



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

East Lansing Field Office (ES)
2651 Coolidge Road, Suite 101
East Lansing, Michigan 48823-6316

January 28, 2004

Mr. Tim Zigila, President
Grayling Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 406
Grayling, Michigan 49738

Re: 2003 Kirtland's warbler summary

Dear Mr. Zigila:


We are preparing for our Kirtland's warbler recovery program in 2004, and want to provide you with the results of the Kirtland's warbler census and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Kirtland's warbler tours for 2003.

The 2003 Kirtland's warbler census counted 1,202 singing males, the highest number since the first census in 1951. This is the fourth time in the past six years that the Kirtland's warbler singing male population has reached a record level. This is also a remarkable increase from 1987 when a record low of 167 singing males were counted.

Kirtland's warbler tours have been conducted by the USFWS for the past thirty years. Over 19,000 people have taken advantage of the opportunity to view a Kirtland's warbler. In 2003, 716 people representing 39 states, the District of Columbia, and 5 foreign countries participated in a tour. We are providing you with the results of our tour participant survey, which shows the economic benefit the Kirtland's warbler tours bring to the Grayling community.

The continued recovery of Kirtland's warbler is dependant on the support of involved citizens. We would appreciate any ideas or assistance you may wish to provide that would assist us in our desire to work cooperatively with you and others to benefit the Grayling area as we continue the warbler project. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Chris Mensing of this office at (517) 351-8316 or the above address.

Sincerely,


for Craig A. Czarnecki
Field Supervisor

Enclosures

cc: Honorable Bart Stupak, House of Representatives, Washington D.C.
Honorable Dave Camp, House of Representatives, Washington D.C.

g: admin/archives/jan04/graylingcc2003.cjm.doc

2003 Kirtland's warbler tour survey results

716 tour participants attended 92 tours offered between May 15 and July 4, 2002.

A Kirtland's warbler was seen on 91 of 92 tours for a 98.9% success rate.

Question 1:

Is this your first time on a Kirtland's warbler tour? 682 responses

Yes - 508 (74.5%)

No - 174 (25.5%)

98 people previously attended 233 USFWS tours.

104 people previously attended 92 USFS tours.

28 people previously attended 92 tours, but couldn't recall which tour.

Question 2:

Are you visiting the Grayling area primarily for the Kirtland's warbler tours? 623 responses

Yes - 562 (90.2%)

No - 61 (9.8%)

Question 3:

How did you initially hear about the Kirtland's warbler tours? 596 responses

Word of Mouth	168	(28.2%)
Internet	135	(22.7%)
Literature and Advertisements	105	(17.6%)
Birding Groups	69	(11.6%)
Colleges	31	(5.2%)
Don't Remember	21	(3.5%)
Other	67	(11.8%)

2003 Kirtland's warbler tour survey results (cont.)

Question 4:

Are you staying the night in the Grayling area? 622 responses

No -	179	(28.8%)
Not sure -	3	(0.5%)
Yes -	440	(70.7%)
Holiday Inn -	207	(33.3%)
Days Inn -	45	(7.2%)
Hartwick Pines S.P. -	33	(5.3%)
Super 8 Motel -	28	(4.5%)
Other -	86	(13.8%)
Undecided -	25	(4.0%)

Question 5:

Are you going to eat at any area restaurants? 587 responses (multiple locations allowed)

No -	125	(21.3%)
Not sure -	44	(7.5%)
Yes -	418	(71.2%)
Holiday Inn -	98	(16.7%)
Big Boy -	33	(5.6%)
Patti's -	26	(4.4%)
Spike's -	15	(2.6%)
Gate's -	15	(2.6%)
Other -	172	(29.3%)
Undecided -	149	(25.4%)

2003 Kirtland's warbler tour survey results (cont.)

Participants by State

Alabama	2	Nebraska	1
Alaska	0	Nevada	2
Arizona	11	New Hampshire	4
Arkansas	3	New Jersey	16
California	21	New Mexico	6
Colorado	11	New York	10
Connecticut	12	North Carolina	3
Delaware	0	North Dakota	1
Florida	12	Ohio	40
Georgia	6	Oklahoma	5
Hawaii	0	Oregon	14
Idaho	0	Pennsylvania	27
Illinois	32	Rhode Island	2
Indiana	18	South Carolina	2
Iowa	4	South Dakota	0
Kansas	0	Tennessee	3
Kentucky	5	Texas	25
Louisiana	2	Utah	0
Maine	2	Vermont	0
Maryland	10	Virginia	18
Massachusetts	7	Washington	5
Michigan	279	Washington D.C.	4
Minnesota	9	West Virginia	0
Mississippi	0	Wisconsin	15
Missouri	2	Wyoming	0
Montana	1		

Total U.S. Participants 652

Participants by Foreign Country

Canada	28
Alberta - 2	
British Columbia - 1	
New Brunswick - 1	
Ontario - 22	
Quebec - 2	
England	30
South Africa	1
Taiwan	1
The Netherlands	1
Total Foreign Participants	61

US Participants	652
Foreign Participants	61
No Survey	3
Total Participants	716