Grosbeak, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow.

BEST BIRDING MONTHS
April through October.

TIPS
Follow gravel roads and two-tracks through GPA, walking where vehicles are restricted during drought conditions.

CONTACT
SDGFP, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office, (605) 734-4530.
**Great Lakes Birding Trail**

**Birds of the Great Lakes Region**

**Big Bend Dam**

**Habitat**

Behind the dam is Lake Sharpe and below the dam flows the tailrace back into the Missouri River. River banks, both upstream and downstream, offer brushy and deciduous tree habitat.

**Birds to Look For**

This is an excellent area for many species of gulls, terns and waterfowl. Look for the Osprey platform on the southern downstream side.

**Best Birding Months**

March through November.

**Tips**

A scope is helpful in searching groups of gulls and terns resting on rocky shores and sand spits.

**Contact**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Big Bend Project, 33573 N. Shore Rd., Chamberlain, SD 57325, (605) 245-2255.

**Lower Brule Indian Reservation Birding Loop**

**Habitat**

Routes BIA 10 and Hwy 1806 provide a scenic and bird-filled drive through the reservation. Habitats include grassland, cedar draws, bluffs, farmland, wetlands, cottonwood bottoms and deciduous tree stands. For walking areas, please register at tribal wildlife headquarters and pick up a map. All are invited to drive through, stopping along the road at any safe spot.

**Birds to Look For**

Ferruginous Hawk, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Rough-legged Hawk, Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle, Burrowing Owl, waterfowl, Western Meadowlark, prairie sparrows, White Pelican, Short-eared Owl, Chestnut-collared and Lapland Longspurs, Horned Lark, Osprey, songbirds and woodpeckers.

**Best Birding Months**

March through October.

**Tips**

Good stopping places along the route include the Narrows Boat Ramp, Medicine Creek, Cedar Creek and Mni Sho Sho Goose Camp. Please contact or stop by the Wildlife Dept. Headquarters to register and pick up a map if you plan to include hiking on the Lower Brule birding trail loop.

**Contact**

Lower Brule Wildlife, Fish, and Recreation, Box 246, Lower Brule, South Dakota 57548, (605) 473-5666, E-mail: www.LBWFR1@wcenet.com
Fort Pierre National Grassland

HABITAT
116,000 acres of native mixed-grass prairie, small wetland at Richland Dam, creeks, few trees and shrubby draws and swales. Prairie dog colonies are present. Inquire at Forest Service office for locations.

BIRDS TO LOOK FOR
Gyrfalcon, Prairie Falcon and several additional species of raptors, Lapland Longspur and Snowy Owl in winter, Burrowing Owl, Chestnut-collared Longspur, prairie sparrows. Rarity: Sprague’s Pipit, Say’s Phoebe at bridges over creeks, Wilson’s Phalaropes nesting in wetlands.

BEST BIRDING MONTHS
December through February for Gyrfalcons and Snowy Owls, August through October for Sprague’s Pipits, April through October for nesting and migrating prairie species.

TIPS
Driving east on County Line Road from Hwy 83 and then following gravel roads off County Line Road yields good chance of Snowy Owl and Gyrfalcon in winter, weather and driving conditions permitting. Sprague’s Pipit has been found in late summer on the grassland turning west on the two-track about one-half mile south of Richland Dam; watch and listen for them for the next mile. Prairie dog colonies provide great birding areas for Chestnut-collared Longspurs, Burrowing Owls and Ferruginous Hawks.

CONTACT

Antelope Creek GPA

HABITAT
This 270-acre GPA provides grassland, creek bed, shelterbelts and shrubby shoreline on the Missouri River.

BIRDS TO LOOK FOR
Sparrows, warblers in migration, towhees, Great Horned Owl, raptors, flycatchers, waterfowl, gulls, Loggerhead Shrike, Blue Grosbeak, Long-eared Owl, Bell’s Vireo, Eastern Bluebird nest in area.

BEST BIRDING MONTHS
March through October.

TIPS
Drive slowly down the road into the GPA, birding both sides of the road and around the parking area at the edge of the river. A prairie dog colony is about 1/4 mile east of the parking lot area. There are cedar draws downstream that provide a good hiking area, but there are no developed trails. A good drive to search for grassland birds is the Bad River Road which takes off from Hwy 83 to the west from just south of Fort Pierre. This road runs for several miles along the Bad River, then stretches west to Highway 14, a few miles north of Midland. Turning north onto Hwy 14 takes you up to Hayes and back into Pierre. This is a good loop to look for Gyrfalcons in winter.

CONTACT
SDGFP, Wildlife Division, Chamberlain Regional Office, (605) 734-4630.
The Ornithologists’ Union of South Dakota

GREAT LAKES BIRDING CHECKLIST

BIRDS OF THE GREAT LAKES REGION

LOONS
- Pacific Loon
- Common Loon

GREYES
- Pied-billed Grebe
- Horned Grebe
- Red-necked Grebe
- Eared Grebe
- Clark’s Grebe
- Western Grebe

PILICANS
- American White Pelican
- Brown Pelican

CORMORANTS
- Double-crested Cormorant

BITTERNs, HERONS, EGrets, IBises
- American Bittern
- Least Bittern
- Great Blue Heron
- Snowy Egret
- Little Blue Heron
- Cattle Egret
- Green Heron
- Black-crowned Night-Heron

YELLOW-crowned Night-Heron
- White-faced Ibis

VULTURES
- Turkey Vulture

GREENS
- Greater White-fronted Goose
- Snow Goose
- Ross’s Goose
- Canada Goose
- Cackling Goose
- Brant

SWANS, DUCKS
- Trumpeter Swan
- Tundra Swan
- Wood Duck
- Gadwall
- Eurasian Wigeon
- American Wigeon
- American Black Duck
- Mallard
- Blue-winged Teal

Cinnamon Teal
- Northern Shoveler
- Northern Pintail
- Green-winged Teal
- Canvasback
- Redhead
- Ring-necked Duck
- Greater Scaup
- Lesser Scaup
- Surf Scoter
- White-winged Scoter
- Black Scoter
- Long-tailed Duck
- Buffhead
- Common Goldeneye
- Barrow’s Goldeneye
- Hooded Merganser
- Common Merganser
- Red-breasted Merganser
- Ruddy Duck

RAILS, COOTS
- Green-winged Teal
- Virginia Rail
- Sora
- American Golden Plover
- Sandhill Crane
- Whooping Crane
- Black-bellied Plover
- American Golden-Plover
- Semipalmated Plover
- Piping Plover
- Killdeer
- Black-necked Stilt
- American Avocet

SANDPIPERS, PHALAROPES
- Greater Yellowlegs
- Lesser Yellowlegs
- Solitary Sandpiper
- Willet
- Spotted Sandpiper
- Upland Sandpiper
- Whimbrel
- Long-billed Dowitcher
- Hudsonian Curlew
- Marbled Godwit
- Ruddy Turnstone
- Red Knot
- Sanderling
- Semipalmated Sandpiper
- Western Sandpiper
- Least Sandpiper
- White-rumped Sandpiper
- Baird’s Sandpiper
- Pectoral Sandpiper
- Dunlin
- Ruff
- Stilt Sandpiper
- Buff-breasted Sandpiper
- Short-billed Dowitcher
- Long-billed Dowitcher
- Western Gull
- Black-bellied Plover
- Common Golden Plover
- Horned Lark

Cocks
- Yellow Rail
- King Rail
- Virginia Rail

CRANES
- Whooping Crane

AVOCETS
- Black-bellied Plover

WOODCOCKS
- American Woodcock

CHUCK-WILL’S-WIDOWS
- Chuck-will’s-widow

BARN SWALLOWS
- Bank Swallow
- Chimney Swift

WHITESTORMS
- Snowy Plover

GRACKLES
- Common Grackle

SHRIKES
- Loggerhead Shrike
- Northern Shrike
- Northern Wheatear
- Loggerhead Thrush

MINIDs
- Gray Catbird
- Northern Mockingbird

SANDGROUSEs
- migrant

SANDGROUSEs
- Red-tailed Hawk

FINCHES
- Northern Flicker
- Hairy Woodpecker
- Downy Woodpecker
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

HUMMINGBIRDS
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird
- Rufous Hummingbird

KINGFISHERS
- Belted Kingfisher

WOODPECKERS
- Red-headed Woodpecker

FLYCATCHERS
- Olive-sided Flycatcher

Cuckoos
- Black-billed Cuckoo

VENEERs
- Chestnut-sided Warbler
- Blackburnian Warbler

TOWHEES
- Yellow-rumped Warbler

SPARROWS
- Northern Mockingbird

MIMIDs
- Varied Thrush

WAXINGs
- Blue-faced Bunting

WARRIORS
- Blue-winged Warbler

GODAUXES
- Northern Harrier

VEERy
- American Pipit

WOODCATS
- Sharp-shinned Hawk

REDHEADEDs
- Red-breasted Nuthatch

DUCKS
- Northern Shoveler
- Chestnut-sided Warbler

GOLDEN GROSBEAKs
- Evening Grosbeak

POLLENs
- Black-capped Chickadee

TOMTATs
- Tufted Titmouse

SNAKES
- Eastern Garter Snake

FLYINGs
- California Gnatcatcher

COWBIRDs
- Carolina Chickadee

BLACKBIRDS
- American Kestrel
- American Kestrel

BIPPETs
- Bufflehead

LARKs
- Horned Lark

SPARROWS
- Black-throated Gray Warbler

SWALLOWS
- Blue-winged Warbler

SPOTTEDs
- Northern Phoebe

WAXINGs
- Cedar Waxwing

WARRIORS
- Blue-winged Warbler

BIRDS
- Trumpeter Swan

TOWHEES
- Wilson’s Phalarope

WEASELS
- Northern Bobwhite

SHRUBs
- Greater Prairie-Chicken

CHICKADEES, ALLIES
- Carolina Chickadee

WRENs
- Rock Wren

BUNTINGS
- White-throated Sparrow

TURKEYs
- Wild Turkey

ACCENTORS
- Northern Rough-winged Swallow

ROCKS
- Rock Pigeon

LAWS
- Barred Owl

BUNTINGS
- White-throated Sparrow

WRENs
- House Wren

FALCONS
- Red-tailed Hawk

SHEARWATERS
- Arctic Tern

SHERBORNEs
- Herring Gull

SPARROWS
- House Sparrow

GRACKLES
- Common Grackle

GROSBEAKs
- Rusty Blackbird

WOODPARTRIDGES
- Field Sparrow

KANs
- Male Cuckoo

SPARROWS
- Black-throated Blackbird

WAXINGs
- American Pipit

SPARROWS
- Common Redpoll

WARRIORS
- Northern Parula

LEMMINGS
- Black-throated Gray Warbler

PARTRIDGES
- Northern Bobwhite

DONUTs
- Black-throated Green Warbler

TANAGERS
- Summer Tanager

TOWHEES
- American Pipit

MOURNINGs
- American Pipit

REDSPRINGS
- Red SPARROW

STORKs
- Snowy Owl

LARKs
- Tree Swallow

REDSHANKs
- American Pipit

DICKCISSELS
- Red-headed Blackbird

DICKCISSELS
- Red-winged Blackbird

SHRUBs
- American Pipit

SPEARs
- Cliff Swallow

PINE GROSBEAKs
- American Pipit

TURTLES
- Yellow-throated Warbler

SWIMMERS
- Common Merganser

HUMMINGBIRDS
- Ruby-throated Hummingbird

VANESSas
- American Redstart

CRANES
- Whooping Crane

VANESSas
- American Redstart

DICKCISSELS
- Rusty Blackbird

SHEARWATERS
- American Redstart

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The Great Lakes Birding Trail Guide is a cooperative service of the following:

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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Great Lakes Birding Trail

Great Lakes Region

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