



San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

WESTERN MEADOWLARK

Volume 62— Number 3
January-February 2012



Papua New Guinea: Birds and People

Chuck and Lillian Almdale

Wednesday, January 18, 2012, 7:30P.M.

Papua New Guinea is a land of huge diversity, in terrain, birds and people. Almost half of its 750 avian species are endemic. Of its indigenous languages, half have fewer than 1,000 speakers. In 2008, the Almdales visited six locales in three weeks. Their multi-media presentation features many endemic birds especially the birds-of-paradise as well as the fascinating people of New Guinea, including the Huli Wigmen of the central highlands and Karawiri River in the east Sepik lowlands. Come and remind yourself why you really want to get there.

Chuck and Lillian Almdale have been active in the Audubon Society for over 25 years. When not birding internationally, they lead

local field trips, maintain records of Malibu Lagoon birds, census Snowy Plovers, comment on local and national bird blogs and chatlines, and have been on the board of Santa Monica Bay Audubon Society for over 20 years. They are retired accountants.



How Birds Get Their Names

Kurt Leuschner

Wednesday, February 15, 2012, 7:30 P.M.

Today birds tend to be named after some anatomical feature e.g. Yellow-rumped Warbler. But this wasn't always the case. In the 1800's it was common to name a bird after a special person. Have you ever wondered who Costa (hummingbird) or Lawrence (goldfinch) or Scott (oriole) is? In this colorful presentation the origin of many of our local birds' names will be revealed. You might be surprised to hear that a number of the namesakes never even saw their own bird. One such person was a flashy-dressing neat freak who had the nickname "old fuss and feathers"...you'll have to come to the presentation to find out who! Lots of other interesting stories and neat tidbits of ornithological history will be shared.

Kurt Leuschner is a Professor of Natural Resources at College of the Desert where he teaches courses on Conservation, Entomology, Field Ornithology, Native Plants, and GPS Navigation. He has a Bachelor's degree in Zoology from U.C. Santa Barbara and a Master's in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Florida. Kurt is very active locally – volunteering for the Mt. San Jacinto State Park, the Living Desert, the BLM, the Anza-Borrego Desert Natural History Association, and the National Audubon Society. He is the founder of the Desert Cities Bird Club and serves as President of the Natural Science Collaborative. His most recent publication is the *Palms to Pines Birding and Nature Trail* map and brochure. Kurt also teaches weekend courses and workshops on birdwatching, insects, GPS, and backyard habitats for UCR Extension, the Desert Institute, the Desert Studies Center, and the Living Desert.

Everyone is always welcome. Our doors open at 7:00PM. Please come early to visit with friends, enjoy refreshments and shop at our book tables.

Dori Myers, Program Chair

Help Your Local Chapter

As publishing and printing costs continue to rise, it is essential that the board reevaluate any and all cost-saving options. If you enjoy reading the Western Meadowlark and have an active email address, it is essential that you share your email address with our membership chair. This will allow us to eliminate the cost of printing and mailing your Meadowlark and, instead, email it to you. You will receive your newsletter first and you will also be able to view your newsletter in color.

If we do not receive enough email addresses to significantly decrease our printing and mailing costs, we may be forced to add a surcharge to chapter membership of \$5 to \$10 to cover those costs. Please help us out by becoming an eReader of the newsletter. Send your email address to kstitt@earthlink.net.



Local Sightings

By Brad Singer

Mild temperatures in late fall/early winter resulted in good bird activity with many sightings in both counties. In San Bernardino County, the Lake Havasu area was especially active. The **San Jacinto Wildlife Area in Riverside County** was busy as well, with gull, duck, and raptor season getting off to a good start.

Highlighting the **Colorado River area at Lake Havasu** were Pacific Loon, Red-throated Loon, Red-necked Grebe, Pomarine Jaeger, Horned Grebe, and Thayer's Gull. The Parker Dam area produced Barrow's Goldeneye, Surf Scoter, Neotropic Cormorant, Gilded Flicker, and Curve-billed Thrasher. Both Chestnut-collared and Lapland Longspurs were found in the ag fields north of Needles. A big thanks must go to both David Vander Pluym and Lauren Harter, two young birders living in Lake Havasu and providing most of the documentation. This area has not had great daily coverage until recently, and its richness is just being exposed. **Zzyxx, Baker, and Horse Thief Springs (a.k.a. the eastern Mojave)** produced Horned Grebe, Varied Thrush, Lewis's Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Phoebe, Prothonotary Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, and Red Fox Sparrow. Sightings in the **Inland Valley** were few; a Clay-colored Sparrow being seen at Cal State San Bernardino and a Little Gull (3rd county record) and Tropical Kingbird viewed at Prado Regional Park in Chino.

Desert Center in Riverside County slowed down a bit with only an Indigo Bunting, Gray Flycatcher, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Purple Finch, and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker being found. However, early November did produce a strange sighting of 13 Brown Pelicans in the vicinity. Western, Thayer's, and a Heerman's Gull were the only notable sightings at the north end of the Salton Sea. Eurasian Wigeons were seen both in Palm Springs and Temecula. Gulls were aplenty at the chicken ranch across the street from the **San Jacinto Wildlife Area**. Possibly four Lesser Black-backed of all ages along with Thayer's, Glaucous-winged and Mew were among the vagrants. A pair of Mountain Plovers returned to Bridge Street for a brief period. The pair of Short-eared Owls continued near the junction of Bridge St. and Gilman Hot Springs Road, along with unusually high counts of White-tailed Kites. A Rough-legged Hawk visited the area as well. A pair of Tundra Swans visited Mystic Lake for possibly 1-2 days. Inside the Wildlife Area, 2-3 Swamp Sparrows continued near Pond 4 along with an Eastern Phoebe. The fields leading to the Wildlife entrance are full of Mountain Bluebirds. Finally, a Rusty Blackbird was seen at the **Coachella Valley Preserve** in Thousand Palms.

SBVAS Has New Membership Chair

San Bernardino Valley Audubon is fortunate to have a new membership chair. Pete Clark, currently a board member, has offered to take over the duties of membership chair for the chapter-only members. Please contact him with any questions about your membership. His number is 951 212-2467.

Court Blocks Warehouse Project Near Animal Habitat

By Alicia Robinson

Reprinted from The Press Enterprise

A warehouse development just south of Sycamore Canyon Wilderness Park has been stalled by a court decision that the environmental report on the project was inadequate.

In a decision issued Dec. 8, Riverside County Superior Court Judge Sharon Waters said the report on the 54-acre Alessandro Commerce Centre failed to address impacts to protected wildlife and wetlands on an adjacent property. Environmental groups that sued to block the project disagree with developers and Riverside county officials on whether the adjacent land is a legally protected preserve, but the ruling said the sensitive conditions there should still have been taken into account.

Several properties in the area, including parcels slated for development and some set aside for conservation, are home to threatened and endangered species including the Stephens' Kangaroo Rat, the Least Bell's Vireo and the Burrowing owl. Environmental groups including the Center for Biological Diversity and the Friends of Riverside's Hills have filed several lawsuits to preserve wildlife habitat and a corridor between conservation sites.

"It's critical to allow for movement of wildlife species between different populations" to better their chances of reproduction, said Jonathan Evans, an attorney for the Center for Biological Diversity. "We think that there are ways the development can proceed while protecting wildlife habitat."

Attorneys for Riverside County, which approved the environmental report, and developers Amstar Group and Reed Property Group could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

The Alessandro Commerce Centre site, which is west of Interstate 215 and immediately south of Alessandro Boulevard, would include eight warehouses and office buildings and more than 1,700 parking spaces. It wasn't immediately clear whether the developer will make changes to the environmental report or how much of it would need to be revised. Evans suggested a nearby project, Alessandro Business Center, could be a guide.

The business center, including four buildings on an 80-acre site north of Alessandro, was at the center of a lawsuit filed by the same coalition of environmental groups. A settlement reached in September requires that 42 acres of the site be donated to the Sycamore Canyon wilderness Park, and that the project incorporate solar panels, eco-friendly building design and less-polluting vehicles.

Len Nunney, a biologist and secretary with the Friends of Riverside's Hills, said he would like to see the southern project be shifted to one side of the site to create a buffer so wildlife can still move between two wilderness areas, one of which is the disputed March preserve for the Stephens' Kangaroo Rat.

"We're not attempting to prevent the project," he said. "We just want it to incorporate components that would minimize the isolation of March from Sycamore Canyon."

Environmental Review on Water Storage Plan Released

By Janet Zimmerman

Reprinted from The Press Enterprise

An environmental report has been released for a controversial plan to pump water from ancient underground basins in the eastern Mojave Desert and store Colorado River supplies there for delivery to Riverside County and elsewhere in Southern California.

The \$225 million Cadiz Valley Water Conservation, Recovery and Storage Project would involve building 44 miles of pipeline to carry water in surplus years from the Colorado River Aqueduct to the company's property, which lies between the Mojave National Preserve and Joshua Tree National Park.

In dry years, water would be pumped from the aquifer underneath the 35,000 acres owned by Cadiz Inc.

The draft environmental impact report took into account the effects the project would have on vegetation, wildlife, cultural resources and water and air quality. According to the document, any impacts can be mitigated, with the exception of short-term construction emissions.

"We look forward to the next phase of the process and demonstrating our commitment to implementing the project in an environmentally responsible manner," said Scott Slater, Cadiz's president and general counsel.

The Jurupa Community Services District, which supplies Jurupa, Eastvale and unincorporated areas of Riverside County, is one of six interested agencies that have reserved 5,000 acre-feet of water per year, enough to supply about 10,000 families. The district put down a \$120,000 deposit for the share, General manager Eldon Horst said Wednesday.

"We happen to have a need for 5,000 acre-feet of water for the completion of the Eastvale community," he said.

The project also provides stable pricing, compared to other imported supplies for which costs are projected to escalate into the future, he said.

Western Municipal Water District in Riverside had expressed interest in the project but has since decided not to pursue it, spokeswoman Michele McKinney Underwood said.

Metropolitan Water District of southern California, the region's largest wholesaler, was a partner in an earlier version of the project, but backed out in 2002 amid environmentalists' opposition and concerns about costs.

Cadiz would need agreement from Metropolitan to convey water through the aqueduct.

Company officials said much of the water in the basin would become salty or be lost to evaporation before being replace with runoff. Instead, it could be used to supply about 400,000 people for a year.

But some environmental groups opposing the project say the pumping would cause a drop in the water table that would dry up springs supporting bighorn sheep and other wildlife. They also raised concerns that it could cause dust storms on nearby dry lake beds, adversely affect air quality, overdraw the water table and alter the flow of groundwater beneath the Mojave Preserve.

In the report, Cadiz says it would address any drop in the water table by reducing its pumping or deepening wells of

affected neighbors and would perform a drainage analysis. According to the document, the aquifer is not connected to the springs within the watershed and pumping would have no impact; nevertheless the company would monitor select springs on a quarterly basis.

The report said air quality would be affected only during construction and that the soil on dry lakes forms a crust that will not create blowing dust.

The draft environmental impact report is open for public comments until Feb. 13. The report can be viewed online.

Public comment meetings will be held Jan. 24 at 6P.M. at Santa Margarita Water District in Orange County and on Feb. 1 at 6P.M. at the Joshua Tree Community Center



The Cadiz Valley project could supply 400,000 people per year, but environmentalists worry about drying springs and blowing dust.

San Bernardino Valley Audubon 2010/11 Sponsored Christmas Bird Counts

Salton Sea North : Monday, January 2, 2012 6:30a.m.

Compiler: Chet McGaugh (909)781-3699 (home) or (951)369-8060 (work) chetmcgaugh@earthlink.net

We will meet at 6:30a.m. at the big ARCO just off of the expressway near Mecca. Dress warmly. It can be cold in the early morning hours. We will form six or seven groups and spread out over the count circle for a day of counting the multitudes of birds that spend the winter around the north end of Salton Sea. Bird identification skills are helpful but not a prerequisite; the group leaders will handle any identification problems. Counting ability is a prerequisite. Each group leader needs people to count common birds (like Eared Grebes, Ruddy Ducks, American Coots, gulls), and someone to record the numbers, so that he/she can concentrate on finding the unusual and hard-to-find species. If you want a mellow day of birding at Salton Sea, save yourself \$6 and we'll see you in January on the field trip. If you want a rather intense day of birding, and would like to contribute to the ever-growing (since 1969) data bank, come on out. You will see lots of birds. We typically record 130-140 species. After the count we will compile our results at a local restaurant.



UCR Extension: A Field Study of Birds: Winter

Course: Bio X405.1 Section 103-SCF-F23

An introduction to the wintering birds of Southern California with special emphasis on identification and natural history of waterfowl, gulls and birds of prey. Many of the prime wintering areas are visited on the field trips.

Note: This course may be taken twice for credit toward the Specialized Study Program in Field Ornithology. Visitors are not permitted. Enrollment is limited. Vertebrate course for Certificate in Field Ecology Elective for Specialized Study Program in Field Ornithology.

Instructor: Eugene A. Cardiff, B.A., retired Curator of Natural History, San Bernardino County Museum, Redlands. Cardiff is Extension's longest-standing instructor. He has taught over 100 ornithology classes since 1968.

Credit: 2 units

Dates/Times: Tues., 7:30-9:30 p.m., Jan. 10. Field trips all day Sat. Jan. 14, 21, 28, Feb. 11 and 25. (6 meetings)

Location: SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM in Redlands, 2024 Orange Tree Lane

Text: "Field Guide to the Birds of North America," 5th edition, Jon L. Dunn and Jonathan K. Alderfer ISBN 0792253140

Fee: \$219/\$199 each for couples and family members/ \$185 each with PINE discount

Reg #: 103-SCF-F23

How to enroll: Online at www.extension.ucr.edu, Phone: (951) 827-4105; (760) 834-0997, Toll free (800) 442-4990. In person: 1200 University Avenue, Riverside, Ca. **Note: to receive a discount for couples and family members, registration must be done by phone.**

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.

You can also 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



Members gather at dinner to compile results from the first SBVAS sponsored Christmas Bird Count, the Mill Creek count.

Great Backyard Bird Count Perfect for New Birders

15th annual count takes place Feb. 17-20, 2012

As movie-goers watch the stars of *The Big Year* in their quest to count birds, some may be motivated to try the hobby for the first time. The annual Great Backyard Bird Count is the perfect opportunity. The event is hosted by Audubon, the Cornell lab of Ornithology, and Canadian partner Bird Studies Canada. The results provide a snapshot of the whereabouts of more than 600 bird species.



Cassin's Finch, Gary Botello, AZ
2011 GBBC

Anyone can participate in this free event and no registration is needed. Watch and count birds for at least 15 minutes on any day of the count, February 17-20, 2012. Enter your results at www.birdcount.org, where you can watch as the tallies grow across the continent. The four-day count typically records more than 10 million observations.

"When thousands of people all tell us what they're seeing, we can detect patterns in how birds are faring from year to year," said Janis Dickinson, director of Citizen Science at the Cornell lab of Ornithology.

The Great Backyard Bird Count is a perfect example of Citizen Science," says Audubon Chief Scientist, Gary Langham. "Like Audubon's Christmas Bird Count, volunteers help us with data year after year, providing scientific support that is the envy of many institutions. It's also a lot of fun."

"We're finding that more people are taking part in our bird count programs every year—and the more that take part, the better it is for the birds," says Richard Cannings, Senior Projects Officer for Bird Studies Canada.

The 2011 GBBC brought in more than 92,000 bird checklists submitted by participants from across the United States and Canada. Altogether, bird watchers identified 596 species with 11.4 million bird observations. Results from the 2011 GBBC included:

- ▶ Increased reports of Evening Grosbeaks, a species that has been declining
- ▶ A modest seasonal movement of winter finches farther south in their search for food
- ▶ The Eurasian Collared-Dove was reported from Alaska for the first time, more evidence of an introduced species rapidly expanding its range.

Continued, Page 5, GBBC

GBBC Continued

Although it's called the Great "Backyard" Bird Count, the count extends well beyond backyards. Lots of participants choose to head for national parks, nature centers, urban parks, nature trails, or nearby sanctuaries. For more information, including bird-ID tips, instructions, and past results, visit www.birdcount.org.

The count also includes a photo contest and a prize drawing for participants who enter their bird checklists online.

The Great Backyard Bird Count is made possible in part by sponsor Wild Birds Unlimited.

Help Needed on Riverside County's General Plan Update

by George Hague

Have you ever been outraged by development built near one of your special places within our Chapter or by the increase in traffic caused by a development? Most of the time these harmful developments are sanctioned by a General Plan. Riverside County is now in the process of revising its General Plan. The public review period for Riverside County's General Plan Update (GPU) Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) will tentatively start in the summer of 2012 with public hearings probably occurring in late fall or early winter of 2012. The DEIR will help us see what impacts could occur on special places in our County and also on some adjacent lands in San Bernardino County.

Sierra Club members George Hague and alternate Ann McKibben have represented the environmental community on the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC), which is dominated by those connected to development interests. While the GPAC used to meet on a regular basis, it has not met for two years, and there is no meeting scheduled.

The GPU will impact everyone in Riverside County as well as many in neighboring San Bernardino County as it will lay out land use designations for years to come. It will also address sprawl, global climate change, noise, and open-space issues. Land use designations in this GPU could significantly impact such places as Joshua Tree National Park, Santa Rosa Plateau, the San Jacinto Wildlife Area, Coachella Valley National Wildlife Refuge and Preserve as well as open up valuable agricultural lands for development. Parts of the San Bernardino and Cleveland National Forests as well as the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument could all easily be directly impacted by Riverside County's GPU.

(Continued page 4 Plan)

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 not open because of mechanical you are welcome to walk in or birding along the creek bed.

Bearpaw Sanctuary, 38801 Valley Falls Drive P.O. Box 88; Forest Falls, CA 923396 Bearpaw Sanctuary is now on Facebook. If you type "Bearpaw Sanctuary"



photos from their Bearpaw visits.



does failure, stop for

of the into the SEARCH function, you'll find us. Bearpaw visitors are encouraged to report interesting wildlife sightings and share their favorite nature

SBVAS Officers 2011/2012 www.sbvass.org & www.inlandplanet.org

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

CALENDAR

Board Meetings: January 11, 2012 and February 1, 2012

General Meetings: January 18, 2012 and February 15, 2012 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.

(Plan continued)

Please become involved in this process to help protect these special places and others that you know need our attention. County planner for the General Plan Update is Frank Coyle, Riverside County Planning Department, fcoble@rctlma.org or (951) 955-2706. Please contact him and let him know that you want a copy of the DEIR and wish to be notified of all future documents as well as meetings related to Riverside County's GPU.

I hope the below information on General Plans from the Governor's office of Planning and Research proves useful to you.

THE GENERAL PLAN

The Blueprint

The local general plan can be described as the city's or county's "blueprint" for future development. It represents the community's view of its future; a constitution made up of the goals and policies upon which supervisors, or planning commission will base their land use decisions. To illustrate its importance, all subdivisions, public works projects, and zoning decisions (except in charter cities other than Los Angeles) must be consistent with the general plan. If inconsistent, they must not be approved.

Long-Range Emphasis

The general plan is not the same as zoning. Although both designate how land may be developed, they do so in different ways. The general plan and its diagrams have a long-term outlook, identifying the types of development that will be allowed, the spatial relationships among land uses, and the general pattern of future development.

Contents

State law requires that each city and each county adopt a general plan containing the following seven components or "elements": land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open-space, noise, and safety (Government Code Sections 65300 et seq.). At the same time, each jurisdiction is free to adopt a wide variety of additional elements covering subjects of particular interest to that jurisdiction such as recreation, urban design, or public facilities.

Planning Issues

Although state law establishes a set of basic issues for consideration in local general plans, each city and county determines the relative importance of each issue to local planning and decides how they are to be addressed in the general plan. As a result, no two cities or counties have plans which are exactly alike in form or content. Here is a summary of the basic issues, by element:

- The land use element designates the general location and intensity of housing, business, industry, open space, education, public buildings and grounds, waste disposal facilities, and other land uses.
- The circulation element identifies the general location and extent of existing and proposed major roads, transportation routes, terminals, and public utilities and facilities. It must be correlated with the land use element.
- The housing element is a comprehensive assessment of current and projected housing needs for all economic segments of the community and region. It sets forth local housing policies and programs to implement those policies.

(continued Page 7, Plan)



Sunday, January 1, 2012 - 8:00-10:00 am
Beginning Bird Walk at San Jacinto Wildlife Area ([map](#)) Doug Karalun (909) 425-5355

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 can be seen! Wear comfortable walking shoes, hats and sunscreen and bring water and binoculars. The walk is free and no reservations are needed. Everyone is welcome.

We will meet at the main parking lot at the wildlife headquarters. From Riverside go south on I-215 then east on Ramona Expressway. Turn north (left) on Davis Road which soon becomes dirt. The entrance to the wildlife area is approximately 3 miles down Davis Road on the right. Turn here and the parking area will be on your left. You can no longer enter the wildlife area from the north. Please contact Doug Karalun for further information. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes. You may call ahead to confirm location and time.

Saturday, January 7, 2012 - 7:00 am
Salton Sea Goose & Crane Trip
Chet McGaugh (951) 781-3699 & John Green (951) 686-2956

This trip at times has been called the "waterfowl trip," the "goose trip," and "a wonderful field trip." It is all of that, and more. Perhaps a glimpse at some of the species seen on previous trips will help stoke the fires of desire: American White Pelican (hundreds), American Bittern, White-faced Ibis, Roseate Spoonbill, snow Goose (thousands), Ross's Goose (hundreds), Greater White-fronted Goose, Bald Eagle, four falcon species, Sandhill Cranes, Lesser Black-backed gull, Burrowing Owl, Mountain Bluebird, and American Redstart. We usually tally over 100 species, and don't have to count individuals (for an opportunity to count every single bird on and around the sea, join us at te Salton Sea North Christmas Bird Count.)

We will meet at the Wister Unit of the Imperial Wildlife Area at 7:00a.m. Exit Highway 111 at Davis Road and look for us in the parking lot there. We will bird around the south end of the sea; also the surrounding agricultural lands looking for raptors, Mountain Plovers, and the always entertaining Sandhill Cranes.

Calendar for Field Trips 2011 to 2012

Saturday-Sunday, January 28-29, 2012**Weekend along the Central Coast**

Brad Singer (909) 838-7951 & Howard King (951) 203-8711

Join us for two days of exploration along the Central Coast of California in search of gulls, shorebirds, pelagic, passerines, raptors, and owls. Saturday will be spent in San Luis Obispo County birding along the seashore and a few places inland. Saturday night we'll search for owls in the Santa Ynez Valley. Sunday will be spent in Santa Barbara County birding both the coastline and inland. A few expected species are Yellow-billed magpie, Hutton's Vireo, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Snowy Plover, and Mew Gull. Some of the time will be spent chasing wintering vagrants. Last year's trip produced nearly 140 species, including five species of owls.

We will meet at 7:45a.m. at the parking lot of Oso Flaco State Park (no fee) on Saturday morning. The park is located about 10 miles west of Santa Maria. To get there, drive west on Hwy 166 from Santa Maria to Guadalupe Road (Highway 1); go north a few miles to Oso Flaco Lake Road, turn left and follow this to its end. I recommend staying in Santa Maria Friday night and Solvang on Saturday night. For more info, call Brad at the number above.

Sunday, February 5, 2012 - 8:00-10:00 am
Beginning Bird Walk at Cal State San Bernardino ([map](#))

Tom Benson (909) 648-0899

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 walking shoes, hats, and sunscreen and bring binoculars and water. The walk is free and no reservations are needed. Everyone is welcome.

We will meet at the northeast corner of parking lot G near the Student Recreation and Fitness Center. If you do not have a Cal State San Bernardino parking permit you must purchase a daily parking permit (\$5) from the kiosk attendant on Coyote Drive or from the automated permit dispensers. Please contact Tom Benson for further information. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes.

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... 🐦

Through January 5: Christmas Bird Counts

January 1: Beginning Bird Walk, San Jacinto—Doug Karalun



January 7: Salton Sea—Chet McGaugh and John Green



January 28 and 29: Central Coast—Brad Singer



February 5: Beginning Bird Walk, Cal State—Tom Benson

March 4: Beginning Bird Walk, San Jacinto—Doug Karalun

March 17: Bolsa Chica—Dori Myers

April 1: Beginning Bird Walk, Rancho Jurupa—Doug Karalun

April 21: Shorebird Migration at the Salton Sea—Brad Singer

April 29: Prado Big Day—Howard King

May 5: Big Morongo—Chet McGaugh

May 6: Beginning Bird Walk, Fairmount Park—Doug Karalun

May 12: Whitewater—Steve Myers

May 6: Box Springs—John Green

May 26: Baby Birds at Bearpaw—Cin Greyraven

June 9: San Gabriel Mountains, Wrightwood—Gene Cardiff

June 16 and 17: San Bernardino Mountains—Brad Singer (cooperative trip with Pomona Valley Audubon)

July 14-15: Greenhorn Mountains—Steve Myers

August 18: Insane Jaunt—Tom Benson

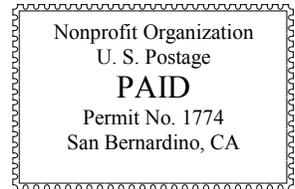
(Plan continued)

- ▶ The conservation element addresses the conservation, development, and use of natural resources including water, forests, soils, rivers, and mineral deposits.
- The open-space element details plans and measures for preserving open-space for natural resources, the managed production of resources, outdoor recreation, public health and safety, and the identification of agricultural land.
- ▶ The noise element identifies and appraises noise problems within the community and forms the basis for distributing new noise-sensitive land uses.
- The safety element establishes policies and programs to protect the community from risks associated with seismic, geologic, flood, and wildfire hazards

If it looks like a duck and quacks like a duck, we have at least to consider the possibility that we have a small aquatic bird of the family anatidae on our hands.

Douglas Adams

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 2,000

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...



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San Bernardino Valley Audubon

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

I wish to receive the *Western Meadowlark* **only** electronically _____

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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)

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make check payable to National Audubon Society

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Please clip and mail all memberships to: SBVAS Membership Chair
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