

# Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

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**Date:** June 30, 2013

**Location:** Blue Ridge Parkway north of Asheville

**Leader:** Jeff Click

Three GCBC members enjoyed a very productive mid-summer day of birding along the Blue Ridge Parkway north of Asheville. Starting out at Craven Gap, we were able to find Kentucky Warblers as well as Hooded Warbler and Ovenbird. At milepost 375 and at the Bull Creek Valley Overlook, there were Cerulean Warblers still singing. At Bull Creek we also found the first of several Blackburnian Warblers for the day.

Farther up the Parkway at Craggy Gardens, we found Veery, Canada Warbler, and the first of the day's Golden-crowned Kinglets. At the Bald Knob Ridge trail and at Balsam Gap (Walker Knob), we found more kinglets along with other high-elevation species, such as Winter Wrens, singing Hermit Thrushes (several), Brown Creeper, and plenty more Blackburnian Warblers.

At Mount Mitchell, where we enjoyed a nice picnic lunch, we had good numbers of Pine Siskins flying over, and eventually looks at one perched atop a Spruce tree. On the trail to the tower at the top, we heard and then saw a singing Yellow-rumped Warbler! While this bird is painfully abundant in the Piedmont and coastal regions from fall to spring, it is quite a find in the middle of summer. Also at Mount Mitchell, we had a group of fly-over Red Crossbills, followed by another fly-over group at Ridge Junction Overlook.

We had a very enjoyable day and finished with a total of 65 species, including 11 warblers and 3 thrushes. The complete list is below.

## Species List (65 Total)

Wild Turkey	Red-eyed Vireo
Turkey Vulture	Blue Jay
Cooper's Hawk	American Crow
Broad-winged Hawk	Common Raven
Red-tailed Hawk	Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Killdeer	Barn Swallow
Rock Pigeon	Carolina Chickadee
Mourning Dove	Tufted Titmouse
Chimney Swift	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	White-breasted Nuthatch
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Brown Creeper
Downy Woodpecker	House Wren
Hairy Woodpecker	Winter Wren
Pileated Woodpecker	Carolina Wren
Eastern Wood-Pewee	Golden-crowned Kinglet
Eastern Phoebe	Veery
Blue-headed Vireo	Hermit Thrush

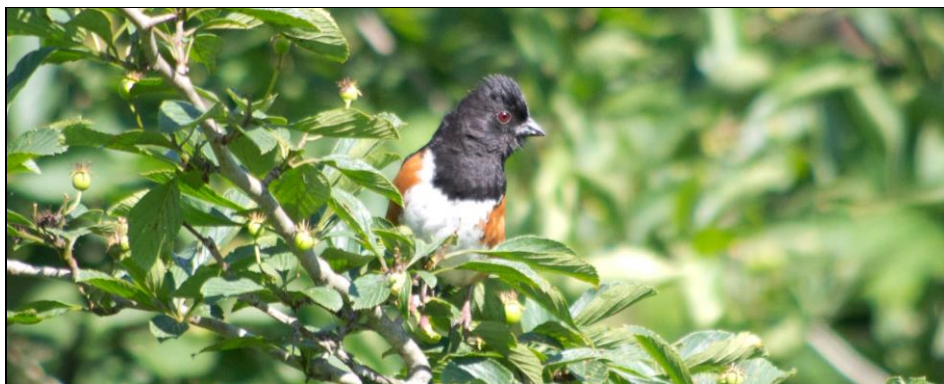
Wood Thrush  
American Robin  
Gray Catbird  
Northern Mockingbird  
European Starling  
Cedar Waxwing  
Ovenbird  
Worm-eating Warbler  
Black-and-white Warbler  
Kentucky Warbler  
Common Yellowthroat  
Hooded Warbler  
American Redstart  
Cerulean Warbler  
Blackburnian Warbler  
Chestnut-sided Warbler

Black-throated Blue Warbler  
Yellow-rumped Warbler (*singing at the top of Mount Mitchell*)  
Black-throated Green Warbler  
Canada Warbler  
Eastern Towhee  
Song Sparrow  
Dark-eyed Junco  
Scarlet Tanager  
Northern Cardinal  
Indigo Bunting  
Red-winged Blackbird  
Red Crossbill  
Pine Siskin  
American Goldfinch  
House Sparrow

All photos in this report are by Jeff Click.



Blackburnian Warblers



Eastern Towhee



Red Squirrel



Yellow-rumped Warbler



Cedar Waxwings



View from Mount Mitchell