December 12, 2025 Kentucky Sandhill Crane Survey

This is the Sandhill Crane ground count survey for the week of December 8-12, 2025.

The Kentucky 2025-26 Sandhill Crane season opened December 7, 2025 and is open until January 31, 2026. 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 12/9/2025	2265	2028 cranes in Skaggs Creek/Beaver Creek, 237 in Peters Creek, 0 in Walnut Creek. Saw cranes all day flying around, observed hundreds of cranes in several waves over the weekend. Immature and adult eagles present. Lake 528.1(0.2) down 0.0ft. in the last 24 hours. 0.0 inches of rain last 24 hours. Lake being drained slowly (403CFS).
Hardin County Not surveyed		

Figure 1. Sandhill cranes and turkeys. McLean County.

