

# American Bittern

*Botaurus lentiginosus*

A stocky and well-camouflaged heron of dense reed beds, the American Bittern is difficult to see. Its far-carrying booming call is distinctive, but the bittern itself likes to keep under cover.

## Keys to Identification

### Adult Description

- Medium-sized, stocky heron.
- Thick neck and bill.
- Colored in brown, tan and white stripes.

### Immature Description

Similar to adult.

## Measurements

### Both Sexes

- Length - 23.6 - 33.5 inches
- Wingspan - 36.2 inches
- Weight - 13.1 - 17.6 ounces

