



NORTH CENTRAL REGION NEWS

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Bird-watchers in Wisconsin asked to exercise caution during spring migration of the rare Kirtland's Warbler

LOOKING FOR A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK

It's a little like looking for a needle in a haystack. In this case, the needle is a half-ounce bird whose haystack is jack pine stands of particular age, density and soil type. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WIDNR) will be looking for this needle - the rare Kirtland's warbler - during intensive surveys this spring. The songbird is endangered on both state and federal listings.

Kirtland's warblers are very sensitive to disturbance by humans, particularly during new attempts at nesting. Bird-watchers are asked to stay away from potential Kirtland's warbler habitat until mid-July, the end of nesting season.

"The establishment of Kirtland's warbler colonies in Wisconsin could greatly improve the bird's chance of survival and eventual

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