



# CBC Newsletter

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*For members of the Carolina Bird Club, Inc.,  
Ornithological Society of the Carolinas*

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## Strategies for a Successful Carolina Bird Atlas Effort

By Steve Dowlan

As a veteran of a bird atlas project from another state, I confess that I get a bit obsessed with the effort. I was thrilled when the North Carolina Bird Atlas Project was launched this year, and it immediately changed the way I bird wherever I go within the state. I'm thinking about locating Priority Blocks when I travel, and I'm searching for birds with bugs and bits of grass and twigs in their bills rather than just hoping to hear or see a new county or state species. Completing an Atlas Project Priority Block that is seldom birded requires some planning and forethought that may not be necessary in blocks that include eBird hotspots or in those that already receive a lot of attention. I have some suggestions for a birding strategy in these less birded areas.



One of my atlas priority blocks is within sight of my house, but has seldom been birded by locals or visiting birders. It includes mostly rural neighborhoods along lightly-traveled roads and large blocks of private property. Although I plan to ask for access to some of these areas, I'm assuming that most if not all of my birding will have to happen from public roads and a few kinds of places where I will not likely be chased away. Fortunately, most priority blocks include several of these public and semi-public facilities.

### Schools and Public Parks

The obvious go-to areas for bird atlas efforts are in public ownership of one kind or another. My close-by priority block includes a historic high school that now houses a day care center, Chinese medicine school, a playground, a library, a senior center, and a track used by locals for walking and running. This facility is also along a stream, and includes riparian vegetation communities. It is the only substantial tract of land that offers free public access in the entire block. Birds are well-accustomed to the presence of people here, and this is a great advantage when looking for behavior that confirms breeding activity. Always be mindful of how your presence may arouse concern, especially around operating schools and day care centers.

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### **Churches and Cemeteries**

Churches and cemeteries are great places to pursue atlas birding where access is limited. During the few times I've encountered someone associated with these places, no one has looked at me with suspicion or malice. Church and cemetery staffs are more likely to be curious about what you are doing, and may even offer useful advice and guidance for access elsewhere. The key to harmony in these situations is to stay in plain sight, avoid trespass on to adjacent private property, and be friendly to anyone who approaches to ask what you are up to. Be aware though that some family cemeteries are on private land not associated with churches. Usually, this is obvious.

### **Birding by bicycle**

Local residents are rightfully suspicious of anyone parking in odd places or blocking traffic and peering at feeders next to homes. Sometimes wide spots and potential parking areas are nowhere near the best or most interesting habitat, which means you may have to walk along roadsides from the few available parking spots. I have had great success birding these areas by bicycle, especially where traffic is light. While rolling along slowly, I can hear bird songs and call notes, especially begging calls, and I can stop almost anywhere I want to. I'm also more likely to see birds carrying nesting material or food. Even a fairly narrow road is adequate for leaning a bicycle against a bank to follow up on potential breeding confirmation. Bikes also are useful on rails-to-trails and any other public pathways that are open to them.

### **Birding by Kayak and Canoe**

Riparian habitat associated with lakeshores, rivers, and large streams can be difficult to access from land. A waterway may be open to public access, but the shore is often off-limits and clearly posted. Kayaks and canoes provide quiet, efficient, and slow transportation, allowing detection of birds by sound well away from the shore in upland areas. Use of watercraft may open up many miles of tidal areas, reservoir shorelines, river banks, and forested swamps that are otherwise difficult to access. It may take a bit of practice to keep the boat from rolling as you twist and turn to follow a bird (I keep my binoculars and camera in a dry bag while actually paddling), and one must be mindful of tides in order to avoid grounding well away from the launch point. Some birds may be less wary of a birder approaching by boat rather than on foot.

### **Getting to "Confirmed"**

Confirming the breeding status of a species involves both luck and persistence. It is luck when you see an Eastern Towhee that is perched on a guardrail post with a beak full of nesting material as you drive by (*CN – Carrying Nesting Material*). With a little persistence and patience in the follow-up, the *CN* code can be upgraded to *NB – Nest Building*. It is also persistence when you spend extra time watching a Northern Cardinal for as long as it takes to see it gather and carry food for its young (*CF – Carrying Food*) through dense brush to see the bird feed its young (*FY – Feeding Young*). Often confirmation is achieved by just a few-second glance as a bird flies away with nest material or food.

Observations of occupied nests may involve several-to-many minutes of following a bird that is acting "nesty", behavior which becomes obvious the more you look for it. It helps tremendously to learn key characteristics of recently fledged young and their behavior when begging for food. Although begging calls of young birds vary tremendously, all begging birds have a repertoire of sounds that is different from the adults of the same species. Following these oddball sounds often leads to confirmation by *FL – Recently Fledged & Precocial Young*, *FY – Feeding Young*, or *NY – Nest with Young*.

### **Balance Effort with Results**

Completing one of the 937 priority block requires consideration of what you have or someone else has already achieved each time you head to the field. From the project perspective, there isn't much benefit to pursuing confirmation for a species in a Priority Block in which the species has already been confirmed. Instead, think about the species – especially the common species – that still need to be

confirmed and look for them where you have seen them before. If you saw a Baltimore Oriole pair several times in the same place, go there and follow the birds until you see them carrying food or visiting a nest. Once you have acquired confirmation, move on to another species. Be methodical in your approach.

### **To Bird Where No One has Birded Before**

In my opinion, the real benefit to atlas birding is that it takes you to new places that have been seldom or never birded by anyone else. Since March of the current year, I have rarely visited the local eBird hotspots. Instead, I have worked atlas Priority Blocks, and this has taken me to places I would not have considered before. I have increased my knowledge of local roads, found species in new locations, and found a new reason to exercise my legs and arms with the bicycle and boat.

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## **CBC Outer Banks Trip, December 4 - 5, 2021**

**This event currently has a waiting list for sign-up!** Widely considered at the top of the list for early winter birding sites in North Carolina, the Outer Banks of Dare County are home to thousands of wintering swans, ducks, geese, shorebirds, waders, gulls, and more. Join members of the Carolina Bird Club as we explore the Bodie Island lighthouse area, Oregon Inlet, Pea Island NWR, the ocean beaches of Hatteras and Bodie Islands and other “hotspots”.

The trip will focus on waterfowl and shorebird identification as well as building a broad trip list including everything from grebes to sparrows. The trip starts Saturday, December 4, at 7:30 a.m. in the Bodie Island Lighthouse parking lot. Saturday will be devoted to birding along the immediate coast. Sunday will include a stop at Alligator River NWR and potentially Mattamuskeet NWR.

Detailed information including directions, lodging choices, dining opportunities and more will be provided to registrants. Birds that you can expect to see include loons, numbers of Tundra Swans and Snow Geese, most of the dabbling ducks that winter in eastern North Carolina, chances to see sea ducks including all three American scoters, gulls, wintering passerines, and winter shorebirds including American Avocet and possibly Purple Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher and Piping Plover. Alligator River NWR may provide an opportunity to see Black Bear, raptors, shorebirds (if water levels are right) and numbers of Tundra Swan and waterfowl.

**Logistics:** The fee for this field trip is \$45 and advance registration is required. Participation is limited to 12. Participants are responsible for lodging and meals. A number of motels, hotels, and other lodging are available in Nags Head north through Kitty Hawk. We will attempt to carpool in order to reduce the number of vehicles caravanning to the birding sites. Spotting scopes are useful if you have one. Dress for the weather and in layers. If we are enjoying a warm early winter, mosquito repellent may be useful. Lunch on Saturday will likely either be at a seafood restaurant or Subway. If you prefer, bring a bag lunch. A variety of restaurants are open for Saturday dinner.

To register for this field trip contact Steve Shultz [sshultz@nc.rr.com](mailto:sshultz@nc.rr.com) or (919) 629-7226. Upon confirmation of your slot on the trip you will be sent a registration form/waiver that can be submitted with your trip fee. Note that there is a modest fee to walk out on Jennette’s Pier.

# Carolina Bird Club Research Grants Updates – 2021

By Craig Watson

The past two years have been busy for the Carolina Bird Club (CBC) Grants Committee. Three grants delayed by the pandemic were fully implemented in 2021, and three new grants were funded in 2021. Also, discussions for an exciting large-scale monitoring project in the southern Appalachians are ongoing, which may result in a proposal later this year or in 2022.

## Projects funded in 2021

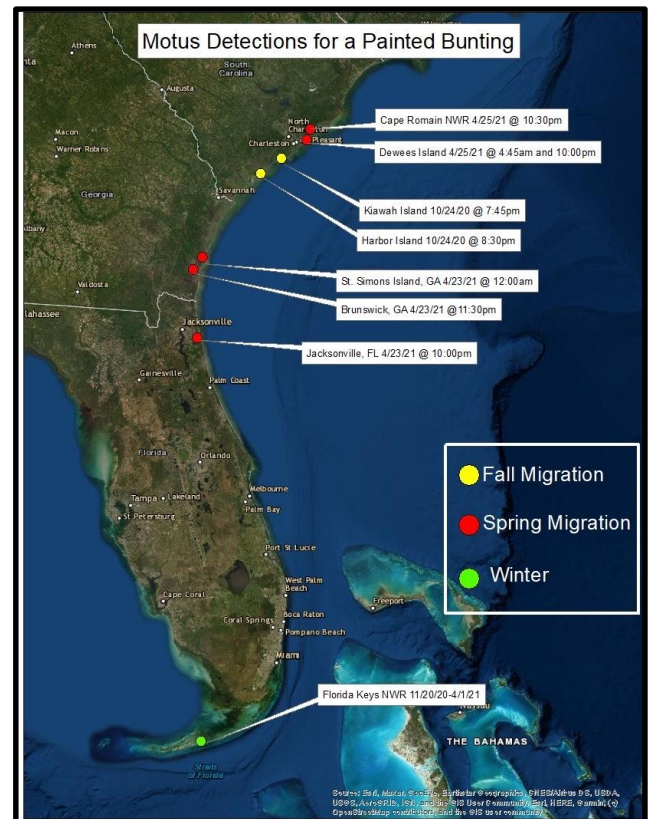
A research project titled “*Potential Interactions between Climate Change and Density-Dependent Factors Driving Population Dynamics of the Federally Endangered Red-Cockaded Woodpecker*” was funded in the amount of \$3000 and will be conducted by a PhD student at North Carolina State University with the project site being the North Carolina Sandhills region. The partnership with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the Sandhills Ecological Institute, and Department of Defense will study how density-dependent and climate change factors influence partial brood loss of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers, and will inform and guide managers to adapt conservation for the woodpecker and other species affected by climate change factors.

Another project, “*Bird Studies at a private property site in the Uwharries region – Research, Monitoring, Education Proposal*”, will be conducted by investigators from the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences with the CBC providing \$3750. This study will focus on surveying for early-successional/shrub-scrub species, capture and release of individual birds, estimating density of species, and conducting a rapid assessment of vegetation characteristics for these shrub-scrub species. This project will inform managers about demographics of these species and relate this information to patch size for managing decreasing numbers of species that utilize these habitats.

A third study to be funded in the amount of \$1245 will study mitochondrial DNA of wintering American Kestrels in South Carolina. The University of Wyoming and Coastal Carolina University will conduct this study. The results of this information will be used by managers and conservationists for the protection of a potentially distinct subspecies.

## Status of Previously Funded Projects

*Migratory Connectivity of Eastern Painted Buntings*, Aaron Given, Town of Kiawah Island - 32 Painted Bunting (13 adults, 19 juveniles; 8 female, 5 males, 19 unknown sex) were fitted with nanotags on Kiawah Island from 8/26-9/24, with 2 Additional birds (1 adult male, 1 adult female) tagged on James Island. All individuals except for two were detected at least one time by the Motus network. 18 birds were detected at 15 Motus stations outside of Kiawah including locations in South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, with one being detected on Big Pine Key in the Florida Keys! Fall migration departure dates for 17 Painted Buntings were determined ranging from 10/01/2020 to 11/3/2020.



*Importance of Seabrook and Kiawah Islands for Red Knot: Estimating population size, stopover duration, and habitat use - \$1,680 for travel expenses (delayed due to pandemic).* This is a part of a graduate student project at The University of South Carolina in partnership with South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR). Field work ended this year with several groups of over 5,000 Red Knot using key points on the islands as stopover sites. Over 160 distinct flagged individuals were resighted, some of which were banded in Canada and South America. Additionally, 148 proportional counts of flagged vs. unflagged individuals were recorded which will be used to estimate population size, stopover duration, and general arrival/departure schedules. A final report will be submitted.

*Investigating and Protecting Critical Nocturnal Roosts: Whimbrel at Deveaux Bank, South Carolina - \$7500 for the purchase of 5 GPS tags @ \$1500/ea (delayed due to pandemic).* This project was to be a cooperative project between the SCDNR and The University of South Carolina with a graduate student coordinating the work and the university receiving the funds. This project is complete and a final report has been submitted.

Five GPS transmitters funded by the CBC were deployed on Whimbrels on Deveaux Bank, South Carolina (2020 and 2021). Results showed where staging Whimbrels use local marshes during spring and fall migrations. Use of habitat, habitat types utilized, nocturnal roost use, and daily movements are all being measured. The CBC's contribution to this study is part of a much longer and more comprehensive study on Deveaux Bank.

Members may know of the recent discovery of Deveaux Bank as a major staging and roosting area for Whimbrels in their northbound migration where up to 20,000 Whimbrels stage/roost, half of the Atlantic Coast population of Whimbrels. Here is a link to the paper that has been published on this remarkable phenomenon International Wader Study Group - Nocturnal roost on South Carolina coast supports nearly half of Atlantic coast population of Hudsonian Whimbrel *Numenius hudsonicus* during northward migration - <https://www.waderstudygroup.org/article/15036/>.

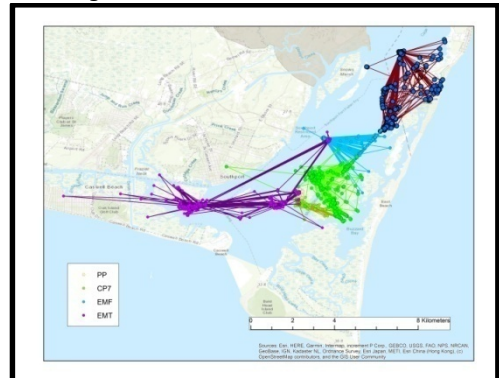
Additionally, here is a short film documentary on this discovery - Deveaux Bank South Carolina Whimbrel Announcement - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSr6V3VDgFo>. Pictured at right is a Whimbrel outfitted with one of the units funded by the CBC and the principal investigator with



*Whimbrel outfitted with GPS transmitter on Deveaux Bank*



*American Oystercatcher outfitted with GPS Tracking Device*



*Movements of four American Oystercatchers demonstrating use and importance of local marshes during breeding season*



*Maina Handmaker (Principal Investigator) with GPS tracking equipment on Deveaux Bank*



the tracking equipment.

*American Oystercatcher tracking: Modeling the influence of foraging distance on nest and brood survival and development of a tool to forecast future nesting distributions in response to climate variation*, North Carolina - \$8,250 for purchase of GPS trackers, harness equipment, and travel costs. This project supports a Ph.D. project out of the University of Oklahoma and is in partnership with Audubon North Carolina. This project is complete (delayed one year by pandemic) and a project report is forthcoming. The project put out 21 tags and has already collected over 21,000 data points. One important discovery is how important local marshes are to nesting Oystercatchers and that they travel no more than 3km from their nesting territories during incubation and chick rearing. Images below are courtesy of Kate Goodenough and represent movements of American Oystercatchers in the project area, and a photo of the GPS device the CBC funded for attaching to the oystercatchers. A final report will be submitted.

***Inquires, but no proposal submitted***

*Building Eastern Bluebird boxes for Bioswale at Moultrie Middle School*, inquiry only, no proposal submitted.

*Construction of Wood Duck boxes on waterways in North Carolina* to be done by a local community, inquiry, no proposal submitted.

***Funding denied***

An excellent research project, “*Use of Nocturnal Heterothermy in North American Songbirds During Migration*”, from the University of Waterloo, \$3000, was not funded as it did not address any conservation issues in the Carolinas. Work was to be conducted at banding stations in Canada, and while the work would benefit conservation regionally, the species being banded were not common migrants through the Carolinas and would contribute minimally to conservation of bird populations in the Carolinas.

***Prospect for future funding***

There have been some significant conversations occurring between the Grants Committee and Wild Bird Research Group, Inc. in Asheville, North Carolina. This organization, along with the North Carolina State Parks, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service are putting together a comprehensive proposal to fund establishing a MOTUS station in the Southern Appalachians on Mt. Mitchell. MOTUS is an international collaborate network of monitoring systems to track the movement of birds, bats, and large insects, and for this projects, birds will be tracked. The idea is to establish a network of stations that detects birds outfitted with various tracking devices in a fully implemented network where all birds passing through such a network would be detected. This MOTUS station on Mt. Mitchell would serve to fill a gap in the network, enabling vast amounts of data to be retrieved for a multitude of implications for research and management for bird habitat use, bird migration, and bird population ecology. We expect this grant to be submitted later this year or in 2020 with an approximate request of \$10,000 (Motus Wildlife Tracking System).

CBC Research, educational and conservation grants are available through the Carolina Bird Club. For additional information visit [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org).

# Birding Heroes Award Presented to Dr. Jay Chandler and the Town of Hemingway

By Craig Watson

The Carolina Bird Club recently recognized Dr. Jay Chandler and the Town of Hemingway with the Club's Birding Heroes Award for their work to construct an observation platform and two foot bridges at the Hemingway Sewage Treatment Ponds for birders to gain access for better viewing the area. Both Jay and The Town have worked with birders throughout the Carolinas to accommodate birders travelling to find rare and unusual birds at the ponds.

Jay has gone out of his way to alert birders to the presence of rare birds observed here, has met them there, and provided birders with access many times. However, it is the rare gesture of using Town funds and Jay's expertise to construct this observation platform, showing the birding community how a local birder and a municipality can work together to bring birding business to the community and to the Carolina Bird Club about how members work to promote birding in the Carolinas. Additionally, Jay has been a mentor to beginning birders, worked to promote birding in Williamsburg and Georgetown Counties, and worked tirelessly with the Town to provide this access to the ponds with the construction of the observation platform.

At a recent small ceremony to recognize Jay and the Town, the Town also presented Jay with a framed Letter of Appreciation for his efforts in building birding partnerships in the community. Some of the birds that have utilized the ponds and which Jay has worked with birders to view are Eared Grebe, Red-necked Phalarope, Wilson's Phalarope, White-winged Scoter, Ross's Goose, and most recently, the Great White Heron, a form or subspecies of the Great Blue Heron that typically is found in subtropical habitats of south Florida in the United States. For this great work and community outreach, the Carolina Bird Club recognizes Dr. Jay Chandler and the Town of Hemingway each with a Certificate for their ongoing efforts in promoting birding in the communities in which they live and work.



Mayor of Hemingway John Michael Collins and Dr. Jay Chandler



Certificate and Letter of Appreciation for Dr. Jay Chandler



Photo of attendees at ceremony: Ken Laster (Town of Hemingway Public Works), Belinda Todd (Jay's sister), Ben Chandler (Jay's brother), Lana Boyer (Jay's sister), John Michael Collins (Mayor of Hemingway), Dr. Jay Chandler, Keith Baxley (Town of Hemingway Council member), and Craig Watson. Not pictured but attended ceremony - Samantha Lewis (Town of Hemingway Council member).

# Welcome New CBC Members!

## New Life Member – Patricia Bailey - Pittsboro, NC

Kristopher Smith  
Angier, NC

Curtiss Merrick  
Beaufort, NC

Clair Hixson  
Raleigh, NC

Jamie Lynn Riedy  
North Augusta, SC

Alessa Bertoluzzi  
Edisto Island, SC

Rachel Cox  
Clemson, SC

Nancy & John Kapp  
Concord, NC

Richard Snow  
Linda Robinson  
Hillsborough, NC

David Graham

Durham, NC

Joyce Conner  
Myrtle Beach, SC

Audrey Scanlon  
Raleigh, NC

Mary Doughty  
Hickory, NC

Laura & Paul Bobotas  
Wilmington, NC

John Bruhnke  
Spartanburg, SC

Ruth Thomas  
Beaufort, SC

Vikki Trupin  
Hendersonville, NC

Becky Newton Bowler  
Beaufort, NC

Nelda McLawhorn  
Washington, NC

Agnes Brodbeck  
Leland, NC

Zoe Butler  
N. Charleston, SC

Catherine Horton  
Charlotte, NC

Debbie Baczewski  
Summerville, SC

Michael Li  
Chapel Hill, NC

Shelby & Gary Blackwell  
Flat Rock, NC

Caroline, Nicholas &  
Josephine Hudson  
Wilmington, NC

Deceased Member - Jean M. White, Raleigh, NC



## Opportunities for Young Birders

**Carolina Bird Club offers scholarships for birders 19 and under living in the Carolinas, who are members of the Carolina Young Birders Club. Scholarships provide assistance in attending bird-related events, such as camps, workshop, training programs or CBC seasonal meetings.**

**For more information, visit [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)**



# CBC Fall Birding Weekend – Havelock, NC

## Home of Marine Corps Air Station – Cherry Point

### Friday into Sunday, September 24-26, 2021

**Host Venue** – Havelock Days Inn & Suites, 400 Hwy. 70 W., Havelock, NC 28532

CBC Board has been anxiously awaiting the opportunity to announce the first Birding Weekend since the Covid-19 pandemic became a major threat in March 2020. We will convene for a COVID-conscious Social, Banquet and presentation by our keynote speaker, Simon Thompson, at the Days Inn and Suites in Havelock, NC. Havelock is 25 minutes from Morehead City on the coast and 25 minutes from New Bern along the Neuse River. Both towns are tourist centers, waterfront communities with an extensive history. New Bern was once the Capital of North Carolina and Morehead City always a major shipping center. Morehead grew along with its 300+ year old neighbor, Beaufort, a whaling center of ole, and owes its prominence as the terminus of the Atlantic and NC Railroads. This web link will enlighten you to many names you will see or hear during your birding trips ( <https://www.morehead.com/history-of-morehead-city.html>). New Bern says, “We have been preparing for your visit for over 300 years.” This link of fun facts may give you a sense of the days you could spend exploring its sights (<https://visitnewbern.com/fun-facts>). The history in this area is enthralling and will tear at your plans to see many new life birds and familiar favorites. From famous Ft. Macon on the coast to the Tryon Palace and Firemen’s Museum you really should plan a few days prior to our gathering in Havelock.



Dickcissel, Steve Creek, Flickr Creative Commons



### VALUABLE INFO AS YOU PREPARE TO ATTEND THIS BIRDING WEEKEND USE THESE DETAILS AS YOU PACK

#### ***BIRDING TRIPS***

We plan to provide opportunities to see by boat the Rachael Carson Reserve and the bird-rich Shackleford Banks. A trip to Cape Lookout will be the third option in the all-day category requiring water craft. Half day water excursions in the inland islands behind Bear Island and a trip to Bear Island are on the itinerary. There is a fee for all of these trips.

Onshore and woodland trips will allow us to sample the various habitats required by the resident birds, and hopefully catch many migrants getting prepared for the next stage in their annual fall flights. At the new Gallants Channel Nature Trails on the shore of Harlowe Creek, to the spit of land overlooking the ocean and sound at Bogue Inlet, to Cedar Island NWR and even the quarry in New Bern we will seek shorebirds and waders. Many other trips will attempt to provide some water viewing – the White Oak River Sojourn, Patsy Pond and Emerald Isle Woods, Ft. Macon, the North River Wetlands and Simmons Street Marshes, and yet land birding will be all around. The extensive woodland of the Croatan National Forest holds several habitats harboring sought-after birds such as Red-cockaded Woodpecker and Swainson’s Warbler, and sparkling jewels such as Hooded Warbler.

All trips start at the hotel. Weather will be warm and humid. Bring plenty of liquids with you and drink them while on the trips. Brown bag luncheons are not available from the hotel. If you are on an all-day trip you must provide your own luncheon.

A special message here for Trip #16 on NC Birding Atlas Basics. All of us are interested in birding and many of us are already a part of the amazing citizen scientist project we know as eBird, which will soon receive its one billionth list! NC is harnessing this field birder and feeder birder power that will promote avian conservation with a birder-wide community science survey – the NC Birding Atlas. Sit down in the hotel meeting room with a local Atlas Coordinator and Project Coordinator to learn how your efforts can make a difference as a citizen scientist Atlaser. Discover those easy methods to advance our knowledge of birds in North Carolina. Bring your cell phone and you can get started immediately. Every extra observer adds to the knowledge base. There is no limit to the number of participants to this special presentation.

Interested in birding and participating in a statewide citizen science program that promotes avian conservation?

### **OUR SOCIALS**

A social is planned each evening, an hour to meet old and new friends over a beverage of your choice. Dinner will be on your own Thursday and Friday evening. Breakfast is not included in the hotel rate. Each room includes a mini-frig, microwave and coffee maker.

A Saturday evening social hour with a wine, beer or liquor cash bar will start our only full evening of activity to celebrate the long-awaited resumption of the CBC Birding Weekends. **Due to COVID restrictions for indoor events the Banquet is limited to the first 120 registrants. This restriction is to the banquet only as all other activities will not be within the confines of the Main Hall.** (As a sidebar we will return to OBX January 2022 and to Black Rock in western NC May 2022.) The banquet will immediately follow the social. We will then hear from our Keynote Speaker, Simon Thompson. He plans a look at birding during the pandemic. The evening ends with our count of the birds



located the past two days. This will also help us plan optional trips Sunday morning as many of us prepare to travel homeward, but don’t forget the local history.

These activities will occur in the common areas of our host hotel. Cost for the hotel has been arranged at \$95 + taxes. Cots are not available, but children in the room (a maximum of 2) are free. **Use 252-444-1111 and identify your reservation with the “Carolina Bird Club – Fall 2021”.** Check-in time is 3 p.m. and check-out 11 A.M.

There are a number of amazing trips to offshore locations for this Birding Weekend. Weather and wind will be a deciding factor as to holding these trips. Also, if attendance is low on some trips, for example,

**CBC Fall 2021 Havelock, NC Registration Form**  
**Registration Begins Saturday, August 7th @ 2pm.**  
**Register online for Best Availability of Field Trips at**  
[www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Registration (Member) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$35 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Registration (Non-Member) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Buffet Dinner \_\_\_\_ (A vegetarian pasta entrée is one of the available items on the buffet line) x \$35 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Field Trip Sign-Up	A.M. 1st/2nd Choice	P.M. 1st/2nd Choice	All Day 1st/2nd Choice
Friday	/	/	/
Saturday	/	/	/

To pre-register for Field Trips, place the trip number(s) in the boxes to the right of the days.

Meeting registration at the door costs \$45.

**Make check payable to Carolina Bird Club and send to:**

**CBC, 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374**

Club policy requires all field trip participants to comply with the field trip leader's assessment and requests concerning the physical ability of each participant to make or complete the trip.

I will release and discharge (and will not make a claim against) the Carolina Bird Club for injury, death, or property damage arising from my participation at this meeting and/or Club field trips. This release of liability is entered into on behalf of all members of my family, including all minors accompanying me. I certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of any such minors and that I am over 18 years of age.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Processing of mail-in registrations will not begin until online registration opens.

**Pre-Registration ends Tuesday, August 31th, 2021 at Noon**

**Cancellations will be refunded if received by Noon on Friday, September 10th.**

Cancel by contacting the Headquarters Secretary at [hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org).

due to low Weekend attendance, any trip may be cancelled. We will advise you as soon as possible of a cancelled trip so you can sign on to another trip or take a contingency trip that is offered as an alternative. There are local birding sites of note that are not on any offered trip and I know we can pique your interest. Immediately after checking-in for your room at the Days Inn go to the CBC Welcome desk in the main Conference Hall Lobby and check your name on the sign-in sheets for your trips. Additional info that may affect your birding trip will be noted.



### **COVID**

We will follow the current recommendations in effect late September. A vaccination is highly encouraged. Not vaccinated? Join the fight as we did with malaria, polio and a slew of diseases eradicated in the U.S. Protect you and your fellow birders and family by getting vaccinated before the Weekend. Again, as of this announcement the banquet is restricted to the first 120 members registering for the event.

### **REGISTRATION**

Registration opens at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, August 7. Registration ends August 31<sup>st</sup> at noon. Registration may be able to be extended if we have sufficient early registrants but is not guaranteed. Please also sign up for the Saturday evening dinner after you complete your trip selections. Advance registration for this dinner is required, the cost of which is due at Registration for the Weekend. Fees for boat trips will be paid at the dock to the operator or leader by cash or check.

September 10, Noon, is the last day for refunds if you have to cancel attendance or dinner. Cancel by sending an email to the Headquarters Secretary at [hq@carolinabirdclub.org](mailto:hq@carolinabirdclub.org). Your trip(s) registration will also then be cancelled and given to anyone on the wait list.

**CBC Registration Desk: Conference Hall Lobby** - Thursday 4:00p.m. – 9:00p.m.. Friday and Saturday 6:00am – 8:00am and 12:30p.m. – 1:30p.m.

**Field Trip confirmation sheets** will be in the registration desk area. After picking up your registration packet please put a check mark by your name on each of your trip sheets so the trip leaders will know you have checked in for your trip. There will be people available to answer any questions regarding trips. If you are not able to attend a trip, please cross out your name so someone from the wait list can fill your place.

**Departure Times** -The field trip departure times are for **leaving** the hotel. **Arrive the minimum 10-15 minutes early**. Look for the sign with your trip number and let the leader know you are there. We encourage carpooling. Please consider contributing toward gas expenses if you carpool. Trip leader cell phone number will be provided. If you cannot go on a trip make every effort to advise one of the following: trip leader, meeting coordinator, or advise someone who is on the trip so the group doesn't wait for you. **Hotel Returns**-Morning trips should be back to the hotel by noon, afternoon and all-day trips by 5:00 p.m.

**All Day Trips**-Please bring a lunch, snacks, plenty of water, insect repellent, hat and raingear, foot wear for wet/muddy conditions. Most sites are remote with no nearby restaurants or restrooms.



# CBC Fall Birding Weekend – Havelock, NC

## Friday into Sunday, September 24-26, 2021

### Thursday September 23, 2021

4:00-9:00p.m. Registration – Check the Trip List you have arrived

Location: Days Inn Conference Hall Lobby

6:00-7:30p.m. - Social with cash bar

Location: Days Inn Lounge Meeting Area

*Dinner on your own*

### Friday September 24, 2021

Field Trips (1/2 day and full-day trips)

Location: Days Inn Conference Hall Lobby

6:00-7:30p.m. - Social with cash bar

Location: Days Inn Lounge Meeting Area

*Breakfast, lunch and dinner on your own*

### Saturday September 25, 2021

Field Trips (half and full-day trips)

5:30-6:30p.m. Social with Cash Bar

Location: Days Inn Conference Hall Lobby

6:30-7:30p.m. Banquet Dinner (**bring your ticket from the registration packet**)

Location: Days Inn Lounge Meeting Area

7:30-7:45p.m. Announcements

Location: Days Inn Conference Hall

7:45-8:30p.m. Keynote Speaker: Simon Thompson

8:30-9:00p.m. Species Countdown and Closing Remarks

**Breakfast and lunch on your own**

### Sunday September 26, 2021

7:00a.m. Rarities & Out-of-season Bird Walks

Location: Days Inn Conference Hall Lobby

**Breakfast on your own**

AGENDA (FINAL AGENDA WILL BE IN YOUR REGISTRATION PACKET)

Registration (walk-ins) for the Birding Weekend is available at the hotel. Saturday evening dinner registration will not be available for walk-ins but attendance at the social and presentations is welcome.

# Fall Birding Weekend September 23-26, 2021- Havelock, NC, Trip List

## Friday, September 24

### Morning Half Day

- Trip 1 – 7:00 a.m. *North River Wetlands Preserve*
- Trip 2 – 7:00 a.m. *White Oak River Sojourn*
- Trip 3 – 7:15 a.m. *Patsy Pond & Emerald Isle Woods*
- Trip 4 – 7:15 a.m. *Bogue Inlet*
- Trip 5 – 7:30 a.m. *Millis Road Savannah*
- Trip 6 – 7:30 a.m. *Swansboro Coast Birding by Boat*

### Afternoon Half Day

- Trip 8 – 1:00 p.m. *Quarry/Martin Marietta Park*
- Trip 9 – 1:00 p.m. *Bear Island Boat Trip*
- Trip 10 – 1:00 p.m. *North River Wetlands Preserve*
- Trip 11 – 1:15 p.m. *Gallants Channel and Trails*
- Trip 12 – 1:15 p.m. *Glenburnie Park & Simmons Street Marshes*
- Trip 13 – 1:15 p.m. *Fort Macon*
- Trip 14 – 1:30 p.m. *NC Birding Atlas Basics*

### All Day

- Trip 16 – 6:00 a.m. *Shackleford Banks*
- Trip 17 – 6:00 a.m. *Cape Lookout*
- Trip 18 – 6:15 a.m. *Cedar Island NWR*
- Trip 19 – 6:30 a.m. *Voice of America and Cool Springs Preserve*
- Trip 20 – 7:30 a.m. *Rachel Carson Reserve*

## Saturday, September 25

### Morning Half Day

- Trip 22 – 7:00 a.m. *Billfinger and Little Deep Creek Roads*
- Trip 23 – 7:00 a.m. *White Oak River Sojourn*
- Trip 24 – 7:15 a.m. *Millis Road Savannah*
- Trip 25 – 7:15 a.m. *Patsy Pond & Emerald Woods*
- Trip 26 – 7:30 a.m. *Swansboro Coast Birding by Boat*
- Trip 27 – 7:30 a.m. *Bogue Inlet*

### Afternoon Half Day

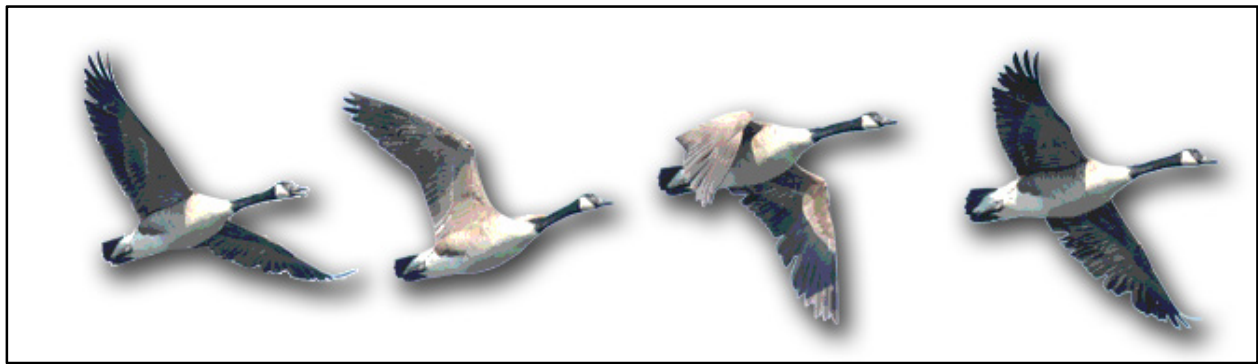
- Trip 29 – 1:00 p.m. *Quarry/Martin Marietta Park*
- Trip 30 – 1:00 p.m. *North River Wetlands Preserve*
- Trip 31 – 1:00 p.m. *Bear Island Boat Trip*
- Trip 32 – 1:15 p.m. *Simmons Street Marshes*
- Trip 33 – 1:15 p.m. *Birding from Day 1 to 10,000 (Birding 101)*
- Trip 34 – 1:15 p.m. *Fort Macon*
- Trip 35 – 1:15 p.m. *Gallants Channel and Trails*

### All Day

- Trip 37 – 6:00 a.m. *Shackleford Banks*
- Trip 38 – 6:00 a.m. *Cape Lookout*
- Trip 39 – 6:15 a.m. *Cedar Island NWR*
- Trip 40 – 6:30 a.m. *Voice of America and Cool Springs Preserve*
- Trip 41 – 7:30 a.m. *Rachel Carson Reserve*

## Sunday, September 26

- Trip 43 – 7:30 a.m. *Search for uncommon & rarities seen*



## Fall Birding Weekend 2021- Havelock, NC, Trip Descriptions

### ALL DAY TRIPS

#### **Trip 16 and 37: Shackleford Banks via boat (\$) – East End**

6:00 a.m. Start at Hotel. **Bring** lunch, extra water, insect repellent, sunscreen or rain jacket and boots or water shoes. Conditions will be muddy in some marsh side areas. We will walk several miles throughout the day. Conditions will be humid and wind is always a factor. If weather cancels the trip alternate trips will be available on the mainland.

This early start takes us to Harkers Island for the ferry to this section of the Cape Lookout National Seashore. We will bird the woodland around the terminal or adjacent museum before our departure. The pond in the woods behind the museum often holds surprises. Before embarking at the dock at 9:15 a.m. use the restroom as there are no facilities while with the Captain and trip leader, nor on the island. When we beach the ferry expect a slight chance for water underfoot as we get ashore, but the water temperature will near 80. Birding will start around the point on the ocean side while water rises. Brushy areas will be searched for migrating landbirds. We will then return to the north shore as the tide will push shorebirds into the sand flats and bars that. Among the shorebirds we hope to see Piping and Wilson's Plover. Reddish Egret and Long-billed Curlew would be fine additions. Will this be the sixth year in a row a Bar-tailed Godwit showed the last week in September? Water shoes are not required yet some may appreciate the freedom they allow while moving around the wetter marsh edges. Time after disembarking back on the mainland may allow further exploration of the habitat at this birding hotspot.

**Cost:** \$18 payable to the CBC Weekend Coordinator at start of the trip at the hotel, by cash or check, and to receive your boarding pass. Maximum number of attendees: 15

Travel time 55 Minutes to 1785 Island Rd., Harkers Island, NC.

#### **Trip 17 and 38: Cape Lookout via boat and land buggy (\$)**

6:00 a.m. departure from hotel. Bring lunch, extra water, insect repellent, sunscreen or rain jacket. We will be walking on the sandy shore for considerable distances. Plan your footwear accordingly.

Conditions will be humid and wind is always a factor. If weather cancels the trip alternate trips will be available on the mainland. Restrooms will be available.

We travel early to Harkers Island, bird briefly the woods and pond around the terminal and museum and then board the boat at 9:15 a.m. for the dock in front of the Cape Lookout lighthouse. We will search the brush for landbirds before meeting our land buggy for the 3-mile ride to Cape Lookout. Raptors will be seen overhead for those attentive to passing birds. Wilson's and Piping Plovers will be on our target list. Gulls will be scanned and hopefully the terns will include a Roseate that has been found here. Time may allow further exploration of the habitat at disembarkation back on Harkers Island, an eBird hotspot.

**Cost:** \$18 for the boat ride and \$13 for the land shuttle ("Mega" Truck) payable to the CBC Weekend Coordinator at start of the trip at the hotel, by cash or check, to receive your boarding pass. Maximum number of attendees: 15

Travel time 55 Minutes to 1785 Island Rd., Harkers Island, NC.

#### **Trip 18 and 39: Cedar Island NWR**

6:15 a.m. start at Hotel. Bring lunch, extra water, insect repellent, sunscreen or rain jacket and boots or water shoes. Conditions will be humid and wind is always a factor. A scope will be the tool to have throughout the trip. With over 14,000 acres Cedar Island NWR holds habitats of sandy beach shoreline, marsh and both maritime and upland forests. We will start with a brief stop across the ICW to look for Seaside Sparrow and maybe a Least Bittern will fly by. Any brushy area may hold a Sedge Wren, especially along Lola Road, and the shoreline adjacent the Ferry Terminal will allow shorebird viewing. Western Sandpiper is a possibility. The beach walk will be about a 2-mile round trip with firmer and softer sand footing. Down the beach we can scope from atop the dunes the ponds and water on the

inland side of this spit. We will also make a stop near the Ferry Road Bridge for Sparrows and Rails. There is a restroom at the Ferry Terminal and picnic tables will allow a leisurely lunch. Travel time 1 hour till we begin birding on our way to 3619 Cedar Island Road, Cedar Island, NC.

#### **Trip 19 and 40: VOA Site A and Cool Springs Preserve**

6:30 a.m. start at the Hotel. Cool Spring is a private Reserve donated by Weyerhaeuser Lumber for environmental education. Several miles of trails are available with open fields, woodland edge and woodland birding, including a boardwalk through a wetland. Prothonotary Warblers are common as is Acadian Flycatcher. This unique area of about 1700 acres on the Neuse River includes a trail along a Longleaf Pine ridge that adds significant diversity to the trip's birdlife.

VOA is known as the area to search for Henslow's Sparrow, Field Sparrows, Common Yellowthroat, White-eyed Vireos, Loggerhead Shrike, Grasshopper Sparrow and other field and brush species.

Travel time 50 minutes to Cool Springs, 945 Cool Spring Rd., New Bern, NC. A restroom is available at Cool Springs. VOA site A is at 10000 Cherry Run Rd., Washington, NC. There are no facilities at the VOA.

#### **Trip 20 and 41: Rachel Carson Reserve – East End**

7:30 a.m. Start at Hotel. Bring lunch, extra water, insect repellent, sunscreen or rain jacket and boots or water shoes. There will not be extensive walking. Conditions will be humid and wind is always a factor. If weather cancels the trip alternate trips will be available on the mainland. We will meet our boat in Beaufort's waterfront, 8:15 a.m.. At the terminal use the restroom as there are no facilities while with the Captain and trip leader. Narrow Taylor Creek is a contrast of the ages, with the historic tourist zone on the north and wild Rachel Carson on the south. Immediately you will see birds of the marsh and sand bars. We are planning to bird at high tide along Bird Shoal. When we beach the boat for our 3-4 hour visit expect a slim chance for water underfoot getting ashore but the water temperature will near 80. This tour will be geared for birders, not to the scenic stops for tourists. We will look for Piping and Wilson's Plover and hope we find a Long-billed Curlew. We may be able to visit a landbirding locale after disembarking prior returning to the hotel.

**Cost:** \$15 per person, payable at the dock by cash, check or credit card. Maximum number of attendees: 15

Travel time 40 minutes.

### **HALF DAY TRIPS:**

#### **Trip 1, 10 and 30: North River Wetlands Preserve (\$)**

Check the Trip list for starting time at the Hotel. Bring water, sunscreen or rain jacket. Walking will be on grassy roads. (Protect yourself from chiggers and ticks.)

North River Preserve is managed by the NC Coastal Federation. This is an area of over 6,000 acres being returned from farmland to upland and lowland forest, freshwater and tidal wetlands, open water and mudflats. This has been a reliable site for Dickcissel in recent years. The restoration provides habitat for shorebirds and nesting ducks. Kingbirds from the western U.S. are being found, and we must always look for Swallow-tailed Kites. Shorebird habitat will be scanned for residents and migrants. In the breeding season Dickcissels are found and we will look for lingerers

**Cost:** \$5 per person, payable at the gate by cash or check only.

Travel time 40 minutes to 973 US70, Beaufort, NC. Some GPS may find/require North River Farms Rd., Otway, NC. Restroom near barn.

#### **Trip 2 and 23: White Oak River Sojourn**

Start at the Hotel at 7:00 a.m.. This trip concentrates on sites along the White Oak River. The NC Birding Trail's Cedar Point Tideland Trail is near the mouth of the river at the Sound while Haywood Landing is upstream. Tideland Trail's one mile loop allows views of the salt marsh and pine and hardwood forest on a well-maintained sand and boardwalk system. Summer Tanager is common as is Brown-headed Nuthatch and woodpecker species. Wading birds are common and occasionally Painted Bunting is



located. Haywood Landing birding along Croatan Forest roads allows for more forested species. Both sites will offer migrants in late September.

Travel time 30 minutes to 391 VFW Road, Cedar Point, NC. Then Haywood Landing Road, Maysville, NC.

### **Trip 3 and 25: Patsy Pond and Emerald Isle Woods**

Start at the hotel at 7:15 a.m.. Patsy Pond is within a coastal savannah, a Longleaf Pine Flat Woods, offering opportunity for woodpeckers including red-cockaded and Red-headed. Pine Warblers and Brown-headed Nuthatches are common as you walk several trails. We will then travel to gorgeous Emerald Isle Woods, an upland woodland with water filled depressions that are home to Prothonotary Warblers. Great-crested Flycatchers call overhead and along the water edges look for Oyster Catchers, Skimmers, terns and other shorebirds.

Travel time 20 minutes to 3614 NC24, Newport, NC, then on to 9404 Coast Guard Rd, Emerald Isle, NC. Restroom at Emerald Isle Woods.

### **Trip 4 and 27: Bogue Inlet**

Start at the Hotel at 7:15 a.m. Friday or 7:30 a.m. Saturday. Get out on the beach with one of the Beach Bird Stewards of Emerald Isle who help monitor the nesting birds of the inlet and point. Terns galore, Piping and Wilson's Plovers, gulls and more. Sand conditions range from firm to deep sand. This will be a 2 mile walk at yet another eBird hotspot.

Bring water, insect repellent, sunscreen or rain jacket. Plan your footwear accordingly. Conditions may be humid and wind is always a factor. Parking is limited and requires a 0.4 mile walk to the trailhead.

Travel time 40 minutes. Use Bogue Ct., Emerald Isle, NC the beginning of which is the beach access for the Inlet. No restrooms. Nearest would be Emerald Isle Woods.

### **Trip 5 and 24: Millis Road Savannah**

Start at the Hotel at 7:30 a.m. Friday or 7:15 a.m. Saturday. Travel time 15 minutes to Millis Road, Newport, NC. We may also travel to Millis Swamp Road. Our goal is Bachman's Sparrow and Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Pine Warblers and Yellow-throated Warblers in the canopy and Ovenbirds, Worm-eating Warblers and Swainson's Warblers in the understory will be our goals.

Bring water, insect repellent, sunscreen or rain jacket. Walking along a dirt road.

Travel time 20 minutes. Use Millis Road, Newport, NC on your GPS. No restrooms, nor nearby.

### **Trip 6 and 26: Swansboro Coast Birding by Boat (\$)**

Start at the Hotel 7:30 a.m.. This will be a trip along the inland isles behind Bear Island, in particular White Oak River, for viewing birds that will include terns, oystercatchers, skimmers, waders and much more. The trip is geared to the birder. Expect to be in the boat 2 hours, planning for wind, sun, or other weather conditions. Bring water.

**Cost:** \$30 payable to the leader at the dock by cash or check only. Per trip minimum number of 15 required. Maximum number of attendees = 25.

Travel time 35 minutes to 139 Front St., Swansboro, NC

### **Trip 8 and 29: Quarry/Martin Marietta Park**

Start at the Hotel at 1:00 p.m.. Formerly the Quarry on eBird the name of this primary birding site at New Bern is now the Martin Marietta Park, an 888 acre property with several borrow pits with a 3.3 mile trail around their perimeter. The trail is bordered by upland woodland. The site also borders fresh water wetlands along Bachelor Creek with the Neuse River in the background. Every visit has potential for all categories of birdlife. Bald Eagle and Osprey are seen daily, Marsh Wrens call and peek out of their dense cover, and migrating warblers draw the local bird club for walks. The city is now heavily developing this land and some grasslands will be lost but the woodland surrounding the property will be impacted very little.

Bring water and comfortable shoes, a hat and consider the weather for your layer comfort. Cars are not permitted.

Travel time 30 minutes to 700 S. Glenburnie Rd, New Bern, NC. Restroom at the entrance parking lot on the right near the canoe launch.

### **Trip 9 and 31: Bear Island (by Boat - \$)**

Start at the Hotel 1:00 p.m.. Our goal is to take the ferry to Bear Island which fronts on the Atlantic Ocean and Bogue Inlet. We will always be on the lookout for Painted Bunting. Several other islands and creeks on the inland side allow and demand your attention for the birds all along their shoreline and those flying overhead. We will bird along the trip for waders, skimmers and Oystercatchers, terns, and gulls. On the island we will walk the ½ mile to the beach, birding small woodlots for passerines. Piping Plovers and Wilson's Plover will be target birds and birds of the marshlands will fully round out the walk.

**Cost:** \$15 payable at the dock to the leader by cash or check only. Minimum 4 and maximum 15 members. There is a restroom on the island on the Ocean side.

Travel time 35 minutes to 1572 Hammock Beach Rd., Swansboro, NC or 139 front St. Check at the Registration Desk and Sign-up sheets for the trip address.

### **Trip 11 and 35: Gallants Channel and Trails**

Start at the hotel 1:15 p.m..Gallants Channel is a new property owned by NC and operated by the Friends of the NC Maritime Museum. Along the waterfront sightings are common of heron, egrets, terns, gulls, pelicans, black skimmers, and oystercatchers. The trails have been designed to access several habitats. These woodlands are becoming scarce along the coast and are expected to be stop over sites for migrating birds. Painted Bunting have nested here.

Travel time 35 minutes to 245 W. Beaufort Rd. Extended, Beaufort, NC.

There are no restroom facilities.

### **Trip 12 and 32: Glenburnie Park & Simmons Street Marshes**

Start at the Hotel 1:15 p.m.. We will start this tour at Glenburnie Park with a ¼ mile walk to an area with resident and migrant passerines. Then we visit the constructed marshes of Simmons Street were built to function as polishing ponds for the City of New Bern treatment system. The surrounding woodland is searched by the locals for migrating birds while the wetlands hold Marsh Wrens. Sedge Wrens are sometimes located as is the year-round resident Virginia Rail. Other shorebirds can be found in any of the flooded areas.

We start at Glenburnie Park, 340 Glenburnie Park, New Bern, NC. There is a restroom at Glenburnie Park up the hill from the parking lot. We park at the first lot on the left immediately after turning into the park. Travel time 30 minutes.

It is then 5 minutes to the intersection of Simmons Street and Oaks Road. A gravel parking is just past Ruth's Chapel, 2709 Oaks Rd, New Bern, NC.

### **Trip 13 and 34: Ft. Macon**

Start at the Hotel 1:15 p.m.. Local birders visit this site daily and clubs travel frequently to this point of land facing the Atlantic Ocean, and Newport River with the channeled and deep Beaufort Inlet that funnels birds and Fort Macon Creek facing the Morehead City Channel. All of that water quickly explains the significance of the site for this Fort. This land prominence funnels migrating land birds around the fort and larger birds constantly fly over the tip to and from the water bodies. Pelagic birds are occasionally seen near Shackelford Banks on the horizon and reported over the channels. A feeder at the fort is a required stop and a flooded depression off the end of the parking lot holds land birds as they fatten for the next segment of their migration. The feeder has been the site for Painted Buntings. The top of the fort on the south side is the stop with the best chances for migrating swallows and hawks. One never knows what may be seen.

Wind is always expected. Sunscreen is advisable. There is a restroom on the left side of the Visitor's Center.

Travel time 40 minutes to 2303 E. Fort Macon Rd., Atlantic Beach, NC

**Trip 14: NC Birding Atlas Basics**

Would you like your eBird reports to contribute valuable data and become a source for the scientific study of birds in North Carolina? Sit down in the hotel meeting room with a local Atlas Coordinator to learn how your efforts can make a difference as a citizen scientist Atlaser. Discover easy methods to advance what we know about the birds in North Carolina. Bring your cell phone and you can get started immediately. Every extra observer adds to the knowledge base.

**Trip 22: Billfinger & Little Deep Creek Roads – Croatan Forest**

Start at the hotel 1:15 p.m.. The Neusiok Trail is 26 miles long from the Neuse River to Newport, NC. Billfinger Road parallels sections of this trail through upland and lowland forest, and ancient savannahs harboring nesting Red-cockaded Woodpeckers. Our walk may yield Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Yellow-throated Warbler, Great Crested Flycatcher and Eastern Wood Pewee. We will concentrate our efforts along the eastern portions of the Neusiok, east of the Marine Base.

Travel time: 15 minutes. Use Cahooque Creek Rd, Havelock, NC on your GPS but travel past Cahooque to the first dirt road on the right (no sign for Billfinger Rd.). At the end, at 3.7 miles, turn left onto Little Deep Creek Rd. (again, no sign) No restrooms, nor nearby.

**Trip 33: Birding from Day 1 to Day 10,000 (Birding 101)**

Trip starts at 1:15 p.m. at the hotel. This is a trip for newer birders and those more experienced who want to gain tips for identifying birdlife. Use of binoculars and using bird shapes to hone in on a species will allow you to feel comfortable using the field guide of your choice. Don't be surprised to learn long time birders must practice these skills too.

Travel time dictated by the leader's choice of birding sites.

**Trip 43: Trip for Uncommon/Unexpected Birds Found over the Weekend (on land only, not those on boat trips)**

Start at the Hotel at 7 a.m.. A Trip for those who will not be leaving after breakfast and have time to bird in the area. If there is sufficient interest a second trip may be scheduled.



## A CBC BONUS TRIP THROUGH EPIC TOURS



Paul and Amanda Laurent, owners and trip leaders of Epic Nature Tours are excited to announce a 15 day Costa Rica Trip for the CBC from January 18 - February 1, 2022. This Epic Costa Rican birding tour will take guests off the beaten path to explore two of the most incredible and remote parts of Costa Rica - the marshes of Cano Negro and the primary rainforest of the Osa Peninsula.

We begin by traveling north through the highlands to Cano Negro, which is considered to be one of the most important wetlands on earth and home to over 350 species of birds, including Jabirus and Agami Herons! Next we journey south to the Tarcoles River and Carara National Park. Situated on the border of tropical wet and dry rainforests, Carara is home to an incredible variety of birds from both habitats. We will also take a boat tour on the Tarcoles River to see giant crocodiles and to look for rare birds found only deep in the mangroves.

From here we continue south to the Osa Peninsula, which is called, *The most biologically intense place on Earth*. Osa has the highest biodiversity on the planet! First we explore the eastern side of Osa, then we travel by boat to Drake Bay on the Pacific side. This tour will let you experience some of the most amazing places in Costa Rica, and you will have the potential to see 500+ different species of birds.



**Group Size:** 8 Participants

**Price per person (double occupancy):** \$3950.00

**Single Supplement:** \$680.00

*Single supplement applies to anyone staying by themselves and not sharing a room.*

**CONTACT EPIC TOURS AT:  
INFO@EPICNATURETOURS.COM**

*There are only 4 spots left on the upcoming CBC Bonus Trip to Costa Rica. To reserve your spot on this trip, contact Paul & Amanda Laurent at [info@EpicNatureTours.com](mailto:info@EpicNatureTours.com) or by phone at (931) 452-9254. \*Completed COVID 19 Vaccination required for all participants.\**





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www.carolinabirdclub.org

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## Upcoming CBC Meetings

Fall 2021- Fall Birding Weekend – Havelock, NC - September 23-25  
Winter 2022 - Outer Banks, NC - January 13 - 16, 2022  
Spring 2022 - Black Mountain, NC - May 5 - 8, 2022

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