

San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

WESTERN MEADOWLARK

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May/ June 2010

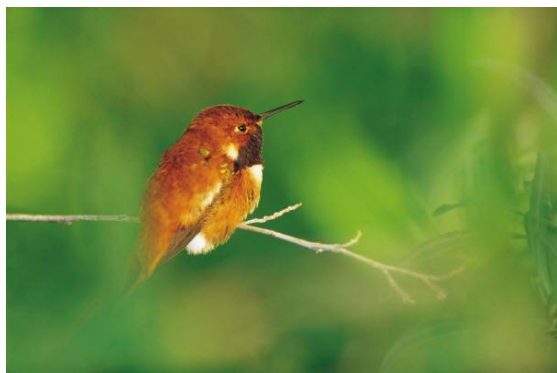


How Hummingbirds Fly

A program presented by Doug Altshuler

Wednesday May 19, 2010 7:30 P.M.

One of the most remarkable adaptations in animals is the ability to fly. Birds, bats and insects are among the most successful of terrestrial organisms, and their colonization of diverse habitats and ecological roles provides a rich context for studies of animal behavior and ecology. The study of how animals fly is an intrinsically multidisciplinary field that involves aspects of aerodynamics, physiology, and neuroscience. Although most flight research concerns either mechanisms or ecological interactions, flight behavior provides a powerful yet experimentally tractable system with which to merge reductionist and comparative approaches to understand how complex locomotion is accomplished, and how variation in locomotor performance influences higher-order behaviors. In his laboratory, the aim is to integrate approaches ranging from laboratory experiments to evolutionary comparisons because understanding the mechanisms of flight control also requires understanding the historical forces that have shaped it. Conversely, to evaluate the mechanisms by which ecological changes result in biological adaptations requires a well-described system that can be studied in different environments.



Our speaker began his academic career studying the history of religion with a special emphasis on the Indian subcontinent. He spent his junior year abroad at the University of Delhi and graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz in 1992. At the very end of his undergraduate studies, Doug took a field course in tropical biology and realized that although biology poses simpler questions than religion, it also provides more tractable answers. Continuing his quest for field work and travel, Doug performed master's research on the interactions between plants and animals in the tropical setting of the Panama Canal. This work was supervised by Rick Howard at Purdue University, where Doug was awarded a M.Sc. in biology in 1994. His Ph.D. research was completed in Robert

Dudley's laboratory at University of Texas and concerned the influence of flight performance on hummingbird evolutionary ecology. This project involved laboratory studies in Austin as well as field work in the Peruvian Andes and the Colorado Rockies. Upon graduation in 2001, Doug joined Michael Dickinson's laboratory, first at UC Berkeley, and then helped move the lab to Caltech. As a postdoc, he worked on the aerodynamics and neurophysiology of flight in hummingbirds, zebra finches, and honeybees. He joined the faculty at UC Riverside in 2006 as an assistant professor of biology, where he studies the integrative biology of animal flight.

Come enjoy what is certain to be an interesting and entertaining program. Our doors open at 7 P.M. and our meeting starts at 7:30 P.M. and everyone is always welcome.

June Potluck Dinner
Annual Meeting, Installation of Officers & Nature
Photography Program
Wednesday June 16, 2010 6:30 P.M.

Help celebrate the end of our chapter year, the beginning of summer and the joy of nature at our June potluck dinner. We will begin our evening of camaraderie at 6:30 P.M., an hour earlier than usual at the San Bernardino County Museum. The potluck will be held in the new Hall of Geologic Wonders this year rather than the Fisk Auditorium.

SBVAS will supply a turkey and a ham as well as beverages. Please bring a dish to share either a salad, vegetable, casserole, or dessert. Please remember to bring your own table service. We will be hosting another silent auction, so bring your bird and nature related books and items you would like to donate for sale. Officers will be installed. This usually takes only a few minutes. We may also be asking for a vote from the general membership regarding some needed changes in our by-laws. Then our members will provide the program by bringing 10-15 of their favorite nature slides to share. This is a great annual event and is fun for everyone. *Come enjoy good friends, food and what is certain to be a terrific evening.*

Thank You to Donors and Volunteers

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

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Susan Damron
Michael and Ann L. McKibben
Robert and Sherrie Thomas
Linda and Kirk Stitt
Sue and Howard Hurlbut, Jr.

The Legal Eagle #1 - Why We Fight and How We Fight

By Drew Feldmann, Conservation Chair

This column is the first of what hopefully will be a regular feature in The Western Meadowlark, a column informing chapter members of our latest legal actions, their prospects, and results. This column will introduce members to the process, while future columns will discuss specific issues in more detail.

SBVAS has historically been one of the more litigious chapters in the state and for good reason. Our chapter encompasses most of San Bernardino and Riverside counties, so we have the largest amount of still undeveloped land in the state. We are the frontier of settlement, so to speak, for the expansion of greater Los Angeles to the east. Much of what little remaining flat open space below the mountains that could still have houses built on it is in our chapter area. In addition, developers look on the desert as yet another place to put cookie-cutter houses, wind farms, and solar plants. After the 2000 census, the Riverside-San Bernardino area comprised the 5th fastest growing metropolitan area in the country.

At the same time, we are at the heart of what is called the California Floristic Province, an acknowledged world-class biodiversity hotspot with more endangered and threatened species than anywhere else in the country. Litigation has been the chapter's principal means to fulfill part of Audubon's fundamental mission, to preserve habitat for birds and other wildlife. We have also worked closely with other organizations, such as the San Bernardino Mountains Land Trust, who use other means, such as buying land to preserve habitat in perpetuity.

The chapter's litigation goes back to at least the 1980's. Sue Nash, a former chapter president who is also an attorney, donated her time to the chapter, and when as a result of victory, won attorney's fees as part of the settlement, she donated them to the chapter. We had in effect a litigation fund which the board used to fund other litigation, but which has gradually dwindled over time and now is almost gone. Our previous litigation included successfully suing San Bernardino County for not including global warming issues in its general plan. This suit prompted most general plans filed by local governments in California from that point on to include global warming. Before that, very few had. We won awards for this suit. Another recent victory was the Big Bear Hilton case. A developer wanted to build a hotel on a wetland and pebble plain near Metcalf Meadow. We and allied groups opposed several aspects of the development, and after a bitter fight, we won in court. The developer settled for a smaller hotel in a different location. The wetland and pebble plain were preserved.

The board's approach to litigation generally is to address those developments that present the greatest danger of impacting wildlife, impacting global warming, and/or setting bad legal precedent. However, we don't take on a case unless we have a very good chance of winning. If a terrible project is perfectly legal, or only questionable, we don't sue. A project has to violate some fundamental part of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and or other environmental law, before we will sue. The board does not take these decisions lightly and the debate can at times be intense.

Our allies have generally been the Center for Biological

Diversity (CBD) and the local chapter ("San Gorgonio") of the Sierra Club (SC) and we often follow CBD's lead in joining a suit, because they have a strong record of victories. More often than not, they have been our attorneys.

SBVAS has six lawsuits going at the moment, two in the San Bernardino Mountains, three in western Riverside County, and one of a more general nature, which I will describe in the next column. Given the pace of development, there could be more lawsuits by then.

An Open Letter from the President

Dear Members-

There is the old saying that states if you don't ask you won't receive. So I am here asking for your help and hopefully San Bernardino Valley Audubon (SBVAS) will receive your financial support.

If you have read the Legal Eagle article in this issue you know that we have entered into a lot of law suits because we think they are good and worthwhile causes. They are suits that, if won, will protect and preserve habitat. Preserving habitat ultimately benefits the birds and wildlife that we love so much and the open space that we treasure. Once covered over, destroyed and disturbed this habitat is gone forever and the impacts on wildlife and their place in the world is devastating. Unfortunately, it is a fact that law suits are expensive. Because we pick our cases carefully and our attorneys are fabulous we generally win our suits and our attorneys recover their fees, but we are generally not rewarded with all the costs incurred in a case so we are usually out some money every time we bring a suit.

With your help we can continue doing what we do so well. We are trying to preserve important habitat for birds and wildlife in San Bernardino and Riverside counties and with your contribution we can accomplish a lot towards making that goal.

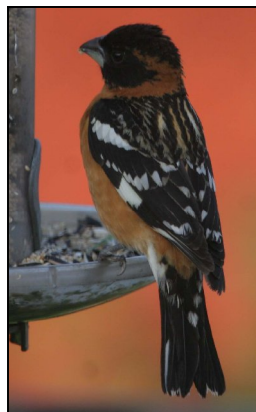
Sincerely,

Dori Myers, President

Thank you for your tax deductible contribution. Please donate to SBVAS. Make your check payable to SBVAS and mail it to:
SBVAS

P.O. Box 10973

Redlands, Ca. 92423-0973



Black-headed Grosbeaks started showing up at feeders all around the Inland Empire in mid-April.



Interior Backs Off Joshua Tree Landfill Plan

Debra Kahn, E&E reporter
First published in Greenwire

The interior Department is no longer supporting a planned landfill on the boundary of Joshua Tree National Park.

The proposed Eagle Mountain landfill would be the nation's largest dump, accepting up to 20,000 tons of trash daily for 117 years, mostly from Los Angeles County, and placing the waste in an open-pit iron ore mine. The proposal has been on the table since 1989.

Last month, Interior allowed the deadline to pass for appealing a November 2009 federal court decision that rejected a land exchange that would have allowed the landfill plan to proceed. The developer, Kaiser Ventures, had proposed trading thousands of acres in another part of California for more than 3,000 acres owned by the Bureau of Land Management adjacent to Joshua Tree and a former mine site still owned by the company.

Kaiser filed a petition before the deadline, so the project could continue if the court decides to rehear the case. Attorneys for the nonprofit National Parks Conservation Association, which began litigating the project in 2000, said Interior's lack of action did not bode well for the landfill.

"Being granted a petition for a rehearing en banc is pretty rare, and it's pretty rare when the government, who after all is the part we sued, didn't appeal," said Libby Fayad, NPCA's general counsel. "It's not the end of the road for this, though Kaiser may get to file an appeal."

Business leaders in the Joshua Tree area issued a statement praising Interior Secretary Ken Salazar's decision. "Secretary Salazar has made a courageous decision to protect the long-term health of Joshua Tree National Park," said George Kopp, president of the Joshua Tree Chamber of Commerce. "By protecting the park, he's not only standing up for tortoises and bighorn sheep, he's standing up for the businesses, communities and tourists who know that our national park is far more valuable than a garbage dump."

Environment Now Honors SBVAS with Top Achievement Award

Environment Now honored San Bernardino Valley Audubon with a Top Achievement Award for achievements in the environmental community in Southern California. SBVAS was honored, with others, for their efforts involving the Mid County Parkway. Their efforts succeeded in halving the Mid County project, saving homes and habitat.

The award presentation said:

A large coalition, led by the San Geronio Chapter of the Sierra Club, San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society, and Center for Biological Diversity, joined by the Endangered Habitats League, blocked the most harmful portion—the western route—of the proposed Mid County Parkway in Riverside County. The highway would have affected sensitive habitat conservation areas and existing homes for 32 miles between the cities of San Jacinto and Corona. However, in July the Riverside County Transportation Commission noted the 3,100 comments received and voted to withdraw plans for most of the western route. The eastern portion is still proceeding and Cajalco Road is proposed to be widened to alleviate traffic congestion between Corona and Interstate 215. The coalition will continue to monitor the project to ensure that environmental impacts are mitigated.

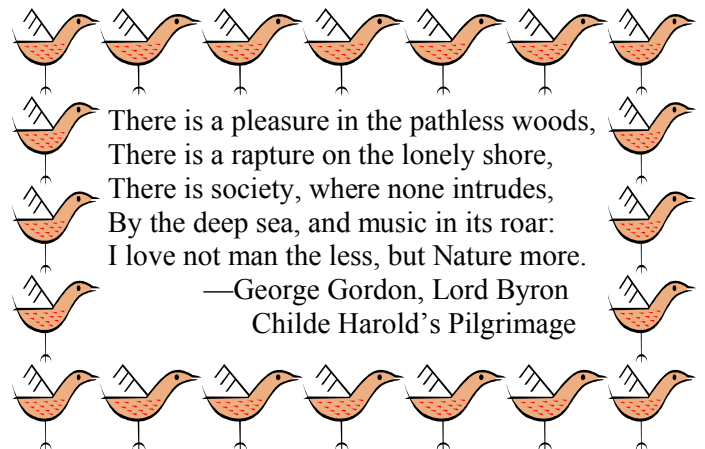
Panelists from Environment Now considered achievements that improved sustainability by preserving sensitive open spaces, wildlands, and wildlife corridors. Also considered were projects that created or improved urban parks, improved efficiency of human development patterns and land use, or reduced urban sprawl.



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.



Secretary Salazar Releases New “State of the Birds” Report Showing Climate Change Threatens Hundreds of Species

Austin, TX—Climate change threatens to further imperil hundreds of species of migratory birds, already under stress from habitat loss, invasive species and other environmental threats, a new report released by Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar concludes.

The State of the Birds: 2010 Report on Climate Change, follows a comprehensive report released a year ago showing that nearly a third of the nation’s 800 bird species are endangered, threatened or in significant decline.

“For well over a century, migratory birds have faced stresses such as commercial hunting, loss of forests, the use of DDT and other pesticides, a loss of wetlands and other key habitat, the introduction of invasive species, and other impacts of human development,” Salazar said. “Now they are facing a new threat—climate change—that could dramatically alter their habitat and food supply and push many species towards extinction.”

The report, a collaboration of the U.S. Fish and wildlife Service and experts from the nation’s leading conservation organizations, shows that climate changes will have an increasingly disruptive effect on bird species in all habitats, with oceanic and Hawaiian birds in greatest peril.

In releasing the report, Salazar cited the unprecedented efforts by the Obama Administration and the Department of the Interior to address climate change.

In Anchorage, Alaska, for example, the Interior Department opened the first of eight new regional Climate Science Centers that will engage scientists from all of Interior’s Bureaus and our partners to research climate change impacts, work with land, natural, and cultural resource managers to design adaptation strategies, and engage the public through education initiatives.

The Climate Science Centers will help support a network of new “**Landscape Conservation Cooperatives**” that will engage federal agencies, tribal, state, and local governmental and non-governmental partners and the public in crafting practical, landscape-level strategies for managing climate change impacts on land, natural, and cultural resources within the eight regions. “Just as they did in 1962 when Rachel Carson published *Silent Spring*, our migratory birds are sending us a message about the health of our planet,” Salazar said. “That is why—for the first time ever—the Department of the Interior has developed a coordinated strategy to plan for and respond to the impacts of climate change on the resources we manage.”

Key findings from the “State of the Birds” climate change report include:

- ▶ Oceanic birds are among the most vulnerable species because they don’t raise many young each year, they face challenges from a rapidly changing marine ecosystem, and they nest on islands that may be flooded as sea levels rise. All 57 oceanic bird species, such as petrels and albatrosses, are among the most vulnerable birds on Earth to climate change.
- ▶ Hawaiian birds such as endangered species Puaiohi and ‘Akiapola’au already face multiple threats and are

increasingly challenged by mosquito-borne diseases and invasive species as climate change alters their native habitats

- ▶ Birds in coastal, arctic/alpine, and grassland habitats, as well as those on Caribbean and other Pacific Islands show intermediate levels of vulnerability, most birds in arid lands, wetlands, and forests show relatively low vulnerability to climate change.
- ▶ For bird species that are already of conservation concern such as the golden-cheeked warbler, whooping crane, and spectacled eider, the added vulnerability to climate change may hasten declines or prevent recovery.
- ▶ The report identified common bird species such as the American oystercatcher, common nighthawk, and northern pintail that are likely to become species of conservation concern as a result of climate change

“Birds are excellent indicators of the health of our environment, and right now they’re telling us an important story about climate change,” said Dr. Kenneth Rosenberg, director of Conservation Science at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. “Many species of conservation concern will face heightened threats, giving us an increased sense of urgency to protect and conserve vital bird habitat.”

“All of the effective bird conservation efforts already taking place to protect rare species, conserve habitats, and remove threats need to be continued,” said David Mehlman of The Nature Conservancy. “Additionally, they need to be greatly expanded to meet the threat climate change poses to bird populations.”

“The dangers to these birds reflect risks to everything we value: our health, our finances, our quality of life and the stability of our natural world,” said Audubon’s Glenn Olson. “But if we can help the birds weather a changing climate, we can help ourselves.”

“While there is much to be concerned about in this report, we can reduce the impact of climate change by taking immediate action to reduce carbon emissions and find creative conservation solutions to help birds adapt to the changes that are already in process,” said David Pashley, vice president of the American Bird Conservancy.

The report offers solutions that illustrate how, by working together, organizations and individuals can have a demonstrable positive impact on birds in the U.S. Specifically, the report indicates that the way lands are managed can mitigate climate change and help birds adapt to changing conditions. For example, conserving carbon-rich forests and wetlands, and creating incentives to avoid deforestation can reduce emissions and provide invaluable wildlife habitat.

The report is the product of a collaborative effort as part of the U.S. North American Bird Conservation Initiative between federal and state wildlife agencies, and scientific and conservation organizations including partners from American Bird Conservancy, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Klamath Bird Observatory, National Audubon Society, The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, U.S.D.A. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Geological Survey.



Field Trip Information



Saturday, May 1, 2010 - 7:00 am

Big Morongo

Chet McGaugh (951) 781-3699

NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY

The first week in May is about the best time for observing migrant land birds in Southern California and Big Morongo is one of the best places for it. In addition to migrant warblers, vireos and flycatchers, we expect to see the breeding specialties including Vermilion Flycatcher, Yellow-breasted Chat, Summer Tanager, Blue Grosbeak, Bullock's Oriole and Hooded Oriole. Join us for a morning bird walk on the trails and roads of the preserve and surrounding areas. We will meet at the preserve parking lot at 7:00 am ([map](#)). To get there, take I-10 to Highway 62, go north ten miles to Morongo Valley, then turn right on Park Avenue to Covington Park. Turn left at Covington Park, then do a quick right-left-right into the preserve. Weather is typically good this time of year. Bring water, snacks and lunch if you plan to make a day of it. Some of us will probably stay out all day. Who knows where the afternoon will lead us?

Sunday, May 2, 2010 - 8:00-10:00 am

Beginning Bird Walk at Fairmount Park ([map](#))

Doug Karalun (909) 425-5355

NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY

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.

To reach Fairmount Park from downtown Riverside take Market Street north to the signal at Fairmount Park and turn left, then turn immediately to the left towards the tennis courts then right into the parking lot. Follow the lot all the way to the end and park near the bandstand. 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

Sunday, May 2, 2010 - 8:00 am

Box Springs Mountain

John Green (951) 686-2956

NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY

Our main target birds here will be Black-chinned, Rufous-crowned, and Bell's Sage Sparrows, which should be present and singing. We'll look for them and more while going on a figure eight loop hike through the fragmented chaparral and sage scrub and past several springs. A few of the other resident and/or breeding birds to be expected on the trip include Greater Roadrunner, Black-chinned and Costa's Hummingbirds, Nuttall's Woodpeckers, Wrentit, Rock and Canyon Wrens, California Thrasher, and Bullock's and Hooded Orioles. We will, of course, also be hoping for a nice crop of migrants including flycatchers, vireos, warblers, buntings, grosbeaks, and ??? Over 170 species of birds have been recorded in the Box

Springs, but 40 species is a more realistic goal for this trip. We should also see some wildflowers and shrubs in bloom, and a variety of butterflies, reptiles, mammals, etc. as well. THIS INCLUDES RATTLESNAKES, which have been encountered on the trip in recent years. Other concerns include ticks, poison oak, and stinging nettle. None of these are abundant, and can be avoided with reasonable care. The walk is all on official trails, but some are narrow. The full hike is about 3.5 miles, with a couple of climbs, and a maximum elevation gain of about 650 feet. Those not wanting the full walk can break back to the parking lot at the end of the first loop of the figure eight (that first loop is about 1.25 miles and 450 foot elevation gain). Expect to arrive back at the parking lot by lunchtime. We will meet at 8:00 am at the upper parking lot of Box Springs Mountain Reserve ([map](#)). From Highway 60 in Moreno Valley take the Pigeon Pass Road / Frederick Street exit. Take Pigeon Pass north and continue for about 4.2 miles. When Pigeon Pass makes a sharp turn to the right, you will continue straight on Box Springs Mountain Road for about 1.3 miles to the parking area. There is a \$2 per person parking fee box. We will do a lot of walking, so wear appropriate shoes and dress comfortably in layers. Some trails may be overgrown, long pants are advised. Carry water and snacks. There are picnic tables at the parking area, so bring a lunch if you'd like to eat after the hike. See you there!

Saturday, May 8, 2010 - 8:00 am

Whitewater Canyon

Steve Myers (951) 634-9767

NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY

This trip is a new addition to the SBVAS field trip lineup. Portions of Whitewater Canyon have long been more or less closed to public access, but the former trout farm is now the "Whitewater Canyon Preserve," managed by The Wildlands Conservancy. If you visited the trout farm in the past, you will not know the place now. Most of the facilities have been removed, and habitat restoration is under way. There are still a few ponds with trout, but riparian and desert scrub habitat should be teeming with birds on this trip. The canyon hosts nesting Summer Tanagers and Brown-crested Flycatchers, and migrants should be easy to find. In addition to the Preserve, we will visit Bonnie Bell, a small community in the canyon that contains excellent cottonwood and willow forest and woodland, somewhat reminiscent of Big Morongo.

Meet at the Whitewater Canyon Preserve at 8:00 am ([map](#)). To reach the Preserve, go east on I-10, past the turn-off for Highway 111, and take the Whitewater exit. Turn left, pass over I-10, and watch for Whitewater Canyon Road on your left. The Preserve is at the end of Whitewater Canyon Road, approximately 5 miles north of I-10. Bring sturdy footwear, water, lunch, and the usual essentials.



Saturday, May 29, 2010 - 9:00 am

Baby Birds at Bearpaw Ranch

Cin Greyraven (909) 794-0509

NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY

Join us for a trip into the hidden world of nesting birds at Bearpaw Nature Sanctuary in Forest Falls ([map](#)). Biologist Cin Greyraven will lead the group in its search for evidence of breeding behavior in the common birds of the chaparral and forest. Since 1994, Bearpaw Sanctuary has been part of the National Nest Box Trail system, offering homes to Western Bluebirds, Oak Titmice, House Wrens, Mountain Chickadees, and Ash-throated Flycatchers.

Learn what types of nest boxes work best and how monitoring data by average citizens across the continent can contribute to scientific research. Learn how to monitor a nest box without disturbing the nesting effort. Enjoy a peek inside the usually inaccessible world of cavity nesters, and learn to recognize different species by their nests, eggs, and chicks. Bring binoculars for long-distance viewing and cameras for close-up snapshots. Children are welcome. The gate code is #7282. For additional information, call (909) 794-0509.

Saturday, June 5, 2010 - 6:45 am

San Bernardino Mountains

Brad Singer (909) 838-7951

The San Bernardino Mountains trip will meet behind the Chevron station at the corner of Waterman Avenue (Highway 18) and 40th Street in San Bernardino at 6:45 am ([map](#)). We will start up Waterman Canyon, swing by the Heap's Peak drip, and make a brief stop in Running Springs. Expected species are orioles, Rufous-crowned, Black-chinned, and Fox Sparrows, and Green-tailed Towhees. From there, we will travel to Grout Bay on Big Bear Lake, and then head out to Arrastre Creek east of Big Bear. We will be looking for Hepatic Tanager, Calliope Hummingbird, Indigo Bunting, Mountain Quail, Scott's Oriole, and Gray Vireo. Next, we will stop at Sandy Remley's feeders in Baldwin Lake and have lunch. After lunch we will head up to Bluff Lake and spend a pleasant afternoon; expected species are White-headed and Hairy Woodpeckers, Williamson's and Red-breasted Sapsuckers, Cassin's and Purple Finches, and Olive-sided Flycatcher. There is a possibility of seeing Red Crossbill and Common Nighthawk. Also expected are Yellow, Wilson's, and Hermit Warblers. For those wanting to continue on, we will stop in Big Bear for an early dinner, and then head to Green Canyon in search of Whip-poor-wills and owls.

It will be a long day, so bring plenty of water, a lunch, and sturdy hiking shoes. A vehicle with high-clearance is recommended but not required. Please don't forget that you will need a National Forest Adventure Pass. For more information, contact Brad Singer at (909) 838-7951.

Calendar for Field Trips 2009-2010



May 1: Big Morongo—Chet McGaugh



May 2: Beginning Bird Walk, Fairmount Park—Doug Karalun



May 2: Box Springs—John Green



May 8: White Water Canyon—Steve Myers



May 29: Baby Birds at Bear Paw—Cin Grayraven



June 5: San Bernardino Mountains—Brad Singer



June 12: Wrightwood—Gene Cardiff



June 26 and 27: Greenhorns—Steve Myers

July 17: Hummingbirds at Bear Paw—Cin Greyraven

August 7: Insane Jaunt/Salton Sea—Tom Benson

Saturday, June 12, 2010 - 7:00 am
Wrightwood

Gene Cardiff (909) 875-5358

The San Gabriel Mountains trip will start at the California Department of Forestry Mormon Rocks Station on Highway 138 at 7:00 am ([map](#)). Take I-15 north from San Bernardino or south from the Victor Valley and turn toward Palmdale on Highway 138. The CDF Station is located 1.5 miles up Hwy 138 on the left side of the road, opposite the large sandstone formation called the Mormon Rocks. (There are no restrooms at the CDF Station, use the restrooms at the gas stations near the off ramp.) After birding that area for about an hour, we will proceed up Lone Pine Canyon Rd into Wrightwood and we will bird various areas on our way to lunch at Blue Ridge Campground at 8000 feet. We will look for mountain birds such as the White-headed Woodpecker, Dusky Flycatcher, Townsend's Solitaire, Black-chinned Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Green-tailed Towhee, and Williamson's Sapsucker. Bring a lunch, liquids and a good pair of shoes. Please don't forget that you will need an Adventure Pass. We will stop at the ranger station but sometimes they are closed so try to get your pass ahead of time. Contact Gene if you have any questions. 909 875-5358.

Saturday-Sunday, June 26-27, 2010 Weekend trip - Greenhorn Mountains & the Southern Sierra

Steve Myers (951) 634-9767

This is a joint trip with the Mojave Desert Bird Club. Meet at 7:00 am (for breakfast), or 7:45 am (if you don't want breakfast) at Cheryl's Diner in Kernville (11030 Kernville Rd, Kernville, CA 93238-9765; [map](#)). From Kernville we will head up into the Greenhorn Mountains. The Greenhorns are at the southern end of the Sierra Nevada, and offer extensive coniferous forests, wet meadows, and spectacular views. We expect to see many of the typical high mountain birds, and the Greenhorns are the southern range limit of birds such as the Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Goshawk, and Winter Wren. On Saturday night we will be camping at a primitive campground (no water or toilets of any kind) in the Greenhorns. Among the localities visited on this trip will be the Trail of 100 Giants (*Sequoia* grove), Portuguese Pass, Tiger Flat, Sherman Pass, and Kennedy Meadows. This trip can be terrific for both montane birds and butterflies, and the scenery is unsurpassed!

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... 🦋



Bearpaw 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. 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 ahead for the security code. Access to the code may be had by calling—Bearpaw at (909) 794-0509. Bearpaw Sanctuary, 38801 Valley of the Falls Drive P.O. Box 88; Forest Falls, CA 92339



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www.sbvass.org &
www.inlandplanet.org

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

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

CALENDAR

Board Meetings: May 5, June 2

General Meetings: May 19, June 23

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.

I only went out for a walk and finally concluded to stay out till sundown, for going out, I found, was really going in.

—John Muir, *John of the Mountains: The Unpublished Journals of John Muir, 1938*

May/June 2010

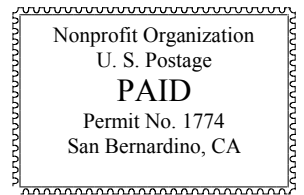
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Western Meadowlark

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

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