

What happens to my IOS/IAS membership?

Both organizations operate on an annual renewal basis and you will remain a member as long as your membership is kept current. Membership rolls of both organizations will be combined and maintained by IAS staff.

How does this affect IAS Chapters?

This will not affect the function or purpose of the IAS Chapters.

What happens to the IAS/IOS websites?

Information from both will be merged into the Illinois Audubon Society website.

What happens to IORC & Lister's Corner?

The Illinois Ornithological Records Committee will remain intact and continue to function in its full capacity. This includes collection and distribution of species lists.

How will I submit rare bird observations?

You will continue to send rare bird sightings to IORC as in the past.

What about IAS/IOS annual events and field trips?

Both IAS and IOS offer a variety of well attended field trips and events. All events will continue to be offered. We will work as one cohesive unit to provide the best experience for our members.

Will *Illinois Audubon* magazine continue to be published?

Yes, we plan to continue with 4 quarterly issues of the magazine.

Will the *Meadowlark* continue to be published?

Yes, the *Meadowlark* is a valuable resource that documents bird life in Illinois. The publication will continue.

What about *Meadowlark* back issues not yet published?

The merged organization is committed to publishing all issues of the *Meadowlark* which are owed to IOS members. Any back issues that are yet to be published will be sent out as they are completed.

What happens to other programs sponsored by IOS such as Illinois Young Birders, Grants, etc.?

All IOS sponsored programs will continue as before, including future plans to grow these programs within this new, stronger organization.

What new initiatives are coming to this combined organization?

- IOS Board Members will be joining the existing IAS Board of Directors to grow the capacity of the newly combined organization.
- A new committee will be formed, with a focus on advancing our understanding of birds in Illinois, of the habitats and environments across the state that support birds, and of how birders can promote conservation efforts and enjoy the birds in our natural areas.

Want to know more about your partner organization?

The mission of IOS has been to document the bird life in Illinois, through scientific research and publication, recording the state of bird life in Illinois, fostering an interest in birds through Young Birders, all while providing unique opportunities for birders to learn about birds and birding while exploring the state together. Learn more about the programs and initiatives IOS will continue to offer as a part of this new organization: illinoisbirds.org

Since 1897, IAS has been dedicated to promoting and educating the public about birds, other wildlife, and their habitats. IAS has grown to be a strong and influential voice in environmental affairs in Illinois, and, by establishing and maintaining wildlife sanctuaries across Illinois, the organization seeks to protect, restore, and enhance the natural environment. Learn more about the programs and initiatives IAS will continue to offer as part of this new organization: illinoisaudubon.org

Together, as a new organization, IOS and IAS seek to strengthen scientific research and conservation efforts in the state, the collection of data documenting Illinois bird life, and to further connect our members and the public with unique and meaningful experiences in the field.