



San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

WESTERN MEADOWLARK

Volume 65— Number 4
March—April 2015

Wednesday, March 18, 2015
7:30 P.M.

A Naturalist Says Why Program by Jess Morton

Jess Morton, long-time Auduboner and naturalist, will present a program of anecdotes, nature photography, poetry and musings about the amazing world in which we find ourselves. “All I wanted to know was what lived in my back yard,” says Jess, who will speak about his subsequent journey into the joined worlds of nature and conservation. Starting from that “simple” premise, he has gone on to become a general naturalist, written hundreds of poems and essays on nature, taken tens of thousands of photographs, and has had an active role in many conservation organizations, including six years of service as the Western Regional Director of the National Audubon society. Along the way, he has met the three B’s — birds, butterflies and bugs, some of which you too will meet during his presentation.



Step Up and Volunteer

Many people have responded positively to our search for new board members, and we thank them tremendously. However, our immediate needs remain. We need a treasurer and a secretary. The treasurer needs someone experienced with bookkeeping and the secretary is someone who will take accurate minutes at each board meeting. Both positions require attendance at board meetings, which are now held the first Tuesday of the month. For more detailed information about the treasurer, see page 3.

Less immediate but also important is the new position for public relations. This could be what you choose to make it, but the original intent is to be a liaison with local media to publicize our meetings and field trips. If you are willing to volunteer, please speak to a board member at the chapter meeting, or if one



Wednesday, April 15,
2015

A Very Big California Year

Presented by Curtis Marantz

Curtis Marantz spent 2014 crisscrossing California in an attempt to find as many species as possible during a one-year period. With much effort, Marantz saw 485 species in California, including every species that now breeds regularly in the state and all 11 introduced species that are considered to be established by the California Bird Records Committee. This total broke the previous record of 481 species set in 1996 by Vernon Howe, who coincidentally also lives in Riverside.



This talk will provide an overview of how the previous year-list record was broken and it will include various stories about the birds seen (or in some cases missed) while driving approximately 40,000 miles in the course of a single year. Marantz tried to document photographically as many noteworthy species as possible, and photographs of many of the more unusual species will be shown.

Curtis Marantz received a M.S. in biology from Louisiana State University and a Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts. Research for both degrees examined vocal variation and systematics in groups of woodcreepers, a passerine family that occurs exclu-

sively in the Neotropics. For his fieldwork Marantz spent extended periods of time making audio recordings of woodcreepers and other birds in the forests of Brazil and Venezuela, but also with shorter periods of time spent in Bolivia, Peru, and Costa Rica. He now resides in Riverside, where he is a biological consultant at times and a rabid birder at others.



Arrowhead Springs and Water Permits

If you have lived in the San Bernardino Valley for very long, you probably remember feeling confidence that the valley had a solid water supply that was good, tasty and filled with local pride. It also represented a positive business in an area that has lost many of its jobs and employment resources. Now, it turns out, that pride may not be justified and it may be time to take a second look at how this local business is operating.

First, let's take a look at the history of this company. Arrowhead has been in business for many years and, during that time has been removing hundreds of thousands of gallons of water per day from the Strawberry Creek Watershed. They have water rights, but the development and conveyance lines are on the National Forest, so a special use permit is required. The company is now partnered with Nestle, so it is more mega-business than local job source, and the Special Use Permit that was issued originally expired over twenty-five years ago. Couple this with the fact that the area is struggling through an historic drought and the expired permits become even more problematic.

The Forest Service permitting policy requires the protection of the National Forest when issuing and administering permitted uses. Strawberry Creek and its watershed are very important to the forest and home to least Bell's Vireo, Southwestern Willow Flycatcher, Two-Striped Garter Snake, Spotted Owl, Speckled Dace, and thousands of other species of plants and animals. Many of them are adversely affected by the permitted withdrawal of water for bottling. Since the Forest Service permit expired in 1988, new Threatened and Endangered Species affected by this water removal have been listed, Sensitive Species have been listed, rainfall has declined, temperatures have increased, and California is in an historic drought. And yet, the permit has not been re-evaluated and modified as required for over twenty-five years. Not even temporary changes in water withdrawal have been made to compensate for the current severe drought. There are no minimum flow requirements to protect the stream.

When contacted regarding the issue of expired permits, the Forest Service was not willing to respond or consider a meeting. This is baffling as permittees like Arrowhead/Nestle are required to pay for the costs of getting a new or renewed permit, so costs to the Forest Service would not be an issue. Compounding the problem is that several other substantial permitted water diversions/transmission permits on the Forest have expired and in some cases totally dewater streams (Deer Creek in the San Gabriels for instance). So, the issue goes well beyond Strawberry Creek. In fact, failure to act to modify the expired permits could result in the first time that Strawberry Creek has completely dried up in thousands of years.

Reissuance of the Special Use Permit will require NEPA analysis and, hopefully, the new permit will result in a much stronger commitment to take care of downstream values when the new permit is issued. Even then, it is expected that recovery of those downstream values will take several years.

Please join Audubon in requesting that the Forest Service start the Permit reissuance process before summer to provide emergency flows for the environment. Our conservation chair

will be writing a letter urging action, but there may come a time when individual letters or action is needed.

Tips for Winter Bird Feeding

Reprinted from Wildlife Promise by Laura Tangley

Should we ever experience true winter in our area, you may be interested in the extra needs of birds.

As temperatures drop across much of the country, it's time to put more thought into what your backyard birds are eating. Providing high-quality food during winter not only entices more birds to visit your yard, it also may help them survive the season.

"Bad weather like blizzards and ice storms can make it hard to find food, and cold can take its toll," says Sally Roth, author of *The Backyard Bird Feeder's Bible*. "A well-fed bird is a warmer bird, better able to withstand winter rigors." Roth recommends providing "a big spread of visible food and a variety to suit all appetites"—including seeds, cracked corn, nuts, and suet—to bring in the first visitors. "After birds find your feeders, their presence and activity will attract others," she says.

Winter is also a time to switch to more appropriate cold-weather foods. Birds need rich sources of fat and calories to combat low temperatures and severe storms. Suet, nuts, and high-oil seeds such as nyjer, black-oil sunflower seeds and sunflower hearts are all great choices. "If you can find a way to keep squirrels away from them, mixed nuts are like crack for birds," says Sharon Stitler, founder of Birdchick.com and author of *1001 Secrets Every Birder Should Know*. "They love the stuff, even more than black-oil sunflower seeds."

Even in cold weather, you should clean feeders regularly to prevent the buildup of bacteria that can cause disease. "Dirty bird feeders, especially during a warm spell when the snow melts, are breeding grounds for disease and could wipe out a whole flock of pine siskins," Stitler says. "It's very important to keep a feeding station clean and to remove old seed that has been getting wet on the ground." If possible, rotate feeders so dirty ones can be brought inside for cleaning without reducing available food. Make cleaning and refilling feeders more convenient by keeping a path to them clear, even after heavy snowstorms, or relocate your feeding station to a sheltered deck or patio that won't be used in winter.

Don't forget bird food that nature provides. "Feeders should be seen as supplements to the natural foods you provide by cultivating native plants," says NWF Naturalist David Mizejewski. Even during winter, seed-eating birds such as goldfinches and juncos will flock to the dried flower heads of aster, black-eyed Susans, coneflowers, sunflowers, and other plants. These wildflowers' stalks also may house insects for birds that need a little protein.

Make sure to leave berries and other fruit on your native trees and bushes. Birds ranging from robins, cardinals, juncos, waxwings and mockingbirds to wild turkey and grouse will feast on these fruits throughout the cold months. And if you've been smart enough to leave your fallen leaves on the ground since autumn, the decaying leaf litter will provide a feast of insects, seeds, nuts and other treats for your backyard birds.

Treasurer Responsibilities

San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society, Inc. is looking for a new Chapter Treasurer. The current Treasurer has volunteered for 14 years and would like to retire.

The Chapter Treasurer is the Chief Financial Officer of our non-profit corporation and is an elected member of the Board of Trustees. The Treasurer is responsible for knowing and managing the income, expenditures, and all financial transactions of the Chapter.

Responsibilities:

Finance

- Is a signer and manager of the bank accounts
- Makes bank deposits
- Pays bills and other payables as directed by the Board
- Uses *Quicken or other accounting software to track all financial transactions and provide the necessary information to the accountant for filing the annual Federal and California Income Tax Reports
- Maintains and archives all the tax and other financial records for the Chapter
- With the President and Board establishes an annual budget
- Is the point of contact for the Chapter's insurance
- Reports to the Board the financial status of the Chapter including any **Restricted Funds

Filing Requirements The fiscal year is July 1 to June 30

- Federal Tax Form-annually with the CPA
- California Tax Form-annually with the CPA
- California Sales Tax-annually (online)
- California Registration/Renewal Fee Report-annually with the CPA
- California Secretary of State Corporation Statement (online)
- National Audubon's Yearly Financial Report (online)

**Restricted Funds can only be used for the purpose designated by the donor or have been approved by the Board for a specific purpose.

*SBVAS could purchase Quicken or other accounting software for the Treasurer

I would be happy to explain the Treasurer's duties in more detail with anyone who thinks they might be interested. It is an interesting and rewarding position that does not require any previous bookkeeping experience. If you can manage your own finances you could learn to do it. Please contact me by phone or email

Nancy Higbee, 951-780-9236, nlhigbee@earthlink.net

I wish the bald eagle had not been chosen as the representative of our country. He is a bird of bad moral character... like those among men who live by sharpening and robbing, he is generally poor, and often very lousy...the turkey is a much more respectable bird, and withal a true original native of America.

Benjamin Franklin

CDFW Researchers are Monitoring Band-tailed Pigeon Mortality

California Department of Fish and Wildlife News Release January 27, 2015

Media Contacts:

Krysta Rogers, CDFW Wildlife Branch, (916) 358-1662

Levi Souza, CDFW Wildlife Branch, (916) 445-3709

Janice Mackey, CDFW Communications, (916) 322-8908

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is closely monitoring the population of band-tailed pigeons for mortality this winter. Band-tailed pigeons are California's only native pigeon. They spend their winter from central to Southern California primarily inhabiting oak woodland and conifer forests. In late winter into early spring, band-tailed pigeons will migrate north into northern California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia. Band-tailed pigeons are a different species than rock pigeons (also called city, urban or barn pigeons), which were introduced into North America from Europe.

Large flocks of band-tailed pigeons, sometimes up to 200 birds, have been observed in numerous coastal locations from the San Francisco Bay Area south into Santa Barbara County and in the San Bernardino Mountains. Increased mortality has been reported in several of these areas since mid-December. CDFW's Wildlife Investigations Laboratory has evaluated carcasses from these locations and determined the cause of mortality to be Avian Trichomonosis.

Avian Trichomonosis is a disease caused by a single-celled microscopic protozoan parasite, typically *Trichomonas gallinae*, which only infects birds. The parasite lives in the mouth and throat of infected birds, causing caseous ("cheese-like") lesions in the birds' mouth or esophagus. The lesions eventually block the passage of food, causing the bird to become weak and emaciated. Infected birds die from starvation or suffocation if the lesions block the airway. Non-native rock pigeons are thought to be the source of infection for native bird species.

The CDFW's Wildlife Investigations Lab is asking residents to be on the lookout for band-tailed pigeons this winter and to report any sick or dead pigeons. This information helps CDFW determine how many pigeons die during these mortality events and consequently, how these events may impact the overall population. Mortality can be reported using the following link: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Laboratories/Wildlife-Investigations/Monitoring/Mortality-Report> or by phone at (916) 358-2790. (cont. pg. 6 pigeons)

A Field Study of Birds: Spring Course Number: BIOL X406

Through field trips to Mystic Lake, Imperial Beach, Salton Sea, Morongo Valley, High Desert and Sam Jacinto Mountains, you will learn to identify birds during the spring migration and in their breeding territories. Emphasis on identification of breeding plumages

132–CPF–F23 Starting Jan. 13, 2015 at San Bernardino County Museum

Instructor:	Eugene Cardiff
Schedule:	Tue. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Apr. 14; Field trips all day Sat. Apr. 18, 25, May 2, May 23 and Jun 6 (6 meetings)
Preregistration:	Requested by April 14
Location:	San Bernardino County Museum, REDLANDS Map
Textbook:	"Field Guide to the Birds of North America," Jon L. Dunn & Jonathan K. Alderfer ISBN: 0792253140 Buy Online
Credit:	2 units
Notes:	This course may be taken twice for credit toward the Specialized Study Program in Field Ornithology. Visitors not permitted.
Fees:	\$255 Tuition
	(Optional) each for couples and family members. For this discount, enroll by phone: 800-442-4990. -\$20
	(Optional) PINE organization member discount -\$40
	\$255.00 Total Fees
To enroll in the class, contact UCR Extension by email at: register@ucr.edu , or by phone at: (800) 442-4990	

But in the early 1970s, we were not birdwatching. We were birding, and that made all the difference.. We were out to seek, to discover, to chase, to learn, to find as many different kinds of birds as possible — and, in friendly competition, to try to find more of them than the next birder. We became a community of birders, with the complications that human societies always have; and although it was the birds that had brought us together, our story became a human story after all.
Kenn Kaufman, Kingbird Highway



Feed Your Yard Birds and Help SBVAS

Wild birdseed will be sold at all general meetings 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.

If possible, you should preorder seed by phoning Kirk at (909) 886-5513. Leave a message about the type of seed you want (thistle, black-oil sunflower, or general purpose mix) and your seed will be ready for pickup at the next general meeting.

Seasonal Tree Trimming Or

When to trim your trees so that birds are not harmed

Did you know that tree trimming in spring and early summer is irresponsible and possibly illegal? This can damage trees and devastate nesting birds.



Cutting, trimming and pruning during spring and early summer can lead to diseased trees and intrusion of pests that harm trees. Fall is the best time to trim branches when trees are dormant!

Birds and active nests are protected from harm or harassment by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. California Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will issue citations and levy fines to individuals and companies that blatantly disregard the regulations'

How can you help?

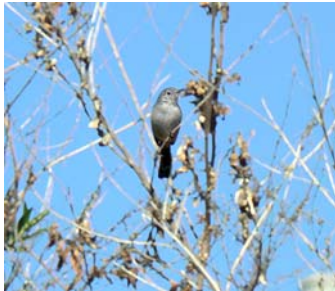
- ▶ Trim and prune during the fall and winter when trees are dormant
- ▶ Hire arborists, landscapers and tree trimmers who are concerned with the health of your trees and the birds that nest in them
- ▶ Avoid contracting services that only trim trees (they have to work year-around).
- ▶ If you see tree trimmers disturbing an active nest, TAKE A PICTURE of the nest, the destruction, and the company's name. Report violation to the Law Enforcement Office of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at (310) 328-1516 (Office of Investigations and Compliance Inspection.).

Help Save the Coastal California Gnatcatcher

A group of Southern California developers last year filed a petition to delist the Coastal California Gnatcatcher. Based on a single controversial research paper, they claim that the Coastal California Gnatcatcher is not a distinct subspecies—literally, the bird doesn't exist! They hope the delisting will open up miles of pristine and highly-threatened coastal sage scrub habitat.

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is collecting comments regarding the delisting petition through March 2. SBVAS is hoping members would be interested in being a part of the fight to stop this delisting process in its tracks.

There are a number of ways to get involved. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has said they need us to make noise. This means they need people to send comment letters opposing this terrible idea. Another need is for people to submit op-eds to their papers, especially people who live in San Diego and Los Angeles Counties, but keep in mind that our Audubon birds those areas.



An action alert has been set up with sample comment letters and photos. The link to that alert is: <http://bit.ly/18lhqzw>.

Bearpaw Ranch

is a 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. Bearpaw 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 Bearpaw 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 any board member in advance to get the gate code. It is not a requirement that the caretaker is at home for you to visit. If the gate does not open because of mechanical failure, you are welcome to walk in or stop for birding along the creek bed. Bearpaw Sanctuary, 38801 Valley of the Falls Drive P.O. Box 88; Forest Falls, CA 92339
 Bearpaw Sanctuary is now on Facebook.
 If you type "Bearpaw Sanctuary" into the SEARCH function, you'll find us. Bearpaw visitors are encouraged to report interesting wildlife sightings and share their favorite nature photos from their Bearpaw visits.

SBVAS Officers 2014/2015
www.sbvass.org &
www.inlandplanet.org

President: Kirk Stitt (909) 886-5513
 First Vice-President, Program Chair: Dori Myers (714) 779-2201
 Second Vice President: Dave Goodward (909) 783-2417
 Treasurer: Nancy Higbee (951) 780-9236
 Secretary, Meadowlark Editor: Linda Stitt (909) 886-5513

Directors

Field Trips: Gene Cardiff (909) 875-5358
 Mountain Conservation Issues: Peter Jorris (909) 867-3536
 Pete Clark (951) 212-2467
 Dave Goodward (909) 783-2417
 Anthony Metcalf (951) 242-7038
 Brad Singer (909) 838-7951
 Seth Shtier (760) 332-9776
 Matt Grube (909) 253-3867
 Deb Bennett (951) 544-2650
 Cin Greyraven (909) 720-0138
 Rose Cook (951) 236-7094

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

MEMBERSHIP: Pete Clark (951) 212-2467
 FIELD TRIPS: Gene Cardiff (909) 875-5358
 CONSERVATION: Drew Feldmann (909) 881-6081

WESTERN MEADOWLARK: Editor:

Linda Stitt (909) 886-5513
linda-stitt@usa.net

SBVAS WEBMASTER: Brad Singer bcsinger@gmail.com

BEARPAW RANCH: Cin Grayraven (909) 794-0509
greyraven@wildmail.com

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

SBVAS BOOKSTORE AND GIFT SHOP:
 Nancy Manning (909) 337-9401

CALENDAR

Board Meetings: March 3 and April 7, 2015
General Meetings: March 18 and April 15, 2015

All meetings are 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.



Saturday, April 25, 2015 - 7:00 am
Shorebird Migration at the Salton Sea

Chet McGaugh (951) 781-3699 and Tony Metcalf (951) 242-7038

Tony Metcalf and Chet McGaugh will be leading back-to-back San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society field trips on the weekend of April 25—26, 2015 - to the north end of the Salton Sea (Saturday) and the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (Sunday). As we both are big fans of the shorebirds, and the date is excellent for a good migration experience, we intend to spend most of the weekend searching mudflats, marshes, slop ponds, wet fields, barnacle beaches, and open sea and sky. It is our hope that we can provide some knowledge about this fascinating bunch of birds, stimulate appreciation and interest in them, and mitigate some of the phobias. And have fun. As usual, the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society field trips are open to all. We will meet at 7:00 am on Saturday at the "Big Arco" ([map](#)) on the corner of 66th Avenue and the 86S Expressway in Mecca. Pick one trip or the other or both. There will be different species seen at the Salton Sea and at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The study of shorebirds is greatly enhanced by the use of spotting scopes so we hope there will be plenty besides our own. Though not necessary, we suggest having rubber boots for those hard to get to spots, particularly at the Salton Sea (short wades, slogging through deep mud, barnacles). Bring lunch and snacks and drinks. Weather is likely to be excellent, and there will be many birds to see besides the waders.

Sunday, April 26, 2015 - 7:00 am
San Jacinto Wildlife Area

Tony Metcalf (951) 242-7038 and Chet McGaugh

Tony Metcalf and Chet McGaugh will be leading back-to-back San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society field trips on the weekend of April 25—26, 2015 to the north end of the Salton Sea (Saturday) and the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (Sunday). As we both are big fans of the shorebirds, and the date is excellent for a good migration experience, we intend to spend most of the weekend searching mudflats, marshes, slop ponds, wet fields, barnacle beaches, and open sea and sky. It is our hope that we can provide some knowledge about this fascinating bunch of birds, stimulate appreciation and interest in them, and mitigate some of the phobias. And have fun.

As usual, the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society field trips are open to all. On Sunday will meet at 7:00 am at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area headquarters ([map](#)) on Davis Road, a few miles north of Lakeview and the Ramona Expressway. Pick one trip or the other or both. There will be different species seen at the Salton Sea and at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The study of shorebirds is greatly enhanced by the use of spotting scopes so we hope there will be plenty besides our own. Though not necessary, we suggest having rubber boots for those hard to get to spots, particularly at the Salton Sea (short wades, slogging through deep mud, barnacles). Bring lunch and snacks and drinks. Weather is likely to be excellent and there will be many birds to see besides the waders.

Saturday-Sunday, April 11-12, 2015
East Mojave

John Green (951) 686-2956

We will be visiting the Mojave National Preserve in early spring with the goal of seeing the sought-after specialty breeding birds of the area. These include Gilded Flicker, Juniper Titmouse, and Bendire's, Crissal, and Le Conte's Thrashers. Sage Thrashers may still be moving through, offering the possibility of a four thrasher trip. Other expected desert breeders should also be present: Black-throated Sparrow, Cactus Wren, Greater Roadrunner, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Scott's Oriole, and more. The wintering season will be ending and migration will be getting started, so we will expect some species that are non-breeding visitors to the area as well. Wildflowers will be blooming, and we should see mammals, reptiles, butterflies and more. Hopefully a Desert Tortoise will grace us with its presence. We will meet at 6:00 am on Saturday at the Denny's, 72415 Baker Blvd in Baker. Arrive in Baker early enough to top off your gas tank before the meeting. You MUST have a full tank of gas when we depart on the trip. Make sure your car, spare tire and jack are in good shape before you leave for the desert. All roads that we will go on are passable for passenger cars, but many are unpaved. We will be far from services. Bring FRS radios if you have them, cell phone service is sporadic. Bring more water than you can imagine needing and ALL of the food and supplies that you will need for the trip, including camping gear. Once we leave Baker we will probably not see gas or stores again until the end of the day on Sunday. If you want to spend Friday night somewhere close, lodging of sorts is available in Baker, but read the online reviews and you might choose Barstow instead. We will camp Saturday night and bird Sunday for as long as the leader and/or participants have interest in continuing. We may go on a couple of hikes, so bring appropriate walking shoes. Questions? Please send them by email (bewickwren@earthlink.net), not by phone, if possible. Also, it is not required, but if you're thinking of coming, please email me so I have an idea of who and how many to expect. You are welcome, though, whether or not you have emailed me in advance. See you in Baker!

(pigeons, continued)

If sick birds are observed, please contact a local wildlife rehabilitation center for advice. The list of CDFW licensed centers can be found at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/WIL/rehab/facilities.html> <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/WIL/rehab/facilities.html>.

Additionally, residents can help reduce transmission of the disease by removing artificial sources of food and water (bird baths and fountains). Bird feeders and artificial water sources may increase disease transmission between individual band-tailed pigeons, and possibly other bird species, because it brings the birds into closer contact than is normal.

Calendar for Field Trips 2014 to 2015



Sunday, March 1, 2015 - 8:00-10:00 am
Beginning Bird Walk at Prado Regional Park



Saturday, March 14, 2015 - 8:00 am
Bolsa Chica and Orange County Coast



Saturday-Sunday, April 11-12, 2015
East Mojave



Saturday, April 25, 2015 - 7:00 am
Shorebird Migration at the Salton Sea



Sunday, April 26, 2015 - 7:00 am
San Jacinto Wildlife Area

Saturday, May 2, 2015 - 7:00 am
Big Morongo Preserve

Sunday, May 3, 2015 - 8:00 am
Box Springs Mountain

Saturday, May 9, 2015 - 8:00 am
Whitewater Canyon

Saturday, May 16, 2015 - 9:00 am
Baby Birds at Bearpaw Ranch

Sunday, May 17, 2014
Palm Springs Aerial Tramway/San Jacinto Mountains

Saturday, June 6, 2015
San Bernardino Mountains

Saturday, June 13, 2014 - 7:30 am
Wrightwood & Blue Ridge

Saturday, June 27, 2015
Insane Jaunt to the Salton Sea– PART I

Saturday-Sunday, July 11-12, 2014
Greenhorn Mountains & the Southern Sierra

Saturday, August 29, 2015
Insane Jaunt to the Salton Sea– PART II

*Why do birds sing in the morning? It's a triumphant shout:
 "We got through another night!"*

Enid Bagnold

Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.
John Benfield

Sunday, March 1, 2015 - 8:00-10:00 am
Beginning Bird Walk at Prado Regional Park [\(map\)](#) **Brad Singer (909) 838-7951**

Visiting the wildlife area in winter allows great opportunities to view waterfowl, shorebirds and raptors. For those of you who are just beginning the wonderful pastime of bird watching, please join us for a fun, slow-paced morning of birding in one of our local wildlife habitats. Our goal will be to teach you enough basic birding techniques and identification skills so that you will feel comfortable birding on your own or joining our longer birding trips throughout the year. We will introduce you to some of our local bird species. You may be surprised at what wonderful birds ca. Please contact Brad Singer for further information.

Saturday, March 14, 2015 - 7:30 am
Bolsa Chica & Orange County Coast
Gene Cardiff (909) 875-5358

Please join us for what should be a great day of birding in the wetland areas of Orange County. Expect to see a large variety of wintering birds including ducks, shorebirds, grebes, herons, egrets, terns, cormorants, etc. We ought to find gulls and raptors and some song birds. With any luck we will see 50 or more species just in the morning. After birding Bolsa Chica (until around noon) we will go to Newport Back Bay or the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary to eat our lunch and finish the day. We will meet at the PCH parking lot of Bolsa Chica at 7:30 am [\(map\)](#). To reach Bolsa Chica, take the 91 freeway south to the 55 (Newport freeway). Continue on the 55 to the 405 and go north towards Long Beach. Exit at Beach Blvd. (south) and continue to Pacific Coast Highway. Turn right and head north on PCH, past Huntington Beach. We will meet in the parking lot of the Ecological Preserve (Bolsa Chica) on the inland side of Pacific Coast Hwy at the signal between Seagate and Warner. Please bring a lunch if you intend to stay for the day. Also bring binoculars, bird book and a scope if you have one. It can get cold along the coast in winter so dress in layers.

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 Field Trip Leader for last minute cancellations, questions or changes... 🐦

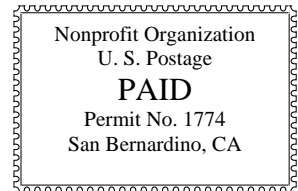
If I could come back as anything—I'd be a bird first, but definitely the command key is my second choice.

Nikki Giovanni

March/ April 2015

Western Meadowlark

THE WESTERN MEADOWLARK
c/o San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society
P. O. Box 10973
San Bernardino, CA 92423-0973



Everyone is always welcome!

All meetings in the San Bernardino County Museum 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands

Board Meetings are the 1st Wed.
General meetings are the 3rd Wed.
SBVAS Membership currently at 2,393

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 @ \$24 a/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
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Please clip and mail all memberships to: SBVAS Membership Chair
P.O. Box 10973
San Bernardino, Ca. 92423-0973

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