

Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

Date: April 16, 2011

Location: Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, SC

Leaders: Paul Serridge

Comments: The weather forecast was pretty bad – 90% chance of rain and high winds. Consequently, only 3 of us showed up at the stadium entrance at 7 a.m. We sat in the cars for a few minutes until a rain squall passed and then drove to the Spanco Drive trailhead where we birded until 8. It rained only once during the morning and, as we took shelter under some trees, we were joined by a Great-crested Flycatcher – too close to need the binoculars! We birded the trails in the park until just past noon and, despite the poor weather, ended with a reasonable list of 56 species. After I arrived home I received an e-mail from GCBC member, Simon Harvey, who had birded the paved trail mid-morning and had a few species we did not have. The total species list was raised to 63, well short of the one-day record of 73, but pretty good under the circumstances. The Reedy River and the lake levels were very high and so there were no shorebirds. Highlights were Ring-billed Gulls (not often observed at Conestee), a fly-over by 7 Double-crested Cormorants, a Killdeer with 4 young, and 9 warbler species.

Bird List:

- Canada Goose
- Wood Duck
- Mallard
- Ring-necked Duck
- Double-crested Cormorant
- Great Blue Heron
- Turkey Vulture
- Red-shouldered Hawk
- Red-tailed Hawk
- American Coot
- Killdeer
- Ring-billed Gull
- Rock Pigeon
- Mourning Dove
- Chimney Swift
- Belted Kingfisher
- Red-headed Woodpecker
- Red-bellied Woodpecker
- Downy Woodpecker

Eastern Phoebe
Great-crested Flycatcher
White-eyed Vireo
Red-eyed Vireo
Blue Jay
American Crow
Tree Swallow
Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Barn Swallow
Carolina Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
Brown-headed Nuthatch
Carolina Wren
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Eastern Bluebird
Hermit Thrush
Wood Thrush
American Robin
Northern Mockingbird
Brown Thrasher
European Starling
Northern Parula
Cape May Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Pine Warbler
Palm Warbler
Black and White Warbler
Worm-eating Warbler
Ovenbird
Common Yellowthroat
Eastern Towhee
Chipping Sparrow
Field Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Northern Cardinal
Red-winged Blackbird
Common Grackle
Brown-headed Cowbird
House Finch
American Goldfinch