

Backwater Bird Blitz

Birding Event: Get the unique opportunity to hear from bird experts, experienced birders, and biologists while taking a tour through areas with some of the highest concentration of wood storks, stilts, spoonbills, egrets, and herons on St Catherine Creek National Wildlife Refuge. As the Mississippi River recedes back into its banks, these backwater areas are stocked with fish and many other resources waterbirds utilize for food. Various species of waterbirds migrate from other places such as coastal areas, even Mexico, to come find food at St Catherine Creek NWR.

Audience: Novice to experienced birders, bird enthusiasts, or anyone just wanting to learn more about birds.

Date: Saturday, September 12th, 2015

Time: 7:00 am to 10:00 am- Come and go as you please. Multiple tours will be provided throughout the event.

Where: The tour will begin at St Catherine Creek NWR Headquarters (21 Pintail Lane, Natchez MS 39120) [Map](#)

What to bring: Water, sunscreen, bug spray, hat, binoculars, spotting scope, hiking or comfortable shoes or boots

What to expect: Various auto tours will be provided throughout the morning around the water management areas of the refuge. Opportunities will be provided to get out, view, and learn about the birds in the area from the refuge biologists and local experts. The terrain will be flat and dry. Hot temperatures may occur later in the morning.

What species to expect: A big draw for the refuge in late summer is the large numbers of wood storks and roseate spoonbills. Other birds include black-necked stilts, the peep species, glossy and white-faced ibises, white ibises, egrets, herons, spotted sandpiper, solitary sandpiper, greater and lesser yellowlegs, neotropical and double-crested cormorants, pectoral sandpipers, dowitchers, semipalmated plovers, stilt sandpipers, least terns, black terns, peregrine falcons, ospreys, and even possibilities of a red-necked or wilson's phalarope.

Reserve a spot: Call the refuge Headquarters by Friday, September 4th to reserve your spot for the event. **601.442.6696**

Visit our ebird list for more species
<http://ebird.org/ebird/hotspot/L218805>

Visit our website for more information about St Catherine Creek NWR
http://www.fws.gov/refuge/St_Catherine_Creek/

