

Bob Watson Photography

Reflecting the Spirit of Nature
NATURE • WILDLIFE • LANDSCAPES



Featured Photograph



Sandhill Cranes at Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area, Indiana

This past November, I visited Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area (“J-P”) located in Northwest Indiana. I’d always heard of this area, but I wasn’t prepared for it to be one of the greatest wildlife spectacles that I’d ever seen. This is an 8,000-acre state owned property that’s funded by the permits and fees of the anglers, hunters and trappers that use the area.

The area also happens to be in the flight path of Sandhill Cranes migrating in the fall from their northern nesting grounds to their winter roosting areas in the southern U.S., and back again starting in March. J-P’s sprawling wetlands, pastures and nearby harvested farm fields make this ideal habitat for the Cranes during their migration.

During their fall migration, they start arriving around September 15th and continue through December, and they can peak to over 20,000 birds per day in mid November. The best time to view this amazing gathering is at sunrise and sunset. At sunrise, huge flocks of the Sandhill Cranes rise out of the roosting marshes and congregate to socialize at Goose Pasture located near the viewing platforms. About an hour before sunset, they start arriving in giant flocks from the harvested nearby fields and some from that day’s migration. I was there for sunset on two different days and estimate conservatively 6 to 8 thousand birds arrived. They came from all directions, like airplane squadrons landing on an aircraft carrier. After sunset, most of the Cranes leave Goose Pasture to roost in the nearby marshes until sunrise.

J-P is located just a couple miles south of State Road 10 on State Road 421, just north of Medaryville, Indiana. If you ever want to see this

special event, don't forget to take your camera and binoculars or spotting scope. The birds are still a long way away from the viewing areas.

To find out more about this wonderful area, visit J-P's website at www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/3109.htm.

By clicking on either size below, you may securely purchase this "Featured Photograph" through **Paypal** with your credit card or your own **Paypal** account. \$8 dollars will be added for shipping. _

[8 x 12 = \\$35](#)

[12 x 18 = \\$70](#)

This photograph will remain as my "Featured Photograph" until you receive another newsletter featuring a new photograph (approximately 1 month).

I'm also showing two other photographs below taken at J-P which may be purchased at the same special prices as shown above. Please email me to purchase either of these.



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My more recent photographs may be seen in my [New Images](#) section.

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