

ESTRELLA MT REGIONAL PARK BIRDWALK 1-9-21

CONDITIONS: Clear skies with some light cirrus wisps. Temp at beginning 48 degrees F, Conclusion 63 degrees F, no wind

ROUTE: After a walk around the visitor center we caravanned to the east side Navy Area. Most of our birding was done in the area around the Mesquite Bosque and adjacent Blue Gum Grove. As gunfire was prevalent east of Vineyard, for safety reasons we negated doing the river trail toward the mitigated ponds this trip.

PARTICIPANTS: Janice Reed, Jerry Molinelli (photography), Linda Molinelli, Haylie Hewitt, Erv Johnson, Pam Spinella (resources), Sebma Moheshwari and wife and two children (teenage and 5 years), Tom Locascio (guide) 11

COMMENTS: A very successful day of birding with a new family generating excitement upon seeing the ever popular Vermilion Flycatchers. A flock of Dark-eyed Juncos was a rare find and a greater number of Brewer's Sparrows than usual were seen. And of course the bubbly Western Bluebirds. Most of the rest of our sightings were pretty much the local residents and flyovers of geese and cormorants added to our totals. Following the walk Jerry and Linda took a walk over to the lakes east of Vineyard. They encountered flocks of white pelicans beginning to show bumps on their bills, which is an indicator they may be moving into a breeding mode. Quite a sight I am sure. And many pelicans soaring in aerial display. Possibly the juncos had some Oregon and Pink-sided subspecies mixed in with the Dark-eyed.

SPECIES: Canada Geese 12, Gambel's Quail 8, Mourning Dove 12, Greater Roadrunner 1, Neotropical Cormorant 100, Double-crested Cormorant 2, American White Pelican 4, Great Blue Heron 1, Harris's Hawk 2, Red-tailed Hawk 1, Gila Woodpecker 2, Gilded Flicker 3, Say's Phoebe 2, Vermilion Flycatcher 4, Loggerhead Shrike 1, Verdin 2, Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1, Cactus Wren 2, European Starling 27, Curve-billed Thrasher 2, Northern Mockingbird 4, Western Bluebird 6, American Robin 1, Phainopepla 1, House Finch 22, Brewer's Sparrow 8, Lark Sparrow 1, Dark-eyed Junco 21, White-crowned Sparrow 13, Abert's Towhee 4, Yellow-rumped Warbler 1 (adding the totals Jerry and Linda reported: American White Pelican 200, Rudy Duck 10, Belted Kingfisher 1, Northern Harrier 1, Northern Rough-winged Swallows 12, Blue-grey Gnatcatcher 2, Red-tailed Hawk 3), (38 total)

Details and other information can be found at eBird, Identification Number S78963892 for the checklist.