

CAVE CREEK REGIONAL PARK BIRDWALK 10 21 23

CONDITIONS: Ideal (maybe a little warm): temperature at 7:15 AM, 71 degrees F, clear skies, breeze 0-1 mph from NE: temperature at 9 AM, 90 degrees F, clear skies, no breeze

ROUTE: Observations were made around the Nature Center, then the group hiked the Overton Trail, the Tonalite Trail, then returned to the Nature Center via the main road.



PARTICIPANTS: David and Debbie Medalie, Elaine Gong, Jason Feig, Linda Molinelli, Jerry Molinelli (photography), and guides Pam Spinella (hospitality) and Joe Ford.

COMMENTS: It has been a hot and dry summer and the extreme temperatures have continued into middle October. This has certainly been a problem for birds in terms of water and food sources. Our count was much reduced compared to last October. The most observable birds were Cactus Wrens and several nests within cholla cactus were seen. Curve-billed Thrashers were calling and several were

observed. Four Phainopepla were working the mistletoe areas. Overall it was a quiet trip lacking in the normal bird sounds usually heard.

SPECIES: Gambel's Quail 15, Red-tailed Hawk 1(seen coming into the park), Mourning Dove 2, hummingbird species 2, Gila Woodpecker 4, flicker species 2, Say's Phoebe 2, Verdin 3, Cactus Wren 8, Curve-billed Thrasher 6, Phainopepla 4, Abert's Towhee 4, Black-throated Sparrow 6, White-crowned Sparrow 4, House Finch 10, Lesser Goldfinch 3, (14 plus 2 unidentified)

The ebird list can be found at Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Checklist #S152782687, Cave Creek Regional Park 10 21 23.

Six birders remained for the program in the Nature Center on Owls presented by Joe Ford