

ESTRELLA MT. REGIONAL PARK BIRD WALK

DATE: 11/14/2010

CONDITIONS: The skies were clear with some haze toward the east over downtown Phoenix and a fog type haze caressing the Estrella Mountains to the SE. Our starting temperature was 46 degrees F at 7:45. Little to no breeze. Temperature at conclusion was 69 degrees F at 11:00 AM, breeze 0-1 mph from the east.

ROUTE AND LOCATIONS OBSERVED: visitor center, Mesquite Bosque near the Navy Area, Blue Gum Grove, irrigated areas, grasslands, desert scrub, riparian area along the river trail to the mitigated ponds east of Vineyard Ave. The Gila River was bank full for the first time in two months.



PARTICIPANTS: Karen Martin (photography) Jerry Molinelli (photography) Linda Molinelli, Kim Lipsky, Pam Spinella (documentation), Haylie Hewitt, and docent Joe Ford

COMMENTS: A truly spectacular day for birding weather wise. The White-crowned Sparrows were in abundance and Yellow-rumped Warblers, although elusive from lots of views, were in evidence as proven by their chipping calls almost everywhere we went. A special treat was good looks at 2 Red-tailed Hawks, one obviously a juvenile. The ubiquitous Vermilion Flycatchers seemed to perch nicely and flashed their scarlet-orange plumage from positions atop posts or on low hanging branches of the

mesquites. Cormorants, in v formations at times, graced the air waves and three American White Pelicans pulled our eyes upward to see a nice flyover.

SPECIES: Mallard (audio), Gambel's Quail 9, Western Grebe 3, cormorant species, mostly Neotropic 75, Double-crested Cormorant 1, American White Pelican 3, Great Blue Heron 1, Green Heron 3, Black-crowned Night Heron 1, Sharp-shinned Hawk 1, Red-tailed Hawk 2, American Coot 10, Killdeer 7, Mourning Dove 15, Anna's Hummingbird 3, hummingbird species 2, Belted Kingfisher 2, Gila Woodpecker 5, Gilded Flicker 1, flicker species 4, Black Phoebe 2, Say's Phoebe 2, Ash-throated Flycatcher 1, Vermilion Flycatcher 4, Loggerhead Shrike 2, Verdin 6, Rock Wren 2, Cactus Wren 1, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher 8, Curve-billed Thrasher 1, Northern Mockingbird 5, European Starling 12, Yellow-rumped Warblers 35, Green-tailed Towhee 1, Abert's Towhee 6, Black-throated Sparrow 1, Song Sparrow 2, White-crowned Sparrow 50, Dark-eyed Junco 5, Great-tailed Grackle 2, House Finch 25, Lesser Goldfinch 1, Red-naped Sapsucker 1, Western Bluebird 1, Greater Roadrunner 1 (38 total)

Specifics and other details can be found at eBird, identification number__S76258709