

Progress Report



Jack Pine Wildlife Viewing Tour

Dedicated to Kirtland's Warbler Conservation

March 1995

Rivals bury hatchet to save bird

It's enough to make a spotted owl green with envy: The timber industry, environmentalists and government regulators are working together to try to save an endangered bird called the Kirtland's warbler.

Orlando Sentinel, June 1994



Progress Report

The Jack Pine Wildlife Viewing Tour officially opened in June of 1994. This progress report summarizes the accomplishments of this partnership effort in the brief time of its existence. Details on further development of the Tour can be found in the 1995 Interpretive Proposal.

Up-close look at Kirtland's warblers' world and how it is created

The self-guided Kirtland's warbler auto tour south and east of Mio offers a scenic, educational diversion from more traditional Up North activities.

Forty-eight miles long, the tour is a habitat-forestry learning experience. It has more to do with jack pines than warblers and is designed to generate support for, and understanding of, jack pine management.

THE NORTHWOODS CALL/early August Issue

Town's efforts to save bird lauded

"You don't see this type of partnership for a lot of endangered species," said Gary Boushelle, Michigan Department of Natural Resources Region II biologist. "It's a very unique bird and it's a very unique partnership between all of these people."

(U.S. Interior Secretary Bruce) Babbitt shook hands and posed for pictures, praising some people personally for their dedication to the bird.

"I'm going to bottle this spirit up and take it out West with me," said Babbitt, a former Arizona governor.

SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE
(Indiana) June 18, 1994

An Endangered Species

The entire world population of Kirtland's warblers nests in a nine-county area in the northern Lower Peninsula of Michigan and winters in the Bahama Islands. The warblers nest only in young jack pine forest on sandy soils. Maintaining these young forests requires an intensive timber management program. Public support for this forest management program is critical to its success.

In 1991, the Kirtland's Warbler Recovery Team conducted a comprehensive assessment of public attitudes and initiated communications and education efforts to support Kirtland's warbler conservation. From that assessment came 16 recommended actions for improving communications and education efforts. Action 9 was development of a self-guided Kirtland's Warbler auto tour.



