

Flooding impacts on Wildlife

The impacts from the flood on Iowa wildlife will be felt mainly by ground nesting birds like pheasants, quail and meadowlarks, and other young animals that either cannot move or cannot fend for themselves. Losses will be limited on adult animals.

Animals do not live in a single spot, but rather in an area and will use other parts of their home area when flooding occurs. More wildlife species could have benefited by having more habitat and cover on the ground. Most animals in Iowa are adapted to living in a wet environment.

Flooding can also have positive impacts for certain wildlife species, like waterfowl and shorebirds, who like the newly disturbed areas. Flooding can also help wildlife by providing more insects, meaning more food for baby birds and better survival.

Wildlife will suffer some disruption, but when the water goes down, they will return to their normal routine.

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/>

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