

# Oklahoma's Important Bird Areas



Project Update: March 2007

[www.okaudubon.org/iba](http://www.okaudubon.org/iba)



Henslow's Sparrow; By Berlin Heck

## Coordinator's Statement:

The Oklahoma IBA project remains on the move, it seems slow at times, however considering this is a purely volunteer organization, the last six months of our project has made some great distance. Work is being done to keep public interest high, and everyone involved and interested has a high outlook for the project. Our support system is strong and this project will continue to progress, by the end of 07' Oklahoma IBA will be a strong representative in this region for the National Audubon Society .

It is my intention to have updates of the program sent out at least every month from this point on. These updates will serve many purposes and will likely get better as this project moves forward. I encourage anyone that has ideas about the program and the direction it is going, or possible places for the project to look at, to please contact me either by phone or email. Thanks for your support; I look forward to writing these updates every month and hope that you share in my optimism for the future of the Oklahoma IBA project.

Eric Beck  
OK's Important Bird Areas Coordinator

## What's Happened?

- IBA presentation at the annual fall meeting of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society, presented by the Steering Committee Chairman, Martin Brown. The new IBA coordinator was announced at the meeting.
- Technical Committee was formed, 13 professionals accepted the offer. The members represent 11 different organizations within Oklahoma's borders.
- The first semi-formal meeting of the Technical Committee was held on Feb. 24, 2007.
- Work began on the nomination and site description process of our possible Global IBAs
- A short IBA program was given at the March meeting of the Grand Lake Audubon Society.
- Donations received from David Dyer of Fort Gibson, OK (thanks David!)

## What's Going On?

- Technical Committee meeting planned for Saturday June 9th in Stroud, Oklahoma (time has not been set).
- Data process continues for the proposed Global IBAs of Oklahoma.
- An IBA update will be given at the spring meeting of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society to take place at the Black Mesa in Oklahoma's panhandle in May.
- Funding for the IBA program and a future paid coordinator are currently being pursued through grants, foundations, and in-kind donations.
- Planning for the announcement ceremonies of a few selected IBAs are currently underway.
- Enthusiasm for OK's IBA program increases!



Photo: Greater Prairie Chickens, Steve Metz 03-March-2007



Photo: Ferruginous Hawk, Berlin Heck, May 2006

## Species of focus for OK in 2007

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater Prairie-Chicken</li> <li>• Lesser Prairie-Chicken</li> <li>• Northern Bobwhite</li> <li>• Ferruginous Hawk</li> <li>• Black Rail</li> <li>• Whooping Crane</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Piping Plover</li> <li>• Mountain Plover</li> <li>• Long-billed Curlew</li> <li>• Buff-breasted Sandpiper</li> <li>• Red-headed Woodpecker</li> <li>• Red-cockaded Woodpecker</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black-capped Vireo</li> <li>• Olive-sided Flycatcher</li> <li>• Bell's Vireo</li> <li>• Pinyon Jay</li> <li>• Sprague's Pipit</li> <li>• Golden-winged Warbler</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cerulean Warbler</li> <li>• Bachman's Sparrow</li> <li>• Henslow's Sparrow</li> <li>• Chestnut-collared Longspur</li> <li>• Painted Bunting</li> <li>• Cassin's Finch</li> </ul> |
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