

See the Cranes

Cosumnes' Crane Viewing Sites

① Around the Visitor Center

By Foot: The Preserve's Lost Slough Wetlands Walk trail and adjoining boardwalk feature ideal habitat for visiting cranes and waterfowl. Please enjoy the trails between sunrise and sunset.

By Car: There is excellent viewing west of Franklin Blvd., along Desmond Road, and beside Bruceville Road, south of Twin Cities Road. The best chances for sightings occur during dawn and dusk. Please drive carefully and pull off to the shoulder if you wish to stop. Do not trespass onto Preserve or private lands.

② Staten Island

Cranes, and other migratory birds, are attracted to the flooded crop lands on Staten Island. Quite often thousands of birds can be seen flying over Staten Island during the fall, winter and spring. Look for tundra swans, white-fronted geese, as well as both lesser and greater sandhill cranes.

Please be advised, the "NO PUBLIC ACCESS" sign is in place to make visitors aware that all levees, farm roads and fields are private. Visitors may only drive or walk on the main road, which is North Staten Island Road. The paved road transitions to gravel approximately 2 miles in and public access terminates after about 4 miles. There is a sign indicating where the public road ends and vehicles may use the turnout by the water tower to reverse their course.

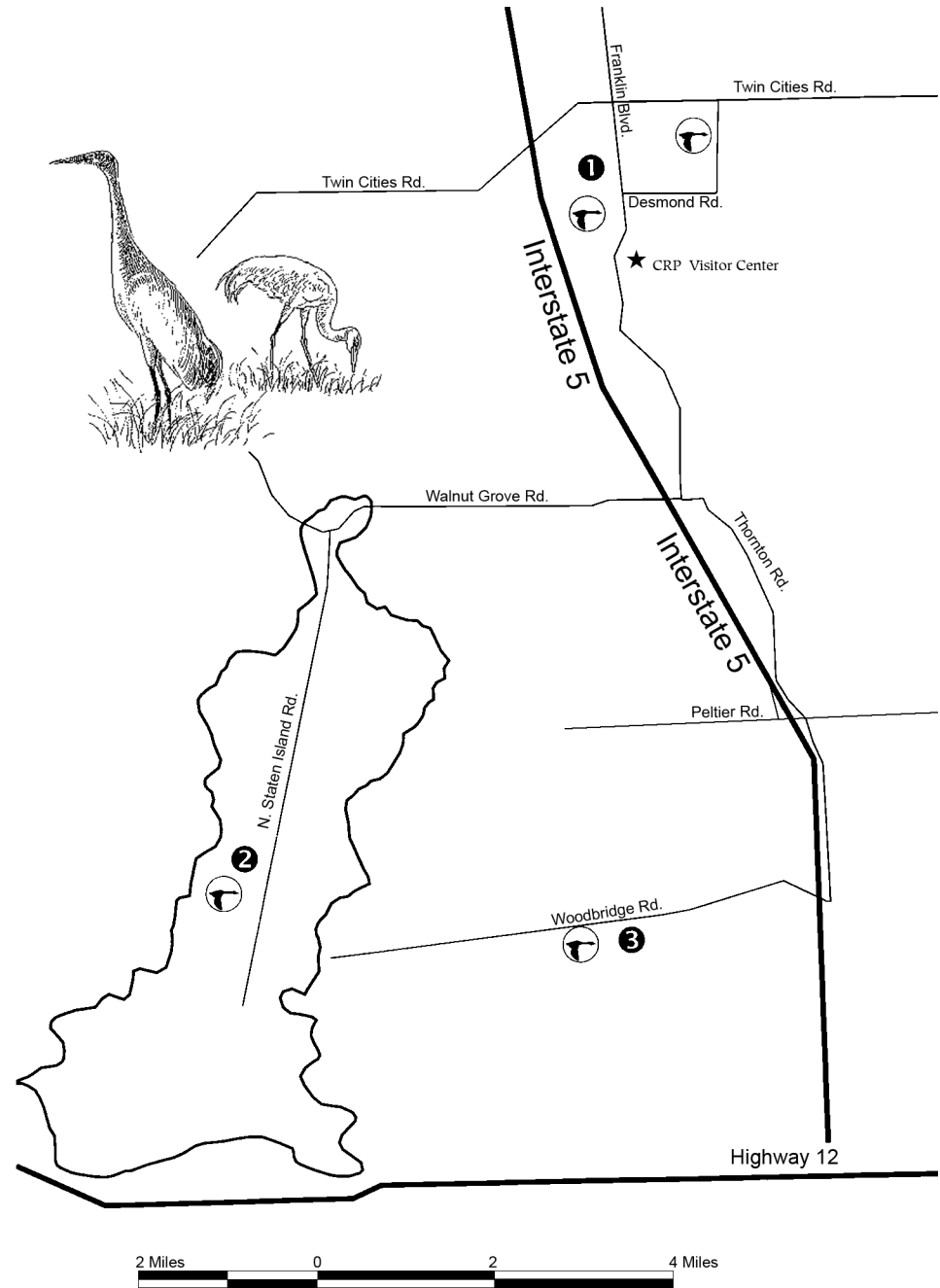
The corn harvest occurs in early fall (September and October) and visitors should avoid wildlife viewing on Staten Island for safety reasons. Please check with the Preserve before planning a visit to this area during this time.

③ Woodbridge Ecological Reserve

Also known as the Isenberg Sandhill Crane Reserve, the fields managed by the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) regularly attract large numbers of sandhill cranes during the fall and winter. There are several turnouts along Woodbridge Road, allowing the public to safely park vehicles for bird viewing. DFG offers fall, docent-led tours of the Reserve.

Directions from the Preserve: take Interstate 5 and exit at Peltier. Go east for a short distance and turn right, or south, onto Thornton Road (Frontage Road). Drive on Thornton Road for approximately two miles, then turn right (west) at Woodbridge Road. Travel approximately 2.5 miles to the first turnout.

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