

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	