

Responsible Wildlife Viewing

- Maintain a respectful distance from wildlife, especially near nesting areas and feeding sites
- Heed closures for natural resource restoration and critical wildlife habitat
- Stay on the trail to minimize wildlife and habitat disturbance

Bird Conservation Tips

- Plant native vegetation
- Keep house cats indoors
- Purchase shade grown coffee
- Increase window visibility with bird tape, stickers, or fishing line to reduce collisions
- Join local birding organizations



Belted Kingfisher

Field Notes

Date: _____ Time: _____

Weather: _____

Observer(s): _____

Notes: _____

Key

Occurrence		
C	Common	Regularly found in season (>30% of visits)
U	Uncommon	Infrequent sightings (10–30% of visits)
R	Rare	Not expected, but likely occurs annually.
*	Very Rare/Accidental	Few historical records

Season	
W	Winter
Sp	Spring
Su	Summer
F	Fall



Hooded Merganser by Woody Green



Hecla Lake Open Space Rules & Regulations

- Hecla Lake Open Space is open daily one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset
- Stay on the trail to minimize wildlife disturbance and vegetation trampling
- No swimming or recreational activities are allowed in the lake
- Dogs must be on leash and under physical control at all times
- Dog waste must be picked up and properly disposed of



Open Space Mission

To conserve and restore Open Space through land acquisition and management for the protection of natural and cultural resources and provide opportunities for education, volunteering and appropriate passive recreation.



City of
Louisville

Parks, Recreation & Open Space

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American Avocet by Hannah Floyd



Bald Eagle, Red-winged Blackbird, Canada Geese by Pappa Dukes

Bird Checklist

at Hecla Lake Open Space



Hecla Lake Open Space

Hecla Lake Open Space features a 5.8-acre lake and 10 surrounding acres of bird habitat. Over 150 bird species have been documented at Hecla Lake Open Space to date, but many more species are possible.

The lake and shoreline attract migratory waterfowl and shorebirds. Great Blue Herons regularly use the island platform for nesting. Brushy upland areas are used by resident songbirds for breeding and as a stopover point for migrating songbirds.

Bird Checklist

This checklist is designed to help visitors record birds they observe while recreating at Hecla Lake Open Space. It was created using citizen science data from eBird.org and Open Space staff records. The checklist includes the species of wild birds that have been seen here since 2016

The taxonomic sequence and nomenclature follow the American Ornithological Society’s Checklist of North American Birds.



Great Blue Heron

Space is provided for recording the presence or number of each species found and general trip information. You can track and record your bird sightings on eBird.org.

If you find a species not on the current list, please email us at OpenSpace@LouisvilleCo.gov

	Sp	Su	F	W
 DUCKS, GEESE, & SWANS (Anatidae)				
Cackling Goose	R		C	C
Canada Goose	C	C	C	C
Wood Duck	C	U	C	U
Blue-winged Teal	U			
Cinnamon Teal	R		R	
Northern Shoveler	C		C	R
Gadwall	U		U	R
American Wigeon	C	R	U	C
Mallard	C	C	C	C
Northern Pintail		*		
Green-winged Teal	C		R	
Canvasback	R			*
Redhead	U	R	R	U
Ring-necked Duck	C	R	C	C
Greater Scaup	*			
Lesser Scaup	C	R	R	
Bufflehead	C		C	R
Common Goldeneye	C		C	C
Hooded Merganser	C	R	C	C
Common Merganser	R			R
Red-breasted Merganser				*
Ruddy Duck	U		R	

 GREBES (Podicipedidae)				
Pied-billed Grebe	C	C	C	
Horned Grebe	*			
Western/Clark's Grebe		*		

 PIGEONS & DOVES (Columbidae)				
Rock Pigeon	C	C	C	C
Eurasian Collared-Dove	C	C	C	C
Mourning Dove	C	C	U	U

 GOATSUCKERS (Caprimulgidae)				
Common Nighthawk		R		

 SWIFTS (Apodidae)				
Chimney Swift		R		
White-throated Swift	*			

 HUMMINGBIRDS (Trochilidae)				
Black-chinned Hummingbird	R	R		
Calliope Hummingbird		*		
Rufous Hummingbird		R		
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	U	U		

 COOTS & RAILS (Rallidae)				
American Coot	R		R	

 STILTS & AVOCETS (Recurvirostridae)				
American Avocet	C	R		

 PLOVERS (Charadriidae)				
Killdeer	C	C	U	

	Sp	Su	F	W
 SANDPIPERS & ALLIES (Scolopacidae)				
Baird's Sandpiper		*		
Marbled Godwit	*			
Least Sandpiper	*			
Long-billed Dowitcher	*		*	
Wilson's Snipe	R		*	
Red-necked Phalarope			*	
Spotted Sandpiper	C	C		
Solitary Sandpiper	*	*		
Greater Yellowlegs	U		U	
Lesser Yellowlegs	R			
Willet	*			

 GULLS (Laridae)				
Ring-billed Gull	R	R	C	C
California Gull		*		*

 CORMORANTS (Phalacrocoracidae)				
Double-crested Cormorant	C	C		

 PELICANS (Pelecanidae)				
American White Pelican	U	R	R	

 HERONS (Ardeidae)				
Great Blue Heron	C	C	U	
Snowy Egret	U	C		
Green Heron	*			
Black-crowned Night-Heron	U	C		

 VULTURES (Cathartidae)				
Turkey Vulture	U	U		

 OSPREYS (Pandionidae)				
Osprey	R	R		

 HAWKS & EAGLES (Accipitridae)				
Northern Harrier				*
Sharp-shinned Hawk			R	R
Cooper's Hawk	U	U	U	U
Bald Eagle	R	R	U	R
Swainson's Hawk	U	U		
Red-tailed Hawk	U	C	C	C

 TYPICAL OWLS (Strigidae)				
Great Horned Owl	U	U	U	U

 KINGFISHERS (Alcedinidae)				
Belted Kingfisher	U	R	U	

 WOODPECKERS (Picidae)				
Red-headed Woodpecker			*	
Downy Woodpecker	R	R	U	U
Hairy Woodpecker	*			
Northern Flicker	C	C	C	C

 FALCONS (Falconidae)				
American Kestrel	R	R	U	U
Merlin			R	
Peregrine Falcon		*		
Prairie Falcon			*	

	Sp	Su	F	W
 FLYCATCHERS (Tyrannidae)				
Western Wood-Pewee	R	R	R	
Willow Flycatcher			*	
Gray Flycatcher		U		
Dusky Flycatcher	R		R	
Cordilleran Flycatcher			*	
Eastern Phoebe	*			
Say's Phoebe	C	C	U	
Western Kingbird		*		

 JAYS & CROWS (Corvidae)				
Blue Jay	C	C	C	C
Black-billed Magpie	C	U	C	C
American Crow	C	C	C	C
Common Raven	U		U	R

 CHICKADEES (Paridae)				
Black-capped Chickadee	C	C	C	C
Mountain Chickadee			R	

 SWALLOWS (Hirundinidae)				
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	U	U		
Tree Swallow	U	U		
Violet-green Swallow	U	U		
Bank Swallow	R	R		
Barn Swallow	C	C		
Cliff Swallow	C	C		

 BUSHTITS (Aegithalidae)				
Bushtit	U	U	U	U

 KINGLETS (Regulidae)				
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	R		U	

 NUTHATCHES (Sittidae)				
Red-breasted Nuthatch	R		U	R
White-breasted Nuthatch	R	R	U	R

 CREEPERS (Certhiidae)				
Brown Creeper				R

 WRENS (Troglodytidae)				
Rock Wren			*	
House Wren	C	C		
Marsh Wren		*		

 STARLINGS (Sturnidae)				
European Starling	C	C	C	C

 THRUSHES (Turdidae)				
Eastern Bluebird	*			
Townsend's Solitaire				R
Swainson's Thrush	R			
Hermit Thrush			*	
American Robin	C	C	C	C

	Sp	Su	F	W
 WAXWINGS (Bombycillidae)				
Cedar Waxwing	R	R	R	

 OLD WORLD SPARROWS (Passeridae)				
House Sparrow	C	C	C	C

 PIPITS (Motacillidae)				
American Pipit			*	

 FINCHES & ALLIES (Fringillidae)				
House Finch	C	C	C	C
Pine Siskin		R		
Lesser Goldfinch		U	U	
American Goldfinch	C	C	C	R

 NEW WORLD SPARROWS (Passerellidae)				
Chipping Sparrow	U	R	U	
Clay-colored Sparrow	U			
Brewer's Sparrow	R	R		
Lark Sparrow		*	*	
American Tree Sparrow			U	U
Dark-eyed Junco	R		C	C
White-throated Sparrow			*	
White-crowned Sparrow	*		C	
Vesper Sparrow			*	
Song Sparrow	U	U	U	R
Lincoln's Sparrow			U	
Green-tailed Towhee			*	
Spotted Towhee	U	U	U	U

 BLACKBIRDS (Icteridae)				
Yellow-headed Blackbird	R	R		
Western Meadowlark		*		
Bullock's Oriole	R	R		
Red-winged Blackbird	C	C	U	U
Brown-headed Cowbird	U	R		
Rusty Blackbird			*	
Common Grackle	C	C	U	
Great-tailed Grackle	*	*		

 WOOD-WARBLERS (Parulidae)				
Northern Waterthrush	R			
Orange-crowned Warbler	U		R	
Nashville Warbler			*	
Virginia's Warbler	*			
MacGillivray's Warbler	*		*	
Common Yellowthroat	U	U		
Yellow Warbler	C		R	
Palm Warbler	*			
Yellow-rumped Warbler	C		C	
Townsend's Warbler			*	
Wilson's Warbler		U	C	

 CARDINALS & ALLIES (Cardinalidae)				
Western Tanager	R		R	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak			*	
Blue Grosbeak		*		
Lazuli Bunting	*			