



San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

# WESTERN MEADOWLARK

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## Campaign Launched to Gather 500,000 Signatures to Cap Greenhouse Gas Pollution at 350 Parts Per Million

**Dr. James Hansen, Barbara Kingsolver, Ed Begley, Jr., Bonnie Raitt, Lemony Snicket, Sierra Club Board Member Among First Signers**

A recent article asked “Is this the end of migration?” The article noted that climate change is already affecting bird behavior and at a staggering rate: some 20 billion birds have already altered their flight paths.

At the same time, climate legislation is weak and stalled in the Senate and scientists have concluded that the Copenhagen accord, at best, will produce greenhouse pollution reduction targets that are “paltry” and inadequate to prevent the worst impacts of climate change.

So, what can we do today? We can use the Clean Air Act today to curb global warming, but the Center for Biological Diversity needs you to help us push the Environmental Protection Agency to do so. The Center has launched a campaign to gather 500,000 signatures on a People’s Petition asking EPA to set a national pollution standard to reduce carbon dioxide pollution in the atmosphere to 350 parts per million under the Clean Air Act. Atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> is currently at 390 parts per million and growing, causing a dangerous climate disruption.

The People’s Petition is in support of a Clean Air Act legal filing submitted by the Center and 350.org in December 2009 to set an upper limit of 350 parts per million on dangerous greenhouse gas pollution. The EPA is currently reviewing the request and is expected to render a decision later this year.

While the EPA is beginning the process of regulation, there is as yet no formal scientific standard determining what the safe level of carbon dioxide is and how deeply emissions need to be reduced to return to the safety zone.

According to actor and environmental activist, Ed Begley, Jr., “Setting climate policy without a scientific target is like driving with your eyes closed. You don’t know where you’re going and you’ll probably crash.

The EPA should open everyone’s eyes as soon as possible by determining the safe level of greenhouse gases.”

Begley is joined as an initial signer of the petition by Dr. Jim Hansen of NASA, who asserted, “Science demands that we reduce atmospheric carbon pollution to a level of 350 parts per million (ppm) or less to sustain life as we know it. Energy and climate policies must recognize this 350 ppm limit.”

The grassroots campaign is also supported by musician and activist Bonnie Raitt. “In 40 years of performing and working for social change,” she said, “I’ve learned that the best, longest-lasting policy reforms come from the ground up. I hope that 500,000 people join me in asking the EPA to bring atmospheric carbon dioxide pollution back down to 350 parts per million. The lives of polar bears, sea turtles, and the human race depend on it.”

Bestselling author and environmental activist Barbara Kingsolver explained the ethical and personal imperative of establishing a clear, specific target for greenhouse gas pollution reduction. “Reaching 350 ppm is a matter of living by my values – which include both ‘love your neighbor’ and ‘try not to wreck every blooming thing on the planet while you’re here.’”

Among the many notables joining these initial signers of the People’s Petition are activists Michael Dorsey (Sierra Club board member), Brock Evans (president of the Endangered Species Coalition), Dr. Helen Caldicott (antinuclear activist), former government official Curtis Moore (Republican counsel to the Senate’s Committee on Environment and Public Works), scientists Dr. Thomas Lovejoy (biodiversity chair, Heinz Center), Dr. Niles Eldredge (American Museum of Natural History) and Dr. John Terborgh (Center for Tropical Conservation, Duke University), and authors Lemony Snicket (i.e. Daniel Handler), Jonathan Lethem (author of *Motherless Brooklyn*), Rick Moody (author of *The Ice Storm*) and Donna Tartt (author of *The Secret History*).

Please take just one minute and click:

<http://salsa.democracyinaction.org> to see a current list of signatories, sign on and ask everyone you know to join you! Together, we can have an impact!

*The Center for Biological Diversity is a national, non-profit conservation organization with more than 255,000 members and online activists dedicated to the protection of endangered species and wild places.*



**The Legal Eagle #2**

By Drew Feldmann

This column is written to inform chapter members of our different legal actions, their prospects, and results. This particular column, our second, will introduce members to some of the specific litigation currently under way.

In my previous column, I laid out our situation in general terms, gave our reasons for pursuing litigation on occasion, and described how we decided on particular issues to pursue. I closed by saying that in my next column, I would specifically describe the six lawsuits we currently had in process. Actually, there are now eight, which I believe is the most that the chapter has ever had at any one time. So volatile is our situation that we have added two more lawsuits to the list in the last two months. Here are the basically north-to-south listing. The first two are intended to stop specific developments in the San Bernardino Mountains, the next three (#3, 4, and 5) are closely related in that they are all trying to keep the March-Sycamore Canyon Stephens Kangaroo Rat Preserve from being cut to pieces for development. #6, the Villages of Lakeview, is perhaps the most important on the list. The last two are more general suits designed to protect habitat in the desert.

Many of these suits are new, and members should realize that the first several months of such suits consist of document analysis and submissions plus at least one “Mandatory settlement conference” (the conference is mandatory, not the settlement). It typically takes about a year before the case goes to trial, if it ever does.

1. Hawarden was a project to build 58 houses on 40 acres southeast of Lake Arrowhead. Along with the Sierra Club, Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) and Save Our Forests Association (SOFA), we sued because the project was more growth in an area that has too much, it blocked a wildlife corridor, it would destroy habitat for the endangered southern rubber boa, and because the County was violation its own fire safety requirements. This case has been going on for several years. We won in appellate court on all points and are now petitioning for return of attorney’s fees.

2. The Royal Rangers is a project to build a youth camp on 50 acres in Twin Peaks complete with housing for some 640 attendees and an amphitheater that can accommodate over a thousand people. The issues are the same as Hawarden, plus the burden of as many as a thousand people in an area that really can’t hold that many. We filed the complaint for this one, along with CBD and SOFA on March 24 of this year. Settlement discussions are under way. This is usually a good sign, because if both sides can meet an agreeable solution and avoid a trial, both sides can be winners.

3. Alessandro Business Center (“Alessandro North”) is a large warehouse project on the north side of Alessandro in the city of Riverside, which was approved in violation of many environmental requirements. The project will impact Sycamore Canyon and its protected Stephens Kangaroo Rat (SKR) population. We filed suit on this one along with CBD and Sierra Club on April 8. Again, settlement discussions are under way, which is a good sign per the reason given under # 2.

4. There is another pending large warehouse project south of Alessandro (“Alessandro South”) at the corner of Gem Lane, basically across the street from Alessandro North. The issues are

very similar to Alessandro North—preserve the SKR Preserve—but this is a separate suit because it is outside the Riverside city limits on county jurisdiction land. We filed suit against the County on May 12, along with CBD and the Friends of Riverside’s Hills.

5. **March SKR Reserve** is an action in Federal Court by CBD and us to stop the transfer of a large chunk of the March SKR reserve to warehouse development. We had successful settlement talks with Federal Fish and Wildlife which resulted in F&W agreeing to rescind the transfer. In other words, we won. However, the March Joint Powers Authority has filed a motion to intervene, so the litigation is not settled.

6. **Villages of Lakeview**—this is the newest suit. This is a development of some 11,350 housing units along the Ramona Expressway, of which 1,785 units would be north of the expressway and immediately south of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. We are very concerned about the edge effects on the Wildlife Area, one of the premier birding areas in southern California and this could be the most important lawsuit in years. We have joined CBD in their lawsuit against the developers. The Friends of the Northern San Jacinto Valley and the Sierra Club have filed a separate suit against the developers.

7. **Peninsular Bighorn Sheep Critical Habitat** is an action in Federal Court along with CBD and other groups against the Department of Interior’s reduction by half of critical habitat for the Peninsular Bighorn sheep in parts of Riverside, San Diego, and Imperial Counties. We are in the early stages.

8. **DOE Southwest Energy Corridor** is a suit in Federal Court protesting Bush-era Department of Energy regulations that would bypass normal environmental requirements for energy projects anywhere in southern California. We and other groups are allies of the principal litigant, the Desert Protection Society, and other groups have filed similar suits. We are awaiting a ruling.

So that’s the list. If anyone has questions about them or wants to help in some way, I can be emailed at [drewf3@verizon.net](mailto:drewf3@verizon.net), or you can speak to me at one of the meetings. As I indicated before, these actions are expensive, and any donations to help save habitat would certainly be appreciated. Just make out a check to SBVAS, indicate what it’s for and mail it to SBVAS, P.O. Box 10973, San Bernardino, Ca. 92423-0973. Thank you so much for your support.

**Thank You to Donors and Volunteers**

San Bernardino Valley Audubon thanks and honors the following donors for their generous gifts.

Buzz Sawyer—book collection

Vivian Allard

Ann Jorris

Peter Jorris

Janice Smith

Sandy Steers

Carol Oliver

Brad Singer

Lois Van Cleve and Jeanne Hoskins —help on the potluck and donation of table decorations.



## Lawsuit Filed to Stop Department of Interior From Continuing to Issue New Offshore Drilling Permits With No Environmental Review

Washington—The Center for Biological Diversity today filed suit against Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar over his continued approval of offshore drilling plans in the Gulf of Mexico without environmental review. The lawsuit, filed in federal court in Washington, D.C., seeks to overturn Department of Interior policies exempting oil drilling from the environmental reviews required by the National Environmental Policy Act. BP's Deepwater Horizon drilling plan was approved in 2009 under the "categorical exclusion" exemption policy, leading to the April 20, 2010 explosion that killed 11 people and caused what is likely the largest oil spill in U.S. history. Despite the catastrophe, Secretary Salazar allowed the Minerals Management Service to issue 26 new drilling approvals—all exempt from environmental review—after the explosion.

"Ken Salazar has learned absolutely nothing from this national catastrophe," said Kieran Suckling, executive director of the Center for Biological Diversity. "He is still illegally exempting dangerous offshore drilling projects in the Gulf of Mexico from all environmental review as millions of gallons of oil gush into the ocean. It is outrageous and unacceptable.

"Today's lawsuit seeks to turn Salazar's fictitious 'moratorium' on oil-drilling approvals into a real one," added Suckling.

Secretary Salazar has been embroiled in controversy since it was revealed on May 5, 2010 that he allowed the Minerals Management Service to exempt BP's offshore drilling plan from environmental review by using a loophole in the National Environmental Policy Act meant only to apply to projects with no, or minimal, negative effects—such as construction of out-houses and hiking trails. The controversy deepened when it was revealed that the agency routinely exempts hundreds of dangerous offshore oil drilling projects in the Gulf of Mexico every year.

"It is inconceivable that Ken Salazar could go visit what is likely the worst oil spill in American history, then continue to allow the rubber-stamping of new drilling permits based on the absurd claim that an oil spill cannot occur and would not be dangerous if it did. It is positively Kafkaesque," said Suckling.

### Help Support Your Local Chapter by Donating Your Old Car

SBVAS will arrange to have your old car picked up and sold at auction. You will be able to write off your donation and we will be able to use the proceeds of the sale of your old car to support our worthy projects. You will be so happy to be rid of your car and feel so good about donating it to a great charity—us.

Contact Dori at 714 779-2201 and she can give you more details..

### Volunteer for Walks and Talks

This past year your chapter has been asked to lead walks and give talks at numerous events but we just don't have enough people to cover all the requests we have been getting. We are asking for your help. We are starting a group that would like to lead or help lead walks, and we are looking for members who would like to give talks to various groups. We would like to put together several short programs to share with the community. This is just the very beginning

and we need all your great ideas and input so we can assemble the very best material and share our love of nature with others. To help, please call Dori at 714 779-2201.

## Torrez-Martinez Wetlands Now Open

The Torrez-Martinez Wetlands, some 86 acres of reclaimed habitat near the mouth of the Whitewater River on the north shore of the Salton Sea on the Torrez-Martinez Reservation, are now open to the public Fridays and Saturdays from 8:00a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Groups may be accommodated at other times by calling 760-397-8145. A recent visit showed lots of nesting birds and migrants, with the highlight being a white-winged scoter.

**DIRECTIONS:** From the I-10 freeway, take 86S in Indio south. This is immediately after 111 south, and is the last exit in Indio. Follow 86S south to SR 195 (66th Avenue) and turn left (east) toward Mecca. You will immediately go past an Arco/Starbucks/Del Taco shopping center. In another quarter mile at most you will approach Mecca and 111. Just before 111 and the railroad is Lincoln Avenue, which goes off to the right (south). Take Lincoln and drive to the end of the road. You will cross the Whitewater River on a little bridge and the wetlands will be on the left as you go over a little hill.



The Torres-Martinez tribe opened its Desert Cahuilla Wetland as part of the Salton Sea restoration effort using 85 acres of land utilizing water from intakes of the White Water River, which has created an ecosystem beneficial to the flora and fauna of the area. In this photo, Rattana Scheuer casts her line as she fishes in one of the four ponds in the wetland. (Omar Ornelas— The Desert Sun)



### Feed Your Yard Birds and Help SBVAS

Wild birdseed will be sold at all general meeting of SBVAS as a regular fundraiser for the organization. The seed is a good blend for the area and will be available in 25 pound bags for \$20.

To get your seed and help SBVAS maintain a regular monthly fundraiser, please pay at the sales table and get a receipt. Then see Kirk Stitt in the parking lot to load your seed.

**Now you can pre-order your seed.** This will guarantee that seed will be available in the varieties you choose. Simply call Kirk at 909 886-5513 and leave a message with your name and the quantity and types of seed you prefer. The seed will be waiting for you at the sales table on meeting night.

## Gulf Oil Disaster How You Can Help

Since the Gulf disaster occurred, Audubon has been recruiting and coordinating volunteers to assist in the emergency response and to provide the citizen science monitoring vital to long term recovery across the region. Our efforts are expanding with the impending launch of a Volunteer Response Center in Mississippi. Our policy team is playing an important role in securing urgent federal funding and assistance. Recently, they helped draft key Senate amendments to speed the distribution of previously appropriated coastal restoration money and to authorize the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to use dredged material from Gulf waterways to mitigate disaster impacts. Audubon's science team is working with other experts to develop and implement protocols for measuring and addressing the spill's impact on birds and habitat. Chapters and Centers are fully engaged and our on-the-ground experts have been essential in helping the media and the public to understand the immediate and long term consequences of the spill. Audubon has been working on the Gulf Coast for decades and we will be there to ensure the protection and restoration of its resources for the good of birds, wildlife and human communities long after the headlines fade.

As Audubon ramps up to respond to the oil spill disaster in the Gulf we wanted to be sure you were aware of information, resources and actions that are underway.

1. An alert on how people can help has been sent to the activist list.
2. Similar information has also been sent to all chapters.

3. On the Audubon home page, two home buttons will allow visitors to donate or lead them to a "how you can help" page that includes a link to a registration form for would-be volunteers, a further donation option, and our current alert on expanded oil drilling and additional information.

You can also send people directly to Audubon.org. The spill response button will be prominent.

Staff in Louisiana, Mississippi and Florida are already working with local officials and conservation colleagues to recruit and coordinate volunteers, to keep well-meaning people out of harm's way, and to monitor impacts and assure that protective measures are in place at fragile habitats—especially globally significant Important Bird Areas.

Staff members have received widespread media coverage, alerting the public of the threats to migratory and coastal birds as the oil heads toward fragile shorelines. For hundreds of species, such as the Brown Pelican—just removed from the Endangered Species List, to other marsh and beach-nesting birds and a host of migratory species, the danger is real. The need to act is urgent and a concerned public is looking to Audubon to lead the way.

Central to our response is to keep working the effective conservation plans, already in place for the Gulf Region. Our efforts involve protecting and rebuilding healthy habitat that will become even more vital as other areas are damaged by oil. Our focus on Important Bird Areas will continue to guide us in protecting the habitats that imperiled species need most. Today, our efforts to promote safer energy policies got a boost when the President agreed to delay new off-shore drilling until the cause of this tragedy is fully investigated. But Audubon will need to continue its push for renewable energy that is cleaner and safer.

For volunteer sign-up, visit [www.audubonaction.org/SpillResponse](http://www.audubonaction.org/SpillResponse)

To learn how to help, visit [www.audubonaction.org/howtohelp](http://www.audubonaction.org/howtohelp)

You can also follow Audubon's efforts on Twitter and Facebook.

### A Statement of Audubon Philosophy

#### *Taken from a 50 year old newsletter*

We believe in the wisdom of nature's design.

We know that soil, water, plants, and wild creatures depend upon each other and are vital to human life.

We recognize that each living thing links to many others in the chain of nature.

We believe that persistent research into the intricate patterns of outdoor life will help to assure wise use of earth's abundance.

We condemn no wild creature and work to assure that no living species shall be lost.

We believe that every generation should be able to experience spiritual and physical refreshment in places where primitive nature is undisturbed.

So we will be vigilant to protect wilderness areas, refuges, and parks, and to encourage good use of nature's storehouse of resources.

We dedicate ourselves to the pleasant task of opening the eyes of young and old that all may come to enjoy the beauty of the outdoor world, and to share in conserving its wonders forever.

### By-Law Revisions

The board recently completed a revision of the by-laws for San Bernardino Valley Audubon to bring them into compliance with electronic voting procedures. Revisions were presented to the general membership at the potluck in June and will be presented to the membership for voting at the first meeting of the new year in September.

If you would like a chance to review the changes yourself so you can vote responsibly, you can get an electronic version by emailing your request to Kirk Stitt at [kstitt@earthlink.net](mailto:kstitt@earthlink.net). You can also phone Kirk at 909 886-5513.

I consider myself to have been the bridge between the shotgun and the binoculars in bird watching. Before I came along, the primary way to observe birds was to shoot them and stuff them

Roger Tory Peterson

It may be hard for an egg to turn into a bird: it would be a jolly sight harder for it to learn to fly while remaining an egg. We are like eggs at present. And you cannot go on indefinitely being just an ordinary, decent egg. We must be hatched or go bad.

C. S. Lewis

Saving the Gulf is a  away.



As the devastating oil spill spread toward vulnerable wildlife and habitats, Audubon was there. Now we need your help. There's no need to take out your wallet. Go to the website below and vote for Audubon once a week until August 22. Tell your friends too. With enough votes, Members Project® from American Express and TakePart will help fund Audubon's work to restore a devastated ecosystem. We've worked for birds, wildlife and communities in the Gulf for decades—help us continue long after the headlines fade.

Vote now at [www.takepart.com/membersproject/vote](http://www.takepart.com/membersproject/vote)



## You Found a Baby Bird on the Ground...Now What?

*Reprinted from "The Wandering Tattler, Sea and Sage Audubon"*

**Parent birds will feed their babies after you have touched them.** Birds have a poor sense of smell and the parents won't know that you have touched their babies. They will even be foster parents for an abandoned baby of the same species and age as their own young. Additionally, there is no danger to you from picking up a baby bird and returning it to the nest, and no need to be afraid to do this.

**Parent birds will search for their babies even after 24-48 hours of absence.** Most birds have their own territories. Even if the nest and babies are gone, the parents remain in their home territory, waiting to welcome their babies home. Once you have returned the babies to their nest, or created a new nest for them and replaced the babies, the parents will start right back in caring for them where they left off before disaster struck, such as nest blown down in the wind.

**Birds only need to be rescued if they are injured, cat caught, icy cold, naked, orphaned or abandoned.** Determining that a baby is orphaned can be tricky, and many people step in to rescue what they believe to be an orphaned bird when in fact it is not. People often believe the parents are not feeding a baby when it is simply a matter of them not seeing the parent coming in to feed, as this is usually done very quickly, since a parent bird does not want to attract the attention of a predator to the location of the nest. They will quickly fly in, poke the food down the baby's throat and fly back out in a matter of seconds. **Watch for the parents:** observe the baby bird continuously for 60-90 minutes from a distance of 50 feet. Watch carefully; the parents fly in and out quickly. If the babies aren't crying, you can assume they are being fed. **Note: even if one parent bird has been killed, there is no need to rescue the babies, since the other parent will take over feeding the babies.**

### Symptoms of an Injury or Illness:

- \*Falling over on side
- \*Wing tweaked upward
- \*Unable to flutter wings
- \*Wings drooping
- \*weak or shivering
- \*feathers fluffed
- \*attacked by a dog or cat
- \*bleeding



### Temporary Care Instructions for All Birds

- ▶ No food or water
- ▶ Keep the bird warm. Tissue-filled shoe box or other small box with holes in lid. Place on a Heating pad on LOW
- ▶ Keep bird in a dark, quiet place.
- ▶ Leave the bird alone; don't handle or bother it
- ▶ Keep children and pets away.
- ▶ Call a wildlife rehabilitator (Keeping a native wild bird in the State of California is illegal if you don't have a permit)

## 10 Ways to Deal With “Bully Birds”

*George Harrison, reprinted from National Wildlife*

Bully Birds such as blue jays and European starlings are a nuisance, but you can take some simple steps to prevent them from dominating feeders—and allow less aggressive birds to enjoy your hospitality. Here’s how:

1. **Go modern:** New innovations in feeder construction can limit the size of birds able to feed in your yard—and bully birds are generally larger than most of the more “desirable” feeder birds. Look for a rubber-coated mesh that surrounds traditional tube, suet and tray feeders. It allows smaller birds to pass through and enter the feeding chamber. Bullies such as blackbirds, pigeons and crows can’t squeeze through. The downside is that some desirable birds are also too large to enter.
2. **Take cover:** Starlings are known for their love of suet cakes, and it is not unusual for them to eat a whole cake in a single day. To stymie starlings, hang your suet feeder under a domed squirrel baffle or buy a starling-proof suet feeder, which allows birds access to food only from beneath the feeder. Starlings are reluctant to go under any sort of cover.
3. **Catch seeds:** Many people find that foiling bullies at feeders isn’t quite enough because they often eat the food that the other birds drop on the ground. To solve this problem, place a garbage can under a hanging feeder. The bullies are not likely to fly into the can to get the discarded seed.
4. **Be selective:** Selective feeding is another way to control the kinds of birds that eat at your feeders. Generally, bully birds do not like safflower or nyjer (thistle) seeds. By offering just those seeds—and not wild bird seed mixes—only finches and a few other birds will come to the feeders to dine.
5. **Aid acrobats:** Bully species usually require a perch to hold onto while eating, but most finches and many other small feeder birds can eat without perching at food ports. Finches can cling to the sides of a tube feeder and eat all day long. Bullies can’t. Some commercial tube feeders have perches above the food ports, where the birds have to stretch downward to feed—something that bully birds can’t do either.
6. **Use bottles:** Thwart suet-eating bullies at a cage- like feeder by inserting a long perch that extends out both sides, placing a small soda bottle over each end. When a bully lands on a soda bottle, the weighty visitor rolls off the perch. Smaller birds are too light to roll the bottles while feeding, or they can cling to the wire cage.
7. **Offer alternatives:** A male hummingbird is often aggressive and protective of a sugar-water feeder that he considers his own. Only “his females” and their young are allowed to feed undisturbed. The simple solution is to set up an additional sugar-water feeder on another side of your house, out of sight of the other male’s domain. He can’t guard a feeder that he can’t see.
8. **Buy weights:** Look for a bird feeder that has a weighted perch or treadle. When larger, heavier birds land on a treadle, it drops down over the bird food. (This device works against squirrels, too.) Lightweight birds can reach the food because the treadle does not drop down when they perch.
9. **Hang Mirrors:** Birdhouses for woodpeckers, wood ducks and owls are often taken over by European starlings. To keep the foreigners at bay, place a small mirror on the back wall facing the entryway so that starlings see their own “scary” reflections

when they land at the door. The mirror doesn’t seem to deter other birds.

10. **Play music:** Just when the strawberries and grapes are ready for picking, a variety of birds will descend on a garden patch to consume the fruit. One way to deter these critters is to set up a radio in the garden that plays loud music. It’ll scare even the boldest invaders.

## Calendar for Field Trips 2009-2010



**July 17**—Hummingbirds at Bear Paw—Cin Greyraven



**August 7**—Insane Jaunt/Salton Sea—Tom Benson

**July 17:** Hummingbirds at Bear Paw—Cin Greyraven  
Field trip information was not available at print time. Please contact trip leader, Cin Greyraven at 909 794-0509

**Saturday, August 7, 2010 - 5:30 am**

**Tom Benson** (909) 648-0899

How would you like to see birds like Wood Stork, Stilt Sandpiper, Laughing and Yellow-footed Gulls, Gull-billed and Black Terns, Burrowing Owl, Gila Woodpecker, and Bronzed Cowbird? All those and more may be yours at the mere price of 110 degree average daily highs in the pungent glory and spectacle of the Salton Sea in summertime. With luck, perhaps something like an Anhinga, Tricolored Heron, Roseate Spoonbill, or Magnificent Frigatebird will appear (or is it just the heat?).

**DO NOT COME ON THE TRIP WITHOUT:**

**LOTS OF WATER, a large ice chest, lots of ice, lunch, and snacks, a hat and sunscreen, a working air conditioner, and a full tank of gas (top off in Indio).**

Meeting place will be at the Wister Unit of the Imperial Wildlife Area ([map](#)). Going south on Hwy 111 along the east shore of the Sea, turn right at Davis Road which is signed for the Wister Unit. Proceed to the parking lot on your left. If you reach the town of Niland on Hwy 111 you have gone 5 miles too far. We’ll meet at 5:30 am, just before sunrise to beat the heat as much as we can, and we’ll bird until we’ve had enough. Our route will be determined by where the Wood Storks are and where other birds of interest are being seen. Motels are available in Calipatria, Brawley, and Indio for those wishing to spend Friday night in the area.



## SBVAS Officers 2009/2010

[www.sbvas.org](http://www.sbvas.org) &  
[www.inlandplanet.org](http://www.inlandplanet.org)

President & Program Chair: Dori Myers  
dorimyrs1@aol.com (714) 779-2201  
First Vice-President & Conservation Chair: Drew Feldmann  
drewf3@verizon.net (909) 881-6081  
Second Vice President & Funding & Grants: Pete Clark  
petec3@roadrunner.com (951)-212-2467  
Treasurer: Nancy Higbee  
nlhigbee@earthlink.net (951) 780-9236  
Recording Secretary: Cin Greyraven  
greyraven@wildmail.com (909) 794-0509  
Hospitality: Deb Bennett  
dben9@earthlink.net (951) 242-7038

## DIRECTORS:

Gene Cardiff [ecardiff4084@roadrunner.com](mailto:ecardiff4084@roadrunner.com) (909) 875-5358  
Dave Goodward [davegoodward@earthlink.net](mailto:davegoodward@earthlink.net) (909) 783-2417  
Anthony Metcalf [aemetcalf@gmail.com](mailto:aemetcalf@gmail.com) (951) 242-7038  
Peter Jorris [pjorris@juno.com](mailto:pjorris@juno.com) (909) 867-3536

## Mountain Conservation Issues

Brad Singer [bcsinger@gmail.com](mailto:bcsinger@gmail.com) (909) 838-7951  
Kirk Stitt [kstitt@earthlink.net](mailto:kstitt@earthlink.net) (909) 886-5513

SBVAS Bookstore and Gift Shop:  
Nancy Manning (909) 337-9401

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

MEMBERSHIP: Crispin Rendon (951) 686-7121  
FIELD TRIPS: Gene Cardiff (909) 875-5358

## WESTERN MEADOWLARK: Editor:

Linda Stitt (909) 886-5513

[linda-stitt@usa.net](mailto:linda-stitt@usa.net)

SBVAS WEBMASTER: Tom Benson (909)-648-0899 or (909)-537-3309 or  
[tbenson@csusb.edu](mailto:tbenson@csusb.edu)

BEARPAW RANCH: Cin Grayraven (909) 794-0509

[greyraven@wildmail.com](mailto:greyraven@wildmail.com)

RARE BIRD ALERT: Tom Benson (909)-648-0899 or (909)-537-3309 or  
[tbenson@csusb.edu](mailto:tbenson@csusb.edu)

## CALENDAR

**Board Meetings:** July 7

**General Meetings:** September 15, October 13

All meetings are held in the San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. Board meetings are the first Wednesday of the month, and General Membership meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month. To reach the museum, take the California St. exit off I-10, go north one block to Orange Tree Lane and turn right. The museum will be on your left. Meetings, except potlucks, start at 7:30 and doors open at 7. Potlucks begin at 6:30.



Larry Watson sent in this photo of a Wilson's Plover taken at Bolsa Chica on April 13, an unusual date for this visitor.

## Field Trip Checklist

- ▶ Comfortable shoes or hiking boots, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent..
- ▶ A good road map,
- ▶ Full fuel tank
- ▶ Drinking water, snacks and lunch
- ▶ binoculars and or a scope
- ▶ field guide

Come and Enjoy. Call the Field Trip Leader for last minute cancellations, questions or changes... 🐦



## Bear paw Ranch

is SBVAS's 70 acre nature sanctuary, operated by the San Bernardino Audubon Society and may be visited 7 days a week from dawn 'til dusk by members of Audubon and their guests. Bear paw Ranch is nestled on the north slope of scenic Mill Creek Canyon at 4,500 feet elevation, surrounded by the towering peaks of the San Bernardino National Forest. To reach Bear paw Ranch, take Highway 38 to the Forest Falls turnoff. Go only a few car lengths on Valley of the Falls Dr. and look for our small wooden sign on the right. We have a new paved road, the entry is easy for almost all normal passenger cars. There is an electronically operated entry gate. Members who wish to visit the Sanctuary should call ahead for the security code. Access to the code may be had by calling—Bear paw at (909) 794-0509. Bear paw Sanctuary, 38801 Valley of the Falls Drive P.O. Box 88; Forest Falls, CA 923396



*A bird doesn't sing because it has the answer, it sings because it has a song.*

*Lou Holtz*

July/August 2010

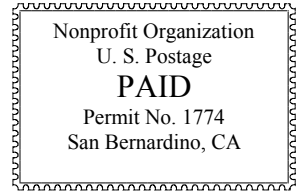
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Western Meadowlark

**THE WESTERN MEADOWLARK**

c/o San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society  
P. O. Box 10973  
San Bernardino, CA 92374-4560

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Everyone is always welcome!

All meetings in the San Bernardino County Museum 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands, Ca. 92374-4560

Board Meetings are the 1st Wed.  
General meetings are the 3rd Wed.  
SBVAS Membership currently at 1,810

To reach the Museum, take the California Street exit off the 10 Freeway and go north 1 block to Orange Tree Lane—turn right. The museum will be on your left...



**Chapter Only Membership Application**  
San Bernardino Valley Audubon

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ SBVAS Membership @ \$16/year (includes subscription to *The Western Meadowlark*)

\_\_\_\_ I wish to receive the *Western Meadowlark* **only** electronically \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check payable to SBVAS



**Membership Application**  
National Audubon Society (NAS)

\_\_\_\_ NAS New Member/ Gift Membership \$20 (renewal will be \$35, includes 1 year of *Audubon* magazine, 1 year Chapter membership, 1 year subscription to *Western Meadowlark* if in SBVAS area)

\_\_\_\_ NAS Regular/Renewal Membership \$35 (includes 1 year of *Audubon* magazine)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to National Audubon Society

SBVAS Chapter  
C97C110Z

Please clip and mail all memberships to: SBVAS Membership Chair  
P.O. Box 10973  
San Bernardino, Ca. 92423-0973

DATED MATERIAL - Please Expedite