

The LOS Field Trip Series - Please read the general info first!!

LOS Members can sign-up for trips by sending an email request to: melissaweaverbird@gmail.com. Trip registrations will be on a first-received email basis; *Melissa will confirm your registration, so if you don't hear back then check the spelling of her email address.* The trip leader will contact you before the trip to review details. If you register and are a no-show then you will not be allowed to register in the future. Please make sure you cancel at least 24 hours in advance so that your space may be filled by someone on the Wait List. Also, please do not bring unregistered guests. Access to any Louisiana Wildlife Management Area (WMA) requires a Basic Hunting or Fishing License OR a WMA Access Permit. So, please ensure that you have one if your field trip visits a WMA (or want to support LDWF!): <https://www.wlf.louisiana.gov/page/wmas-refuges-and-conservation-areas>. Watch the LOS Website for additional offerings, changes to listed trips, or pop-up trips. If you would like to lead a LOS field trip, or suggest a destination for a field trip, then email Melissa.

January 2025

Birding Transylvania with John Dillon. 18 January. Meet up in the Delta country of East Carroll Parish to look for raptors, Sandhill Cranes, waterfowl, sparrows, and more! Yes, we'll bird the tiny village of Transylvania, but we'll also bird around Lake Providence and the surrounding areas. This is wide open ag country! So scopes are recommended. Given the location and time of year, there's always a decent chance of something odd or rare. We'll stop for lunch at the Outpost Travel Center in Lake Providence. Meet in the parking lot the Transylvania Baptist Church at 159 Cheek Road at 6:30am. Suggested lodging: Economy Inn of Lake Providence; 318-559-3801 **Up to 10 participants. Sign-up begins 1 January at 8:00am. You can sign up only by emailing Melissa Weaver; see above.**

February 2025

Red River NWR Waterfowl and Shorebird-palooza with Caleb Persia. 8 February. Join us as we walk along the flooded rice fields at the RRNWR Yates Tract searching for shorebirds and waterfowl. Yates has an overall species count of 266 with several rare shorebirds and ducks making appearances over the years. From there, depending on time, we will head up the road to Bishop Point and look for more waterfowl along the road and at the boat launch. The tour will end there, but there are several fantastic places to bird nearby for those wishing to bird longer (Bayou Pierre WMA, Clear Lake, Bickham Dickson, and the Red River Wildlife Refuge HQ) Expect Black-necked Stilts, Lesser & Greater Yellowlegs, Long-billed Dowitcher, Dunlin & a half-dozen species of Ducks/Geese, and several species of raptors (will last year's Cinnamon Teal make an appearance?): Plan accordingly for the weather, mosquitos, and mud. Scope recommended but not required, we will share if you don't have one! Snacks and drinks will be provided as well as bug spray. Please note that there are no public bathrooms at Yates, but there are some at Bishop. We will be doing 2-3 miles of walking at Yates, but Bishop can be birded from your vehicle. Meet at <https://maps.app.goo.gl/9kAX1F7krTQJD22X6> **Up to 15 participants. Sign-up begins 15 January at 8:00am. You can sign up only by emailing Melissa Weaver; see above.**

Amite River Wildlife Sanctuary with Jane Patterson. 8 February. If you haven't visited the newest Baton Rouge Audubon sanctuary in Ascension parish, here is your chance. Field trip leader Jane Patterson will lead the group on the 2 miles of trails in this bottomland hardwood refuge. While we don't expect any unusual birds, there should be a good showing of the expected winter residents. Knee high boots are recommended as there is often standing water on the trails. Meet at 7:30am at 45141 Manny **Guitreau Rd. Prairieville. and plan to end around 10:30am. Up to 15 participants. Sign-up begins 15 January at 8:00am. You can sign up only by emailing Melissa Weaver; see above.**

March 2025

Sandy Hollow WMA with Jane Patterson. 8 March. Come Bird with Jane. Jane Patterson will lead our LOS group to the Sandy Hollow WMA to explore this nice upland habitat. Jane is the No. 1 birder for that hot spot

with 84 species. It is located in Tangipahoa Parish northeast of Amite, La. This 4,500 acre area is mostly rolling, piney wooded hills with hardwoods in a few creek bottoms. There are three tracts. The LDWF manages this area for upland game birds such as quail and dove. It is a valuable research area for the LDWF. It is a great way to explore Tangipahoa Parish. To Starting and ending locations TBD and will be sent out to all registered participants. Bring your binocs, plenty of water and snacks for a day trip. There will be some walking so boots, hat, bug spray and the usual to keep you comfortable as may be needed. **Up to 12 participants. Sign-up begins 15 February at 8:00am. You can sign up only by emailing Melissa Weaver; see above.**