

Honorable Mention Field Notebook  
Age 14-18

Michael McCloy  
Southern Pines, North Carolina

**Sketch or Photo**

perched in 3 different pines (usually 20-30ft)

Dark red eye w/ black pupil

orange beak w/ black tip slightly darker feathers around bill base

Overall dark gray color w/ hint of bluish

White rump and bases to rectrices

white on end of tail (minimal)

orange feet (not apparent)

This Snail kite, originally spotted by Lloyd Moon about a week ago, is apparently the first confirmed record north of Florida. When we first pulled in, the bird was in the "usual" spot in a pine (loboolly, about 20-30 feet high) beside the crawfish pond for about half an hour, before flying to two more perches in different pines. At about 8:00, he flew away for good for the night. MM

Date 5/25/07 Time 7:00 PM - 8:10 PM Weather Sunny, warm  
Location Elliotts Landing Crawfish Pond, Clarendon Co., SC  
Notes Observers: David and Michael McCloy, Patrick Shaffner

BLGR II	GCFL I
NOCA II	BADO I
MODO II	WHIB I
CACH II	EAKI I
FICR I	CEDW III
COYE I	ACFL I
PIWA I	
SUTA II	*SNKI - absolutely gorgeous looks
BARS II	through binocs and scope for a
YCNH III III	whole hour. Several medium-
MALL III	quality photos taken. Bird was
CARW I	roosting and preening during
*SNKI I	whole observation, and
	never vocalized.

\*Barred Owl was roosting in a middle-sized pine on pond edge about 3 trees down from Snail Kite.

\*At least eight Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were feeding, roosting, or flying around the ponds during our visit.

Common Name Snail kite  
Latin Name Rosttrhamus sociabilis

**Sketch or Photo**

Overall body color a dark grayish brown when seen from a distance and when approached pattern of black, gray and brown within the feathers esp. on breast

extremely short beak, opens exceedingly wide

lightly bordered breast

lighter gray liner patch above wing

whiskers as feelers

Rusty cheek patch

On side of face distinctive contrast, white near eye

white patch not visible in sitting position

nest very incised

1/23/07

135 Williams Road Southern Pines, NC

Common Nighthawk on nest

22 July 2007

23 July 2007  
Date 07/23/2007 Time 08:15M - 09:40AM Weather 65°F - 72°F  
Location Southern Pines, NC - Williams Road  
Notes Observers: Michael McCloy

EATO III	NOCA III	BLWA III
TUTI II	CARW III	RBWO II
NOFL III	CONI I	RHWI I
EAKI II	EABL I	BRTH II
GRCA I	PIWA I	RTHU I
BHNU II	CACH I	AMGO I
AMRO I	MODO I	WBML I
FICR I		22 Species

Went to the top of the road this morning for the main purpose of checking on the Co. Nighthawk nest status again (see opposite page for details). I also walked around the woods a bit near the nest and found some interesting things.

\*NOFL - At least 4, presumably a family group, were hunting (mainly in trees) and fighting with each other in close proximity to the nighthawk. At one point, a single flicker began "anting" less than four feet from the nighthawk. There was only a single pine cone + some pine straw between them. The nighthawk didn't seem phased at all, it was on the nest at the time.

\*EAKI - I have begun seeing Kingbirds more frequently along our road the past few days, maybe this excessive wandering from nearest suitable breeding habitat is caused by lack of food elsewhere.

Common Name Common Nighthawk  
Latin Name Chordeiles minor