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# SPIERS LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE AREA



## What makes Spiers Lake NWA so special?

Situated in a transitional zone between aspen parkland and prairie grassland, Spiers Lake National Wildlife Area (NWA) supports a small but important example of plains rough fescue grassland in Canada.

The 64.7-hectare parcel in south-central Alberta was designated an NWA in 1982 in order to protect this rare ecosystem.

Spiers Lake NWA is also

- home to three provincially rare plant species: **Marsh Alkali Aster**, **Marsh Felwort** and **Pale Blue-eyed Grass**;
- an important historic breeding site for the endangered **Piping Plover**;



Swainson's Hawk at the Spiers Lake National Wildlife Area

- a refuge for shorebirds such as the **American Avocet**, **Willet** and **Marbled Godwit**, and for prairie songbirds like the **Western Meadowlark**, **Savannah Sparrow** and **Vesper Sparrow**.

## What are Environment Canada Protected Areas?

Environment Canada establishes marine and terrestrial NWAs for the purposes of conservation, research and interpretation. NWAs are established to protect migratory birds, species at risk, and other wildlife and their habitats. NWAs are established

under the authority of the *Canada Wildlife Act* and are, first and foremost, places for wildlife. Migratory Bird Sanctuaries (MBSs) are established under the authority of the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, and provide a refuge for migratory birds in the marine and terrestrial environments. The current Protected Areas Network consists of 54 NWAs and 92 MBSs comprising more than 12 million hectares across Canada.

## What can I do at Spiers Lake NWA?

To protect the species and their habitats at Spiers Lake NWA, disturbance from humans is avoided. All activities within the NWA are prohibited without a permit. For a complete list of NWAs, including those you can visit, please see our website.



Piping Plover



Badger

## Who can I contact?

Environment Canada –  
Prairie and Northern Region  
Canadian Wildlife Service  
9250 – 49th Street  
Edmonton, Alberta T6B 1K5  
1-800-668-6767  
email: [enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca](mailto:enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca)  
[www.ec.gc.ca/ap-pa/](http://www.ec.gc.ca/ap-pa/)

## Where is Spiers Lake NWA?



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