



**Whooping
Crane
Eastern
Partnership**

Non-profit organizations, individuals and government agencies joining forces to bring a migratory population of whooping cranes back to eastern North America

Public reports of whooping crane sightings are an extremely valuable tool for monitoring crane locations, and we encourage people to continue to monitor and report such sightings. Nonetheless, while we certainly don't want to discourage people from observing whooping cranes in the wild and reporting their sightings, we do want to remind people that for the benefit of the cranes, it is best if people keep their distance.

Approaching cranes too closely can result in birds becoming habituated to humans. Habituation, in turn, can put the cranes at risk from people who mean them harm. While such situations are uncommon, it is unfortunately a consideration we all must consider in light of recent shooting deaths in Indiana, Alabama, and Georgia.

WCEP asks anyone who encounters a whooping crane in the wild to **please give them the respect and distance they need.** If you're on foot, do not approach the birds within 200 yards; if in a vehicle, remain inside the vehicle and at least 100 yards away. For reference, a football field is 120 yards long from goalpost to goalpost. Also, please remain concealed and do not speak loudly enough that the birds can hear you. **Finally, do not trespass on private property in an attempt to view or photograph whooping cranes.**

We also want to take this opportunity to remind people that do see whooping cranes and are interested in reporting them to use the Eastern U.S. whooping crane reporting site located here: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/whoopingcrane/sightings/sightingform.cfm>
We thank you for your help in tracking cranes and for your consideration in helping to promote the safety of these birds.

For more information visit: <http://www.bringbackthecranes.org>

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