



Purgatory Mountain, NC Zoo; 28 February 2026

submitted by Jim Gant

Trip Coordinator(s): Jim Gant; Host/Guide at NC Zoo, Grace Sigmon

Location: Purgatory Mountain Trail, NC Zoo, 4401 Zoo Parkway, Asheboro, NC 27205

Temperature: 40' – 50's

Weather: Cloudy

Target Bird(s), if any:

Number of participants: 11

Bird List: Canada Goose, Mourning Dove, Turkey Vulture, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Blue Jay, American Crow, Fish Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Golden-crowned Kinglet, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Eastern Blue Bird, American Goldfinch, Dark-eyed Junco, White-throated Sparrow, Pine Warbler, Northern Cardinal, for a total of 24 species.

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

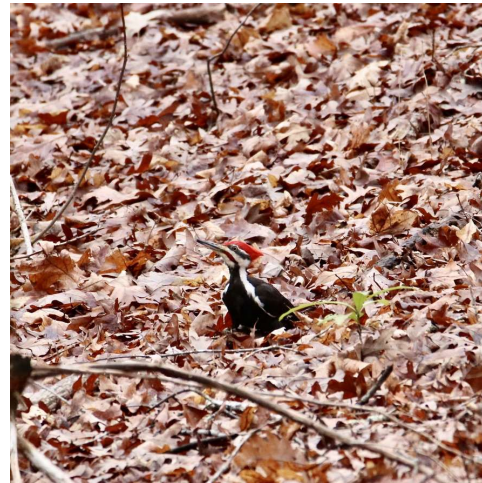
Although it was a cold overcast start to the morning the weather did warm up and the clouds began to part. The birds were slow to be active, but as the temperature warmed, they became more vocal. We had 5 Pine Warblers that were singing at different locations along the trail. A couple of the more significant sightings were a flock of about 40 American Goldfinches that flew into the trees near the end of the trail. But the real treat was watching a pair of Pileated Woodpeckers foraging on the ground. We determined that that they were male and female. All in all, a good bird walk.



Our Group Selfie



Pileated Woodpecker, Male



Pileated Woodpecker, Male



Pileated Woodpecker, Female



Pileated Woodpecker, Female