

Sonoran Audubon Society Trip Report
The Arboretum At Flagstaff and Kachina Wetlands
August 9, 2014



Donna Smith (leader), Darnell Kirksey (co-leader), Vera Markham, Fran Baughman, Ed Jeter, Joy Dolhanczyk, and Tom Lazelle met at 7:30 AM at The Arboretum at Flagstaff. The Arboretum kindly allowed us to enter before the regular opening time at 9 AM. We enjoyed having it all to ourselves.

We watched masses of Broad-tailed and Rufous Hummingbirds fighting it out at the feeders. We also enjoyed watching a family of Hairy Woodpeckers chasing each other around. One youngster slammed into the Visitor's Center window. Donna calmly walked over, picked up the stunned bird and nestled it until it warmed up, blinked its eyes, looked around, and eventually flew up to a nearby pine to continue its recovery.

Vera spotted a Townsend's Solitaire that flew to a nearby low branch where we all enjoyed a long, close look. Then we spotted a small flock of Pine Siskins in a tree.

After we left the Arboretum we had lunch in a picnic area where we observed Tom Lazelle enjoying the biggest sandwich we had ever seen. Then we went on to the Kachina Wetlands where we saw White-faced Ibis among the Ruddy Ducks and Mallards. We watched an Osprey dive for and catch a fish which it took to its perch on a pine tree. There it dined regally.

At the end of a wonderful day of good birding, great cool weather, and good company, we sadly headed back to the heat of the Valley.

Please visit eBird to view the complete lists of birds we found at The Arboretum <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S19518099> and at Kachina Wetlands <http://ebird.org/ebird/view/checklist?subID=S19518247>