

Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

Date: July 30-31, 2016

Location: Allendale Kite Fields, Aiken Gopher Tortoise Preserve, Bear Island WMA and Donnelley WMA

Leader: Denise DuPon

Species List: 67

The club's annual trek to Allendale was hot! In the middle of a week long run of temperatures pushing triple digits we had a 6 intrepid travelers looking for Swallow-tailed Kites. The sight of these amazing fliers is always worth the trip! The Kite fields at Millet Road delivered with 60 Swallow-tailed and 20 Mississippi Kites, we watched for almost an hour before we retreated to the air conditioned vehicles and searched for some shade. Along with our other Allendale stops, Furse Mill Pond and the area South of Allendale we had Red-headed Woodpecker, a large group of Cattle Egret, Loggerhead Shrike and Anhinga.



From there our group split up and three members went on to explore Aiken Gopher Tortoise Heritage Preserve. They had a good afternoon and managed to spot a Bachman's Sparrow!

On Sunday two of us continued to Bear Island and Donnelley WMA. We had a good day with 4 sightings of Least Bittern, 7 species of Heron including Black-crowned Night Heron and 3 species of Swallows including Bank. We also found an immature Purple Gallinule and ended the day at Donnelley by watching a Wood Stork rookery.



Photo credits: Swallow-tailed Kite and Bachman's Sparrow by Michael Robertson, Least Bittern by Linda Montgomery

Saturday, July 30: 23 Species

Anhinga
Great Blue Heron
Cattle Egret
Black Vulture
Turkey Vulture
Swallow-tailed Kite
Mississippi Kite
Common Gallinule
Common Nighthawk
Mourning Dove
Chimney Swift
Red-headed Woodpecker
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Eastern Kingbird
Loggerhead Shrike
American Crow
Fish Crow
Barn Swallow
Bachman's Sparrow
Summer Tanager
Blue Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Eastern Meadowlark

Sunday, July 31: 57 species

Wood Duck
Northern Bobwhite
Pied-billed Grebe
Wood Stork
Double-crested Cormorant
Anhinga
Least Bittern
Great Blue Heron
Great Egret
Snowy Egret
Little Blue Heron
Tricolored Heron
Green Heron
Black-crowned Night-Heron
White Ibis
Black Vulture
Turkey Vulture
Osprey
Clapper Rail
Purple Gallinule
Common Gallinule
American Coot
Gull-billed Tern
Forster's Tern
Royal Tern
Mourning Dove
Chimney Swift
Belted Kingfisher
Red-headed Woodpecker
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Great Crested Flycatcher
Eastern Kingbird
White-eyed Vireo
Blue Jay
Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Tree Swallow
Bank Swallow
Carolina Chickadee
White-breasted Nuthatch
Brown-headed Nuthatch
Marsh Wren
Carolina Wren
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Eastern Bluebird
Brown Thrasher
Northern Mockingbird
European Starling
Common Yellowthroat
Chipping Sparrow
Eastern Towhee
Summer Tanager
Northern Cardinal
Blue Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Red-winged Blackbird