

## **SUPERIOR BIRDING TRAIL SITES & AMENITIES**

1. Tahquamenon Logging Museum I mile north of Newberry on the west side of M-123 Nature trail, restroom, fee to enter buildings only
2. Skyline Road 7 miles north of Newberry on the east side of M-123, State land on both sides of Skyline Road/ Co Rd 510
3. Camp 7 Road 17 miles north of Newberry on the east side of M-123, travel 2.4 miles east to enter State land on both sides of the road for 2 miles
4. Tahquamenon Falls State Park/ Upper and Lower Falls 27 miles north of Newberry on the east side of M-123, nature trails, naturalists, restrooms, entrance fee or recreation passport sticker Brewery, eatery, gift shop at upper falls, camping at lower falls
5. Clark Lake/Tahquamenon Natural Area Just north of Upper Falls entrance on the west side of M-123, trail
6. Whitefish Point Just under 10 miles north of Paradise on Whitefish Point Road. Whitefish Point Bird Observatory has an observation platform, trails, naturalists and gift shop. Restrooms, snack shop across parking lot
7. Tahquamenon River Mouth 5 miles south of Paradise on M-123, Boat launch, pit toilet, campground
8. Hulbert Bog/Basnau Road 19 miles east of the intersection of M-123+M-28 south of Newberry, turn right on Basnau Rd, 1/2 mile east, State land on both sides of the road
9. Erickson Center for the Arts Nature Trail 22 miles southwest of Newberry, take M-28 west to Co Rd 135/ Manistique Lake Road, through Curtis on Main St. to top of hill, turn right on Saw-Wa-Quato St. Nature Trail, restrooms in Art Center only during business hours, boat launch and pit toilet at end of road
10. Seney National Wildlife Refuge 32 miles from Newberry, take M-28 west to M-77 south, 4.8 miles to refuge entrance. Visitors Center, nature trails, restrooms, driving loops, guided tours seasonally, gift shop, nature programs
11. Tahquamenon River north of McMillan 13.5 miles from Newberry, take M-28 west to CR 415 north 1.5 miles to river, parking lot and boat launch
12. Kak's Lake 7 miles from Newberry, take M-28 west, south on M-117, first right parking lot, pit toilet and boat launch.
13. Natalee State Forest Campground/Dollarville Flooding From downtown Newberry, take west McMillan Avenue which becomes Dollarville Rd/ Co Rd 405 for 1.8 miles, turn right onto Natalee Road , go 1.7 miles to end. Parking lot, pit toilet , campground, boat launch.
14. Hamilton Lake Nature Area From downtown Newberry, go 1.5 miles south on M-123, turn right on Hamilton Lake Road . Nature trail. Walkable from town.



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**Anchored by Whitefish Point Bird Observatory in the north and Seney National Wildlife Refuge in the south, this 150 mile trail guides you through rugged and rare ecosystems. WPBO is a global “Important Bird Area” and the number one owl migration location in the world. In Tahquamenon River country, birding stops include climax forests, peat bogs, pot hole lakes and jack pine plains. SNWR is 95,000 acres of lakes, wetlands and forests made accessible by driving trails. Safely explore this remote area with great opportunities for rare sightings.**

**1. Tahquamenon Logging Museum** has water associated birds including wood duck, sandhill cranes, Northern Water-thrush, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Yellow and Yellow Rumped warbler. Great-crested Flycatcher is seen here, as is yellow bellied sapsucker and hermit thrush.

**2. Skyline Drive or County Road 510** is noted for boreal chickadee, black-backed woodpecker, gray jay, both cross-bills, and pine grosbeaks. Snipe and other water birds and can be seen in the large adjacent bog complex. Palm and yellow-rumped warblers are often spotted here.

**3. Camp 7 hardwoods** is one of the first places to see forest warblers including black-throated blue, black-throated green, and blackburnian warblers. Barred owls and northern saw-whet owls are found here.

**4. Tahquamenon Falls State Park** has a multitude of habitats. The Upper Tahquamenon Falls area offers a glimpse of Michigan's pre-settlement forests. This American beech, sugar maple, eastern hemlock, and yellow birch old-growth forest encompass 1,500 acres. In summer, songs of the winter wren, black-throated blue warbler, black-throated green warbler, blackburnian warbler, least flycatcher, rose-breasted grosbeak, red-eyed vireo, wood thrush, and veery fill the dense forest. This forest is also home to barred and sawwhet owls, northern goshawk, yellow-bellied sapsucker, pileated woodpecker, brown creeper, red-breasted and white-breasted nuthatches, chimney swift, scarlet tanager, and Swainson's thrush. The Lower Falls area offers a variety of birding opportunities. Along the "Mainland Trail", a 3/4 mile boardwalk through a narrow conifer lowland, river edge songbirds mingle with hardwood dwellers. Summer residents include American redstart, northern water thrush, mourning warbler, red-eyed vireo, and scarlet tanager. Bald eagles fish the rapids below the falls early in the morning. In the evenings, common nighthawks swoop up emerging insects in mid air. Other species common in and around the pool below the falls include the red-breasted and common mergansers, great blue heron, spotted sandpiper, belted kingfisher, osprey, and northern rough-winged swallow.

**14. Hamilton Lake Nature Area** has nature trails to take visitors through several habitats. Wood and Hermit Thrush are heard here. Woodland woodpeckers, chickadees, and nuthatches are here. Several warblers nest here, including Ovenbird, Yellow-Rumped, American Redstart, Black-Throated Green, Black-Throated Blue and Nashville. Wood ducks, Mallards and Osprey nest here.

**13. Natalie State Forest Campground** on the Dollarville Flooding offer a mix of lowland aspen, spruce and open water marsh. Nashville, Magnolia, and Chestnut-sided Warbler, Common Yellow-throat and American redstart are seen here. Waterfowl and shorebirds include American bittern, sora, pied-billed grebe, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, blue-winged and green winged teal, and others. Sedge wrens and Savannah sparrows can be found here. Merlin, Bald eagles and Osprey often nest here.

**12. Kak's Lake** is a good place to view eagles that visit quite often. Short-eared owls have been seen in the nearby tall alder/sedge complex. Spotted Sandpipers often nest on the western shore. Many warblers are seen around this lake in the conifer and shrub edge. Northern Saw-whet owl has been seen here in December. Many migrating species stop off here.

**11. Tahquamenon River north of McMillan** Several flycatchers are seen here including alder, least, yellow-bellied, and olive-sided flycatcher. Yellow warbler and common yellowthroat are common; Swainson's Thrush are found in adjacent uplands. Crossbills, redpolls, nuthatches and chickadees are found here in winter.

**10. Seney National Wildlife Refuge** is a great place for a driving tour. Migrants begin to move in as soon as the ice melts in April. Hooded Mergansers display here. Trumpeter Swans nest here. Many species of birds inhabit the upland and wetland interface. H pool is a great place to find migrating shorebirds in early spring or in August. Migrating warblers and vireos are found here both in spring and fall migration. Wigeons, Gadwalls, Goldeneyes migrate through Seney. Many waterfowl and wading species nest here. Osprey and bald eagle are common sights at Seney. Caspian, common, and black terns can be seen here. Yellow Rail makes its home here and hikes are held to see them. In the winter, look for wintering owls, black-backed woodpeckers, gray jays, and boreal chickadees.



**5. Clark Lake/Tahquamenon Natural Area** The one mile "two track" road to Clark Lake follows pine ridges along the edges of black spruce swamps and bogs. Be sure to look for spruce grouse along the way. Clark Lake trail is accessed at the end of the road where palm warbler, pine warbler, white-throated and Lincoln's sparrows, olive-sided flycatcher, gray jay, and black-backed woodpecker may be seen. Sandhill crane, brewer's blackbird, rusty blackbird, and Connecticut warblers also nest in this area.

**6. Whitefish Point** is one of the most important spring flight corridors for raptors in North America and is the perfect place to observe migrating birds. Tens of thousands of sharp-shinned, Cooper's, rough-legged, and broad-winged hawks; peregrine falcons, kestrels and merlins; golden and bald eagles and other raptor species pass here annually during spring migration to their northern breeding grounds, and in the fall to their wintering grounds. The Whitefish Peninsula, a tapered promontory, juts into Lake Superior, welcoming the concentrations of hawks, owls, songbirds and myriad waterfowl. Whitefish Point Bird Observatory is a Globally Important Birding

Area. Of the 409 species of birds accepted by the MI Bird Records Committee, more than 300 have been documented here.

**9. Erickson Center for the Arts in Curtis** has a woodland nature trail with possibilities of Black-throated green warblers, Black-throated blue warblers, American Redstarts, Chestnut-sided warbler, Hermit thrush and Veery. In the summer Manistique Lakes have Common Loons, Great Blue Herons, Forster Terns, and Ring-billed gulls. Many warblers, vireos and orioles are found at the nearby boat launches at the north and south lakes.

**7. Tahquamenon River Mouth** has several habitats for a variety of birds. In winter, featured birds are bald eagles, Bohemian waxwings, and northern hawk owl. In migration and summer, featured birds are LeConte's sparrow, winter wren, and merlin.

**8. Hulbert Bog** is an accessible portion of a large bog complex from the Basnau Road. Winter visitors hope to see the boreal chickadee, gray jay, northern hawk owl, and great gray owl starting in November. Pine grosbeak, pine siskins and redpolls are seen here. Woodpeckers and nuthatches are common.