

Results of the Unaka Mountain Field Trip

May 10, 2025

Eleven members of the Lee and Lois Herndon Chapter and Bristol Chapter of the Tennessee Ornithological Society participated in a field trip to Unaka Mountain in Unicoi County, Tennessee on May 10, 2025. Weather for the trip consisted of sun and high thin clouds, light winds, and temperatures between 42-60°F. We met at the Forest Service office in Unicoi, Tennessee at 8am and returned to the same location at 12:50pm. We made stops at Limestone Cove Recreation Area, Stamping Ground Ridge, Unaka Mountain Overlook, Beauty Spot and several locations along Unaka Mountain Road. A total of 48 species were observed including Swainson's Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Hooded Warbler, and Pine Siskins. Here is the list of species identified. Numbers are from the eBird report by Roy Knispel. These numbers may vary for each observer.

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| Rock Pigeon – 2 | European Starling -3 | Louisiana Waterthrush – 3 |
| Turkey Vulture -1 | Northern Mockingbird – 2 | Black-and-white Warbler – 6 |
| Broad-winged Hawk – 1 | Veery – 3 | Swainson's Warbler- 5 |
| Red-bellied Woodpecker – 1 | Wood Thrush -2 | Common Yellowthroat- 1 |
| Downy Woodpecker – 1 | American Robin – 5 | Hooded Warbler – 12 |
| Pileated Woodpecker – 1 | House Finch -1 | Northern Parula – 3 |
| Eastern Wood Pewee – 1 | Pine Siskin – 4 | Magnolia Warbler – 1 |
| Acadian Flycatcher -3 | American Goldfinch – 3 | Blackburnian Warbler – 1 |
| Least Flycatcher -4 | Chipping Sparrow – 3 | Chestnut-sided Warbler – 1 |
| Eastern Phoebe – 3 | Dark-eyed Junco – 4 | Black-throated Blue Warbler – 15 |
| Blue-headed Vireo – 9 | Song Sparrow – 4 | Yellow-throated Warbler – 1 |
| Red-eyed Vireo – 8 | Eastern Towhee – 6 | Black-throated Green Warbler–15 |
| American Crow – 4 | Brown-headed Cowbird – 1 | Canada Warbler – 16 |
| Carolina Chickadee – 3 | Common Grackle – 1 | Northern Cardinal – 1 |
| Tufted Titmouse -1 | Ovenbird – 10 | Rose-breasted Grosbeak – 2 |
| Red-breasted Nuthatch – 5 | Worm-eating Warbler – 1 | Indigo Bunting - 3 |

Participants: Roy Knispel, Rob Biller, Karl Schneck, Chris Soto, Rex Whitfield, Dave Gardner, Dale Ledford, Susan Peters, Kim Stroud, Marie Bradford, and Joe McGuiness

Special thanks to those who drove (Chris, Dave, and Rob), and to Roy Knispel for keeping up with eBird lists for the trip! Thanks to everyone who participated!

Joe McGuiness