

# Mayo River State Park May 20, 2018

*Submitted by Martin Wall, Trip Leader*

Seven members of the Piedmont Bird Club visited three areas of Mayo River State Park on Sunday, May 20. We started at Mayo Mountain Access where we did a quick stroll around the grounds. Highlights there were an adult male Scarlet Tanager perched in the top of a tree and a singing, first-year male Blue Grosbeak. We then carpoiled to the Tyne Road section of the park. After a short walk up a hill to the top of the Gibson Cemetery (across the street from park lands), we watched the tree-line for birds and listened for Black-billed Cuckoos, which are likely nesting in the area this year. After a short while, and the occasional use of recorded calls, a Black-billed Cuckoo flew into a tree only about ten feet above the ground, affording excellent views for several minutes!



*Photo Credit: Martin Wall, Black-billed Cuckoo*



*Photo Credit: Martin Wall, Blackpoll Warbler*

Also at this spot, we had good looks at Northern Parula, Blackpoll Warbler, and Red-eyed Vireo. The group then proceeded to walk up Tyne Road three quarters of a mile to the top of another hill. Along the way, we saw and heard many species, including Yellow-throated Vireo, Ovenbird, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Acadian Flycatcher, and Wood Thrush. As we climbed the hill, we also had brief looks at a Kentucky Warbler, Hooded Warbler, American Redstart, and more Northern Parulas. A Barred Owl then flew in and perched for a photo session to everyone's delight.



*Photo Credit: Martin Wall, Blue-headed Vireo*

As we started back down the hill, we called up a Blue-headed Vireo. There are a few that are here all summer and probably breed at this location. We then made the ten-minute drive to Deshazo Road, seeing two Wild Turkeys along the way.



*Photo Credit: Matt Wangerin, Kentucky Warbler*

Deshazo Road runs between Anglin Mill Road and the Virginia border, paralleling a tributary to, and then Fall Creek, much of the way. Here, we added an

Orchard Oriole and Summer Tanager to our bird list. We finished the day with a short walk to the Fall Creek Waterfall, which was flowing strong after the recent rains.

Participant List: John Harper, Roberta Newton, Linda & Paul Sumner, Ann Van Sant, Martin Wall, and Matt Wangerin.



Bird List:

Canada Goose	Acadian Flycatcher	Northern Mockingbird
Wild Turkey	Eastern Phoebe	Ovenbird
Great Blue Heron	White-eyed Vireo	Kentucky Warbler
Black Vulture	Yellow-throated Vireo	Hooded Warbler
Turkey Vulture	Blue-headed Vireo	American Redstart
Accipiter sp.	Red-eyed Vireo	Northern Parula
Red-tailed Hawk	Blue Jay	Blackpoll Warbler
Mourning Dove	American Crow	Pine Warbler
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Tree Swallow	Prairie Warbler
Black-billed Cuckoo	Carolina Chickadee	Chipping Sparrow
Barred Owl	Tufted Titmouse	Summer Tanager
Chimney Swift	White-breasted Nuthatch	Scarlet Tanager
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	Brown-headed Nuthatch	Northern Cardinal
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Carolina Wren	Blue Grosbeak
Downy Woodpecker	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Indigo Bunting
Hairy Woodpecker	Eastern Bluebird	Orchard Oriole
Northern Flicker	Wood Thrush	Brown-headed Cowbird
Pileated Woodpecker	American Robin	Common Grackle
Eastern Wood-Pewee	Brown Thrasher	American Goldfinch