

## ESTRELLA MT. REGIONAL PARK BIRD WALK 12 11 21

**CONDITIONS:** At inception of the trek, 8 AM, the temperature was 44 degrees F under clear skies. At conclusion, approximately 11:30 AM, the temperature was 58 degrees F with a freshening breeze from the NE at 4-6 mph. Our mileage was approximately 2 miles.

**ROUTE:** Met at the Nature Center for early birding around 7:30, then caravanned to the Navy Area on the east side of the park. Toured the Mesquite Bosque, Blue Gum Grove, grass area, desert scrub, then crossed Vineyard to the Riparian Trail and on to the mitigated ponds



**PARTICIPANTS:** Buddy Walker (photography), Karen Martin (photography) Jerry Molinelli (photography), Linda Molinelli, Haylie Hewitt, Paul Doucette, Lynnette Brouwer, Julie Wahlert, Natalie Rivera, Mary Ann Wolfeston, and guides Tom Locascio and Joe Ford. (12)

**COMMENTS:** Clear skies and cool temperatures began our day, but temperatures quickly moderated towards warm as the day progressed. The 51 species observed was a good number in comparing totals from the last two months. Highlights were the Bald Eagle, numerous egrets, two heron species, an Ash-throated Flycatcher and a flock of Lark Sparrows. The usual group of Yellow-rumped Warblers were present, although elusive to sight. Two merganser species were sighted. The river was bank full in most of the places we observed and without the shallows and accompanying mud flats, shore birds were absent. Lots of cormorants again and a group of Double-crested Cormorants made the scene this time. A

noisy kingfisher was swooping back and forth, announcing our presence to the avian residents as well as the community around us. A big thank you to our photographers for help in documenting our species numbers and helping with identifications.

SPECIES; Canada Goose 7, Gadwall 3, American Wigeon 2, Hooded Merganser 1, Common Merganser 3, Gambel's Quail 8, Pied-billed Grebe 1, Eared Grebe 1, Western Grebe 1, Neotropical Cormorant 100+, Double-crested Cormorant 7, American White Pelican 2, Great Blue Heron 6, Great Egret 8, Snowy Egret 7, Black-crowned Night Heron 2, Osprey 1, Bald Eagle 1, Northern Harrier 2, Red-tailed Hawk 1, Common Gallinule 1, American Coot 7, Mourning Dove 2, Anna's Hummingbird 1, Costa's Hummingbird 1, Belted Kingfisher 2, Gila Woodpecker 4, Ladder-backed Woodpecker 1, Gilded Flicker 1, American Kestrel 2, Black Phoebe 2, Say's Phoebe 5, Vermilion Flycatcher 3, Ash-throated Flycatcher 1, Common Raven 3, Northern Rough-winged Swallow 12, Verdin 5, Rock Wren 1, Marsh Wren 2, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher 4, Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1, Curve-billed Thrasher 2, Northern Mockingbird 4, European Starling 15, Yellow-rumped Warbler 5, Abert's Towhee 6, Lark Sparrow 17, Song Sparrow 1, White-crowned Sparrow 8, Great-tailed Grackle 6, House Finch 6 (51)

The checklist for this birdwalk can be found at eBird # S98763023 Estrella Mountain Park 12 11 21 for more details.