

BIRDS OF THE MISSOURI RIVER

MISSOURI RIVER MITIGATION PROJECT

The Army Corps of Engineers is currently undertaking mitigation projects along many of the nations rivers. The authorized mitigation project will restore, develop and preserve approximately 48,000 acres of habitat that was lost (about 10% of losses that occurred) due to the Bank Stabilization and Navigation Project. The Omaha District Missouri River Mitigation Project will affect 18,000 acres (3.5%) of impacted lands. It is restoring natural river flow at points in Nebraska, Iowa and part of Missouri. This will reverse the habitat loss on some of the most heavily impacted areas, allowing wetlands to reform where they will again serve as wildlife, fish and waterfowl breeding and rearing areas.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED: BIRDS

The Bald Eagle was plentiful along the nations rivers until the late 1800's. Waterfront development during the early 1900's reduced populations. The postwar use of pesticides, particularly DDT, nearly decimated eastern eagle populations in less than 20 years. Discontinued use of certain pesticides, and habitat protection through the Endangered Species Act, and the Bald Eagle Protection Act, have resulted in the return of the National Bird to many of its historical ranges. By the 1990's, the Bald Eagle was again nesting in Nebraska. Bald Eagles occur as winter residents at several sites along the Missouri River. This bird has been delisted from the national Endangered Species List and is now considered threatened. Adult Bald Eagles, dark brown with white head and tail, are familiar to almost everyone. The young, however, can be very difficult to identify; brownish, with highly variable amounts of white mottling.

GREBES

Pied-billed Grebe

CORMORANTS

Double-crested Cormorant

HERONS

Great Blue Heron

Green Heron

GEESE AND DUCKS

Snow Goose

Canada Goose

Wood Duck

Green-winged Teal

Mallard

Blue-winged Teal

Ring-necked Duck

- ___ Common Goldeneye
- ___ Bufflehead
- ___ Common Merganser
- ___ Ruddy Duck

AMERICAN VULTURES

- ___ Turkey Vulture

KITES, EAGLES, HAWKS AND ALLIES

- ___ Bald Eagle
- ___ Northern Harrier
- ___ Sharp-shinned Hawk
- ___ Red-tailed Hawk

FALCONS

- ___ American Kestrel

PARTRIDGES AND QUAIL

- ___ Ring-necked Pheasant
- ___ Northern Bobwhite

COOTS

- ___ Coot

PLOVERS

- ___ Killdeer

SANDPIPERS, PHALAROPES AND ALLIES

- ___ Lesser Yellowlegs
- ___ Spotted Sandpiper
- ___ Common Snipe

GULLS

- ___ Franklin's Gull

DOVES

- ___ Rock Dove
- ___ Mourning Dove

CUCKOOS

- ___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo

OWLS

- ___ Eastern Screech-Owl
- ___ Great Horned Owl

GOATSUCKERS

___ Common Nighthawk

SWIFTS

___ Chimney Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS

___ Ruby-throated Hummingbird

KINGFISHERS

___ Belted Kingfisher

WOODPECKERS AND ALLIES

___ Red-headed Woodpecker

___ Red-bellied Woodpecker

___ Northern Flicker

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

___ Eastern Wood-Pewee

___ Least Flycatcher

___ Eastern Phoebe

___ Great Crested Flycatcher

___ Eastern Kingbird

LARKS

___ Horned Lark

SWALLOWS

___ Purple Martin

___ No. Rough-winged Swallow

___ Cliff Swallow

___ Barn Swallow

JAYS AND CROWS

___ Blue Jay

___ American Crow

TITMICE

___ Black-capped Chickadee

___ Tufted Titmouse

NUTHATCHES

___ White-breasted Nuthatch

WRENS

___ House Wren

THRUSHES

- Golden-crowned Kinglet
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
- Eastern Bluebird
- Swainson's Thrush
- American Robin
- Gray Catbird

MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS AND ALLIES

- Northern Mockingbird
- Brown Thrasher

WAXWINGS

- Cedar Waxwing

STARLINGS

- European Starling

VIREOS

- Bell's Vireo
- Warbling Vireo

WOOD-WARBLERS

- Tennessee Warbler
- Orange-crowned Warbler
- Nashville Warbler
- Yellow Warbler
- Yellow-rumped Warbler
- American Redstart
- Common Yellowthroat

CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS AND ALLIES

- Northern Cardinal
- Rose-breasted Grosbeak
- Indigo Bunting
- Dickcissel

TOWHEES

- Eastern Towhee

SPARROWS

- American Tree Sparrow
- Chipping Sparrow
- Field Sparrow
- Grasshopper Sparrow

- ___ Song Sparrow
- ___ White-throated Sparrow
- ___ Harris' Sparrow
- ___ Dark-eyed Junco

BLACKBIRDS AND ALLIES

- ___ Red-winged Blackbirds
- ___ Eastern Meadowlark
- ___ Yellow-headed Blackbird
- ___ Common Grackle
- ___ Brown-headed Cowbird
- ___ Baltimore Oriole

FINCHES

- ___ House Finch
- ___ American Goldfinch

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

- ___ House Sparrow

The Department of the Army and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation are cooperating on an international program to promote conservation of neotropical migratory birds. For information, call DoD at (703) 604-1773 or NFWF at (202) 857-0166.

This resource is based on the following source:

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<http://www.npwr.usgs.gov/resource/othrdata/chekbird/r6/omaha.htm>
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