



IOWA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION - Birding Sites in Jackson County

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Bellevue SP (eBird Hotspot) (Important Bird Area)

GPS Coordinates: 42.2463063,-90.4219896

Ownership: State

Description:

Habitat:

Directions:

Amenities:

Copper Creek Trail

GPS Coordinates: 42.058807,-90.407649

Ownership: County

Description: The bird watching area has a gazebo and is located approximately half a mile from a small parking area. The trail is crushed lime to the gazebo and the lime trail continues another 6 miles. The bird watching area has crushed lime for a base, two milkweed plants, two purple coneflowers, a service berry tree, and a wood duck house. There is a wood duck informational sign so viewers can learn more about the wood duck.

Habitat: This area is going to be at the early section of a longer trail that has mixed habitat including pasture, woodland, and riparian corridor along creeks and close to the Maquoketa River.

Directions: Highway 64 runs through Preston, turn north off Hwy 64 on to Industrial Lane, slightly to the west of the road there will be a ~40-foot gravel drive, where you can park your car. To get to the bird watching area, walk west on the lime trail. In approximately a half mile, you will see a gazebo and the bird watching area.

Amenities: Parking | Trails |

Hurstville Nature Area (eBird Hotspot)

GPS Coordinates: 42.0910732,-90.6818926

Ownership: County

Description: Nature area with marsh, bird blind, marsh viewing deck and the Hurstville Interpretive Center, operated by Jackson Co Conservation.

Habitat: wetland, prairie.

Directions: 18670 63rd Street, Take Hwy 61 or Hurstville Rd N out of Maquoketa. Turn on 63rd [E from Hwy 61 or W from Hurstville Rd

Amenities: Restrooms | Drinking Water | Parking | Trails |

Maquoketa Caves SP (eBird Hotspot) (Important Bird Area)

GPS Coordinates: 42.1180257,-90.7750511

Ownership: State

Description:

Habitat:

Directions:

Amenities:

Upper Mississippi River NWR--Green Island (eBird Hotspot) (Important Bird Area)

GPS Coordinates: 42.1616848,-90.286792

Ownership: Federal - USFWS

Description:

Habitat:

Directions: At the Mississippi River in southeast Jackson Co. Along U.S. 52, four miles south of Z-34, or 1.5 miles north of Z-40, is Green Island Rd. going northeast toward the river. A half mile or more along curving Green Island Rd., pass through the tiny settlement of Green Island, cross the tracks, and note the first DNR road heading north on your left, with a sign; this road is best ignored. Continue 1.5 miles to the second northbound road. On its east side is continuous wetland. It ends with parking at a large pond/marsh. Walk a few yards back up the road, past the inlet, to a two-rut trail leading east for closer viewing. Back at Green Island Rd., continue one mile east to a large parking area on your left, overlooking an extensive wetland, Blake's Lake, with a dike to the west. Drive the lane going east from the parking area itself, bear left at the fork, and come to a parking area for another dike, with viewing from the east.

Amenities:

Upper Mississippi Wildlife & Fish Refuge--Pleasant Creek area (eBird Hotspot)

GPS Coordinates: 42.1934252,-90.3540087

Ownership: Federal - USFWS

Description: Upper Mississippi Wildlife & Fish Refuge area N of the Maquoketa, E of Mississippi and E of Rt 63. Contains Bonnie L, Golden L, Jackson L, Goose L, Twin Lakes, Morse Is and Western Pond.

Habitat: Riverine Forest and wetland

Directions:

Amenities: