

Birding at Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Headquarters and the Salato Wildlife Education Center

Google Map coordinates

- 38.170761, -84.922128

Habitats

- 250 acres of land.
- A mixture of riparian, grassland, moist soil, woodland, marsh, and lake habitats.
- Salato Wildlife Education Center showcases Kentucky's native wildlife and includes indoor and outdoor exhibits featuring reptiles, amphibians, mammals, birds, and fish. Open seasonally March-November, Tuesday-Saturday. Admission fee of \$4 for adults, \$2 for children ages 5-18, 4 and under are free.

Birds and birder comments

The KDFWR headquarters, specifically the wooded hiking trails along "Pea Ridge" offer excellent viewing of migratory passerines including numerous warbler species. Common species include the common yellowthroat, yellow-rumped, yellow, northern parula, Kentucky ovenbird, and yellow-breasted chat. Scarlet and summer tanagers are also common, along with red-eyed, white-eyed, and warbling vireos, blue-gray gnatcatchers, and wood thrushes. Indigo buntings can be spotted along forest edges and in grassland and prairie habitats. Green and great blue herons are common in the lake and marsh habitats along with seasonal migratory waterfowl and shorebirds, Baltimore and orchard orioles, and belted kingfishers. Common year-round raptor sightings include red-tailed, red-shouldered, and Cooper's hawks, and American kestrels.

Birding maps are available at the Salato Center and online by accessing the following link: <http://fw.ky.gov/Education/Documents/birdingatHQ.pdf>. More information about hours of operation, exhibits, activities, and events can be found by visiting the center's page at www.fw.ky.gov under the "education" tab.