

WHITE TANK REG PARK BIRDWALK 3 25 23

CONDITIONS: Ideal. At 7:30 AM the skies were clear, temperature 48 degrees F and little to no breeze: at walk conclusion, 10:15 AM, still clear skies with some cumulus developing over the metro area east, slight breeze from the SW at 1-3 mph.



PARTICIPANTS: David Charles, Nancy Hull, Tuck and Doraan Russell, Steve Osgood, Karen Parrow, John C. Calhoun, Roxanne Morro, Russ and Camille King, Karen Martin (photography), Linda Molinelli, Jerry Molinelli (photography) and guides Tom Locascio and Joe Ford.

ROUTE: Observations were made first at the Nature Center, then the group caravanned to Area 4 and hiked the Black Rock Loop Trail Long Loop. Some sightings were made in the Area 4 parking area.

COMMENTS: The blessings from the frequent winter and early spring rains led to a bounty of wildflowers to behold. The colors were many as Brittlebush, Desert Marigolds, Stinknet and a few just opening Mexican Poppies flashed yellows and oranges for us to see and Coulter's Lupine, Globemallow, Owl Clover added the accents. Even a couple of cholla and hedgehog cactus were popping blooms. The

avian residents were dominated in song by Cactus Wrens. Ash-throated Flycatchers were about and several woodpecker types were hanging around the Saguaro tops. Canyon Wrens sent a chorus from the canyon and mountain sides and the White-crowned Sparrow were having a group sing to add to the desert music.

SPECIES: Gambel's Quail 6, Turkey Vulture 1, White-winged Dove 1, Mourning Dove 20, Costa's Hummingbird 2, Gila Woodpecker 7, Gilded Flicker 2, Say's Phoebe 3, Ash-throated Flycatcher 3, Common Raven 2, Verdin 8, Rock Wren 1, Canyon Wren 2, Cactus Wren 8, Curve-billed Thrasher 4, Northern Mockingbird 1, European Starling 4, Canyon Towhee 2, Abert's Towhee 2, Phainopepla 1, Black-throated Gray Warbler 1, Black-throated Sparrow 5, White-crowned Sparrow 12, Brown-headed Cowbird 2, House Finch 12, Lesser Goldfinch 2 (26)

Other information and the eBird list can be found at Cornell Lab of Ornithology under checklist #S131798249 White Tank Regional Park 3 25 23.

Seven birders stayed for the program in the Nature Center, "Thrushes" given by Joe Ford