

## WHITE TANK MOUNTAINS BIRD WALK 10 23 21

**CONDITIONS:** The walk began around 8 AM under cloudy skies (40% cover). Cloud types were Altostratus, Cirrus, Altocumulus with haze negating vision on the horizons. Breeze 0-1 mph.: At walk conclusion around 10:15 AM, skies were still cloudy (80% cover) dominated by Altostratus, Altocumulus and high Cirrus. The breeze had freshened to 2-3 mph from the east.

**ROUTE:** Observations were made at the Nature Center starting around 7 AM. The main group met at Area 9 near the Ford Canyon Trailhead around 8 AM, then followed the Ford Canyon Trail west to the Ironwood Trail, then went east circling back to the Ford Canyon Trail ending at the Ford Canyon Trailhead.



**PARTICIPANTS:** Samuel and Elizabeth Torres, Elizabeth Reed, Kelly Potter, Loretta Richards, Linda Molinelli, Jerry Molinelli (photography), Karen Martin (photography), Pam Spinella (resources), Tom Locascio and Joe Ford (guides) (11)

**COMMENTS:** Weatherwise the day was perfect. The silence was indicative of a fall bird trek, as few birds were calling and none really singing at all. Water sources were limited on the Ford Canyon Trail and most of the plants had no blossoms or major seed sources to entice the presence of the natives. Curve-billed Thrashers with their “weep-weeps” were a constant, the tinkling call of Black-throated Sparrows,



the "chrrling" of Cactus Wrens, the diverse calls of Rock Wrens, and the occasional "scree" from a flicker pretty much summarizes the vocality of the desert dwellers on this morning.

SPECIES: Gambel's Quail 2, Cooper's Hawk 1, Red-tailed Hawk 1 Mourning Dove 22 ( nature Center mostly), Costa's Hummingbird 3, Gila Woodpecker 5, Gilded Flicker 3, Say's Phoebe 2, Loggerhead Shrike 1, Common Raven 2, Verdin 3, Rock Wren 4, Cactus Wren 6, Curve-billed Thrasher 6, European Starling 2, Yellow-rumped Warbler 13, Abert's Towhee 1, Black-throated Sparrow 20, White-crowned Sparrow 1, Great-tailed Grackle 2, House Finch 15 (22 total)

We are waiting on pictures to confirm an Orange-crowned Warbler, or perhaps another warbler species.

Other information can be found at eBird Checklist # S96608453 White Tank Mountains Regional Park.

