

ESTRELLA MT. REGIONAL PARK BIRDWALK 2 11 23

CONDITIONS: At 8 AM skies were cloudy to 95 percent with altocumulus, cumulus, and altostratus the dominant cloud types, temperature at 50 degrees F and a breeze from the east at 6-7 mph.:: walk conclusion at 10 AM, cloudy skies at 80 % cover, cumulus, cirrocumulus, cirrus, and alto cumulus dominating and a brisk breeze from the east, 7-8 mph.

ROUTE: The walk was abbreviated this trip due to potential danger from hunters in the area of the ponds on the east side of Vineyard Avenue. Numerous repetitive discharges from firearms were in that area. Thus the stroll through the Mesquite Bosque, Blue Gum Grove. Irrigated grass areas, the median on the north side of the Navy Area and the desert scrub region north of the parking lot occupied most of our time. Observations at the Nature Center earlier also produced some good looks. Some of our group did make the trip across Vineyard and along the south riparian trail adjacent to the Gila River and those observations are added to this report.



PARTICIPANTS: David Charles, Natalie Rivera, Kate Preudhomine, Jud Knittel, Helen Pugh, Bev Ledig, Christine Breuker, Russ and Camille King, J.J. Golio, Phyllis Smith, Paul Doucette, Karen Martin (photography), Linda Molinelli, Jerry Molinelli (photography), and guides Tom Locascio and Joe Ford (17)

COMMENTS: The day arrived with a grand sunrise that painted the clouds with tinges of orange and pink. And there were a lot of clouds along with a pretty good breeze from the east. Color was provided by the Vermilion Flycatchers and a Red-naped Sapsucker. Thrushes were represented by American Robins and a small group of Western Bluebirds. Four woodpecker species were seen and an Eurasian Collared Dove graced the airwaves with a continuous song that just seemed to go on and on.

SPECIES: Gambel's Quail 1, Neotropic Cormorant *, American White Pelican 16, White-faced Ibis*, Cooper's Hawk 1, Red-tailed Hawk 2, Killdeer 3, Eurasian Collared Dove 2, Mourning Dove 10, Anna's Hummingbird 1, Costa's Hummingbird 1, Gila Woodpecker 4, Red-naped Sapsucker 1, Ladder-backed Woodpecker 2, Gilded Flicker 2, American Kestrel 1, Vermilion Flycatcher 6, Saye's Phoebe 1, Plumbeous Vireo 1, Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1, Western Bluebird 5, American Robin 4, Curve-billed Thrasher (Bendire's??) 1, European Starling 12, Yellow-rumped Warbler 3, Abert's Towhee 2, Chipping Sparrow 2, White-crowned Sparrow 20, House Finch 6 (29)

REPORT FROM MOLINELLI, DOUCETTE TEAM:

Cinnamon Teal 3, Pied Billed Grebe 3, Least Bittern (audio), Great Egret 4, Snowy Egret 6, Green Heron 1, Black-crowned Night Heron 2, Sora (audio), Common Gallinule (audio), Belted Kingfisher 1, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher 1, Song Sparrow (audio) (12)

OTHER INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND AT eBird through Cornell Lab of Ornithology, checklist #S12811811 under Estrella Mt. Regional Park 2 11 23

Eleven birders stayed to view the powerpoint program on "Bird Weirdness III" presented by Joe Ford.