Participants: 10
Total number of birding hours: 3.0 hrs.
Participants + birding hours: 30 hrs.
Leader: Sam Cooper
Species: 42

SPECIES:

Black Scoter
Red-breasted Merganser
Common Loon
Brown Pelican
Great Blue Heron
White Ibis
Northern Harrier
American Oystercatcher
Sanderling
Laughing Gull
Ring-billed Gull
Lesser Black-backed Gull
Forster’s Tern
Black Skimmer
Mourning Dove
Carolina Wren
Northern Mockingbird
Cedar Waxwing
White-throated Sparrow
Red-winged Blackbird
House Finch
Hooded Merganser
Red-throated Loon
Northern Gannet
Double-crested Cormorant
Great Egret
Turkey Vulture
Black-bellied Plover
Willet
Dunlin
Bonaparte’s Gull
Herring Gull
Great Black-backed Gull
Royal Tern
Rock Pigeon
Fish Crow
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
European Starling
Song Sparrow
Northern Cardinal
Boat-tailed Grackle
House Sparrow
If there are two things I love best in the entire world, it is early morning birding at Wrightsville Beach when you’re not shivering from the cold blasts of wind (dearly wishing you were back in the warmth of your bed), and having Sam Cooper as a walk leader.

This morning we had ten intrepid souls who “braved” a not-so-cold morning (36 degrees, warming to 50) who attended the bird walk at Wrightsville Beach with the wonderful Sam Cooper as our leader. What an amazing educator he is!

We began our trip at the end of Johnnie Mercer’s Pier where we scoped Loons, Scoters, Mergansers and many other birds. From there we traveled by car to the end of Wrightsville Beach, parked, and birded the marshes and beach at the northern part of the island.

We spotted 42 species of birds, enjoying a windless day, calm seas, and an absolutely beautiful morning.

It was nice to see new birders joining our group; that is always a special plus.

Looking across to Figure Eight Island we encountered a massive flock of Northern Gannets dive-bombing the ocean for fish. There were also many Common Loons viewed from the Pier, also having breakfast.

Nice morning. Good memory of what Cape Fear Audubon Society offers its members.

Spring is just around the corner. We have a nice selection of bird walks coming up. Please join us.

Happy Birding!