



Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*)

Breeding male is mostly white with an iridescent green head, and gray back and tail. Non-breeding male and female have rusty brown heads with feathers extending out from the back (like a mohawk), a white chin, and salty gray breast, back and wings. Both sexes have a long, thin, scarlet-orange bill. They primarily feed on fish, but also feed on insects, small mammals, and other birds. They can be seen at the park year round and breed in the area March through November. **Voice:** Female gives harsh call notes; male in display gives faint twanging notes.



Belted Kingfisher (*Ceryle alcyon*)

Both sexes have a large, thick bill, bluish-gray head (with a mohawk) and back, white throat and collar, and are white underneath with a blue breast band. Females have an additional reddish-brown band across the chest below the blue band. They primarily eat fish, but also eat insects. They can be seen at the park year round and breed in the area March through November. **Voice:** Call is very distinctive, long, uneven clattering rattle.

Picnic Area

Northern Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*)



Both sexes are brownish with a barred back, spotted belly, mostly gray or brown head, and a black breast-band. Males show a red moustachial strip. When in flight they show their white rump and orange-red wing linings. They can be seen at the park year round and breed March through November. **Voice:** High piercing *keew*. Song is a long strong series *kwik-wikwik-wikwi* (up to 15 seconds long).



American Goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*)

Male is bright yellow with a distinct black forehead, wings are black with white bars, and tail is black and white with white outer feathers. Female lacks the black forehead, is yellowish-gray-brown, and has two light wing-bars. They feed on tree buds and weed seeds. They can be seen at the park year round and breed in the area March through November. **Voice:** High phrases to *WEE to WEE to WEE to tweer tweer tweer ti ti ti ti*. Flight call is a soft, whistled, descending series *ti di di di*.



Lesser Goldfinch (*Carduelis psaltria*)

Smaller than the American. Their body is bright yellow to dull brown, with a dull greenish back. Their wings are dark and have weak wingbars with a patch of white below them. They have short tails and large, dark bills. Breeding males are bright yellow with a black cap and wings, and some have black backs. Females lack the black cap. They feed primarily on seeds. They can be seen at the park year round and breed in the area March through November. **Voice:** Song is slower, hoarser, and more disjointed than American. Call is a high, clear, wiry *tleeee, teeeeyEE, or tseeeew*. Flight call is a hoarse grating *chig chig chig*.

American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*)



Both sexes have rusty brown backs spotted with black and a pair of black vertical slashes on the sides of their pale faces. Males have slate-blue wing bands. Their tail has a black sub-terminal band with a white tip. Females have a black banded tail. They feed mainly on insects and small mammals. They can be seen at the park year round and breed in March through November. **Voice:** A shrill screaming *killy killy killy* or *klee klee klee*.



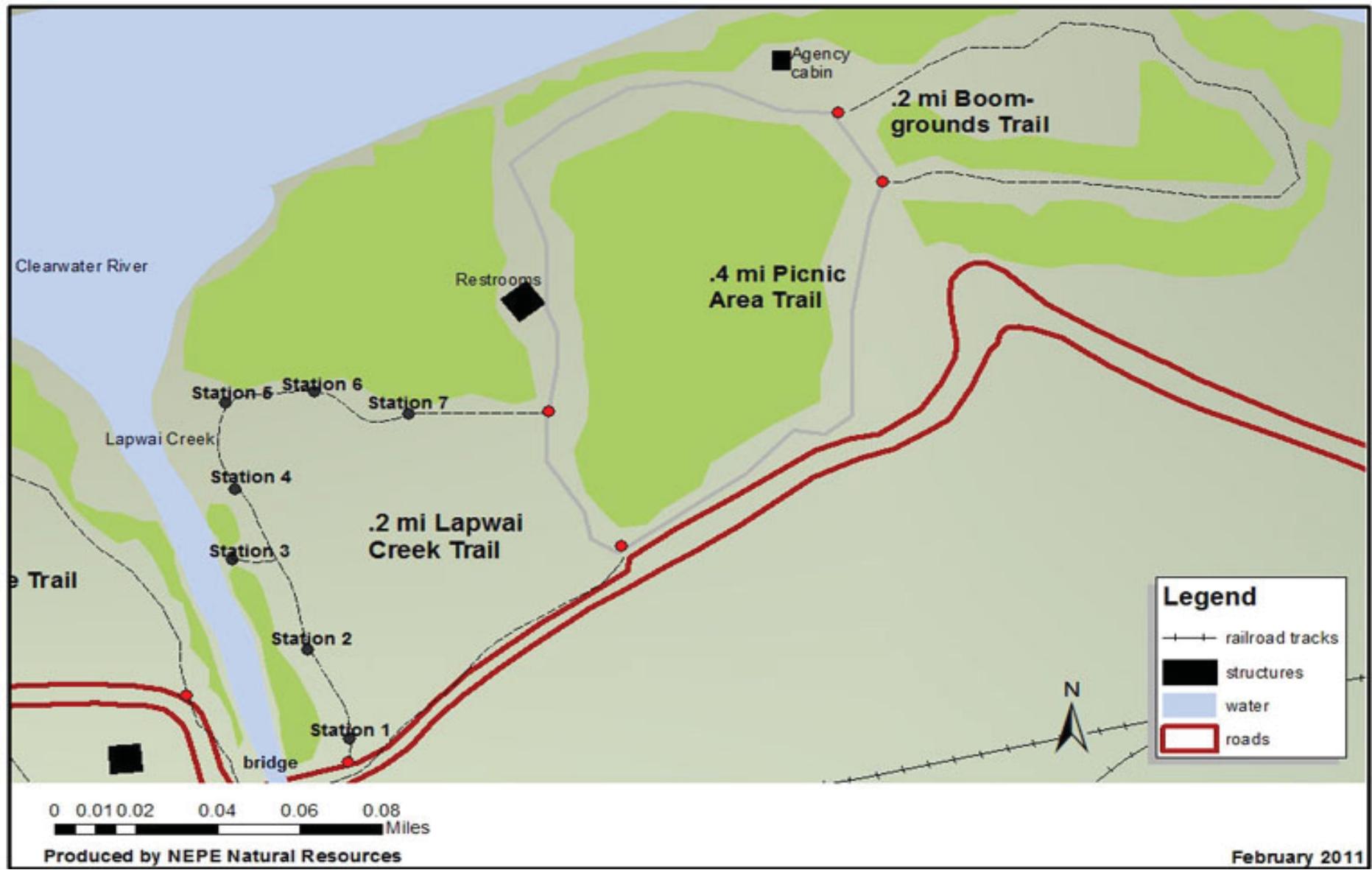
This guide provides information on the different bird species that you can observe here at Spalding. Three popular bird viewing sites are listed, along with common birds seen at each. Happy birding!

Lapwai Creek Trail



Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*)

Largest of the North American herons, standing up to 4.5 ft tall, with a 6ft wingspan. They have a blue-gray base color, reddish gray neck, and a white crown stripe with a black stripe over each eye. Their chest and back are covered in long feathers that give a shaggy appearance. They have long thick bills which they use for spearing fish, small mammals and other prey. They can be found at the park year round, and breed in the area March through November. **Voice:** A very deep hoarse, trumpeting or croaking *fraaaaahnk*.



For more information on birds found in Nez Perce National Historical Park please visit our bird webpage at: <http://www.nps.gov/nepe/naturescience/birds.htm>.

Please stay on the trails. Dogs must be on leash.

Boom Grounds



Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*)

Most are rich brown above, and pale below with a belly band of dark

streaks. Tail is pale below and cinnamon-red above in adults, brown and banded in juveniles. Adults also have a dark mark on leading edge of their wings. There is a light morph form that has a pale breast contrasting with a brown head and streaked belly-band. They feed mainly on small mammals. They can be seen at the park year round and breed in March to November. **Voice:** Rasping whistled scream *cheeeeeew* falling in pitch and intensity.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)



Both sexes are brown above and white below. The Head is white with a broad brown stripe through the eye. They feed primarily on fish. They can sometimes be

seen in the park December to February, but are most often seen when breeding during March through November. **Voice:** Short shrill whistles, single or in a series.

Cedar Waxwing (*Bombicilla cedrorum*)



Both sexes have a silky brown chest and head crest, a black mask, yellow-tipped tail, red spots on wings (not always visible), a yellow tinged belly, and a gray

rump. They feed primarily on fruit. They can be found at the park year round and breed in March to November. **Voice:** Song is a series of call notes. Call is a high, thin, clear or slightly trilled *sreee*; given in chorus from flock.