

CAVE CREEK REGIONAL PARK 11 21 20

CONDITIONS: Ideal! Partly cloudy skies featuring cirrus, cirrostratus, 40 % cloud cover, Temperature at 7:30 AM 68 degrees F with no wind: temperature at 10 AM 75 degrees F with the same sky conditions, 0-2 mph from the east.



PARTICIPANTS: Pam Spinella (documentation), Linda Molinelli, Jerry Molinelli (photography), Erv Johnson, Janis Banes, David and Linda Murphy and Vinnie, and guides ranger Mark Paulat ( natural points of interest) and Joe Ford (11)

COMMENTS AND ROUTE: The usual trek departed from the Nature Center after spending some time scoping out the avian visitors coming into the water source pond and stream area for liquid or food at the feeder. The Overton Trail was taken initially, then a detour was taken up "Hell's Wash". We spent some time testing our climbing skills and endurance levels, then emerged onto the GoJohn Trail and made our way back to the Nature Center via the Overton Trail . It was a quiet walk for the most part but some willing feathered friends did appear from time to time. Highlights are always Phainopeplas, pockets of Cactus Wrens, and ubiquitous wheep wheeps of the Curve-billed Thrashers. A Northern Cardinal, who had been seen in recent days, appeared at the feeders after our walk had terminated.. The previous dry months certainly affected bird numbers normally seen.

SPECIES: Gambel's Quail 35, Costa's Hummingbird 2, Gila Woodpecker 3, Ladderback Woodpecker 2, flicker species 4 (all audio), Say's Phoebe 2, Common Raven 1 (audio), Verdin 2, Canyon Wren 1, Cactus Wren 7, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher 6, Curve-billed Thrasher 6, Phainopepla 2 (male and female), Yellow-rumped Warbler 2 (audio), Abert's Towhee 3, Black-throated Sparrow 10, White-crowned Sparrow 7, House Finch 3, Northern Cardinal 1 (seen by Ranger Mark after the walk ended) (19)

Details and other information can be found at eBird identification number S76546258