



Kite Tales

Volume 45 Number 8

APRIL 2010

General Meeting, Thursday, April 8, 7:00 pm

GENETIC STRUCTURE AND DEMOGRAPHIC IMPACTS OF OIL SPILLS IN WESTERN AND CLARK'S GREBES

by Diana L. Humple, Sonoma State University and PRBO Conservation Science

The Western Grebe and its sister species, the Clark's Grebe, are highly vulnerable to oil spills in their nonbreeding nearshore habitat along the Pacific coast. In fact, they are among the most commonly oiled species during coastal California spills. In order to increase our understanding of the demographic impacts of oil spills on grebes, my master's research focused on grebe population structure, migratory connectivity, and age and sex ratios of grebes killed in three marine events. These questions were explored using genetics, bird banding and recovery data, and necropsies.

Directions to the meetings: From Hwy 101 take Hwy 116 West toward Sebastopol. Turn right (north) on Llano Rd. and go ~ 1mile to **Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant at 4300 Llano Rd, Santa Rosa**. Look for an open gate on right. Proceed to Administration Bldg. at SE corner of the plant. From Hwy. 12, take Llano Rd. south about 3 miles.

Dinner before the meeting: Meet at 5:30 p. m. at Star Restaurant, 8501 Gravenstein Hwy, Cotati (west of Hwy 101, at exit for Hwy 116 West.)

.....
Notice: The May issue of Kite Tales will be the LAST until someone steps forward to be the new editor. Is it your turn to do something for RROS? Contact Carol Brant 823-2806 or cwbrant@sonic.net

Ellen Blustein, the field trip coordinator, is looking for field trip suggestions from the membership. Please, e-mail her at evireo@gmail.com.

FIELD TRIPS

SUNDAY

Saturday, April 11- Field Trip to Pepperwood Preserve

RROS has been invited to the Pepperwood Preserve for a spring field trip. Pepperwood Preserve is a 3117 acre property of The Pepperwood Foundation operated in cooperation with Santa Rosa JC and Sonoma State University. It was established in 1979.

We will expect fabulous wildflowers and land birds. Bring binoculars, scopes, field guides, hats, lunch, water, snacks and sunscreen. For carpooling meet at the Park N' Ride on the west side of HWY 101 at the River Road/MarkWest Exit at 7:30 a.m. Or meet at the preserve at 8a.m. Directions are available on the website or: 3450 Franz Valley Road. From Hwy 101 take River Road/MarkWest exit. Go east on Mark West Road. Continue on Porter Creek road. Turn left onto Franz Valley Road. Preserve will be on the left. Porta-potties at Preserve headquarters only.

Questions: call Ellen Blustein 707-789-0970

Saturday, May 8th -Field Trip Geysers Road

Meet at 8 am the first bridge on Pine Flat Road. We will drive from there to Geysers Road. Possible birds include Grasshopper Sparrow, Purple Martin, Mountain Quail, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Bring optics, water, food, sunscreen hats etc. Co-leaders Lisa Hug and Ellen Blustein. Questions: call Ellen at 707- 789-0970. Be prepared to carpool.

August 28 & 29, 30, Owen's Lake and Eastern Sierra Field Trip

This is a great opportunity to bird this historic environmental area at the height of shorebird migration. The official field trip will begin Saturday morning. Mike Prather, a Lone Pine resident, will be our leader. The trip will finish Monday, midday. We have 7 rooms held at the Best Western in Lone Pine. The rate is a negotiated high season price. Rooms can be changed until 2 weeks prior to the trip. We will each donate \$20/day to Mike. Questions or to save a place on the trip: Call or e-mail Ellen Blustein evireo@gmail.com or 707-789-0970

We will spend both mornings out on Owen's Lake. Saturday maybe Owen's Lake all day. Sunday we can do Owen's Lake in the morning and Sierra in the afternoon. Dress in layers, hats, sunscreen. Would you like to bring lunches with us each day or stop for lunch at a local eatery? I recommend bringing our lunches on Saturday for sure since we will likely be out on the lake all day. Valley temperatures 80's-90's. Sierra temps 60's-70's.

Possible birds: Owen's Lake: Baird's Sandpiper, Sabine's Gull, Snowy Plover, White-faced Ibis, Long-billed Curlew, Peregrine Falcon, Semi-palmated Sandpiper, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Great-tailed Grackle, Large numbers of peeps of various species, Bonaparte's Gull, Franklin's Gull, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Dowitchers, LeConte's Thrasher **Sierra:** Mountain Chickadee, Hairy Woodpecker, Williamson's Sapsucker, Sooty Grouse, Dipper, Brown Creeper, migrating neotropicals (Wood Warblers), Cassin's Finch, Fox Sparrow, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Western Wood-Pewee, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Nighthawks.

www.easternsierrabirdingtrail.org

FIELD TRIP REPORT - Ellis Creek, Petaluma March 13th - Leader Andy Lacasse

72 species: Canada Goose, Mute Swan, Gadwall, Am. Widgeon, Mallard, Cinnamon Teal. Northern Shoveler, Green-winged Teal, Canvasback, Ring-necked Duck, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Ruddy Duck, Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Am. Bittern, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Turkey Vulture, White-tailed Kite, N. Harrier, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Sora, Common Moorhen Am. Coot, Black-bellied Plover, Killdeer, Black-necked Stilt, Am. Avocet, Gr. Yellowlegs, Long-billed Curlew, Marbled Godwit, Least Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Mew Gull, CA Gull, Western Gull, Anna's Hummingbird, Nuttall's Woodpecker, N. Flicker, Black Phoebe, Am. Crow, Common Raven, Tree Swallow, Violet-green Swallow, Barn Swallow, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Bewick's Wren, Marsh Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Western Bluebird, N. Mockingbird, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing, Yellow-rumped Warbler - Myrtle and Audubon's, Common Yellowthroat, CA Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Western Meadowlark, Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch, Am. Goldfinch, House Sparrow and 4 Killdeer eggs on path Pond 'A'.

Participants: Janet Bosshard, Charlene Burge, Betty Burrige, Jim Castle, Jim Fritzhand, Terry Haag, Elmarie Hutchinson, Len Nelson, Elaine Pruett, Craig Roth, Andy Lacasse.

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.

RROS 2009-2010 Board of Directors

RROS Officers

President Rhio Reigh 1604 Austin Way, Santa Rosa 95404 rhioreigh@juno.com 579-3400
 Vice Pres. Terry Haag 1340 Big Plum Dr., Sebastopol 95472 teresitahaag@comcast.net 823-8527
 Secretary Elaine Pruett 2 Twin Creeks Circle, Petaluma, 94952 elprue@aol.com 781-9772
 Treas. Don Howard 979 Hogwarts Circle, Petaluma 94954 binkybunji2@comcast.net 637-0868

Committee Chairs

Field Trips Ellen Blustein 102 Marylyn Cir., Petaluma 94954 ellenblustein@sbcglobal.net 789-0970
 Observations Ruth Rudesill PO Box 371, Kenwood CA 95452 ruthier@sonic.net 833-6026
 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

.....

Observations February - March 2010 - Ruth Rudesill

Bird Species	Date	Location	Co.	#	Observers	Notes
Cinn x Blue-winged Teal	3/20/10	Ellis Creek facility	SON	1m	LHug	hybrid
✓ Northern Pintail	3/12/10	lower Tolay Creek area	SON	42	TR, DP	high #
✓ Canvasback	2/20/10	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	119	ALa	high #
✓ Cooper's Hawk	2/24/10	SSU campus RP	SON	1pr	BOI	nesting
✓ Common Black Hawk	3/4/10	Laguna	SON	1	SM	
Zone-tailed Hawk	3/21/10	Santiago Oaks Park	ORA	1	RAR	
Merlin	3/13/10	Capay Valley	YOL	1	BSp, DK, RAR	Prairie type

Continued on page 4

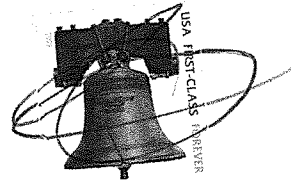
✓ Prairie Falcon	2/28/10	Crane Creek Reg Park	SON	1	BD, HK	
✓ Prairie Falcon	3/13/10	over Sugarloaf Ridge	SP SON	1	BD, HK	
✓ Long-billed Dowitcher	3/12/10	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	135	ALa, mob	
Barn Owl	2/20/10	Ellis Creek Facility	SON	1	ALa	in nest box
Burrowing Owl	3/9/10	off Green Island Rd	NAP	2	TR	
✓ Burrowing Owl	3/13-18/10	Tolay Lake Reg Park	SON	1	BOI, KW, fide TR	
✓ Long-eared Owl	3/14/10	Campbell Cove, Bodega Harbor	SON	1	HK, BD	
✓ Rufous Hummingbird	3/14/10	Rail Ponds, Bodega Harbor	SON	1m	HK, BD	
✓ Pacific-sloped Flycatcher	3/20/10	SSU campus	SON	1	AKI	
✓ Loggerhead Shrike	3/22/10	Hwy 121 near Tolay Creek	SON	1	RAR	
California Thrasher	3/13/10	Capay Valley, Cache Creek	YOL	1	RAR, DK, BSp	singing
Phainopepla	3/13/10	Lake Solano Park	SOL	1m	RAR, DK, BSp	
Orange-crowned Warbler	3/7/10	Spring Lake Reg Park	SON	1	RAR	singing
Vesper Sparrow	3/13/10	Capay Valley Park	YOL	3	DK, BSp, RAR	
Dark-eyed Junco	3/3-5/10	Kenwood yard	SON	1m	RAR	Slate-colored

Observers: Bill Doyle, Don Kirker, Andy Kleinhesselink, Helen Kochenderfer, Lisa Hug, Andy Lacasse, Stan Moore, Becky Olsen, Darren Peterie, Ruth A Rudesill, Tom Rusert, Bob Speckels and Ken Wilson.

WWW.RROS.ORG - A SUPERIOR WEBSITE

Contact NorthBayBirds Yahoo Group, get latest rare bird reports and much more

KITE TALES
979 Hogwarts Circle
Petaluma CA 94954
APRIL 2010



BD Parmeter MD
 2500 Emerson St
 Napa CA 94558

