



IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION - Checklist of the Birds of Polk County - 364 Species

This checklist is provided as a service of the Iowa Ornithologists' Union and is not officially sanctioned by any reviewing body.

Date _____ Time _____ Locality _____ Sky _____ Wind _____ Temp _____

Observers _____ Total Species _____ Total Individuals _____

Ducks, Geese, Swans

- ___ Black-bellied Whistling-Duck
- ___ Snow Goose
- ___ Ross's Goose
- ___ Greater White-fronted Goose
- ___ Cackling Goose
- ___ Canada Goose
- ___ Mute Swan
- ___ Trumpeter Swan
- ___ Tundra Swan
- ___ Wood Duck
- ___ Blue-winged Teal
- ___ Cinnamon Teal
- ___ Northern Shoveler
- ___ Gadwall
- ___ American Wigeon
- ___ Mallard
- ___ American Black Duck
- ___ Mottled Duck
- ___ Northern Pintail
- ___ Green-winged Teal
- ___ Canvasback
- ___ Redhead
- ___ Ring-necked Duck
- ___ Greater Scaup
- ___ Lesser Scaup
- ___ Harlequin Duck
- ___ Surf Scoter
- ___ White-winged Scoter
- ___ Black Scoter
- ___ Long-tailed Duck
- ___ Bufflehead
- ___ Common Goldeneye
- ___ Barrow's Goldeneye
- ___ Hooded Merganser
- ___ Common Merganser
- ___ Red-breasted Merganser
- ___ Ruddy Duck
- New World Quail**
- ___ Northern Bobwhite
- Partridges, Grouse, Turkeys, and Old World Quail**
- ___ Wild Turkey
- ___ Ruffed Grouse
- ___ Greater Prairie-Chicken
- ___ Gray Partridge
- ___ Ring-necked Pheasant
- Grebes**
- ___ Pied-billed Grebe
- ___ Horned Grebe
- ___ Red-necked Grebe
- ___ Eared Grebe

- ___ Western Grebe
- ___ Clark's Grebe

Pigeons, Doves

- ___ Rock Pigeon
- ___ Eurasian Collared-Dove
- ___ Inca Dove
- ___ White-winged Dove
- ___ Mourning Dove

Cuckoos, Roadrunners, Anis

- ___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo
- ___ Black-billed Cuckoo

Goatsuckers

- ___ Common Nighthawk
- ___ Northern Shoveler
- ___ Eastern Whip-poor-will

Swifts

- ___ Chimney Swift

Hummingbirds

- ___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird
- ___ Anna's Hummingbird

Rails, Gallinules, and Coots

- ___ King Rail
- ___ Virginia Rail
- ___ Sora
- ___ Common Gallinule
- ___ American Coot
- ___ Yellow Rail

Limpkins

- ___ Limpkin

Cranes

- ___ Sandhill Crane
- ___ Whooping Crane

Stilts and Avocets

- ___ Black-necked Stilt
- ___ American Avocet

Lapwings and Plovers

- ___ Black-bellied Plover
- ___ American Golden-Plover
- ___ Killdeer
- ___ Semipalmated Plover
- ___ Piping Plover
- ___ Snowy Plover

Sandpipers, Phalaropes, and Allies

- ___ Upland Sandpiper
- ___ Whimbrel
- ___ Long-billed Curlew
- ___ Hudsonian Godwit
- ___ Marbled Godwit
- ___ Ruddy Turnstone
- ___ Red Knot
- ___ Ruff

- ___ Stilt Sandpiper
- ___ Sanderling
- ___ Dunlin

- ___ Baird's Sandpiper
- ___ Least Sandpiper
- ___ White-rumped Sandpiper
- ___ Buff-breasted Sandpiper
- ___ Pectoral Sandpiper
- ___ Semipalmated Sandpiper
- ___ Western Sandpiper
- ___ Short-billed Dowitcher
- ___ Long-billed Dowitcher
- ___ American Woodcock
- ___ Wilson's Snipe
- ___ Spotted Sandpiper
- ___ Solitary Sandpiper
- ___ Lesser Yellowlegs
- ___ Willet
- ___ Greater Yellowlegs
- ___ Wilson's Phalarope
- ___ Red-necked Phalarope
- ___ Red Phalarope

Skuas and Jaegers

- ___ Pomarine Jaeger
- ___ Parasitic Jaeger
- ___ Long-tailed Jaeger

Gulls, Terns, Skimmers

- ___ Black-legged Kittiwake
- ___ Sabine's Gull
- ___ Bonaparte's Gull
- ___ Black-headed Gull
- ___ Little Gull
- ___ Laughing Gull
- ___ Franklin's Gull
- ___ Black-tailed Gull
- ___ Heermann's Gull
- ___ Short-billed Gull
- ___ Ring-billed Gull
- ___ California Gull
- ___ Herring Gull
- ___ Iceland Gull
- ___ Lesser Black-backed Gull
- ___ Slaty-backed Gull
- ___ Glaucous Gull
- ___ Great Black-backed Gull
- ___ Least Tern
- ___ Caspian Tern
- ___ Black Tern
- ___ Common Tern
- ___ Arctic Tern
- ___ Forster's Tern
- Loons**
- ___ Red-throated Loon

- ___ Pacific Loon
- ___ Common Loon
- ___ Yellow-billed Loon

Storks

- ___ Wood Stork

Cormorants

- ___ Double-crested Cormorant
- ___ Neotropic Cormorant

Pelicans

- ___ American White Pelican
- ___ Brown Pelican

Bitterns, Herons, and Allies

- ___ American Bittern
- ___ Least Bittern
- ___ Great Blue Heron
- ___ Great Egret
- ___ Snowy Egret
- ___ Little Blue Heron
- ___ Cattle Egret
- ___ Green Heron
- ___ Black-crowned Night-Heron
- ___ Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

Ibises and Spoonbills

- ___ Glossy Ibis
- ___ White-faced Ibis
- ___ Roseate Spoonbill

New World Vultures

- ___ Black Vulture
- ___ Turkey Vulture

Ospreys

- ___ Osprey

Hawks, Kites, Eagles, and Allies

- ___ Golden Eagle
- ___ Northern Harrier
- ___ Sharp-shinned Hawk
- ___ Cooper's Hawk
- ___ Northern Goshawk
- ___ Bald Eagle
- ___ Mississippi Kite
- ___ Red-shouldered Hawk
- ___ Broad-winged Hawk
- ___ Swainson's Hawk
- ___ Red-tailed Hawk
- ___ Rough-legged Hawk
- ___ Ferruginous Hawk

Barn Owls

- ___ Barn Owl

Typical Owls

- ___ Eastern Screech-Owl
- ___ Great Horned Owl
- ___ Snowy Owl

- ___ Burrowing Owl
- ___ Barred Owl
- ___ Great Gray Owl
- ___ Long-eared Owl
- ___ Short-eared Owl
- ___ Northern Saw-whet Owl

Kingfishers

- ___ Belted Kingfisher

Woodpeckers

- ___ Red-headed Woodpecker
- ___ Red-bellied Woodpecker
- ___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
- ___ Downy Woodpecker
- ___ Hairy Woodpecker
- ___ Northern Flicker
- ___ Pileated Woodpecker

Caracaras and Falcons

- ___ American Kestrel
- ___ Merlin
- ___ Gyrfalcon
- ___ Peregrine Falcon
- ___ Prairie Falcon

Flycatchers

- ___ Great Crested Flycatcher
- ___ Western Kingbird
- ___ Eastern Kingbird
- ___ Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
- ___ Olive-sided Flycatcher
- ___ Western Wood-Pewee
- ___ Eastern Wood-Pewee
- ___ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
- ___ Acadian Flycatcher
- ___ Alder Flycatcher
- ___ Willow Flycatcher
- ___ Least Flycatcher
- ___ Eastern Phoebe

Vireos

- ___ White-eyed Vireo
- ___ Bell's Vireo
- ___ Yellow-throated Vireo
- ___ Blue-headed Vireo
- ___ Philadelphia Vireo
- ___ Warbling Vireo
- ___ Red-eyed Vireo

Shrikes

- ___ Loggerhead Shrike
- ___ Northern Shrike

Jays, Magpies, Crows

- ___ Blue Jay
- ___ Black-billed Magpie
- ___ American Crow
- ___ Fish Crow

- ___ Common Raven
- Chickadees, Titmice**
- ___ Black-capped Chickadee
- ___ Boreal Chickadee
- ___ Tufted Titmouse

Larks

- ___ Horned Lark

Swallows

- ___ Bank Swallow
- ___ Tree Swallow
- ___ Northern Rough-winged Swallow
- ___ Purple Martin
- ___ Barn Swallow
- ___ Cliff Swallow
- ___ Cave Swallow

Kinglets

- ___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet
- ___ Golden-crowned Kinglet

Waxwings

- ___ Bohemian Waxwing
- ___ Cedar Waxwing

Nuthatches

- ___ Red-breasted Nuthatch
- ___ White-breasted Nuthatch
- ___ Pygmy Nuthatch

Creepers

- ___ Brown Creeper

Gnatcatchers

- ___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Wrens

- ___ Rock Wren
- ___ Bewick's Wren
- ___ Carolina Wren
- ___ House Wren
- ___ Winter Wren
- ___ Sedge Wren
- ___ Marsh Wren

Mimids

- ___ Gray Catbird
- ___ Brown Thrasher
- ___ Sage Thrasher
- ___ Northern Mockingbird

Starlings

- ___ European Starling

Thrushes

- ___ Eastern Bluebird
- ___ Mountain Bluebird
- ___ Townsend's Solitaire
- ___ Veery
- ___ Gray-cheeked Thrush
- ___ Swainson's Thrush

- Hermit Thrush
- Wood Thrush
- American Robin
- Varied Thrush

Old World Sparrows

- House Sparrow
- Eurasian Tree Sparrow

Pipits

- American Pipit
- Sprague's Pipit

Finches

- Evening Grosbeak
- Pine Grosbeak
- House Finch
- Purple Finch
- Common Redpoll
- Hoary Redpoll
- Red Crossbill
- White-winged Crossbill
- Pine Siskin
- Lesser Goldfinch
- American Goldfinch

Longspurs, Snow Bunting

- Lapland Longspur
- Smith's Longspur
- Snow Bunting

Towhees, Sparrows

- Grasshopper Sparrow
- Lark Sparrow
- Lark Bunting
- Chipping Sparrow
- Clay-colored Sparrow
- Field Sparrow
- Fox Sparrow
- American Tree Sparrow
- Dark-eyed Junco
- White-crowned Sparrow
- Harris's Sparrow
- White-throated Sparrow
- Vesper Sparrow
- LeConte's Sparrow
- Nelson's Sparrow
- Henslow's Sparrow
- Savannah Sparrow
- Song Sparrow
- Lincoln's Sparrow
- Swamp Sparrow
- Green-tailed Towhee
- Spotted Towhee
- Eastern Towhee

Chats

- Yellow-breasted Chat

Blackbirds, Orioles

- Yellow-headed Blackbird
- Bobolink
- Eastern Meadowlark
- Western Meadowlark
- Orchard Oriole
- Baltimore Oriole
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Brown-headed Cowbird
- Rusty Blackbird

- Brewer's Blackbird
- Common Grackle
- Great-tailed Grackle

Wood-warblers

- Ovenbird
- Worm-eating Warbler
- Louisiana Waterthrush
- Northern Waterthrush
- Golden-winged Warbler
- Blue-winged Warbler
- Black-and-white Warbler
- Prothonotary Warbler
- Tennessee Warbler
- Orange-crowned Warbler
- Nashville Warbler
- Connecticut Warbler
- Mourning Warbler
- Kentucky Warbler
- Common Yellowthroat
- Hooded Warbler
- American Redstart
- Cape May Warbler
- Cerulean Warbler
- Northern Parula
- Magnolia Warbler
- Bay-breasted Warbler
- Blackburnian Warbler
- Yellow Warbler
- Chestnut-sided Warbler
- Blackpoll Warbler
- Black-throated Blue Warbler
- Palm Warbler
- Pine Warbler
- Yellow-rumped Warbler
- Yellow-throated Warbler
- Prairie Warbler
- Black-throated Green Warbler
- Canada Warbler
- Wilson's Warbler

Tanagers, Cardinals,

Grosbeaks, Buntings

- Summer Tanager
- Scarlet Tanager
- Western Tanager
- Northern Cardinal
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak
- Black-headed Grosbeak
- Blue Grosbeak
- Lazuli Bunting
- Indigo Bunting
- Dickcissel

Iowa Ornithologists' Union (IOU) is a non-profit statewide organization devoted to the study, conservation, and enjoyment of Iowa's birds. IOU's activities include reviewing and archiving sightings of rare birds through the Iowa Records Committee, publishing Iowa Bird Life: The Iowa Ornithologists' Union quarterly journal, publishing IOU News, the quarterly newsletter, organizing field trips, and holding semi-annual weekends in various locations throughout the state. IOU also owns and manages IA-BIRD, the Iowa birding community's online mailing list as well as maintains a social media presence through Facebook and Twitter. To join the IOU, or for more information, visit us online at <http://iowabirds.org/>. IOU members maintain the list of species recorded in each county of the state from which this checklist is generated.

Copyright Iowa Ornithologists' Union. 2023. All Rights Reserved.

The taxonomic sequence and nomenclature used in this list follow the Checklist of North American Birds, 7th Edition, American Ornithologists' Union, 1998, updated through the 57th Supplement, 2016 (Auk 133(3):544-560, 2016).
