

# Kansas Tallgrass Prairies | Species List

## September 13 – 20, 2023 | with Naturalist Journeys



With Guides Ed & Sil Pembleton and Ryan Klataske, and clients Jim, Brenda, Merrill, Cheryl, John, Joan, Lynn, Steve, Callie, Dori and Ron

Compiled by: Dr. Ryan Klataske, with Ed and Sil Pembleton

Total Species Seen: 90

Family or Species Common Name: Scientific Name

### DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWANS: Anatidae — (6)

**Canada Goose** *Branta canadensis* — Seen in small groups at multiple locations on five different days.

**Wood Duck** *Aix sponsa* — Great Plains Nature Center.

**Blue-winged Teal** *Spatula discors* — Most common ducks spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**Northern Shoveler** *Spatula clypeata* — Multiple birds seen at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**Gadwall** *Mareca strepera* — Numerous, swimming in roadside marshes at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos* — Several seen below the walking bridge at Great Plains Nature Center and at Cheyenne Bottoms.

### NEW WORLD QUAIL: Odontophoridae — (1)

**Northern Bobwhite** *Colinus virginianus* — Seen and heard on multiple days in both Smoky Hills and Flint Hills.

### PARTRIDGES, PHEASANTS, AND ALLIES: Phasianidae — (1)

**Wild Turkey** *Meleagris gallopavo* — A group of seven turkeys were seen in a field returning from Mushroom Rocks.

### GREBES: Podicipedidae — (1)

**Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps* — Seen in roadside marshes at Cheyenne Bottoms.

### PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae — (3)

**Rock Pigeon (1)** *Columba livia* — Seen every day of the tour, often in towns.

**Eurasian Collared-Dove (1)** *Streptopelia decaocto* — Seen every tour of the tour, often in towns.

**Mourning Dove** *Zenaida macroura* — Likely the most common bird on our tour, large numbers seen daily.

### NIGHTJARS: Caprimulgidae — (2)

**Common Nighthawk** *Chordeiles minor* — Spotted in Lindsborg and Manhattan.

**Common Poorwill** *Phalaenoptilus nuttallii* — Heard on Klataske Ranch.

### SWIFTS: Apodidae — (1)

**Chimney Swift** *Chaetura pelagica* — Seen most days of the tour, often in towns.

### HUMMINGBIRDS: Trochilidae — (1)

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird** *Archilochus colubris* — Individual birds spotted on three different days; one in Cottonwood Falls.

**RAILS, COOTS, AND ALLIES: Rallidae — (1)**

**American Coot** *Fulica americana* — Spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**STILTS AND AVOCETS: Recurvirostridae — (1)**

**American Avocet** *Recurvirostra americana* — Spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: Charadriidae — (1)**

**Killdeer** *Charadrius vociferus* — Spotted on two days, many seen in the marshes at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae — (5)**

**Baird's Sandpiper** *Calidris bairdii* — Spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**Least Sandpiper** *Calidris minutilla* — Spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**Long-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus scolopaceus* — Spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**Wilson's Snipe** *Gallinago delicata* — Spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**Greater Yellowlegs** *Tringa melanoleuca* — Spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**GULLS AND TERNS: Laridae — (3)**

**Franklin's Gull** *Leucophaeus pipixcan* — Spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms and Kanopolis Reservoir.

**Ring-billed Gull** *Larus delawarensis* — Spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms and Council Grove Reservoir.

**Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger* — Spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**CORMORANTS: Phalacrocoracidae — (1)**

**Double-crested Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax auritus* — Spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**PELICANS: Pelecanidae — (1)**

**American White Pelican** *Pelecanus erythrorhynchos* — Spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms and Kanopolis Reservoir.

**HERONS AND EGRETS: Ardeidae — (3)**

**Great Blue Heron** *Ardea herodias* — Another common bird on our tour, seen daily, often along streams, rivers, marshes and lakes.

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba* — Seen on two days, many spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**Snowy Egret** *Egretta thula* — Spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**IBIS AND SPOONBILLS: Threskiornithidae — (1)**

**White-faced Ibis** *Plegadis chihi* — Stunning flocks seen flying and wading at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**NEW WORLD VULTURES: Cathartidae — (1)**

**Turkey Vulture** *Cathartes aura* — Commonly seen soaring every day of tour.

**OSPREY: Pandionidae — (1)**

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus* — Spotted at the Land Institute.

**HAWKS, KITES, AND EAGLES: Accipitridae — (6)**

**Northern Harrier** *Circus hudsonius* — Spotted soaring above the dykes at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**Cooper's Hawk** *Accipiter cooperii* — Spotted at the Land Institute.

**Bald Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* — Spotted along road after leaving Maxwell.

**Mississippi Kite** *Ictinia mississippiensis* — Spotted on the road to Cheyenne Bottoms.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk** *Accipiter striatus* — Spotted at Great Plains Nature Center.

**Red-tailed Hawk** *Buteo jamaicensis* — Seen most days, often along roadsides.

**WOODPECKERS: Picidae — (4)**

**Red-headed Woodpecker** *Melanerpes erythrocephalus* — Spotted at the Land Institute and multiple locations in the Flint Hills.

**Red-bellied Woodpecker** *Melanerpes carolinus* — Seen at multiple locations, most days.

**Downy Woodpecker** *Dryobates pubescens* — Seen at multiple locations in the Flint Hills.

**Northern Flicker** *Colaptes auratus* — Seen at the Great Plains Nature Center and at other locations in the Smoky Hills.

**FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae — (1)**

**American Kestrel** *Falco sparverius* — Seen on multiple days, often along roadsides.

**TYRANT FLYCATCHERS: Tyrannidae — (4)**

**Western Kingbird** *Tyrannus verticalis* — Seen in both the Smoky Hills and at Flint Hills.

**Eastern Kingbird** *Tyrannus tyrannus* — Most active along wooded edges and meadows at Great Plains Nature Center, seen multiple days.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher** *Tyrannus forficatus* — Spotted in Flint Hills, including a group of at least 26 on backroads, in fields and hedgerows; one of the birding highlights of the tour.

**Eastern Phoebe** *Sayornis phoebe* — Seen in the Flint Hills.

**CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae — (2)**

**Blue Jay** *Cyanocitta cristata* — Common, seen daily.

**American Crow** *Corvus brachyrhynchos* — Common, seen daily.

**TITS AND CHICKADEES: Paridae — (2)**

**Black-capped Chickadee** *Poecile atricapillus* — Common, seen most days.

**Tufted Titmouse** *Baeolophus bicolor* — Spotted at Konza Prairie.

**SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae — (3)**

**Tree Swallow** *Tachycineta bicolor* — Spotted in the Flint Hills at Pioneer Bluffs.

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica* — Common, especially in small towns.

**Cliff Swallow** *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota* — Spotted at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**WAXWINGS: Bombycillidae — (1)**

**Cedar Waxwing** *Bombycilla cedrorum* — Spotted at the Great Plains Nature Center, Mt. Mitchell and at Flint Hills.

**MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS: Mimidae — (3)**

**Gray Catbird** *Dumetella carolinensis* — Seen at the Great Plains Nature Center.

**Brown Thrasher** *Toxostoma rufum* — Active and abundant at the Great Plains Nature Center, and seen at Flint Hills.

**Northern Mockingbird** *Mimus polyglottos* — Spotted at the Great Plains Nature Center.

**STARLINGS AND MYNAS: Sturnidae — (1)**

**European Starling (1)** *Sturnus vulgaris* — Very common, seen most days, at times in large flocks.

**THRUSHES: Turdidae — (2)**

**Eastern Bluebird** *Sialia sialis* — Spotted at Pioneer Bluffs.

**American Robin** *Turdus migratorius* — Spotted at the Great Plains Nature Center, Dyck and in the Flint Hills.

**OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae — (1)**

**House Sparrow (1)** *Passer domesticus* — Common, often seen in towns.

### **FINCHES AND EUPHONIAS: Fringillidae — (2)**

**House Finch** *Haemorhous mexicanus* — Spotted at the Great Plains Nature Center and Dyck.

**American Goldfinch** *Spinus tristis* — Spotted at the Great Plains Nature Center, Flint Hills.

### **NEW WORLD SPARROWS: Passerellidae — (1)**

**Lark Sparrow** *Chondestes grammacus* — Spotted on route to Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve at same location as Scissor-tailed Flycatchers.

### **NEW WORLD BLACKBIRDS: Icteridae — (6)**

**Yellow-headed Blackbird** *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus* — Many seen at Cheyenne Bottoms.

**Eastern Meadowlark** *Sturnella magna* — Unusually absent from the landscape, finally spotted near Tallgrass Prairie Preserve.

**Western Meadowlark** *Sturnella neglecta* — Unusually absent from the landscape.

**Red-winged Blackbird** *Agelaius phoeniceus* — Seen on multiple days in both parts of the state.

**Common Grackle** *Quiscalus quiscula* — Common, seen on multiple days.

**Great-tailed Grackle** *Quiscalus mexicanus* — Spotted at the Great Plains Nature Center and at Cheyenne Bottoms.

### **CARDINALS, GROSBEAKS, AND ALLIES: Cardinalidae — (3)**

**Northern Cardinal** *Cardinalis cardinalis* — Spotted at the Great Plains Nature Center.

**Summer Tanager** *Piranga rubra* — Spotted at Konza Prairie.

**American Redstart** *Setophaga ruticilla* — Spotted at Konza Prairie.

### **MAMMALS: — (9)**

**Nine-banded Armadillo** *Dasypus novemcinctus* — Roadkill, sadly, on most days.

**Eastern Cottontail** *Sylvilagus floridanus* — Spotted at the Great Plains Nature Center and in the Flint Hills.

**Fox Squirrel** *Sciurus niger* — Common, seen most days.

**Black-tailed Prairie Dog** *Cynomys ludovicianus* — Spotted in a prairie dog town near Cheyenne Bottoms.

**White-tailed Deer** *Odocoileus virginianus* — Spotted at the Great Plains Nature Center and seen in fields on multiple days.

**American Bison** *Bison bison* — Seen at Maxwell and at the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve.

**Common Raccoon** *Procyon lotor* — Spotted near Klataske Ranch.

**Opossum** *Didelphis virginiana* — Spotted near Klataske Ranch.

**Coyote** *Canis latrans* — Heard at the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve.

### **REPTILES: — (4)**

**Eastern Collared Lizard** *Crotaphytus collaris* — Seen on the Konza hiking trail.

**Common Gartersnake** *Thamnophis sirtalis* — Spotted on the trail at the Great Plains Nature Center.

**Northern Watersnake** *Aspidocelis sexlineatus* — Spotted at the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve.

**“Red-eared” Pond Slider** *Trachemys scripta* — Spotted at Dyck.