

## BIRD WALK AT WHITE TANK REGIONAL PARK

DATE : December 17, 2016



At approximately 8:10 AM we began our two hour bird hike of .95 mile at the Wildlife Trail starting near the RV Campground and horse staging area. The small pond had been reduced in size due to some upcoming maintenance and thus was a disappointment as it did not present the normal activity usually witnessed at this site. We returned to the parking area and spent the rest of our time on the Mule Deer Trail.

CONDITIONS: Our sky was clear with 42 degrees F and a breeze of 3-5 mph from the NW as we began. At our walk conclusion the temperature had risen to 48 degrees and the breeze had freshened to 8-10 mph.

PARTICIPANTS: Jerry and Linda Molinelli, David and Ruth Kennedy, Kathryn Jones, Pam Spinella, Mitra Samadani an guide Joe Ford (8)

SPECIES: Gambel's Quail, Anna's Hummingbird, Mourning Dove, Gila Woodpecker, Gilded Flicker, Common Raven, Verdin, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Sparrow, House Finch VISITOR'S CENTER (seen following the bird walk) Anna's Hummingbird female,

Costa's Hummingbird male, Black-throated Sparrow, Rock Wren, Cactus Wren, Yellow-rumped Warbler, House Finch, Curve-billed Thrasher (almost as productive as the hike itself) TOTAL 15

HIGHLIGHTS: The bird numbers were few today (lack of water sources, food, cool temperatures and a breeze??). We did see a number of Gila Woodpeckers (5) in one area and the saguaros provided the most of our few bird viewing opportunities. As guide I was surprised at the visitor center by a Rock Wren mingling with several Black-throated Sparrows.

Counts and other details are at eBird <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S33063375>

Ten people attended the program at the Visitor Center entitled, "Our Avian Friends".