

March 18, 2018 – Watkins Lake State Park and area

Leaders: Jim Koppin, Jeff Stacey

Eleven birders took advantage of a gorgeous late-winter day to visit Watkins Lake State Park in Jackson county.

The lakes were sparsely populated when we arrived, but many more birds flew in during the time we were scoping. Most of the usual waterfowl suspects were present, with a Trumpeter Swan and two Cackling Geese being notable. Along the hiking trail, we were treated to good looks at several Northern Mockingbirds (common in the park) and an Eastern Meadowlark. As the day warmed up, the raptors came out with highlights including a Peregrine Falcon, Bald Eagle, and many Turkey Vultures. On the way home, we stopped at a flooded field to pick up a few more ducks including several Northern Pintail males. (52 species)

Cackling Goose
Canada Goose
Mute Swan
Trumpeter Swan
Wood Duck
Northern Shoveler
Mallard
American Black Duck
Northern Pintail
Green-winged Teal
Canvasback
Redhead
Ring-necked Duck
Lesser Scaup
Bufflehead
Hooded Merganser
Common Merganser
Great Blue Heron
Turkey Vulture
Bald Eagle
Red-tailed Hawk
Sharp-shinned Hawk
Sandhill Crane
Killdeer
Ring-billed Gull
Rock Pigeon
Mourning Dove
Belted Kingfisher
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker

Northern Flicker
Peregrine Falcon
Blue Jay
American Crow
Black-capped Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
Eastern Bluebird
American Robin
Northern Mockingbird
European Starling
American Tree Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Song Sparrow
Northern Cardinal
Eastern Meadowlark
Red-winged Blackbird
Brown-headed Cowbird
Rusty Blackbird
Common Grackle
American Goldfinch
House Sparrow