

Alice Horst

[the-village-birders] The Village Birders' trip to De Leon Springs State Park,
Wed. Feb 7, 2024

To: Village Birders <The-Village-Birders@googlegroups.com>

Reply-To: Alice Horst



Photo taken by Boat Captain Kim:

Today 32 Villagers enjoyed an hour-long boat tour at De Leon Springs State Park. Our “target” was not a bird but a Manatee. We were not disappointed!

Manatees migrate to De Leon and other Florida springs in winter months because the spring water remains 72 degrees year round. They return to the gulf when water is warmer.

Manatees were feeding near the boat dock at close range and swam past us as we motored into the channel.

American Bittern, Purple Gallinule, Black-crowned Night Heron and soaring Bald Eagles were seen along our route

We tallied 50 species with lists from the boat ramp area and our guided boat tour.

Breakfast at Old Sugar Mill Pancake House at De Leon Springs was a great way to warm up and end our spectacular outing.

Thank you carpool drivers and eBird listers.

Thank you Villagers for coming out and joining us.

Alice Horst

The Village Birders

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Please share your pictures with the group.

Check our upcoming events at

www.villagebirders.org

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