

Major Parks

Argyle

State and County Parks

Old Mill State Park

33489 240th Ave. NW

17 mi. NE of Warren, or 13 miles E of Argyle or 11 miles W of Newfolden on County Road 4.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/>

* State Park fees

Modern camping with showers, flush toilets, 10 electric & water hookups, primitive camping, and 1 group campsite.

Summer Nature Interpretation, enclosed picnic shelter, swimming, canoeing, fishing, volleyball, horseshoe pit, and playground. Historical sites include a flour grinding mill. Suspension bridges and Sliding Hill in the park.

Biking, 7 miles of cross-country skiing and hiking trails, Snowshoeing, and 3.5 Miles of groomed trails, warming house with electricity and fireplace. The park's trails run through prairie, wooded river valley and pine areas.

Crookston

Game Refuges

Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge

218-687-2229

10 miles east of Crookston on Hwy 2.

www.nature.org

More than 24,000 acres. Established Oct. 12, 2004 as the 545th National Wildlife Refuge. The Nature Conservancy's largest prairie-wetland restoration project in U.S. history. Prairie chicken blinds available, please call for reservations. Habitat for moose, gray wolf, waterfowl, prairie chickens and other upland game birds, and a host of other prairie species.

Wildlife Areas

Burnham Creek Wildlife Management Area

218-281-6063

<http://www.mnbirdtrail.com/hotspots/burnham.htm>

1,460 acres of prairies and a wetland impoundment. Large concentrations of sandhill cranes are likely in April. Area closed to the public during September and October (waterfowl refuge). Best times to visit are from April through August.

Pine to Prairie Birding Trail

Chicog Wildlife Management Area

218-281-6063

11 miles SE of Crookston on MN Hwy. 102 to Melvin; 1 mile S on township rd.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/wmas/index.html>

1,624 acre example of some of Minnesota's remaining mesic prairie. Winter opportunities include exploration by snowshoe and cross-country skiing. Spring and fall brings migrating cranes.

Pankratz Memorial Prairie

218-498-2679

6 miles E of Crookston on Hwy. 2; 1.5 miles S on County Rd. 46; E on gravel rd. to parking lot.

www.nature.org

2 units: 468 & 452 acres. A boulder can be seen that has been rubbed smooth by past buffalo herds.

Tympanuchus Wildlife Management Area

218-281-6063

3 miles E of Harold's Station on Co. Rd 45.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/wmas/index.html>

This 840 acre WMA is open to public hunting, trapping & other compatible recreational uses. It is a remnant tall grass prairie with minor amounts of brush & trees. This area has some of the highest rare species diversity of any WMA.

East Grand Forks

City Parks/Picnic/Camping

The Greenway

701-787-3756

Along the Red River in Grand Forks and East Grand Forks

<http://www.greenwayggf.com/>

Consists of 2,200 acres lining the Red River & Red Lake River, flowing through Greater Grand Forks. This picturesque urban space offers countless recreational, cultural, historical & natural resource opportunities. You can hike, walk, inline skate, bike, cross-country ski, bird, canoe, fish, golf & much more in the heart of our two cities.

An asphalt trail system covers over 20 miles.

State and County Parks

Red River State Recreation Area

866-857-2757

515 2nd St. NW

1 block north of Cabela's in East Grand Forks.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/>

113 campsites, including 85 electric sites with full hookups, plus shower & bath facilities located next to downtown East Grand Forks. Electrical, sewer, and water hookups, dump station nearby, and flush toilets. Modern restrooms are open May - Sept.

This 1,200-acre state recreation area came about as a result of housing removal after the flood of 1997. Located near the area: groceries, ice, snacks, golf course, & laundry. Swimming pool, picnic area, playground, fishing, tackle, live bait, camping gear, gas, & boat ramp. Partially encompassed in the GF/EGF Greenway.

5 miles of paved hiking/biking trail & 2 mile cross country ski trail.

Erskine

Game Refuges

Rydell National Wildlife Refuge

218-687-2229

17788 349th St. SE

2.5 Miles W. of Erskine on Highway 2, 2.5 miles S. on Highway 210
Rydell@fws.gov

2,120 acre refuge established in 1992. Includes a visitor center with bookstore, wildlife observation and photography, hiking, snowshoeing, crosscountry skiing, fishing, hunting and environmental education.

7 miles of trails.

Major Parks

Fertile

State and County Parks

Agassiz Dunes

218-574-2622

1 mile south and 1 mile east of Fertile.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/snas/index.html>

Preserved remnant of the sand dunes that northwest winds pushed up on the eastern beaches of glacial Lake Agassiz. Operated by the Nature Conservancy.

Hiking Trails allow a close view of the area.

Agassiz Environmental Learning Center

218-945-3129

400 W. Summit Ave.

<http://aelcfertile.org/>

Primitive camping with flush toilets and showers.

Picnic area and modern washrooms. Primitive Camping with flush toilets and showers. Ten miles of hiking and cross country ski trails along the Sand Hill River and through the Fertile Sand Hills.

Ten miles of hiking and cross country ski trails along the Sand Hill River and through the Fertile Sand Hills.

Wildlife Areas

Public Nature Areas

218-945-3136

400 W. Summit Ave.

Open to Public Touring. Over a dozen wildlife management areas within 15 miles of Fertile. Native prairies offer spectacular wildflower blooms from April to October. Courting displays of prairie chickens and sharptail grouse during April and May. Maps to natural areas available at Fertile Community Center.

Fisher

Wildlife Areas

Malmberg Prairie

218-739-7576

300 St SW

Located 7 miles SW of Fisher MN

This prairie has never been cultivated. The same sod that absorbed the hoof print of the buffalo remains intact today with its native grasses. Travel South on Hwy 75; turn right on to County Road 9 going 8 miles West. Turn left at the intersection of County Road 56 and go 2 miles to reach the NW corner of the preserve.

Gary

Wildlife Areas

Agassiz-Olson Wildlife Management Area

218-847-1579

5 Miles north on Hwy 32, 5 West CSAH 5.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/wmas/index.html>

A major feature is a flood control structure that allows a 300-acre open-water wetland to form. Sandhill cranes have nested here and the pool supports waterfowl. Greater prairie-chickens have used open areas for booming grounds.

Greenbush

Game Refuges

Twin Lake Wildlife Refuge

218-463-1557

12 miles West on Hwy 11.

* Free

Gully

Wildlife Areas

Gully Fen (SNA)

1.3 miles North of Gully on Co. Rd. 2

Includes calcareous seepage fens, tamarack & shrub seepage swamps, conifer & hardwood swamps, and rich fens. This location was previously threatened by development of rice paddies and logging. Two areas of note that occur in the upper reaches of the site include a 100 acre calcareous fen & a complex of tamarack with calcareous and rich fens. Birding & wildlife viewing.

Karlstad

Wildlife Areas

Twin Lakes State Wildlife Management Area (WMA)

218-436-2427

Contact: DNR, Karlstad, MN

4 miles NE, SH 11.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/wmas/index.html>

Camping is permitted at 7 signed sites.

8,200 Acres. Recreation includes hiking, snow shoeing, cross country skiing, berry picking, canoeing & wildlife viewing. Water access is available at several locations adjacent to the marshes. There is a viewing platform located off Hwy. 11 that is wheelchair accessible. Contains a 1,200 acre waterfowl sanctuary. No trespass or hunting is allowed in the sanctuary during Sept & Oct.

Wallace C Dayton Conservation & Wildlife Area

218-436-3455

<http://www.mnbirdtrail.com/hotspots/dayton.htm>

12,600 acres of aspen parkland habitat are preserved, & is an intact remnant of a vast dynamic landscape. Moose, elk, wolves & bear can be seen here. Best times to visit are from April-Oct.

Pine to Prairie Birding Trail



Major Parks

Lake Bronson

State and County Parks

Lake Bronson State Park 218-754-2200
3793 230th St

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/>

3 campgrounds with 152 sites. 6 pull through sites, 67 with electricity. Campsite offers showers, flush toilets and dump station.

Lake Bronson State Park is connected to the Two Rivers and offers many outdoor activities including; swimming, boating, canoeing, hiking, fishing, mushroom hunting and camping. There are trails and a swimming beach. In winter, snowmobilers, cross country skiers and snowshoers enjoy the park's network of trails and through varying vegetation and terrain. The park has an observation tower that was built as a part of the WPA (War Powers Act).

Wildlife Areas

Beaches Lake State Wildlife Management Area (WMA) 218-436-2427

Just NE of Lake Bronson State Park.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/wmas/index.html>

Seven camping sites are posted with camping permitted signs.

This WMA is one of the largest in the state (31,000 acres). Come see moose or listen to the wolves howl. Seven Camping sites are posted with camping permitted signs.

Lancaster

Wildlife Areas

Aspen Parkland Landscape 218-436-2427

Contact: DNR, Karlstad, MN

Links with the Aspen Parkland Landscape in Manitoba. Ecological classification with various habitats. Kittson County is 50% in the Aspen Parkland Landscape and 50% in the Red River Prairie.

Caribou State Wildlife Management Area (WMA) 218-436-2427

Contact: DNR, Karlstad, MN

North of County Rd 4 on County 51.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/wmas/index.html>

Three camping sites are posted with camping permitted signs.

Just under 14,000 acres. There have been sightings of Elk, Bear & Timber Wolves. An example of the Aspen Parkland Landscape in NW Minnesota. This WMA is open to public hunting, trapping, hiking, berry picking, and wildlife viewing. Three camping sites are posted with camping permitted signs.

Joe River State Wildlife Management Area (WMA) 218-379-3205

Contact: DNR, Karlstad MN

Approx. 15 miles NE of Lancaster, near Canadian border.

dnrkarlstad@wiktel.com

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/wmas/index.html>

160 acre marsh/grassland. Great place to view a variety of waterfowl, including Ruddy Ducks. Limited opportunities for waterfowl, Sharp-tailed grouse and Hungarian partridge hunting. Muskrat, mink, raccoon and fox offer some trapping.

Skull Lake State Wildlife Management Area (WMA)

218-436-2427

Contact: DNR, Karlstad, MN

East of Lancaster off of County Rd 4.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/wmas/index.html>

Primitive camping sites, free with first come, first serve availability. Camping areas are identified with "Camping Permitted" signs.

7,500 acres of unique topography, unique upland prairie. Elk, bear and timber wolves have been spotted in this region. Cross-country skiing opportunities available. This is the only WMA in Kittson County where blueberries have been found. Hunting opportunities for grouse and deer are excellent.

Wilebski's Bird Sanctuary

218-762-4205

7 miles north on Hwy 59, 1 mile west

www.wiktel.net/birdsanctuary

3 miles of birding trails.

Mentor

Wildlife Areas

Pembina Trail Scientific & Natural Area

218-498-2679

9 miles W of Mentor on Co. Rd 45.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/snas/index.html>

2,360 acres on/near a prominent beach ridge at the eastern edge of Glacial Lake Agassiz. The site is associated with the Pembina trail, a major ox-cart route that traders used to haul furs and supplies between Winnipeg and St. Paul. Also see www.nature.org

Middle River

Game Refuges

Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge

218-449-4115

Contact: Refuge Manager

22996 290th St. NE

From Thief River Falls go 12 miles North on MN Hwy 32, then 11 miles East on Marshall County Road 7 to Agassiz Headquarters.

Agassiz@fws.gov

<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/agassiz/>

* See below

Primitive camping allowed in designated areas on adjacent MNDNR wildlife lands.

Explore the refuge offering 61,500 acres of diverse bird, wildlife, and plant life. Over 295 bird and 49 mammal species have been observed rightfully making it one of the 50 best places to observe wildlife and one of the 100 best places to observe birds according to the National Wildlife Foundation. Nice general brochure, bird checklist, and mammal list available. Wildlife displays and Agassiz bookshop open Mon.-Fr. 7:30 am - 4 pm, excluding Federal holidays. Sunday afternoons from 1-5pm in June. Firearm & archery deer hunting open with regular firearm season. Ruffed & sharp-tailed grouse hunting begins with the opening of regular deer firearm season. Muzzleloader deer season, youth waterfowl & youth deer hunting is open during the appropriate season.

One of 45 sites along the MN Pine to Prairie Birding Trail. Three hiking trails-one wheelchair accessible at Headquarters (trail brochures available) & at Rodahl Trail. The 4-mile Lost Bay Habitat Drive open during the ice free months.

Major Parks

Wildlife Areas

Thief Lake Wildlife Management Area

218-222-3747

Contact: DNR, Thief Lake Headquarters 42280 240th Ave. NE

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/wmas/index.html>

Primitive camping in designated areas.

55,000 acres of wildlife habitat, including marshes, forests, brushlands, and prairie. Wildlife present seasonally include waterfowl and other marsh birds, deer, moose, bear, grouse, rabbits, furbearers, songbirds, sandhill cranes, and raptors. Activities include hunting for waterfowl, big and small game, and nature viewing. A scenic overview of the lake with interpretive signing and picnic shelter are available. Contact the headquarters for maps and bird lists.

Newfolden

City Parks/Picnic

Holt Park

218-449-3015

109 Lincoln Ave

Red Lake Falls

State and County Parks

Old Crossing Treaty Park

218-253-2684

At Huot between Crookston and Red Lake Falls.

Pristine riverside, natural hardwoods, excellent walking, biking, swimming, tubing, boating & canoeing with public access to the Red Lake and Black Rivers. Water, power, & outdoor restrooms support all phases of free camping & day use. Superb family site.

This park was the site of an 1863 treaty between the U.S. government and Red Lake/Pembina Ojibwe. Oxcart traffic also favored the area. Historical park and historical interpretations in summer and fall. Boat landing, water, fishing, playground.

Adjacent to the park is a DNR Wildlife Management Area where hiking and wildlife watching opportunities exist.

Roosevelt

Game Refuges

Norris Camp

218-783-6861

PO Box 100

South of Roosevelt in Beltrami Island State Forest.

Headquarters of the Red Lake Wildlife Management Area. One of the last Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and Resettlement Administration (RA) camps in the nation in operational condition. Listed as a historic place on the National Register. Museum on site. An excellent stop for bird watchers along the Pine to Prairie Birding Trail.

Roseau

State and County Parks

Hayes Lake State Park

218-425-7504

48990 County Road 4

15 mi. S of Roseau on State Hwy 89, then 9 mi. E on County Rd 4.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/>

18 electric sites, 35 semi-modern campsites, flush toilets, dump station, showers. Two camping cabins, two backpack sites, and one group camp. There are two handicapped sites.

Northwoods pine forest in remote lake setting. Man made lake popular for canoeing, fishing and swimming. Boat landing, Summer Nature Interpretation, playground, and picnic shelter. Bald Eagles, Gray Jay, Spruce Grouse, Winter Finches on 3,000 acres

5 miles of biking, 13 miles of hiking and 7 miles of horseback riding trails. 6 miles of groomed ski trails. 2.5 mile self guided trail. 6 miles of snowmobiling trails, and snowshoeing. Trails are located in pine forest on the edge of the lake.

Wildlife Areas

Roseau Bog Owl Management Unit

218-463-1130

Great Gray Owl, Northern Hawk Owl, Boreal Owl, Northern Saw Whet Owl, Great Horned Owl, Spruce Grouse. Look for these various owls on 8,960 acres of peat bog covered with black spruce, tamarack and cedar.

Roseau River Wildlife Management Area

218-463-1130

27952 400th St.

Located in NW Roseau County, 8 mi. N of Badger

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/wmas/index.html>

Primitive camping.

62,000 acre area with several thousand acres of other public land adjoining. The unit is low and flat, part of the glacial Lake Agassiz lake plain. The Roseau River flows west for 14 miles through the unit. 3 impoundments totaling 10,600 acres have been constructed. These wetlands are managed for resident and migratory waterfowl, other wetland wildlife species, public hunting, & other recreational pursuits as well as flood control. There are 3 sanctuaries totaling 7,000 acres which provide feed, resting, & breeding areas. This WMA is uniquely large & diverse. Hunting, fishing & birdwatching are popular pursuits on the WMA.

Dikes open to hiking and snowmobiling.

Stephen

State and County Parks

Marshall County Park of Florian

218-478-3658

10 mi. East of Stephen, MN on Co. Hwy. 6

Electrical/water hook-up, showers, flush toilets, and dump station.

Boat launch, fishing, sailing, canoeing, paddle boat rental, swimming, lifeguards, spiral slide, picnicking, playground, golf, basketball, backboards, volleyball, ball fields, ice fishing, snacks, and food stands.

Skiing and country snowmobiling, snowshoeing. 2 mile bike trail (walking, roller blading) that is handicapped accessible.

Major Parks

Strandquist

Wildlife Areas

East Park Dam & Wildlife Area

218-436-2427

4.5 miles NE of Strandquist.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/wmas/index.html>

There are eight primitive campsites on this unit.

9,113 acres. A 450-acre State Duck Refuge exists on this unit to give waterfowl a place to rest and feed during hunting season. It is off limits to visitors from September 1st to October 31st. The 1,700 acre Nelson Slough impoundment provides excellent opportunities for viewing wetland species and waterfowl hunting.

Twin Valley

Wildlife Areas

Neal Wildlife Management Area

218-847-1579

5 miles South of Twin Valley to Syre.

<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/wmas/index.html>

This 1,278 acre unit is an inter-beach area of glacial Lake Agassiz. The greater prairie-chicken uses this area as a booming ground.

Warren

Wildlife Areas

Agassiz Audubon Society

27391 190th St. NW

Experience wildlife at the beach along Glacial Lake Agassiz. To the west are the Tallgrass Prairies - to the east, the Aspen Parklands. The Audubon Center has them both. It's a great place to spot magpies & kingfishers, warblers and owls as well as the occasional otter, moose, bear, and wolf. Bring a picnic lunch and spend the day. Experience the quiet serenity of the pine groves, prairie vistas and aspen woodlands. There's plenty to see. While you're here, take a walk across the street to the Agassiz Valley flood control impoundment - one of the best birding locations in NW MN. Look for white pelicans, common loons, sandhill cranes, great blue herons, shorebirds and waterfowl. The Agassiz Valley Residential Pollinator Garden is available for you to visit, which showcases natural habitat plants, forbes, and trees. Agassiz Valley is closed during the winter months.

Agassiz Valley Impoundment

218-745-4741

Contact: Danny Omdahl

This flood control project provides habitat for songbirds, waterfowl, raptors, shorebirds and marsh birds as well as access for the people who want to view them. An impressive list of species have been spotted in the neighborhood including owls, bald/golden eagles, peregrine falcons, waders, sandhill cranes, rails, grouse, black-billed magpies, bobolinks, waterfowl, grassland sparrows, warblers, thrushes and shrikes.

Warroad

State Forests

Beltrami Island State Forest

1-800-382-3474 or
218-386-1304

20 Miles SE of Roseau

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/>

Camping at Bemis Hill Campground.

669,000 acres in Roseau, Lake of The Woods, & Beltrami Counties. Canoeing, fishing, hunting, picnicking and birding. This is the second largest state forest. Nearby seasonal blueberry picking at Blueberry Campground near Williams.

Hiking, Pine to Prairie Birding trail, horseback riding trails, cross country ski trails, and 138 miles of snowmobile trails. Off-road vehicles (ATVs, etc...) are allowed on all trails unless posted otherwise.

Lost River State Forest

South of the Canadian Border on Highway 310

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/>

The Lost River State Forest borders Manitoba, Canada, and is known as a good birdwatching location. Here you will have opportunities to view great gray owls as well as other birds, including spruce grouse; snowy, northern hawk, great gray, and northern saw-whet owls; whip-poor-wills; three-toed and black-backed woodpeckers; yellow-bellied flycatchers; common ravens; boreal chickadees; and magnolia warblers.

Hiking and snowmobile trails available

Northwest Angle State Forest

218-386-1304

Near Sprague, Manitoba on Provincial Hwy 308 to 525. Located on Lake of the Woods.

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/>

Boat Launch, power boat rental, canoeing, sailing, fishing, historical and summer nature interpretation.

