

**Field Trip Report – Beaudette Park, E L Johnson Nature Center –
February 13, 2022**

Leader: Don Burlett

The trip began with 12 hearty souls braving cold winter conditions – temperature about 13°F and mostly cloudy skies. We began by checking out the open water of Beaudette Park where a number of waterfowl would be found. Species of note included several Canvasback, Hooded Mergansers, Bufflehead, Ring-necked Ducks and Trumpeter Swans. There were surprisingly low numbers of Canada Geese and no Wood Duck. A Belted Kingfisher and several other species were also found in the area. All totaled, we saw 23 species of birds in the park.

We then headed to E L Johnson Nature Center to see what else we could find. We started a small hike and almost immediately found a Great Horned Owl perched in a pine tree. It was perched there within yards of the penned Great Horned Owl on the grounds. We continued our hike and later





found some Wild Turkeys enjoying a view of the grounds. And we got to watch them fly quite nimbly from their roost to another part of the park, dispelling the idea that they don't fly well. Finally, as we arrived back at the nature center, we were able to find a Fox Sparrow hiding in the bushes near the feeders, along with several White-throated Sparrows.



We ended the day having seen 30 species of birds and enjoyed a good time birding together. Hope to see you next time we visit these locations. The list of species seen is provided below.

List of Species

Canada Goose
Mute Swan
Trumpeter Swan
American Black Duck

Mallard
Canvasback
Ring-necked Duck
Bufflehead
Hooded Merganser
Wild Turkey
Mourning Dove
Great Horned Owl
Belted Kingfisher
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Blue Jay
American Crow
Black-capped Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
Brown Creeper
American Robin
European Starling
House Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
White-throated Sparrow
Northern Cardinal
American Goldfinch
House Sparrow