



White Pelican

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

FACILITIES: Boat launch, camping.

BEST VIEWING SEASONS: May - September; June; woodland species.

Woodpecker, Yellow-breasted Chat.

GENERAL INFO: Seven Sisters is a 562-acre public access area that offers hunting in the fall and winter, easy access to the Yellowstone River for small boats (no boat ramp; hand launch) and parking near water access.

HABITATS: Cottonwood riparian areas with open grassland meadows, river shoreline and backwater sloughs.

SPECIES: General species - Woodland birds, river shore and wading birds, grassland/ meadow birds. Highlighted species include American White Pelican, Great Blue Heron, American Avocet, Turkey Vulture, American Kestrel, Wild Turkey, Mourning Dove, Eastern Screech Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Northern Flicker, Barn Swallow, Blue Jay, Gray Catbird, Eastern Bluebird, House Wren, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Yellow Warbler, American Redstart, Baltimore Oriole, Black-headed Grosbeak, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-breasted Chat.

BEST VIEWING SEASONS: May - September; June; woodland species.

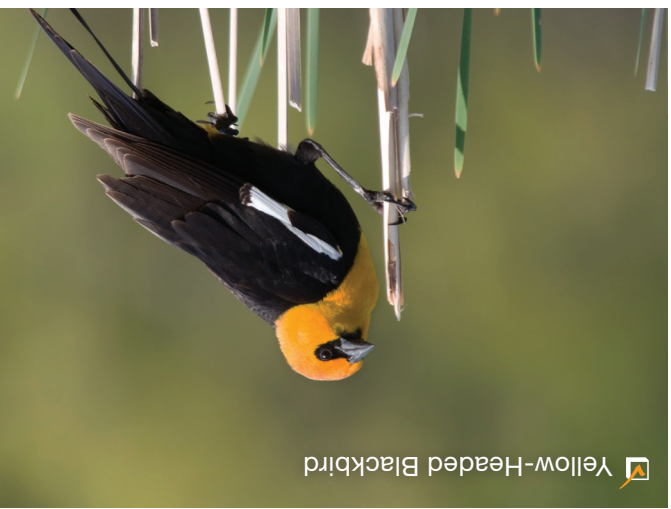
HABITATS: Riparian vegetation islands, large cottonwoods, shrub varieties, Yellowstone River. Backwater sloughs, near water access/boat ramp.

GENERAL INFO: Elk Island is a 1,227-acre public access area that offers hunting in the fall and winter, access to the Yellowstone River, a boat ramp in high water, and parking near water access/boat ramp.

DIRECTIONS: Located 19 miles south of Sidney off HWY 16. Turn east at mile marker 32 and drive 2 miles on a gravel road.

DIRECTIONS: Located 19 miles south of Sidney off HWY 16. Turn east at mile marker 32 and drive 2 miles on a gravel road.

1 ELK ISLAND FISHING ACCESS/WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA



Yellow-Headed Blackbird

2 SEVEN SISTERS WILDLIFE FISHING ACCESS / MANAGEMENT AREA

DIRECTIONS: 9 miles south of Sidney at mile marker 41 off HWY 16. Turn east on gravel road in the town of Crane and drive 1 mile.

GENERAL INFO: Seven Sisters is a 562-acre public access area that offers hunting in the fall and winter, easy access to the Yellowstone River for small boats (no boat ramp; hand launch) and parking near water access.

HABITATS: Cottonwood riparian areas with open grassland meadows, river shoreline and backwater sloughs.

SPECIES: General species - Woodland birds, river shore and wading birds, grassland/ meadow birds. Highlighted species include American White Pelican, Great Blue Heron, American Avocet, Turkey Vulture, American Kestrel, Wild Turkey, Mourning Dove, Eastern Screech Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Northern Flicker, Barn Swallow, Blue Jay, Gray Catbird, Eastern Bluebird, House Wren, Red-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Yellow Warbler, American Redstart, Baltimore Oriole, Black-headed Grosbeak, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-breasted Chat.

BEST VIEWING SEASONS: May - September; June; woodland species.

FACILITIES: Boat launch, camping.

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900



SAGE GROUSE

(800) 653-1319 MISSOURIRIVERMT.COM



This project is supported by your Montana Nongame Checkoff
Printed for Free Distribution. Printed and/or distributed with Accomodation Tax Funds. © 2021

MORE ROOM TO EXPLORE



Loggerhead Shrike



Burrowing Owl



Sandhill Cranes



MISSOURI RIVER COUNTRY

3 FOX LAKE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

DIRECTIONS: 21 miles west of Sidney on HWY 200, turn into Lambert. South entrance: Just south of Lambert, turn right onto Richard County Road 122. North entrance: Turn south off HWY 200 on 328, then turn right on County Road 123 (minimum maintenance road) and travel west to reach the north parking lot. Roads on north and south boundaries can be impassable during wet conditions.

GENERAL INFO: Fox Lake is a 1,374-acre public access area, divided into several cells and water levels vary depending on snowmelt and rainfall. The area offers seasonal hunting, and wetland conditions vary considerably due to weather. Shorebird and waterfowl use vary with these conditions as well. Vehicle access can be limited depending on the time of year and moisture conditions, but foot travel from access points is permitted and visitors are encouraged to call ahead of time to inquire about wetland conditions.

HABITATS: Marsh and lake surrounded by mixed grass prairie, alkali, cattail and brush wetlands, open meadows, seasonal mudflats.

SPECIES: General species - Waterfowl, wetland and grassland birds. Highlighted species - Ferruginous Hawk, Sharp-tailed grouse, Upland Sandpiper, Sprague's Pipit, Marbled Godwit, Wilson's Phalarope, Marsh Wren, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Tundra Swan, Sandhill Crane, large variety of shorebirds.

BEST VIEWING SEASONS: May - September; spring and late summer for migratory shorebirds.

FACILITIES: None. Food and gas available in Lambert, and overnight camping allowed in parking areas on wildlife management areas.

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 1 Airport Rd., Glasgow, MT 59230, (406) 228-3700

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

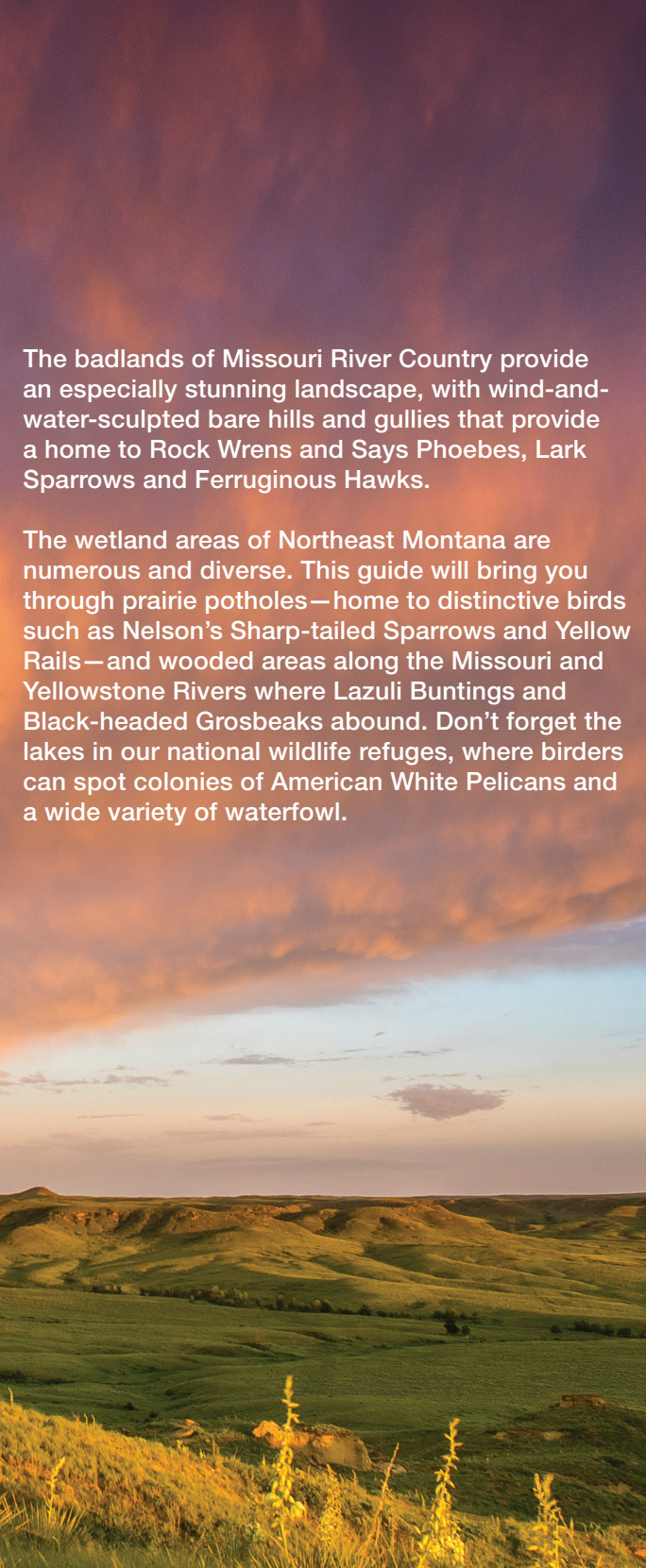
CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900



4 FORT PECK INTERPRETIVE CENTER TRAIL / CAMPGROUND

SPECIES: General species - wide variety of riparian-associated birds; many species of waterfowl and water-associated birds (loons, gulls) found on the lake and river; rare warbler and loon species. Highlighted species - Common Loon, Glaucous and Tayer's Gull (winter), Ring-billed Gull, Callinorina Gull, Caspian Tern, Common Tern, Least Tern, Franklin's Gull, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Bullock's Oriole, Brown Thrasher, Spotted Towhee, Gray Catbird, Black-headed Grosbeak, Western Wood-Pewees, Western Kingbirds, Warbling Vireos.

BEST VIEWING SEASONS: May - September, with June being the prime time for woodland species. Winter: rare gulls, snowy owls and gyrfalcons in the surrounding uplands. Spring and fall migrations: rare warbler and loon species.

FACILITIES: Campground and handicap-accessible and walking trail. Lodging in Fort Peck and Glasgow.

CONTACT: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 208, Fort Peck, MT 59223-0208, (406) 526-3411; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 166, Fort Peck, MT 59223-0166, (406) 526-3464

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 234-0900

CONTACT: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, 3521-1-94 Business Loop, Miles City, MT 59301, (406) 23

6 CHARLES M. RUSSELL NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AUTO TOUR ROUTE

DIRECTIONS: Between mile marker 88 and 89 on HWY 191, turn east onto gravel road #101. The Auto Tour Route is 19 miles long with 13 interpretive stops. Drive time is 2-3 hours.

GENERAL INFO: The Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1936, and it's the second largest refuge in the lower 48 states with 1.1 million acres. The Missouri River flows 125 miles through the refuge to the Fort Peck Dam. While it was established to protect Sharp-tailed Grouse and Pronghorn, many other wildlife species can be found here including elk, mule and white-tailed deer, bighorn sheep, coyotes, bobcats, beavers, black-tailed prairie dogs and the endangered black-footed ferret. A full bird list is available from refuge headquarters and field stations.

HABITATS: Coniferous woods, grasslands, sagebrush, riparian.

SPECIES: General species - sagebrush/grassland birds; waterfowl, riparian-associated and woodland species. Highlighted species - Sage and Sharp-tailed Grouse, Bald Eagle, Thick-billed Longspur, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Long-billed Curlew, Mountain Plover, Burrowing Owl, Golden Eagle, Ferruginous Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk (fall/winter), Swainson's Hawk.

BEST VIEWING SEASONS: April - October (early morning and late evening). Grouse dancing grounds/leks: late-March - mid-May.

FACILITIES: Picnic tables, campsites, restrooms.

CONTACT: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Charles M. Russell NWR, P.O. Box 110, Lewistown, MT 59457, (406) 538-8706, www.cmr.fws.gov

7 CAMP CREEK CAMPGROUND/LITTLE ROCKY MOUNTAINS

DIRECTIONS: From Malta, drive southwest approximately 38 miles on HWY 191 to Bear Gulch Road, turn west and continue 9 miles. Turn right onto the gravel entrance road and follow the signs.

GENERAL INFO: There's an overnight camping fee, but the campground and surrounding public lands are open to birding. A gravel road leads to the Beaver Creek headquarters.

HABITATS: Aspen forest along the creek, deciduous tree and shrub groves in mountain meadows, and coniferous forest.

SPECIES: General Species - forest species including warblers, woodpeckers, raptors, finches, wild turkeys, waxwing. Highlighted Species - Clark's Nutcracker, Red Crossbill, Mountain Chickadee, Townsend's Solitaire, Western Tanager, Pink-sided Junco, MacGillivray's Warbler, Red-naped Sapsucker, Spotted Towhee.

BEST VIEWING SEASONS: April - October; interesting birds are also present during winter.

FACILITIES: Camping, picnic, restrooms, walking trails. Zortman offers groceries, restaurants and gas.

CONTACT: Bureau of Land Management Malta Field Station, 501 South 2nd St. East, Malta 59538, (406) 654-5100

8 BOWDOIN NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

DIRECTIONS: Turn south off of HWY 2, 1 mile east of Malta. Follow blacktop road 6 miles to the entrance. From the east on HWY 2, turn south right after mile marker 479 and travel south 1.5 miles, then turn left at the blacktop road and drive east 1 mile to the Refuge entrance.

GENERAL INFO: The Bowdoin National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1936 to preserve and enhance resting, feeding and breeding habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife. Lake Bowdoin attracts migrating waterfowl by the tens of thousands. With more than 260 species, Bowdoin has been designated a Globally Important Bird Area by the American Bird Conservancy and a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network site. The Refuge is also home to more than 26 species of mammals and several species of reptiles and amphibians.

HABITATS: Freshwater & saline wetlands, native prairie, shrubs.

SPECIES: General species - shorebirds, waterfowl sagebrush/grassland songbirds. Highlighted species - Baird's Sparrow, Sprague's Pipit, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Grasshopper Sparrow, Yellow-headed Blackbird, American White Pelican, Black-crowned Night Heron, American Bittern, White-faced Ibis, Eared Grebe, Black-necked Stilt, Upland Sandpiper, Burrowing Owl, American Avocet, Marbled Godwit, Long-billed Curlew, Franklin's Gull, Black Tern.

BEST VIEWING SEASONS: April - October: waterfowl, late-summer: shorebirds, June: grassland songbirds.

FACILITIES: Restrooms, trail, photo blind, auto route, info kiosk. Bird list for the refuge available at refuge headquarters.

CONTACT: Bowdoin NWR 194 Bowdoin Auto Tour Road, Malta, MT 59538, (406) 654-2863, e-mail: bowdoin@fws.gov, www.bowdoin.fws.gov

9 WESTBY CITY PARK & SURROUNDING WATERFOWL PRODUCTION AREAS (WPAS)

DIRECTIONS: From Plentywood go east 26 miles on HWY 5 to Westby. City park: turn right (south) on Montana St., which intersects HWY 5. At 4th Ave., turn right and go to the bottom of the hill. To get to Stateline WPA, go north out of Westby on Main St. until you cross railroad tracks and see a grain elevator. Go north 1.7 miles and turn right on the first gravel road. Stateline WPA borders this road as it takes you east and north along MT-ND border. Other WPAs are in the area. Maps available from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Medicine Lake.

GENERAL INFO: Westby is in the glaciated hills of Northeast Montana, on the North Dakota border, a few miles from Canada. Many prairie birds that are rare in other parts of North America are common here. Westby city park is only 1.5 acres of deciduous woodland, yet attracts many woodland birds. WPAs near Westby are open to bird watching and hiking year-round, featuring migrating shorebirds and prairie songbirds. Other wetlands and prairies on private land can be viewed from the roads, just please respect private property.

HABITATS: Deciduous woodland in Westby city park, large blocks of native prairie and wetlands in nearby WPAS.

SPECIES: General species - woodland birds: warblers, thrushes, vireos, flycatchers. Countryside has diverse grassland and wetland species. Plentiful prairie songbirds, shorebirds, waterfowl. Westby is uniquely located, featuring breeding ranges of many eastern and western bird species. More than 200 species of birds have been seen, including 29 species of warblers! Highlighted species - Tennessee Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, MacGillivray's Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Philadelphia Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Baird's Sparrow, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Sprague's Pipit, Le Conte's Sparrow, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows, Bobolink, Piping Plover, American Avocet, Marbled Godwit, Wilson's Phalarope, Yellow Rail, Sharp-tailed Grouse.

BEST VIEWING SEASONS: April - October, May and September are prime for migrating songbirds in the city park.

FACILITIES: Restroom, picnic tables, camping hook-ups available at Westby city park. Services include: grocery store, gas station, restaurant. WPAs have no public facilities.

CONTACT: Westby: City Hall, (406) 385-2445, website: www.geocities.com/westbymt. WPAs: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 223 North Shore Road, Medicine Lake, MT 59247, (406) 789-2305.

10 MEDICINE LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE COMPLEX

DIRECTIONS: Located north of Culbertson. From HWY 2, travel north on HWY 16 for 25 miles to the Refuge entrance. Turn east on North Shore Road and travel 2.3 miles over a gravel road to the headquarters.

GENERAL INFO: Established as a migratory bird refuge in 1935, the Refuge includes 31,702 acres of wetlands—important breeding grounds and migration areas for birds and other wildlife. Designated one of 500 globally important bird areas in the U.S., the complex includes 45 Waterfowl Production Areas open for bird watching located in Sheridan, Daniels and Roosevelt counties. Maps, brochures and a bird list are available at kiosks located at main Refuge entry points and in the office foyer. The Refuge office is open Monday - Friday, 7:00am - 3:30 pm. Some areas are closed to public use.

HABITATS: Mixed-grass prairie, planted grasslands, scattered trees and shrubs, a diverse array of wetlands - from small temporary ponds to expansive marshes and lakes.

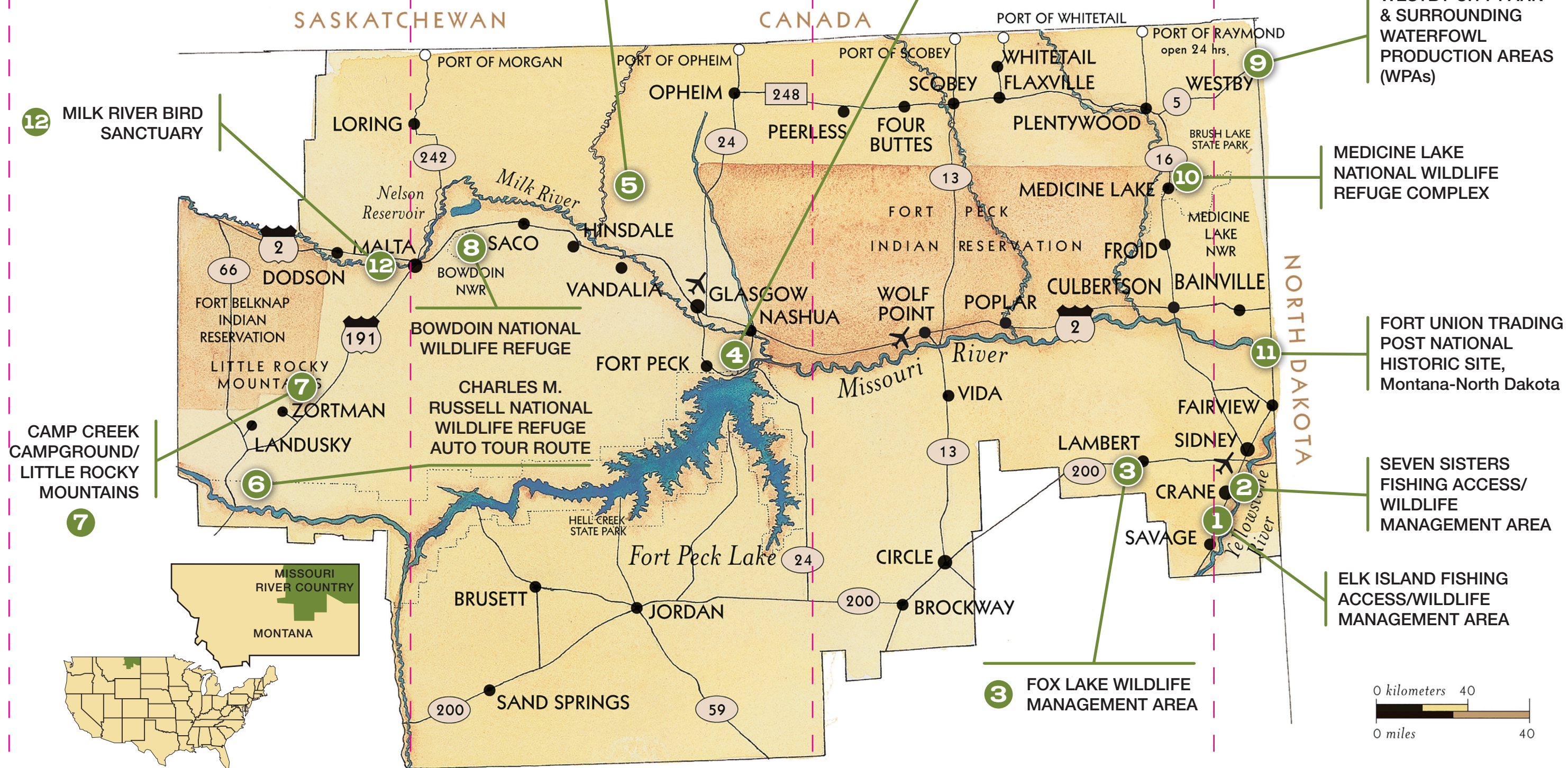
SPECIES: General species - mixed-grass prairie and wetland-associated birds, including prairie songbirds, waterfowl, shorebirds, colonial nesting water birds. Frequent stopover for rare shorebirds and migrating warblers. Highlighted species - Chestnut-collared Longspur, Baird's Sparrow, Sprague's Pipit, Le Conte's Sparrow, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Bobolink, Marbled Godwit, Willet, Willson's Phalarope, American Avocet, Sharp-tailed Grouse, American White Pelican, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Horned Grebe, Eared Grebe, Burrowing Owl, Short-Eared Owl, Snowy Owl (in winter), Sandhill Crane, Whooping Crane, Franklin's Gull.

BEST VIEWING SEASONS: April - October; prime for prairie songbirds.

FACILITIES: Info kiosks, restrooms, visitor reception area, wildlife drive, bird list and seasonal sharp-tailed grouse viewing blind (reservations required).

CONTACT: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Medicine Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 223 North Shore Road, Medicine Lake, MT 59247, (406) 789-2305, www.fws.gov/medicinelake

MISSOURI RIVER COUNTRY



12 MILK RIVER BIRD SANCTUARY

5 BITTER CREEK WILDERNESS STUDY AREA

4 FORT PECK INTERPRETIVE CENTER TRAIL/CAMPGROUND

WESTBY CITY PARK & SURROUNDING WATERFOWL PRODUCTION AREAS (WPAs)

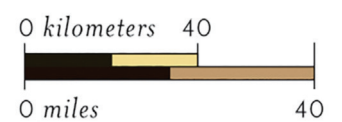
MEDICINE LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE COMPLEX

FORT UNION TRADING POST NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, Montana-North Dakota

SEVEN SISTERS FISHING ACCESS/WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

ELK ISLAND FISHING ACCESS/WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

3 FOX LAKE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA



11 FORT UNION TRADING POST NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, MONTANA-NORTH DAKOTA

DIRECTIONS: 15 miles southeast of Bainville on MT Secondary Rd. 327, or 10 miles north of Fairview on ND HWY 58, or 25 miles southwest of Williston, ND, on HWY 1804.

GENERAL INFO: Fort Union Trading Post is a reconstructed fur trade post operated by the National Park Service, located on the Montana-North Dakota border. Established in 1829, Fort Union was the flagship post of the American Fur Company. John James Audubon used it as his base camp in 1843, collecting Baird's Sparrow and Pipit specimens. Fort Union is open daily except winter holidays, 9am - 5pm (Central Time Zone).

SPECIES: General species - woodland and wetland/ riparian birds along the rivers, prairie species in surrounding uplands. Highlighted species - American White Pelican, Red-tailed Hawk, Least Tern, Least Flycatcher, Spotted Towhee, Lazuli Bunting, American Redstart, Yellow-breasted Chat, American Goldfinch, Northern Harrier, Golden Eagle, Sprague's Pipit, Baird's Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow.

BEST VIEWING SEASONS: April - October; spring migration; tourism peaks in summer.

FACILITIES: Fort Union: parking, walking paths, restrooms, bookstore, trade house, picnic tables, interpretive programs. Gas, food & lodging in Williston, Fairview and Culbertson.

CONTACT: Fort Union Trading Post National Historic Site, 15550 ND-1804, Williston, ND 58801-8680, (701) 572-9083, www.nps.gov/fous



Bald Eagle
BURN'T IMAGE PHOTOGRAPHY

12 MILK RIVER BIRD SANCTUARY

DIRECTIONS: Located along the trails behind the Phillips County Museum in Malta.

GENERAL INFO: The Milk River Bird Sanctuary was established in 2009, and can be found behind the Phillips County Museum near the Trafton Trail. The sanctuary, which is part of the museum complex, has bird houses, nesting boxes and bird feeders you can watch from a distance, and the riverbank has been left wild to maintain its natural habitat for native birds and other wildlife.

SPECIES: SPECIES: General species - woodland and wetland/riparian birds along the river. Highlighted species - Wood Duck, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Killdeer, Great Horned Owl, Common Nighthawk, Belted Kingfisher, Hairy Woodpecker, Loggerhead Shrike, Cliff Swallow, Marsh Wren, Brown Thrasher, Cedar Waxwing, Yellow Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Clay-colored Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Baltimore Oriole, American Goldfinch.

BEST VIEWING SEASONS: April - October; May and September are prime for migrating songbirds.

FACILITIES: Parking at museum, walking trails, picnic tables.

CONTACT: Phillips County Museum and H.G. Robinson House, 431 US HWY 2 East, Malta, MT 59538, (406) 654-1037, www.phillipscountymuseum.org



Western Meadowlark

Missouri River Country offers an adventure for new and knowledgeable birders alike, with its vast diversity of birds that captivate the beginning birder, and the unique habitats and species that keep experienced birders coming back for more. So, what are you waiting for? Grab your binoculars and get ready to discover the birds of the badlands, grasslands and wetlands with our Guide to Birding in Northeast Montana.

BIRD CHECKLIST

- American Avocet
- American Bittern
- American Kestrel
- American Redstart
- American White Pelican
- Baird's Sparrow
- Bald Eagle
- Baltimore Oriole
- Barn Swallow
- Belted Kingfisher
- Black Tern
- Black-crowned Night Heron
- Black-headed Grosbeak
- Black-necked Stilt
- Blue Jay
- Brown Thrasher
- Bullock's Oriole
- Burrowing Owl
- California Gull
- Caspian Tern
- Chestnut-collared Longspur
- Clark's Nutcracker
- Common Loon
- Common Tern
- Eared Grebe
- Eastern Bluebird
- Eastern Screech Owl
- Ferruginous Hawk
- Franklin's Gull
- Glaucous and Thayer's Gull (winter)
- Golden Eagle
- Grasshopper Sparrow
- Gray Catbird
- Great Blue Heron
- Greater Sage Grouse
- House Wren
- Least Tern
- Loggerhead Shrike
- Long-billed Curlew
- MacGillivray's Warbler
- Marbled Godwit
- Marsh Wren
- Mountain Chickadee
- Mountain Plover
- Mourning Dove
- Northern Flicker
- Orchard Oriole
- Pink-sided Junco
- Red Crossbill
- Red-eyed Vireo
- Red-headed Woodpecker
- Red-naped Sapsucker
- Ring-billed Gull
- Rough-legged Hawk
- Sage Grouse
- Sandhill Crane
- Sharp-tailed grouse
- Sora
- Spotted Towhee
- Sprague's Pipit
- Swainson's Hawk
- Thick-billed Longspur
- Townsend's Solitaire
- Tundra Swan
- Turkey Vulture
- Upland Sandpiper
- Warbling Vireo
- Western Kingbirds
- Western Tanager
- Western Wood-Pewees
- White-faced Ibis
- Wild Turkey
- Willet
- Wilson's Phalarope
- Yellow Warbler
- Yellow-breasted Chat
- Yellow-headed Blackbird

ETHICAL BIRDING

Always remember to leave no trace and give wildlife space as you roam the plains of Northeast Montana. To avoid stressing birds or exposing them to danger, exercise restraint and caution during observation, photography, sound recording or filming. This is especially critical in their nesting areas, so maintain a healthy distance from nests and nesting colonies, roosts, display areas and important feeding sites. Disturbing or harassing federally threatened or endangered species such as the Piping Plover is against the law. Please observe and enjoy these birds from a distance, stay on roads, trails and paths where they exist, and respect private property.

