

Alice Horst

[the-village-birders] Report from The Village Birders' trip to Pine Meadows Conservation Area 3/12/2025

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

Reply-To: Alice Horst

BIRDERS:

Great birding at Pine Meadows in Eustis today - just an hour outside The Villages in Eustis.

Interesting drive getting into this wonderful spot!

Pine Meadows Golf Course (past-tense) is alive with construction of many, many houses.

The original entrance to Pine Meadows Conservation Area continues and the drive through construction site is well marked.

The Conservation Area is still beautiful with notable improvements: a new boat ramp, benches, and recently mowed walking paths.

We had a very birdy morning and tallied 53 species.

Warblers: Black-and-White, Prairie, Pine, Palm, Yellow-rumped, Northern Parula. and 1 Swallow-tailed Kite as we were leaving.

Swamp Sparrows were abundant along with all of our Egrets, Herons and singing Carolina and House Wrens.

2 Bald Eagles soared overhead and a single Wood Duck was swimming as we walked the levee. 3 species of Woodpeckers + a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker were flitting around.

BEST SIGHTING TODAY WAS:

Family of Sandhill Cranes (looked quite similar to Christine's at Weichens) BUT one of the adults was BANDED!!!

I have reported the banded bird to Fish and Wildlife to see when/where this bird was banded. Band indicates Laurel, Maryland but it will be interesting to learn age of him/her.

I'll forward any info when I receive it.

Thank, Susan, for leading today and others for joining us...

Every day is a GREAT day to go birding!

See you on Saturday at our Monthly Meeting to hear all about Red-cockaded Woodpeckers here in Florida!!

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LINK to ebird list : <https://ebird.org/checklist/S218131446>

Photos below by Barb Peterson:





