

White Street Landfill Field Trip

February 24, 2018

Submitted by Lynn Moseley

On a windy but fairly mild day, 15 PBC and TGPAS members and friends spent three hours birding the various habitats at the White Street Landfill. This field trip usually produces some unusual species of birds, and on this day, we scored all our target species.

We observed eight species of raptors, which is amazing for a field trip to just one location. Good numbers of Black and Turkey Vultures are always present (it's a landfill, after all); hawks included Cooper's, Red-shouldered, and Red-tailed; several American Kestrels were spotted; and a Barred Owl was heard hooting in the distance. The highlight was a female Northern Harrier, viewed first from the top of "Mount Trashmore" and later from the back side of the property.

Other target species included Savannah Sparrows, heard chipping and then tracked down on the grassy slopes of Mt. Trashmore; a Common Raven heard croaking in the distance; and two Wilson's Snipes. Three American Pipits were another addition to the list of our anticipated species. All in all, we tallied 46 species for the day.

Bird List (46 species)

Canada Goose	Red-bellied Woodpecker	Eastern Bluebird
Bufflehead	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	American Robin
Great Blue Heron (Blue form)	Downy Woodpecker	Northern Mockingbird
Black Vulture	Northern Flicker	European Starling
Turkey Vulture	American Kestrel	American Pipit
Northern Harrier	Blue Jay	Pine Warbler
Cooper's Hawk	Common Raven	Yellow-rump. Warbler
Red-shouldered Hawk	American Crow	Field Sparrow
Red-tailed Hawk	Fish Crow	White-throated Sparrow
Killdeer	Carolina Chickadee	Savannah Sparrow
Wilson's Snipe	Tufted Titmouse	Song Sparrow
Ring-billed Gull	White-breasted Nuthatch (Eastern)	Swamp Sparrow
Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon)	Brown-headed Nuthatch	Eastern Towhee
Mourning Dove	Winter Wren	Northern Cardinal
Barred Owl	Carolina Wren	Eastern Meadowlark
		American Goldfinch