



San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

WESTERN MEADOWLARK

Volume 61— Number 2
November-December

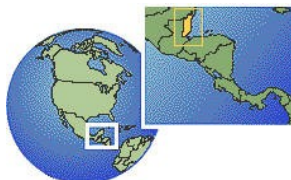
Belize: Gateway to the Tropics

Wednesday, November 17, 2010—7:30

Lee Jones, your guest speaker in November, invites you to come along with him on a virtual tour of Belize. He will entice you with images of Belize's stunning countryside, its people, and some of its more provocative birds, butterflies, and other exotic wildlife.

With a population comparable to that of Bakersfield spread over a country the size of Kern County, Belize is one of the most sparsely populated countries in the world. More than 40% of its land has been set aside as preserved open space with mile after mile of unspoiled tropical rainforests blanketing the mainland and the world's second longest coral reef stretching the length of the country just off its coast. Belize lies well within the American tropics, yet it is only two hours by plane from Houston and less than that from Miami. It is English-speaking, the people are friendly, the government is stable, and tourism is rapidly becoming its No. 1 industry. High on the list of tourist attractions is its incredibly rich birdlife. In fact, it seems that nearly every young Belizean these days aspires to be a bird guide! As a result, Belize now has some of the best home-grown birders of any country south of the U.S. border—all eager to show you what makes their tiny country so special.

Dr. Jones has been visiting and living part-time in Belize for 18 years. He has written *Birds of Belize*, still the definitive guide to its birds, and has conducted countless birding workshops, bird study programs, and tour-guide training sessions for the local people. In 2000 he started the Punta Gorda, Belize Christmas Bird Count which averages more than 250 species a year, more than any CBC north of Costa Rica. Next year he plans on "retiring" to Belize so he can devote more of his time to leading tours and fulfilling his dream of starting and running a tropical education and research center in the rainforest not far from his home in Punta Gorda.



Come and Celebrate the Holidays Traditional Potluck Dinner

Wednesday, December 15, 2010—6:30

Our traditional potluck dinner will be held at the San Bernardino County Museum, on Wednesday, December 15, at 6:30 p.m. Turkey, ham and beverages will be provided. Please bring your own table service and your favorite dish to share: a salad, vegetable, casserole, side dish, or dessert. Come early to visit with friends and to do a little last minute holiday shopping at our bookstore. Our program will be provided by our members who should bring 10-15 nature pictures to show and share. We'll also be having a silent auction to share the book collections of our members. If you have a nature-related book or two you would like to donate, please bring them to the potluck. Or, perhaps you'd like to bid on the treasured bird book brought by another member. Either way, plan on an enjoyable evening.



What's in a Name?

Swainson's Hawks were named after William Swainson (1789-1855), a naturalist and bird illustrator. He was born in Liverpool, the son of a collector of customs duty. After elementary education, he worked as a junior clerk and then in the army commissariat, in Malta and Sicily. Before going abroad he drew up, at the request of the Liverpool Museum, the Instructions for Collecting and Preserving Subjects of natural History, which was privately printed in Liverpool in 1808. He served for eight years from 1807 to 1815 with the army commissariat and amassed a very large collection of zoological specimens. At the end of the Napoleonic wars he retired on half-pay. In 1816 he left for Brazil and travelled collecting specimens, through Pernambuco to the Rio Sao Francisco and then on to Rio de Janeiro. On his return, in 1818, he published a sketch of his journey in the Edinburgh Philosophical Journal, in 1819, very briefly describing the voyage without any scientific detail. He then worked to sort his zoological specimens. In 1828 he visited museums in Paris, meeting other great French naturalists. In the same year he moved to the English countryside and worked as a full-time artist and author. In 1840, he left for New Zealand where he remained for the rest of his life. Most of his specimen collection was lost on the voyage to New Zealand, but he continued to write many papers and gained the attention of other naturalists who named several species, including the hawk, in his honor.

Prop. 21: A Legacy for California State Parks

Did you know that 52 Audubon California Important Bird Areas are at least partially owned by California State Parks, totaling 156,000 acres?

Audubon California, The Nature Conservancy, Save the Redwood League and California State Parks Foundation are sponsors of The State Parks and Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act ("State Parks Initiative") appearing on the November 2, 2010 statewide ballot as Proposition 21.

Prop. 21 works like this:

Vehicles registered in California will get a free, year round day use admission to all California state parks in exchange for a new annual \$18 vehicle license fee, a considerable savings if you go to more than two State parks in a year.

The funding will provide a stable, reliable and adequate source of funding for the state park system, for wildlife conservation and for increased and equitable access to those resources for all Californians.

The parks budget will no longer be subject to cuts by the legislature or the Governor, the Trust Fund cannot be borrowed from or raided, and our state Parks can begin work on acquisitions and deferred maintenance once the funds become available.

The passage of this proposition is a conservation legacy that all of us Audubon members in California can leave to future generations!

Save our State Parks and help pass Proposition 21 in November!



No on California Prop 23: Reversing Course on Climate Policy is the Real Job Killer

Reprinted from *Climate Progress*

Defenders of dirty energy like to pretend that having smarter climate policies (and more support for clean energy) would cost Americans jobs. Not only are they wrong, but-according to prominent business leaders this week (and a new study)-their "deny and delay" tactics are now turning out to be the true job killers.

Business leaders appearing in a town hall style panel in Las Vegas, Nevada said that they don't fear new rules to better control carbon pollution. What they fear is uncertainty about what those rules will be. President and CEO of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, Tom Donahue, was joined by billionaire investor T. Boone Pickens, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, and John Podesta, the President and CEO

of the Center for American Progress. One word was repeated the most throughout the entire afternoon session: certainty.

"We've got to get certainty," Donahue said. "People want to invest and make money. Tell us what the deal is, and let's get on with it!" Every panelist agreed that certainty was the name of the game for businesses and business owners who are struggling in a most uncertain time of national recession. Investors want

certainty as well, so they know what businesses and industries to pour their private capital into, and what kinds of prices they can expect in the medium and long-term.

Unfortunately, America is getting the opposite of certainty-even in places where issues related to climate and clean energy were thought long-settled.

Take California, for example, leaders in both major parties joined forces and have already passed smart, bipartisan rules to better control carbon pollution in the state. California's Global Warming Solutions Act, also known as Assembly Bill 32, or "A.B. 32," catalyzed billions of dollars in private sector investment in clean energy in the state-creating jobs, businesses, and new technologies. AB 32 sent a clear message to investors and businesses that clean energy will be the future economic engine for California.

It's no accident that California leads the nation in solar power, as well as in clean energy venture capital. It is also no accident that California has "the largest clean energy economy of the 50 states" according to a 2009 Pew study. This leadership is a result of state policies providing financial incentives for clean energy development renewable energy and energy efficiency standards-among others. By implementing far-sighted, predictable rules to support a clean energy transition, the golden state was able to attract clean tech investors and firms. But Texas oil interests conspired this year to upset the established consensus. They placed on the November ballot a measure to effectively undo the existing climate legislation. The upcoming vote has introduced wild uncertainty into the state's policy environment, leaving businesses and investors understandably hesitant to invest more in the state. Thus Prop. 23, a dirty oil, dirty air initiative, threatens to annihilate one of the greatest foundations of business progress and job growth that the state has.

Prop. 23 would destroy half a million jobs in California (many in construction and high tech manufacturing) by 2020 while costing the state \$80 billion in gross domestic product. This number does not even include the \$20 billion in GDP growth and 100,000 new clean energy jobs California can create in the next 10 years if its environmental and clean energy policies are upheld (and Prop. 23 is voted down).

Business leaders are ready to act, but they are waiting on the sidelines for a signal. Environmental Defense fund President Fred Krupp notes: U.S. utility companies today "are sitting on billions of dollars in job-creating capital—but they will not invest in new energy projects until they have certainty on what their future carbon obligations will be."

Clean energy is one part of the economy that will continue to experience substantial growth, despite the persistence of a potent national recession. With our planet and pocketbooks in peril, the clean energy economy is helping to create jobs as well as fight pollution and climate change.

Let's give businesses some certainty: Vote **NO** on Prop. 23!



Our Annual Appeal
~To All San Bernardino Valley Audubon Members and Supporters~

This is your chance to be a part of the support that keeps your chapter active and vital. Many of you give annually to favorite causes and we hope that you will keep us in mind again this year.

The reason we utilize the Western Meadowlark for our annual fund raising appeal letter is cost control. It is a cost saver to be sure, but it is symbolic also, in a larger sense, of the care we exercise in spending the dollars contributed in support of our important work in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. And what is the work? Some highlights of the past year are listed below.

- *Fascinating and environmental programs 10 times a year.*
- *Publication of the Western Meadowlark 6 times a year.*
- *Tables and displays at environmental and birding fairs.*
- *9 Christmas Bird Counts in San Bernardino and Riverside counties.*
- *Numerous field trips and bird walks throughout the year.*
- *Environmental activism and conservation with the goal to preserve and protect endangered habitats and species.*

All the above activities appear to be very popular with our members. There is a cost, however associated with the maintenance of these programs and major financial support has to come from our membership and other supporters. Last year the amount that National Audubon returned to us from your memberships was only \$5552.00 and we spent \$7614.00 mailing our newsletters to you. Our general meetings are another example of an expense and cost us, on average, \$150.00 each month.

In the last few years National Audubon's contributions to this chapter has diminished so without donations and bequests from our members and their families we wouldn't be able to operate at the level we do now. We have made a small start this year since we had a car donated to us and a small bequest from an estate that named our chapter as a beneficiary.

I hope that I have made a case for your support and that you will respond with a donation. Please make your check payable to SBVAS and mail it to the address below. We are a 501C3 organization so your gift qualifies as a charitable donation. Your tax-deductible contribution will be thankfully acknowledged in a letter.

Sincerely,

Dori Myers, Vice-president
On behalf of the Board of Directors and the environment

Mail to:

San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society
P.O. Box 10973
San Bernardino, CA 92423-0973



San Bernardino Valley Audubon 2010/11 Sponsored Christmas Bird Counts

Redlands (Mill Creek): Saturday December 18, 2010 7:00a.m.

Compiler: Gene Cardiff email: e.cardiff@worldnet.att.net

We will meet at the Mill Creek Ranger Station, just north of the intersection of Mill Creek Rd. (State Hwy. 38) and Bryant St. at 7:00a.m. The portion of the count circle, which you would like to help count can be arranged at that time, or a prior choice can be made. At the end of the day, around 5:00p.m., we will meet at the Casa Maya Mexican restaurant to share the day's experiences, enjoy some good food (on a no-host basis—order from the menu) and do a quick tally of the count. Casa Maya is located at 1837 Mentone Blvd. in Mentone, near the Post Office and the hardware store.

Morongo Valley: Saturday, December 18, 2010 7:00a.m.

Compiler: Dee Zeller (760)363-7190, birdee@verizon.net and Margaret Hoggan, mhandbb@earthlink.net

Let's hope that this year brings a few more rarities, but more than that, let's hope that our regular birds continue to be found in healthy numbers. Please call Dee or his wife Betty for information, or simply arrive at the Parking Lot at Big Morongo, 11055 East Dr. at 7:30a.m. sharp. Note that volunteer counters may be assigned to any of the eight areas within a 15 mile radius of Big Morongo Canyon Preserve. We will return at 4 to the preserve office to tally while munching pizza and seasonal treats. Please note: It will probably be very cold during count day, so remember to wear warm clothing

Idyllwild: Monday, December 20, 2010

Compilers: Sherri Stange (951) 925-4007

Steve Adkison (951) 652-2907

Meet at the Lake Hemet Store at 8:00a.m. After viewing the birds on and around the lake we will divide into smaller groups and, with a leader, canvass the count circle. Expert or beginner, we need you eyes! Come prepared! Although, over the years, the weather has been remarkably cold, clear, and mostly snow free, anything can happen. If the forecast is for very bad weather, the count will be postponed to the next possible day. Call Sherri the night before if the weather looks questionable. *Bring binoculars, field guide, sack lunch, and a hot drink.*

Dress in layers. We will regroup at the Anchor Restaurant in Hemet at 5:30p.m. to tally and admire who found what. Come join us in the mountains.

Santa Ana River Valley: Sunday, December 19, 2010 6:45p.m.

Compiler: Larry LaPre (951)276-1213 (home) (951)607-5218 (work) email:

llapre@aol.com

The Santa Ana River Valley CBC covers most of the cities of Riverside, Corona, and Norco. Within the count circle are some outstanding riparian areas like Prado Basin and Rubidoux Nature Center, and some duck filled lakes, like Lake Norconian and Lake Mathews. Meeting places and time for the subgroups are listed below.

Rubidoux Nature Center: Meet at the Nature Center parking lot at 6:45a.m.

Take Riverview (Limonite) from Mission Ave. in Rubidoux to Riverview D in Rubidoux to Riverview Dr. (watch for sign), then bear left and go about a mile to the Nature Center.

Prado Basin, Lake Norconian and Hidden Valley Wildlife Area: Meet at the gate to Hidden Valley, located at the dirt road entrance off Arlington Ave. across from the cemetery at 6:45a.m. **To enter Lake Norconian, the Navy requires the names of all participants in advance. Call Larry LaPre to get the details.**

San Jacinto Lake: Tuesday, December 21, 2010

Compilers: Tony Metcalf (909) 242-7038 ametcalf@csusb.edu

Tom Benson (909) 648-0899 thomasbenenson@aol.com

We will meet at 6:30a.m. on the corner of Bridge ST. and the Ramona Expressway about three miles east of Lakeview. The San Jacinto Lake Count is in the top 1-2% of all North American Christmas Bird Counts, and regularly leads the nation in species diversity for inland CBCs. We average over 150 species. The San Bernardino Audubon Society is very fortunate in having so many talented and enthusiastic birders who regularly find the time to count birds all day on a certain brisk Tuesday in December. Call it the San Jacinto flu. This year, as in past counts, we will be working closely with the San Jacinto Wildlife Area biologist in ensuring that we have another successful count. We will try to have group leaders in the same count areas

as last year. Please notify Tony Metcalf prior to count week if you are interested in a particular area. So, for science, for the birds, and mostly for the fun, grab a friend and join us for another great count. At the end of the day, we will meet at 6:00p.m. at Coco's at the corner of Perris and Sunny-mead Blvd. in Moreno Valley to tally and compile our findings.

San Bernardino Valley: Sunday, December 26, 2010

Compiler: Dori Myers (714)779-2201 (home) dorimyers1@aol.com

Come join San Bernardino Valley Audubon's longest running count. We will meet at 7:00a.m. at the San Bernardino County Museum. From there we will form small groups to cover the count area. Remember, the counts are for pleasure as well as science. Anyone can help and the more pairs of eyes out there in the field, the more birds we find. We will regroup around 5:30p.m. to share stories and tally the day's findings.

Mojave River Valley: Sunday, December 26, 2010

Compiler: Steve Myers (951) 247-3027(h) or (951) 369-8060(w)

stephenmyers@earthlink.net, Bill Truesdell (760) 362-4123

The meeting place is the same as the past years: The Starbucks in the Vons shopping center parking lot on the northeastern corner of the intersection of Bear Valley Rd. and Hesperia Rd. This intersection is just over three miles east of I-15 (take the Bear Valley Rd. exit). We will meet at 6:30a.m. A post count compilation will take place at a restaurant to be specified at the meeting place. It can get mighty cold (and windy) on the count, so bring plenty of layers.

Joshua Tree National Park: Thursday, December 30, 2010

Compiler: Joe Zarki (760)367-5520 (work) (760)366-8913 (home)

lutzarki@roadrunner.com, Bill Truesdell (760) 362-4132

Group 1: Meet the group leader at 7:30a.m. at the Indian Cove Ranger Station on Indian Cove Rd. This is off Hwy. 62 on the western side of Twentynine Palms at the entry of the park leading to Indian Cove Camp Ground. After covering Indian Cove, the group will go to parts of Twentynine Palms, the Oasis of Mara (the park headquarters), Luckie Park and the 29 Palms Inn.

Group 2: Meet the group leader at 7:30a.m. at the West Entrance of the Park. Take Park Blvd. from the town of Joshua Tree, parking is just behind the entry station. This group will cover the campgrounds in the interior of the park, Hidden, Lost Horse, and Queen Valleys. This part of the park is 3,000-5,000 ft. with an abundance of rocks and Joshua Trees. And we hope to see a bird or two. The daily use fee for the park will be waived for the Christmas count participants. The Joshua Tree National Park Association will cover the count participant fees. We can't make it any easier than that! Bring layers of clothing, it can be cold and windy or it can be warm and clam, we've had everything from 78 deg. To snow blowing straight at you. Also bring snacks, good walking shoes, lunch and drinks, or you can pick up lunch in Twentynine Palms if you choose group 1. Group 2 will have to rough it, no phones, no restaurants, but just beautiful country. We will meet about 5:30p.m. at a restaurant in Twentynine Palms to compile the results.

Salton Sea North : Sunday, January 2, 2011 6:30a.m.

Compiler: Chet McGaugh (909)781-3699 (home) or (951)369-8060

(work) chetmgaugh@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.

Earth and sky, woods and fields, lakes and rivers, the mountain and the sea, are excellent schoolmasters, and teach some of us more than we can ever learn from books.

John Lubbock

Inland Climate Increasingly hostile to feathered friends

By John Asbury

-reprinted from The Press-Enterprise

Climate change is expected to have more dire effects on bird species native to Inland Southern California than anywhere else in the state by the end of the century, according to a study by state bird experts and climatologists.

Between 25 and 50 percent of bird species native to the Inland region are predicted to disappear in the next 100 years, depending on how much humans do to curb global warming. Birds living in the Coachella Valley and around the Salton Sea are at highest risk, according to a report by Audubon California that was a companion study to one by the National Audubon Society.

Bird species can tolerate only a certain range of temperatures, and climate change also affects their food and water sources, said Bill Monahan, a senior mapping scientist with Audubon California. If an area gets warmer, some birds will move somewhere similar to their original habitat. But others will just die if they don't have the instinct to migrate or are too weak from lack of food to do so, he said. Hundreds of Inland bird species may already have died off or left for cooler climates in the past decades, experts say. Among those at high risk are the California gnatcatcher, the cactus wren and the California towhee.

Based on annual bird counts in Riverside and San Bernardino counties' wild lands, "almost every species is down," said retired Inland biologist Gene Cardiff.

The loggerhead shrike, a federally endangered species, lives in the brush in some Inland areas. In previous counts in Bloomington, Colton, and the San Jacinto Valley, eight pairs of shrikes were spotted. But none have been seen in the area for several years, said Cardiff, who often leads bird-watching tours from the San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands.

As a result of droughts in 2002 and 2007, there have been fewer insects throughout the Inland valleys and deserts, he said. Fewer insects mean fewer lizards and both serve as a food source for the shrike. Rising average temperatures have also been drying up vital bird wetlands, including the Salton Sea. That has some biologists worried about the future of the crucial watering spot for birds living in or migrating through the Imperial Valley.

Ornithologists published two studies saying that an increase in climate change during the past 40 years may have led to the disappearance of a large number of bird species locally and nationally.

Up to a third of the state's 310 species of birds could be threatened if greenhouse gas emissions are not limited, according to the California Audubon study.

The loss of bird species could be a greater indicator of the future of Earth's ecosystem and how global warming may affect humans, as well as other animals that have sought cooler climates as their native habitats have warmed up, said Monahan, who co-authored the report. Cardiff, of Rialto, said he is not surprised by the report's findings. He has been bird-watching since he was a child, and said he has begun noticing the absence of a half-dozen once-abundant species during his bird-watching tours. He said the birds are unable to survive in the Inland region's warming ecosystem.

SBVAS Officers 2010/2011

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) 867-2526
Pete Clark	(951) 212-2467
Dave Goodward	(909) 783-2417
Anthony Metcalf	(951) 242-7038
Brad Singer	(909) 838-7951
Doug Karalun	(909) 425-5355
Steve Myers	(951) 634-9767
Deb Bennett	(951) 544-2650
Cin Greyraven	(909) 720-0138

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

MEMBERSHIP: Crispin Rendon	(951) 686-7121
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: 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

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

CALENDAR

Board Meetings: Nov. 3, Dec. 1

General Meetings: Nov. 17, Dec. 15

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.

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.

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



Audubon Reports on the Louisiana Coast

Audubon released a new report on the status of birds and oil along the Louisiana Coast. Its findings—and its warning that the future of birds and the region's ecosystems remain uncertain because oil and other threats are still too close for scientists. They returned to Louisiana, nearly six months after BP's Deepwater Horizon disaster began spewing oil into the Gulf, to assess the health and overall condition of birds and coastal habitat, visiting some heavily oiled sites as well as some that received little or no oiling.

The Audubon team, led by Chief Scientist Tom Bancroft, found plentiful birds that appeared both resilient and loyal to their normal habitats as the tragedy's six-month anniversary approached. But the team also found cause for concern, as expressed by Audubon President David Yarnold:

"People shouldn't be fooled into thinking that the danger to birds and the environment is over just because the oil stopped flowing. It's going to take years of monitoring just to understand and start dealing with the long-term impacts of the oil—and they're just part of a much bigger threat."

This report leaves no doubt that Audubon's ongoing work in the Gulf—both in direct response to the spill and to address long-term environmental threats facing the region—is more important than ever.

This immature Bald Eagle was spotted by Gene's Field Ornithology class in October. The bird was perched in a low tree on the north side of the lake, near Stanfield Cutoff.



November 7—8:00 am

Bearpaw Ranch [Gene Cardiff](#) (909) 875-5358 and [Cin Greyraven](#) (909) 794-0509

This is a beautiful spot and very accessible from the Riverside/San Bernardino area so we expect to see a lot of you there. Birding in the area will be led by Gene Cardiff and Cin Greyraven. To really enjoy the day, bring binoculars, sturdy shoes, water and maybe a jacket for the mountains, depending on the weather, and don't forget a lunch if you are planning to stay for awhile. Again, all are welcome. Please call Gene at home if you have any questions. The field trip will be a half day only.

Sunday, November 14, 2010 - 7:00 am

Northern San Jacinto Valley

[Tony Metcalf](#) (951) 242-7038 and [Dave Woodward](#) (909) 783-2417

Ah, cooler weather. Wintering birds of prey and waterfowl, coastal sage scrub and wetlands, all close by. Please join us for our fall field trip to the northern San Jacinto Valley. We have two goals for this trip. First is to have fun. Second, is to see 100 species. We always accomplish the first goal and have come very close to the second. Maybe this is the year—Mystic Lake is full. The northern San Jacinto Valley is known for its high species diversity. We have ranked highest in number of bird species seen for inland areas in North America for Audubon's Christmas Bird Counts, and are usually in the top 1-2% for all counts. At the heart of the region is the public San Jacinto Wildlife Area.

We will meet at the parking lot at the gates of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area ([map](#)). From Riverside go south on 215 then east on Ramona, then north on Davis road three miles to parking lot. From Hemet, go west on Ramona to Davis road. From Redlands, go east on 10, then south on 91, then east on 60 or go south on Redlands Blvd, east on 60, East on Gilman springs, south on Bridge Street, west on Ramona and north on Davis road. As Davis is a dirt road, it is not recommended if there have been recent rains. The dirt roads are too dangerous for normal travel when wet. You can call or e-mail Tony Metcalf or the San Jacinto Wildlife Area headquarters (951-654-0580) for updated road info to the Wildlife Area.

Friday-Sunday, November 26-28, 2010

Morro Bay

[Gene Cardiff](#) (909) 875-5358

Plan to join us for a long weekend exploring exciting habitats for great numbers of birds. We will rendezvous at 8:00a.m. on Friday, November 26 at Osos group camp at Morro Bay State Park. The Ranger at the entrance is a good source of information. On Friday morning we will bird by walking around near the campground. Those birders that arrive late can meet us for lunch in Osos group camp. The campground has been reserved starting the evening of Thanksgiving through Sunday morning. Camping costs will be approximately \$5.00 per person per night

On Friday afternoon we will bird Morro Bay South to Montana de Oro. Saturday we will head north up the coast on Highway 1.

Calendar for Field Trips 2010 to 2011

to Cambria and north of San Simeon. There will be a short field trip Sunday morning before we depart for home. Call Gene if you are able to join us because we do have limited space or if you have any additional questions.

Saturday, December 4, 2010 - 8:00 am**Daggett & Newberry Springs**

Gene Cardiff (909) 875-5358

We will look for wintering birds at Newberry Springs and Daggett areas in the alfalfa fields and ponds, especially birds of prey. If we have the time we may head over to Harper Dry lake and see what we can find there. We will meet at the Denny's on Lenwood Road in Barstow at 7:00 a.m. (before breakfast) or 8:00 a.m. (after breakfast). To get there, take I-15 north to Barstow and turn right at the Lenwood Road off ramp. Denny's will be on the right hand side. Bring a lunch, water, snacks and warm clothes, because summer may be over by then. After lunch we will caravan and do some more looking for hawks and other birds. For more information on weather etc., Call Gene at the number above.

Sunday, December 5, 2010 - 8:00-10:00 am**Beginning Bird Walk at Fairmount Park - Riverside (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 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 binoculars and water. 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 Tom Benson for further information. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes. You may call ahead to confirm location and time..

**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 923396

November 7: Bear Paw Field Trip—Gene Cardiff and Cin Grayraven

November 14: Northern San Jacinto Valley—Tony Metcalf and Dave Woodward (trip subject to change if it conflicts with pheasant hunting)

November 26-28: Morro Bay—Gene Cardiff

December 4: Dagget and Newberry Springs—Gene Cardiff

December 5: Beginning Bird Walk—Tom Benson

December 14—January 5: Christmas Bird Counts

January 2: Beginning Bird Walk—Tom Benson

January 8: Salton Sea—Chet McGaugh

January 15 and 16: Weekend in Santa Barbara—Brad Singer

February 6: Beginning Bird Walk—Tom Benson

February 12: Salton Sea—TBA

March 6: Beginning Bird Walk—Brad Singer

March 19: Bolsa Chica—Dori Myers

April 2-3: East Mojave—John Green

April 3: Beginning Bird Walk—Doug Karalun

April 16-17: Owens Valley—Brad Singer

April 23: Salton Sea—Chet McGaugh

April 30: Big Morongo—Chet McGaugh

May 1: Prado Big Day—Howard King

May 1: Box Springs Mountains—John Green

May 1: Beginning Bird Walk—Doug Karalun

May 7: White Water Canyon—Steve Myers

June 4-5: San Bernardino Mountains—Brad Singer

June 11: Wrightwood—Gene Cardiff

July 9-10: Greenhorn Mountains—Steve Myers

August 13: Insane Jaunt—Tom Benson

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... 🐾

November/December 2010

8

Western Meadowlark

THE WESTERN MEADOWLARK

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit Organization
U. S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1774
San Bernardino, CA

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
1,812

To reach the Museum, take the Cali-
fornia 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** elec-
tronically _____

Email Address _____

Please enclose a check payable to SBVAS



Membership Application
National Audubon Society (NAS)

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

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make check payable to National Audubon Society

SBVAS Chapter
C97C110Z

Please clip and mail all memberships to: SBVAS Membership Chair

P.O. Box 10973
San Bernardino, Ca. 92423-0973

DATED MATERIAL - Please Expedite