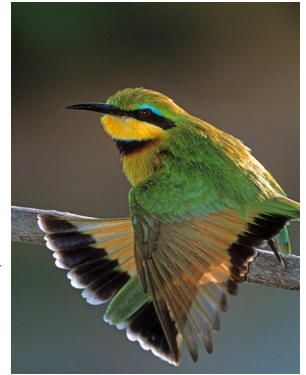


WESTERN MEADOWLARK

Volume 62— Number 4
March-April 2012



What Gull Is That?

By Larry Allen

Wednesday, March 21, 2012

Of course you know the names of most of the gulls you look at—at least the English names as found in your field guides. But the scientific names have been changed recently, and the sequence in which the birds are listed (a reflection of the chronological order in which each species is thought to have appeared) has been altered as well. Larry will use the scientific results supporting these changes as a stepping stone to explore the variation among some of our local gulls, and will provide some identification hints as well.

Larry Allen is Project Coordinator for and co-author of the forthcoming Los Angeles County Breeding Bird Atlas, has conducted gull identification workshops for local Audubon chapters and the Morro Bay Winter Bird Festival, and has had a long-time fascination with gulls.



Come enjoy what should be a wonderful and informative program. Our doors, at the the museum, open at 7:00p.m. and the meeting starts at 7:30p.m. Come early to visit with friends, browse our book tables, and relish refreshments. Everyone is always welcome. Dori Myers, Program Chair

Chapter Only Membership Changes

The cost of chapter only membership has never been changed, and the board feels we need to revise the current fee to provide appropriate funding for membership benefits. The changes will also simplify the process that allows us to maintain a closer connection with our members.

The new chapter only membership fee will be \$24 a year and will be based on a fiscal year beginning on October 1. Anyone renewing their membership prior to that time will be grandfathered in until their current chapter membership expires, and then the fee will be prorated to cover the remaining months required to get that member on the new calendar schedule. No other membership benefits will be changed. Look for the first notice of the renewal date in your August newsletter.

We are still in need of someone willing to do some of the duties of the membership chair, which include maintaining a data base of active members. If you have good computer skills and a willingness to volunteer, please contact any board member. We need you!

East Africa on Steroids

By Ed Harper

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Ed Harper will be discussing his experiences from his many trips to East Africa.

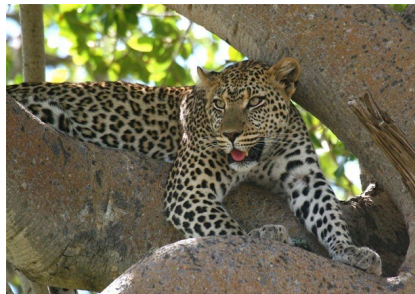
Ed was born in Montana and spent his early youth growing up on a ranch south of Livingston, Montana. It was in this setting, along the Yellowstone River, where Ed became enamored of the natural world.

Birds became an early interest that was to stay with him and become a major focus of his life. Later his family moved to a ranch near Bozeman, Montana where Ed's fascination with the natural world continued.

Ed graduated from Montana State University in 1962. Always wanting to teach, he obtained teaching majors in math, physics, chemistry, and English. While at MSU he was active in leading a number of organizations and served as student body president. His graduate studies were in math and physics at the University of Wyoming. In 1969 he joined the Mathematics Department at American River College in Sacramento, California where he was engaged until his recent retirement. In addition to mathematics, he also has taught a variety of classes in field ornithology at American River College and more recently for the American River Natural History Association.

Ed has been very active in the birding world. He has served as president of the Sacramento Audubon Society and has been an active part of both the Central Valley Bird Club and the Western Field Ornithologists.. He is a frequent speaker giving talks to many different organizations. An avid traveler and published photographer, he has photographed wildlife on every continent. He met his wife, Susan Scott, on a birding trip to Ecuador. She shares Ed's interests and teaches biology at Consumnes River College.

Ed is a professional tour leader. He first started leading tours in 1980 with Jim Lane for Massachusetts Audubon Society. Over the years, he has led tours to many North American birding destinations, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Kenya, and Tanzania. He and his wife now operate **Sandpiper Journeys** and, when not teaching, spend much of their time leading tours.



Bird of the Month: Horned Lark

By Steve Myers

One of the most common, if not *the* most common breeding bird of the Mojave Desert is the Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*). This species thrives in open habitats — the more open, the better. During the nesting season, Horned Larks are widely distributed in pairs across the desert, coming together into large, nonbreeding flocks that remain together throughout the winter. These large flocks are often most evident in and around alfalfa fields, with numbers sometimes in the 10,000s. In southern California, they also occur in native and nonnative grasslands (and disturbed areas) on the coastal slope, as well as open areas in the San Bernardino Mountains. The subspecies that occurs on the coastal slope and in the mountains is *E.a. actia*, which has probably suffered declines in southern California due to urban sprawl, but is stable overall throughout the state.

The Horned Lark is distributed widely over North America, breeding in northern Alaska east to the maritime provinces and south to Baja California, Sonora, and the gulf states. An isolated breeding population also occurs in the eastern Andes of Colombia. In Eurasia, where it is called the "Shore Lark," it is also widely distributed.

In North America, 21 subspecies are recognized. These vary from large, relatively dark subspecies of northern latitudes, to smaller, paler subspecies of the arid Southwest. All subspecies have yellow or white throats and faces and a broad black stripe under the eye. Males have distinctive black "horns."

Nests are depressions in the ground lined with grasses, plant stems, plant down, and hair. Nests are often next to a rock or plant tuft. Clutches are most often 3-4 eggs, but can be from 2 to 7. Two or more clutches per year are normal. Incubation takes 10-14 days, and the young are altricial and naked at hatching. Their eyes open at 3-4 days, and fledging occurs at 9-12 days. Seeds make up most of the diet of Horned Larks. During nesting season, adults still primarily eat seeds, but insects are fed to the growing



nestlings.

Wintering flocks can be very large. One of the most memorable events of my early birding was observing tens of thousands (perhaps more than 100,000) of Horned Larks at alfalfa fields at Harper Dry Lake in the late 1970s and early 1980s during SBVAS field trips. These flocks are made up of the subspecies that is resident in the Mojave Desert (*E. a. ammophila*), but also contain birds of more northerly-breeding subspecies that move south during the winter.

North American populations of Horned Larks are thought to be stable. Clearing of forests actually increased the amount of available habitat throughout the 1800s and 1900s; some of this habitat has disappeared as portions of the United States have been reforested. In coastal southern California, habitat availability is dynamic due to areas being cleared for development. Larks temporarily occupy graded lots, but are usurped as development proceeds.

Want to learn more?

Further reading:

Beason, Robert C. 1995. Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*), *The Birds of North America Online* (A. Poole, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America Online: <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/195>
[doi:10.2173/bna.195](https://doi.org/10.2173/bna.195)

Behle, W. H. 1942. Distribution and variation of the Horned Larks of western North America. *Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool.* 46: 205



2012 POINT REYES BIRDING & NATURE FESTIVAL

April 27 – 30

www.pointreyesbirdingfestival.org.

The Point Reyes region is endowed with unique geography and extensive wildlands and ranches. Its pristine coastline, beaches, dunes, mudflats, bays, estuaries, freshwater wetlands, forests, grasslands, coastal bluffs and chaparral together support one of the highest levels of bird diversity in the country. As home base for some of the nation's top birders and naturalists, it offers the ideal setting for a spring festival for bird and nature enthusiasts of all levels.

Last year, Festival participants took part in over 70 fabulous bird walks guided by such top birders as **Jules Evens, Lisa Hug, David Wimpfheimer, Alvaro Jaramillo, Peter Pyle, Joe Morlan, Sarah Allen** and **Keith Hansen**. All enjoyed the tremendous camaraderie experienced by the more than 500 people who attended. As a whole, Festival outings tallied a cumulative total of 200 species of birds (not to mention dozens of mammals, butterflies, marine mammals, and other wildlife!) in Western Marin and Sonoma Counties.

This year the Festival will again offer a lineup of over 70 outings and presentations, with events for beginners and kids. This year's roster also includes **Rich Stallcup, Allen Fish** and **John Muir Laws**, who will give the keynote address at the Saturday evening banquet.

The 2012 Festival website and registration will go live in mid-February. Last year, nearly every walk and outing sold out well before the Festival weekend, so, before you forget, send an email to prbnfestival@gmail.com requesting to be notified when registration opens!

The Festival benefits the habitat conservation work of the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin (EAC). You can read about some of EAC's conservation work at www.eacmarin.org.

See you in April!



Photo Quiz

Brad Singer



Photo taken along the central coast of California in January

Welcome to the first of a series of photo quizzes presented by the San Bernardino Valley Audubon. The purpose of these quizzes is twofold: (1) to help or aid in identification of difficult and not so difficult species encountered in the ABA Birding Area and (2) to redirect many of our readers to the SBVAS website where the Meadowlark is presented in full color view: <http://www.sbvas.org/meadowlark.htm>

These quizzes will not be as difficult as those found in the ABA birding journal nor other various publications. They are intended to be informative and instructive. For the most part, the entire bird or a good portion thereof will be shown, not just three feathers of a bird facing away or a dark, fuzzy silhouette of a bird in flight. That said, full views don't necessarily make identification that much easier!

If you would like to participate in the quiz, please email the correct answer to: sbvasbird.id@gmail.com Please include your name and city along with the Common or English name as it appears in the ABA checklist. Winners will be noted in the following issue. If you answer the next 5 quizzes correctly, you will win a free turkey dinner at the SBVAS potluck in December. Of course, come to the December potluck and dinner is free anyway, but that's beside the point. The contest is all in good fun, enjoy and learn!

UCR Extension: A Field Study of Birds: spring

Course: Bio X406 Section 114-CPF-F23

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

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

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

Credit: 2 units

Dates/Times: Tues., 7:30-9:30 p.m., Apr. 17. Field trips all day Sat. Apr. 21, 28, May 5, 19, and June 2 (6 meetings)

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

Text: "Field Guide to the Birds of North America," 5th edition, Jon L. Dunn and Jonathan K. Alderfer ISBN 9780792253143

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

Reg #: 114-CPF-F23

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

Feed Your Yard Birds and Help SBVAS

Wild birdseed will be sold at all general meetings of SBVAS as a regular fundraiser for the organization. The seed is a good blend for the area and will be available in 25 pound bags for \$20.

To get your seed and help SBVAS maintain a regular monthly fundraiser, please pay at the sales table and get a receipt. Then see Kirk Stitt in the parking lot to load your seed.

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



Mark Chappell, freelance photographer and UCR biologist, captured some amazing pictures of the Gyr Falcon at San Jacinto Wildlife Area, including this one reprinted from *The Press Enterprise*.

OLYMPIC BIRDFEST 2012

March 30 – April 1, 2012

Sequim, Washington

9th Annual

Grab your binoculars!

The "Stage" is Set: Superb birding in the magnificent bays and estuaries of the Strait of Juan de Fuca; through the forests, mountains, and rivers of the spectacular Olympic Peninsula.

The "Players" are ready: Marbled Murrelets, Rhinoceros



Auklets, Harlequin Ducks, Long-tailed ducks, Black Oystercatchers, Peregrine Falcons, eagles, loons and more... all sporting their finest spring plumage. Early spring migrants are arriving, from Rufous Hummingbirds to Turkey Vultures.

Many Activities: Guided bird trips with knowledgeable local experts; boat trips to Protection Island, the largest seabird nesting colony in the Salish Sea; owl prowls and dawn choruses, photography workshops and a gala banquet with speaker and silent auction.

SPECIAL EVENTS THIS YEAR!

Nature Photography Workshop: Award-winning nature photographers Stephen Cunliffe and Hal Everett each present a 4-hour workshop to improve your nature pictures.

Totem Tour: Dale Faulstich, designer and carver of Jamestown S'Klallam totem poles explains the meanings of the many totems erected at the Tribal Center and at the Seven Cedars Casino. After the tour, lunch will be served at the Casino.

Wine Tasting: Premier North Olympic wineries Camaraderie Cellars and Harbinger Winery offer tastings of finely crafted local wines.

Birding Field Trips: Scheduled field trips to some of the best birding locations on the north Olympic Peninsula including Owl Prowls, Dawn Chorus, Bays and Coasts and more! Plus a 3 day San Juan Wildlife Cruise.

Register Now!

for more information visit

WWW.OLYMPICBIRDFEST.ORG

email INFO@OLYMPICBIRDFEST.ORG or call 360-681-4076

The Olympic BirdFest is a partnership of the Olympic Peninsula Audubon Society, Dungeness River Audubon Center and Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe.



LOCAL SIGHTINGS

By Brad Singer



No doubt, the biggest news of the year is the Gyrfalcon found by Mark Chappell at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The raptor was found January 15, but not identified until a few days later. This Arctic species has drifted as low as Northern California (the previous southern record being in Tulare County), but never has one shown this far south in California. This bird provided looks and photos for hundreds, if not thousands of birders from across the state and country. Excellent find!

Along with the Gyrfalcon sighting, the San Jacinto Valley has been very active this winter. Three Rough-legged Hawks, a “Harlan’s” Red-tail Hawk, 2 dark-morph Ferruginous Hawks, 3 Short-eared Owls, and a Swainson’s Hawk were observed among the raptors. Passerines have included the continuing Swamp Sparrow(s), Eastern Phoebe, Black-throated Sparrow, and numerous Sage Thrashers. Two good-sized flocks of Mountain Plovers quickly came and went, and Glaucous-winged, Thayer’s, Lesser Black-backed and Mew Gulls have been observed.

The north end of the Salton Sea was well covered during Chet McGaugh’s Christmas Bird Count with the following birds being found: Black Scoter, Glaucous Gull, Eastern Phoebe, Surf Scoter, Mew Gull, Yellow-footed Gull, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Wilson’s Warbler, Hairy Woodpecker, and Gray Flycatcher. Later, another Glaucous Gull, Horned Grebes, and Laughing Gulls were observed in the same area. Closer to the city of Riverside, the UC Riverside campus was well birded with the continuing Verdin, Bell’s Vireo, Hammond’s Flycatcher, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Cassin’s Vireo, Western Tanager and Black-throated Gray Warbler being seen. An Ash-throated Flycatcher showed up near Mt. Rubidoux and a pair of Wilson’s Warblers were seen along the Santa Ana River. Finally, a Eurasian Wigeon was observed in Palm Springs and a Rough-Legged Hawk was observed in Blythe.

(continued on page 6, Local)

Bearpaw Ranch

is a 70 acre nature sanctuary, operated by the San Bernardino Audubon Society and may be visited 7 days a week from dawn 'til dusk by members of Audubon and their guests. Bearpaw Ranch is nestled on the north slope of scenic Mill Creek Canyon at 4,500 feet elevation, surrounded by the towering peaks of the San Bernardino National Forest. To reach Bearpaw Ranch, take Highway 38 to the Forest Falls turnoff. Go only a few car lengths on Valley of the Falls Dr. and look for our small wooden sign on the right. We have a new paved road, the entry is easy for almost all normal passenger cars. There is an electronically operated entry gate. Members who wish to visit the Sanctuary should call any board member in advance to get the gate code. It is not a requirement that the caretaker is at

home for you to visit. If the gate does open because of mechanical failure, you welcome to walk in or stop for birding along the creek bed.



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a r e

Bearpaw Sanctuary, 38801 Valley of the Falls Drive P.O. Box 88; Forest Falls, CA 923396

Bearpaw Sanctuary is now on Facebook. If you type “Bearpaw Sanctuary” into the SEARCH function, you’ll find us. Bearpaw visitors are encouraged to report interesting wildlife sightings and share their favorite nature photos from their Bearpaw visits.



SBVAS Officers 2011/2012
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 Woodward (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 Woodward (909) 783-2417
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 Kyri Freeman (831) 239-2917
 Steve Myers (951) 634-9767
 Deb Bennett (951) 544-2650
 Cin Greyraven (909) 720-0138

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

MEMBERSHIP:
 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: March 7, 2012 and April 4, 2012
General Meetings: March 21, 2012 and April 18, 2012
 All meetings are in the San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. Board meetings are the first Wednesday of the month, and General Membership meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month. To reach the museum, take the California St. exit off I-10, go north one block to Orange Tree Lane and turn right. The museum will be on your left. Meetings, except potlucks, start at 7:30 and doors open at 7. Potlucks begin at 6:30.

Sunday, March 4, 2012 - 8:00-10:00 am

Beginning Bird Walk at San Jacinto Wildlife Area
(map)

Doug Karalun (909) 425-5355

Visiting the wildlife area in winter allows great opportunities to view waterfowl, shorebirds and raptors. For those of you who are just beginning the wonderful pastime of bird watching, please join us for a fun, slow-paced morning of birding in one of our local wildlife habitats. Our goal will be to teach you enough basic birding techniques and identification skills so that you will feel comfortable birding on your own or joining our longer birding trips throughout the year. We will introduce you to some of our local bird species. You may be surprised at what wonderful birds can be seen! Wear comfortable walking shoes, hats and sunscreen and bring water and binoculars. The walk is free and no reservations are needed. Everyone is welcome.

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

Saturday, March 17, 2012 - 8:00 am

Bolsa Chica & Orange County Coast

Dori Myers (714) 779-2201 (h) or (714) 336-1420
(m)

Please join us for what should be a great day of birding in the wetland areas of Orange County. Expect to see a large variety of wintering birds including ducks, shorebirds, grebes, herons, egrets, terns, cormorants, etc. We ought to find gulls and raptors and some song birds. With any luck we will see 50 or more species just in the morning. After birding Bolsa Chica (until around noon) we will go to Newport Back Bay or the San Joaquin wildlife Sanctuary to eat our lunch and finish the day.

We will meet at the PCH parking lot of Bolsa Chica at 8:00am (map). To reach Bolsa Chica, take the 91 freeway south to the 55 (Newport freeway). Continue on the 55 to the 405 and go north towards Long Beach. Exit at Beach Blvd. (south) and continue to Pacific Coast Highway. Turn right and head north on PCH past Huntington Beach. We will meet in the parking lot of the Ecological Preserve (Bolsa Chica) on the inland side of Pacific Coast Hwy at the signal between Seagate and Warner. Please bring a lunch if you intend to stay for the day. Also bring binoculars, bird book and a scope if you have one. It can get cold along the coast in winter so dress in layers.

You might be a birder if...

There are days when getting up at 4:30 a.m. is something you've looked forward to.

You can find Pt. Pelee, Pt. Reyes, and Cape May on a map in less than five seconds.

Sunday, April 1, 2012 - 8:00-10:00 am

Beginning Bird Walk at Rancho Jurupa Park
(map)

Doug Karalun (909) 425-5355

NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY

For those of you 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.

The park is located at 4800 Crestmore Road in Riverside. Please see (map) for directions. Please contact Cathy Tobin for further information. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes. You may call ahead to confirm location and time.

Sunday, April 29, 2012 - 7:30 am

Prado Regional Park

Howard King

NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY

We will be looking for some of the breeding birds of the Prado Basin. Our target birds include Least Bittern, Grasshopper Sparrow and Vermilion Flycatcher. Along Chino Creek we should find Bell's Vireo, Yellow-breasted Chat and other riparian species. We'll be doing some walking, mostly flat. There is a \$10 entrance fee to Prado Regional Park.

Meet in Parking Lot 1 at 7:30 am (map). To get to Prado Regional Park, take the 91 Freeway west from Riverside to the 71 Freeway north for three miles. Take the Butterfield Ranch Road/Euclid Avenue exit, turning right onto Euclid Avenue, and proceed just over one mile to the entrance to Prado Regional Park on the right hand side of the road. Parking Lot 1 is the first parking lot on the right past the entrance kiosk.

(Local continued)

The San Bernardino County highlight this winter was a Glaucous Gull found on Lake Havasu by David Vander Pluym and Lauren Harter. In fact, the two of them have been responsible for most of the sightings along the Lower Colorado River that include: Gilded Flicker, Surf Scoter, Neotropic Cormorant, American Crow, Thayer's Gull, and Barrow's Goldeneye.

The other activity in the county was on the far western end in the Prado basin with the following birds being seen: Herring Gull, Tropical Kingbird, Swainson's Hawk, Eurasian Wigeon, Horned Grebe, and Ash-throated Flycatcher. The Little Gull was last observed December 30th.

Calendar for Field Trips 2011 to 2012

National Audubon Specifies Policy in Support of Wind Power

Audubon strongly supports properly-sited wind power as a clean alternative energy source that reduces the threat of global warming. Wind power facilities should be planned, sited and operated to minimize negative impacts on bird and wildlife populations.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has clearly stated that the impacts of climate change are here now and will get worse.[1] Scientists have found that climate change has already affected half of the world's wild species' breeding, distribution, abundance and survival rates.[2] By mid-century, the IPCC predicts that climate change may contribute to the extinction of 20-30 percent of all species on earth.

In order to prevent species extinctions and other catastrophic impacts of climate change, scientists say we must reduce global warming emissions by at least 80 percent by 2050. Reducing pollution from fossil fuels to this degree will require rapidly expanding energy and fuel efficiency, renewable energy and alternative fuels, and changes in land use, agriculture, and transportation. To avoid catastrophe, we need to do all of these.

Wind power is an important part of the strategy to combat global warming. Wind power is currently the most economically competitive form of renewable energy. It provides nearly 15,000 megawatts of power in the United States, enough power for more than 3 million households, and could provide up to 20 percent of the country's electricity needs. Every megawatt-hour produced by wind energy avoids an average of 1,220 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions. If the United States obtains 20 percent of its electricity from wind power by 2020, it will reduce global warming emissions equivalent to taking 71 million cars off the road or planting 104 million acres of trees. Expanding wind power instead of fossil fuels also avoids the wildlife and human health impacts of oil and gas drilling, coal mining and fossil fuel burning.

While Audubon strongly supports wind power and recognizes it will not be without some impact, production and transmission facilities must be planned, sited and operated in concert with other actions needed to minimize and mitigate their impacts on birds and other wildlife populations. Several federal and state laws require this and the long-term sustainability of the wind industry depends on it. Wind power facilities impact birds from direct collisions with turbines and related facilities, such as power lines. Wind power facilities can also degrade or destroy habitat, cause disturbance and displacement, and disrupt important ecological links. These impacts can be avoided or significantly reduced, however, with proper siting, operation and mitigation.

Audubon supports the adoption of federal and state guidelines on the study, siting, operation and mitigation of wind power. Guidelines should provide developers, permitting agencies and conservation groups with the legal, technical and practical steps needed to minimize impacts on birds and other wildlife. Guidelines should provide the following essential elements:



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



March 17: Bolsa Chica—Dori Myers



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



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



April 29: Prado Big Day—Howard King

May 5: Big Morongo—Chet McGaugh

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

May 12: Whitewater—Steve Myers

May 6: Box Springs—John Green

May 26: Baby Birds at Bearpaw—Cin Greyraven

June 9: San Gabriel Mountains, Wrightwood—Gene Cardiff

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

July 14-15: Greenhorn Mountains—Steve Myers

August 18: Insane Jaunt—Tom Benson

Field Trip Checklist

Comfortable shoes or hiking boots, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent..

A good Road Map,

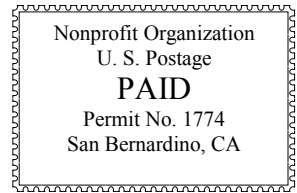
Full fuel tank, drinking water, snacks and lunch, binoculars and or a scope, field guide

Come and Enjoy. Call Field Trip Leader for last minute cancellations, questions or changes... ☺

- Minimum pre-permitting study requirements and guidance on study methods, frequency and acceptable data sources to ensure that wind power is sited in appropriate locations
- Clearly delineated siting criteria that designate areas where wind power should not be allowed, such as Important Bird Areas, major migratory corridors, wilderness areas, national parks, wildlife refuges, and other sensitive habitat such as wetlands and riparian corridors
- Clearly defined monitoring and mitigation requirements in permits, with periodic reviews and requirements for adaptive management if impacts significantly exceed levels allowed by permit
- Guidance on cumulative population impacts assessment and mitigation.

Audubon also encourages wind developers and permitting agencies to consult with wildlife experts, including Audubon staff and local chapters, to help inform study and siting decisions.

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



Everyone is always welcome!

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

Board Meetings are the 1st Wed.
General meetings are the 3rd Wed.
SBVAS Membership currently at 2,000

To reach the Museum, take the California Street exit off the 10 Freeway and go north 1 block to Orange Tree Lane—turn right. The museum will be on your left...



Chapter Only Membership Application
San Bernardino Valley Audubon

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

____ SBVAS Membership @ \$24 a/year (includes subscription to *The Western Meadowlark*)

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

Email Address _____

Please enclose a check payable to SBVAS



Membership Application
National Audubon Society (NAS)

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

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

Name _____

Address _____

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