Dryweed Island area is a 2.75-by-0.6-mile island in Rainy Lake, part of an ancient volcanic island arc system. Ridges up to 100 feet above the lake make up the core of the island. This island is the only island in the park with a forest breeding bird monitoring route. The route runs throughout the eastern part of Dryweed and requires bushwhacking about two miles.

There are no formal park trails on Dryweed. Park users can bushwhack along the ridge tops in search of birds and berries. The high, dry ridges are covered with extensive mixed maturing, and open, jack, red and white pine forest. More dense spruce, fir, and cedar stands fill in more shady and moist areas.

The birds are typical of conifer covered islands. Hermit and Swainson's thrushes, ruby and golden Crowned kinglets, scarlet tanagers, blue-headed and red-eyed vireos, red-breasted nuthatches, pine, magnolia, morning, black and white, ovenbird, Blackburnian, black-throated green, Nashville and yellow-rumped warblers dwell on the ridges.

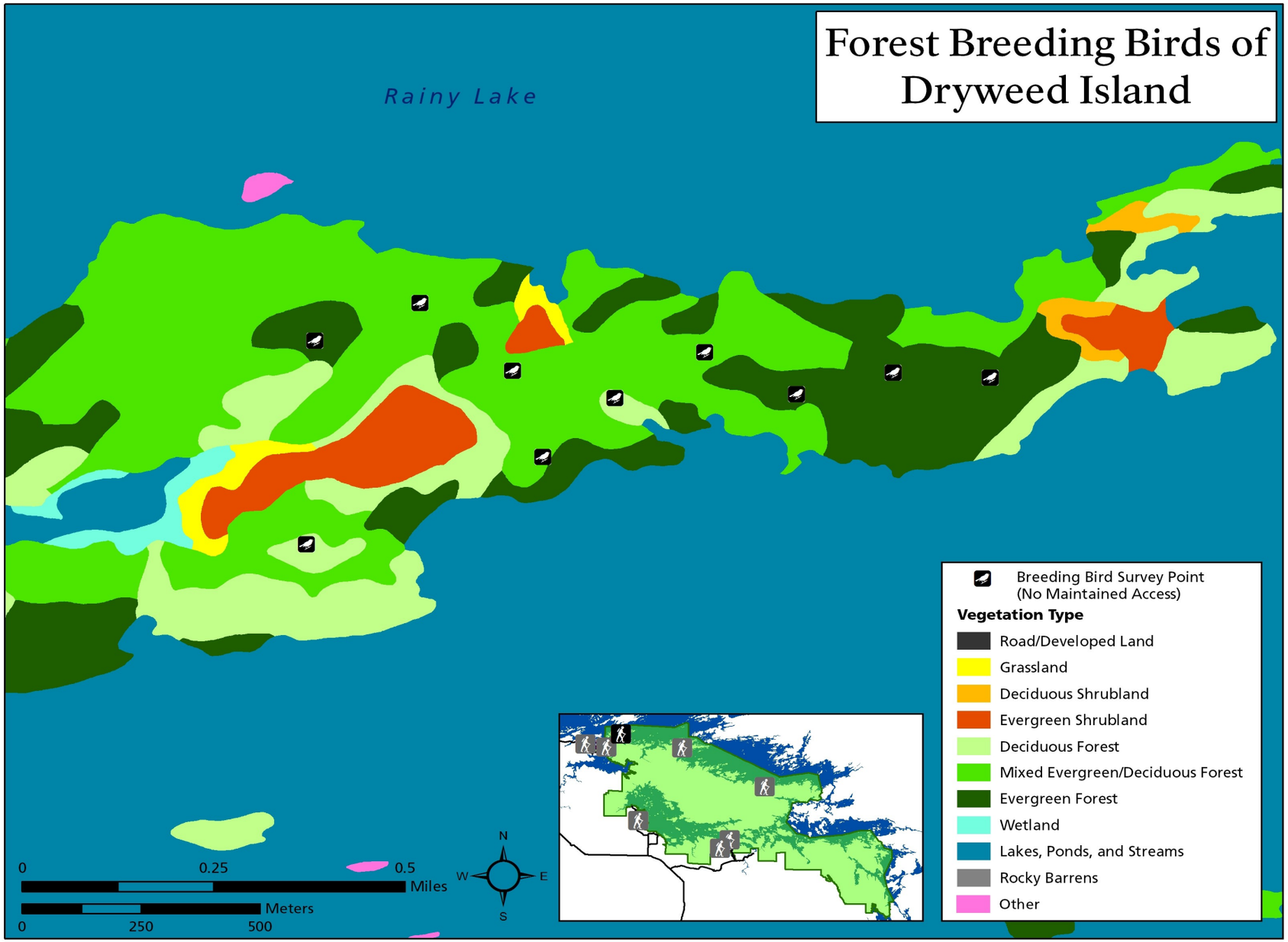
Turkey vultures soar in the thermals over the ridges on still hot days. Common ravens can be seen and heard performing their aerial flights and acrobatics and making "kronking" and "kauluping" vocalizations.

Bird rank indicates their abundance during all years of monitoring on this scale:

A = abundant to most abundant
C = common
U = uncommon
R = rare to least abundant

Dryweed Island Checklist

Group	Species Name	Rank
Loons		
○	Common Loon	R
Pelicans		
○	American White Pelican	R
Herons, Bitters, and Allies		
○	American Bittern	R
Ducks, Geese, and Swans		
○	Common Goldeneye	R
○	Common Merganser	U
○	Wood Duck	R
Hawks & Eagles		
○	Broad-winged Hawk	U
Partridge, Grouse, and Turkey		
○	Ruffed Grouse	R
Gulls & Terns		
○	Herring Gull	U
○	Ring-billed Gull	U
Hummingbirds		
○	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	U
Kingfishers		
○	Belted Kingfisher	R
Woodpeckers		
○	Hairy Woodpecker	U
○	Northern Flicker	U
○	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	U
Tyrant Flycatcher		
○	Eastern Phoebe	R
○	Great-crested Flycatcher	R
Tyrant Flycatcher continued		
○	Least Flycatcher	U
○	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	R
Vireos		
○	Blue-headed Vireo	R
○	Red-eyed Vireo	A
Jays & Crows		
○	American Crow	R
○	Blue Jay	U
○	Common Raven	R
○	Gray Jay	U
Chickadees		
○	Black-capped Chickadee	U
Nuthatches		
○	Red-breasted Nuthatch	C
Creepers		
○	Brown Creeper	U
Wrens		
○	Winter Wren	C
Kinglets		
○	Golden-crowned Kinglet	U
○	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	U
Thrushes		
○	American Robin	U
○	Hermit Thrush	U
○	Swainson's Thrush	U
○	Veery	U
Waxwings		
○	Cedar Waxwing	U
Wood-Warblers		
○	American Redstart	R
○	Black and White Warbler	U
○	Blackburnian Warbler	C
○	Black-throated Green Warbler	C
○	Canada Warbler	U
○	Cape May Warbler	R
○	Chestnut-sided Warbler	U
○	Common Yellowthroat	U
○	Magnolia Warbler	C
○	Nashville Warbler	A
○	Northern Parula	U
Wood-Warblers		
○	Ovenbird	C
○	Pine Warbler	U
○	Yellow Warbler	R
○	Yellow-rumped Warbler	U
Sparrows & Allies		
○	Chipping Sparrow	A
○	Song Sparrow	U
○	Swamp Sparrow	R
○	White-throated Sparrow	A
Cardinals & Allies		
○	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	R
Blackbirds		
○	Red-winged Blackbird	U
Finches		
○	American Goldfinch	U
○	Pine Siskin	R
○	Purple Finch	R
○	Red Crossbill	U



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Voyageurs National Park

Forest Breeding Birds

Dryweed Island Area

An open, mature mixed pine forest on a ridge top

Dryweed Island area has many birds for viewing – usually in June. The species listed in this brochure have been heard or spotted since 1998.

When hiking this off-trail area, visitors should remember the area is covered in vegetation and be prepared for ticks, mosquitoes, and to step in wet areas.

To get to the Dryweed Island area, visitors will need to travel by boat from the Rainy Lake boat launch 2.5 miles to the island. **Navigational maps are highly recommended.**