

**Trip Report**  
**Cabarrus County – Concord Mills, Hector Henry Greenway, Coddle Creek Reservoir, Moss  
Creek Nature Trail, and Chantilly Ecological Sanctuary.**  
**February 9, 2021**

We started the day in a most surprising spot, the rubbish-strewn pond at Concord Mills shopping mall where Lesser Scaup and Ruddy Duck were hanging out along with A few American Coots. A few Red-winged Blackbirds were also starting to display and sing. This could be a moderately attractive spot if it was cleaned up and the vegetation allowed to fill in a little. The wetland behind the mall is also a good spot for waterfowl, again despite the large amounts of garbage. Several Gadwall, Northern Shoveler and Hooded Merganser were feeding in the marsh and a splendid Red-shouldered Hawk sat atop a dead snag. It's amazing how the wildlife will adapt if you give it some space. A brief stop on the new Hector Henry Greenway (HH was a Concord Councilman) on the other side of the highway added a Brown Thrasher and more Canada Geese feeding in the wetland. The sun was out when we got to the north end of Coddle Creek Reservoir but the lake was bereft of waterfowl. A Bald Eagle was circling nearby and its nest was on the top of a nearby tower, along with a couple of House Sparrows who were also home-making in the huge pile of sticks. A nice surprise was an Orange-crowned Warbler who was calling from the roadside and eventually it popped into view for a few distant photos. We finished the day at Moss Creek Nature Trail (another section of the HH Greenway) where a Rusty Blackbird welcomed us. The walk was very nice and paved and passed through riparian woodland and passed beaver ponds, where Shoveler and Ring-necked Duck were feeding. All of the classic mid-winter birds were along the creek, but the habitat looked perfect for great spring migration. I hope to be back again in a couple of months.

Simon Thompson

**Birds 56 Species**

Canada Goose	Red-bellied	Brown-headed
Wood Duck	Woodpecker	Nuthatch
Ring-necked Duck	Downy Woodpecker	Golden-crowned
Mourning Dove	Hairy Woodpecker	Kinglet
Rufous Hummingbird	Pileated Woodpecker	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Pied-billed Grebe	Northern Flicker	Brown Creeper
Ring-billed Gull	Eastern Phoebe	Winter Wren (Heard)
Black Vulture	Blue Jay	Carolina Wren
Turkey Vulture	American Crow	Brown Thrasher
Cooper's Hawk	Carolina Chickadee	Northern Mockingbird
Red-shouldered Hawk	Tufted Titmouse	Hermit Thrush
Red-tailed Hawk	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Eastern Bluebird
Yellow-bellied	White-breasted	American Robin
Sapsucker	Nuthatch	Cedar Waxwing
		House Finch

Purple Finch  
Pine Siskin  
American Goldfinch  
Field Sparrow  
Dark-eyed Junco  
Chipping Sparrow

White-throated  
Sparrow  
Song Sparrow  
Swamp Sparrow  
Eastern Towhee  
Bullock's Oriole  
Baltimore Oriole

Eastern Meadowlark  
Common Grackle  
Common Yellowthroat  
Pine Warbler  
Yellow-rumped  
Warbler  
Northern Cardinal