

Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

Dates: April 17, 2010
Locations: Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, SC
Leader: Paul Serridge
Comments: Submitted by Paul Serridge

Today's outing was a part of the Greenville County Spring Migration Count organized by JB Hines. 17 GCBC members and guests participated in the Spring Migration Count at Lake Conestee Nature Park. One of the guests came from Columbia, SC, another from Asheville, NC. Six of us started at the stadium entrance at 7 a.m. to check out the north lake before it gets disturbed by park visitors. Unfortunately, 2 fishermen were already there in canoes and there were not many birds on the lake. However, a Pied-billed Grebe and Palm Warbler were good birds to start our list. We joined the main group at the Spanco Drive trailhead at 8. 3 birders started at the Belmont FD to work the Fork Shoals Rd / Henderson Meadow section of the park. Because of the large number of participants we were able to split into smaller groups and cover almost all the trails in the park. We finished birding shortly after noon with a total list of 59 species – well short of last year's record total of 73, but the highest one-day total so far this year. The list included FOY birds Red-eyed Vireo and Great-crested Flycatcher. Migrants seem to be a little late arriving at Conestee this year – Indigo Bunting, Blue Grosbeak and several warbler species have yet to show up there. Adult birds were seen at both Red-shouldered Hawk nests and young birds were spotted on at least one of the two Great Blue heron nests.

Bird List: Number of species: 59

Canada Goose 16
Wood Duck 11
Mallard 6
Blue-winged Teal 2
Pied-billed Grebe 1
Double-crested Cormorant 3
Great Blue Heron 6

Turkey Vulture 1
 Osprey 1
 Cooper's Hawk 1
 Red-shouldered Hawk 4
 Red-tailed Hawk 1
 Killdeer 2
 Rock Pigeon 4
 Mourning Dove 8
 Chimney Swift 6
 Belted Kingfisher 1
 Red-headed Woodpecker 1
 Red-bellied Woodpecker 11
 Downy Woodpecker 5
 Eastern Phoebe 5
 Great Crested Flycatcher 2
 White-eyed Vireo 7
 Red-eyed Vireo 1
 Blue Jay 12
 American Crow 6
 Fish Crow 1
 Northern Rough-winged Swallow 4
 Barn Swallow 9
 Carolina Chickadee 6
 Tufted Titmouse 10
 White-breasted Nuthatch 1
 Brown-headed Nuthatch 1
 Carolina Wren 12
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1
 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 15
 Eastern Bluebird 3
 Hermit Thrush 1
 American Robin 6
 Northern Mockingbird 4
 Brown Thrasher 5
 European Starling 14
 Cedar Waxwing 5
 Northern Parula 1
 Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle) 10
 Pine Warbler 3
 Palm Warbler (Yellow) 2
 Common Yellowthroat 9
 Eastern Towhee 11
 Field Sparrow 3
 Swamp Sparrow 2
 White-throated Sparrow 18
 Northern Cardinal 20
 Red-winged Blackbird 45

Common Grackle (Purple) 30
Brown-headed Cowbird 9
House Finch 2
American Goldfinch 8
House Sparrow 1