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Welcome to Birding at CRCPRA

The Colfax Red Cedar Preserve and Recreation Area offers a variety of habitats with each called home or a stopover for different bird species. As you walk around the woodland, grassland, pond area or along the river, watch for the variety of birds that differ from one area to the next.

We encourage you to visit the Preserve during all four seasons to enjoy the abundance of birds that migrate through spring and fall, those who stick around to nest in the summer, and those hardy birds who use the pond, river, woodland and grassland during the winter.

For those of you new to birding, a set of binoculars and a good bird guide are all you need to get started. National Geographic Field Guide and Sibley Field Guide are two popular and easy to understand guidebooks. Look at a variety of guides to see which seems to be the most user friendly for you. Many people with smart phones are using bird identification apps that are easy to use in the field such as Merlin, Audubon, and Sibley. You will notice that several birds are secretive, hidden in foliage, or so active it is hard to get a clear visual identification. That's when it is good to bird with your ears. Most smart phone apps include song and call recordings of many North American bird species that will help you identify by ear rather than sight.

Included on the back page are a variety of the birds you might see on the property. Some will stop here on their migration route and some will nest or winter here. We encourage you to keep the list and mark the ones you have seen while visiting here. We also would appreciate your letting us know about your birding experience at CRCPRA and if you have seen some species that are not listed.

Pond area:	Black capped Chickadee	Chestnut-sided Warbler	
Red-winged Blackbird	Brown Creeper	Common Yellowthroat Warbler	
Bufflehead Duck	Mourning Dove		
Common Goldeneye Duck	Great Crested Flycatcher	Palm Warbler	
Lesser Scaup Duck	Least Flycatcher	Yellow Warbler	
Mallard Duck	Purple Finch	Yellow-rumped Warbler	
Ring-necked Duck	American Goldfinch	Cedar Waxwing	
Wood Duck	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Downy Woodpecker Hairy Woodpecker Pileated Woodpecker	
Pied-billed Grebe	Sharp-shinned Hawk		
Great Blue Heron	Blue Jay		
Green Heron	Eastern Wood Pewee	Red-bellied Woodpecker	
Eastern Kingbird	Eastern Phoebe		
Belted Kingfisher	White-breasted Nuthatch	Open Grassland:	
Common Merganser	Baltimore Oriole	American Crow	
Northern Shoveler	Orchard Oriole	American Kestrel	
Common snipe	Eastern Phoebe	Dark-eyed Junco	
Blue-winged Teal	Common Redpoll	Northern Flicker Northern Harrier	
	American Redstart		
River:	American Robin	Red-tailed Hawk	
Bald Eagle	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Killdeer	
Canada Goose	Pine Siskin	Eastern Meadowlark	
Osprey	Fox Sparrow	Common Nighthawk	
Tundra Swan	Song Sparrow	Ring-necked Pheasant	
	Tree Sparrow	Chipping Sparrow	
Woods and shrub area:	Tree Swallow	Clay colored Sparrow	
Eastern Bluebird	— Tufted Titmouse	Field Sparrow	
Indigo Bunting	Eastern Towhee	White throated Sparrow	
Northern Cardinal	Warbling Vireo	Wild Turkey	
Gray Catbird	Blackburnian Warbler	Turkey Vulture	