

## Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

**Dates:** April 11, 2009

**Locations:** Landsford Canal State Park, Rock Hill, SC

**Leader:** Linda Sharp

**Comments:** 6 GCBC members and 1 guest made the trip to Landsford Canal State Park, primarily to look for Prothonotary Warblers and nesting Bald Eagles. The Park is about a 2 hour drive from Greenville but definitely worth the trip. The trails and river made for some very varied birding.

We started on the Nature Trail along the Catawba River and almost immediately spotted an immature Bald Eagle soaring over the river – a good start! Pine and Black-throated Green Warblers and Northern Parulas were singing along the trail. Our leader had a GPS with the coordinates of the Prothonotary Warbler nest boxes. Consequently, we were able to locate several but did not see any sign of nesting activity. However, we did get good looks at 3 or 4 Prothonotary warblers, including two feuding males and heard several more.

The Bald Eagles' nest was easy to find but the birds were not at the nest while we were there. We did see an adult Bald Eagle over the river. We took the Canal Trail back to the cars. A Louisiana Waterthrush sang from an exposed perch and we were all able to observe it at some length.

After a picnic lunch we did a short trail near the parking lot and then drove to the south end of the park to bird the other end of the Canal Trail. We stopped at the Spider Lily Overlook from which we saw lots of Cormorants, a dozen or so Bonaparte's Gulls, a Fortster's Tern and a couple of Spotted Sandpipers.

The list of species totaled 42, not a very high number, but the diversity of birds made the park an interesting site. All agreed that this trip should be repeated next spring, perhaps at a little later date when the Prothonotaries will be nesting.

**Bird List:** **Species:**

Canada Goose  
Mallard

Blue-winged Teal  
Hooded Merganser (3)  
Double-crested Cormorant (Lots!)  
Great Blue Heron  
Turkey Vulture  
Osprey  
Bald Eagle (1 Immature, 1 or 2 adults)  
Sharp-shinned Hawk  
American Kestrel  
Spotted Sandpiper (3)  
Bonaparte's Gull (~ 10)  
Forster's Tern (1)  
Mourning Dove  
Belted Kingfisher  
Red-bellied Woodpecker  
Downy Woodpecker  
Eastern Phoebe  
Red-eyed Vireo  
American Crow  
Fish Crow  
Purple Martin  
Tree Swallow  
Northern Rough-winged Swallow  
Carolina Chickadee  
Tufted Titmouse  
Carolina Wren  
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher  
Eastern Bluebird  
Northern Mockingbird  
Northern Parula Lots  
Yellow-rumped Warbler  
Black-throated Green Warbler  
Pine Warbler 2  
Prothonotary Warbler (Heard several, saw 2)  
Louisiana Waterthrush (1 or 2)  
Northern Cardinal  
Red-winged Blackbird  
Common Grackle  
Brown-headed Cowbird  
American Goldfinch