



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
- ___ 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

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).

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.

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