

Documentation - Merlin

The merlin was observed on April 22 at about 10:00 o'clock A.M. at Sweet Marsh.

The bird passed over our group flying south to north along the edge of the marsh. Many other hawks (red-tails, broad-wings, sharpies, and ospreys) were using this same "fly-way" that day. We had seen kestrels earlier in the day also. A first glance you could see the bird was bigger than the kestrels, by a little, and was definitely a falcon. The bird was very dark underneath but you could see stripes (darker) on the breast. The tail appeared almost black. It passed over at about 100' flying steadily north.

I had not seen the merlin before but other observers, Joe Schaufenbuel, Francis Moore, Tom Stone, and Tom Stone Jr. were familiar with it and agreed we had made the correct choice.

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