



Naturalist Journeys & Caligo Ventures
Blue Ridge Mountains: Hiking and Birds
Birds and Mammals Species List
September 23-30, 2016
Tour Leader: Dodie Logue

Birds (74 species):

(H) = heard only

(I) = Introduced

Anatidae: Ducks, Geese, and Swans (3)

Mute Swan (I) *Cygnus olor*— A single one seen at Bass lake, which is on the Moses Cone Estate near Blowing Rock.

Wood Duck *Aix sponsa*— Around a dozen of them were seen on Bass Lake.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*— Seen on Bass Lake.

Phasianidae: Partridges, Pheasants, and Allies (1)

Wild Turkey *Meleagris gallopavo*— We saw a few the last day along the Parkway shoulder while driving from Blowing Rock to Linville Falls.

Podicipedidae: Grebes (1)

Pied-bille Grebe *Podilymbus podiceps*— A large number were seen on Julian Price Lake outside of Blowing Rock.

Phalacrocoracidae: Cormorants (1)

Double-crested Cormorant *Phalacrocorax auritus*— A single one was seen on Bass Lake.

Ardeidae: Herons and Egrets (1)

Great Blue Heron *Ardea herodias*— One was seen at Linville Falls in the river.

Cathartidae: New World Vultures (2)

Black Vulture *Coragyps atratus*— A few were circling the air above the airport on departure day.

Turkey Vulture *Cathartes aura*— Common, seen nearly every day.

Accipitridae: Hawks, Eagles, and Allies (5)

Sharp-shinned Hawk *Accipiter striatus*— Overall Raptor migration was slow, we saw a couple of these hawks on the first few days.

Cooper's Hawk *Accipiter cooperii*— A single one was seen at the Pink Beds.

Bald Eagle *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*— One at Black Balsam Ridge with a couple of Raven, and one on day 6.

Red-shouldered Hawk (H) *Buteo lineatus*— One heard in close proximity at the Pink Beds, never seen.

Broad-winged Hawk *Buteo platypterus*— We saw two Kettles close together of at least 50 birds each at Devil's Courthouse. They spiraled up, then peeled off one at a time.

Columbidae: Pigeons and Doves (2)

Rock Pigeon (I) *Columba livia*— A few seen around Blowing Rock.

Mourning Dove *Zenaida macroura*— A small number were seen at the Craft Museum grounds.

Strigidae: Owls (1)

Barred Owl (H) *Strix varia*— One was heard on our way to PisgahInn the first day, from the Buck Springs pullover.

Apodidae: Swifts (1)

Chimney Swift *Chaetura pelagica*— Seen nearly every day.

Trochilidae: Hummingbirds (1)

Ruby-throated Hummingbird *Archilochus colubris*— Single female or juvenile sightings as they zipped by on three days; males had already migrated.

Alcedinidae: Kingfishers (1)

Belted Kingfisher *Megasceryle alcyon*— Four (a family?) were seen at one of the look outs at Linville Falls.

Picidae: Woodpeckers (5)

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker *Sphyrapicus varius*— A pair were seen on a dead snag at the Pisgah Inn campground.

Downy Woodpecker *Picoides pubescens*— Common and seen at various places.

Hairy Woodpecker *Picoides villosus*— Seen and heard on three days.

Northern Flicker *Colaptes auratus*— A single one seen at the campground at Pisgah Inn.

Pileated Woodpecker (H) *Dryocopus pileatus*— Heard on three separate days, never seen.

Falconidae: Falcons (2)

Merlin *Falco columbarius*— A quick fly-by on a very windy day at Grandfather Mountain.

Peregrin Falcon *Falco peregrinus*— Two possibles at Devils Courthouse- where they breed; and one seen over Bass Lake.

Tyrannidae: Tyrant Flycatchers (1)

Eastern Phoebe *Sayornis phoebe*— One at the Pink Beds, and one at Linville Falls.

Vireonidae: Vireos (1)

Blue-headed Vireo *Vireo solitaries*— Seen and heard most days.

Corvidae: Crows, Jays, and Allies (3)

Blue Jay *Cyanocitta cristata*— Seen every day.

American Crow *Corvus brachyrhynchos*— Seen every day.

Common Raven *Corvus corax*— Seen most days.

Paridae: Tits and Chickadees (2)

Carolina Chickadee *Poecile carolinensis*— Heard often, seen a few days.

Tufted Titmouse *Baeolophus bicolor*— These gregarious birds were seen frequently.

Sittidae: Nuthatches (2)

Red-breasted Nuthatch *Sitta canadensis*— Common.

White-breasted Nuthatch *Sitta carolinensis*— Seen the last day at Linville Falls.

Troglodytidae: Wrens (1)

Carolina Wren *Thryothorus ludovicianus*— Great looks off our deck at Pisgah Inn.

Regulidae: Kinglets (1)

Golden-crowned Kinglet *Regulus satrapa*— Seen frequently.

Turdidae: Thrushes (6)

Eastern Bluebird *Sialia sialis*— A few were seen at Moses Cone Park.

Veery *Catharus fuscescens*— One was seen at the Pink Beds.

Gray-cheeked Thrush *Catharus minimus*— A couple seen mixed in with many Swanson's Thrush eating the berries of a Black Gum tree at Linville Falls.

Swainson's Thrush *Catharus ustulatus*— Seen most days.

Wood Thrush *Hylocichla mustelina*— A few were seen on the grounds around Pisgah Inn.

American Robin *Turdus migratorius*— Common.

Mimidae: Mockingbirds, Thrashers, and Allies (3)

Gray Catbird *Dumetella carolinensis*— Seen and heard regularly.

Brown Thrasher *Toxostoma rufum*— A single one on a snag in the campground at Pisgah Inn.

Northern Mockingbird *Mimus polyglottos*— Seen on our departure morning at the Arboretum.

Sturnidae: Starlings (1)

European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*— At our lodging at Blowing Rock.

Bombycillidae: Waxwings (1)

Cedar Waxwing *Bombycilla cedrorum*— Common.

Parulidae: Wood-Warblers (13)

Ovenbird *Seiurus aurocapilla*— A few seen on the grounds of Pisgah Inn.

Worm-eating Warbler *Helmitheros vermivorum*— We had great looks at this bird from our decks at Pisgah Inn.

Black-and-white Warbler *Mniotilta varia*— One seen from “The Blowing Rock” gardens.

Tennessee Warbler *Oreothlypis peregrina*— Seen frequently.

Nashville Warbler *Oreothlypis ruficapilla*— One seen from “The Blowing Rock” gardens.

Common Yellowthroat *Geothlypis trichas*— Seen from our decks at Pisgah Inn.

American Redstart *Setophaga ruticilla*— A couple were seen at Linville Falls.

Cape May Warbler *Setophaga tigrina*— At Pisgah Inn grounds and at “The Blowing Rock” garden.

Magnolia Warbler *Setophaga magnolia*— At Pisgah Inn and at “The Blowing Rock” garden.

Black-throated Blue Warbler *Setophaga caerulescens*— One seen at the Pink Beds, and one the last morning at the Arboretum.

Palm Warbler *Setophaga palmarum*— A few seen at the Arboretum.

Pine Warbler *Setophaga pinus*— One seen at the Arboretum.

Yellow-rumped Warbler *Setophaga coronata*— One seen at Pisgah Inn grounds.

Emberizidae: New world Sparrows (5)

Chipping Sparrow *Spizella passerina* — A few seen the last morning at the Arboretum.

Dark-eyed Junco *Junco hyemalis*— Common.

White-throated Sparrow *Zonotrichia albicollis*— Seen on day four at Graveyard Fields.

Song Sparrow *Melospiza melodia*— Common.

Eastern Towhee *Pipilo erythrophthalmus*— Common.

Cardinalidae: Cardinal-Grosbeaks (3)

Scarlet Tanager *Piranga olivacea*— A couple were seen at “The Blowing Rock” gardens.

Northern Cardinal *Cardinalis cardinalis*— Seen at Linville Falls.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak *Pheucticus ludovicianus*— Seen frequently.

Icteridae: Blackbirds, Orioles, and Allies (1)

Red-winged Blackbird *Agelaius phoeniceus*— A flock was seen and heard at the Craft Center.

Fringillidae: Finches (2)

Red Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*— Great looks at a group in the tops of Hemlock at Linville Falls.

American Goldfinch *Spinus tristis*— Common

Passeridae: Old World Sparrows (1)

House Sparrow (1) *Passer domesticus*— Seen at Bass Lake near Blowing Rock.

Mammals (6 species):

White-tailed Deer *Odocoileus virginianus*—

Eastern Cottontail *Sylvilagus floridanus*—

Woodchuck *Marmota monax*—

Eastern Gray Squirrel *Sciurus carolinensis*—

Eastern Chipmunk *Tamias striatus*—

Red Squirrel *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*—

Butterflies:

Black Swallowtail *Papilio polyxenes*—

Monarch *Danaus plexippus*—

Common Buckeye *Junonia coenia*—

Sulphur - various

Gulf Fritillary *Agraulis vanillae*—

Great Spangled Fritillary *Speyeria cybele*—