

WHITE TANK MOUNTAINS REGIONAL PARK BIRD WALK 3 26 22

CONDITIONS: Temperature 61 degrees F under partly cloudy skies, mainly cirrus and cirrostratus at 7:30 AM, no breeze:: Temperature 89 degrees F under cloudy skies, again mainly cirrus and cirrostratus at 10 AM, breeze 1-3 mph.

ROUTE: Observations were made at the Nature Center from 7 AM until around 7:45 AM, The group then caravanned to Area 4, made observations within the parking area, then toured the Black Rock Trail long loop and returned to Area 4.



PARTICIPANTS: Christine Breuker, Joan Grussing, Loretta Richards, Chris and Christine Erickson, Eddie Gibb, Barbara Dunsmore, Diane Bradbury, Linda Molinelli, Jerry Molinelli (photography), Karen Martin (photography), and guides, Tom Locascio and Joe Ford

COMMENTS: This was a beautiful day to be in the desert as the wildflower bloom had begun in all its glory. The yellows of Brittlebush and Creosote Bush blanketed the area with spots of lupine, Blue Dicks, Desert Globe Mallow and Gold Mexican Poppies appearing as well. Several Hedge Hog Cactus with their flashy maroon-ruby blossoms also delighted our vision.

Many bird species were in chorus with mate seeking vocalizations and Cactus Wrens were seen entering and leaving nests, usually tucked into the arms of chollas, most notably the Teddy Bear Cholla. The churriling of the Cactus Wren, the “wheep-wheeps” and gurgling melodies of some Curve-billed Thrashers, along with the songs of Northern Mockingbirds, filled the air ways. House Finches were the prominent species at the Nature Center and we encountered the songs of a Rock Wren and Canyon Wren along the Black Rock and Mule Deer Trails. Mourning Doves were many at the Nature Center feeders, but the only raptors were a couple of Turkey Vultures.

SPECIES: Gambel’s Quail 4, Turkey Vulture 2, Eurasian Collared Dove 2, Mourning Dove 20, Anna’s Hummingbird 2, Costa’s Hummingbird 3, Gila Woodpecker 6, flicker 1, Say’s Phoebe 4, Ladderback

Woodpecker 1, Empidonax species 1, Common Raven 1, Verdin 4, Rock Wren 2, Canyon Wren 1, Cactus Wren 5, Curve-billed Thrasher 6, Northern Mockingbird 4, European Starling 6, Phainopepla 2, Yellow-rumped Warbler 6, Brewer's Sparrow 1, Song Sparrow 1, White-crowned Sparrow 20, Great-tailed Grackle 2, Brown-headed Cowbird 2, House Finch 15, Lesser Goldfinch 4 (25)

Other details can be found at eBird, checklist #s105694386 White Tanks Regional Park Birdwalk