

Field Trip Report: Jumping Gully - January 23, 2018

by Bev Hansen

On January 23, sixteen birders travelled a few miles south of Hernando County to Jumping Gully Preserve, just west of U.S. 41 in Pasco County. This 600-acre property is owned by Pasco County Parks Department, and is only open to the public on pre-arranged guided tours. Don Robinson, a Parks Department biologist and a superb birder, led us to view wetlands, pastureland, and wooded areas. We saw 70 species of birds ([complete list here](#)). Highlights included an excellent view of two Purple Gallinules and a leucistic Great Blue Heron (that is, the bird had unusual white patches on its wings.)

Photos below by Wally Handeland.



The leucistic Great Blue Heron in flight.



One of the female Northern Harriers seen on the field trip.