

Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge
Prairie Learning Center, Box 399
Prairie City, IA 50228-0399

Neal Smith's website address:
<http://www.fws.gov/r3pao/walnut>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov>

Deaf/hard of hearing individuals may
reach Neal Smith NWR through the Federal
Information Relay System at 1 800/877 8339.

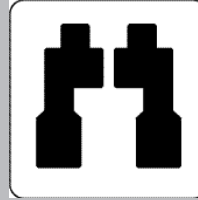
Available in alternative formats upon request.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Neal Smith

National Wildlife Refuge

Bird Checklist





The “*Blue Goose*” symbolizes the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of over 500 refuges protected and managed for wildlife, habitat and people.

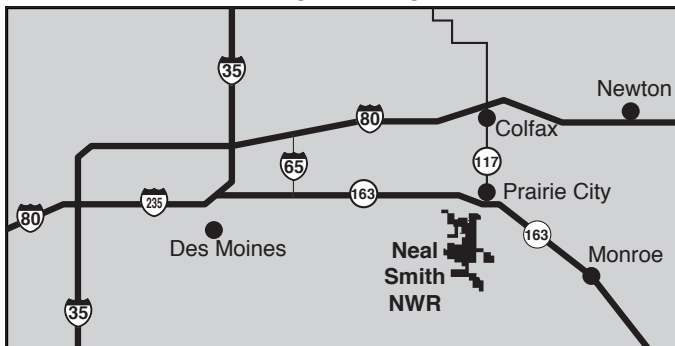
Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge Bird Checklist

Approximately, 85% of pre-settlement Iowa was once blanketed by native tallgrass prairie. Today, less than 1% of that prairie remains in small isolated fragments. As the tallgrass prairie disappeared, grassland bird populations associated with this paririe ecosystem also disappeared or greatly declined. Birds like the greater prairie chicken, once a common sight, are now merely a memory.

Over the past several years much of the Neal Smith National Wildlife Refuge landscape has been transformed from crop land to tallgrass prairie. The reconstructed and restored prairies and savannas are providing food, cover, and breeding habitat for local and migratory birds. Each year, ornithologists conduct singing bird surveys and the results have shown that more and more grassland-dependent bird species are using the refuge.

Primary sources for this list include refuge personnel, local ornithologists, university researchers, and Iowa bird literature. Not all species listed have been observed within the refuge at the time this list was compiled, but regional distributions of species indicate that they may be observed in the future.

Finding the Refuge



Symbols used are as follows:

* indicates nesting on the refuge
has recently occurred
Sp..... March-May
S..... June-August
F..... September-November
W..... December-February

a..... abundant: a common species
which is very numerous
c..... common: certain to be seen or
heard in suitable habitat, not
in large numbers
u uncommon: present but not
always seen
0..... occasional: seen only a few times
during the season
r..... rare: seen every 2 to 5 years

Birdwatching is encouraged! For more information, or to report any unusual sightings, please contact refuge person-

Short-eared Owl
©Jim Brandenburg



	Sp	S	F	W
Grebes				
___ Pied-billed Grebe	c	u	u	
___ Red-necked Grebe	r		r	
___ Western Grebe	r		r	

Pelicans				
___ American White Pelican	o		r	

Cormorants				
___ Double-crested Cormorant	u		o	

Hérons and Bitterns				
___ Least Bittern	r	r		
___ Great Blue Heron	c	c	c	
___ Cattle Egret	o	r		
___ Green Heron	u	r		
___ Black-crowned Night-Heron	r			

Vultures				
___ Turkey Vulture*	u	u	u	

Swans, Geese and Ducks				
___ Snow Goose	o		r	
___ Canada Goose	c	c	c	o
___ Wood Duck	u	u	u	
___ Gadwall	o		r	
___ Mallard*	c	u	c	u
___ Blue-winged Teal*	c	c	u	
___ Northern Shoveler*	u	r	o	
___ Green-winged Teal	o		o	
___ Ring-necked Duck	o		o	
___ Lesser Scaup	o			
___ Ruddy Duck	o		o	

Hawks and Eagles				
___ Osprey	r		r	
___ Bald Eagle	o	o	o	o
___ Northern Harrier*	u	r	u	r
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	o		o	o
___ Cooper's Hawk	o		o	o
___ Broad-winged Hawk	o		r	
___ Swainson's Hawk	o		o	
___ Red-tailed Hawk	c	c	c	c
___ Rough-legged Hawk	o		o	o

Falcons				
___ American Kestrel*	c	c	c	u

	Sp	S	F	W
Upland Game Birds				
___ Ring-necked Pheasant*	a	a	a	a
___ Wild Turkey*	u	u	u	u
___ Northern Bobwhite*	o	o	o	o

Rails and Coots				
___ Sora	o	o	o	
___ American Coot	c	o	o	

Cranes				
___ Sandhill Crane	r	r	r	

Shorebirds				
___ Black-bellied Plover	r	r	r	
___ American Golden-Plover	r			
___ Semipalmated Plover	r		r	
___ Killdeer*	a	a	a	
___ Greater Yellowlegs	r		r	
___ Lesser Yellowlegs	o		o	
___ Solitary Sandpiper	o	r	r	
___ Spotted Sandpiper	o	r	r	
___ Upland Sandpiper*	r	r	r	
___ Least Sandpiper	r	r	r	
___ Pectoral Sandpiper	o	r	o	
___ Short-billed Dowitcher	r			
___ Long-billed Dowitcher	r			
___ Common Snipe*	u	o	o	
___ American Woodcock*	u	u	u	
___ Wilson's Phalarope	r			

Gulls and Terns				
___ Franklin's Gull	o			
___ Bonaparte's Gull	r		r	
___ Ring-billed Gull	o		o	r
___ Herring Gull	o		o	o
___ Black Tern	r			

Doves				
___ Rock Dove*	c	c	c	c
___ Mourning Dove*	c	c	c	u

Cuckoos and Roadrunners				
___ Black-billed Cuckoo	o	r	r	
___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	u	u	u	

Sp S F W

Owls

___ Eastern Screech-Owl*	o	o	o	o
___ Great Horned Owl*	u	u	u	u
___ Barred Owl*	u	u	u	u
___ Short-eared Owl*	r	r	r	o

Nighthawks and Nightjars

___ Common Nighthawk.....	u	c	u	
___ Whip-poor-will.....	r	r		

Swifts

___ Chimney Swift*	u	c	u	
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Hummingbirds

___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	u	u	u	
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Kingfishers

___ Belted Kingfisher*	u	u	u	
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Woodpeckers

___ Red-headed Woodpecker*	u	u	o	o
___ Red-bellied Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker*	o	u	o	
___ Downy Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
___ Hairy Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
___ Northern Flicker*	c	c	c	u
___ Pileated Woodpecker.....	r	r	r	r

Flycatchers

___ Olive-sided Flycatcher	o		r	
___ Eastern Wood-Pewee	c	c	c	
___ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.....	o	r	o	
___ Acadian Flycatcher*	r	r		
___ Alder Flycatcher*	r	r		
___ Willow Flycatcher*	r	r		
___ Least Flycatcher*	o		o	
___ Eastern Phoebe*	o		o	
___ Great Crested Flycatcher*	u	c	u	
___ Eastern Kingbird.....	u	c	u	

Shrikes

___ Loggerhead Shrike*	u	u		
___ Northern Shrike	o	o	o	o

Vireos

___ White-eyed Vireo	r	r		
___ Bell's Vireo*	r			
___ Solitary Vireo	o	o	o	

___ Yellow-throated Vireo*	o	o		
___ Warbling Vireo*	u	c	u	
___ Philadelphia Vireo.....	r			
___ Red-eyed Vireo*	u	c	u	

Jays, Magpies and Crows

___ Blue Jay*	a	a	a	a
___ American Crow*	a	a	a	a

Larks

___ Horned Lark*	c	c	c	c
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Swallows

___ Purple Martin*	r	o	r	
___ Tree Swallow*	c	c	u	
___ Northern Rough-winged Swallow*	o	o		
___ Bank Swallow*	o	o		
___ Cliff Swallow*	o	u		
___ Barn Swallow*	c	c	c	

Chickadees and Titmice

___ Black-capped Chickadee*	a	a	a	a
___ Tufted Titmouse	u	u	u	u

Nuthatches

___ Red-breasted Nuthatch	o	r	r	o
___ White-breasted Nuthatch*	a	a	a	a

Creepers

___ Brown Creeper.....	u		u	u
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Wrens

___ House Wren*	a	a	c	
___ Sedge Wren*	u	u	u	
___ Marsh Wren	o	o		

Kinglets, Bluebirds, and Thrushes

___ Golden-crowned Kinglet	o	o	r	
___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	c	o	c	
___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	u	u		
___ Eastern Bluebird*	u	u	u	
___ Veery	o			
___ Gray-cheeked Thrush.....	o	o	o	
___ Swainson's Thrush	u	o	o	
___ Hermit Thrush	u		u	
___ Thrush	r	r	r	
___ American Robin*	a	a	a	o

Sp S F W**Sp S F W**

Bobolink
S. Maslowski



Mimics			
___ Gray Catbird*	u	a	a
___ Northern Mockingbird	o	r	
___ Brown Thrasher*	a	a	u

Starlings			
___ European Starling	c	c	c c

Waxwings			
___ Cedar Waxwing*	o	c	c r

Warblers			
___ Blue-winged Warbler	r	r	
___ Golden-winged Warbler	o	r	o
___ Tennessee Warbler	c	r	c
___ Orange-crowned Warbler	o		o
___ Nashville Warbler	c		c
___ Northern Parula	o		
___ Yellow Warbler*	c	u	u
___ Chestnut-sided Warbler	u		u
___ Magnolia Warbler	c		c
___ Cape May Warbler	o		r
___ Yellow-rumped Warbler	c		c
___ Black-throated Green Warbler	o		r
___ Blackburnian Warbler	u		u
___ Yellow-throated Warbler	r		
___ Palm Warbler	c		c
___ Bay-breasted Warbler	u		r
___ Blackpoll Warbler	u		u
___ Cerulean Warbler	r		r
___ Black-and-white Warbler	c		u
___ American Redstart	c	u	c
___ Prothonotary Warbler	r		
___ Ovenbird	c	c	u
___ Northern Waterthrush	o		o
___ Louisiana Waterthrush	r		
___ Kentucky Warbler	r		
___ Connecticut Warbler	r		
___ Mourning Warbler	r		
___ Common Yellowthroat*	c	a	c
___ Wilson's Warbler	c		c
___ Canada Warbler	o		r
___ Yellow-breasted Chat*	r		

Tanagers			
___ Summer Tanager	r		
___ Scarlet Tanager*	o	o	o

Sparrows, Buntings and Grosbeaks			
___ Eastern Towhee*	u	u	o
___ American Tree Sparrow	c		c c
___ Chipping Sparrow*	c	c	c r
___ Clay-colored Sparrow	r	r	
___ Field Sparrow*	c	c	c
___ Vesper Sparrow*	u	u	
___ Lark Sparrow*	r	r	
___ Savannah Sparrow	r		
___ Grasshopper Sparrow*	r	r	
___ Henslow's Sparrow*	r	r	
___ Le Conte's Sparrow	r	r	
___ Fox Sparrow	u		u
___ Song Sparrow*	a	a	a u
___ Lincoln's Sparrow	u		u
___ Swamp Sparrow*	u	u	u
___ White-throated Sparrow	c		c r
___ White-crowned Sparrow	u		u
___ Harris's Sparrow	u		u
___ Dark-eyed Junco	c		a a
___ Lapland Longspur	o		o
___ Snow Bunting			o
___ Northern Cardinal*	a	a	a a
___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak*	u	c	u
___ Indigo Bunting*	u	c	u
___ Dickcissel*	o	c	c

Blackbirds and Orioles			
___ Bobolink*	u	u	r
___ Red-winged Blackbird*	a	a	a r
___ Eastern Meadowlark*	c	a	c o
___ Western Meadowlark*	c	a	c o
___ Yellow-headed Blackbird	u		
___ Rusty Blackbird	o		o
___ Common Grackle*	u	c	c r
___ Great-tailed Grackle	r	r	
___ Brown-headed Cowbird*	c	a	a r
___ Orchard Oriole*	o	o	
___ Baltimore Oriole*	u	c	u

Finches			
___ Purple Finch	u		o u
___ House Finch*	c	c	c c
___ Pine Siskin	o		o
___ American Goldfinch*	a	a	a a

Old World Sparrows			
___ House Sparrow*	a	a	a a