

BIRD WALK AT ESTRELLA MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK

DATE: March 11th, 2017

CONDITIONS: At 8:10 AM the temperature was 60 degrees F under partly cloudy skies with little to no breeze. The walk concluded around 10:15 AM at 72 degrees F and clear skies with some cirrus and a few alto-cumulus. Again little to no breeze. A perfect day for birders.



PARTICIPANTS: Gerry and Linda Molinelli, Russ Costello, Lee Bradley, Heather Kruggel, Carol Cummins, Gordon Cooper, Sharon Manyx, Evelyn Pollen, Michael Harter, Darl and Rita Haagen, Jocelyn Hixon, Genna Branch, Natalie's House Group which included 4 young ladies, photographers Karen Martin and Mitra Samadani, coordinator Joe Ford, and guide Caleb Strand (23)

HIGHLIGHTS: Vermilion Flycatchers---always; a couple of male Phainopepla in a territorial dispute; "Shag Rock" with its carpet of white (excrement) and some perched Neotropic Cormorants; a nesting Anna's Hummingbird; the soaring Osprey; a most cooperative Northern Rough-winged Swallow that perched patiently for all to see; the Red-tailed Hawk (Mexican Race); a flotilla of some 60 Ruddy Ducks; a carpet of green with many wildflowers in bloom; the evidence of a flood event earlier in the month with several new cut channels; the "limbo" tree branch



SPECIES: Canada Goose, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Cinnamon Teal, Green-winged Teal, Ruddy Duck, Gambel's Quail, Pied-billed Grebe, Neotropic Cormorant, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Green Heron, White-faced Ibis, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Northern Harrier, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Common Gallinule, American Coot, Killdeer, Eurasian Collared Dove, Mourning Dove, Greater Roadrunner, Black-chinned Hummingbird, Anna's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Gila Woodpecker, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Gilded Flicker, Black Phoebe, Say's Phoebe, Vermilion Flycatcher, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Loggerhead Shrike, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Verdin, Rock Wren, Marsh Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, CRISSAL THRASHER, Northern Mockingbird, European Starling, Phainopepla, Orange-crowned Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Abert's Towhee, Brewer's Sparrow, Lark Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, Great-tailed Grackle, Hooded Oriole, House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch, House Sparrow (64)

Counts and other details and pictures are at eBird

<http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S35113134>

Eleven people attended the program at the visitor center entitled, "Where Have All the Bird's Nests Gone"