

Standing Rush LLC at Bay View

Restroom:

There is a restroom on site that will be made available to trip participants

Site Information

This expansive 550+ acre, privately owned coastal marsh has been wetland since before European settlement. Yet its colorful past has included everything from tiling and farming to extensive clay mining to commercial trapping. However, waterfowl hunting has been the primary pursuit that has kept this significant holding on the map for the last 100+ years.

Dwindling financial resources coincided with the onslaught of loosestrife and then *Phragmites* from the mid-1980s until an ownership change in 2015. For the last three seasons, the property has been a working example of active wetland restoration and wholistic management. The bird response has been significant, thanks in large part to a system-wide shift in vegetation.

After birding the entrance around the field office, the tour can split into two groups: the first heading along the southwest property line (ultimately birding northwest toward Sandusky Bay), and the second heading to the northern dike, south of Route 2 (ultimately birding west toward Sandusky Bay). Dike-side habitats on the southern route vary from dense dogwoods and willows to emergent marsh. The northern route is biased more toward emergent marsh and open water. The groups can then reconvene for an up-close and expansive view of Sandusky Bay. Migratory passerines, waterbirds, waterfowl, rails, terns, eagles, and shorebirds can highlight this tour of nature in recovery.

NOTE: The description above assumes that the entire tour will be conducted on Standing Rush's West Marsh (west of SR 269). If management activities and/or bird activity warrants, viewing from easy access points on Standing Rush's East Marsh (east of SR 269) can also be arranged.

Aerial view the of entire Standing Rush property



Aerial view of the western portion of the property. This is where the majority of the field trip will take place. The yellow highlighted dike trail will be the main path of travel. The green highlighted dike trail is an alternate cut off trail.

