

Search for Eagles, Dr. S. Marie Kuhnen - Memorial Field Trip Series, 2 March 2026.

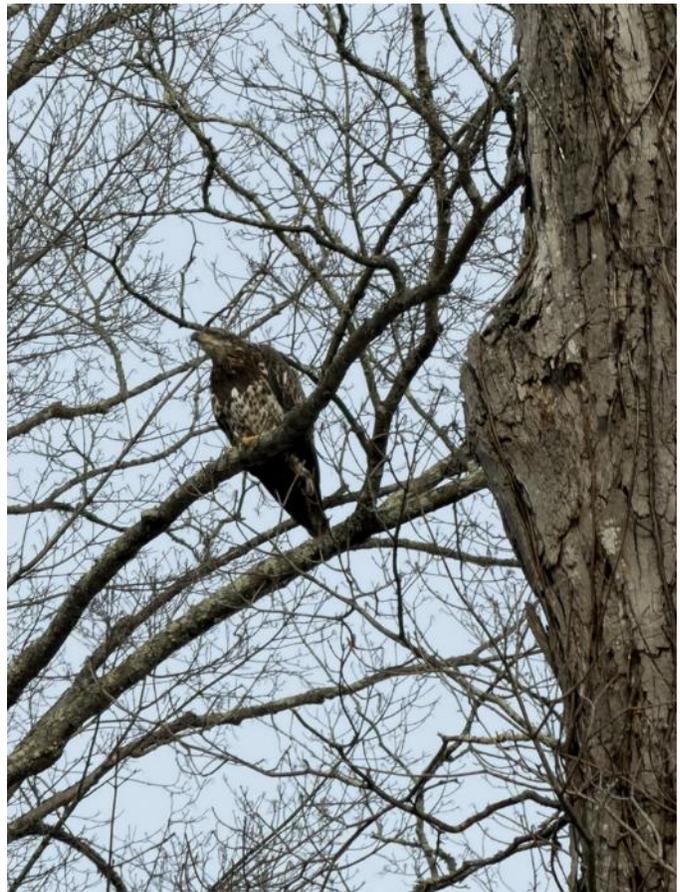
The fourth and final in a series of Dr. S. Marie Kuhnen Memorial Field Trips, Search for Eagles, sponsored by the Brandwein Institute, took place in the Delaware Valley Monday, March 2, 2026 from 8:00 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. Temperature at the start 16 degrees and finish was 23 degrees.

The day which was overcast to sunny by noon began with watching feeder birds at home adding the usual feeder bird suspects, Brown Creeper was a plus. We logged 154 miles in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area and Upper Delaware Scenic River from Bushkill. The trip concluded along the headwaters of the Lackawaxen.

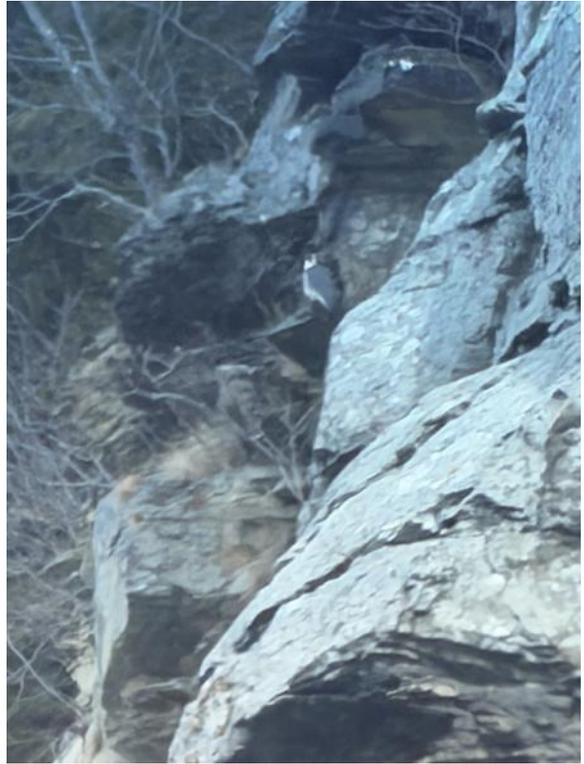
Jack Padalino, president emerita of Brandwein Institute, led the search that recorded 38 bird species including 29 Bald Eagles, 5 juveniles and 24 adults, 9 Red-tailed Hawks, Red-shouldered Hawk, three Peregrine Falcons, and a Common Raven.

Our first eagle was a juvenile perched at the entrance to Eshback Access. The Common Raven flew over Tom's Creek. A pair of adult Bald Eagles were perched atop a high wire stanchion at Fernwood, now a Buddhist shrine. Bushkill Access yielded a Red-winged Blackbird. Our first Red-tailed Hawk was perched near Chestnut Ridge Road at Hornbeck's Creek.

We crossed the Dingmans Bridge at 9:30 a.m. and spotted an adult eagle in flight. As we passed the Dingmans Cemetery we heard an eagle calling. We checked the mile marker 16 nest site and saw a second nest had been constructed above the previous one. Approaching mile marker 17 we spotted an adult eagle perched atop the ridge. A Red-tailed Hawk was perched nearby. No luck at Milford Beach. We checked the nest near the Pierce House no eagles. At 10:30 a.m. an adult eagle was perched atop the ridge near the Kittatinny Campground. No eagles behind the Best Western. At the Riverview Restaurant near where PA, NJ, and NY converge, no luck. From the Port Jervis Laurel Grove Cemetery overlook we spotted Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, and a Peregrine Falcon in flight at a distance, no eagle there.



At the Hawks Nest where on occasion we find a Peregrine Falcon we were treated to sighting a pair of Falcons, one perched and the other in flight, then perching. This was the first time in all the years searching we were able to log three Peregrines. After we crossed the Mongaup River, from the bridge spotted a perched adult upstream. Checked the Indian Head nest, two perched birds present, a juvenile and adult. Proximal to the cliffs we spotted two adult eagles perched in a favorite tree at the Delaware. At the Mongaup Observation Blind we added the Red-breasted Nuthatch. No eagles on Plank Road or the Rio Reservoir Dam.



We returned to the Delaware and traveled upstream and spotted a perched juvenile eagle near Pond Eddy. We crossed the Roebling Bridge into PA and parked in the observation area at the Zane Gray Museum where three adult eagles flew above us at the confluence of the Lackawaxen and Delaware. Here's where we spotted the female American Goldeneye. We listed 22 eagles by the time we reached the Lackawaxen.



We traveled upstream and saw a perched adult near Rowland Road. The next two adult eagle were seen perched near Engvaldsen Road at a nest. In the White Pine nest at Appert Road was adult eagle, image attached. Its mate was probably incubating in the nest. At the triple-decker eagle nest on Field Bend Road were two adult eagles. One took flight and one remained perched near the three nests.. The final eagle of the day was a juvenile perched upstream from the Kimble Bridge.

The eagles' nests will be monitored on our future 2027 Searches for Eagles:

Sundays - January 10th & 24th, February 7 & 21, 2027

Eagle observation data that we collect are shared with the National Park Service, members of the Sussex County Bird Club, Eagle Institute, and Hawk Migration Association of North America HMANA.

In addition to the 29 Bald Eagles observed:

Canada Goose
American Black Duck
Mallard
Common Merganser
Common Goldeneye
Rock Pigeon
Mourning Dove
Black Vulture
Turkey Vulture
Red-shouldered Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
Peregrine Falcon
Blue Jay
American Crow
Common Raven
Black-capped Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
Red-breasted Nuthatch
White-breasted Nuthatch
Brown Creeper
Carolina Wren
Eastern Bluebird
American Robin
European Starling
Cedar Waxwing
House Finch
American Goldfinch
American Tree Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Red-winged Blackbird
Northern Cardinal