



Audubon News

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Serving Cabarrus, Gaston, Iredell, Lincoln, Mecklenburg and Union Counties in NC and York County SC.

April 2005

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Volume 10, Number 8

What's that I Hear Now?!?

Tired of hearing all those feathered critters and not being able to see them to identify them? Want to be able to bird anywhere, anytime? Well this month's meeting is for you! Back by popular demand –



Birding by Ear Part II

With the neotropic migrants fast approaching we will zero in on their songs and calls as well as review some of our resident birds. We'll also learn a little about how and why birds sing. It will be an 'ears' on meeting so be prepared to participate.

It doesn't matter if you weren't at the previous session or if you have a tin ear. We will all learn something together. Join us on **Thursday, April 7th** in the fellowship hall of the Sharon Seventh Day Adventist Church [920 Sharon Amity] at 7:30 PM.

on protecting North Carolina's special mountain birds, and Chris Canfield, Audubon NC executive director, will bring us up to date on statewide advocacy and bird-protection efforts.

Dates are June 3-4, 2005. Registration is \$45 per person and includes the Saturday night banquet and field trips. Please use the form in this newsletter to register for the meeting and to sign up for field trips. **Registration deadline is May 10th.**

Early June in the mountains promises mild weather, wonderful wild flowers and great birding. Elisha Mitchell Audubon hopes lots of Audubon NC members will come join the fun. For further information, contact Elisha Mitchell board member Len Pardue at (828) 254-7618 or send him e-mail at eljeep@mindspring.com.

The Fairfield Inn Biltmore Square will be the headquarters motel for out-of-town folks, at a special rate of \$79 a night plus tax. Telephone (828) 665-4242. Reservations should be made by May 10.

For more information go to the Elisha Mitchell Audubon Web Site. <http://www.main.nc.us/emas/annualmtg.html>

Journey to the Mountains

12th Annual Audubon North Carolina Meeting

June 3rd & 4th, 2005

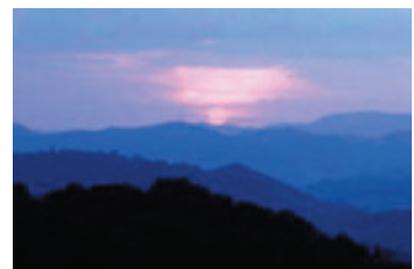
Come to the mountains and hear the birds sing! While colder weather may be uppermost in your mind just now, it's high time for Audubon members around the state to begin thinking about Audubon North Carolina's annual meeting next June.

Elisha Mitchell Audubon Society, the Audubon chapter in the Asheville area, will host the meeting. It will focus on the pleasures and challenges of birding in the mountains, with opportunities for enjoying wild flowers and area attractions.

Field trips will take place along the Blue Ridge Parkway, at Elisha Mitchell Audubon's

Beaver Lake Bird Sanctuary in north Asheville and at other mountain birding hotspots. Warbling Viero, Peregrine Falcon, and Cerulean Warbler are just a few of the exciting birds we'll search for. A non-birding field trip will visit mountain crafts locations in and near Asheville.

The Saturday banquet will take place at one of the area's special places, the North Carolina Arboretum. Before dinner, you will have the opportunity to stroll through the arboretum's lovely and spacious gardens. After the meal, Curtis Smalling, Audubon NC's mountain specialist, will speak





FieldTrips

Please, remember to contact the trip leader several days before the trip. If you don't, you may not receive information about last minute changes or cancellations. Also, if we don't know you are coming we might leave without you!!

Saturday, April 9th: Congaree Swamp NP Columbia, SC [Full day]

Spring in a southern swamp can be a magical time. The Congaree Swamp is a great place to see that magic. Located southeast of Columbia, only about 1.5 hours from Charlotte the swamp is situated along the meandering Congaree River. It is home to champion trees, primeval forest landscapes, and diverse plant and animal life. This 22,200-acre park protects the largest contiguous tract of old-growth bottomland hardwood forest remaining in the United States. Known for its giant hardwoods and towering pines, the park's floodplain forest includes one of the highest canopies in the world and some of the tallest trees in the eastern United States.

Many neotropical migrants - hooded and prothonotary warblers, tanagers, etc. - should have begun to arrive. Pileated woodpeckers and barred owls will be target residents birds. We will probably encounter some other interesting critters - butterflies and amphibians - as we stroll along the boardwalk. This is a great trip.

We will meet at the Bojangles on Carowinds Blvd. at 6:00 AM. That should get us to the swamp around 8 AM. We will be doing a lot of walking but it will be on board walk. Remember to bring snacks, water and lunch. If you are interested in joining the group contact Judy Walker at 704-537-8181 [leave a message] or birdwalker@mac.com.

Saturday, April 23rd: Evergreen Preserve Work Day [1/2 day]

Combine business with pleasure. Thanks to Robert Bustle we now has several more benches to install at Everygreen Nature Preserve. So what we will do is meet at 7:00 AM at Winterfield Elementary School parking lot and do about 2.5 hours of birding. Then around 9:30 we will break up into groups to install the benches. Of course if you want to take a peek at a few birds at the same time it's okay. With enough bird-er power it shouldn't take very long to finish the work.

If you are interested in helping out contact Larry Barden at 704-547-4059 or larry@lbarden.com. Don't forget to bring work gloves, shovels and plenty of water.

Sunday, May 1st: Latta Park [1/2 day]

Back by popular demand, this field trip is really just a stroll around the park. A very slow stroll at that. If the birding gods are with us this should be peak time for neotropical migrants - orioles, tanagers, rose-breasted grosbeaks, thrushes, and of course warblers!!! It is not unusual to see ovenbirds, veerys and Swainson's warblers walking around the park with you! We have had as many as 20 species of warblers.

We will meet at the park at 7:00 AM near the playground area. Be prepared to do a little walking and a lot of standing looking up into the trees. If you want to join the group contact Judy Walker at 704-537-8181 [leave a message] or birdwalker@mac.com.

Saturday, May 7th: Anne Springs Close Greenway [1/2 day]

With over 2000 acres and 12 miles of walking trails, the Anne Springs Close Greenway in Ft. Mill, SC, has the potential of an excellent variety of spring migrants as well as water birds. The area includes the historic Nation Ford trail across Steele Creek and several historic sites.

A wide variety of birds can be found in the greenway's wooded hillsides, open fields, old railway bed, creek bottomland and 7 ponds. The largest of these ponds covers 25 acres; the other six range from 1 to 5 acres. The bird checklist for the area, compiled in 1995, identifies 160 species -- including summer and scarlet tanagers, a number of ducks, 8 hawks, and 25 warbler species. The Greenway's naturalist has asked our aid in reporting species not previously included on the list. There is an entrance fee of \$2 per person. Although there are some rolling hills, paths are clear and clean so walking is not very strenuous.

We will meet at the Bojangles on Carowinds Blvd. at 7 AM. [Turn left when you exit from I-77.] The Greenway is just a short distance but can be difficult to find if you are not familiar with the area. If you are interest in going on the is walk contact Dennis Lankford at 704-541-6909 or



Birds Link Us to the World



Three bird species with connections to Carolinas, the Cerulean Warbler, Red Knot and Sandhill Crane, are high on National Audubon's conservation agenda.

The Cerulean Warbler, which breed in the NC mountains along the Blue Ridge Parkway, is experiencing one of the steepest population declines of any warbler species due to habitat loss and degradation in both its winter and breeding habitats. On its breeding territory mountain top mining and development in the Appalachian forest is the primary culprit. In South America it's due to cultivation of coffee and other crops. In Ecuador, Bolivia and Guyana, National Audubon has developed a program called Schoolyard Ecology that is bringing community based conservation to rural areas. Audubon hopes by introducing teachers and school children to the unique ecosystem that surrounds them, and by building skills necessary for its protection, Audubon will help preserve the remarkable biodiversity of these countries. In the United States, thanks to Audubon's leadership, Congress increased funding by 33 percent for fiscal year 2004 for the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act. This year they will be leading the fight to reauthorize the act, which is slated to end in 2005.



Also, ensuring adequate funding for the National Wildlife Refuge system, which provides essential habitat for Cerulean warblers, among many other species, is another priority.

The Sandhill Crane is a new visitor to the Carolinas. As I am writing this article there are a half dozen birds in the state maybe more. Although we are not certain but there is evidence that they wintered here. These birds are probably part of the new migrating population that was reintroduced to Wisconsin and Minnesota. Although the Carolinas may become significant to this small population, the Platte River in Nebraska is the essential springtime stopover for the larger population of migratory Sandhill Cranes. More than half a million cranes rely on this staging area to rest and refuel each year. For 30 years, Audubon has worked to preserve the Platte River as wildlife habitat. Reductions in the river flow threaten to eliminate the wide channels and open sandbars that the cranes prefer for roosting. Loss of prairies and wetland meadows in the Platte River Valley owing to agriculture and other use is also reducing the number of feeding, resting and secondary roosting sites. Audubon is meeting this challenge by restoring the channels, and preserving existing native prairie and restoring degraded prairie and wetland habitat. This coming year Audubon will also be leading the charge to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, breeding grounds for the Sandhill Crane, from petroleum exploration and drilling.

Finally the Red Knot is a bird that uses the Carolina coast during fall migration and some in small numbers winter here. But for them the Delaware Bay plays a very important role in their natural history by serving as a major



migratory staging area for the species. Flying over open water from South America, the birds arrive each spring at this feeding ground in great need of refueling. It is where they feed on horseshoe crab eggs, doubling their weight in preparation for their final sprint to the Arctic. In recent years, the increased harvesting of horseshoe crabs by commercial fishermen has raised concerns about the viability of this food source; ensuring its continued availability to Red Knots is integral to Audubon's conservation efforts. This year, thanks to the leadership of Audubon New York, Audubon Maryland-DC, and other concerned groups, the Horseshoe Crab Management Board of the Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission agreed to adopt new conservation measures for the horseshoe crab, an "ancient living fossil" whose population has been declining as a result of overfishing. The new regulations prohibit the harvesting and landing of the crabs from May 1st to June 7th. They also encourage bait-saving techniques throughout the Delaware Bay.

These three species clearly demonstrate that the birds we see in the Carolinas are links to the rest of the world. And that our conservation efforts need to extend far beyond our own little corner of the world if we want to protect the birds we have come to expect seeing throughout the year in this corner.

Why do the Birdies Sing??

Generally it is the male bird who does most of the singing and it usually is done for two reasons: to defend a territory and to attract a mate.

In most species, owning a territory is essential for attracting a female and breeding successfully. Males generally claim a territory by singing in it. When defending a territory they are addressing their song to rival males it is usually shorter and simpler. Territorial songs carry over long distances and convey detailed information about the location and identity of the singer. A pause in the song enables the singer to listen for replies & determine the location of its rival.

A bird can distinguish neighbors from strangers by individual differences in their songs. It uses this information to determine their defense efforts. If he hears a neighbor singing he won't act aggressively as long as the neighbor stay on his own territory. And both birds know exactly where the territories begin and end. If a stranger is singing it signals a threat to the bird's territory. A strong response is necessary to repel this potential invader.

On the other hand when a bird is trying to attract a female(s) to his territory he becomes operatic. He will sing longer and more complex songs. A hermit thrush song can last 1-2 seconds but may contain from 40 to a 100 or more notes and as



many as 50 pitch changes.

A human singer can hide their vocal deficiencies in many ways. But a bird's song conveys a very honest message about the singer. The singer can't cheat. Because singing expends energy, smaller, weaker birds cannot bluff the receiver into thinking it is a larger, stronger rival or mate. Only strong, healthy birds with a lot of strength can invest the energy needed for loud, continuous singing, and evade any predators that may detect it. A male singing lustily is demonstrating he has spare energy in abundance.

The record holder for the number of songs sung is the brown thrasher, with over 2000 songs in its repertoire. Imitating or mimicking the calls of other species as the thrasher does, is one way a bird can increase its repertoire, and be more attractive to potential mates. The bird can vary the order, sequence or repetition of phrases to sound more variable. The most renowned vocal mimics in North America include mockingbirds, catbirds, starlings, mynahs and marsh warbler.

A sedge warbler produces one of the longest and most complicated bird songs. An individual male may never repeat exactly the same sequence of elements twice during the course of his life. He constantly varies the order in which he arranges the 50 or so elements at its disposal. Its cousin the winter wren has a song that can last up to 10 seconds. The bird gives the impression that its singing lasts for minutes without catching a breath. In reality they are taking shallow mini-breaths that are synchronized with each syllable it sings.

Marsh wrens conduct singing duels for control of the best quality territories in the limited



marsh habitats in the western United States. Males with the most complex songs do best and attract the most females. Males with larger repertoires are preferred by females and hence mate earlier than their rivals. On returning from migration the male sings almost continuously until he acquires a mate - then singing abruptly stops. He may then switch to a short simple and economical song to defend his territory.

Although it is usual the male that sings, in some species the female joins in too. The red-winged blackbird female sings two distinct song types throughout the breeding season. Song A is a form of communication directed at her partner. Song B is sung when other females appears and seems to be an aggressive signal to the interloper.

The female black-headed grosbeak uses her song to get her mate to help out around the nest. Both male and female of this species takes turns incubating their eggs. If the male is derelict in his duties, the female will sing a complex song that imitates a male grosbeak. Since she sounds like a rival the male quickly returns to protect his territory.

In some species, the female may join the male in singing to defend their mutual territory. Other species that maintain year-round territories and pair bonds like ravens and geese will often sing a duet. This helps them relocate a partner when it is away or out of sight and encourage it to return.

Annual NC Audubon Meeting Schedule

Friday, June 3: 4 - 9 PM

Check in at Fairfield Inn, pick up meeting packets, view chapter exhibits, enjoy light refreshments.

Saturday, June 4

7:30 AM - 3 PM

Field trips depart from the Fairfield Inn.

4:30 - 6:00 PM

Chapter Leader's Meeting

6:30 PM

Banquet at NC Arboretum

Sunday, June 5

Birding on your own, and departure.

NC Audubon Field Trips Saturday, June 4th

Trip # 1: Blue Ridge Parkway North to Mount Mitchell
7:30 a.m. - All day - bring beverage and lunch

Bird the middle and high elevations of the Craggy and Black Mountains looking for a wide variety of breeding warblers, vireos, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Scarlet Tanager, and several high-elevation mountain specialties. Some moderate hiking trails.

Trip # 2: BRP South to Devil's Courthouse
7:30 a.m. - All day - bring beverage and lunch

Head southwest to the Balsam Mountains on the Blue Ridge Parkway where most of the same species as trip #1 can be found. Additional species on this trip include nesting Peregrine Falcon, and Alder and Least Flycatcher. Birding will be mostly at overlooks, but may include some easy to moderate hikes.

Trip # 3: Heintooga Spur Road
7:30 a.m. - All day - bring beverage and lunch

This road off the Blue Ridge Parkway is on the northeastern edge of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. High-elevation species commonly found include Black-capped Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Winter Wren, Pine Siskin, Least Flycatcher, Veery, Hermit Thrush, Raven, and Red Crossbill. Black-billed Cuckoos have also often been found along this road. A wide variety of warblers are also common. Birding will be mostly at overlooks but may include some easy to moderate hikes.

Trip # 4: Big Ivy Old Logging Road
7:30 a.m. to noon

Big Ivy is a rich cove forest with a wide variety of wildflowers, clear rushing streams, beautiful waterfalls, and many species of woodland birds. Ovenbirds, Black-throated Green, Black-throated Blue, Black-and-white, and Canada Warblers abound. At the higher elevations birds such as Veery, Winter Wren, Brown Creeper, Raven, and Red-breasted Nuthatch are found. Families of Ruffed Grouse can sometimes be seen on the logging road, and Dark-eyed Juncos nest along the road bank. Moderate hiking trails.

Trip # 5: Beaver Lake Bird Sanctuary
7:30 a.m. to noon

The Beaver Lake Bird Sanctuary and Beaver Lake in North Asheville are home to a variety of breeding birds including Baltimore and Orchard Oriole, Yellow Warbler, American Redstart, Yellow-throated Warbler, Warbling Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Brown-headed Nuthatch, and Cedar Waxwing. All trails are easy.

Trip # 6: North Carolina Arboretum
8:00 a.m. to noon

For those who enjoy a mix of ornithology and botany, this is the perfect trip. This trip will include easy to moderate walking trails through extensive gardens in a natural mountain setting and includes some good birding. Breeding birds include Acadian Flycatcher; Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, and Kentucky Warblers; and Red-eyed and Blue-headed Vireo.

Trip # 7: Blue Ridge Parkway Wildflowers
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

The Blue Ridge Parkway is one of the premier places to see spring wildflowers. The changes in elevation from Asheville and on the Parkway itself provide a variety of microclimates that host a diversity of wildflowers. Participants can expect to see forty or more species in bloom including several types of trilliums. A wildflower checklist will be provided. The field trip will begin at Craven Gap, near north Asheville, and continue to the Craggy Visitor Center. Trails are easy to moderate hiking.

Trip # 8: Arts and Crafts Tour
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Visit the Folk Art Center, New Morning Gallery, Bellagio, and several of the many art galleries in the Asheville area. The trip includes visits to working artists studios. Expect to see some birds and wildflowers in route, and wonderful works of art. Wear walking shoes and bring lots of money! Meet in the lobby of the hotel.

Audubon NC Annual Meeting Registration

Please print and send this form with a check for \$45 made payable to Audubon North Carolina to: 123 Kingston Drive, Suite 206A, Chapel Hill, NC 27514. If you have questions regarding the annual meeting, please contact Len Pardue at (828) 254-7618 or via e-mail at eljeep@mindspring.com, or call the state office at (919) 923-3899.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, St. & Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ EMAIL: _____

Chapter Affiliation: _____

No. of Participants _____ @ \$45 = _____ Enclosed

Field Trip Preferences

Name: _____

All Day Trip#: _____ Alt# _____

If you register for an all-day field trip, do not register for an afternoon trip.

AM Trip#: _____ ALT# _____ PM Trip#: _____ ALT# _____

Name: _____

All Day Trip#: _____ Alt# _____

AM Trip#: _____ ALT# _____ PM Trip#: _____ ALT# _____

92 and Counting: Important Bird Areas in NC

Audubon North Carolina, the state office of the National Audubon Society, has released Important Bird Areas of North Carolina, a scientific assessment of the most important habitats for birds in the state. The culmination of six years of study, the publication identifies 92 places from the mountains to the coast that are vital for breeding, migrating, and over-wintering birds.

The nearly 4.5 million acres of land and waters encompassed by the report range from internationally known natural heritage sites such as 300,000 acres of Great Smoky Mountains National Park to a handful of two-acre islands that are little known but vital to breeding waterbirds. Manmade features, such as Falls and Jordan lakes, known for their growing populations of Bald Eagles in the midst of developing cities, also made the list. One Important Bird Area (IBA) includes 600,000 acres of ocean off Cape Hatteras where seabirds congregate and forage in huge numbers.

"Important Bird Areas have no minimum or maximum size limit," said Audubon North Carolina Deputy Director Walker Golder, leader of the IBA program in the state. "What these sites have in common is that all are important and all are essential to North Carolina's birds."

The National Audubon Society is the lead agent for the United States in implementing the global Important Bird Areas (IBA) program. As part of a nationwide initiative and a global partnership to identify and conserve habitats critical to birds, Audubon has initiated IBA programs in 46 states with programs in all 50 states expected in 2005.

IBAs are identified at a state level by an analysis of bird populations and habitats, then approval by a state IBA Technical Committee, comprising leading experts on birds and their habitats. Areas may hold large concentrations or an exceptional diversity of birds, harbor rare or endangered species, or harbor a representative assemblage of birds associated with rare or threatened habitat. Once approved at a state level, sites can be reviewed by the National IBA Technical Committee for continental or global IBA status.

Being named an IBA places no restrictions on property or its future uses. However, Audubon seeks to work cooperatively with interested landowners and managers to monitor, protect and improve these sites for birds and other wildlife. The program dovetails with other natural heritage protection efforts, such as the state's One North Carolina Naturally initiative.

"As a voluntary program, the IBA recognition is meant to inspire rather than require," noted Chris Canfield, Audubon NC's executive director. "To inspire greater appreciation of priority landscapes and more sensitive management, to inspire partnerships toward expanded protections and community stewardship."

Of the 92 North Carolina locations described and mapped in the report, 68 are in the coastal plain and sandhills, 16 are in the mountains, and 8 lie in between in the Piedmont. According to Audubon North Carolina, the distribution of sites reflects where expanses of relatively undisturbed or suitable lands exist for concentrations of at-risk, sensitive or diverse species of birds.

Partial NC IBA List

Coastal Plain/Sandhills

Alligator River Lowlands
Bald Head/Smith Island
Bird Island/Twin Lakes
Cape Hatteras National Seashore
Cape Lookout National Seashore
Carrot Island/Bird Shoal
Cedar Island Marsh
Chowan River Bottomlands
Croatan Forest
Currituck Marshes/Pine Island
Eagle Island Great Dismal Swamp
Green Swamp
Hobucken Marshes
Holly Shelter/Angola Bay
Lake Mattamuskeet/Swanquarter
Lea/Hutaff Islands
Lower Neuse River Bottomlands
Lumber River Bottomlands
Mackay Island
Masonboro Island
Onslow Bay
Outer Banks, Inshore Ocean
Outer Continental Shelf
Palmetto Peartree/Buckridge
Pea Island
Pungo/Pocosin Lakes
Roanoke River Bottomlands
Sandhills East
Sandhills West
South Pelican Island
Upper Neuse River Bottomlands
Waccamaw River Bottomlands

Piedmont

Caswell Game Lands
Catawba River/Mt. Island Lake
Eno River Bottomlands
Falls Lake
Jordan Lake
Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge
Pilot Mountain
South Mountains

Mountains

Amphibolite Mountains
Black Mountains/Great Craggy Mtns
Blue Ridge Escarpment Gorges
Bull Creek
Bullhead Mountain/Mahogany Rock
Chimney Rock/Hickory Nut Gorge
Grandfather Mountain
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Highlands Plateau
Joyce Kilmer/Slickrock Wilderness
Max Patch
Nantahala Mountains
New River Corridor
Plott Balsams/Great Balsam Mountains
Roan Mountain
Stone Mountain/Doughton Park

South Mountain

Many of you are familiar with the IBA in our backyard - Catawba River—Mountain Island Lake Watershed - from our field trips to Cowan's Ford and Latta Plantation Nature Preserve. And the one down-the-road-a-piece, Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge because of Christmas Counts. But there is another IBA relatively close to us that you might not be aware of - South Mountain. Here is an introduction to the IBA up-the-road-a-piece.

Location: Burke, McDowell, Rutherford & Cleveland Counties

Total Size: 36,990.1 acres

Site Description: The South Mountains are located in the foothills region of North Carolina, near Morganton. The highest point reaches an elevation of about 3,000 feet and is characterized by relatively steep slopes and fairly rugged terrain, with narrow ridge tops and valleys. The majority of the site includes relatively undisturbed forest and nearly 30 miles of mountain streams. The site is more similar to the Blue Ridge Mountains than the Piedmont.

The South Mountains State Park, established in 1974, includes about 16,700 acres of unbroken forest, including the Henry Fork and Jacobs Fork Watersheds. Hiking trails provide access for visitors. The Park is visited by 160,000 visitors/year. An additional 22,000 acres surrounding the park are also protected. The site includes the South Mountain Game Lands (about 18,000 acres), the North Carolina School for the Deaf, and the Broughton Hospital properties. The entire South Mountains region includes an area of about 100,000 acres.

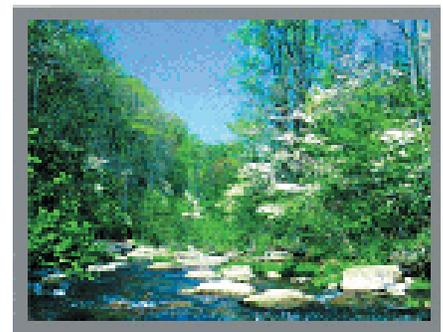
Habitats: mixed forest, rich cove forest, montane acidic cliff, chestnut oak forest, pine-oak heath, riparian, open field and acidic cove forest

Land Use: wildlife conservation, recreation/tourism, other conservation, hunting

Primary Threats: introduced plants/animals, natural pests/disease, soil erosion/degradation

Protection Status: The entire site is under the jurisdiction of the State of North Carolina—North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission and North Carolina State Parks.

Birds: The assemblage of bird species found in the higher elevations of the South Mountains resembles species typically found in the mountain physiographic province. Species such as Ruffed Grouse, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Scarlet Tanager, Black-and-white Warbler, Blue-headed Vireo, and Ovenbird are fairly common. Cerulean Warblers have been recorded on the Game Lands, but population estimates are unknown. Common Ravens have nested at High Shoals Falls. At least 60 species have been recorded breeding in South Mountains State Park. The site is of significant acreage and supports a significant diversity of birds associated with the upper piedmont/foothills region of the state.



Local Membership

Join now and your membership will be effective until June 2006.

Because of changes in National Audubon membership structure, Mecklenburg Audubon now must offer a local Chapter Membership to cover the cost of the newsletter, web site and cost of meetings.

Name _____

Phone _____

Address [Street, City, ST, and Zip] _____

E-mail _____

Individual Membership [\$10] Family Membership [\$15]

Please, save trees and send me[us] the newsletter electronically.

I[we] would be willing to lead a field trip.

I[we] would be interested in participating in a work day at one of the local preserves.

I[we] would be willing to do a program.

Return to: Lucy Quintilliano, Treasurer, Mecklenburg Audubon, P. O. Box 221093, Charlotte, NC 28222

Audubon News

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Mecklenburg Audubon is a chapter of National Audubon. Meetings are held at Sharon Seventh Day Adventist Church, 920 N. Sharon Amity Rd. on the first Thursday of each month, September through May at 7:30 PM.

*Who's
New?*



Alan Church
Doug Dunnam
Mina Lavendol
Vicki Lindow
Jame McRacken
Mike & Risha Metzler
Penny Soares

SPRING WINGS MAY 12 - 15, 2005



Join birders this Spring for a new experience on the Outer Banks. There will be plenty of the familiar programs and trips from Wings Over Water, except with a "Spring" flavor.... and there will be additional opportunities only available seasonally. Several birding trips will focus on birding by ear. There will be extra programs featuring wildflowers and butterflies. For more information go to:

<http://www.fws.gov/alligatorriver/springwings.html>

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR



- 4/7 - Bird Song [Monthly Meeting]
- 4/9 - Congaree Swamp National Park [Full Day Field Trip]
- 4/23 - Evergreen Nature Preserve [1/2 day Field Trip/Work Day]
- 5/1 - Latta Park [1/2 day Field Trip]
- 5/5 - Wildflowers [Monthly Meeting]
- 5/7 - Anne Springs Close Greenway [1/2 day Field Trip]
- 5/14 - International Migratory Bird Day
- 5/21 - Blue Ridge Parkway/Mt. Pisgah Area [Full Day Field Trip]
- 6/3-5 - Audubon North Carolina Annual Meeting [Asheville]

For additional activities and information go to <http://meckbirds.org>