

BIRD WALK AT ESTRELLA MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK

August 8, 2015, Saturday

Temperature: 85 degrees f at 7:10 am, 95 degrees at 9:30 am: clear skies with a few light cirrus clouds; breeze from the west 5-10 mph

Participants: Andrea Portillo, Peter and Nathan Kinney, Aaron Sanchez Family, Orozco Family (Giovanni, Giovanni ((Son)), Ira, and Carmen). Paul Doucette and Joe Ford were leaders.

The Gila River was totally dry with no surface pools until just west of the mitigated lakes region just beyond the park boundaries. The marsh area had some water, but only small pools with some muddy shoreline. Evidence of all terrain vehicle activity was present and the areas around the lakes had seen lots of vegetation removal and clearing. Fisherman were visible on the south shore area of the large lake, thus with more human activity, this probably reduced bird presence in that area. A highlight was the very visible Crissal Thrasher in the Mesquite Bosque area in the presence of a couple of Curve-billed Thrashers.



SPECIES: Mallard, Gambel's Quail, Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Green Heron, White-faced Ibis, Turkey Vulture, American Coot, Killdeer, Greater Yellowlegs, Eurasian Collared Dove, Mourning Dove, White-winged Dove, Greater Roadrunner, Belted Kingfisher, Gila Woodpecker, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, flicker species, Black Phoebe, Western Kingbird, Loggerhead Shrike, Verdin, Canyon Wren, House Wren, Cactus Wren, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher, Curve-billed Thrasher, CRISSAL THRASHER, Northern Mockingbird, Phainopepla, Abert's Towhee, Lark Sparrow, Black-throated Sparrow, Great-tailed Grackle, House Finch, House Sparrow

Counts and other details are at eBird <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S24552077>