

Raptors of north Waterloo: Part I (mid-January) and Part II (late February)

The Raptors of north Waterloo (Part I and II) provides participants with one of the best looks into the wintering raptors of southern Ontario. The area north and west of Waterloo has one of the highest wintering raptor concentrations in Ontario, with hundreds of raptors annually wintering in this area. In 2003 Burrell Birding started the Linwood Christmas Bird Count as a way to monitor the raptors wintering in the area

Our plan: we'll drive the back roads north and west of Waterloo, searching for our target species: Rough-legged and Red-shouldered Hawks, Bald Eagles, Snowy and Short-eared Owls, Northern Shrikes, Lapland Longspurs and others.

We should be able to find 6-10 species of raptors, with upwards of 20 individual Red-tail's and Rough-legs. The Linwood Christmas bird count consistently has the highest count for Rough-legged Hawks in Canada, with counts regularly ~110 individuals. Small numbers of Snowy and Short-eared Owl's consistently winter in this area and we'll cover prime areas where these species are reliably seen.



One of our target birds – the Snowy Owl!



“The” long-staying (11+ years!) Red-shouldered Hawk.