



Dan River Game Lands, September 25, 2022

submitted by Jim Gant

Trip Coordinator(s): Jim Gant

Location: Dan River Game Lands, Rockingham County (near Eden, NC)

Temperature: 60's

Weather: Sunny

Target Bird(s), if any: Migrating Birds, Warblers

Number of participants: 9; Amy Hanson, Jim Eldrett, Judy Roy, Jim Gant, CC King, Susan Long and Bridget Thomas (our Friends from Outdoor Afro) (we also had a 9th person but I accidentally misplaced her name, I apologize).

Bird List: Canada Geese, Chimney Swifts, Black Vultures, Turkey Vultures, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Eastern Screech-Owl, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Least Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, White-eyed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Fish Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Eastern Bluebird, American Goldfinch, Clay-colored Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Black-and-White Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Common Yellowthroat. Hooded Warbler, American Redstart, Cape May Warbler, Northern Parula, Magnolia Warbler, Palm Warbler, Pine Warbler, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting; for a total of 41 bird species.

Comments: This was the Piedmont Bird Club's first return to the Dan River Game Lands since 2020. Marty Wall was again our guide on the ground that advised us of recent sightings and greatly assisted us in identifying the birds we were seeing and hearing. At the Dan River game lands we started at the Woodpecker Road Parking Area. We did a short walk around the parking lot area and then proceeded to the long main trail, which was about a mile long. As we progressed along the trail we saw and identified a rare bird, a Clay-colored Sparrow. We then came to a large open field and meadow area. Marty had indicated that there had been many bird sightings in this area previously. Unfortunately on this day there was not much activity. Marty decided to take us a little farther down the trail (about another 300 yards) where we came to an area with some low brush, some bushes with berries, and thickets. This turned out to be a great plan as we suddenly began to see warblers and other birds. We picked up about 10 species at this location. It was a superb grand finale. In this last group birds we saw another rare bird, a Least Flycatcher. All in all this was a fun and exciting Bird Walk.





Red-bellied Woodpecker



Black-and-white Warbler



Least Flycatcher



Clay-colored Sparrow



Magnolia Warbler



American Redstart, male



Pine Warbler



Palm Warbler