

# NatureScape Tours

## Minnesota in Winter Composite Birdlist

\* = rare

# = Seen only outside NE Minnesota



**Colorful ducks, like this drake Bufflehead, linger in remaining open water areas.**

Canada Goose #  
American Black Duck  
Mallard  
Greater Scaup  
Lesser Scaup  
Harlequin Duck  
Long-tailed Duck  
Bufflehead  
Common Goldeneye  
Barrow's Goldeneye \*  
Hooded Merganser  
Common Merganser  
Red-breasted Merganser  
White-winged Scoter \*  
Gray Partridge #  
Ring-necked Pheasant  
Ruffed Grouse  
Spruce Grouse  
Sharp-tailed Grouse



**Sharp-tailed Grouse can be found displaying on sunny mornings—as early as January!**

Horned Grebe  
Bald Eagle  
Sharp-shinned Hawk  
Cooper's Hawk  
Northern Goshawk  
Red-shouldered Hawk #  
Red-tailed Hawk  
Rough-legged Hawk  
Golden Eagle #  
American Kestrel #  
Merlin  
Gyr Falcon \*  
Ring-billed Gull  
Herring Gull  
Thayer's Gull  
Iceland Gull



**“White-winged” gulls, as this adult Iceland Gull, are annual winter visitors in Duluth.**

Slaty-backed Gull \*  
Glaucous Gull  
Great Black-backed Gull \*  
Lesser Black-backed Gull \*  
Rock Pigeon  
Band-tailed Pigeon \*  
Mourning Dove  
Great Horned Owl  
Snowy Owl  
Northern Hawk Owl  
Barred Owl  
Great Gray Owl  
Long-eared Owl  
Short-eared Owl #





**Boreal Owls are highly nocturnal and rarely found amid daylight hours. During periodic irruptions, they can be spotted hunting along roadsides, near houses or barns and birdfeeders. We found four of these charming owls during our 2013 tour!**

Boreal Owl \*  
 Northern Saw-whet Owl  
 Red-bellied Woodpecker  
 Red-headed Woodpecker #  
 Downy Woodpecker  
 Hairy Woodpecker  
 American Three-toed Woodpecker  
 Black-backed Woodpecker  
 Pileated Woodpecker  
 Northern Shrike  
 Gray Jay  
 Blue Jay  
 Black-billed Magpie  
 American Crow  
 Common Raven



**Tamaracks with exposed reddish inner bark alert you to the presence of woodpeckers. While Black-backed Woodpeckers, like this male, are more common, recent winters have provided good numbers of American Three-toed Woodpeckers as well.**

Black-capped Chickadee  
 Boreal Chickadee  
 Red-breasted Nuthatch  
 White-breasted Nuthatch  
 Brown Creeper  
 Townsend's Solitaire  
 American Robin  
 Varied Thrush  
 Mountain Bluebird \*  
 European Starling



**Each winter trip brings a few surprises. One highlight from 2011 was this Mountain Bluebird spotted by Gailon Brehm. Feeding on Mountain Ash berries, it was enjoyed by other birders for more than two weeks!**

**Photo: Shirley Wilkerson**

Bohemian Waxwing  
 Cedar Waxwing  
 American Tree Sparrow  
 White-throated Sparrow  
 Golden-crowned Sparrow \*  
 Dark-eyed "Slate-colored" Junco  
 "Oregon" Junco  
 Lapland Longspur  
 Snow Bunting  
 Northern Cardinal  
 Rusty Blackbird  
 Common Grackle  
 Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch\*  
 Purple Finch  
 House Finch \*  
 Pine Grosbeak  
 Red Crossbill  
 White-winged Crossbill  
 Common Redpoll  
 Hoary Redpoll  
 Pine Siskin  
 American Goldfinch  
 Evening Grosbeak  
 House Sparrow





**Highlight of any winter visit to Minnesota are the variably abundant flocks of ‘winter finches.’ While each year’s menu may differ slightly based on which species’ nomadic wanderings have brought them south, colorful characters as (left to right) Evening Grosbeak, Hoary Redpoll and Pine Grosbeak brighten winter forests and feeding stations alike.**

### **Mammals**

Vole sp?  
Shrew sp?  
Eastern Cottontail  
Snowshoe Hare  
Eastern Gray Squirrel  
“Black” Squirrel  
Red Squirrel  
Porcupine  
Common Muskrat  
Beaver  
River Otter

Coyote  
Gray Wolf  
Red Fox  
Gray Fox  
Short-tailed Weasel  
Long-tailed Weasel  
Mink  
Fisher  
Pine Marten  
Lynx  
Bobcat  
White-tailed Deer  
Moose



**Snowy bog hunters: Great Gray Owl and Short-tailed Weasel—smartly outfitted in its winter pelage—are both at home amid Minnesota’s snowy winter landscape.**

