

## FBC Trip to Magee Marsh, Ohio

May 11-15, 2019

By Joyce Bathke



Five members of the Fredericksburg Birding Club, Joan and Jeff Pozner, Joyce and Michael Bathke, and Georgia Paton, arrived in Oregon, OH on May 10th and 11th. The first stop, immediately upon arrival in the area, is the Magee Marsh Boardwalk, beginning our time there with a good dozen or more warblers and numerous other species before dusk. The Boardwalk would be a daily stop to either begin or end the day.



Most of our time there was cool for mid-May. We bundled each day for temperatures in the low 40s to 50s, 10-35 mph winds off Lake Erie, as well as rain now and again and the remnants of recent flooding in the area (which prevented us from getting to Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area). On our last day in the area, the wind shifted, the sun came out, and we were treated to temperatures in the 60s and lunch on the beach of Lake Erie.

In addition to the Boardwalk we birded other areas of the Magee Marsh Wildlife area including the Causeway, the beach, the parking lot, the walking trail at the Visitor Center. We were pleased to see Eastern Screech Owl (gray phase), Northern Waterthrush and Common Nighthawk.



At Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge we birded the Visitor Center area and the 7-mile driving tour, as well as enjoying the annual Lake Perch lunch served in the parking lot. We later made a stop at the Boss Unit of the Refuge located a few miles away, and spent an afternoon at the Crane Creek Estuary Trail, which is reached from the Magee Marsh Wildlife Area. The Estuary Trail gave us our only Sandhill Crane, Yellow-throated Vireo, Common Tern, and Great Horned Owl in its nest.

The state of Ohio has a wonderful system of metro parks. We were fortunate to have two of those parks nearby. Pearson Metro Park was in Oregon where we stayed and Howard Marsh Metro Park opened a year ago and was nearby. Howard Marsh showed us our only Greater Scaup, Yellow-headed Blackbird and Black-necked Stilt.



Other birding venues included Maumee Bay State Park, including the Visitor Center and the Boardwalk where we had wonderful looks at Virginia Rail, Sora, and Eastern Screech Owl (red phase), and the flooded field adjacent to Barnside Creamery, giving us our only Ruddy Turnstones of the trip.

As always with a trip to Magee, we made a stop at Blackberry Corner's Tavern for lunch and pie, adding a birthday celebration to the occasion.



Our group tallied 129 species, but only 23 warblers for the trip – as some “usuals” had not yet arrived. Thanks to Jeff Pozner for the great photos.

Canada Goose  
Trumpeter Swan  
Wood Duck  
Gadwall  
Mallard  
Blue-winged Teal  
Northern Shoveler  
Canvasback  
Greater Scaup  
Lesser Scaup  
Bufflehead  
Ruddy Duck  
Pied-billed Grebe  
Double-crested Cormorant  
Least Bittern  
Great Blue Heron  
Great Egret  
Snowy Egret  
Green Heron  
Turkey Vulture  
Bald Eagle  
Virginia Rail  
Sora  
American Coot  
Sandhill Crane  
Black-necked Stilt  
Killdeer  
Spotted Sandpiper  
Greater Yellowlegs  
Lesser Yellowlegs  
Ruddy Turnstone  
Dunlin  
Least Sandpiper  
Short-billed Dowitcher  
Bonaparte's Gull  
Ring-billed Gull  
Herring Gull  
Caspian Tern  
Common Tern  
Forster's Tern  
Mourning Dove  
Black-billed Cuckoo  
Eastern Screech-Owl  
Great Horned Owl  
Common Nighthawk

Ruby-throated  
Hummingbird  
Belted Kingfisher  
Red-headed Woodpecker  
Red-bellied Woodpecker  
Downy Woodpecker  
Northern Flicker  
Eastern Phoebe  
Great Crested Flycatcher  
Eastern Kingbird  
Yellow-throated Vireo  
Blue-headed Vireo  
Warbling Vireo  
Red-eyed Vireo  
Blue Jay  
American Crow  
Horned Lark  
Northern Rough-winged  
Swallow  
Purple Martin  
Tree Swallow  
Barn Swallow  
Cliff Swallow  
Black-capped Chickadee  
Tufted Titmouse  
Red-breasted Nuthatch  
White-breasted Nuthatch  
House Wren  
Marsh Wren  
Carolina Wren  
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher  
Golden-crowned Kinglet  
Ruby-crowned Kinglet  
Eastern Bluebird  
Gray-cheeked Thrush  
Swainson's Thrush  
Wood Thrush  
American Robin  
Gray Catbird  
Brown Thrasher  
Northern Mockingbird  
European Starling  
Cedar Waxwing  
Ovenbird  
Northern Waterthrush

Blue-winged Warbler  
Black-and-white Warbler  
Prothonotary Warbler  
Tennessee Warbler  
Nashville Warbler  
Common Yellowthroat  
American Redstart  
Cape May Warbler  
Northern Parula  
Magnolia Warbler  
Bay-breasted Warbler  
Blackburnian Warbler  
Yellow Warbler  
Chestnut-sided Warbler  
Blackpoll Warbler  
Black-throated Blue  
Warbler  
Palm Warbler  
Yellow-rumped Warbler  
Black-throated Green  
Warbler  
Canada Warbler  
Wilson's Warbler  
Eastern Towhee  
Chipping Sparrow  
Song Sparrow  
Lincoln's Sparrow  
White-throated Sparrow  
White-crowned Sparrow  
Summer Tanager  
Scarlet Tanager  
Northern Cardinal  
Rose-breasted Grosbeak  
Red-winged Blackbird  
Eastern Meadowlark  
Yellow-headed Blackbird  
Rusty Blackbird  
Common Grackle  
Brown-headed Cowbird  
Baltimore Oriole  
House Finch  
American Goldfinch  
House Sparrow



Photos in order:

1. Blackburnian Warbler
2. Trip Participants
3. Common nighthawk
4. Black-throated Blue Warbler
5. Nashville Warbler
6. Virginia Rail
7. Northern Parula
8. Tennessee Warbler

