

CAVE CREEK BIRD WALK 2 20 21

CONDITIONS: The walk began ~ 8 AM under clear skies with a temperature of 46 degrees F and little to no breeze. We concluded around 10:15 AM with a temperature of 62 degrees F and an east breeze of 2-4 mph.



PARTICIPANTS: Pam Spinella (documentarian), Jerry Molinelli (photography), Linda Molinelli, Ross and Bridget Levin, Lynnette Brouwer, Jim Wilson (photography), Carolyn Samuelson, John Prior, and guides, Ranger Mark Paulet and Joe Ford (11)

COMMENTS: The trek began with observations around the feeders and water source area behind the Nature Center. This was a very active area with lots of opportunities to view birds. We then went to the Overton Trail, traveled NE to the parking area near the Slate Trailhead, then returned via the road to the Nature Center. Visuals of woodpecker types were hard to come by and flickers only offered their shrill cries as evidence they were there. Gambel's Quail, Curve-billed Thrashers and Cactus Wrens were the most vocal, offering calls to perhaps attract the opposite sex. Spring is in the Air!! A couple of Phainopeplas were perched in a couple of Ironwood trees that had some mistletoe clusters. A few Common Ravens were cruising the thermals along the ridge tops to the west. The short excursion to perhaps see some owls below the bridge proved uneventful, but we did view evidence in terms of excrement trails on the pipes above us.

SPECIES: Gambel's Quail 35, Harris Hawk 1, Red-tailed Hawk 2, Mourning Dove 10, Costa's Hummingbird 2, Gila Woodpecker 4, flicker species 3 (audio), Say's Phoebe 2, Common Raven 7, Verdin 5, Cactus Wren 10, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher 3, Curve-billed Thrasher 10, Northern Mockingbird 2, Phainopepla 2, Yellow-rumped Warbler 2 (audio), Canyon Towhee 2, Abert's Towhee 2, Black-throated Sparrow 7, White-crowned Sparrow 2, House Finch 15, Lesser Goldfinch 2 (21)

Specifics and other details can be found at eBird Cave Creek Birdwalk 2/20/21 Identification Number Checklist S82068505.