



Kite Tales

Volume 45 Number 5

Jan. 2010

January 14th, General Meeting - 7:00 PM

Klamath Basin: History, Avifauna and Conservation

Our presenter will be **Dave Shuford** of PRBO Conservation Science. Although today the Klamath Basin is known particularly for its large concentrations of migratory waterfowl and bald eagles, this region came to prominence early in the century because of threats to its exceptional breeding colonies of waterbirds. We will explore early threats and habitat loss, the current status of breeding waterbird populations based on 2003 and 2004 surveys by PRBO and the Klamath refuges, and the outlook for bird conservation in the context of a recent settlement agreement that will remove dams along the Klamath River.

The information covered will be of special interest to those of us who plan to go on the three day Klamath Basin field trip that Ruth Rudesill will be leading in February.

How about dinner before the meetings? Meet at 5:30 p. m. at Star Restaurant, 8501 Gravenstein Hwy, Cotati (west of Hwy 101, at exit for Hwy 116 West.)
Directions to the meetings: From Hwy 101 take Hwy 116 West toward Sebastopol. Turn right (north) on Llano Rd. and go ~ 1 mile to **Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant at 4300 Llano Rd, Santa Rosa.** Look for an open gate on right.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Field Trip Saturday, January 9, 2010 This is a winter birding road trip to the Robinson / Flannery roads area of Solano County and the Consumnes River Preserve and Staten Island in Sacramento County. Continued on page 2

In Solano County we will look for wintering hawks such as Ferruginous, Rough-legged and Prairie Falcon, Burrowing Owl, Mountain Plover Long-billed Curlew and Tri-colored Blackbird.

In Sacramento County we will look for American Bittern, Greater White-fronted, Snow and Ross's Geese, White-faced Ibis, Common Snipe, Yellow-billed Magpie, wintering ducks and Horned Lark.

This is a mostly a birding by car type of field trip with a small amount of walking at the Consumnes River Preserve.

Be prepared for any weather, bring food and drink, optics, field guides, hats, layers.

We will meet to car pool at the 'Park and Ride' at Highway 101 in Petaluma at 7.30 am. Leader is Ken Wilson. Heavy rain cancels. Questions? Call Ellen Blustein 707-789-0970.

General Meeting February 11 – Diane and Bryant Hichwa “ Birding and Unrivalled Game Watching in Southern Africa”.

Field Trip February 13 – 15 - Klamath Basin – Leader: Ruth Rudesill

This interesting area is a great winter spot for Bald Eagles, raptors and waterfowl. Occasionally we have found rarities such as Northern Shrike, Bohemian Waxwing, and Trumpeter Swan. Bring binoculars, scopes, field guides, lunches, water, and very warm clothes. We will be staying at the Days Inn in Klamath Falls, Oregon. There are 6 deluxe, double queen, non-smoking rooms being held for RR0S, for Friday, Saturday & Sunday. Phone number for making reservations is (541) 882-8864. They will put a room in your name. We will meet in the hotel parking lot each morning (Saturday, Sunday & Monday.) Meet at 8:00 a.m. Saturday to go out for the day. If the weather is good, we may get up extra early one morning to see the Bald Eagle flyout at dawn and then return to the hotel before going out for the day. There is continental breakfast at the hotel 6am-8am. Denny's is open 24 hrs down the block. Bring food for lunches in the field. We will plan to have dinners at restaurants in Klamath Falls. Leader TBA. Please email or call Ellen Blustein at evireo@gmail.com or 707-789-0970 if you plan to go on this trip. Carpooling is encouraged.

General Meeting March 11 - Matthew Matthiessen's adventures in Borneo

Field Trip March 13 - Ellis Creek and Schollenberger Park:

We will visit the new Ellis Creek water treatment ponds and Schollenberger Park. Other locations will be chosen as time allows. This should be a great trip for water birds and shorebirds. Bring optics, field guides, water, food, layered clothes, hat, gloves. Meet 8a.m. at the Ellis Creek parking area at the end of Cypress (past PRBO and UPS) in Petaluma. Heavy rain cancels. Leader Andy Le Casse Questions call Ellen Blustein 707-789-0970

April 23-25 – Pt. Reyes Birding Festival

August Field Trip - Owen's Valley: We are planning a 4 day trip to the eastern Sierra around the last weekend of August. We need a good idea of the number of people who will come. Please, call or e-mail Ellen Blustein 707-789-0970 or evireo@gmail.com if you are interested.

Redwood Region Ornithological Society (WWW.RROS.org) was organized in 1962 "to encourage the study and conservation of birds, other wildlife, and their natural habitat." Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month September through May, at 7:00 pm at the Laguna Waste Water Treatment Plant, 4300 Llano Road, Santa Rosa California, unless otherwise announced. Dues are \$20 per family, \$15 per individual or \$5 per student for a one-year membership. Send dues to RROS Treas. Don Howard, 979 Hogwarts Circle, Petaluma CA 94954.

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 Christmas Count Ruth Rudesill PO Box 371, Kenwood CA 95452 ruthier@sonic.net 833-6026
 Kite Tales Carol Brant 211 Florence Ave., Sebastopol 95472 cwbrant@sonic.net 823-2806

Kite Tales Deadlines: Submit observations to Ruth Rudesill, all other items to Carol Brant by 20th of the month.

Welcome to New Member - Dennis Buss

Donations - Thanks to Betty Burridge and Mike Neligan in memory of Jack Troutfetter and to Jocelyn and Joni Gardner, Veronica Bowers, Lance Groody, Dennis Buss and Don Howard.

Observations November - December Report by Ruth Rudesill

Bird Species	Date	Location	Co.	#	Observers	Notes
✓ White-winged Scoter	12/18/09	Bodega Harbor Channel	SON	3	PH	
✓ Cackling Goose	11/16/09	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	1	BBg	
✓ Tundra Swan	11/20-12/20/09	Ellis Creek area	SON	1	PBC, AW, mob	
✓ Eurasian Wigeon	11/16/09	Salmon Creek mouth	SON	1m	BBg	
✓ Blue-winged Teal	11/27-12/20/09	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	2-5	BDP, AW mob	
✓ Cinnamon Teal	11/27/09	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	20	BDP	
✓ Canvasback	11/27/09	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	1m	BDP	
✓ Black Scoter	11/20/09	Bodega Harbor	SON	1m	AKI	
✓ Cattle Egret	12/10/09	Franklin Park SR	SON	1	AW	
✓ Common Black Hawk	12/20/09	Laguna area	SON	1	SMo	
✓ Red-tailed Harlan's Hawk	11/21/09	near Sebastopol	SON	1	BD, HK	light phase
✓ Ferruginous Hawk	11/27/09	Ramal Rd	SON	1	BDP	
✓ Prairie Falcon	11/25/09	Carol Rd Bloomfield	SON	1	SMo	
✓ Black Rail	12/5/09	Alman Marsh Petaluma	SON	1	RAR	
✓ Clapper Rail	12/5/09	near Petaluma River	SON	1	RAR	heard
✓ Common Moorhen	12/5/09	Spring Lake Reg park	SON	9	RAR	high #
✓ Pacific Golden-Plover	12/15/09	Shollenberger Park	SON	1	BDP	
Mountain Plover	11/27-28/09	Robinson x Flannery Rd	SOL	24-60	BD, HK, RAR	
✓ Lesser Yellowlegs	12/14-20/09	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	1-3	BDy,	
Wilson's Snipe	12/8/09	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	114	JM	
✓ Burrowing Owl	12/20/09	near old airport	SON	1	LHg	
White-throated Swift	12/14/09	Shollenberger Park	SON	1	ALa	
Eurasian Collared-Dove	12/8/09	Sonoma yard	SON	15	BMc	
✓ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	12/6/09	SSU campus	SON	1	AKI	
Northern Flicker	12/19/09	Spring Lake Reg Park	SON	1	BSp, RAR	intergrade
Horned Lark	12/18/09	Buchli Station field	NAP	10	BDP	
✓ Tree Swallow	12/20/09	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	5	AW	

✓ Violet-green Swallow	12/15-20/09	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	12	BDP, AW
✓ Rock Wren	11/29/09	Tolay Lake Reg Park	SON	1	BD, HK
✓ House Wren	11/21/09	Spring Lake Reg Park	SON	1	RAR
✓ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	11/24/09	Bodega Head	SON	1	AKI
✓ Varied Thrush	11/28/09	Robinson Rd	SOL	1	RAR
✓ European Starling	12/7/09	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	100,000	BSp, DK
✓ Townsend's Warbler	12/14/09	Shollenberger Park	SON	1	ALa
✓ Common Yellowthroat	11/19/09	Ellis Creek Rec Ponds	SON	12+	RAR high#
✓ Western Tanager	11/26/09	Napa yard	NAP	1	BDP
✓ Western Tanager	12/8/09	Fountain Grove Pkway	SON	1	AW
✓ Clay-colored Sparrow	12/18/09	Milton Rd	NAP	1	BDP
✓ Vesper Sparrow	11/25/09	Sonoma Mtn Road	SON	1-2	RS
✓ Grasshopper Sparrow	12/5/09	field near SSu	SON	1	AKI
✓ Swamp Sparrow	11/23-12/20/09	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	1	RLeb, mob
✓ Swamp Sparrow	12/3-20/09	Spring Lake Reg Park	SON	1	BSp, RAR, mob
✓ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	11/18/09	Ferguson Rd Sebastopol	SON	1m	MJ, KJ
✓ Yellow-headed Blackbird	11/26-12/15/09	Sonoma Mtn Rd	SON	1m	CTr, BDP, mob
✓ Great-tailed grackle	12/2/09	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	1m	AW
✓ Red Crossbill	12/5/09	west Rio Nido	SON	12+	RAR

Observers: Bob Battigan, Peter B Colasanti, Bill Doyle, Bob Dyer, Phil Henderson, Lisa Hug, Marilyn and Karen Jones, Don Kirker, Andy Kleinhesselink, Helen Kochenderfer, Andy Lacasse, Rick LeBaudour, Bob McLean, Jeff Miller, Stan Moore, Ruth A Rudesill, Bob Speckels, Rich Stallcup, Chris Traub and Alan Wight



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