



IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION - Birding Sites in Madison County

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Badger Creek SRA (eBird Hotspot) (Important Bird Area)

GPS Coordinates: 41.4758531,-93.9138794

Ownership: State

Description: 1,162 acre upland area with a 276 acre man-made lake.

Habitat: Mostly open upland with scattered brushy areas. The lake is good during migration for waterfowl, cormorants, pelicans, and occasionally loons. During spring, it is a reliable spot for displaying American Woodcocks. Bell's Vireo and Orchard Oriole usually nest here, and Loggerhead Shrike and Northern Mockingbird are occasionally seen in the area. It's a good spot for Harris's Sparrow in winter.

Directions: In southern Dallas Co. From Booneville, just west-southwest of Des Moines, take F-90/360th St. west one mile to Badger Creek Ave. Take Badger Creek Ave. south two miles. The entrance to the park is on the west side of the road.

Amenities: Restrooms | Parking |

Goeldner Woods

GPS Coordinates: 41.4532953457057,-94.0803912884395

Ownership: County

Description: This 44 acre park is primarily upland hardwood forest, with some bottom land timber on the north end of the park adjacent to the North Branch of North River.

Habitat: Hardwood forest

Directions: From Winterset travel north on U.S. 169 approximately 5 miles, turn west on 152nd Street for 2 miles, turn north on Hogback Bridge Ave. for 3/4 mile, turn west and follow Juniper Trail west and north for 2 1/4 miles.

Public Hunting Area

Amenities: Restrooms | Parking | Trails |

Jensen Marsh (eBird Hotspot)

GPS Coordinates: 41.3283737,-93.7943387

Ownership: County

Description:

Habitat:

Directions: Jensen Marsh is at T75N R26W Sect. 1, mostly in Madison Co. Evidently the eastern end of the site just crosses the county line into Warren Co. This is south of Bevington, north of St. Charles. Parking is at the west end of this rather linear site. Walk east along the dike, stopping frequently to scope the very many waterfowl as your moving along disturbs them. We approached from the south on R35, turned right at the sign.

Amenities: Parking | Trails |