



# WESTERN CUYAHOGA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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## Field Trip Report

**Event:** Hotspot Field Trip to Wendy Park & Sandy Ridge Reservation

**Date:** Saturday, July 14, 2018

**Time:** 7:00 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.

**Location:** Wendy Park, 2800 Whiskey Island Drive, Cleveland, OH 44102 & Sandy Ridge Reservation, 6195 Otten Rd, North Ridgeville, OH 44039

**Leader:** Tim Colborn

**Target Species:** Early Migrant Shorebirds

**Results:** 5 Birders, 48 Species

Five members of the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society joined leader Tim Colborn on a local search for early migrant and resident shorebirds in the Cleveland area on Saturday, July 14, 2018. Skies were mostly clear with temps already in the low 70's as we departed North Olmsted at about 7:00 a.m. Our first stop was Wendy Park along the lakeshore just west of downtown Cleveland. While the shorebird migration is in its early stages, we found Least and Pectoral Sandpipers, Killdeer and Semipalmated Plovers, Lesser Yellowlegs and about ten beautifully buffy orange Short-billed Dowitchers feeding at the iron ore ponds just west of the main Wendy Park parking lot. Two of us added a Spotted Sandpiper along the shore at Wendy Park to bump our shorebird number up a notch. In addition to the shorebirds, we studied a singing Willow Flycatcher and got good looks at a Northern Mockingbird (this area is one of the best places in Cuyahoga County to find them). In all, we tallied 28 species in about 50 minutes of birding.

Four of us then drove over to Lorain County and the Sandy Ridge Reservation. Arriving around 9:30 a.m., temperatures had climbed into the low 80's. The woods provide respite from the sun

on the first part of the hike and we added Acadian Flycatcher and a female Rose-breasted Grosbeak. We walked the main loop around the impoundments noting many Mallard and Wood Duck families lazing about the ponds as well as more than a dozen Great Egrets and half as many Great Blue Herons taking advantage of the lower water levels and easy hunting. A Cooper's Hawk flew over the main trail clutching unidentified prey. Colorful species showed themselves during the loop walk including bright yellow American Goldfinch, deep blue Indigo Bunting, and warm brown Cedar Waxwings. A distant Sandhill Crane was briefly seen across the impoundments. Our last bird of the day was a cooperative Wood Thrush that perched just off the trail to give each of us marinating looks. While no new shorebirds were added, we observed a total of 33 species at the Reservation.

In total, 48 species (including 7 shorebird species) were seen before the sun and heat drove us off the trails. - *Tim Colborn, Bird Walk Leader*

### Bird List (*partial list*)

#	Species
Wendy Park	
1.	Least Sandpiper ( <i>Calidris minutilla</i> )
2.	Pectoral Sandpiper ( <i>Calidris melanotos</i> )
3.	Killdeer ( <i>Charadrius vociferus</i> )
4.	Semipalmated Sandpiper ( <i>Calidris pusilla</i> )
5.	Lesser Yellowlegs ( <i>Tringa flavipes</i> )
6.	Short-billed Dowitcher ( <i>Limnodromus griseus</i> )
7.	Spotted Sandpiper ( <i>Actitis macularius</i> )
8.	Willow Flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax traillii</i> )
Sandy Ridge Reservation	
9.	Northern Mockingbird ( <i>Mimus polyglottos</i> )
10.	Acadian Flycatcher ( <i>Empidonax virescens</i> )

11.	Rose-breasted Grosbeak ( <i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i> )
12.	Mallard ( <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> )
13.	Wood Duck ( <i>Aix sponsa</i> )
14.	Great Egret ( <i>Ardea alba</i> )
15.	Great Blue Heron ( <i>Ardea herodias</i> )
16.	Cooper's Hawk ( <i>Accipiter cooperii</i> )
17.	American Goldfinch ( <i>Spinus tristis</i> )
18.	Indigo Bunting ( <i>Passerina cyanea</i> )
19.	Cedar Waxwing ( <i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i> )
20.	Sandhill Crane ( <i>Grus canadensis</i> )
21.	Wood Thrush ( <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i> )

## Photos



**Photo: Hotspot Birding by Kaoru Tsubone. Sat July 14, 2018 at Wendy Park, 2800 Whiskey Island Drive, Cleveland, OH 44102.**





**Photo: Wendy Park Birders by Kaoru Tsubone. Hotspot Birding, Sat July 14, 2018 at Wendy Park, 2800 Whiskey Island Drive, Cleveland, OH 44102.**



**Photo: Sandy Ridge Reservation Birders by Kaoru Tsubone. Hotspot Birding, Sat July 14, 2018 at Sandy Ridge Reservation, 6195 Otten Rd, North Ridgeville, OH 44039.**



**Photo: Grasshopper on Bird's-foot trefoil by Kaoru Tsubone. Hotspot Birding, Sat July 14, 2018 at Sandy Ridge Reservation, 6195 Otten Rd, North Ridgeville, OH 44039.**





**Photo: Hummingbird by Kaoru Tsubone. Hotspot Birding, Sat July 14, 2018 at Sandy Ridge Reservation, 6195 Otten Rd, North Ridgeville, OH 44039.**





**Photo: Swallowtail Butterfly by Kaoru Tsubone. Hotspot Birding, Sat July 14, 2018 at Sandy Ridge Reservation, 6195 Otten Rd, North Ridgeville, OH 44039.**

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