

Birders traveling on Interstate 55 north of Hammond, Louisiana pass one of the most reliable localities in the state for the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker. The place is on La. 10, a few hundred yards west of the Fluker (Highway 10) exit. Take that exit and turn west on Highway 10. The birds are present the year round in the pine forests on either side of the road. Several nest trees, with their whitewashing of pine sap, can be seen from the road. We have always found the birds between the fire tower and the Interstate, but they are probably present in other pine forests nearby. Perseverance is often necessary, but I have visited this area many times

(most recently on February 19, 1975) at all times of the year and have never failed to find the birds.

This locality is also excellent for the other typical pine-land species such as Brown-headed Nuthatch, Pine Warbler, and Bachman's Sparrow. The sparrows are always around, but they are hard to find except when they are singing in spring and summer. Solitary Vireos can usually be found here in winter.