

Birding Reports (May 2014)

May 26, 2014 — The peak bird migration is now on the downward slide for spring as most have already passed through or are currently nesting. The migration this year was delayed about a week due to a cold, wet spring.

The Trumpeter Swan pair is still on the nest at Rice Lake WMA. New arrivals include Indigo Bunting, Scarlet Tanager, Purple Martin, Green Heron, Canada Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Common Nighthawk, Eastern Kingbird, Golden-winged Warbler, Parula, and Orchard Oriole. Happy Birding!

Here are also the results from the **Big Bird Day count** and sit held at the Northland Arboretum on May 25.

A total of 89 species were observed and/or heard including 19 species of warblers and 2 species of vireos. 81 species were recorded on the Big Sit which started at 5 AM and continued until 5 PM. 65 species were recorded from the Big Day Teams that were out and about from 8 AM until about noon.

Trumpeter Swan, Canada Goose, Mallard, Hooded Merganser, Ruffed Grouse, Common Loon, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Great Egret, Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Killdeer, Black-bellied Plover (fly-over), Ring-billed Gull, Caspian Tern (fly-over), Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Barred Owl, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Least Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Blue-headed Vireo (formerly Solitary Vireo), Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Tree Swallow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, Veery, Swainson's Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing, Golden-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Northern Parula, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Palm Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Common Yellowthroat, Wilson's Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Chipping Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Harris's Sparrow, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Bobolink, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Baltimore Oriole, Purple Finch, House Finch and American Goldfinch.

May 19, 2014 — This week's birding report is sent from the start of 17th annual Detroit Lakes Festival of Birds. We are now near the peak of the spring bird migration with many new colorful birds arriving with some already moving northward to nest. I am hearing from many people who feed birds that the Yellow-rumped Warblers are coming to suet feeders and other foods. So far I have seen several species of Warblers coming into my feeders which is uncommon but fun to see them so close.

The list of birds found this week are: Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Oriole, Hummingbird, Harris Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Cape May Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Belted kingfisher, Blue-winged Teal, Mallard, Trumpeter Swan, Double-crested Cormorant, Common Loon (now can be seen on the platform on North Long

Lake by Ivans') Common Snipe, Bluebird, Whip-poor Will, Catbird, Kestrel, Red-tailed Hawk, Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Osprey, Phoebe, Woodduck, Towhee, Song Sparrow, Coopers Hawk, Blue-heron, Palm Warblers, Black and White Warbler and Pine Warbler.

New arrivals from the area this week include; Lincoln's Sparrow, Red-headed Woodpecker, Western Tanager, Great Egret and Magnolia Warbler. Happy Birding!

May 8, 2014 — The spring bird migration is now in full flight as new birds are arriving daily! This is best time to be birding at a local park or state park or the arboretum where 30 species of birds were found this morning during an Audubon bird walk. Here are the sightings from today and the past week in the area: Bald Eagle, Osprey, Sandhill Crane, Common Loon, Blue-winged Teal, Hooded Merganser, Raven, Killdeer, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Bluebird, Tree Swallow, Common Snipe, Sapsucker, Junco, Red-winged Blackbird, Great-blue Heron, Mallard, Goose, Trumpeter Swan, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Pine Warbler, House Finch, Purple Finch, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Coppers Hawk, Woodcock and Kestrel.

New birds include: Redstart, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Catbird, Vesper Sparrow, Harris Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Winter Wren, Oriole, Orange Crown Warbler, Brown Thrasher, Clay-colored Sparrow and Black and White Warbler. Happy Birding!

May 2, 2014 — The cold wet rain didn't bring many small migrants into the area over the last week, but the waterfowl migration is at its peak as area waters are now mostly open. On Tuesday at North Long Lake, the following were observed: Common Loon (6) Scaup (100), Eared/Horned Grebe (75) Ring-neck (40) Common Merganser (10), mallard, Pied-billed Grebe and Ring-billed Gull. Additional birds spotted within the last week includes; Common Loon, Cooper's Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Kestrel, Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Osprey, Woodduck, Mallard, Sandhill Crane, Hooded Merganser, Double-crested Cormorant, Trumpeter Swan, Great-blue Heron, Bluebird, Red-winged Blackbird, Grackle, Turkey, Junco, Raven, Tree Swallow, Sapsucker, Flicker and Yellow-rumped Warbler. Happy Birding!

At Rice Lake WMA along Co Rd 11: For a 3rd year, Trumpeter Swan are nesting! Also saw: Woodduck, Pied-billed Grebe, Ring-neck Duck, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Red-winged Blackbird and Yellow-rumped Warbler.

New arrivals: Pine Warbler, Northern Harrier, White-throated Sparrow, Blue-winged Teal, Horned/Eared Grebe, Scaup, Pelicans and Franklins Gull.

Happy Birding!

— Judd Brink, bird guide/owner, [MN Backyard Birds](http://MNBackyardBirds.com) & BirdsoftheByway.com