

## ESTRELLA MT. PARK BIRDWALK 11 13 21

CONDITIONS: Clear skies at 8 AM, temperature 64 degrees F, wind 9-2 mph from the NNE:: walk conclusion at 10:45 AM, still clear skies, temperature 84 degrees F, wind 2-4 mph from the NNE

ROUTE: The normal areas were observed as in the past. Nature Center observations, caravanned to the Navy Area, trekked east through the Mesquite area, the Blue Gum grove, on to the north parking lot shrub and desert scrub area, cross Vineyard to the Gila River Riparian trail, and on to the mitigated ponds.



PARTICIPANTS: David Glaeseman, David Charles, Linda Molinelli, Jerry Molinelli (photography), Karen Martin (photography), leaders Tom Locascio, Joe Ford

COMMENTS: This was a beautiful, sort of fall, day with minimal discourses issued from our feathered friends. Most migrants had passed through on their way to southern climes and the residents were not voicing mating songs. So, recognizing “chips” and calls was the order of the day to detect elusive birds within the vegetation, although a few offered views in higher regions of the trees. Thirty-four species was a good number for this effort. We observed 4 heron species, were once again blessed by the radiance of Vermilion Flycatchers and the chips of Yellow-rumps were almost ubiquitous. It was also obvious that the Neotropical Cormorants had experienced a most fruitful breeding season. Noisy Belted

Kingfishers darted here and there, issuing their chatters at the human interlopers. All and all a most pleasant day with grand views of the Estrella Mountains and Montezuma Peak through the distant haze.

SPECIES: Common Merganser 1, Pied-billed Grebe 3, Neotropic Cormorants 247, Great Blue Heron 3, Great Egret 2, Snowy Egret 1, Green Heron 2, Northern Harrier 2, Red-tailed Hawk 2, Killdeer 1, Mourning Dove 17, Anna's Hummingbird 1, Belted Kingfisher 2, Gila Woodpecker 6 (mostly audio), Northern Flicker 1, flicker species 2, Black Phoebe 2, Say's Phoebe 2, Vermilion Flycatcher 3, Loggerhead Shrike 1, Verdin 2, Marsh Wren 3, Ruby-crowned Kinglet 2, Curve-billed Thrasher 1, Northern Mockingbird 4, European Starling 13, Yellow-rumped Warbler 15, Abert's Towhee 4, White-crowned Sparrow 12, Northern Cardinal 2, Great-tailed Grackle 2, House Finch 7 (34)

Other details can be found at eBird Checklist ID# S97566197 Estrella Mountains Bird walk 11 13 21