

Greenville County Bird Club Trip Report

- Date:** January 19, 2008
- Location:** Lake Conestee Nature Park, Greenville SC
- Leader:** Paul Serridge
- Comments:** The weather forecast calling for drizzle turning to snow and falling temperatures probably explained why only 2 GCBC members and a guest made the trip to Lake Conestee Nature Park. Those who stayed home missed a pretty good morning's birding. The north end of the lake yielded 3 new species for 2008: a lone Gadwall (only the second reported in the Park), 3 American Wigeons and a pair of Hooded Mergansers. There were also the expected Mallards and Ring-necked Ducks. Canada Geese and a Killdeer were heard overhead.

Just after the start of the white trail going down from the Belmont Fire Department we spotted a Great Horned Owl, bird # 146 for the Park.

On the trails we ran into a few pockets of birds. The highlights were excellent views of a Fox Sparrow (second report for the Park) foraging in the grasses near the main boardwalk at the junction of the red and blue trails, and a Hermit Thrush near the Reedy River Overlook.

Soon after we left the Observation Deck the rain became more persistent and we headed back to the trailhead at a rather brisk pace, stopping only once to watch a very cooperative White-breasted Nuthatch which seemed totally oblivious to the rain and cold.

In all we reported 34 species, which was a pretty good total considering the weather and the fact that we dipped on some of the more usual sightings including Bluebird, Brown Thrasher, Mourning Dove, Starling, Yellow-rumped Warbler and Flicker.

Paul

Bird List:

Species:

Canada Goose
Wood Duck
Gadwall
American Wigeon
Mallard
Ring-necked Duck
Hooded Merganser
Pied-billed Grebe
Great Blue Heron
Killdeer
Rock Pigeon
Great Horned Owl
Belted Kingfisher
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Eastern Phoebe
Blue Jay
American Crow
Carolina Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
Carolina Wren
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Hermit Thrush
Northern Mockingbird
Eastern Towhee
Field Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Northern Cardinal
American Goldfinch