

Kite Tales

NOVEMBER

REDWOOD REGION ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Vol. 16, No. 3

1981

COMING ATTRACTIONS

November 12, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. RROS General Meeting

BYOS!! Bring 5-10 favorite slides of birds, places and people...we have had some real "puzzlers" on these popular programs in the past.

November 14, Saturday, Field Trip to Willow Creek Canyon

Meet leader Doug Ellis at 5 a.m. at the Coleman Valley Overlook (2.3 miles west of the intersection of Coleman Valley and Joy Roads). As many as 5 species of owls can be heard from this point. Bring lunch, binoculars etc.

November 25, Wednesday, Deadline for Observations

Please write or call Dan Nelson 400 Sunnyslope, Petaluma 94952, 762-6152 with any interesting observations.

Christmas Comes But Once...

Announced dates for Christmas Counts are:

Dec 19	PRBO	Point Reyes
Dec 20	RROS	Santa Rosa
Dec 27	Madrone Audubon	Western Sonoma County
Dec 29	Los Banos	Los Banos

To be announced: Lake County, Golden Gate, Southern Marin County, Arroyo Cheap Thrills, Walnut Creek, Angwin...Plan ahead to attend the count (s) of your choice.

Our count will be held on Sunday, Dec 20. Contact Gerry Mugele if you are interested in participating (PO Box 790, Sonoma or 938-2134). Be sure to contact him if you have a special territory you would like...the next meeting would be a good time.

SPECIAL REQUEST

Kurt Campbell, compiler of the Los Banos Count, could use some help. Los Banos will take place on Tuesday, Dec 29. Contact Kurt at 932 Colusa Av Berkeley, Ca 94707 or call before 8:30 pm at 415-526-8328.

FIELD TRIP RESULTS

After being rained out once, our intrepid voyagers got underway a week late...they braved the fog and headed up the Sonoma Coast. The following birds all count as Sonoma County birds. The Bodega Marine Lab boat was especially accomadating and everyone had a great time watching birds and whales.

Arctic Loon	2	Skua	1
Red-necked Grebe	1	California Gull	2
Black-footed Albatross	1	Mew Gull	2
Fulmars	100+	Bonaparte's Gull	10
Pink-footed Shearwaters	20	Black-legged Kittiwake	3
Flesh-footed Shearwater	1	Sabine's Gull	3
Sooty Shearwater	10	Common Murre	50

Pectoral Sandpiper 1
 Red Phalarope 1000
 Pomarine Jaeger 3
 Parasitic Jaeger 1

Cassin's Auklet 500
 Rhinoceros Auklet 40
 Tufted Puffins 3
 Palm Warbler 1
 Humpback Whales 12+

Since only 10 people participated, the cost was more than anticipated. The final figure was \$39.00 per person. Please mail any remaining fee to Rick Lebaudour or present it to him at the next meeting.

FLASH!

The Lake County Christmas Count will take place on Sunday, Jan 4. Contact Jim Matzinger PO Box 47 Cobb, Ca 95426 or call 707-928-5376. Like all Christmas Count compilers, Jim can use all the help he can get.

OBSERVATIONS--Dan Nelson (762-6152)

One Red-necked Grebe was at the entrance to Bodega Harbor on 10-17 (BDP). The RROS pelagic trip on 10-17 was a great success. Our boat, "Stephanie", took us 20 miles off Bodega Head and all birds we found were in Sonoma County. One Black-footed Albatross, 2 New Zealand and 1 Flesh-footed Shearwater highlighted the Procellariiformes (MOB). A Northern Harrier was out of place at Sugarloaf State Park on 10-17 (DE). An imm Bald Eagle was seen at Tenelec, west of Sonoma, on 10-6 (GM). Another imm Bald Eagle was at Graylodge NWR on 10-24 (RS,LCB,JP,BDP). An ad Golden Eagle was at Sugarloaf on 10-17 (DE), another was seen at Clearlake Highlinds on 10-17 (DE), and a third (immature) was seen on Oct 19 over 101 south of Railroad Av in Cotati (RL). A Merlin haunted the north end of Spring Lake on 10-19 (RH). A Mountain Quail, rare along the coast, was heard calling in Willow Creek Canyon on 10-24 (LCB,RS,BDP,JP). A sub-adult Yellow-crowned Night Heron, accidental in California, was found at Año Nuevo State Reserve in mid September, and remained there for several weeks (BDP,DN,et al). A Common Gallinule was at the Chanslor Ranch pond on 10-7 (HC).

CHARADRIIFORMES

Fifty+ Mountain Plovers were in a field 1 mile east of Arbuckle, Colusa County on 10-24 (RS,LCB,BDP,JP). A Lesser Golden Plover was at Bodega Harbor on 10-24 (RS,LCB,BDP,JP). A Stilt Sandpiper was seen at Salmon Creek on 10-7 (HC, et al). Whether or not this is the same bird that was seen there 9-7--9-9 is a good question. Three Pectoral Sandpipers were at Doran Park on 10-13 (DE), and 2 were there on 10-18 (H&OC). One Pectoral was seen flying near Spud Pt on 10-17 (BDP,DN). This makes a total of 21 Pectoral Sandpipers in the county this fall, assuming no bird was counted twice. One Parasitic and 3 Pomarine Jaegers were counted on the October pelagic trip. Also seen were a single South Polar Skua, 3 Tufted Puffins and 3 adult Sabine's Gulls. Two Elegant Terns were at Bodega Harbor on 10-5 (HC,RH,SC). One Elegant Tern was near the old AGE Bldg at Vallejo on 10-24 (RS,JP,BDP,LCB). Elegant Terns were fairly common on SF Bay Throughout Sept and Oct (DN). A Black Tern was seen off of Willowside Rd on 10-29, Sonoma County's second this fall (DE).

The sub-adult Spotted Owl found on 9-26 at Russian Gulch was still there on 10-22 (DE,NC) and was apparently easy to see. Both Spotted and Saw-whet Owls have been heard from the Coleman Valley Overlook, and 2 Saw-whets were heard in Willow Creek Canyon on 10-24 (JP,BDP,LCB,RS). Five Pygmy Owls were heard at Sugarloaf on 10-17 (DE). A Poorwill was on Willow Creek Rd on 10-24 (BDP,JP,RS,LCB). This is rather late, but it is very likely that this

OBSERVATIONS--cont

species winters within the county, only becoming harder to find. A Common Nighthawk was heard calling in Petaluma on 11-1, but was never seen (DN,WN). On 10-12, 300+ Vaux Swifts migrated over Petaluma and this flock contained 1 Black Swift (DN,WN). A Selasphorus sp. Hummingbird was in Owl Canyon 9-26 (DE). A Common "Yellow-shafted" Flicker graced the Rail Ponds on 10-25 (DN, Wn,MLR). Two Pileated Woodpeckers were at Sugarloaf on 10-17 (DE), and 9 Lewis' Woodpeckers were near Pope Valley on 10-13 (HC,RH,SC). One Lewis' Woodpecker was in Rohnert Park in early October (LCB) and about 20 were in Anderson Marsh, Lake County on 10-17 (JM).

PASSERINES

Two late Barn Swallows were at Anderson Marsh on 10-17 (JM). A Rock Wren was seen approx 1 mile north of Jenner on 10-5 (DE). Five Townsend's Solitaires were on Cobb Mt on 10-10 (JM,TL). Golden-crowned Kinglets have staged an invasion and have been found in all habitats throughout the coastal region (MOB).

PARULIDS

A Black-and-white Warbler was found in the willows along Laguna de Santa Rosa at Timber Hill on 10-15 (DE). A Tennessee Warbler was at the Fish Docks, Pt Reyes on 10-11 (BDP,JP,PL). A Chesnut-sided Warbler was at the Drakes Beach Monument on 10-4, and a Bay-breasted Warbler visited Nunes Ranch the same day (BDP,HMcG,LH). One Palm Warbler was at the Pt Reyes Light-house on 10-4 (BDP,HMcG,LH) and another was at Salmon Creek on 10-9 (HC, RH,SC). On 10-11, 2 Palm Warblers were at the Fish Docks and a single bird was at the Drakes Beach Monument (BDP,JP,PL). A Northern Waterthrush was behind the Rail Ponds on 10-19, establishing its' 3rd county record (DN). At Point Reyes, a Rusty Blackbird was found in mid October, and both Chesnut-collared and Lapland Longspurs have been present on the Hall Ranch field. (MOB)

CONTRIBUTERS

Dr LC Binford, Stan Carpenter, Nancy Conzett, Hal & Olive Corey, Doug Ellis, Ruth Hawksley, Les Hood, Phil Lenna, Rick Lebadour, Tory Levee, Jim Matzinger Herb McGrew, Gerry Mugele, Dan Nelson, Wini Nelson, Dr BD Parmeter, John Parmeter, John Parmeter, Mary Louise Nosegay and Rich Stallcup.

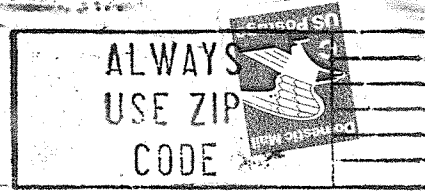
Organized in 1962, the purpose of the club is to encourage the study and conservation of birds, other wildlife and their habitat. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, September thru May, at 7:30 pm in Room 221 of Darwin Hall, Sonoma State College, Rohnert Park.

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Officers

- President Doug Ellis PO Box 155 Eldridge, Ca 95431 833-4344
- Vice-President Hal Corey 422 Ridgeway Santa Rosa, CA 95401 542-8429
- Secretary Ruth Hawksley 49 Howarth Ct 95405 539-2616
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