

WHITE TANK MTS. REGIONAL PARK BIRDWALK 11 23 24

CONDITIONS: Ideal! Temperature at 7:30 AM was 48 degrees F under clear blue skies and a haze in the east over the urban areas. Slight breeze of 0-1 from the southwest. At 9:30 AM, the temperature was 61 degrees F, still clear skies and no breeze.



PARTICIPANTS: Derek and Rachel Boender with their daughters, Rose and Elsa, Rich Fuhrmann, Linda Molinelli, Jerry Molinelli (photography), Karen Martin (photography), Pam Spinella (hospitality) and guides Tom Locascio and Joe Ford. (11)

ROUTE: Observations were made at the Nature Center from 7 to 7:30, then the group caravanned to Area 4 and walked the Black Rock Long Loop Trail. Some species were seen in the parking area at Area 4.

COMMENTS: Once again the dry conditions contributed to a reduction in species and numbers normally seen. The usual small flocks of Black-throated Sparrows were present and a Loggerhead Shrike was acting as a sentinel atop a saguaro column. Several saguaros had succumbed to the lack of monsoon rains and were lying prone upon the desert floor, lifeless. A vision of a grazing Mule Deer doe also blessed our day.

SPECIES: Gambel's Quail 26, Mourning Dove 7, Anna's Hummingbird 2, Costa's Hummingbird 1, Great Horned Owl 1, Gila Woodpecker 6, Gilded Flicker 5, Say's Phoebe 2, Loggerhead Shrike 1, Verdin 5, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher 3, Rock Wren 1, Cactus Wren 8, European Starling 8, Curve-billed Thrasher 4, House Finch 5, Black-throated Sparrow 29, White-crowned Sparrow 13, Sage Sparrow 2, Great Tailed Grackle 1 (20)

OTHER INFORMATION: can be found at eBird through the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, checklist number S203416074 Sat23Nov2024 White Tanks Regional Park

Nine bird lovers remained for the presentation in the Nature Center by Joe Ford on "Ratites" A humongous thank you to Pam Spinella for providing the pastries during the program.