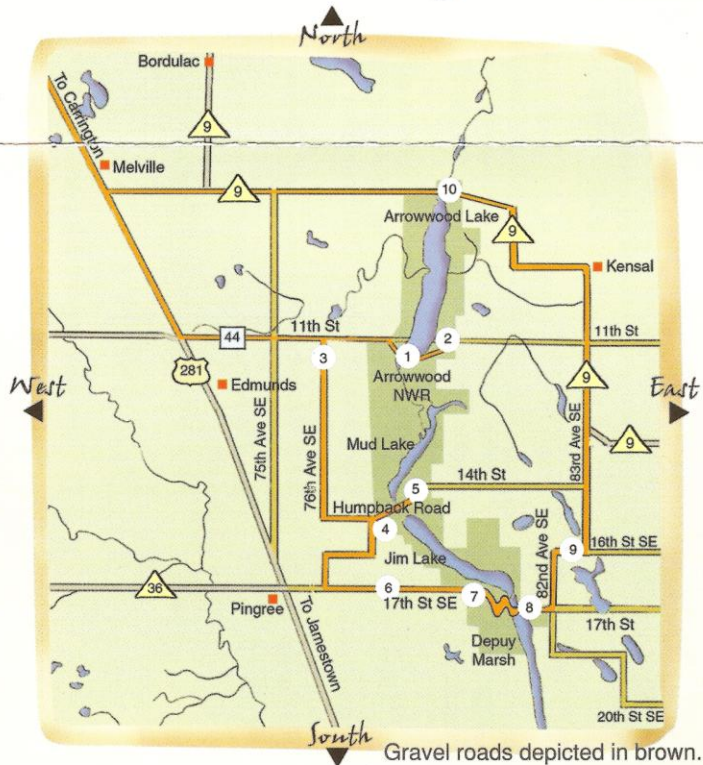


# Arrowwood National Wildlife Refuge

These routes take you to the 16,000-acre Arrowwood NWR, which stretches for 14 miles along the James River. Diverse habitats include wetlands, grasslands, and wooded areas. An important attraction is the large flocks of waterfowl that congregate on the refuge's four large pools during migration. Tundra Swans and Canvasbacks are common during these periods. Walking is allowed anywhere on the refuge, except during the fall hunting season. A Sharp-tailed Grouse blind is available by reservation in spring. Driving access is allowed on the auto tour loop and at several valley crossings.

Rarities that have been found at Arrowwood NWR have included Clark's Grebes, Least Bitterns, Little Blue Herons, Green Herons, Brants, American Black Ducks, Cinnamon Teal, White-winged Scoters, King Rails, Whooping Cranes, Yellow-billed Cuckoos, Barn Owls, Whip-poor-wills, and Golden-winged, Cape May, and Pine warblers. Sprague's Pipits, Baird's Sparrows, and Chestnut-collared Longspurs occasionally are seen on or near the refuge.

## From Carrington



## Carrington to Arrowwood NWR (83 miles)

This route begins at the junction of US 281 and ND 200 on the north side of the city. Proceed south through town on US 281/US 52. As you travel the next 15.8 miles, watch for species that are common to croplands and shelterbelts. At milepost 238 near Edmunds, turn left (east) on 11<sup>th</sup> St. SE (CR 44) for 5.4 miles.

**Stop #1** The easiest way to bird Arrowwood NWR is to follow the 5.5-mile, self-guided auto tour loop. Here you can pick up a map and refuge bird checklist. In just 0.1 mile, you reach the start of the Auto Tour on the right (south) side of the road. At mile 0.1, check the willows and marshes on both sides of the road for Willow Flycatchers, Marsh Wrens, and Common Yellowthroats. As you pass deeper wetlands along the auto tour, watch for Great Blue Herons, Great Egrets, American Bitterns, Black-crowned Night-Herons, and Black Terns. At mile 0.2, scan the fields on the left (east) for Upland Sandpipers, Bobolinks, Dickcissels (irregular), and Savannah, Grasshopper, and Clay-colored Sparrows. The willow patch near mile 0.4 (auto tour stop #4) often is awash with common edge species such as Willow Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Brown Thrasher, and Yellow

**Stop #2 (.7 miles East).** The refuge's woodland birding can be sampled at the Public Use area on the East side of Arrowwood Lake. The open trees in this area often are great for migrant songbirds in spring and fall. Watch especially for Eastern Wood-Pewees, Eastern and Say's Phoebes, Great Crested Flycatchers, Warbling and Red-eyed Vireos, Eastern Bluebirds, Lark Sparrows, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, and Orchard and Baltimore Orioles. Consider walking the 0.5-mile loop nature trail, as it winds through woods along the shore of Lake Arrowwood. In summer, watch and listen for Black-billed Cuckoos along this path.

**Stop #3 (2.2 miles West).** Check the dead cottonwoods South of the corner for nesting Tree Swallows. Watch for Gray Partridge as you travel south.

**Stop #4 (4 miles South, 1.1 miles East).** You should see a gate on the right (south) and a trail heading south across the grassland. Arrowwood NWR's best woodland birding is found on the west shore of Jim Lake, between the Humpback Road (a.k.a. 15<sup>th</sup> St. SE) and Pingree Road (a.k.a. 17<sup>th</sup> St. SE). The most effective way to explore this area is to walk along the prairie trail connecting these two roads; foot access is allowed except during the fall hunting season. The Wood Duck nest boxes scattered throughout the area should be scanned for Wood Ducks, Hooded Mergansers, and occasionally a sunning Eastern Screech-Owl.

**Stop #5 (.7 miles East).** Continue east to the river valley and stop to listen for Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows. This area also should be good for other wet-loving grassland species such as Le Conte's Sparrows.

**Stop #6 (.8 miles West, 1 mile South, 1 mile West, 1 mile South, 2.3 miles East).** You may encounter Grasshopper Sparrows.

**Stop #7 (2.3 miles East).** Overlooking to the river valley. Scope Jim Lake for waterfowl and other waterbirds.

**Stop #8 (.4 miles Southeast).** James River crossing. Check here for Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow and scope the lake for shorebirds in low water years.

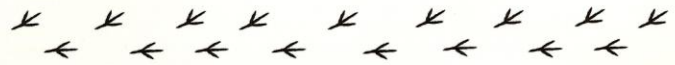
**Stop #9 (1.3 miles East, 1.7 miles North, .2 miles East).** Alkali Lake. Scope the lake to the right (south) for waterfowl and shorebirds.

**Stop #10 (.8 miles East, 8 miles North, 2 miles West, 3.9 miles).** Scope the north end of Arrowwood Lake for American White Pelicans.

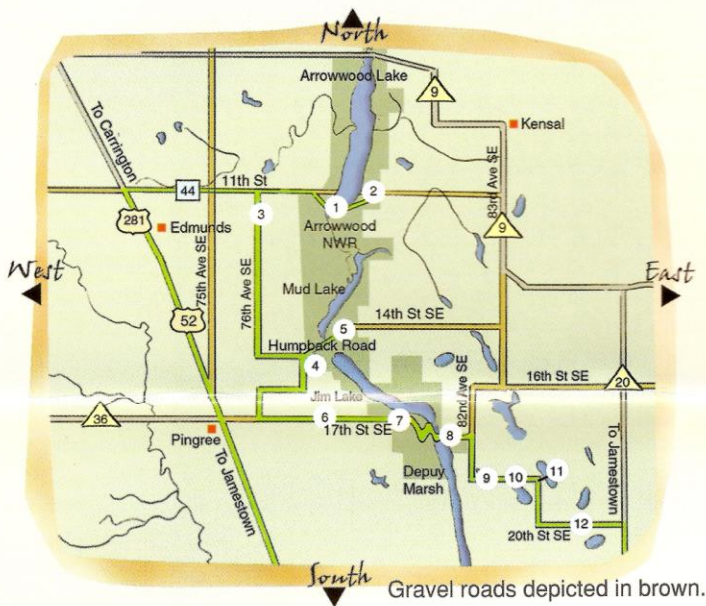
Continue west to rejoin US 52/US 281. Turn right (northwest) and return to Carrington (9 miles).

Arrowwood NWR is open Monday through Friday, 7:30 am - 4 pm  
Telephone: 701-285-3341

Warbler. You will likely hear Sedge Wrens in the adjacent field as well from May through August. At mile 3.3, you will pass a nice woody draw, but this is in the midst of the bison pasture, so exploration away from your vehicle is not advised. Near Auto Tour stop #11 (mile 4.3), you will enter some drier hill prairie. Listen here for Bobolink and Grasshopper and Vesper Sparrows.



## From Jamestown



Gravel roads depicted in brown.

## Jamestown to Arrowwood NWR (83 miles)

This route begins at the junction of I-94 and US 281/US 52 at Exit 258. Proceed north through Jamestown on US 281/US 52 29.3 miles to milepost 238 near Edmunds. Turn left (east) on 11th St SE (County Road 44) for 5.4 miles.

**Stop #1 (29.3 miles Northwest).** The easiest way to bird Arrowwood NWR is to follow the 5.5-mile, self-guided auto tour loop. Here you can pick up a map and refuge bird checklist. In just 0.1 mile, you reach the start of the Auto Tour on the right (south) side of the road. At mile 0.1, check the willows and marshes on both sides of the road for Willow Flycatchers, Marsh Wrens, and Common Yellowthroats. As you pass deeper wetlands along the auto tour, watch for Great Blue Herons, Great Egrets, American Bitterns, Black-crowned Night-Herons, and Black Terns. At mile 0.2, scan the fields on the left (east) for Upland Sandpipers, Bobolinks, Dickcissels (irregular), and Savannah, Grasshopper, and Clay-colored Sparrows. The willow patch near mile 0.4 (auto tour stop #4) often is awash with common edge species such as Willow Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Brown Thrasher, and Yellow Warbler. You will likely hear Sedge Wrens in the adjacent field as well from May through August. At mile 3.3, you will pass a nice woody draw, but this is in the midst of the bison pasture, so exploration away from your vehicle is not advised. Near Auto Tour stop #11 (mile 4.3), you will enter some drier hill prairie. Listen here for Bobolink and Grasshopper and Vesper Sparrows.

**Stop #2 (.7 miles East).** The refuge's woodland birding can be sampled at the Public Use area on the East side of Arrowwood Lake. The open trees in the picnic grounds often are great for migrant songbirds in spring and fall. Watch especially for Eastern Wood-Pewees, Eastern and Say's Phoebes, Great Crested Flycatchers, Warbling and Red-eyed Vireos, Eastern Bluebirds, Lark Sparrows, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, and Orchard and Baltimore Orioles. Consider walking the 0.5-mile loop nature trail, as it winds through woods along the shore of Lake Arrowwood. In summer, watch and listen for Black-billed Cuckoos along this path.

**Stop #3 (2.2 miles West).** Check the dead cottonwoods south of the corner for nesting Tree Swallows. Watch for Gray Partridge as you travel south.

**Stop #4 (4 miles South, 1.1 miles East).** You should see a gate on the right (south) and a trail heading south across the grassland. Arrowwood NWR's best woodland birding is found on the west shore of Jim Lake, between the Humpback Road (a.k.a. 15<sup>th</sup> St. SE) and Pingree Road (a.k.a. 17<sup>th</sup> St. SE). The most effective way to explore this area is to walk along the prairie trail connecting these two roads; foot access is allowed except during the fall hunting season. The Wood Duck nest boxes scattered throughout the area should be scanned for Wood Ducks, Hooded Mergansers, and occasionally a sunning Eastern Screech-Owl.

**Stop #5 (.7 miles East).** Continue east to the river valley and stop to listen for Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows. This area also should be good for other wet-loving grassland species such as Le Conte's Sparrows.

**Stop #6 (.8 miles West, 1 mile South, 1 mile West, 1 mile South, 2.3 miles East).** You may encounter Grasshopper Sparrows.

**Stop #7 (2.3 miles East).** Overlooking to the river valley. Scope Jim Lake for waterfowl and other waterbirds.

**Stop #8 (.4 miles Southeast).** James River crossing. Check here for Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow and scope the lake for shorebirds in low water years.

**Stop #9 (1.3 miles East, 1 mile South, .2 miles East).** Scope the wetland for shorebirds when the water levels are attractive for these species.

**Stop #10 (1 mile East).** Listen for possible Baird's Sparrows.

**Stop #11 (.8 miles East).** Check this lake for waterfowl.

**Stop #12 (1.2 miles South, 1.3 miles East).** Scope the lake to the left.

Continue east to Highway 20, then south to Jamestown.

Arrowwood NWR is open Monday through Friday,  
7:30 am to 4:00 pm. Telephone: 701-285-3341.

