Field Checklist for Sedan Bottoms BCA
* = confirmed or likely area breeder

Iowa Wildlife Action Plan Nesting Species of Greatest Conservation Need

Conservation Need

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Field Checklist for Sedan Bottoms BCA

__White__

__Great Blue Heron*

__Black__

__Horned Grebe

__Pied__

__Wild Turkey*

__Northern Bobwhite*

__Ruddy Duck

__Lesser Scap

__Gadwall

__Cinnamon Teal

__Northern Shoveler

__Western Meadowlark*

__Yellow-billed Blackbird

__Northern Mockingbird*

__Brown Thrasher*

__European Starling*

__Brewer's Blackbird

__Red-tailed Hawk*

__Hairy Woodpecker*

__Pine Siskin

__White-throated Sparrow

__Dickcissel*

__Rock Pigeon*

__Eurasian Collared Dove*

__Mourning Dove*

__Yellow-billed Cuckoo*

__Barn Owl*

__Eastern Screech-Owl*

__Great Horned Owl*

__Cliff Swallow*

__Barn Swallow*

__Black-capped Chickadee

__Tuffed Titmouse

__Red-breasted Nuthatch

__White-breasted Nuthatch

__Brown Creeper

__Chickadee

__Eastern Whip-poor-will*

__Chimney Swift

__Ruby-throated Hummingbird

__Belted Kingfisher

__Common Night Hawk

__Chick-will's Widow

__Western Vesper Sparrow*

__American Tree Sparrow

__Spotted Towhee

__Great Crested Flycatcher*

__American Redstart*

__Common Yellowthroat*

__Nashville Warbler

__Prothonotary Warbler

__American Redstart*

__Indigo Bunting*

__Northern Cardinal*

__Dark-eyed Junco

__White-crowned Sparrow

__Appanoose County

Sedan Bottoms Bird Conservation Area

Franklin’s Gull

Ring-billed Gull

Herring Gull

Caspian Tern

Black Tern

Forster’s Tern

Rock Pigeon*

Eurasian Collared Dove*

Mourning Dove*

Yellow-billed Cuckoo*

Barn Owl*

Eastern Screech-Owl*

Great Horned Owl*

Cliff Swallow*

Barn Swallow*

Black-capped Chickadee

Tuffed Titmouse

Red-breasted Nuthatch

White-breasted Nuthatch

Brown Creeper

Chick-will’s Widow

Eastern Whip-poor-will*

Chimney Swift

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Belted Kingfisher

Common Night Hawk

Chick-will’s Widow

Western Vesper Sparrow*

American Tree Sparrow

Spotted Towhee

Great Crested Flycatcher*

American Redstart*

Indigo Bunting*

Northern Cardinal*

Dark-eyed Junco

White-crowned Sparrow

__Blue-winged Warbler

__Black-and-white Warbler

__Prothonotary Warbler

__American Redstart*

__Vesper Sparrow*

__Lark Sparrow

__Savannah Sparrow*

__Grasshopper Sparrow*

__Henslow’s Sparrow*

__American White Pelican

__Turkey Vulture*

__Osprey

__Bald Eagle

__Northern Harrier*

__Sharp-shinned Hawk

__Cooper’s Hawk

__Northern Goshawk

__Red-shouldered Hawk

__Bald Eagle

__Swainson’s Hawk

__Red-tailed Hawk

__ Rough-legged Hawk

__Golden Eagle

__Yellow Rail

__King Rail

__Virginia Rail

__Sora

__American Coot*

__Sandhill Crane

__Black-billed Plover

__American Golden-Plover

__Semipalmated Plover

__Killerdeer

__Black-striped Stilt

__American Avocet

__Spotted Sandpiper*

__Solitary Sandpiper

__Greater Yellowlegs

__Lesser Yellowlegs

__Upland Sandpiper*

__Hudsonian Godwit

__Marbled Godwit

__Semipalmated Sandpiper

__Least Sandpiper

__White-rumped Sandpiper

__Baird’s Sandpiper

__Pectoral Sandpiper

__Buff-breasted Sandpiper

__Short-billed Dowitcher

__Long-billed Dowitcher

__Wilson’s Snipe

__American Woodcock*

__Wilson’s Phalarope

__Red-necked Phalarope

__Loggerhead Shrike

__Northern Shrike

__White-eyed Vireo*

__Bell’s Vireo*

__Yellow-throated Vireo*

__Blue-winged Vireo

__Warbling Vireo*

__Philadelphia Vireo

__Red-eyed Vireo*

__Blue Jay*

__American Crow*

__Horned Lark*

__Purple Martin

__Tree Swallow*

__Northern Rough-winged Swallow

__Bank Swallow

__Cliff Swallow*

__Barn Swallow*

__Black-billed Cuckoo

__Timtimos

__Red-breasted Nuthatch

__White-breasted Nuthatch

__Brown Creeper

__Carolina Wren*

__House Wren*

__Winter Wren

__Sedge Wren*

__Marsh Wren

__Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

__Golden-crowned Kinglet

__Ruby-crowned Kinglet

__Eastern Bluebird*

__Veery

__Gray-cheeked Thrush

__Swainson’s Thrush

__Hermit Thrush*

__Wood Thrush*

__American Robin*

__Gray Catbird

__Northern Mockingbird*

__Brown Thrasher*

__European Starling*

__American Pipt

__Cedar Waxwing

__Lapland Longspur

__Smith’s Longspur

__Ovenbird*

__Worm-eating Warbler

__Louisiana Waterthrush*

__Northern Waterthrush

__Blue-winged Warbler

__Black-and-white Warbler

__Prothonotary Warbler

__American Redstart*

__Vesper Sparrow*

__Lark Sparrow

__Savannah Sparrow*

__Grasshopper Sparrow*

__Henslow’s Sparrow*

__Le Conte’s Sparrow

__Nelson’s Sparrow

__Fox Sparrow

__Song Sparrow*

__Lincoln’s Sparrow

__Swarth Sparrow*

__White-throated Sparrow

__Harris’s Sparrow

__White-crowned Sparrow

__Dark-eyed Junco

__Summer Tanager*

__Scarlet Tanager*

__Northern Cardinal*

__Rose-breasted Grosbeak*

__Blue Grosbeak*

__Indigo Bunting*

__Dickcissel*

__Bobolink*

__Red-winged Blackbird*

__Eastern Meadowlark*

__Western Meadowlark*

__Yellow-headed Blackbird

__Rusty Blackbird

__Brewer’s Blackbird

__Common Grackle*

__Great-tailed Grackle

__Brown-headed Cowbird*

__Orchard Oriole*

__Baltimore Oriole*

__Purple Finch

__House Finch*

__Pine Siskin

__American Goldfinch*

__House Sparrow*

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

1436 255th St.
Boone, IA 50036
Phone(515) 432-2823
Fax:(515) 432-2835

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Dedicated in 2013, the Sedan Bottoms Bird Conservation Area (BCA) spreads across a large and varied portion of southern Appanoose County. With an array of prairies, savannas, forests, and floodplains, this 37,070 acre region, of which over 20% is permanently protected, offers important habitat to many birds. In fact, of the 253 bird species documented in this BCA thus far, 73 are currently classified as Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN). The grasslands in the BCA support declining nesters like Northern Harrier, Henslow’s Sparrow, and Bobolink. Lowlands entice migrant marsh species, such as Northern Pintail, Sparrow, and Bobolink. Lowlands entice Harrier, Henslow’s nesters like Northern

**Bird Conservation Areas**

Within the last two decades, alarming declines in a large number of species of North American birds have led to the emergence of national and international programs dedicated to the conservation of game and non-game birds. Since 1999, bird conservation organizations and enthusiasts have worked together under an umbrella called the North American Bird Conservation Initiative to “conserve all birds in all habitats.” As part of this initiative and in an effort to protect dwindling populations of many Iowa birds, the Bird Conservation Area (BCA) program was established by the Iowa DNR Wildlife Bureau in 2001.

The present model BCA encompasses at least 10,000 acres of public and/or private lands with approximately 25 percent of the area established as key bird habitat. This concept is backed by research that suggests viable bird populations require conservation efforts at a landscape-oriented level. Each BCA should also include a large “core” area of protected high-quality habitat. Surrounding this core are private lands, plus additional public tracts, managed for good bird habitat or at least maintained to be neutral in how they affect bird life.

**Important Bird Areas**

Audubon’s Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program is a global effort to identify and conserve areas that are vital to birds and other biodiversity. Designated IBAs include sites for breeding, wintering, and/or migrating birds. All Iowa Bird Conservation Areas are also Important Bird Areas.

**Sedan Bottoms Diversity**

**Plants**

Nestled within the Southern Iowa Drift Plain, the rolling hills of the Sedan Bottoms BCA are juxtaposed with the Chariton River, setting the stage for a wide range of plant communities. Cattails and many species of rushes, sedges, and colorful smartweeds characterize the wetlands, while familiar grasses like Big Bluestem, Little Bluestem, Side-oats Grama, and Indiangrass blanket the prairies. Oak-hickory woodlands come alive each spring with profusions of ephemeral wildflowers, and savannas brighten the late-summer landscape with diverse blooms of forbs.

**Animals**

Sedan Bottoms has an impressive, growing list of insects. In sunny spots, sought-after butterflies are attracted to nectar sources of Prairie Blazing Star, Wild Bergamot, and various milkweed species in summer. Careful inspection of native meadows, savannas, and restored prairies could reveal the bright yellow-orange Byssus Skipper perching alertly amongst grasses. Around ponds, marshes, and sloughs, look for another suite of butterflies, typified from spring to fall by the richly colored Bronze Copper. Sedan’s wetlands also teem with Odonates, encompassing everything from bold, conspicuous dragonflies like the Slaty Skimmer to slender, unobtrusive damselflies, such as the Fragile Forktail.

Alongside the myriads of invertebrates, many reptiles, amphibians, and mammals make Sedan Bottoms their home. Western Ribbon Snake and Prairie Ringneck Snake can each be observed hunting small prey in their respective habitats. In addition to the ubiquitous Northern Water Snake, the Diamondback Water Snake (a state-threatened species recently noted here), might allow for a very rare glimpse. And with a bit of luck, a watchful eye could also spot an elusive Badger prowling low in the meadows or a furtive Meadow Jumping Mouse bounding through tall, dense grasses.

A list of Iowa’s Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) is found at www.iowadnr.gov by entering “Wildlife Action Plan” in the search. If you encounter any uncommon or rare species in this BCA, please contact the Wildlife Diversity Program to report your sightings.