

November 4 2017 – Sterling State Park

Leader: Mike Mencotti

Eleven birders greeting the dawn at Sterling SP on Nov. 4, to steady stream of Cormorants heading from the marsh to the lake. They must have totaled 200. As we scoped into a cool headwind, we found the waterfowl sparse, but the real show was up over the beach: A Common Loon and many Bonaparte's Gulls cruised overhead. We then walked the 3-mile trail loop and were rewarded by a wide assortment of waders and waterfowl; the prize had to be the Pintails, but the Black-crowned Night Heron and Harriers were delightful as well. A few observers saw a group of late Dunlin fly by. By the end of the field trip, we tallied 52 species. Not a bad way to usher in November!

Canada Goose
Mute Swan
Wood Duck
Blue-winged Teal
Northern Shoveler
Gadwall
American Wigeon
Mallard
Northern Pintail
Green-winged Teal
Ring-necked Duck
Bufflehead
Hooded Merganser
Common Loon
Pied-billed Grebe
Horned Grebe
Double-crested Cormorant
Great Blue Heron
Great Egret
Black-crowned Night-Heron
Northern Harrier
Bald Eagle
Red-tailed Hawk
American Coot (Red-shielded)
Killdeer
Dunlin
Bonaparte's Gull
Ring-billed Gull
Herring Gull
Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon)
Mourning Dove
Belted Kingfisher

Red-bellied Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Blue Jay
American Crow
Tree Swallow
Black-capped Chickadee
Brown Creeper
Golden-crowned Kinglet
American Robin
European Starling
Dark-eyed Junco
White-throated Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
Northern Cardinal
Red-winged Blackbird
Common Grackle
House Finch
American Goldfinch