

## Second Search for Eagles, Dr. S. Marie Kuhnen Memorial Field Trip Series, 3 March 2023

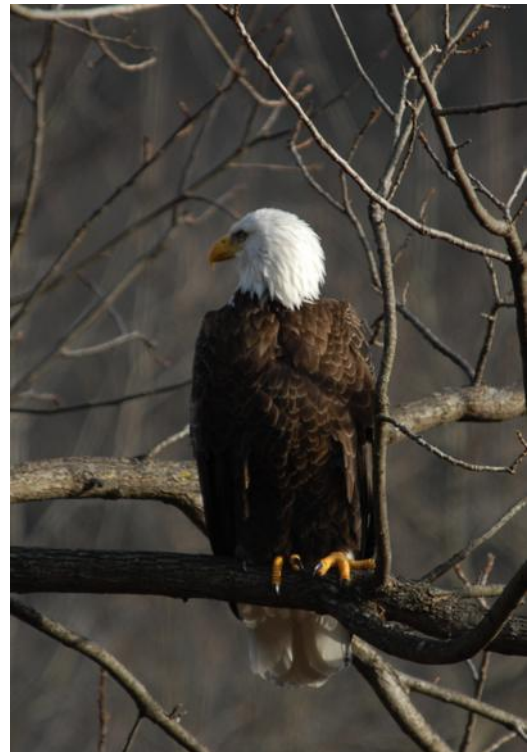
The final 2023 Dr. S. Marie Kuhnen Memorial Field Trip, Search for Eagles took place in the Delaware Valley Sunday, March 3, 2023 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with four participants, one of whom is a

nonagenarian. It started as a clear sunny day with a 30 degree temperature and at the conclusion overcast at 46 degrees. The day began with watching feeder birds at the Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC) that included Dark-eyed Junco, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Blue Jay, and Mourning Dove. We logged 165 miles in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area from Poxono Island and Upper Delaware Scenic River. The trip concluded at the headwaters of the Lackawaxen River.



Jack Padalino, president emeritus of PEEC a partner with the National Park Service, led the search that included seeing 31 species of birds with twenty-seven Bald Eagles, sixteen Red-tailed Hawks, nine Common Ravens, one Red-shouldered Hawk, one Sharp-shinned Hawk, a few Black Vultures, and casts of Turkey Vultures.

Our first Red-tailed Hawk was at Tom's Creek. No eagles at Poxono, No eagles were see at the Bushkill access; however, we were treated to a chorus by Red-winged Blackbirds. As we exited the access we spotted two Red-tails on the same branch high on the cliff. Our first eagle was an adult flying south over the Tom's Creek shale bank, it then perched. A number of passerines were at Eshback's access. No eagles at the Dingmans Ferry Bridge; however, Common Mergansers flew quickly past us. No eagle above the Dingmans Cemetery.



At Route 209 mile marker 16 nest a female eagle was nestled in. She was later joined by her mate. While we watch two juvenile eagles arrived. There were a number of Red-tails in the area. Checked the nest at mile marker 17 shale bank without success.

There were no eagles at Milford Beach, along the River Road, nor at the Pierce House nest. From the pull-off at the Kittatinny Camp Ground we heard and watched two Common Ravens. No luck behind the DV High School, the Shop-Rite, or Best Western.

On our way to the Riverview Restaurant near where PA, NJ, converge we added three soaring adult eagles, one Sharp-shinned Hawk, and a few Turkey Vultures. In addition there were twenty Ring-billed Gulls and thirty Canada Geese. We enjoyed a rest stop at the Pennsylvania Welcome Center where upon entering a large Red-tail flew across our path. No eagles at the Laurel Grove Cemetery overlook or nest.

By 12:30 pm on our way the Hawks Nest historical marker overlook, an adult eagle flew in front of us. From the overlook we watch four Common Ravens and two juvenile eagles. As we approached the pull-off near Indian Head Canoe two eagles scattered in opposite directions.

At the Pond Eddy former nest sight in a White Pine on the PA no eagle present. At the Mongaup Reservoir Observation Blind we saw three eagles, a perched adult and two juveniles in flight. There were no eagles to be seen along Plank Road or from the Rio Reservoir Dam; however, when we returned to the Delaware we spotted an adult eagle perched above the Indian Head nest and a juvenile in flight. As we passed through Barryville, NY along the Delaware and traveled upriver, no eagles were at Minisink Ford observation blind.



We traveled past the Roebling Bridge and spotted a perched adult eagle one hundred yards upriver from the bridge. Crossing the bridge we saw an adult eagle flying fifty yards downriver. At the confluence of the Lackawaxen and Delaware rivers an adult eagle flew to the New York side of the river. Moments later another eagle flew to the Lackawaxen. By the time we reached the parking area we had observed twenty eagles.

We traveled upstream along the Lackawaxen and added six more eagles. The first flying near the nest at Engvadsen Road, the second a perched juvenile proximal to Swing Bridge, next two adult at Appert Road, one was fishing - the other in flight, another perched juvenile, and the next adult perched at Field Bend Road near the double nest. Our twenty-seventh and last eagle was an adult flying over Route 739 near Conashaugh Lake.

Eagles' nests we discovered will be monitored on a subsequent Search for Eagles:

TO PARTICIPATE IN A SEARCH FOR EAGLES  
FIELD TRIP NEXT SEASON

Sundays - December 3 & 10, 2023

Sundays - January 7 & 14, 2024

Sundays - February 4, 11 & 18, 2024

Sunday - March 3, 2024



PHONE: 845.325.0536 AND INDICATE WHICH SEARCH(S) YOU WILL BE ATTENDING.

Or eMail: [jackpeec@aol.com](mailto:jackpeec@aol.com) and leave a message.

Meet 8:00 a.m. at the PEEC parking lot or Meet 10:00 a.m. at the DWGNRA North Entrance Parking Area, Route 209 South @ mile marker 20, Milford, PA - just south of the Milford Bridge

WEATHER PERMITTING. - Dress warmly, bring binoculars, field guides, and a lunch.  
THERE IS NO CHARGE

Eagle observation data that we collect is shared with members of the Sussex County Bird Club, Eagle Institute, and Hawk Migration Association of North America, HMANA. An Eagle identification field guide and a "Search for Eagles" hand-out will be provided for participants by the Paul F-Brandwein Institute. Join us to Search For Eagles.



In addition to the 27 Bald Eagles we saw:

Canada Goose

Mallard

Common Merganser

Ring-billed Gull

Rock Pigeon

Morning Dove

Black Vulture

Turkey Vulture

Bald Eagle

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Red-shouldered Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk – 16

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Downy Woodpecker

Hairy Woodpecker

Pileated Woodpecker

Blue Jay

American Crow

Common Raven -9

Black-capped Chickadee

Tufted Titmouse

White-breasted Nuthatch

Carolina Wren

American Robin

European Starling

Red-winged Blackbird

Common Grackle

Northern Cardinal

American Goldfinch

Dark-eyed Junco

Song Sparrow