



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release: February 5, 2010

Birding on Ice: A weekend for beginner and avid birders

The US Fish & Wildlife Service, Tropical Birding Tours, and the American Birding Association are co-sponsoring a weekend for beginners (and experienced birders alike) to experience local birding opportunities in the Detroit Area, visiting open water at the Monroe Power Plant (limited attendance), Pointe Mouillee State Game Area, and Lake Erie Metropark. Together we will explore our own backyard for eagles, owls, and birds that have travelled here from the arctic, as well as other species. Bundle up, bring a warm drink, and be prepared to be amazed by our winter birds. Evening presentations at the Hotel Sterling in Monroe will be held from 6- 8pm with an optional soup and sandwich social time beginning at 5pm. The programs will be given by Josh Engel and Iain Campbell of Tropical Birding Tours. From our seats in southeast Michigan, we will follow Josh, who grew up near Chicago and crisscrossed the US with other young birders, as he shares with us the amazing birding opportunities across our nation. Next, Iain, co-founder of Tropical Birding Tours, will take us on a birding journey across the globe. Evening speakers are limited to 50. Sign up for all events with Kristi Thiel, Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge, at 734-692-7649 or visit www.fws.gov/midwest/detroitriver and click on the “Birding on Ice” link for more information.