

Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

Dates: January 24, 2009

Locations: Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, SC

Leader: Paul Serridge

Comments: ***Trip photos follow species listing**

6 GCBC members and one guest birded Lake Conestee Nature Park. We left cars at the overlook before going to the trailhead at the Belmont FD. In that way we were able to bird the lakeside trail which follows the WCRSA right-of-way (still under construction) and then drive back to the trailhead, avoiding having to walk back along the same trail. The lakeside trail turned out to be practically the only "birdy" trail in the park. Marrow Bone Creek, the Henderson meadow area, the paved trail and the trails to and from the observation deck were almost devoid of birds. Perhaps that's what you get when an outing is postponed a week because of low temperatures! I bet that the park was alive with birds last Saturday...? By noon we had a list of only 38 species. GCBC members Steve Compton and Walt Harriman were birding separately in the park that morning and I have added their supplementary sightings to our list (marked with an asterisk), giving a morning's total of 43 species. The birding highlights were a large flock of Rusty Blackbirds (150-200 individuals) along the lakeside trail, and a smaller group (~ 30) just off the blue trail.

Bird List: Species:

Canada Goose
Wood Duck*
Mallard
Great Blue Heron
Cooper's Hawk*
Red-shouldered Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk*
Rock Pigeon
Mourning Dove
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Downy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Eastern Phoebe

Blue Jay
American Crow
Carolina Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
Brown-headed Nuthatch
Brown Creeper*
Carolina Wren
Winter Wren
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Eastern Bluebird
Hermit Thrush
American Robin
Northern Mockingbird
Brown Thrasher
Cedar Waxwing
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Eastern Towhee
Chipping Sparrow
Field Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Northern Cardinal
Rusty Blackbird
House Finch
Pine Siskin*
American Goldfinch



Great blue heron – Jeff Catlin



Red-shouldered hawk – Jeff Catlin