

ESTRELLA MT. REGIONAL PARK BIRDWALK 2 10 24

CONDITIONS: At 8 am the temperature was 51 degrees under cloudy skies (cumulus, stratocumulus) and no breeze. At 10 am the temperature was 63 degrees, still cloudy (cumulus) and a light breeze 1-3 mph from the NW. A rain event had occurred in the last 24 hours.

ROUTE: Observations were made around the Nature Center, then the group caravanned to the Navy Area on the east side of the park and walked west through the Mesquite Bosque, the Blue Gum Grove, the large grass area, the north parking lot and desert scrub, then returned to the vehicles.



PARTICIPANTS: Jeff and Esther Hoffman, Doug and Mary Urban, Susan Anfinson, Christine Breuker, Paul Allmen, Karen Houle, Karen Martin (photography), Linda Molinelli, Jerry Molinelli (photography), Pam Spinella (hospitality), Paul Doucette, and guides Tom Locascio and Joe Ford (14)

COMMENTS: This was a grand day for birders. The rain events in the last week and refreshed efforts at growth and the invader species and grassy areas were flourishing. The usual residents were present as Northern Mockingbirds were in full chorus along with the laughing Gila Woodpeckers. A small flock of Lark Sparrows were present and three raptors were seen. Always a treat to see were the male Vermilion Flycatchers.

SPECIES: Gambel's Quail 24, Double-crested Cormorant 13, Great Blue Heron 1, Great Egret 1, Cooper's Hawk 1, Red-tailed Hawk 1, Killdeer 1, Eurasian Collared Dove 2, Mourning Dove 6, Anna's Hummingbird 1, Costa's Hummingbird 2, Gila Woodpecker 5, Ladder-backed Woodpecker 2, Gilded Flicker 1, flicker species 1, American Kestrel 1, Say's Phoebe 2, Vermilion Flycatcher 3, Verdin 3, Rock Wren 2, Cactus Wren 3, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher 2, Curve-billed Thrasher 2, Northern Mockingbird 3, European Starling 21, Orange-crowned Warbler 2, Abert's Towhee 4, Lark Sparrow 17, White-crowned Sparrow 25, Western Meadowlark 1, Great-tailed Grackle 15, House Finch 6 (31)

Five birdlovers stayed for the presentation in the Nature Center on "Penguins" presented by Joe Ford and enjoyed the pastries from our hospitality chairman, Pam Spinella.