

CAVE CREEK BIRD WALK 10 5 19

CONDITIONS: Our walk began at approximately 7:30 AM under clear skies with little to no breeze and a temperature of 88 degrees F. At 9:30 the temperature was 94 degrees F and still cloudless skies.

ROUTE: We began at the Nature Center and spent some time viewing the comings and goings of birds visiting the water feature behind the Nature Center. Our route then took the Nature Center trail to the Overton Trail with our bearing to the east, past a couple of ramadas then on to the parking lot near the Slate Trailhead. We then returned via the pavement to our point of origin.



PARTICIPANTS: Jerry and Linda Molinelli, Marshall Alphonso, Christina Keller, Pam Spinella, Terry and Kathy Agosta, Poppie, two dog walkers and our leaders Tom Locascio and Joe Ford

HIGHLIGHTS: Just a beautiful day for this excursion along the Cave Creek Park trails. It was quiet with few birds spotted and some audio observations. A soaring Red-tailed Hawk visited us while on the wing. A good discussion on a bird sighted that seemed perplexing to the identifiers, but finally the conclusion reached was White-crowned Sparrow. Lots of pauses were experienced as birders kept panning the palo verde and ironwoods and saguaros trying to detect movements. Woodpecker types were scarce and the ubiquitous House Finches were well represented. The noisiest population was from the Curve-billed Thrashers offering up their two note up swinging calls.

BIRD LIST: Gambel's Quail 35, Red-tailed Hawk 1, Mourning Dove 6, Greater Roadrunner 1, Gila Woodpecker 3, Gilded Flicker 1, Ladder-backed Woodpecker 1, Say's Phoebe 3, Common Raven 2,

Verdin 3, Rock Wren 2, Cactus Wren 6, Curve-billed Thrasher 7, Canyon Towhee 2, Black-throated Sparrow 3, White-crowned Sparrow 1, House Finch 20 (17)

Four people (started with 8) attended the power point program on "Owls" at the Nature Center.

For more details contact Tom Locascio (locascio2000@hotmail.com) or visit <https://ebird.org/view/checklist?subID=S603766>