

Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

Date: Saturday, Dec 10, 2016

Location: Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville, SC

Leaders: Denise DuPon and Paul Serridge

The 2 outings at Conestee were again scheduled for the second Saturday this month to avoid a conflict with the annual Christmas Bird Count on the third Saturday.

12 birders participated. 10 GCBC members did the longer walk starting at Conestee Park; one guest joined Denise on the shorter walk starting at Spanco Drive.

It was cold (28F at the start, 40F at noon) but there was very little wind, the sky was blue and conditions were excellent for birding. We had a good time!

The highlight on the shorter walk was a Cooper's Hawk near the feeders. The only other birds at the feeders were 5 Mourning Doves, wonder where everyone else went to?

The Cooper's must have left the area when the longer walk arrived because there were a few small birds at the feeders. The highlights on the longer walk were 3 Gadwall and 5 Wilson's Snipe (at Crescent Slough), an Orange-crowned Warbler (near the South Bay obs deck), and a Fox Sparrow a little further along the paved trail.

The combined lists show a **total of 55 species** - an excellent count for mid-December. 5 new species were added to this month's list, bringing it to 78, a record for any month of December. The previous record of 75 was set in 2012.

The added species are highlighted in **bold type**.

Species	Short walk	Long walk
Canada Goose	X	X
Gadwall		X
Mallard	X	X
Hooded Merganser	X	
Pied-billed Grebe		X
Great Blue Heron	X	
Black Vulture		X
Turkey Vulture	X	X
Cooper's Hawk	X	
Red-shouldered Hawk	X	X
American Coot		X
Killdeer	X	X
Wilson's Snipe		X
Mourning Dove	X	X
Barred Owl		X
Belted Kingfisher	X	X
Red-headed Woodpecker	X	X
Red-bellied Woodpecker	X	X

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		X
Downy Woodpecker	X	X
Northern Flicker	X	X
Pileated Woodpecker		X
Eastern Phoebe	X	X
Blue Jay	X	X
American Crow	X	X
Carolina Chickadee	X	X
Tufted Titmouse	X	X
White-breasted Nuthatch		X
Brown-headed Nuthatch	X	X
Brown creeper		X
Carolina Wren	X	X
Golden-crowned Kinglet	X	X
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	X	X
Eastern Bluebird	X	X
Hermit Thrush		X
American Robin		X
Brown Thrasher	X	X
Northern Mockingbird	X	X
European Starling		X
Orange-crowned Warbler		X
Pine Warbler	X	X
Yellow-rumped Warbler	X	X
Field Sparrow		X
Fox Sparrow		X
White-throated Sparrow	X	X
Song Sparrow		X
Swamp Sparrow	X	X
Eastern Towhee	X	X
Northern Cardinal	X	X
Rusty Blackbird	X	X
Common Grackle		X
Brown-headed Cowbird	X	
House Finch	X	X
Purple Finch		X
American Goldfinch	X	X
Totals: 55	36	51