



Forest Breeding Birds

Anderson Bay Loop Trail



Anderson Bay Overlook

Anderson Bay Loop Trail has many birds for viewing – usually in June. The species listed in this brochure have been heard or spotted since 2001.

When hiking this trail visitors should remember the area is covered in vegetation and be prepared for ticks, mosquitoes, and wet areas.

To get to Anderson Bay, visitors will need to travel by boat from the Rainy Lake boat launch 22 miles to the trailhead. **Navigational maps are highly recommended.**

The Anderson Bay Loop Trail traverses an elevated and glacially scoured pink granitic rock outcrop system. The rock is interspersed with a few beaver flowages, lowlands, wetlands, and Peary Lake.

The trail follows the high and open granitic knobs and ridges where jack, red, and white pines seemingly grow out of solid bare rock. The stands have little understory so one can easily see through them. Mosses and lichens form a shallow cover over the extensive outcrops. The soils are very shallow but support large areas of sweet fern, blueberry, wintergreen, bunchberry and bearberry.

Along the trail there are extensive vistas over Rainy and Peary Lakes and large, smooth, rounded glacial erratic rocks are strewn throughout the area. A northern portion of the trail follows the Rainy Lake shoreline for almost 400 meters.

Twelve species of breeding warblers typical of coniferous boreal forests are heard here. Black-backed woodpeckers nest in cavities of the abundant fire dependent jack pine. Blue-headed vireos, pine warblers, ruby and golden-crowned kinglets, hermit thrushes and red-breasted nuthatches also breed in the conifers.

White-throated sparrows and red-eyed vireos are common in the mixed forest areas. Echoing out of the more heavily forested coniferous areas is the sound of the winter wrens, brown creepers, and gray jays.



Bird rank indicates their abundance during all years of monitoring on this scale:

- A = abundant to most abundant
- C = common
- U = uncommon
- R = rare to least abundant

Anderson Bay Loop Checklist

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>SPECIES NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>
Loons		
○	Common Loon	U
Herons, Bitterns, & Allies		
○	Great Blue Heron	R
Ducks, Geese, and Swans		
○	Canada Goose	R
○	Mallard	U
Hawks & Eagles		
○	Broad-winged Hawk	U
Woodpeckers		
○	Black-backed Woodpecker	U
○	Downy Woodpecker	R
○	Hairy Woodpecker	U
○	Northern Flicker	U
○	Pileated Woodpecker	R
○	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	U
Tyrant Flycatcher		
○	Great-crested Flycatcher	R
○	Least Flycatcher	U
Vireos		
○	Blue-headed Vireo	U
○	Red-eyed Vireo	C
Jays & Crows		
○	American Crow	U
○	Blue Jay	U
○	Common Raven	R
○	Gray Jay	U

<u>GROUP</u>	<u>SPECIES NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>
Chickadees		
○	Black-capped Chickadee	U
Nuthatches		
○	Red-breasted Nuthatch	C
Creepers		
○	Brown Creeper	C
Wrens		
○	Winter Wren	U
Kinglets		
○	Golden-crowned Kinglet	U
○	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U
Thrushes		
○	American Robin	U
○	Hermit Thrush	C
○	Veery	U
Waxwings		
○	Cedar Waxwing	U
Wood-Warblers		
○	American Redstart	R
○	Black and White Warbler	U
○	Blackburnian Warbler	C
○	Black-throated Green Warbler	R
○	Chestnut-sided Warbler	U
○	Common Yellowthroat	R
○	Magnolia Warbler	U
○	Morning Warbler	U
○	Nashville Warbler	A
○	Ovenbird	C
○	Pine Warbler	U
○	Yellow-rumped Warbler	U
Sparrows & Allies		
○	Chipping Sparrow	A
○	Dark-eyed Junco	R
○	Song Sparrow	U
○	Swamp Sparrow	R
○	White-throated Sparrow	C
Blackbirds		
○	Common Grackle	R
Finches		
○	Evening Grosbeak	U
○	Purple Finch	U



Photo credit: Jim Hill

