



MISSOURI NATIONAL RECREATIONAL RIVER 2015 RESOURCE BRIEF

LANDBIRD MONITORING

Overview: The Missouri National Recreation River (NRR) is comprised of two free-flowing portions of the river along the Nebraska-South Dakota border. The lands surrounding these river corridors support a broad diversity of ecosystems, ranging from wetlands and sand bars to cottonwood and bur oak woodlands as well as native prairie and grasslands. These diverse habitats support an equally diverse community of birds, including the endangered Interior Least Tern and the threatened Piping Plover.

The Northern Great Plains Inventory and Monitoring Network developed a bird monitoring protocol jointly with the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies (formerly the Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory). A panel design where grids are sampled on a rotation schedule was developed to facilitate complete coverage of the park. This research is the beginning of a long-term effort to monitor species trends and densities.

The Bird Conservancy surveyed 16 grids and 135 points in June and July of 2015. A total of 2,628 birds were detected representing 96 species.

Highlights: The most common species detected were the Red-winged Blackbird, House Wren, Mourning Dove, American Robin, and American Goldfinch. Thirty-two species found along the Missouri NRR have been identified as species of concern (see back page) including the Dickcissel, which was the sixth-most commonly detected species. Three new species that were previously not recorded by the Park included the Summer Tanager, Brewer's Blackbird, and the Eurasian Collared-Dove.

The Eurasian Collared-Dove and European Starling were the only non-native species detected. The Eurasian-Collared Dove was introduced to Florida in the 1980's and spread rapidly throughout much of the U.S. It is now found throughout Nebraska and South Dakota.

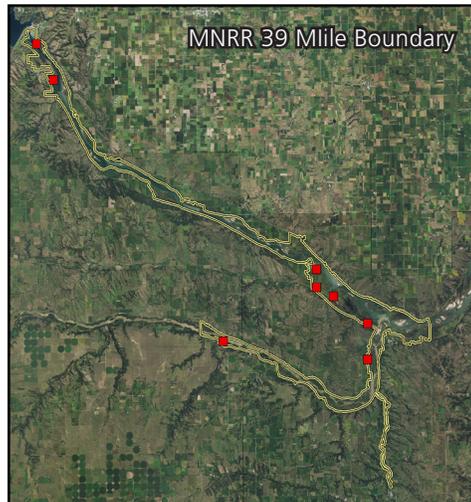


Bill Thompson

Top: Bow Creek at the Missouri NRR

Above: The Dickcissel, a South Dakota and Nebraska priority species, was the sixth most commonly detected bird.

Right: Survey locations during the 2015 field season





Common Name	2015	Common Name	2015	Common Name	2015
American Bittern	1	Dickcissel	104	Ovenbird	13
American Crow	24	Double-crested Cormorant	1	Red-bellied Woodpecker	36
American Goldfinch	105	Downy Woodpecker	14	Red-eyed Vireo	27
American Kestrel	1	Eastern Bluebird	10	Red-headed Woodpecker	26
American Redstart	34	Eastern Kingbird	28	Red-tailed Hawk	1
American Robin	126	Eastern Phoebe	3	Red-winged Blackbird	211
Bald Eagle	5	Eastern Towhee	11	Ring-necked Pheasant	45
Baltimore Oriole	31	Eastern Wood-Pewee	44	Rock Pigeon	3
Bank Swallow	4	Eurasian Collared-Dove	1	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	56
Barn Swallow	35	European Starling	11	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1
Bell's Vireo	11	Field Sparrow	51	Scarlet Tanager	4
Belted Kingfisher	1	Grasshopper Sparrow	4	Sedge Wren	3
Black-billed Cuckoo	3	Gray Catbird	25	Song Sparrow	50
Black-capped Chickadee	55	Great Blue Heron	2	Spotted Sandpiper	1
Blue Grosbeak	5	Great Crested Flycatcher	14	Spotted Towhee	31
Blue Jay	52	Great Horned Owl	1	Summer Tanager	1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	4	Green Heron	1	Tree Swallow	21
Bobolink	15	Hairy Woodpecker	15	Turkey Vulture	3
Brewer's Blackbird	5	House Finch	14	Vesper Sparrow	1
Brown Thrasher	21	House Sparrow	3	Warbling Vireo	60
Brown-headed Cowbird	76	House Wren	204	Western Kingbird	1
Bullock's Oriole	2	Indigo Bunting	27	Western Meadowlark	27
Canada Goose	6	Killdeer	16	White-breasted Nuthatch	64
Carolina Wren	9	Lark Sparrow	5	Wild Turkey	10
Cedar Waxwing	43	Least Flycatcher	1	Willow Flycatcher	4
Chimney Swift	6	Interior Least Tern	3	Wood Duck	1
Chipping Sparrow	35	Marsh Wren	19	Wood Thrush	9
Cliff Swallow	68	Mourning Dove	203	Yellow Warbler	78
Common Grackle	34	Northern Cardinal	40	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	8
Common Loon	1	Northern Flicker	24	Yellow-breasted Chat	3
Common Nighthawk	1	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	15	Yellow-headed Blackbird	4
Common Yellowthroat	60	Orchard Oriole	28	Yellow-throated Vireo	4

Left: Number of detections for each bird species at Missouri NRR in 2015.

*Species of Importance: Determined by Partners in Flight priority species list and South Dakota and Nebraska state priority lists

**New Species for Park



Left: Missouri NRR

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