



Audubon Bird Walk at Cave Creek Regional Park

Date: Saturday November 3rd 2018 7:30 am to 9:30 am

Conditions: Inception: 60 degrees F under clear skies. At the finish it was up to 70 degrees.

Itinerary: We met at the visitor Center and then took the short segue to the Overton Trail. At the picnic area we picked up the Slate Trail and took it east until intersecting the Jasper trail.

Participants: Pam Spinella, Shirley Catto, Marilyn Cute, David Charles, Bill, Cathy & Keven Todd, and guide Tom Locascio

Species count: 13

Trip summary

<https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S496988083>

Gambel's Quail	22
Costa's Hummingbird	1
Gila Woodpecker	2
Say's Phoebe	2
Common Raven	1
Verdin	3
Rock Wren	1
Cactus Wren	4
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	2
Curve-billed Thrasher	5
Phainopepla	1
House Finch	4
Black-throated Sparrow	5

It was a grand morning in the Sonoran Desert. The Teddy Bear Cholla were back lit and spectacular. Shirley had made a recon trip around the building and found the under construction "water feature". On our way to the Overton Trail we checked it out and saw a Rock Wren, a Costa's Humming bird and two Ruby-crowned Kinglets foraging for breakfast. The staff is creating a nice feeding area here. Just before the trail we heard a lovely mimid song. We did not see it yet but Mockingbird was suggested. No phrases were repeated and a Curve-billed Thrasher was the vocalist. Trying to find the Slate Trail we found a lively area just south of the picnic area (which was hosting a wedding). Here we found most of the desert specialties on our list. Cactus Wrens and Black-throated Sparrows were about, and we saw both male and female Phainopepla. The Slate Trail gave us beautiful Sonoran desert vistas with the sun painting the cactus in a heavenly manner. A perfect day in the natural world.