

## BIRD WALK AT ESTRELLA MT. REGIONAL PARK 5 12 18

**CONDITIONS:** The walk began at approximately 7:15 AM under clear skies, 74 degrees F and a freshening breeze from the northwest at 5 mph. The hike concluded at 10:30 AM with a temperature of 85 degrees F and a west northwest wind of 10-15 mph under clear skies.

**ROUTE:** After some observing at the nature center the actual walk was initiated on the east side of the park in a very active mesquite area, then proceeded to the Blue Gum Grove, past the grassy areas, through the salt bush scrub area and on to the riparian trail which ended at the mitigated ponds east of the park.



**PARTICIPANTS:** Lee Bradley, Wendell and Janet Thrush, Linda Henderson, Jerry and Linda Molinelli, George and Gail Krasean, Rachel Barrett, Alisia Diamond, Marlene Lucas, Laura Gieselman, Sharon Manyx, R. Stringham, Cindy Davis, Tom Locascio, Marilyn Cute, Paul Doucette, Nancy Kearsey, Jorge Lopez and son Daniel and guide, Joe Ford (22)

**HIGHLIGHTS:** It seemed like a White-winged Dove convention as the constant “who-cooks-for-you” filled the air and flyovers were ubiquitous. The Mesquite Bosque was active still with warblers and flycatcher types. The Great Horned Owl nest was vacant and the fledglings were gone. Of course the colorful Vermilion Flycatchers are always a treat and a male Western Tanager caused hearts to flutter with its

colorful costume of yellow, black, white, and reddish face markings. The photographers were kept busy and hopefully some great pictures were added to their portfolios.

SPECIES: Mallard, Ruddy Duck, Gambel's Quail, Western Grebe, Neotropic Cormorant, Double-crested Cormorant, Least Bittern (audio), Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Turkey Vulture, American Coot, Black-necked Stilt, Spotted Sandpiper, Killdeer, Rock Pigeon, Eurasian Collared Dove, Mourning Dove, White-winged Dove, Greater Roadrunner, hummingbird species, Gila Woodpecker, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Western Wood Peewee, Pacific-Slope Flycatcher, Say's Phoebe (visitor center), Vermilion Flycatcher, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Western Kingbird, Loggerhead Shrike, Plumbeous Vireo, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Verdin, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher, Hermit Thrush, Curve-billed Thrasher, Crissal Thrasher, Northern Mockingbird, European Starling, Phainopepla, Lucy's Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Townsend's Warbler, Wilson's Warbler, Abert's Towhee, Black-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Western Tanager, Red-winged Blackbird, Great-tailed Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Bullock's Oriole, House Finch (55)

Counts and other details are at eBird <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID-S45668530>



TOWNSEND'S WARBLER FROM WENDELL THRUSS



WESTERN GREBE FROM NANCY KEARSEY