

WHITE TANK MT. BIRDWALK 3 27 21

CONDITIONS: 56 degrees F at 8 AM with clear skies and an east breeze at 1-2 mph: 65 degrees F at 10:15 AM with a southeast breeze 2-4 mph, clear skies

OBSERVATIONS: The Nature Center took up an hour of time as the diversity and number of birds there made for some good looks. The route taken by most of the group was on the Ford Canyon-Ironwood Loop trail emanating from Area 9.



PARTICIPANTS: Erv Johnson, Elie Suida, Barbara Talbot, Walt and Jannean Tysk, Steve Huggenburger, Karen Glennan, Yvonne Bentley, Christine Breucker, Pam Spinella (documentation), Linda Molinella, Jerry Molinella (photography), Karen Martin (photography) and guides Tom Locascio and Joe Ford (15)

COMMENTS: A truly beautiful day with clear skies and cool temperatures and very little breeze, thus observations were easily accomplished. The bulk of bird activity was at the feeders and among the blooming plants (Brittlebush, Fairy Dusters, Creosote Bush, Globe Mallow) at the Nature Center area. The trail taken from Area 9 was more quiet than usual, possibly due to the lack of rainfall in the past months (at least any significant amounts) which then limited water sources available as well as retarded efforts by native vegetation to begin the flowering cycle. Audio was dominated by Cactus Wrens and Curve-billed Thrashers and one flock of Black-throated Sparrows, which proved quite elusive as to

allowing us visual moments. Highlights had to be the aerial swiftness of Violet-green Swallows overhead and a solitary Hooded Oriole, which is a rare species to be seen at White Tank Park.

SPECIES: Gambel's Quail 13, Turkey Vulture 3, Red-tailed Hawk 2, Mourning Dove 7, Anna's HB 1, Costa's HB 2, Gila Woodpecker 5, Gilded Flicker 5, American Kestrel 1, Say's Phoebe 2, Ash-throated Flycatcher 2, Violet-green Swallow 25, Verdin 2, Cactus Wren 7, Curve-billed Thrasher 10, European Starling 3, Orange-crowned Warbler 1, Abert's Towhee 2, Black-throated Sparrow 3, White-crowned Sparrow 20, Brown-headed Cowbird 3, Hooded Oriole 1, House Finch 25 (nature center 23), Lesser Goldfinch 2 (25)

Details and other information can be found at eBird White Tank Mt., 3 27 21 identification number S84219906.