

Checklist of Chequamegon Bay Birds



Evening Grosbeak



NOTES:

The Chequamegon Bay area is among the best birding locations in Wisconsin. Situated along the south shore of Lake Superior, the bay is a unique landscape feature that forms a central point for a diversity of habitats, including open water, mudflats, coastal wetlands, open fields, pine barrens, and varied forest types. As a result, the bay area hosts a wide variety of bird species that depend on these habitats during the breeding, migration, and winter seasons. Abundant public lands and extraordinary natural beauty further provide visitors with unparalleled bird watching opportunities in this exceptional area of northern Wisconsin.

This checklist includes more than 300 bird species that have been observed at least once in the Chequamegon Bay area since 1972. The list applies to areas of Ashland, Bayfield, and Iron Counties within a 40-mile radius of the city of Ashland, Wisconsin, and includes species observed by or reported to the authors. Note that codes for relative abundance are the subjective opinions of the authors based on their 43 years of collective experience and that occurrence/abundance can vary even within season, depending on time of year, habitat, and other conditions.

For more information on birds of the Chequamegon Bay area or to report unusual sightings (rare, accidental, or not listed), please contact Ryan Brady at 715-685-2933 or ryanbrady10@hotmail.com.

Compiled by Ryan Brady and Dick Verch, May 2007
Photographs by Ryan Brady and Dick Verch
Piping Plover cover art courtesy of Greg Alexander

Co-sponsored by the Chequamegon Bay Birders and Northern Migrations Backyard Birding and Gift Shoppe, Washburn, Wisconsin

	Sp	Su	F	W
CHICKADEES, TITMICE, NUTHATCHES, and CREEPERS				
___ Black-capped Chickadee*	C	C	C	C
___ Boreal Chickadee*	R	R	R	R
___ Tufted Titmouse	A	A	A	A
___ Red-breasted Nuthatch*	C	C	C	C
___ White-breasted Nuthatch*	U	U	U	U
___ Brown Creeper*	U	U	U	R

	Sp	Su	F	W
WRENS, KINGLETS, GNATCATCHERS, and THRUSHES				
___ House Wren*	C	C	R	
___ Winter Wren*	C	C	U	
___ Sedge Wren*	C	R		
___ Marsh Wren*	R	U	A	
___ Golden-crowned Kinglet*	U	U	U	R
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet**	U	R	U	
___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	A	A		
___ Eastern Bluebird*	C	C	U	
___ Mountain Bluebird	A			
___ Townsend's Solitaire	A		A	A
___ Veery*	C	C	A	
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush	R		R	
___ Swainson's Thrush*	U	R	U	
___ Hermit Thrush*	C	C	C	
___ Wood Thrush*	U	U		
___ American Robin*	C	C	R	
___ Varied Thrush	A	A	A	

	Sp	Su	F	W
MOCKINGBIRDS to WAXWINGS				
___ Gray Catbird*	C	C	R	A
___ Northern Mockingbird	A	A	A	A
___ Brown Thrasher*	C	C	R	A
___ European Starling*	C	C	C	C
___ American Pipit	R		U	
___ Bohemian Waxwing	U		U	U
___ Cedar Waxwing*	C	C	U	R

	Sp	Su	F	W
WARBLERS and TANAGERS				
___ Blue-winged Warbler	A			
___ Golden-winged Warbler*	U	U	R	
___ Tennessee Warbler	U	U	C	
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	R		R	
___ Nashville Warbler*	C	C	U	
___ Northern Parula*	U	U	U	
___ Yellow Warbler*	C	C	R	
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler*	C	C	U	
___ Magnolia Warbler*	U	U	U	
___ Cape May Warbler**	U	R	U	
___ Black-throated Blue Warbler*	U	U	R	
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler*	C	U	C	
___ Black-throated Green Warbler*	C	C	U	
___ Blackburnian Warbler*	U	U	R	
___ Yellow-throated Warbler	A			
___ Pine Warbler*	C	C	R	
___ Palm Warbler*	C	R	C	
___ Bay-breasted Warbler	U	R	U	
___ Blackpoll Warbler	U	R	U	
___ Black-and-white Warbler*	C	C	U	
___ American Redstart*	C	C	U	
___ Ovenbird*	C	C	R	
___ Northern Waterthrush*	U	U	U	
___ Louisiana Waterthrush	A			
___ Connecticut Warbler*	R	R	A	
___ Mourning Warbler*	U	C	R	

	Sp	Su	F	W
___ Common Yellowthroat*	C	C	U	A
___ Hooded Warbler	A			
___ Wilson's Warbler	U	R	R	
___ Canada Warbler*	U	U	R	
___ Yellow-breasted Chat	A			
___ Summer Tanager	A			
___ Scarlet Tanager*	U	U	R	
___ Western Tanager	A			

	Sp	Su	F	W
SPARROWS and ALLIES				
___ Green-tailed Towhee			A	
___ Eastern Towhee*	U	U	R	A
___ American Tree Sparrow	U	U	U	R
___ Chipping Sparrow*	C	C	U	
___ Clay-colored Sparrow*	C	C	U	
___ Field Sparrow*	R	R	A	
___ Vesper Sparrow*	U	U	U	
___ Lark Sparrow	A		A	
___ Lark Bunting	A			
___ Savannah Sparrow*	C	C	U	
___ Grasshopper Sparrow	A	A		
___ Le Conte's Sparrow*	U	U	A	
___ Fox Sparrow	U		U	A
___ Song Sparrow*	C	C	C	A
___ Lincoln's Sparrow*	U	R	U	
___ Swamp Sparrow*	C	C	C	
___ White-throated Sparrow*	C	C	C	R
___ Harris's Sparrow	R		U	A
___ White-crowned Sparrow	U		U	
___ Dark-eyed Junco*	C	R	C	R
___ Lapland Longspur	R		U	A
___ Smith's Longspur	A			
___ Snow Bunting	U		C	U

	Sp	Su	F	W
CARDINALS and ALLIES, and BLACKBIRDS				
___ Northern Cardinal*	U	U	U	U
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak*	C	C	U	A
___ Indigo Bunting*	U	U	A	
___ Dickcissel**	R	R		
___ Bobolink*	C	C	R	
___ Red-winged Blackbird*	C	C	C	R
___ Eastern Meadowlark*	C	C	U	A
___ Western Meadowlark**	R	R		
___ Yellow-headed Blackbird**	R	R		
___ Rusty Blackbird	R	A	U	A
___ Brewer's Blackbird*	U	C	R	
___ Common Grackle*	C	C	C	A
___ Brown-headed Cowbird*	C	C	R	
___ Orchard Oriole	A			
___ Baltimore Oriole*	C	C	R	

	Sp	Su	F	W
FINCHES and ALLIES, and OLD WORLD SPARROWS				
___ Pine Grosbeak	U		U	U
___ Purple Finch*	C	C	C	U
___ House Finch*	C	C	C	C
___ Red Crossbill*	R	R	R	R
___ White-winged Crossbill**	R	R	R	R
___ Common Redpoll	U		U	U
___ Hoary Redpoll	A		A	A
___ Pine Siskin*	U	U	U	U
___ American Goldfinch*	C	C	C	U
___ Evening Grosbeak*	U	U	U	U
___ House Sparrow*	C	C	C	C



Ring-necked Duck

SEASONS:

Sp = Spring March – May
 Su = Summer June – August
 F = Fall September – November
 W = Winter December – February

RELATIVE ABUNDANCE:

C = Common Observed annually in good numbers; not difficult to find in appropriate habitat
 U = Uncommon Observed annually in small to moderate numbers; may be difficult to find even in appropriate habitat
 R = Rare Observed in most years in small to very small numbers; often difficult to find
 A = Accidental Observed once every three or more years; unpredictable and very infrequently found

* = regularly breeds in the area in varying numbers
 ** = only occasionally breeds in the area, usually in very small numbers

GEESE, SWANS, and DUCKS

	Sp	Su	F	W
Greater White-fronted Goose	R		A	
Snow Goose	R		U	
Ross's Goose	A		A	
Cackling Goose	R		U	A
Canada Goose*	C	C	C	R
Mute Swan**	U	U	U	A
Trumpeter Swan**	R	R	R	A
Tundra Swan	U	A	U	R
Wood Duck*	C	C	U	
Gadwall	U	R	U	A
American Wigeon	U	R	U	A
American Black Duck*	U	U	U	U
Mallard*	C	C	C	C
Blue-winged Teal*	C	C	U	
Northern Shoveler**	U	R	R	A
Northern Pintail	U	R	R	A
Green-winged Teal**	C	R	C	A
Canvasback	U	R	U	A
Redhead	U	R	U	A
Ring-necked Duck*	U	U	U	A
Greater Scaup	C	R	U	A
Lesser Scaup	C	R	C	A
King Eider				A
Harlequin Duck				A
Surf Scoter	R	R		
White-winged Scoter	R	R	A	
Black Scoter	R	R		
Long-tailed Duck	A	R	R	
Bufflehead	C	R	C	A

	Sp	Su	F	W
Common Goldeneye	C	R	C	R
Barrow's Goldeneye	A			
Hooded Merganser*	U	U	U	A
Common Merganser*	C	U	C	R
Red-breasted Merganser*	U	R	U	A
Ruddy Duck	R	A	R	

GROUSE and TURKEYS

Ring-necked Pheasant*	R	R	R	R
Ruffed Grouse*	C	C	C	C
Spruce Grouse**	A	A	A	A
Sharp-tailed Grouse*	R	R	R	R
Wild Turkey*	R	R	R	R

LOONS and GREBES

Red-throated Loon			A	
Pacific Loon			A	
Common Loon*	C	C	C	
Pied-billed Grebe*	C	U	U	
Horned Grebe	U	A	U	
Red-necked Grebe	R		R	
Eared Grebe	A			
Western Grebe			A	A

PELICANS, CORMORANTS, HERONS, BITTERNS, and ALLIES

American White Pelican	U	R	R	
Double-crested Cormorant*	C	C	C	A
American Bittern*	U	U	R	
Least Bittern**	R	R	A	
Great Blue Heron*	C	C	C	A
Great Egret	R	R	A	
Snowy Egret	A	A		
Tricolored Heron	A			
Cattle Egret	A		A	
Green Heron*	U	U	R	
Black-crowned Night-Heron	A	A		
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	A		A	

VULTURES, HAWKS, EAGLES, FALCONS and ALLIES

Turkey Vulture*	C	C	U	
Osprey**	U	U	U	
Bald Eagle*	C	C	C	C
Northern Harrier*	U	U	U	A
Sharp-shinned Hawk*	C	U	C	R
Cooper's Hawk*	U	R	U	A
Northern Goshawk*	R	R	R	R
Red-shouldered Hawk	R	A		
Broad-winged Hawk*	C	C	C	
Swainson's Hawk	A			
Red-tailed Hawk*	C	U	U	R
Rough-legged Hawk	U	U	U	
Golden Eagle	R	A	A	A
American Kestrel*	C	C	C	A
Merlin*	U	U	U	R
Gyrfalcon	A	A	A	
Peregrine Falcon	R	R		

RAILS, COOTS, and CRANES

Yellow Rail*	R	R		
Virginia Rail*	U	U	R	
Sora*	C	C	U	
American Coot	U	A	C	A
Sandhill Crane*	U	U	U	

SHOREBIRDS

	Sp	Su	F	W
Black-bellied Plover	U	R	U	
American Golden-Plover	R	R	R	
Wilson's Plover	A			
Semipalmated Plover	U	U	U	
Piping Plover**	R	R	A	
Killdeer*	C	C	C	A
Black-necked Stilt	A			
American Avocet	R	A	A	
Spotted Sandpiper*	C	C	C	
Solitary Sandpiper	U	U	R	
Greater Yellowlegs	C	R	U	
Willet	R	A	A	
Lesser Yellowlegs	C	U	U	
Upland Sandpiper*	U	U		
Whimbrel	R	A		
Hudsonian Godwit	R			
Marbled Godwit	R	A	A	
Ruddy Turnstone	U	A	R	
Red Knot	R	A	A	
Sanderling	U	U	U	
Semipalmated Sandpiper	U	U	R	
Least Sandpiper	C	U	U	
White-rumped Sandpiper	R	R	A	
Baird's Sandpiper	R	R	A	
Pectoral Sandpiper	U	U	U	
Dunlin	C	R	R	
Stilt Sandpiper	R	R	A	
Buff-breasted Sandpiper	A	A	A	
Short-billed Dowitcher	U	R	R	
Long-billed Dowitcher	R	R	R	
Wilson's Snipe*	C	C	U	A
American Woodcock*	U	U	R	
Wilson's Phalarope	R			
Red-necked Phalarope	A	A	A	

GULLS, TERNS, and JAEGERs

Laughing Gull	A	A		
Franklin's Gull	R	R	R	
Little Gull	A	A	A	
Bonaparte's Gull	C	R	U	A
Ring-billed Gull*	C	C	C	A
Herring Gull*	C	U	C	U
Thayer's Gull	A		A	A
Iceland Gull				A
Lesser Black-backed Gull	A	A		
Glaucous Gull	R		R	R
Great Black-backed Gull	A	A	A	A
Black-legged Kittiwake			A	
Ross's Gull				A
Caspian Tern	U	R	U	
Black Tern	R	R	A	
Common Tern*	C	C	U	
Arctic Tern	A			
Forster's Tern	U	R	R	
Pomarine Jaeger			A	
Parasitic Jaeger			A	
Long-tailed Jaeger		A		

PIGEONS, DOVES, CUCKOOS, and ANIS

Rock Pigeon*	C	C	C	C
Mourning Dove*	C	C	C	U
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	A	A	A	

	Sp	Su	F	W
Black-billed Cuckoo*	U	U	R	
Groove-billed Ani				A

OWLS

Great Horned Owl*	C	C	C	C
Snowy Owl	R	A	R	U
Northern Hawk Owl	A		A	A
Barred Owl*	C	C	C	C
Great Gray Owl**	R	R	R	R
Long-eared Owl*	R	R	R	A
Short-eared Owl	R		R	A
Boreal Owl	A		A	A
Northern Saw-whet Owl*	U	U	U	R

GOATSUCKERS, SWIFTS, HUMMINGBIRDS, and KINGFISHERS

Common Nighthawk*	U	U	U	
Whip-poor-will*	U	U	R	
Chimney Swift*	C	C	R	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	C	C	U	
Rufous Hummingbird		A		
Belted Kingfisher*	C	C	C	A

WOODPECKERS and FLYCATCHERS

Red-headed Woodpecker*	R	R	R	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	R	R	R	R
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker*	C	C	U	
Downy Woodpecker*	C	C	C	C
Hairy Woodpecker*	C	C	C	C
American Three-toed Woodpecker		A		A
Black-backed Woodpecker*	R	R	R	R
Northern Flicker*	C	C	U	
Pileated Woodpecker*	U	U	U	U
Olive-sided Flycatcher*	R	R	A	
Eastern Wood-Pewee*	U	C	R	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher*	R	U	A	
Alder Flycatcher*	U	C	R	
Least Flycatcher*	C	C	R	
Eastern Phoebe*	C	C	R	
Great Crested Flycatcher*	U	U	R	
Western Kingbird	A	A	A	
Eastern Kingbird*	C	C	R	
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher				A

SHRIKES and VIREOS

Loggerhead Shrike	A	A		
Northern Shrike	U	U	U	U
Yellow-throated Vireo*	U	U	A	
Blue-headed Vireo*	U	U	R	
Warbling Vireo*	U	U	A	
Philadelphia Vireo**	R	R	R	
Red-eyed Vireo*	C	C	U	

JAYS, CROWS, LARKS, and SWALLOWS

Gray Jay*	R	R	R	R
Blue Jay*	C	C	C	C
American Crow*	C	C	C	C
Common Raven*	C	C	C	C
Horned Lark	R		U	
Purple Martin*	U	U	A	
Tree Swallow*	C	C	A	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow*	U	U	A	
Bank Swallow*	U	U	A	
Cliff Swallow*	C	C	A	
Barn Swallow*	U	U	A	