

## Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

- Date:** December 17, 2011
- Location:** Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, SC
- Leader:** Paul Serridge
- Comments:** 10 GCBC members and 1 guest participated in a good morning's birding at Conestee. We started by birding the loop at the East Bay (Ring-necks and Pied-billed Grebes on the lake) and then car-pooled to the Spanco Drive trailhead. We birded our way back to the stadium and covered most of the trails.

We reported 50 species, a good count for mid-December, but, unfortunately, the American Bittern was not seen (the last reported sighting was on Dec 14) and we saw only 3 Rusty Blackbirds. Highlights included a sole American Coot on the lake near Spanco, a pair of Red-shouldered Hawks catching prey in the shallows, a Hairy Woodpecker near the boardwalk on the white trail, a Gray Catbird (the first ever reported at Conestee in December), and an Orange-crowned Warbler near the long boardwalk below the stadium. There was a River Otter in the shallows near Spanco Drive. Today's list brought the month's total to 66, just 2 short of the December record – and there are still 2 weeks left in the month.

- Bird List:**
- Canada Goose 28
  - Wood Duck 1
  - Mallard 26
  - Ring-necked Duck 3
  - Pied-billed Grebe 3
  - Great Blue Heron 4
  - Cooper's Hawk 1
  - Red-shouldered Hawk 3
  - Red-tailed Hawk 1
  - American Coot 1
  - Rock Pigeon 2
  - Mourning Dove 15
  - Barred Owl 1
  - Belted Kingfisher 1
  - Red-bellied Woodpecker 8
  - Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 4
  - Downy Woodpecker 8

Hairy Woodpecker 1  
Northern Flicker 6  
Pileated Woodpecker 2  
Eastern Phoebe 3  
Blue Jay 1  
American Crow 7  
Carolina Chickadee 20  
Tufted Titmouse 9  
White-breasted Nuthatch 3  
Brown-headed Nuthatch 2  
Brown Creeper 3  
Carolina Wren 13  
Golden-crowned Kinglet 2  
Ruby-crowned Kinglet 4  
Eastern Bluebird 6  
Hermit Thrush 1  
American Robin 8  
Gray Catbird 1  
Northern Mockingbird 3  
Brown Thrasher 3  
European Starling 24  
Orange-crowned Warbler 1  
Yellow-rumped Warbler 4  
Eastern Towhee 6  
Field Sparrow 5  
Song Sparrow 11  
Swamp Sparrow 4  
White-throated Sparrow 18  
Dark-eyed Junco 15  
Northern Cardinal 12  
Red-winged Blackbird 3  
Rusty Blackbird 3  
American Goldfinch 5