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
___Snowy Plover

Sandpipers, Phalaropes, and Allies
___Upland Sandpiper
___Hudsonian 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
___Prairie 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
___American 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
___Eastern 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
___Northern 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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