



MINNESOTA “WINTER BOREAL BIRDING”
LIST OF SPECIES RECORDED: February 21-25, 2019
Leaders: Alex Lamoreaux and Chris Brown

BIRDS

WATERFOWL

MALLARD (*Anas platyrhynchos*) – We encountered about 500 at Enbridge Pond in Superior, WI and a few dozen in a small open water section of Saint Louis Bay from the Port Terminal section of Duluth. A flock of about 50 flew by Canal Park in Duluth.

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK (*Anas rubripes*) – A handful seen amongst many Mallard at Enbridge Pond in Superior, WI and in a small open water section of Saint Louis Bay from the Port Terminal section of Duluth.

COMMON GOLDENEYE (*Bucephala clangula*) – 2 pairs in a small open water section of Saint Louis Bay from the Port Terminal section of Duluth, and a female at Canal Park in Duluth.

COMMON MERGANSER (*Mergus merganser*) – A flock of about 40 flew by Canal park in Duluth. Our last bird of the trip!

GROUSE, QUAIL, and ALLIES

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*) – One feeding at the Racek’s in Sax-Zim Bog. Wind chills of -30+ likely keeping the birds hunkered down and off of the lek!

WILD TURKEY (*Meleagris gallopavo*) – A flock of 9 feeding in the hedgerow at Mary Lou’s in Sax-Zim Bog.

PIGEONS and DOVES

ROCK PIGEON (*Columba livia*) – Up to a dozen plus encountered daily.

GULLS

HERRING GULL (*Larus argentatus*) – Only time at the Superior Landfill in Wisconsin, where there were about a dozen.

GLAUCOUS GULL (*Larus hyperboreus*) - One 1st cycle individual in flight at Superior Landfill, WI.

DIURNAL RAPTORS

BALD EAGLE (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) – A few seen every day, with a majority of individuals being adults.

NORTHERN GOSHAWK (*Accipiter gentilis*) – An adult along Highway 7 in Sax-Zim Bog showed well both perched and in flight.

OWLS

SNOWY OWL (*Bubo scandiacus*) – An astounding 6 individuals in Superior, WI, with 3 viewed from Enbridge Pond and another 3 around the perimeter of Bong Airport. All were tagged and all but one was heavily marked indicating a female/juvenile.

NORTHERN HAWK OWL (*Surnia ulula*) – We had wonderful views of the same bird on 3 days along McDavitt Road in Sax-Zim Bog.

WOODPECKERS

DOWNY WOODPECKER (*Picoides pubescens*) – Seen in small numbers on 4 day, mostly around feeding stations and along the boardwalks in Sax-Zim Bog.

HAIRY WOODPECKER (*Picoides villosus*) – Just as common as its smaller cousin in Sax-Zim Bog.

BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKER (*Picoides arcticus*) – After several failed attempts in Warren Nelson and Winterberry Bog, Adrian's vehicle found a male in the northern section of Sax-Zim Bog.

PILEATED WOODPECKER (*Dryocopus pileatus*) – Heard several times and one flying across the road in Sax-Zim Bog.

FALCONS

PEREGRINE FALCON (*Falco peregrinus*) – One perched at the top of the grain silo at Port Terminal near the bridge between Duluth and Superior, WI.

SHRIKES

NORTHERN SHRIKE (*Lanius excubitor*) – Most of our encounters with this fascinating species occurred in Sax-Zim Bog, with one or two individuals seen daily.

JAYS, MAGPIES, CROWS, and RAVENS

CANADA JAY (*Perisoreus canadensis*) – Note the name change from Gray Jay, and it is still not recognized as it's National Bird. Canada's doesn't even have one! A couple seen on 3 days, with our best looks at the Sax-Zim Welcome Center when they visited the deer carcass.

BLUE JAY (*Cyanocitta cristata*) – Seen in small numbers most days, most often around bird feeders. Surprisingly more Blue Jays seen on this years trip than Canada Jays!

BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE (*Pica hudsonia*) – One seen in flight as it flew out of Winterberry Bog in Sax-Zim Bog.

AMERICAN CROW (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) – Generally encountered in small numbers daily.

COMMON RAVEN (*Corvus corax*) – From one to two dozen encountered daily.

CHICKADEES

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE (*Poecile atricapillus*) – Widespread and numerous, especially at Sax-Zim Bog and wherever bird feeders were maintained.

BOREAL CHICKADEE (*Poecile hudsonicus*) – One individual seen well at the Admiral Road feeders in Sax-Zim Bog.

NUTHATCHES

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH (*Sitta canadensis*) – One or two at several feeding stations in Sax-Zim Bog.

STARLINGS

EUROPEAN STARLING (*Sturnus vulgaris*) – Seen daily, with a few dozen in Duluth and Superior, with only a handful seen in Sax-Zim Bog, mainly around farms.

WAXWINGS

BOHEMIAN WAXWING (*Sturnus vulgaris*) – A small flock feeding on Mountain Ash berries in Ely. Seen twice in Sax-Zim Bog, with both times being in small groups and fly-overs.

FINCHES and ALLIES

EVENING GROSBEAK (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) – 60+ at Mary Lou's feeders, and between half a dozen and two dozen at the Sisu feeders in Sax-Zim Bog.

PINE GROSBEAK (*Pinicola enucleator*) – Great views in Ely and at feeders in Sax-Zim Bog in particular at the Welcome Center, where there were over 20.

COMMON REDPOLL (*Acanthis flammea*) – The most common finch with large flocks scattered mostly around Sax-Zim Bog. Seen a hundred at a time was not uncommon, with the Welcome Center providing point-blank looks.

RED CROSSBILL (*Loxia curvirostra*) – A male teed up at the top of a spruce while looking for Spruce Grouse in Superior NF. Two flying over while viewing the Northern Hawk Owl in Sax-Zim Bog.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL (*Loxia leucoptera*) – Half a dozen calling as they flew over Nelson Warren Memorial Bog, and two feeding on grit along McDavitt Road in Sax-Zim Bog.

PINE SISKIN (*Spinus pinus*) – One or two individuals scattered at feeders in Sax-Zim Bog on 3 days.

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH (*Spinus tristis*) – 6 at feeders along Racek Road and one at the Welcome Center feeders in Sax-Zim Bog.

LONGSPURS and SNOW BUNTINGS

SNOW BUNTING (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) – Between one and three seen on three days along the railroad tracks that parallel Highway 7 in Sax-Zim Bog.

MAMMALS

RODENTS

EASTERN GRAY SQUIRREL (*Sciurus carolinensis*) – One along Spruce Road in Superior NF.

RED SQUIRREL (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*) – 2 to 4 seen on 3 days mainly at feeders in Sax-Zim Bog.

CARNIVORES

RED FOX (*Vulpes vulpes*) – One crossed the road and stopped to look at us, showing well in Superior NF.

AMERICAN MARTEN (*Martes americana*) – One came to the Admiral Road feeder in Sax-Sim Bog to feed on peanut butter!

EVEN-TOED HOOFED MAMMALS

WHITE-TAILED DEER (*Odocoileus virginianus*) – Seen daily, scattered in small numbers, mainly in and around wooded areas.