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A TRIP REPORT FOR A BIRDING TRIP TO MUSCATATUCK NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, BIG BONE LICK STATE PARK, VOICE OF AMERICA PARK, WINTON WOODS PARK AND PARKY'S FARM

September 19th and 22th, 2017

**Tour Leader: Richard Amable
Participant: Mrs. Jennifer Tunningley**

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The tours were managed by costume and design to cover the habitats and record the key species



Personalize service for quality birding - Photo by Richard Amable

DAY BY DAY ACTIVITIES

September 19th.- Very early start to Muscatatuck NWR in Indiana, the rainy weather did slow down bird activity. We did the auto tour drive covering open field, prairie sections, forest, marsh and lakes. By afternoon the Big Bone Lick SP in Kentucky, here we walk main trail to Bison sights, mature forest with pine trees stands, also walked trail to the salt stream.

September 22th.- Early start to Voice of America Park, covering Leo's Park, Cross country trails, lakes and ponds, and Soccer fields; Then Winton Woods Park with the Parkour trail, grown forest with pine trees stand; Also Parky's Farm with the trails around the fields and bit of section of trails inside the forest. End of the Tour.

THE KEY TO THE BIRD LIST RED – IUCN RED LIST CATEGORY AUDUBON CONCERN

DUCKS

Canada Goose - *Branta canadensis*

Seen a large group at VOA Park. Very common

Wood Duck - *Aix sponsa*

Couple large family group at Muscatatuck WR. **Threatened by Climate Change**

Mallard – *Anas platyrhynchos*

Very common and in large groups at VOA Park **Threatened by Climate Change**

CORMORANTS

Double-crested Cormorant - *Phalacrocorax auratus*

Seen at Muscatatuck WR. **Threatened by Climate Change**



Double-crested Cormorant - *Photo by Jennifer Tunningley*

HERONS

Great Blue Heron – *Ardea Herodias*

About three seen flying across at Mucatatuck WR

Green Heron - *Butorides virescens*

Two found at Mucatatuck WR, very secret small heron

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture – *Cathartes aura*

About twenty of them flying over the Big Bone Lick SP and Very common in the other sites

HAWKS

Cooper's Hawk – *Accipiter cooperii*

One seen very fast while driving in Indiana

Red-shouldered Hawk - *Buteo lineatus**

One seen by the soccer complex at VOA Park

Red-tailed Hawk - *Buteo jamaicensis*

Common, one seen at Mascatatuck WR. And Parky's Farm

COOTS

American Coot - *Fulica Americana*

Adults and immatures seen at Richard Lake in Mascatatuck WR

PLOVERS

Killdeer - *Charadrius vociferous*



Very common at VOA Park.

Killdeer - Photo by Jennifer Tunningley

PIGEON AND DOVES

Rock Pigeon – *Columba livia*

About seven seen at Parky's Farm

Mourning Dove - *Zenaida macroura*

Very common

SWIFTS

Chimney Swift - *Chaetura pelagica*

One flying across lake Richard in Maccatuck WR and another one in VOA Park. **Near Threatened**

KINGFISHERS

Belted Kingfisher - *Megaceryle alcyon*

One seen only by the guide at Maccatuck WR

WOODPECKERS

Red-headed Woodpecker - *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*

One flying across the Big Bone Lick SP, only seen by the guide. **Threatened by Climate Change**

Red-bellied Woodpecker - *Melanerpes carolinus*

Common in most mature forests

Downy Woodpecker - *Picoides pubescens*

Very common and usually with mixed species flock

Northern Flicker (Yellow-shafted) – *Colaptes auratus*

Three seen at VOA Park

Pileated Woodpecker - *Dryocopus pileatus*

The very large woodpecker in North America, one seen at last at Parky's Farm, only flight and shape

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Alder Flycatcher - *Empidonax alnorum*

A pair seen at VOA Park. **Threatened by Climate Change**

Eastern Phoebe - *Sayornis phoebe*

Two at Maccatuck WR and two at Winton Woods parking lot. **Threatened by Climate Change**



Eastern Phoebe - *Photo by Jennifer Tunningley*

VIREOS

White-eyed Vireo - *Vireo griseus*

Only one seen at the highest site, in the open shrubs next to the Campground check in

Yellow-throated Vireo - *Vireo flavifrons*

One seen very well along the trail to the Bison sight. **Threatened by Climate Change**

CROWS AND JAYS

Blue Jay - *Cyanocitta cristata*

Common in most sites

American Crow - *Corvus brachyrhynchos*

About five seen at Mascatatuck WR



American Crow - Photo by Jennifer Tunningley

LARKS

Horned Lark – *Eremophila alpestris*

Only a pair seen by the soccer complex, and probable several individuals nest here, at VOA Park

SWALLOWS

Tree Swallow - *Tachycineta bicolor*

A flock seen at Richard Lake in Mascatatuck WR. **Threatened by Climate Change**

CHICKADEES AND TITMICES

Carolina Chickadee - *Poecile carolinensis*

Very common with mixed species flock

Tufted Titmouse - *Baeolophus bicolor*

Very common with mixed species flock



Tufted Titmouse - Photo by Jennifer Tunningley

NUTHATCHES

White-breasted Nuthatch - *Sitta carolinensis*

Seen at Mascatatuck WR and couple more at Winton Woods. Common with mixed species flock

Threatened by Climate Change



White-breasted Nuthatch - Photo by Jennifer Tunningley

WRENS

Carolina Wren - *Thryothorus ludovicianus*
Common in most sites

THRUSHES

Eastern Bluebird - *Sialia sialis*
One single seen at Parky's Farm



Eastern Bluebird - *Photo by Richard Amable*

Swainson's Thrush - *Catharus ustulatus*

About three seen at Winton Woods Parkour trail



Swainson's Thrush - *Photo by Richard Amable*

American Robin - *Turdus migratorius*

Very common in most sites

MOCKINGBIRDS

Gray Catbird - *Dumetella carolinensis*

Three seen at VOA Park

Northern Mockingbird - *Mimus polyglottos*

Three seen at Parky's Farm, common

STARLINGS

European Starling - *Sturnus vulgaris*

Very common in most sites

WAXWINGS

Cedar Waxwing - *Bombycilla*

cedrorum At least ten seen at Big Bone

Lick ST



Cedar Waxwing - Photo by Jennifer Tunningley

WOOD WARBLERS

Ovenbird - *Seiurus aurocapilla*

Only one seen at the feeder in the welcome center at Mascatatuck WR in Indiana. **Threatened by Climate Change**

Common Yellowthroat - *Geothlypis trichas*

Two seen in Mascatatuck WR and two more at VOA Park

American Redstar - *Setophaga ruticilla*

Only one seen at Winton Woods Parkour trail

Threatened by Climate Change

Magnolia Warbler - *Setophaga magnolia*

One seen at Winton Woods Parkour trail, with a mixed flock.

Threatened by Climate Change

Blackburnian Warbler - *Setophaga fusca*

One seen at Big Bone Lick ST and another in Parky's Farm. **Threatened by Climate Change**

Palm Warbler - *Setophaga palmarum*

Three seen at Mascatatuck WR. **Threatened by Climate Change**

Pine Warbler - *Setophaga pinus*

One seen at Big Bone Lick ST and another in Winton Woods Park. **Threatened by Climate Change**

NEW WORLD SPARROWS

Eastern Towhee - *Pipilo erythrophthalmus*

Only one seen at the feeder in the welcome center at Mascatatuck WR in Indiana

Chipping Sparrow – *Spizella passerine*

One pair seen at Parky’s Farm

Field Sparrow - *Spizella pusilla*

A single female seen at VOA Park

Song Sparrow – *Melospiza melodia*

Common in most sites

CARDINALS

Summer Tanager - *Piranga rubra*

One seen at Winton Woods Parkour trail, with a mixed flock

Northern Cardinal - *Cardinalis cardinalis*

Common in most sites

BLACKBIRDS

Red-winged Blackbird - *Agelaius phoeniceus*

Common in most open areas and marshes, a large flock seen at Mascatatuck WR

Eastern Meadowlark - *Sturnella magna*

About three seen at VOA Park, Key species for this habitat

FINCHES

House Finch – *Carpodacus mexicanus*

Common in most sites. **Threatened by Climate Change**

American Goldfinch – *Spinus tristis*

Many of them seen at VOA Park and Parky’s Farm

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

House Sparrow - *Passer domesticus*

Common in most site. Not native species

OTHER

WILDLIFE

MAMMALS

American Bison – *Bison bison*

Seen several at Big Bone Lick ST **Near Threatened**



American Bison - Photo by Jennifer Tunningley

White-tailed Deer - *Odocoileus virginianus*

Three seen at Muscatatuck WR

Virginia Opossum - *Didelphis virginiana*

One dead one spotted while driving

Eastern Gray Squirrel - *Sciurus carolinensis*

Very common in most sites

Eastern Chipmunk - *Tamias striatus*

Small and sneaky, common in most sites

REPTAILS

Painted (Midland) Turtle - *Chrysemis picta*

Four seen at Parky's Farm

BUTTERFLIES

Monarch - *Danaus plexippus*

About thirty seen at VOA Park, key summer habitat for this specie



Monarch - Photo by Richard Amable

Black Swallowtail – *Papilio polyxenes*

A female and male seen at VOA Park

Painted Lady – *Vanessa cardui*

One seen at VOA Park

References and Literatures:

- Sibley, A. David. 2014. *The Sibleys Guide to Birds (Second Edition)*. Random House LLC. New York.

- Kays, W. Roland and Don E. Wilson. 2009. *Mammals of North America (Second Editions)*. Princeton University Press. New Jersey.