

Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report



Date: Saturday, September 20, 2014
Location: Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, SC
Event: “Third Saturday Outing” and Greenville County Migration Count Combination
Leader: Paul Serridge
List & Narrative: Paul Serridge
Species Total: 43

Birding was slow this morning at Conestee. I don't think that the birds had been told it was count day!

Six GCBC members and two guests listed 43 species. Interestingly, that is the same as the equivalent outing in 2013, but far below the 55 species reported in 2012.

Conditions were ideal for birding, with temperatures rising from the low 60s to around 70F during the morning, and the sky was clear.

The small number of migrants may have been a result of the unfavorable wind direction (ENE) for a few days prior to the outing. (The wind veered to N or NE the following day and on Monday, September 22 there were more warbler species reported.)

Our group assembled at 7 a.m., about 15 minutes before sunrise, but heard no owls.

We began by doing the East Bay loop, where we found a Great Egret, a Magnolia Warbler and, the best bird of the morning, a Yellow-breasted Chat.

We then carpooled to the Spanco trailhead and birded the trails back to the meeting point near the ball-fields. An Osprey (perhaps the same individual which has been regularly reported since July 1st) was seen in the South Bay. Other birds worth mentioning along the trails were an adult Red-headed Woodpecker and four Palm Warblers.

The total of 43 species was a little disappointing. All reports during the Fall Migration Count commented on low numbers of birds. However, the combined Migration Count total of 109 was above average and the third highest since 2006. Go figure!

Species List:

Canada Goose	12	White-eyed Vireo	1
Wood Duck	11	Blue Jay	5
Mallard	3	American Crow	1
Great Blue Heron	2	Fish Crow	25
Great Egret	1	Carolina Chickadee	15
Turkey Vulture	4	Tufted Titmouse	2
Osprey	1	White-breasted	
Cooper's Hawk	1	Nuthatch	2
Red-shouldered Hawk	2	Carolina Wren	13
Red-tailed Hawk	1	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	1
Killdeer	4	Eastern Bluebird	1
Mourning Dove	3	American Robin	16
Chimney Swift	50	Brown Thrasher	3
Ruby-throated		Northern Mockingbird	2
Hummingbird	6	European Starling	15
Belted Kingfisher	2	American Redstart	3
Red-headed		Magnolia Warbler	1
Woodpecker	1	Palm Warbler	6
Red-bellied		Pine Warbler	2
Woodpecker	5	Yellow-breasted Chat	1
Downy Woodpecker	6	Eastern Towhee	1
Northern Flicker	2	Northern Cardinal	14
Eastern Wood-Pewee	1	American Goldfinch	1
Eastern Phoebe	4		