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Eagles Draw Stares In Local Area

(KAIR)--Bald eagles following large flocks of migrating Canada geese have made Lewis and Clark State Park their winter vacation destination, said park superintendent Jim Kunce.

Kunce counted 40 eagles in one spot this past Monday at the park, but he says the total number is likely higher.

Why are they here?

They're following the food.

"That's the primary reason that the eagles are here because they're following the geese," Kunce explained. "That's a critical food source for the eagles, and eagles are very opportunistic. The easier it is for them to get their food, the better."

Kunce says the best place to see the eagles is at the far corner of the park by the shelter house. That's where the lake will surely have open water as the spot is aerated to keep it from freezing.

The eagles should be here until February and Kunce encourages all to go and see them.

"It's pretty fascinating to come out here and see them," Kunce said. "It gives you a real sense of being out in the wild, being out in nature."

A reminder, hunting both bald eagles and golden eagles is forbidden under federal law.

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