

# **'Ducks, Geese & Gulls'**

## **Winter on the Outer Banks, NC**

### **Itinerary**

#### **Day 1 – Friday, February 19**

Today is a driving day and we will plan to meet at the Alligator River NWR in late afternoon to enjoy wintering waterfowl, as well as any raptors, such as Rough-legged Hawk or Golden Eagle that may be in the area. We will then continue to Manteo where we will spend the night. *Night in Manteo*

#### **Day 2 – Saturday, February 20**

This morning we will head to Hatteras Island and will make a number of stops on our way south. The sheltered marsh behind Bodie Island Lighthouse is always worth a stop and should contain a good waterfowl diversity as well as American Avocet, Greater & Lesser Yellowlegs, and Tricolored Heron. The boardwalk here can also be a great place for getting up close and personal views of Sora. The beaches could be good for gulls and wintering shorebirds and who knows what could be wintering in the dunes near the Old Coastguard station. *Night in Manteo*

#### **Day 3 – Sunday, February 21**

Another great place for waterfowl is Pea Island NWR. Here we'll have ample time to study raft upon raft of ducks and learn to distinguish between similar-looking females. Eurasian Wigeon have been seen here in years past, 'hiding' in flocks of American Wigeon, so we'll be sure to scan everything carefully. We will also head down to Cape Point to check out the gulls- always a perennial favorite. *Night in Manteo*

#### **Day 4 – Monday, February 22**

Today is our last morning, so we will spend the morning at Lake Mattamuskeet on the way home. We should see a great variety of waterfowl, including Northern Pintail, Gadwall, Northern Shoveler, Blue-winged and Green-winged Teal, and Ring-necked Duck among others. We will then head home after our winter break on the Outer Banks.

Itinerary could change depending on the weather and birds!