

Putnam County Big Walnut Bird Club Field Report – Saturday September 7, 2024

Wilson Private Property/Big Walnut Nature Preserve- Putnam County Indiana

Attendees: Jeff Gygi, Craig Schroer, Julie Stewart, Jerry Rudd, Greg Sanders, David Wilson, Jackie and John Horn, Melissa and Rod Wilson, Harriet Moore, Dylan Ingle.

Summary: It was a very pleasant morning for a long hike. We saw plenty of birds to keep things interesting along with an assortment of wildflowers on our nearly 3 mile hike. Warblers definitely exhibited their characteristic hyperactivity and elusiveness when trying to locate them with binoculars. Thanks to the many eyes, and cameras, we identified 10 warblers. Highlights included close encounters with a couple Black and white Warblers, a fleeting view of a Golden-winged Warbler, and a hungry flock of at least 15 Cedar Waxwings. The waxwings were feeding in an old cedar tree estimated to be over 150 years old, which sits beside the 193 year old “Hultz” stone house we also visited. We enjoyed a great pitch-in meal afterwards at the cabin.

The list of approximate birds observed, along with a few pictures from the outing are provided below.

Sep 7, 2024 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM Protocol: Traveling 2.5 mile(s)

Checklist Comments: Group tour hike. Many other unidentified warblers. 40 species

Mourning Dove 1	House Wren 1
Ruby-throated Hummingbird 3	Carolina Wren 1
Turkey Vulture 1	Gray Catbird 1
Red-shouldered Hawk 1	Swainson's Thrush 1
Belted Kingfisher 1	Cedar Waxwing 15
Red-headed Woodpecker 1	House Finch 1
Red-bellied Woodpecker 1	American Goldfinch 6
Downy Woodpecker 2	Chipping Sparrow 3
Pileated Woodpecker 1	Song Sparrow 1
Northern Flicker 1	Ovenbird 1
Eastern Wood-Pewee 5	Golden-winged Warbler 1
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher 1	Black-and-white Warbler 2
White-eyed Vireo 2	American Redstart 3
Warbling Vireo 1	Cape May Warbler 1
Red-eyed Vireo 1	Magnolia Warbler 1
Blue Jay 2	Bay-breasted Warbler 2
American Crow 2	Blackburnian Warbler 1
Carolina Chickadee 2	Chestnut-sided Warbler 1
Tufted Titmouse 2	Black-throated Green Warbler 1
White-breasted Nuthatch 1	Northern Cardinal 2

Group on a flock of hyperactive Warblers, Blackburnian Warbler juvenile, Black-throated Green Warbler. Following page: American Redstart (Immature male, based on “black lores” and spots around head, “orange” under shoulders), Cedar Waxwings- photos by Jeff Gygi.





Golden-winged Warbler, Black and White Warbler, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (I think)-by Rod Wilson



Hultz stone house- constructed 1831, currently under restoration. Pics by Harriet Moore

