

**Call for posters – Tri-state Joint Meeting of the Nebraska Ornithologists’ Union,
Iowa Ornithologists’ Union & South Dakota Ornithologists’ Union**

The ornithologists’ unions of Nebraska, Iowa, and South Dakota invites birders and ornithologists to submit abstracts for poster presentations at the tri-state meeting in South Sioux City, Nebraska, 16-18 May 2025. All are welcome to present posters, but preference will be given to students who are actively enrolled in school. Folks will have the opportunity to present ornithological research and results at a public mixer for members of all three societies. Folks may only submit one poster as the primary author or presenter. Those who have their abstracts accepted must register for the meeting with their respective host institution but will have registration fees waived.

Abstracts are limited to 250 words and must include a title and complete list of authors and affiliations, with the presenting student listed in **bold**. An example abstract can be found below, but abstracts should include a brief introduction to the study system, a brief overview of methods and results, and a conclusion stating the importance or relevance of the research.

Submission are due by April 30, 2025 to nebraska.ornithologists.union@gmail.com .

Example abstract:

Breeding birds of the Big Bend Reach

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The Big Bend Reach of the Platte has experienced significant afforestation since colonization. As a consequence of this, the woodlands around Kearney have experienced increased connectivity with forests further east in Nebraska, allowing eastern species to colonize westwards across the plains. To document these changes to the regional avifauna, we performed breeding bird surveys along the Platte River near Kearney. We found a total of 65 breeding species, of which 6 are eastern species that are rarer in historical datasets, including Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) and Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*). Furthermore, we found the absence of other species previously reported as breeding at these localities, including Northern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*) and Greater Prairie-Chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido*). These findings illustrate the ways in which afforestation have affected the regional avifauna and suggest that the birds of Kearney will continue to become more “eastern” as time progresses.