

CBC Winter Birding Weekend – Outer Banks (**O B X**), NC
-y**O**ur place to **B**ank on the e**X**pected & unexpected-
Thursday through Sunday, January 12-15, 2023

Host Hotel-Comfort Inn on the Ocean, 1601 S Virginia Dare Trail, NC 27948 (reservations: 252-441-6333),
Check-in time 4pm, Check-out no later than 11:00am



Short-eared Owl by David Alan, Flickr Creative Commons

Find Your Inner Birder - at the Outer Banks

The Outer Banks are separated from the mainland by immense bays. Here the warm waters of the Atlantic Ocean, fueled by the not-too-distant, warm offshore Gulf Stream allows both water and air temperatures on this chain of sandy barrier islands to moderate the winter climate here and on the inner banks. The OBX area is a natural magnet for wintering birds. Over-wintering waterfowl find the area ideal as feeding opportunity abounds. Wading birds and passerines, too, arrive for brief stop-overs or over-winter. Yes, these barrier islands' relatively warm conditions provide habitat niches that allow migrating birds to linger, some remaining as they find the area has sources of fuel to survive the winter months. Air temperatures on the NC

barrier islands in winter can be 5-10 degrees warmer than a few miles inland of the bays. Couple these conditions with the amazing variety of habitats and the setting is ever-present for high daily bird counts. Bird several habitats and daily counts can mount to over 100 on an all-day expedition.

National Wildlife Refuges along the OBX have significant area for migratory waterfowl and wintering resident species but most protected area is impossible to access except by boat, or restricted to the ocean shoreline. However, on the OBX Pea Island NWR provides the quintessential opportunity to explore a section of the remaining undeveloped wilderness in earnest, and just a short distance from our host hotel. Nearby Alligator River NWR and Mattamuskeet NWR provide additional opportunities for seeking access to habitats for both expected and always hoped-for unexpected species. Almost 180 species was recorded at the last OBX Weekend in 2019. A Golden Eagle always seems to tease at Alligator River NWR. In the winters of 2020 and 2021 a Rough-legged Hawk and Ash-throated Flycatcher were seen for several months. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds can over-winter along the OBX!

The CBC Board is proud to invite you to the OBX. Our host hotel and the Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce also extend a warm welcome to members and guests to join us for a fun-filled weekend of birding. There is much information that follows. Please read carefully.

The northeast coastline of North Carolina is probably at its best birding in winter. Your CBC Board has planned Sunday Morning trips with the more unusual specie(s) that have been observed the goal of at least one trip.

Four ½ day trips have been planned specifically with wheel chair users in mind. All birding locations have trails designated for wheel chair users or the walk goes to boardwalks. These boardwalks will allow access to sound side and ocean side viewing. These trips are available to all attendees and would be beneficial for those seeking good footing.

There will be (weather permitting) a pelagic trip aboard the Stormy Petrel II. Brian Patteson will lead the trip on Friday, with Saturday as the backup day in case weather is a factor Friday. Brian has been leading these trips for years and is very well known for serendipity birds on all his seasonal routes. **Sign up early for this trip as Brian will offer it to the general public in December.** The cost will be \$210 per person. Please register via the Sign-Up form on his website - <https://patteson.com/sign-up/> - and note in the comments section that you are registering for the CBC trip. The departure point will be Hatteras or Wanchese depending on weather conditions and recent sightings. The departure location will be announced and communicated to those registered with CBC the week of the meeting. On this winter trip you may see Northern Fulmar, Manx Shearwater, Red Phalarope, Great Skua, Black-legged Kittiwake, Atlantic Puffin, Razorbill and Dovekie among others. This time of year, the Northern Gannets put on quite a show when on a school of fish and are frequently close at hand for the chum provided, making excellent photo opportunities.

You will need to send your payment, by check, directly to Brian Patteson, P. O. Box 772, Hatteras, NC 27943. Please note your payment does not include tips for the crew, which is customary on these trips. You will need to have cash on hand for that. More information about Brian's trips and preparation for your day are online at www.patteson.com. Brian can be reached at 252-986-1363 or by email at cahow1101@gmail.com. **Please remember to indicate on your CBC Registration Form that you plan to do the pelagic trip, even though Brian is handling the reservations.**

Pea Island NWR is the primary Hotspot at all OBX Weekends, seemingly the year-round site for those expected and unexpected birds. We will bird favorite sites and new sites from the Currituck Banks Forest at Corolla to Cape Hatteras, and inland in Hyde, Tyrrell and Dare Counties.

For so much more see the Trip Descriptions and plan for a full weekend of birding. A whole day of birding in groups of 4 birders can be planned as you participate in a trip called a Pursuit of 100 Birds. A "century" of birds is easily possible and you can gain experience at many habitats that harbor the possibilities.



US Fish and Wildlife Refuge Gateway Center in Manteo



Jennette's Pier – "Pelagic" Birding from "Shore"

The [Comfort Inn on the Ocean](https://www.choicehotels.com/north-carolina/kill-devil-hills/comfort-inn-hotels) will be CBC headquarters for the meeting. This Inn boasts amenities that include private balconies, in-room refrigerator and microwave. Go to <https://www.choicehotels.com/north-carolina/kill-devil-hills/comfort-inn-hotels> for more information about the welcoming hotel.

*The CBC rates for this meeting are truly outstanding at \$69 per night for an ocean view room or \$49 per night for the street side. This cost does not include tax of 12.75%. When you call **(252) 441-6333 to make your reservation**, let them know you are with the **Carolina Bird Club – January 2023** to receive the special rate. **This rate will be guaranteed until December 11, 2022.** Check-in time is 4 PM and check-out 11 AM. Please guard the check-out time.

*The hotel rate **does** include breakfast starting early for attendees at 5:30 AM on Friday and Saturday. Sunday morning is a "late" breakfast at 6:30 AM. For all-day trips a brown bag breakfast will be available.

*Please sign up for the banquet buffet dinner on Saturday evening on the CBC website when you complete your trip selections. Sign-up attempts at the Registration Table will be too late. Advance reservation is required for the banquet. The buffet cost, including gratuity, is \$35 per person, again due with your meeting registration.

*Deadline for hotel reservations is December 11th. Room reservations after this date cannot be guaranteed the CBC conference rate.

Be sure to visit the Conference Registration table as soon as you check-in at the hotel, and sign in for the meeting. Your meeting packet will include a confirmed event schedule and driving directions for each birding trip, plus any meal tickets you have purchased.

We will have a presentation each evening. Each presentation is preceded by a Social with cash bar. Thursday evening Aimee Tomcho, formerly Audubon's Conservation Biologist in North Carolina, will update us on efforts to improve habitat for and track the movement of the Golden-winged Warbler, a bird we expect will be a highlight on trips at the Spring Birding Weekend at Boone/Blowing Rock, NC in May 2023. On Friday night, John Gerwin of North Carolina's Museum of Natural Sciences will present "What is a species? What is a subspecies? Who decides? What does it mean for birds of the Southeast?"

This Birding Weekend's catered buffet dinner will be on Saturday evening. The banquet will be at 6:30 PM after the Social. The evening keynote speaker presentation will begin at 7:30 PM. Our Keynote Speaker will be the

affable Steve Shultz. He will provide an informative and entertaining program on the Galapagos. Be sure to listen carefully—Steve will be providing a link or two to the birds of the Carolinas.

Online registration begins Saturday, December 3rd at 2:00 PM, and closes January 1st, 2023 at noon.

Please note that January 1st, 2023 at noon is the last date for any refunds for CBC registration or dinner cancellations. Also, very important, if you have to cancel, please notify the Headquarters Secretary so we can give your field trip space to someone on the waiting list.

Walk-in registrations are accepted at the meeting

All trips will leave from the hotel. Please reserve your room and thank them for their hospitality. CBC greatly appreciates your use of the host hotel. The rate is exceptional and you actually save CBC costs by staying with us.

Registration packets will also contain directions to the locations of the field trips offered during the course of the weekend. The [North Carolina Birding Trail—Coastal Plain Trail Guide](#) can be used to study up on the Outer Banks sites you will be visiting, as well as planning your trip to and from Kill Devil Hills. John Fussell's [A Birder's Guide to Coastal North Carolina](#) and Mike Tove's [Guide to the Offshore Wildlife of the Northern Atlantic](#) are standards for birding this area of North Carolina.

Important note: South Pond (south of the Visitor's Center) at Pea Island NWR, other than viewed from the NC12 shoulder, is ABSOLUTELY off-limits to casual birding. Please do not enter posted areas at South Pond or any other site unless you possess specific, explicit permission. Trespassers are being charged and fined. Our event is registered with the NWR to allow management of the entire NWR and permission into areas limited to the general public. Your leader will know where you are permitted access. If you are unsure do not enter. Finally, our trip leaders help the Board before the Weekend with important planning assistance. So please thank them for the personal goals of a trip that helps you locate, identify and learn the rich bird life in the area.

Registration: Lobby at entrance to Ballroom.

January 12th, Thursday 4:00pm – 9:00pm, January 13th & 14th Friday and Saturday 6:45 – 7:45am and 12:30 – 1:30pm

Field Trip sheets will be in the registration room. 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: With one exception (the *Hummingbird Safari*), the field trip departure times are for leaving the hotel. **Please arrive minimum of 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 numbers 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.

All Day Trips: Please bring a lunch, snacks, water. Many of the sites are remote with no nearby restaurants.

Hotel Returns: Morning trips should be back to the hotel by noon; afternoon and all-day trips by 5:00 PM.

Friday, January 13 Morning Half Day

- Trip 1 – 7:00am Palmetto Peartree Preserve and Futch Game Lands
- Trip 2 – 7:00am Audubon Pine Island Sanctuary and Duck Boardwalk
- Trip 3 – 7:00am Alligator River NWR (Rt. 264 Corridor to Milltail Rd.)
- Trip 4 – 7:15am Corolla Escapade (A Handicap Accessible Trip)
- Trip 5 – 7:15am Pea Island NWR Visitors Center and Southside Dike
- Trip 6 – 7:30am Jennette’s Pier Ocean Watch
- Trip 7 – 8:00am Waterfowl ID Workshop
- Trip 8- 8:30am Oregon Inlet & Bodie Light

Friday, January 13 Afternoon Half Day

- Trip 9 – 1:00pm Nags Head Woods Preserve & Jennette’s Pier Escapade (HC Accessible Trip)
- Trip 10 – 1:00pm Kitty Hawk Woods Coastal Reserve area & Kitty Hawk Pier
- Trip 11 – 1:15pm Pea Island NWR North Pond & Visitors Center
- Trip 12 – 1:15pm Oregon Inlet & Bodie Light
- Trip 13 – 1:15pm Roanoke Island Marshes & Wanchese Harbor and Marshes
- Trip 14 – 1:00pm Alligator River NWR (Buffalo City Rd. to Milltail Rd.)
- Trip 15 – 1:30pm Hummingbird Safari ***meets in Buxton***

Friday, January 13 All Day

- Trip 16 – 5:30am Pelagic Birding Adventure (Rain date is Saturday 1/14/22)
- Trip 17 – 5:00am A Pursuit for 100 Birds
- Trip 18 – 5:15am Pocosin Lakes (Pungo and Phelps) NWR
- Trip 19 – 6:15am Hatteras Point & Hatteras Island
- Trip 20 – 6:30am Roanoke Island – Ft. Raleigh to Wanchese
- Trip 21 – 6:45am Pea Island NWR (North Pond to Split Pea Bridge)

Saturday, January 14 Morning Half Day

- Trip 23 – 6:45am Audubon Pine Island Sanctuary & Duck Boardwalk
- Trip 24 – 6:45am Alligator River NWR (RT. 264 to Milltail Rd.)
- Trip 25 – 7:00am Birding Basics – Field Identification
- Trip 26 – 7:00am Duck Town Boardwalk & Kitty Hawk Pier Escapade (HC Accessible)
- Trip 27 – 7:15am Pea Island NWR Visitors Center and Southside Dike
- Trip 28 – 7:15am Oregon Inlet & Bodie Light
- Trip 29 – 7:30am Northern Roanoke Island – Ft. Raleigh Area
- Trip 30 – 7:30am Jennette’s Pier Ocean Watch

Saturday, January 14 Afternoon Half Day

- Trip 31 – 1:00pm Audubon Pine Island Sanctuary & Duck Boardwalk
- Trip 32 – 1:00pm Futch Game Lands & River Rd. in Alligator River NWR
- Trip 33 – 1:00pm Alligator River NWR (Buffalo City Rd. to Milltail Rd.)
- Trip 34 – 1:15pm Pea Island NWR Visitors Center & Bodie Light Boardwalk Escapade (HC Accessible)
- Trip 35 – 1:30pm Pea Island NWR North Pond & Visitors Center
- Trip 36 – 1:30pm Photography Workshop
- Trip 37 – 1:30pm Jennette’s Pier Ocean Watch

Saturday, January 14 All Day

- Trip 38 – 5:00am A Pursuit for 100 Birds
- Trip 16 – 5:30am Pelagic Trip **(Rain Date)**
- Trip 40 – 6:15am Mattamuskeet NWR
- Trip 41 – 6:15am Hatteras Point & Hatteras Island
- Trip 42 – 6:30am Habitats from North Corolla to Kitty Hawk
- Trip 43 – 6:45am Pea Island NWR (North Pond to Split Pea Bridge)
- Trip 44 - 6:30am Roanoke Island – Fort Raleigh to Wanchese

Sunday, January 15

- Trip 45 – 7:30am Alligator River NWR or uncommon/rarities seen
- Trip 46 – 7:30am Search for uncommon & Rarities seen
- Trip 47 – 7:30am Birding Basics – Field Identification

2023 CBC OUTER BANKS MEETING FIELD TRIP DESCRIPTIONS

½ DAY FIELD TRIPS

Trip 1 – Palmetto Peartree Preserve & Futch Game Lands

We will look among the possible seven species of woodpeckers for the endangered Red-cockaded Woodpecker. During our search we should see a good assortment of woodland and edge species. After birding here, the group will travel to the Futch Game Lands where the flooded fields and catfish ponds hold ducks as well as other water birds and shorebirds.

Approximate Travel Time: 1 hour

Conditions: Vary from uneven trails to roadside surfaces. There is a service Station at Mann's Harbor; otherwise, plan on no restrooms.

Trips 2, 23 & 31 – Audubon Pine Island Sanctuary & Duck Boardwalk

Audubon Preserve is a remnant of maritime sandy forest and brush along Currituck Sound. The varied habitats and boardwalk will provide opportunity for land and water birds, and raptors are often identified as they hunt over the woodlands. Duck Town Boardwalk is a 0.4-mile gem. We will scope the sound for loons and ducks. Orange-crowned Warbler is often found along the Boardwalk as well as winter sparrows.

Approximate Travel Time: 45 minutes to Pine Island

Conditions: Vary from wet turf to gravelly trails to a boardwalk. Restroom at Duck.

Trip 3 & 24 – Alligator River NWR (Rt. 264 Corridor to Milltail Road)

The east side of ARNWR has woodland but also many wet fields. We will travel Rt. 264 as far as Stumpy Point Bay, targeting Sound waterbirds. Then the drive will go west into ARNWR to Milltail Road's boat ramp area seeking woodland species, and finishing at the fields across from the Maintenance Buildings or the trail at the Rt. 64 intersection. Uncommon birds in the area have included Golden Eagle and Rough-legged Hawk.

Approximate Travel Time: 40 minutes

Conditions: Gravel roads. Restroom options will be quite limited.

Trip 4 – Corolla Escapade (A Handicap Accessible Trip)

4 HC Accessible Trips are scheduled this weekend, and several other of our trips are partially HC Accessible. There should be space available for non-HC attendees – same great birding but with good footing. This trip will visit both public and privately owned boardwalks to the Sound at Currituck Banks Forest Trail Preserve, the OBX Center for Wildlife Education and Duck Town Boardwalk.

Approximate Travel Time: 1 hour

Conditions: Boardwalks. Restrooms will be at Duck only, or a stop at a service station.

Trips 5 & 27 – Pea Island NWR Visitors Center and Southside Dike

In the morning the pond behind the PI Visitors Center is lit by the rising sun. Resting and actively feeding birds are in the best direction for viewing field ID clues. The adjacent dike affords views of North Pond and Newfield Pond, capped by a 2-story platform that also overlooks the inland waters and marsh.

Approximate Travel Time: 40 minutes to the Visitors Center

Conditions: Wide grassy trail to the viewing platform. Restroom at the Visitor's Center

Trips 6, 30 & 37 – Jennette's Pier (Nags Head) Ocean Watch. (\$3 entry fee)

A scope is essential on this trip to scan the Atlantic for the winter near-shore birds and occasional pelagic species that feast on the bounty of the ocean. If you don't have a scope, there should be plenty in the group. Your leader will scan the ocean with you as you watch the action for Loons, grebes, scoters Razorbills, Gannets, sea ducks, gulls, and hopefully a Dovekie or Shearwaters.

Approximate Travel Time: 15 minutes

Conditions: Boardwalk. Restroom in the Pier Entry Building.

Trip 7 - Waterfowl ID Workshop/Field ID

This workshop will focus on key characteristics, such as profile, foraging behaviors, and habitat. The leader will provide clues to field ID features or activity which can aid birders on all levels to describe a species. The field trip location(s) will be as determined by the leader.

Approximate Travel Time: TBD

Trip 8, 12 & 28 – Oregon Inlet and Bodie Light

It seems every winter an unexpected bird spends the season in the dunes overlooking the ocean on the south side of Oregon Inlet. The local Peregrine Falcon never reveals it's night time roost but who looks for it at those hours? On the north side of the bridge is the Oregon Inlet Fishing Center, where we will scope the inlet for Long-tailed Duck and other diving ducks. We'll continue on to Bodie Lighthouse Pond where we will scope for waterfowl, shorebirds, and waders from the observation platform. The boardwalk to the platform traverses marsh that is good for rails and marsh wrens. The platform is the last stop as the evening light can be spectacular on the waterfowl.

Approximate Travel Time: 30 minutes to Oregon Inlet

Conditions: Sand paths on the south side of Oregon Inlet, pavement on the north side and where a restroom is available. A restroom is also located at the Lighthouse.

Trip 9 – Nags Head Woods Preserve & Jennette's Pier Escapade (HC Accessible Trip)

The forested sandy dunes of the Nature Conservancy's Nags Head Woods Preserve are home to woodland species, some of which curtail migration for the warmer zone of the OBX. Their Handicap Accessible Trail offers opportunity for chair users, and other participants, to search for birds in mixed foraging flocks. See Trip 6 for a description of Jennette's Pier. (\$3 fee to the pier)

Approximate Travel Time: 10 minutes to Nags Head Woods

Conditions: Packed trail and boardwalks. A restroom is in the Pier Access Building.

Trip 10 – Kitty Hawk Woods Coastal Reserve area & Kitty Hawk Pier (\$3 Entry Fee)

Several protected woodlands at Kitty Hawk will provide opportunity for wintering land birds. A Sound view stop is planned and special permission has been acquired with the Pier at the Hilton Garden Inn at Kitty Hawk for ocean viewing. This final stop will fully and truly round out the birding opportunities. If access is unavailable at the pier due to hotel events the Regional Beach Access will be used.

Approximate Travel Time: 20 minutes

Conditions: The pier or Beach Access has a restroom.

Trip 11 & 35 – Pea Island NWR North Pond and Visitor's Center

North Pond is open to the public year-round. Simply enjoy the thousands of ducks and other water birds. Know we have a great opportunity to be a part of yet another tour to see the expected and unexpected at PINWR. A stop in the Oregon Inlet area may be included as time permits.

Approximate Travel Time: 30 minutes

Trips 13 - Roanoke Island Marshes & Wanchese Harbor and Marshes

Habitats will include woodland edges for winter land species, marsh birding and water views over the sound. We will tailor the visit based on local observations but likely start at the Roanoke Marshes Game Lands in search of species such as Marsh Wren, Seaside Sparrow, and Clapper and Virginia Rails. The impoundment should hold a few shorebirds and waterfowl. Then we will stop by the harbor in Wanchese Village and scan the surrounding water and marina, interesting for the numerous gulls and landbirds that roam about oyster piles. Just south of the harbor is a road across the marsh ending at the Sound.

Approximate Travel Time: 25 min.

Conditions: Grassy trails at the Roanoke Marshes to gravelly roads around the harbor. Use service stations for a restroom.

Trip 14 & 33 – Alligator River NWR (Buffalo City Road to Milltail Road)

Alligator River NWR holds miles of huge impoundments with THOUSANDS of ducks, and often shorebirds. The trail at the end of Buffalo City Road affords opportunity for land birds easily missed with so much flooded impoundments demanding viewer attention. The Buffalo Soldiers during the civil war resided here, the source of the namesake. Not a part of the tour is an option to stay in the Refuge at dusk after the tour at the intersection of Sawyer Lake Road and Milltail Road, the place to be for Short-eared Owl, Red Wolf and Black Bear.

Approximate Travel Time: 35 minutes

Conditions: Gravel roads. Restrooms are limited. There is a waterless toilet at the entrance to ARNWR (Rt. 64 at Milltail Rd.)

Trip 15 – Hummingbird Safari

This is a unique opportunity to see and learn about wintering hummingbirds on Hatteras Island. The area is one of the first in the US to be identified as wintering habitat for Ruby-throated Hummingbirds as well as other hardy western species. Feel free to bring your camera as well as binoculars!

Approximate Travel Time: *90 minutes*. Group will meet at the Fessenden Center in Buxton and then proceed to the host locations nearby.

Conditions: Bring a chair! Group will make a couple stops where we will stand and/or sit and watch hummingbirds at feeding stations. Restrooms available at nearby NPS Visitors' Center as well as local convenience stores.

Trip 25 & 47 – Birding Basics – Field Identification

This trip is designed for those new to birding, or even less comfortable describing a sighting, but anyone can come along! Birding techniques will be discussed including how to view a bird, what are diagnostic marks, how to “pish”, the importance of habitat, how to act, and even what to wear. The leader can help you with what to look for in binoculars, scopes, and field guides. The leader will decide the destination(s).

Approximate Travel Time and conditions: TBD

Trip 26 – Duck Town Boardwalk and Kitty Hawk Pier Escapade (HC Accessible Trip),

The almost 1/2-mile boardwalk at Duck is a viewing platform for both wintering landbirds and waterbirds. It is located along a brushy shoreline and the Sound. As time permits other Sound view locations may be included. The trip also includes the great opportunity granted to CBC for ocean viewing at the Hilton Garden Inn Pier (\$3 fee). Scopes are the best tool for this last stop. If the pier is closed due to an event at the hotel the nearby Regional Beach Access will be our site for ocean viewing.

Approximate Travel Time: 35 minutes to Duck

Conditions: Boardwalks. Restrooms will be at both sites.

Trip 29 – Northern Roanoke Island - Fort Raleigh Area

The northern area of Roanoke Island has several birding sites visited by the locals. Habitats range from manicured turf to woodlands and Sound viewing. If Elizabethan Gardens is used by the leader a fee is required (\$8). The trip may go as far south as the Roanoke Island Marshes.

Approximate Travel Time: 25 min.

Conditions: Maintained trails vary. Restrooms will be available, either onsite or at a nearby service station.

Trip 32 – Futch Gamelands & River Road (ARNWR)

There are hundreds of acres of impoundments at the Futch Game Lands. Ducks move about the artificially flooded cells of ag lands. Shorebirds and marsh sparrows round out the impoundment birds and brushy woodland edges offer a variety of passerines. River Road can be a bonanza when rains flood the field.

Approximate Travel Time: 45 minutes to the Game Lands

Conditions: Gravelly roads and grassy paths along dikes. Plan on no facilities available.

Trip 34 – Pea Island NWR Visitor’s Center and Bodie Light Boardwalk Escapade (HC Accessible)

The PI Visitors Center viewing windows and area within the parking lot offer excellent birding on North Pond, especially for ducks, with chances for Brown & White Pelicans a distinct possibility. We will then travel to the Boardwalk at Bodie Light where we will scope for waterfowl, shorebirds, and waders from the lower portion of the observation platform. The boardwalk to the platform cuts through marsh that is excellent for rails and marsh wrens. The platform is the last stop as evening light can be spectacular on the waterfowl.

Approximate Travel Time: 35 minutes to PINWR

Conditions: A restroom is available at both sites.

Trip 36 - Photo Workshop. This is an opportunity to glean tips that will help you hone your skills in the field. It is an afternoon trip so should afford excellent light conditions. Bird with your lens and binoculars.

Approximate Travel Time: TBD

Conditions: Sites will be selected by the leader.

Trip 45 – Alligator River NWR or uncommon/rarities seen

Trip 46 - Search for Uncommon & Rarities Seen

FULL DAY FIELD TRIPS

Trip 16 – Pelagic Birding Adventure.

Extensively experienced, world-renowned pelagic birder, Brian Patteson, will lead a day trip on Friday for intrepid, life-bird-seekers with a full day afloat out toward the Gulf Stream. Bring your lunch, drinks, and foul weather gear for this adventure. We will leave from a port determined by Brian just before the weekend. Note the trip is scheduled for Friday but Saturday is the rain date for this trip.

Approximate Travel Time: TBD

Conditions: Pelagic waters. Restroom onboard the vessel.

Trip 17 & 38 – A Pursuit for 100 Birds

Rules for this Full (up to 12 hours allowed) Day of Fun Birding address the scoring. Bird wherever the team decides. The scoring method requires a team to win. Teams of 4 with varying experience levels will vie for 100, or more, species in 12 hours. You do not have to be an experienced birder to join in this fun. The team gets a score of up to 4 points at the end of the day for each bird tallied. The points per bird is based on how many members saw or heard the bird. (4 points for 4 members, 3 points 3 members, but only 1 point for 2 members. If only 1 member sees a bird the team gets 0 points but the bird counts toward the species total.) The team has all day for all members to see each bird. Full rules available at registration check-in. 4 teams maximum each day.

Approximate Travel Time: Start at Host Hotel as early as 5 am. Return promptly by 5pm.

Trip 18 – Lake Pungo and Phelps. (Pocosin Lakes NWR). Pocosin Lakes is famous for huge flocks of wintering Snow Geese lifting off at sunrise, a spectacle in itself. We will look through flocks of blackbirds with hopes of spotting a Yellow-headed Blackbird. Overhead, we'll keep an eye out for Golden Eagles as this is one of the most reliable spots in the state for these awesome birds. Other possibilities include waterfowl species, and farm field and edge species, such as sparrows, pipits and Horned Larks. There is a lot of territory to cover on this trip with potential side trips on the way back in the Mattamuskeet NWR area.

Approximate Travel Time: 1.5 hours

Conditions: Roads, boardwalks and dirt paths. Restroom sites will not be available.

Trips – 19 & 41 - Hatteras Point & Hatteras Island,

A full day that just has – well - promise. We will bird the Point Campground, the Salt Pond and the beach, sorting through the gull flocks in search of Thayer's, Iceland, Glaucous and California Gulls. Lesser Black-backed Gulls should be common. We will scan the ocean for alcids or other rarities. The salt pond usually hosts good populations of birds. Snow

Buntings, Horned Larks and a Sprague's Pipit may be present. Your leader may plan a stop at a local woodland area or some side trips on the way back depending on what has been seen that morning at points north. **Please note:** Depending on the weather conditions, we may be walking the sandy beach to Hatteras Point, about two miles round trip.

Approximate Travel Time: 90 minutes

Trip 20 & 44 – Fort Raleigh to Wanchese

This is the all-day trip to discover the many hotspots on the north end of Roanoke Island and have adequate time to search the Roanoke Marshes and the marshes at Wanchese.

Approximate Travel Time: 25 min.

Conditions: Maintained trails vary. Restrooms will be available, either onsite or at a nearby service station.

Trips 21 & 43 - Pea Island NWR (North Pond to Split Pea Bridge)

As an all-day trip you will have more valuable time to scan the area habitats and increase those chances for life birds, or to study the posture and feeding habits that are guides to shorebird ID. The trip also goes south of the Visitors Center to the Newfield Platform (NOT the dike) and the Oceanview Trail for pelagic species hopefully near shore, and may possibly travel further south to the marsh area at Split Pea Bridge. A stop at Oregon Inlet will be considered dependent upon time. **DO NOT WALK THE DIKE BEYOND THE NEWFIELD PLATFORM.**

Approximate Travel Time: 35 minutes

Conditions: Sandy road shoulders and path to the ocean, grassy trails. Restrooms at Oregon Inlet and the PINWR Visitors Center.

Trip 40 - Mattamuskeet NWR.

A birder's paradise, Mattamuskeet can be incredible. We will bird the Lake Landing area for waterfowl, shorebirds and waders, sorting through the more common species and hoping for something rare. We will also bird along the causeway, famous for its overwintering passerines and at other sections of the refuge where passerine habitat abounds. The entrance road follows the main viewing impoundment.

Approximate Travel Time: 1 hour 30 minutes

Conditions: Restroom at Lake Landing and in the Refuge Visitors Center at the end of the entrance road.

Trip 42 – Habitats from North Corolla to Kitty Hawk (\$3 Fee)

It takes more than a day to fully explore the area between Corolla and Kitty Hawk. However, the pace of this trip and stops will allow multiple opportunity to see landbirds and waterbirds along this coastal area. The trip starts at the Currituck Banks Coastal Forest Trail, not on previous OBX itineraries, visiting the 4000+ feet of boardwalk at Duck, the Audubon Pine Island Sanctuary, Kitty Hawk Woods Coastal Reserve and ending at the Kitty Hawk Pier. The variety of habitats boosts opportunities for many species.

Approximate Travel Time: 1 hour

Conditions: Boardwalks primarily. Restrooms at Duck and the ocean viewing site. Service Stations may be nearby.

Under Article VII of the bylaws of the Carolina Bird Club, we need CBC members (hopefully at least 2-3), who are not currently serving on the Executive Committee, to volunteer to serve on the Financial Transaction Review Committee to "review all of the club's financial activities for the year", since the last review. Please send an email to stevepath1@aol.com, if you would be willing to serve on this ad hoc committee. The CBC club treasurer will serve as a non-voting member on this committee. The committee will report their findings to the CBC Executive Committee at the next scheduled meeting of CBC Executive Committee meeting following the review.

CBC Winter 2023 OBX, NC Registration Form
Registration Begins Saturday, December 3rd @ 2pm.
Register online for Best Availability of Field Trips at
www.carolinabirdclub.org.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

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

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

Buffet Dinner (a vegetarian dish is 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 preregister 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.

Hotel reservation ends December 11, 2022, Noon (This may be extended if sufficient rooms have been reserved, but is not guaranteed.)

Cancellations will be refunded if received by noon on January 1st Cancel by contacting the Headquarters Secretary at hq@carolinabirdclub.org.



Carolina Bird Club
www.carolinabirdclub.org

Carolina Bird Club
1809 Lakepark Drive
Raleigh, NC 27612

Periodicals Postage Paid
at Pinehurst, NC 28374
and additional mailing offices

Upcoming CBC Meetings

Outer Banks Trip - January 12 - 15, 2023
Boone/Blowing Rock - Spring 2023

CBC Board Members

President

Steve Tracy, Gastonia, NC
stevepath1@aol.com

Vice Presidents

Colleen Bockhahn, Clayton NC
Katie Greenberg, Arden, NC
Cathy Miller, Charleston, SC

Secretary

Karaleah Reichart, Raleigh, NC

Treasurer

Jared Miles, Charlotte, NC

NC Members-at-Large

Barbara (Kitty) Reynolds, Asheville, NC
Betsy Kane, Washington, NC
Michael Clark, Durham, NC
Paul Laurent, Banner Elk, NC

SC Members-at-Large

Richard Hayes, Charleston, SC
Julie Davis, Pawleys Island, SC

Immediate Past President: Lewis Burke, Columbia, SC

Editor of The Chat: Steve Shultz, Apex, NC

Website Editor: Kent Fiala, Hillsborough, NC

Headquarters Secretary: Carol Bowman, Pinehurst, NC,
hq@carolinabirdclub.org

CBC Newsletter Editor: Steve Dowlan, Vilas, NC,
newsletter@carolinabirdclub.org

Deadlines for submission of Volume 68, Issue 5 is
January 15, 2023

www.carolinabirdclub.org

The *CBC Newsletter* is published bimonthly by Carolina Bird Club, Inc. Founded in 1937, the membership is open to anyone interested in birds, natural history, and conservation. Current dues are: Individual & non-profit, \$30; Family and Business, \$35; Student, \$15; Patron, \$50 and up; Life, \$500; Associate Life (in household with Life Member), \$100 (both Life memberships can be paid in four annual installments). Membership dues include access to publications: the *CBC Newsletter* and *The Chat*, which is only available on line. Tax deductible as allowable by law.

Cost for CBC bird checklists, including postage: 10@\$5.45, 25@\$13.40, 50@\$27.00, and 100@\$54.00.

Join the CBC at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/dues/>. Enter change of address at <https://www.carolinabirdclub.org/members/profile/>. Order checklists from: CBC Headquarters Secretary, 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374. Copyright © 2022.