



Bird Survey for Great Ape Trust of Iowa  
Drake University Field Ornithology Class  
(and ENSP and Biology Faculty)

April 17, 2005

Compiled by Tom Rosburg

Bird species observed between 8:00 and 11:30 am; total bird species count of 31  
Observers included 7 Drake scientists (4 faculty and 3 students) and several staff  
members of Great Ape Trust.

Habitats surveyed included: small lake with associated shoreline, riparian zone,  
mudflats, floodplain forest, wet-mesic cool-season grassland/savanna

**Birds**

Great-crested cormorant – one or two, river

Great blue heron – one fly over and one individual along shoreline

Canada goose – several on lake, one nesting on the bank of the Des Moines River

Wood duck – two, lake or riparian zone

Turkey vulture – a few, fly over

Killdeer – a few, on shoreline of lake, fly over; distraction behavior observed

Mourning dove – fly by, riparian zone, forest edge

Belted kingfisher – a few, lake and river

Red-bellied woodpecker – one or two, wooded riparian zone

Downy woodpecker -- one or two, floodplain forest and riparian zone

Northern flicker – one or two, floodplain forest and riparian zone

Tree swallow – many associated with the lake and riparian areas; exploring cavities

Rough-winged swallow – a few, river

Ruby-crowned kinglet – a few, floodplain forest and riparian zone

House wren – a few, floodplain forest

Brown thrasher – one, wet-mesic cool-season grassland/savanna

American robin – a few, floodplain forest and riparian zone

Eastern bluebird – one or two, forest edge and wet-mesic cool-season grassland/savanna

Hermit thrush – one or two, floodplain forest

Black-capped chickadee – a few, floodplain forest

Tufted titmouse – one or two, floodplain forest

White breasted nuthatch -- one or two, floodplain forest and riparian zone

Blue jay – a few, floodplain forest and riparian zone

European starling – many, mostly associated with cavities in large trees on wooded riparian zone

Song sparrow – a few, floodplain forest and riparian zone

Field sparrow – one, wet-mesic cool-season grassland/savanna

Northern cardinal – a few, floodplain forest

Red-winged blackbird -- one or two, riparian zone

Eastern meadowlark – one, wet-mesic cool-season grassland/savanna

Brown-headed cowbird – several, riparian and wet-mesic cool-season grassland/savanna

American goldfinch – several, riparian and wet-mesic cool-season grassland/savanna