

Was able to check a major item of my "bucket list" this fail: failing alvantage of my learly there. It fails, a couple doen rough register moder from the light and weather. Radios tumel down the north shore of the Jake, attracted by the themals over land versus the downdrafts over the cold waters. Northern Ninnesota because the Great Plains to the include the through northern Ninnesota because the Great Plains to the cold waters. Northern Ninnesota because the Great Plains to the include to see more. sparking to mysterious to omnous operang on the light and weather. Sparking to mysterious to omnous operang on the light and weather. Sparking to mysterious to omnous operang on the light and weather. Sparking to mysterious to omnous operang on the light and weather. Sparking to mysterious to omnous operang on the light and weather. Sparking to mysterious to omnous operang on the light and weather. Sparking to mysterious to omnous operang on the light and weather. Sparking to mysterious to omnous operang on the light and weather. Sparking to mysterious to omnous operang on the light and weather. Sparking to mysterious to omnous operang on the light and the operation of the light are more than the method to operate the operation of the light are method to operate the operation of the operation of the light are method to operate the operation of the oper West are not their preterred habitat. Thad seen a few in the east years ago, but wanted to see more. West are not their preterred habitat. Thad seen a few in the east years ago, but wanted to see more. West are not their preterred habitat. Thad seen a few in the east years ago, but wanted to see more. West are not their preterred habitat. Thad seen a few in the east years ago, but wanted to see more. West are not their preterred habitat. Thad seen a few in the east years ago, but wanted to see more. West are not their preterred habitat. Thad seen a few in the east years ago, but wanted to see more. West are not their preterred habitat. Thad seen a few in the east years ago, but wanted to see more. We also the advantages of being at the dificial lookout point on the (idge is not only that one has distant years), and prese note that this is a bind wanted to be a million of the advantages of being at the dificial lookout point on the (idge is not only that one is a million of the advantage of being at the dificial lookout point on the (idge is not only the or advine point, thus a little rasplet, and prese note that this is a precedent to be a sold as a million of the advantage of the advantage of because the precedent is a sold as one and the advantage of the fore are precedent to be advected to be ad Goshawks, fierce residents of mature boreal forests, are even more indined to funnel through norther West are not their preferred habitat. I had seen a few in the east years ago, but wanted to see Eagles, and various other great stuff. Oh, and the fall colors were spectacular weather. but made great use of this outer 3 could not see (continued page 3) Can you identify the raptors? See page 2. In this issue...

- Hawk Watch, Minnesota
- Snow Geese poem Clements
- New Members
- PVAS now on Facebook & Instagram

- Tricolored Blackvird Listed
- Bird Mortality Deepwater Horizon
- PVAS 2015 WINTER Field Trips
- Membership Meetings

Chapter News

TELL US YOUR MAILING PREFERENCE

.....(AGAIN)

My computer crashed, loosing my list of members who wish to receive print copies of our newsletter. We will continue to send e-mail copies to all members for whom we have e-mail addresses. We also will continue to send paper copies in September and January to everyone. However, if you wold also like a paper copy of our other newsletters (Nov., March, and May) give me your address (email me at dguthrie@jsd.claremont.edu Welcome New Members! or phone 909 239 5124

We extend a warm welcome to all new members.

We extend a warm welcome to all new members. Subscribers to Audubon Magazine from our alea are



SNOW GEESE

South End of the Salton Sea

Ten white geese still here.

Thought they'd have flown.

They should have migrated by now.

> I sneak out of the car.

muffle the sound of the camera opening,

> creep up behind a salt bush

> > so as not to spook them,

focus, breathe, move out from

around the bush. press the shutter,

capture the moment of ten wooden decoys.

Subscribers to Augubon Magazine nom our area are automatically enrolled in our chapter and receive the automaticany entotied in our chapter and r Chaparral Naturalist at no additional charge. You are welcome to all our events. Chino: Maureen Burney Chino Hills: Sherry Schmidt Claremont: Angela Bakzadian, Patti Espana, Dave & Julie Lannom, Michelle Mitchell, **Gesine Robinson, Susan Seymour** Corona: Tasy Bensiek, Richard Fleming Covina: Roberta Huskey Diamond Bar: Cheri Owings Glendora: Katherine Barnett Norco: Rithcey family Ontario: Ellen Law Pomona: Max Carman Jr., Janet Nameth, Ron Sasse, Tuan Tran, Lorna Vaccari, Pat Woeste Cucamonga: Biroezky, Pei Chang, Victoria & Frank Glavan, Hilde Jameson, Ruth Kniesley, Diana Tosha *Riverside:* Margaret Laney Upland: Jenny Gibson, Linda Hix, Alan MacKey, Janet Watson,

Walnut: Hester Taliaferro

Answers to Raptor Flight I.D. quiz page 1 a) Im. Golden Eagle,



b) Red-tailed Hawk, c) Rough-legged Hawk, d) Red Shouldered Hawk, e) Goshawk, f) Cooper's Hawk, g) American Kestral, h) Red-tailed Hawk.





Hawk Watch: Continued from page 1) either with the naked eye or 10x binoculars: "Ahhhhh, I have a Rough-Leg over the pagoda [a house that was one of their landmarks on the northeast horizon].... adult.... female.... dark morph" (I still could not see it!). Fortunately, many of those birds eventually drifted overhead or in front of us nearer the lake.

The book Hawks at a Distance, by Jerry Liguori, is quite useful for hawk watches, which I have also done at Raccoon Ridge, New Jersey, and Hawk Mountain, Pennsylvania. Perhaps he will write a sequel: Hawks at an Extreme Distance in Clouds or Backlit by the Sun. Actually, some of our views of the birds were excellent. I was listening to a nature program on the Northern Goshawk when a shadow passed over my face—yup, the very same, circling

over the Great Horned Owl decoy they have put at the top of a nearby fir tree. I did find that judging distance, and bird size, can be quite a challenge, especially in a cloudless sky. What I really learned is to keep my mouth shut, especially in the presence of all those experts, like when I said, "I guess there's a Sharp-Shinned Hawk above that Red-Tail overhead." OMG. I was quickly corrected: it was a Red-Tail above an immature Bald Eagle. Oh well, easy come, easy go!

One day I took a morning off from hawk watching and drove out to the Sax-Zim Bog northwest of Duluth. This had been spectacular for my family and me back after Thanksgiving in 2005, when we had seen two Northern Hawk Owls, calmly posing on utility poles near the road. This time I saw nine Ruffed Grouse, a life bird, along with several Black-Billed Magpies, some Canada Jays, and a male adult Merlin perched on a fence post, about a hundred feet away. (First time I had ever seen a motionless Merlin!) They also have Great Gray Owls in there, but autumn seems to be the down season for them, according to the Bog's bird list (which, along with a really useful map, is available online from "Friends of Sax-Zim Bog").

For trip planning, you can go to "http://www.hawkridge.org/" and check out their count data. In the case of Goshawks, and probably other raptor species, it tends to be the young birds that head south first. Of the Goshawks I saw over October 16-19, only one was an adult. Next time I go to Hawk Ridge (it does get addictive), I might aim for later in October. It can be a little spottier for the hawks, but Northern Shrikes, Pine Grosbeaks, Black-backed Woodpeckers, Bohemian Waxwings, and White-winged Crossbills become better possibilities (just to name a few birds on my wish list, though I have seen a few of those species previously).

The hawk flights tend to be best on a north or northwest wind, but there can also be great flights on an east or northeast wind at Hawk Ridge. A south or southwest wind typically is not as good, though sometimes the birds can be lower in the sky.

Finally, also for trip planning, it turns out that the Goshawk population is on a ten-year cycle, which reflects the ten-year cycle of the Snowshoe Hare. There were huge years for Goshawks in 1972, 1982, and even 1992, but recent peak activity has been less. I can only wonder if the difference to the difference to the difference of the start of the start of the difference of the start of the start of the difference of the start of the star

decline is at all related to the difficulty the hares face in being (seasonally) an all-white animal in a landscape without snow due to global climate change. In any case, I'm thinking I'll take my next sabbatical in 2022......



PVAS on Facebook and Instagram

Pomona Valley Audubon now has it's own Facebook and Instagram pages. We are cool (er) now. PVAS member, Brian Elliott, has been appointed by the board to be our Social Media Coordinator and he administers our new Facebook and Instagram page so that members and anyone interested in PVAS can share their birding adventures, comment on local issues, and post pictures for others to enjoy.

All of our events will be highlighted on Facebook. Photos from field trips will be a prominent feature of the site. It is a place on the Internet that can become a community for birders in the area to connect. Like us and follow us on Facebook!

A link to the Facebook page can be found on the PVAS website or going to <u>www.facebook.com/</u><u>pomonavalleyaudubon</u>

In addition to Facebook, Instagram is a photo sharing site and PVAS will be regularly posting images that we find interesting and that are related to birding and nature. It is found at <u>www.instagram.</u> <u>com/pomonavalleyaudubon</u>

National Audubon Membership / Membership Information Update

Annual membership in the National Audubon Society is \$30 per year. **New membership dues are \$20.** Members receive the Audubon Magazine and a digital copy of the Chaparral Naturalist newsletter. **Renewals of membership for National should NOT be sent to PVAS.** However, a <u>new membership may be sent directly to PVAS.</u> Checks should be made payable to National Audubon Society. Mail payment with membership form below and **mail to: PVAS, 2058 N. Mills Ave., PMB426, Claremont, CA 91711.** (Please note chapter code C3ZC080Z on your check.)

Information such as mailing address, email address and telephone numbers are used for sending email notifications, electronic versions of the newsletter, and are published in our membership directory. Membership information may be updated by filling out this form and turning it in to any board member. This information will be distributed only to members and will not be sold to other organizations.

Yes, Please sign me up as a new member!

□ Yes, I am renewing my membership.

□ I would like the print version of the Chaparall Naturalist.

Do not publish my information in the chapter directory.

Name	Chapter Code C3ZC080Z
Address	Telephone
City, State, Zip	Mobile
Fmail	

Bird mortality from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. II. Carcass sampling and exposure probability in the coastal Gulf of Mexico



ABSTRACT: Two separate approaches, a carcass sampling model and an exposure probability model, provided estimates of bird mortalities of 600,000 and 800,000, respectively, from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon MC 252 oil spill in coastal waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Monte Carlo simulation of parameter uncertainty led to respective 95% uncertainty intervals of 320,000 to 1200,000 and 160,000 to 1900,000. Carcass sampling relied on expansion factors multiplied by counts of bird carcasses retrieved in shoreline surveys, whereas exposure probability estimated bird deaths as a product of estimated coastal bird density, average oil slick size, slick duration, and proportionate mortality due to oiling. The low proportion of small-sized carcasses recovered, compared with considerably higher proportions of small live birds in coastal Gulf habitats, indicate an especially low probability of recovery for small birds after oil spills at sea.

Declines in laughing gulls were confirmed by ~60% reductions in National Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count data for 2010-2013 along the Gulf coast. Population-level effects in apex predators of this magnitude likely had effects on prey populations that warrant careful assessment.

Most mortality affected 4 species: laughing gull Leucophaeus atricilla (32% of the northern Gulf of Mexico population killed) royal tern Thalasseus maximus (15%), northern gannet Morus bassanus brown pelican Pelecanus occidentalis (12%).

(8%) and

J. Christopher Haney1,4,*, Harold J. Geiger2, Jeffrey W. Short3 1Terra Mar Applied Sciences LLC, 123 West Nye Lane, Suite 129, Carson City, Nevada 2St. Hubert Research Group, 222 Seward, Suite 205, Juneau, Alaska 99801 3JWS Consulting LLC, 19315 Glacier Highway, Juneau, Alaska 99801 4Present address: Defenders of Wildlife, 1130 17th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036 Tricolored Blackbirds Listed! re a happy update *Corresponding author: chaney@defenders.org

Dear PVAS.

We thought we would share a happy update on the Tricolored Blackbird:

Responding to an alarming drop in the rare bird's numbers, the California Fish and Game Commission today approved an emergency listing of the Tricolored Blackbird under the California Endangered Species Act.

The Fish and Game Commission made the right decision today. While we are pleased that this struggling species is getting the protections it needs, we understand that this is just the beginning of its path to recovery.

We are committed to working closely with our partners at government agencies like the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Natural Resource Conservation Service, as well as agricultural groups like Western United Dairymen, to save this iconic species from extinction.

According to the California Endangered Species Act, the Commission may list a species when there is an imminent danger. Once listing is approved, the bird will be protected for six months, after which time the listing may be renewed for another six months. The Commission will likely consider a formal listing petition sometime in the spring.

We will keep providing information on the fight to save this species from extinction as it happens.

Thank you again for your committment and passion for this California bird. These successes are not possible without your support.

Warm wishes.

All of us who work at Audubon California

www.ca.audubon.org <http://ca.audubonaction.org/site/R?i=lm26jEGdEwlfireFI8J4pA>

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CHAPARRAL NATURALIST NEWSLETTER

EditorJudy Sugden dguthrie@jsd.claremont.edu

The Chaparral Naturalist is published bimonthly, except July and August by the Pomona Valley Audubon Society. Copy deadline is the second to last Thursday of the month. Articles may be reprinted without permission, however we require the author and **Chaparral Naturalist** be credited. We encourage members to submit articles and photos by email at **dguthrie@** jsd.claremont.edu. Photos should be saved at 300 dpi and in jpg format. Articles should be provided in .doc, .rtf, or .xls format. Sorry, we cannot retype your copy.

Chapter only memberships are available for \$20 per year. Make checks payable to PVAS and mail to:



Pomona Valley Audubon 2058 N Mills Ave., PMB426 Claremont, CA 91711

PVAS Field Trips --- Winter & Spring 2015

Pomona Valley Audubon field trips are open to all individuals. **Remember to call the trip leader if you plan to attend and to confirm starting time & meeting location.** Sunday Monthly Bird Walks meet at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. Bonelli Park trips meet at park headquarters on Via Verde, just off the 57 freeway. Most other trips meet at Memborial Park in Claremont. It is recommended to bring a snack (lunch if recommended), plenty of water, sun protection, and bug spray to all trips. Car pooling is usually possible. Check the PVAS website for last minute trip additions and changes.

Day & weekend PVAS trips---- Check webpage

for any additions or changes.

Thursday, January 8, 2015 Whittier Narrows

Meets 7:00 a.m. at Memorial Park for a half day trip for wintering Geese, Sparrows, Flycatchers and perhaps the Chestnut-sided Warbler and Tropical Kingbird? Bring water, snacks, and lunch. **Leader: Dan Gregory (909) 944-2259.**

Saturday, January 10, 2015 Orange County Area

A tour of coastal migrant traps and hot spots for wintering specialties and a New Year start with a big list. Meets 7:00 a.m. at Memorial Park for carpooling. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. **Leader: Eric Smith (909) 477-7976 or bird4life28@yahoo.com.**

Thursday, February 12, 2015 Prado Regional Park

A visit to this popular park in Chino for Vermillion Flycatchers, Hawks and wintering vagrants. Meets 7:00 a.m. at Memorial Park for carpooling. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. **Leader: Dan Gregory** (909) 944-2259.

Saturday/Sunday, February 14 & 15, 2015 Salton Sea Weekend

Our annual jaunt to the Salton Sea. Meet at 5:00 a.m. at Memorial Park or at 8:00 a.m. at Unit 1 (Vendel Road and Bannister off Hwy 86). We'll visit Cattle Call Park in Brawley and spots along the south end of the Salton Sea for winter rarities including Mountain Plover, Mountain Bluebird and Burrowing Owl – plan to finish by 4 p.m. We'll overnight in Brawley (Brawley Inn) and bird our way north Sunday along Hwy. 111 with stops at the Wister Unit and the northern end. Leader: Dan Guthrie (909) 239-5124 or dguthrie@jsd.claremont.edu

Thursday, March 12, 2015

Peck Road Water Conservation Park

This hidden gem in Arcadia boasts Orange Bishop and Red Whiskered Bulbul. Leader: Dan Gregory (909) 944-2259.

Saturday, March 14, 2015 Antelope Valley & Piute Ponds

A trip for returning shorebirds desert species and remaining wintering ducks. We will visit Apollo Park, Piute Ponds on Edward's Air Base, and possibly the Lancaster Sewage Ponds. Our return to Claremont will be through the Antelope valley looking for Sage and Leconte's Thrashers and wintering hawks. Meets 7:00 a.m. at Memorial Park for carpooling - Bring water, snacks, and lunch. Leader: Dan Guthrie (909) 239-5124 or dguthrie@jsd. claremont.edu

Thursday, April 9, 2015 North Etiwanda Preserve

This canyon area is home to Rufous-crowned and Sage Sparrows as well as chaparral and coastal sage species. Chance for great

First Sunday of each month ----

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden Bird Walks-Join us for our monthly bird walk. Family friendly, the walk is slow paced and lasts approx. two hours. (Bring binoculars if you have them) Meets 8:00 a.m. at the front entry gate (north end of College Ave. above Foothill Blvd. 1500 N. College Ave.)

Leader: Fraser Pemberton (909) 624-6451.

Sunday, January 4, 2015 Sunday, February 1, 2015 Sunday, March 1, 2015 Sunday, April 5, 2015 Sunday, May 3, 2015 Sunday, June 7, 2015

Fourth Sunday of each month ----

Bonelli Park Monthly Bird Walks---

Join us for our monthly (4th Sunday walk) at Bonelli Park.

This is an easy, two-hour walk for beginners and experts. Great for shorebirds and passerines. We'll meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Bonelli Park headquarters on Via Verde near the 57 Fwy **Leader: Rod Higbie (909) 599-6526.**

Sunday, January 25, 2015 Sunday, February 22, 2015 Sunday, March 22, 2015 Sunday, April 26, 2015 Sunday, May 24, 2015 Sunday, June 28, 2015

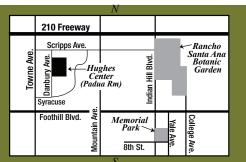
birds including Golden Eagle. Meets 7:00 a.m. at Memorial Park for carpooling. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. **Leader: Dan Gregory** (909) 944-2259.

Saturday, April 18, 2014 San Dimas Canyon

Join Eric for a walk in the canyon to look for local species and migrants. Meets 7:00 a.m. at Memorial Park. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. Leader: Eric Smith (909) 477-7976 or bird4life28@yahoo. com

Saturday, May 2, 2015 Big Morongo Canyon

A trip at the height of western migration for transient and returning species, including Summer Tanager, Brown-crested Flycatcher, Yellowbreasted Chat and lots of orioles. Meets 7:00 a.m. at Memorial Park for carpooling. Bring water, snacks, and lunch. **Leader: Dan Gregory** (909) 944-2259.



General Meetings are held in the Padua Room in the Alexander Hughes Center, 1700 Danbury Drive, Claremont. From Foothill Blvd., head north on Mountain or Towne Ave. and turn onto Scripps Drive. Turn south on Danbury, the Alexander Hughes Center will be on the east side. Our meetings begin with a bird identification session at 7 p.m. followed by refreshments, a short business meeting, and our evening program.

Bring a friend?

Non-members are welcome!

PVAS members enioving a winter day's birding in Evey Canyon... and then the documenting on eBird.





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PVAS General Membership Meetings

Thursday, January 8, 2015 (NOTE DELAY OF ONE WEEK) eBird; What is it? ...and What can it do for you?

by Tom Benson

Join us to explore the new computer world of citizen science documentation and compilation of bird sightings world wide. You too can not only list sightings of your common neighborhood birds but offers you access to a wealth of information amassed from millions of observations by users around the world. Launched in 2002, eBird is an online checklist program hosted by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. For most users it functions as a free listing software used to keep track of the various life, county, patch, and year lists. But it can provide so much more if you just know how to look for the information. From Range Maps to Bar Charts to the Hot Spot Explorer, eBird offers data visualization tools to sort thru the data constantly acruing.

Thursday, February 5, 2015 Babblers, Barbets and Bristleheads: Birding in Borneo, by Cathy McFadden and Paul Clarke

The world's third largest island is home to its tallest rainforests, abundant wildlife, 50 species of birds found nowhere else on earth, and excellent tourism infrastructure. PVAS members Cathy McFadden and Paul Clarke will present a multimedia show of their recent birding trip to Malaysian Borneo.

Thursday, March 5, 2015 Research with Local SoCal Birds by College Students

Thursday, April 2, 2015 Hawks by Pete Bloom

Thursday, May 7, 2015 Local Cavity Nester Conservation by Gillian Martin Friday, June 5, 2015 ---- Annual Pot Luck & Meeting