



IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION - Checklist of the Birds of Polk County - 368 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

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

Cuckoos, Roadrunners, Anis

___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo
___ Black-billed Cuckoo

Goatsuckers

___ Common Nighthawk
___ 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
___ Black 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
___ Ruffed Grouse

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
___ American 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

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

Ibises and Spoonbills

___ White Ibis
___ 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
___ American Goshawk
___ Bald Eagle
___ Mississippi Kite
___ Red-shouldered Hawk
___ Broad-winged Hawk
___ Swainson's Hawk
___ Red-tailed Hawk
___ Rough-legged Hawk
___ Ferruginous Hawk

Barn Owls

___ American 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
___ Say's Phoebe

Vireos

___ White-eyed Vireo
___ Bell's Vireo
___ Yellow-throated Vireo
___ Blue-headed Vireo
___ Philadelphia Vireo
___ Eastern 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
___ Northern 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
___ 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
___ Townsend's 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

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 64th Supplement (Chesser et al. 2023).

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, 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. 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.

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