

3rd Annual Pipestem Winter Eagle Survey

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on January 5, 2008

Thirty-one volunteers were stationed at twelve different sites along thirty-five miles of the New River from Glen Lyn, VA to Sandstone, WV for this survey. Seven of the twelve sites experienced eagle sightings during the day.

Based on the notes (see below) from these observers there were at least 9 bald eagles (four adults, two 1st year birds, one 2nd year bird, two 3rd year birds) and 1 golden eagle (immature) for the day. The Pipestem Area Christmas Bird Count on December 15, 2007 and Betsy Reeder's observation on January 6, 2008, it appears that Pipestem has an adult golden eagle in the vicinity. -JP

Observation Sites	Observers and notes
Glen Lyn, VA	Jim & Judy Phillips saw no eagles.
Shanklin's Ferry, Bluestone WMA	Peggy & Bill Opengari saw no eagles.
Cedar Branch, Bluestone WMA	Jesse Anderson observed an immature bald eagle
Mouth of Indian Creek, Bluestone WMA	Barry Williams & Bob Baker saw no eagles.
Bull Falls, Bluestone WMA	Tony Mattox saw an immature golden eagle fly by going down river at 10:30.
Bertha, Bluestone WMA	Allen & Mindy Waldron, Mark Mullins & Alma Lowry watched a 3 rd year bald eagle from 10:10 to 2:10. It was seen perched and feeding on the ground and in a tree. At 1:30 a second 3 rd year bald eagle joined the first bird. At 1:40 a 2 nd year bird appeared. All three were in view at the same time from 1:45 - 2:10.
Mouth of the Bluestone River, Bluestone State Park	Brian Hirt, Donald Akers, Chuck and Ellen Keefer saw an adult bald eagle at 12:35. It flew across the lake and landed in a tree. It was last seen at 12:50 when it flew toward Bluestone Dam.
Fishing Pier, Bluestone State Park	David & Cindy Caldwell had a brief look at an immature eagle (species not determined) just before 2 p.m.
Rt. 20 Bluestone Lake Overlook, Bluestone State Park	Ron & Wendy Perrone had bald eagles in view during the entire period. During the day they had 2 adults, 2 different 1 st year birds and 1 3 rd year bird. They were joined part of the time by Ann & Grady McRae.
Bellepoint Park, U.S. Army Corps	Rodney Davis, Bob Farley, Betsy Reeder, Kermit Stover, Tim & Ellen Pyles saw no eagles.
1/2 mile above Sandstone Falls, New River Gorge National River	Kathleen Holloway and Lisa Clemmer saw an adult bald eagle perched at 10:30. At 1:15 while they were watching an adult bald eagle perched in a tree, a second adult bald eagle flew in.
Sandstone Visitor's Center, New River Gorge National River	Richard Altare saw no eagles.

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