



# 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

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

## 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  
\_\_\_ 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  
\_\_\_ Western Cattle Egret  
\_\_\_ Green Heron  
\_\_\_ Black-crowned Night Heron  
\_\_\_ Yellow-crowned Night 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  
\_\_\_ 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

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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).

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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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