



Inner/Outer Banks, 6-9 February 2025

submitted by

Trip Coordinator(s): Jim Gant Julien McCarthy

Location: Inner/Outer Banks, NC including: Pocosin Lakes (Pungo Unit), Bodie Island and Pond and Trail, Pea Island NWR-Visitor Center area, Pea Island NWR North Pond & Photo Blind Area, Jennette's Pier (Nags Head), Mattamuskeet NWR, and Alligator River, NWR

Temperature: 6-7 Feb 50's-60's; 8 Feb cold, 40's

Weather: 6-7 Feb sunny, 8 Feb overcast and cold, drizzly with some rain

Target Bird(s), if any: Wintering Birds

Number of participants: 17

Bird List: Snow Goose, Canada Goose, Tundra Swan, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Mallard, American Black Duck, Northern Pintail, Green-winged teal, Surf Scoter, Black Scoter, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Ruddy Duck, Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Virginia Rail, American Coot, American Avocet, Killdeer, Short-billed Dowitcher, Wilson's Snipe, Lesser Yellowlegs, Greater Yellowlegs, Sanderling, Razorbill, Dovekie, Laughing Gull, Ring-billed Gull, American Herring Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Forster's Tern, Pied-billed Grebe, Horned Grebe, Red-throated Loon, Common Loon, Northern Gannet, Double-crested Cormorant, White Ibis, Little Blue Heron, Great Egret, Great Blue Heron, American White Pelican, Brown Pelican, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Northern Harrier, Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, American Kestrel, Merlin, Blue Jay, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Tree Swallow, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, European Starling, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Northern Mockingbird, American Robin, Cedar Waxwing, Chipping Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, White-throated Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Boat-tailed Grackle, Black-and-white Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Northern Cardinal; for a total of **87 species**,

Comments: (such as, notable birds seen, interesting bird or animal behavior, condition of the birding site, participant comments):

This was an excellent trip. Everyone did a great job seeing, hearing and identifying birds. The weather totally cooperated on Thursday and Friday. Saturday was dreary, but the birds were still there.

The group initially met on Thursday at the Kiosk, a Pocosin Lakes. We traveled a short distance up Pats Road to the Entrance Fields. There we saw thousands of Tundra Swan grazing. While

we were there we also saw out in the same fields, Lesser Yellowlegs, and Wilson's Snipes. Additionally, from an adjacent field thousands of Red-winged Blackbirds flew out into the same field with the Tundra Swans. They, at times landed to eat but then swarmed into a great flock murmuring over the fields. They eventually went back to their original field. At just before 5:00pm great flocks of thousands of Snow Geese arrived and landed on the same fields where the Tundra Swans were. The Tundra Swans were not happy about that, so many of them spread out over the large fields. Some of the Snow Geese were also murmuring while the swans moved around. As it was getting dark near 5:30pm, many of the Snow Geese had landed but there were many more still arriving. We had to depart so we could get to our dinner restaurant on time and ultimately get to our hotel at Nags Head. On Friday, we changed up our schedule, to take advantage of the great weather and toured the Otter Banks area. We traveled to Bodie Island Lighthouse and pond and the local trail there. We also went to Bonner Bridge, and Pea Island North Pond and Photo Blind area, Pea Island Visitor's Center, and Jennette's Pier. It was a great day to see a great variety of birds. The temperatures reach to at least the high 50's. On Saturday the weather deteriorated. It was cold and raining as we left the hotel headed for Mattamuskeet NWR. However, we ran out of the rain about 10 miles down the road. The remainder of the day for us was dreary and cold, highs only in the 40's. We were still able to see a great number of birds. We did not know that there was a Father-Son hunt also going on in certain areas of Mattamuskeet so there were a few areas we could not get to. But we still did well seeing the birds. We left Mattamuskeet a little after noon and traveled to Alligator River NWR. There, we made a few stops to see a variety of birds. We then traveled back to the hotel.

Sunday was left open for individual birding and return travel home.

On Friday evening the group had an excellent dinner at Martell's Feed House in Engelhard, NC, and on Friday and Saturday, the group dinner and a great time at Blue Moon Beach Grill.

All in all, an excellent trip.

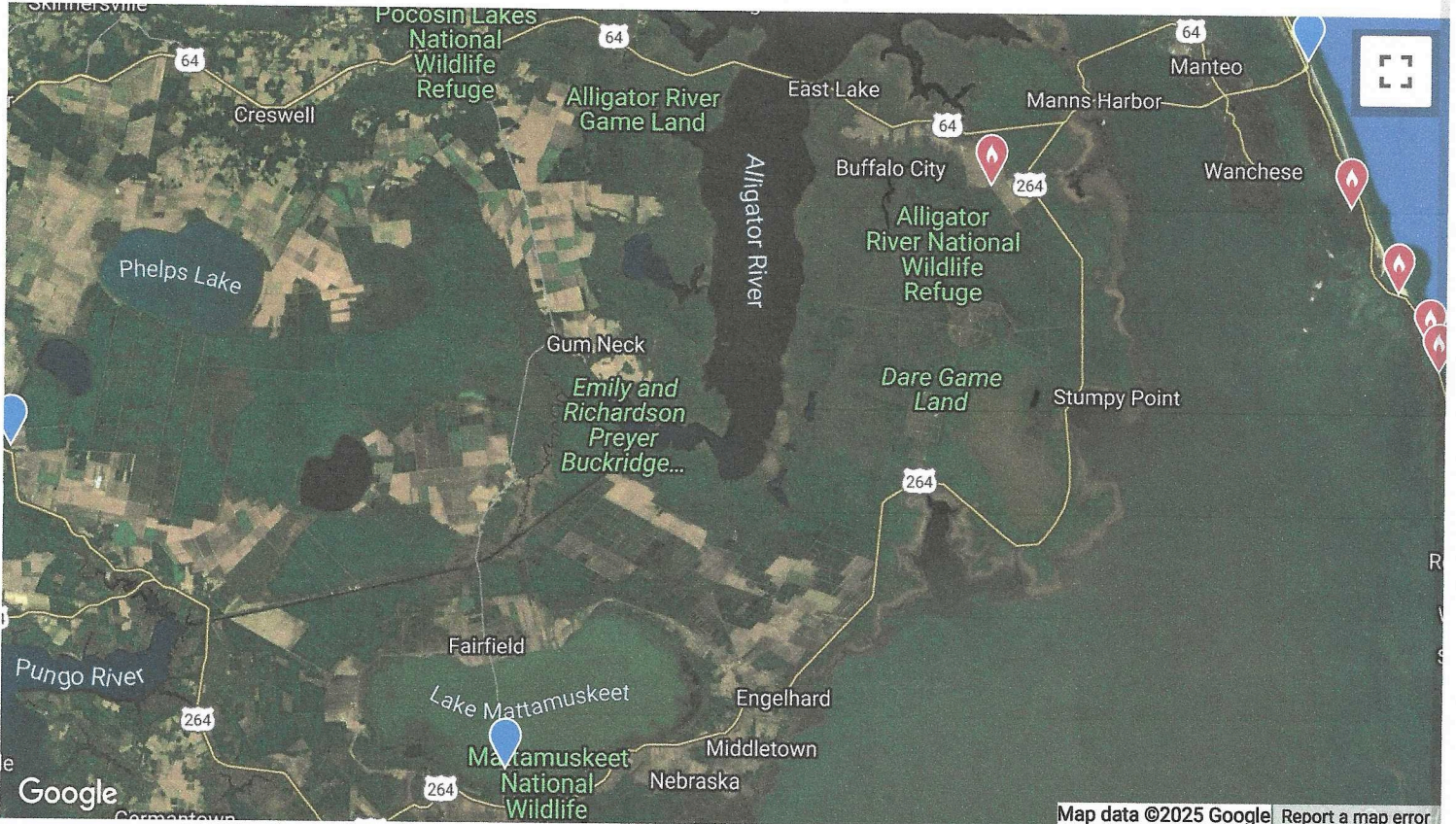


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< Previous Next >

PBC Inner/Outer Banks Trip 2025

6 – 8 Feb 2025 (3 days) Public



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📍 North Carolina, United States

Dare | Hyde

👤 Jim Gant

This is a trip by the Piedmont Bird Club.

Edit narrative

🌿 87
Species Observed

📄 9
Checklists

📷 2
Species with Photos

LIFERS 📌 5 📷 1 ?

Species Observed

Show all details

3000	Snow Goose	▶ 1
25	Canada Goose	▶ 3
4080	Tundra Swan	▶ 5
18	Blue-winged Teal	▶ 2
542	Northern Shoveler	▶ 4
182	Gadwall	▶ 1
120	American Wigeon	▶ 1
48	Mallard	▶ 3
19	American Black Duck	▶ 5
246	Northern Pintail	▶ 3
923	Green-winged Teal	▶ 4
10	Surf Scoter ✓	▶ 3
28	Black Scoter ✓	▶ 2
8	Bufflehead	▶ 2
8	Hooded Merganser	▶ 2
3	Red-breasted Merganser 📍	▶ 3 1



IND. DATE












































LOCATION



3 7 Feb 2025 14:26

Jennette's Pier, Nags Head US-NC 35.90967, -75.59633

Observed by several members of our group, dark greenish head with red beak

60	Ruddy Duck	▶  1
20	Rock Pigeon *	▶  1
37	Mourning Dove	▶  2
2	Virginia Rail	▶  1
148	American Coot	▶  2
67	American Avocet	▶  2
14	Killdeer	▶  5
15	Short-billed Dowitcher	▶  1
12	Wilson's Snipe	▶  2
1	Lesser Yellowlegs	▶  1
8	Greater Yellowlegs	▶  1
1	Sanderling	▶  1
2	Razorbill 	▶  1
1	Dovekie 	▶  1
7	Laughing Gull	▶  1  1
63	Ring-billed Gull	▶  3
17	American Herring Gull	▶  2
1	Great Black-backed Gull	▶  1
1	Forster's Tern	▶  1
4	Pied-billed Grebe	▶  2

2	Horned Grebe 	  1
1	Red-throated Loon	  1
1	Common Loon	  1
235	Northern Gannet	  2
640	Double-crested Cormorant	  3
21	White Ibis	  2
1	Little Blue Heron	  1
7	Great Egret	  2
11	Great Blue Heron	  2
85	American White Pelican	  2
82	Brown Pelican	  3
1	Black Vulture	  1
19	Turkey Vulture	  3
1	Sharp-shinned Hawk	  1
10	Northern Harrier	  4
4	Bald Eagle	  2
1	Red-tailed Hawk	  1
2	Belted Kingfisher	  2
1	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	  1
1	Red-bellied Woodpecker	  1
3	Downy Woodpecker	  1

3	Pileated Woodpecker	▶  2
4	Northern Flicker	▶  3
2	American Kestrel	▶  2
1	Merlin	▶  1
1	Blue Jay	▶  1
10	Carolina Chickadee	▶  1
1	Tufted Titmouse	▶  1
3	Tree Swallow	▶  1
3	Brown-headed Nuthatch	▶  2
2	Carolina Wren	▶  2
50	European Starling *	▶  1
3	Gray Catbird	▶  3
1	Brown Thrasher	▶  1
10	Northern Mockingbird	▶  4
571	American Robin	▶  4
30	Cedar Waxwing	▶  1
7	Chipping Sparrow	▶  1
1	Fox Sparrow	▶  1
1	Dark-eyed Junco	▶  1
6	White-throated Sparrow	▶  2
4	Savannah Sparrow	▶  1

17	Song Sparrow	▶  4
1	Swamp Sparrow	▶  1
2	Eastern Meadowlark	▶  1
2560	Red-winged Blackbird	▶  3
9	Common Grackle	▶  2
43	Boat-tailed Grackle	▶  3
1	Black-and-white Warbler	▶  1
68	Yellow-rumped Warbler	▶  4
7	Northern Cardinal	▶  2