




IT'S FOR THE BIRDS



Margie Allen, *Birding Editor*

This is a list of U.S. state birds as designated by each state's legislature. The selection of state birds began in 1927, when the legislatures for Alabama, Florida, Maine, Missouri, Oregon, Texas and Wyoming selected their state birds. The last state to choose its bird was Arizona in 1973, although the Eastern Bluebird had beaten the American Robin in a statewide survey 42 years previously. (Note: Duplicate photos have been omitted.)

ALABAMA
State Bird: Yellowhammer, aka Northern Flicker (state bird)
Binomial nomenclature: *Colaptes auratus*
Year: 1927




State Bird: Wild Turkey (state game bird)
Binomial nomenclature: *Meleagris gallopavo*
Year: 1980

ALASKA
State Bird: Puffin
Binomial nomenclature: *Fratercula Arctica*
Year: 2010




ARIZONA
State Bird: Cactus Wren
Binomial nomenclature: *Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus*
Year: 1973

ARKANSAS
State Bird: Mockingbird, aka Northern Mockingbird



Binomial nomenclature: *Mimus polyglottos*
Year: 1929


CALIFORNIA
State Bird: California Quail
Binomial nomenclature: *Callipepla californica*
Year: 1931




COLORADO
State Bird: Lark Bunting
Binomial nomenclature: *Calamospiza melanocorys*
Year: 1931




CONNECTICUT
State Bird: American Robin
Binomial nomenclature: *Turdus migratorius*
Year: 1943



DELAWARE
State Bird: Blue Hen Chicken
Binomial nomenclature: *Gallus gallus*
Year: 1939




DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
State Bird: Wood Thrush
Binomial nomenclature: *Hylocichla mustelina*
Year: 1938




FLORIDA
State Bird: Northern Mockingbird
Binomial nomenclature: *Mimus polyglottos*
Year: 1927

GEORGIA
State Bird: Brown Thrasher (state bird)
Binomial nomenclature: *Toxostoma rufum*
Year: 1928




State Bird: Bobwhite Quail (state game bird)
Binomial nomenclature: *Colinus virginianus*
Year: 1970




HAWAII
State Bird: Nēnē or Hawaiian Goose
Binomial nomenclature: *Branta sandvicensis*
Year: 1957



IDAHO
State Bird: Mountain Bluebird
Binomial nomenclature: *Sialia currucoides*
Year: 1931




ILLINOIS
State Bird: Northern Cardinal
Binomial nomenclature: *Cardinalis cardinalis*
Year: 1928




INDIANA
State Bird: Northern Cardinal
Binomial nomenclature: *Cardinalis cardinalis*
Year: 1933

IOWA
State Bird: Eastern Goldfinch, aka American Goldfinch
Binomial nomenclature: *Carduelis tristis*
Year: 1933




KANSAS
State Bird: Western Meadowlark
Binomial nomenclature: *Sturnella*




neglecta
Year: 1933

KENTUCKY
State Bird: Northern Cardinal
Binomial nomenclature: *Cardinalis cardinalis*
Year: 1942


LOUISIANA
State Bird: Brown Pelican
Binomial nomenclature: *Pelecanus occidentalis*
Year: 1966



MAINE
State Bird: Black-capped Chickadee
Binomial nomenclature: *Poecile atricapilla*
Year: 1927



MARYLAND
State Bird: Baltimore Oriole
Binomial nomenclature: *Icterus galbula*
Year: 1947




MASSACHUSETTS
State Bird: Black-capped Chickadee
Binomial nomenclature: *Poecile atricapilla*
Year: 1941

State Bird: Wild Turkey (state game bird)
Binomial nomenclature: *Meleagris gallopavo*
Year: 1991

MICHIGAN
State Bird: American Robin
Binomial nomenclature: *Turdus migratorius*
Year: 1931


MINNESOTA
State Bird: Common Loon
Binomial nomenclature: *Gavia immer*
Year: 1961



MISSISSIPPI
State Bird: Northern Mockingbird
Binomial nomenclature: *Mimus polyglottos*
Year: 1944

State Bird: Wood duck (state waterfowl)
Binomial nomenclature: *Aix sponsa*
Year: 1974

MISSOURI
State Bird: Eastern Bluebird
Binomial nomenclature: *Sialia sialis*
Year: 1927




MONTANA
State Bird: Western Meadowlark
Binomial nomenclature: *Sturnella neglecta*
Year: 1941

NEBRASKA
State Bird: Western Meadowlark
Binomial nomenclature: *Sturnella neglecta*
Year: 1941

NEVADA
State Bird: Mountain Bluebird
Binomial nomenclature: *Sialia currucoides*
Year: 1967

NEW HAMPSHIRE
State Bird: Purple Finch
Binomial nomenclature: *Carpodacus purpureus*
Year: 1957



NEW JERSEY
State Bird: Eastern Goldfinch
Binomial nomenclature: *Carduelis tristis*
Year: 1935



NEW MEXICO
State Bird: Roadrunner, aka Greater Roadrunner
Binomial nomenclature: *Geococcyx californianus*
Year: 1949



NEW YORK
State Bird: Eastern Bluebird
Binomial nomenclature: *Sialia sialis*
Year: 1970

NORTH CAROLINA
State Bird: Northern Cardinal
Binomial nomenclature: *Cardinalis cardinalis*
Year: 1943

NORTH DAKOTA
State Bird: Western Meadowlark
Binomial nomenclature: *Sturnella neglecta*
Year: 1970

OHIO
State Bird: Northern Cardinal
Binomial nomenclature: *Cardinalis cardinalis*
Year: 1933

OKLAHOMA
State Bird: Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Binomial nomenclature: *Tyrannus forficatus*
Year: 1951




OREGON
State Bird: Western Meadowlark
Binomial nomenclature: *Sturnella neglecta*
Year: 1927

PENNSYLVANIA
State Bird: Ruffed Grouse
Binomial nomenclature: *Bonasa umbellus*
Year: 1931



mial nomenclature: *Bonasa umbellus*
Year: 1931

RHODE ISLAND
State Bird: Rhode Island Red Chicken
Binomial nomenclature: *Gallus gallus*
Year: 1954




SOUTH CAROLINA
State Bird: Northern Mockingbird (former state bird)
Binomial nomenclature: *Mimus polyglottos*
Year: 1939-1948

State Bird: Carolina Wren
Binomial nomenclature: *Thryothorus ludovicianus*
Year: 1948




State Bird: Wild Turkey (state wild game bird)
Binomial nomenclature: *Meleagris gallopavo*
Year: 1976

SOUTH DAKOTA
State Bird: Common Pheasant
Binomial nomenclature: *Phasianus colchicus*
Year: 1943




TENNESSEE
State Bird: Northern Mockingbird (former state bird)
Binomial nomenclature: *Mimus polyglottos*
Year: 1933

State Bird: Bobwhite Quail (state wild game bird)
Binomial nomenclature: *Colinus virginianus*
Year: 1987



TEXAS
State Bird: Northern Mockingbird (former state bird)
Binomial nomenclature: *Mimus polyglottos*
Year: 1927

UTAH
State Bird: California Gull
Binomial nomenclature: *Larus californicus*
Year: 1955



VERMONT
State Bird: Hermit Thrush
Binomial nomenclature: *Catharus guttatus*
Year: 1941



VIRGINIA
State Bird: Northern Cardinal
Binomial nomenclature: *Cardinalis cardinalis*
Year: 1950