

SONORAN AUDUBON SOCIETY FIELD TRIP TO FOREST ROAD 300 EAST OF HYW 87 AND BAKER LAKE

August 11, 2015

At 5:30 AM, 5 birders gathered at the McDonald's Restaurant off Carefree Highway, pooled to one vehicle, and made their way to FR 300 in the Coconino National Forest. A few bird species were seen going and returning from our destination, but the majority of the trip was done by car with frequent stops when bird activity was noticed. Temperatures on the Rim were constant, ranging from 63-70 degrees F under cloudy to partly cloudy skies. As is the norm for this time a year, a thunder shower elicited a short interlude around noon, and birding reconvened at the conclusion of this event.

Participants: Marge Ray from Maricopa Audubon, Fran Baughman, Dan Bohlman, Joe Ford, and our guide, Donna Smith

Highlights for the day were the several warbler species and a time consuming debate concerning the identification of a profile, silhouetted, distant bird which led to discussion and a final conclusion that most likely it was Williamson's Sapsucker

Bird species seen: Wild Turkey, Turkey Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Rock Pigeon, Band-tailed Pigeon, Eurasian Collared Dove, Mourning Dove, Lesser Nighthawk, Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Rufous Hummingbird, Williamson's Sapsucker, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Acorn Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Western Wood-Pee-wee, Gray Vireo, Plumbeous Vireo, Steller's Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Violet-Green Swallow, Mountain Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Pygmy Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, House Wren, Cactus Wren, Western Bluebird, American Robin, Olive Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Virginia's Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Grace's Warbler, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Hermit Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Spotted Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco (red back), Hepatic Tanager, Western Tanager, Great-tailed Grackle, House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch, House Sparrow, European Starling (50 species)

Counts and other details for the 6 hour survey on FR 300 are at eBird
<http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S24591843>