

December 1, 2021
Kentucky Sandhill Crane Survey

This is the Sandhill crane ground count survey for December 1, 2021. Barren River Lake is being drained slowly to reach winter pool. On 12/1, the lake level was 528.3'. The Hardin County sites were not surveyed this week, but cranes did start to appear last week. There are plenty of harvested crop fields in the area, though some are were not harvested last week. Conditions are somewhat dry, but the roost ponds are still holding enough water to attract birds.

The Kentucky 2021-22 Sandhill crane season is December 7, 2021 through January 31, 2022. This is concurrent with the second segment of duck season. One whooping crane was spotted feeding with Sandhill cranes in Hardin County, and whooping cranes have been seen in Hopkins County as well. Hunters must be 100% sure of their targets before attempting to harvest a Sandhill crane while hunting.

Location	Number	Comments
Barren River Lake WMA <i>12/1/2021</i>	231 Sandhill Cranes	Lake level (12/1): 528.3 and draining slowly.
Hardin County <i>11/23/2021</i>	264 Sandhill Cranes 1 Whooping Crane	

December 8, 2021
Kentucky Sandhill Crane Survey

This is the Sandhill Crane ground count survey for December 8, 2021. Barren River Lake is being drained slowly to reach winter pool. On 12/8, the lake level was 530.7'. Due to the recent warm fronts moving through the areas, cranes have been observed migrating through resulting in lower numbers compared to the previous week in both areas. Hardin County has plenty of harvested crop fields with an increase in flooded roost ponds due to the high amount of rain.

The Kentucky 2021-22 Sandhill Crane season opened December 7, 2021 and runs until January 31, 2022. This is concurrent with the second segment of duck season. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable time afield.

Location	Number	Comments
Barren River Lake WMA <i>12/8/2021</i>	10 Sandhill Cranes	Lake level (12/8): 530.7 and draining slowly.
Hardin County <i>12/7/2021</i>	20 Sandhill Cranes	

December 15, 2021
Kentucky Sandhill Crane Survey

This is the Sandhill Crane ground count survey for December 15, 2021. Barren River Lake is being drained quickly to reach winter pool. On 12/15, the lake level was 530.5'. Due to the recent warm fronts moving through the areas, crane numbers are low in both areas. However, cranes have been observed overhead and are still migrating through. Hardin County provides plenty of harvested crop fields.

The Kentucky 2021-22 Sandhill Crane season opened December 7, 2021 and runs until January 31, 2022. This is concurrent with the second segment of duck season. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable time afield.

Location	Number	Comments
Barren River Lake WMA <i>12/15/2021</i>	0 Sandhill Cranes	Lake level (12/15): 530.5 and draining fast.
Hardin County <i>12/14/2021</i>	21 Sandhill Cranes	

December 22, 2021
Kentucky Sandhill Crane Survey

This is the Sandhill Crane ground count survey for December 22, 2021. Barren River Lake is being drained quickly to reach winter pool. On 12/22, the lake level was 530.9'. With the drop in temperature, crane numbers are increasing slowly again. Hardin County roost ponds have water and still provides plenty of harvested crop fields.

The Kentucky 2021-22 Sandhill Crane season opened December 7, 2021 and runs until January 31, 2022. This is concurrent with the second segment of duck season. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable time afield.

Location	Number	Comments
Barren River Lake WMA <i>12/22/2021</i>	56 Sandhill Cranes	Lake level (12/22): 530.9 and draining fast.
Hardin County <i>12/21/2021</i>	58 Sandhill Cranes	

December 29, 2021
Kentucky Sandhill Crane Survey

This is the Sandhill Crane ground count survey for December 29, 2021. Barren River Lake is being drained slowly to reach winter pool. On 12/29, the lake level was 528.3'. With the drop in temperature, cranes increased in numbers. Hardin County habitat conditions are favorable and producing some birds.

The Kentucky 2021-22 Sandhill Crane season opened December 7, 2021 and runs until January 31, 2022. This is concurrent with the second segment of duck season. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable time afield.

Location	Number	Comments
Barren River Lake WMA <i>12/29/2021</i>	3266 Sandhill Cranes	Lake level (12/29): 528.3 and draining slowly.
Hardin County <i>12/29/2021</i>	39 Sandhill Cranes	

January 4, 2022
Kentucky Sandhill Crane Survey

This is the Sandhill Crane ground count survey for January 4, 2022. Barren River Lake is being drained slowly to reach winter pool. On 01/04, the lake level was 537.9'. The lake increased by 10 feet causing crane numbers to be low. Hardin County was not surveyed this week, but habitat is still favorable and many sightings have been reported.

The Kentucky 2021-22 Sandhill Crane season opened December 7, 2021 and runs until January 31, 2022. This is concurrent with the second segment of duck season. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable time afield.

Location	Number	Comments
Barren River Lake WMA <i>12/22/2021</i>	1093 Sandhill Cranes	Lake level (01/04): 537.9 and draining slowly.
Hardin County		Survey Not Conducted

January 18, 2022
Kentucky Sandhill Crane Survey

This is the Sandhill Crane ground count survey for January 18, 2022. Barren River Lake is being drained quickly to reach winter pool. On 01/18, the lake level was 543.7' which is 15.7 feet from winter pool. Crane numbers were lower due to the little warm spell after the snow but are expected to increase with the drop in temperature. Snow melt and rain are still providing flooded fields in Hardin County and surrounding areas.

The Kentucky 2021-22 Sandhill Crane season opened December 7, 2021 and runs until January 31, 2022. This is concurrent with the second segment of duck season. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable time afield.

Location	Number	Comments
Barren River Lake WMA <i>01/18/2022</i>	2757 Sandhill Cranes	Lake level (01/18): 543.7' and draining quickly.
Hardin County <i>01/19/2022</i>	87 Sandhill Cranes	

January 26, 2022
Kentucky Sandhill Crane Survey

This is the Sandhill Crane ground count survey for January 26, 2022. Barren River Lake is being drained quickly to reach winter pool. On 01/26, the lake level was 542.9' which is 14.9 feet from winter pool. Crane numbers are increasing with reports of more in the surrounding area. Hardin county habitat is favorable.

The Kentucky 2021-22 Sandhill Crane season opened December 7, 2021 and runs until January 31, 2022. This is concurrent with the second segment of duck season. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable time afield.

Location	Number	Comments
Barren River Lake WMA <i>01/26/2022</i>	4640 Sandhill Cranes	Lake level (01/26): 542.9' and draining quickly.
Hardin County <i>01/26/2022</i>	550 Sandhill Cranes	

February 1, 2022
Kentucky Sandhill Crane Survey

This is the Sandhill Crane ground count survey for February 1, 2022. Barren River Lake is being drained moderately to reach winter pool. On 02/01, the lake level was 537.9' which is 9.9 feet from winter pool. Hardin county habitat is average but producing favorable number of cranes.

The Kentucky 2021-22 Sandhill Crane season closed on January 31, 2022. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable time afield.

Location	Number	Comments
Barren River Lake WMA <i>02/01/2022</i>	123 Sandhill Cranes	Lake level (02/01): 537.9' and draining moderately. Roost moved out of survey area before the start of the survey.
Hardin County <i>02/01/2022</i>	1158 Sandhill Cranes	The majority of cranes were seen flying overhead and landing in the surrounding fields.