

Name

[the-village-birders] Our 2 day trip to St Marks National Wildlife Refuge

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

Reply-To: Alice Horst

1/14/2023

Birders:

We had an incredible trip on Jan 9-10th. A couple of us went the day before to find the rare White Wagtail that was being reported at Lake Elberta, Tallahassee. At Lake Elberta I ran into some old birding friends who had showed us the bird. That is always helpful. We got to St. Marks late in the day but spotted the famous flamingo, "Pinkie" immediately. Hard to miss him.

Next morning we went back to the Lighthouse Pool where we had seen huge numbers of ducks. Really unbelievable: Canvasback, Wigeon, Green-winged Teal in all plumages as well as other duck species and shore birds.

Phillip Pollack met us and gave us additional information about the refuge. Philip had given us a presentation on St Marks at our December club meeting. More birders showed up and we wandered around the Lighthouse area counting, taking pictures, and scoping.

One of our target birds was a Long-tailed Duck, a recently reported rarity. We met a birder who had just seen Long-tail, so we all started searching. FINALLY! Some of us got her along with several Common Loons. We continued birding until almost sunset when we headed to BBQ place for dinner.

We started day 2 at the Heliport on the drive out to the lighthouse looking for the elusive Henslow's Sparrow, which was elusive. We heard and saw Brown-headed Nuthatches and Red-cockaded Woodpeckers before returning to the Lighthouse Pool.

We once again found Long-tail. Towards the end of our day we found a Nelson's Sparrow and heard several Clapper Rails calling.

Great trip.

Not everyone saw every bird but I think we all got the target birds. In the end we counted about 96 for the 2 days at S Marks. My final count is not exact at this time.

Some people added White Wagtail, etc. elsewhere.

Best sightings (for me)

American Flamingo

Long-tailed Duck

White-winged Scoter

Nelson's Sparrow

Common Goldeneye

Brown-headed Nuthatch

Red-cockaded Woodpecker

Horned Grebe

Nashville Warbler

Jan Mercer saw and photographed one White-faced Ibis.

We will definitely plan on this trip next year.

Thank you all for coming and I apologize for any communication problems.

I will put the entire list on our website: www.villagebirders.org

Below: White Wagtail, Long-tailed Duck, Canvasback behind Redhead, and "Pinky" American Flamingo.







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The Village Birders
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WATERFOWL		STORK, FRIG, GANN		RAILS, CRANES		GULLS, TERNS	
Bl-bel Whistling-Duck	X	Wood Stork		Yellow Rail		Pomarine Jaeger	
Fulv. Whistling-Duck		Magnif. Frigatebird		Black Rail		Parasitic Jaeger	
Snow Goose		Brown Booby		Clapper Rail (heard)	X	Bonaparte's Gull	X
Ross's Goose		Northern Gannet		King Rail		Laughing Gull	X
Gr Wh-fronted Goose				Virginia Rail		Ring-billed Gull	X
Canada Goose		CORM, ANH, PELS		Sora	X	Herring Gull	
Egyptian Goose		D-crested Cormorant	X	Purple Swamphen		Lr. Black-backed Gull	
Muscovy Duck		Anhinga	X	Purple Gallinule		Gr. Black-backed Gull	
Wood Duck		Amer. White Pelican	X	Common Gallinule	X	Least Tern	
Gadwall	X	Brown Pelican	X	American Coot	X	Gull-billed Tern	
Eurasian Wigeon				Limpkin		Caspian Tern	
American Wigeon	X	WADERS		Sandhill Crane		Common Tern	
Mallard		American Bittern		Whooping Crane		Forster's Tern	X
Mottled Duck		Least Bittern				Royal Tern	X
Blue-winged Teal	X	Great Blue Heron	X	SHOREBIRDS		Sandwich Tern	X
Northern Shoveler	X	Great Egret	X	Black-necked Stilt		Black Skimmer	X
Northern Pintail	X	Snowy Egret	X	American Avocet	X		
Green-winged Teal	X	Little Blue Heron	X	Amer. Oystercatcher	X	DOVES, CUCKOOS	
Canvasback	X	Tricolored Heron	X	Black-bellied Plover	X	Rock Pigeon	
Redhead	X	Reddish Egret	X	Am. Golden-Plover		Eur. Collared-Dove	
Ring-necked Duck	X	Cattle Egret		Snowy Plover		White-winged Dove	
Lesser Scaup	X	Green Heron		Wilson's Plover		Com. Ground-Dove	
Common Eider		B-crown. Night-Heron	X	Semipalmated Plover	X	Mourning Dove	
White-winged Scoter	X	Y-crown. Night-Heron		Piping Plover		Yellow-billed Cuckoo	
Black Scoter		White Ibis	X	Killdeer			
Long-tailed Duck	X	Glossy Ibis		Spotted Sandpiper		OWLS	
Bufflehead	X	White-faced Ibis	X	Solitary Sandpiper		Barn Owl	
Common Goldeneye	X	Roseate Spoonbill	X	Greater Yellowlegs	X	Eastern Screech-Owl	
Hooded Merganser	X	Am. Flamingo	X	Willet	X	Great Horned Owl	
Common Merganser		RAPTORS		Lesser Yellowlegs	X	Burrowing Owl	
R-breast. Merganser		Black Vulture	X	Whimbrel		Barred Owl	
Ruddy Duck	X	Turkey Vulture		Marbled Godwit	X	Short-eared Owl	
Am. Black Duck	X	Osprey	X	Ruddy Turnstone	X		
QUAIL, TURKEY		Swallow-tailed Kite		Red Knot		NIGHT, APOD, KING	
Northern Bobwhite		Snail Kite		Stilt Sandpiper		Common Nighthawk	
Wild Turkey		Mississippi Kite		Sanderling		Chimney Swift	
		Bald Eagle	X	Dunlin	X	R-throated Hummer	
LOONS, GREBES		Northern Harrier	X	Purple Sandpiper		B-chinned Hummer	
Common Loon	X	Sharp-shinned Hawk		Least Sandpiper	X	Belted Kingfisher	X
Pied-billed Grebe	X	Cooper's Hawk		Semipalm. Sandpiper			
Horned Grebe	X	Red-shouldered Hawk	X	Western Sandpiper			
		Broad-winged Hawk		Shrt-billed Dowitcher	X		
		Short-tailed Hawk		Long-billed Dowitcher			
		Swainson's Hawk		Wilson's Snipe	X		
		Red-tailed Hawk		American Woodcock			

WOODPECKERS		CORVID, SWALLOW		WOOD WARBLERS		SPARROWS	
Red-headed Wood.		Blue Jay	X	Ovenbird		Eastern Towhee	X
Red-bel. Woodpecker	X	Florida Scrub-Jay		Worm-eating Warbler		Bachman's Sparrow	
Yellow-bel. Sapsucker	X	American Crow		Louisiana Waterthrush		Amer. Tree Sparrow	
Downy Woodpecker	X	Fish Crow		Northern Waterthrush		Chipping Sparrow	
Hairy Woodpecker		Purple Martin		Blue-winged Warbler		Field Sparrow	
Red-cockaded Wood.	X	Tree Swallow	X	Blk-and-wht Warbler		Vesper Sparrow	
Northern Flicker		N. R-winged Swallow		Prothonotary Warbler		Savannah Sparrow	
Pileated Woodpecker	X	Cliff Swallow		Tennessee Warbler		Gr'hopper Sparrow	
		Barn Swallow		Or-crowned Warbler	X	Le Conte's Sparrow	
FALCONS PARROTS				Kentucky Warbler		Nelson's Sparrow	X
Crested Caracara		PARIDS, HATCHES		Com. Yellowthroat	X	Seaside Sparrow	X
American Kestrel		Carolina Chickadee	X	Hooded Warbler		Song Sparrow	
Merlin		Tufted Titmouse		American Redstart		Lincoln's Sparrow	
Peregrine Falcon		R-breasted Nuthatch		Cape May Warbler		Swamp Sparrow	X
Nanday Parakeet		Brn-headed Nuthatch	X	Cerulean Warbler		Wh-throated Sparrow	X
				Northern Parula		Wh-crowned Sparrow	
FLYCATCHERS		WREN GNAT KING		Magnolia Warbler			
Eastern Wood-Pewee		House Wren	X	Blackburnian Warbler		TANS, GROS, BUNTS	
Yel-bellied Flycatcher		Sedge Wren	X	Yellow Warbler		Summer Tanager	
Acadian Flycatcher		Marsh Wren		Chest-sided Warbler		Scarlet Tanager	
Least Flycatcher		Carolina Wren	X	Blackpoll Warbler		Northern Cardinal	X
Eastern Phoebe	X	Bl-gray Gnatcatcher		Blk-thr. Blue Warbler		R-breasted Grosbeak	
Vermilion Flycatcher		Ruby-crowned Kinglet	X	Palm Warbler	X	Blue Grosbeak	
Ash-throated Fly.				Pine Warbler	X	Indigo Bunting	
Great Crested Fly.		THRUSH, MIMICS		Yel-rumped Warbler	X	Painted Bunting	
Tropical Kingbird		Eastern Bluebird		Yel-throated Warbler			
Cassin's Kingbird		Veery		Prairie Warbler		ICTERIDS	
Western Kingbird		Gray-cheeked Thrush		Bl-thr. Green Warbler		Bobolink	
Eastern Kingbird		Swainson's Thrush		Yellow-breasted Chat		Red-winged Blackbird	X
Gray Kingbird		Hermit Thrush		Nashville Warbler	X	Eastern Meadowlark	
Scissor-tailed Fly.		Wood Thrush				Common Grackle	
		American Robin	X			Boat-tailed Grackle	X
SHRIKE, VIREOS		Gray Catbird	X			Bronzed Cowbird	
Loggerhead Shrike		Brown Thrasher				Brn-headed Cowbird	
White-eyed Vireo		Northern Mockingbird	X			Orchard Oriole	
Yellow-throated Vireo						Baltimore Oriole	
Blue-headed Vireo	X	STAR, PIP, WWING					
Red-eyed Vireo		European Starling				FINCHES, WEAVER	
Blk-whiskered Vireo		Common Hill Myna				House Finch	
		American Pipit				American Goldfinch	X
		Cedar Waxwing				House Sparrow	
						TOTAL SPECIES	
						100	