



San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

# WESTERN MEADOWLARK



Volume 58 — Number 2  
November/December 2007

## *Come & Celebrate the Holidays*

*Wednesday, December 19, 2007 - 6:00 pm*

*SBVAS General Meeting - San Bernardino County Museum*

## **OUR TRADITIONAL POTLUCK DINNER**

will be held at the San Bernardino County Museum, on Wednesday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m.

Turkey, ham and beverage will be provided.

Please bring your own table service & your favorite dish to share,  
a salad, vegetable, casserole, side dish, or dessert.

Plan to do a little last minute holiday shopping at our bookstore.

For our program please bring fifteen of your favorite nature slides to show.

Sorry, the November General Meeting had to be canceled.  
Look forward to seeing you at the December Annual Pot Luck Dinner  
**HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

**S**an Onofre State Beach is a rare 3,000-acre scenic coastal-canyon park with high environmental values and recreation use. The park includes three distinct areas: San Onofre Bluffs, San Onofre Surf Beach, and San Mateo Campground. San Onofre – San Mateo Campground lies a short distance inland from the 3.5-miles of sandy beaches within San Onofre State Beach. A 1.5-mile Nature Trail connects the campground to Trestles Beach, a world class surfing site. San Mateo Creek flows just east of the campground outward towards the ocean creating key riparian and wetland habitats which host some rare and even endangered species. . Considered an environmental “hotspot” because of the health of the ecosystem, it is home to a number of rare, threatened or endangered species. Arroyo toad, cactus wren, California gnatcatcher, mountain lion, and the southern steelhead trout are



## **SAVE TRESTLES CAMPAIGN WINS IN SAN DIEGO San Diego City Council Votes To Support California State Parks...09/25/2007**

The Surfrider Foundation's Save Trestles campaign won a major victory, as the San Diego City Council voted 6-2 to approve a resolution “supporting the examination and implementation of feasible alternative transportation projects, including improvements to Highway 5 that do not impact San Onofre State Beach, or other park lands, and beaches.”

The Surfrider Foundation and its coalition partners maintain that a proposed extension to the SR-241 toll road will result in adverse impacts to a significant portion of San Onofre State Beach Park and the surrounding beach and water-

(Toll Road... Continued on page 6)

Last of its kind in 600 miles of SoCal coastline

(San Onofre State Park... Continued on page 4)

**San Bernardino Valley Audubon 2007/08 sponsored counts are:**

The count period, set by the National Audubon, will remain the same every year.

The dates are December 14th through January 5th.

**Redlands (Mill Creek)**

**Sunday, December 16, 2007 7:00 a. m**

**Compiler: Gene Cardiff email... e.cardiff@worldnet.att.net**

We will meet at the Mill Creek Ranger Station, just north of the intersection of Mill Creek Rd. (State Highway 38) and Bryant St. at 7:00 A.M. The portion of the count circle, which you would like to help count can be arranged at that time, or a prior choice can be made. Information and details regarding this count can be obtained by calling Doug at the number given above. At the end of the day, around 5:00 p. m., (with those coming in from the "boondocks" arriving slightly later), we will meet at the Casa Maya, Mexican restaurant to share the day's experiences, enjoy some good food (on a no-host basis -- order from the menu) and do a quick tally of the count.

*Casa Maya is located at 1837 Mentone Blvd. (Highway 38 - north side)  
n Mentone, near the Post Office and the hardware store.*

**Morongo Valley**

**Saturday, December 15, 2007, 7:00 a.m.**

**Compilers: Dee Zeller (760) 363 7190, birddee@verizon.net, and Margaret Hoggan.**

Lets hope this year brings a few more of the rarities, but more than that, lets hope that our regular birds continue to be found in healthy numbers. Please call Dee or his wife Betty for information, or simply arrive at the Parking Lot at Big Morongo, 11055 East Dr., at 7am sharp. Note that volunteer counters may be assigned to any of the eight areas within a 15 Mile radius of Big Morongo Canyon Preserve.

*We'll compile as a group by a cozy wood stove at the Big Morongo Canyon Preserve office while munching pizza and seasonal treats. Please note: It will probably be very cold during count day, so remember to wear warm clothing.*

**Idyllwild**

**Sunday, December 16, 2007**

**Compilers: Sherri Stange, (909) 925-4007**

**Steve Adkison, (909) 652-2907**

Meet at the Lake Hemet Store at 8:00 a. m. After viewing the birds on and around the lake we will divide into smaller groups and, with a leader, canvass the count circle. Expert or beginner, we need your eyes! Come prepared! Although, over the years, the weather has been remarkably cold, clear, and mostly snow free, anything can happen. If the forecast is for very bad weather, the count will be postponed to the next possible day. Call Sherri the night before if the weather looks questionable.

*Bring binoculars, field guide, sack lunch, and a hot drink. Dress in layers. We will regroup at the Anchor Restaurant in Hemet at 5:30 p. m. to tally and admire who found what. Come join us in the mountains.*

**Santa Ana River Valley**

**Sunday, December 16, 2007, 6:45 a. m.**

**Compiler: Larry LaPre Larry LaPre (951) 276-1213 (home) (951)697-5218 (work)**

**(E-mail) lflapre@aol.com**

The Santa Ana River Valley CBC covers most of the cities of **Riverside, Corona, and Norco.**

Within the count circle are some outstanding riparian areas like Prado Basin and Robidoux Nature Center, and some duck filled lakes, like Lake Norcorian and Lake Mathews.

Meeting places and times for the subgroups are listed below.

**Lake Mathews:** Permission to enter the fenced lake and Ecological Reserve is pending and may not be granted.

**Rubidoux Nature Center:** Meet at the Nature Center Parking lot at 6: 45 A. M. Take Riverview (Limonite) from Mission Ave. in Rubidoux to Riverview Drive (watch for a sign), then bear left and go about a mile to the Nature Center.

**Prado Basin, Lake Norconian and Hidden Valley Wildlife Area:** Meet at the gate to Hidden Valley, located at the dirt road entrance off Arlington Ave. across from the cemetery at 6:45 A.M. **(To enter Lake Norconian, the Navy requires the names of all participants in advance.) Call Larry LaPre to get the details.**

**San Jacinto Lake**

**Tuesday, December 18, 2007 @ 6:30 a.m.**

**Compilers: Tony Metcalf (909) 242-7038 (e) ametcalf@csusb.edu**

**Tom Benson (909) 648-0899 (e) thomasabenson@aol.com**

We will meet at 6:30 a.m. on the corner of Bridge Street and the Ramona Expressway about three miles east of Lakeview. The San Jacinto Lake Count is in the top 1-2% of all North American Christmas Bird Counts, and regularly leads the nation in species diversity for inland CBC's. We average over 150 species. The San Bernardino Audubon Society is very fortunate in having so many talented and enthusiastic birders who regularly find the time to

count birds all day on a certain brisk Tuesday in December. Call it the San Jacinto flu.

This year, as in past counts, we will be working closely with the San Jacinto Wildlife Area biologist in ensuring that we have another successful count. We will try to have group leaders in the same count areas as last year. Please notify Tony Metcalf prior to count week if you are interested in a particular area.

*So, for science, for the birds, and mostly for the fun, grab a friend and join us for another great count.*

*At the end of the day, we will meet at 6:00 p.m. at*

*Coco's at the corner of Perris and Sunnymead Blvd., in Moreno Valley, to tally and compile our findings.*

### **San Bernardino Valley**

**Saturday, December 22, 2007 7:00 a.m.**

**Compiler: Dori Myers (714) 779-2201 (h) (e) [dorimyrs1@aol.com](mailto:dorimyrs1@aol.com)**

Come join San Bernardino Valley Audubon's longest running count. We will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the San Bernardino County Museum. From there we will form small groups to cover the count area. Remember, the counts are for pleasure as well as science. Anyone can help and the more pairs of eyes out there in the field, the more birds we find.

***Last year we counted 124 species and 11507 individual birds.***

***We will regroup around 5:30 p.m. to share stories and tally the day's findings.***

### **Mojave River Valley**

**Saturday, December 29, 2007 6:30 a.m.**

**Compilers: Steve Myers (760) 843-4009 (h) or (951) 369-8060(w)**

**e-mail [stephenmyers@earthlink.net](mailto:stephenmyers@earthlink.net)**

The meeting place is the same as the past years: the Starbucks in the Vons shopping center parking lot on the northeastern corner of the intersection of Bear Valley Road and Hesperia Road. This intersection is just over three miles east of Interstate 15 (take the Bear Valley Rd. Exit). We will meet at 6:30 a.m.

*A post-count compilation will take place at a restaurant to be specified at the meeting place.*

*It can get mighty cold (and windy) on the count, so bring plenty of layers.*

### **Joshua Tree National Park**

**Tuesday, January 1, 2008 7:30 a.m.**

**Compiler: Joe Zarki (760) 367-5520 (w) (760) 366-8913 (h)**

**(e) [lutzarki@roadrunner.com](mailto:lutzarki@roadrunner.com)**

Group 1: Meet the group leader at 7:30 a.m. at the Indian Cove Ranger Station on Indian Cove Road. This is off Highway 62 on the western side of Twentynine Palms at the entry of the park leading to Indian Cove Camp Ground. After covering Indian Cove the group will go to parts of Twentynine Palms, the Oasis of Mara (the park headquarters), Luckie Park and the 29 Palms Inn.

Group 2: Meet the group leader at 7:30 a.m. at the West Entrance of the Park. Take Park Blvd. from the town of Joshua Tree, parking is just beyond the entry station. This group will cover the campgrounds in the interior of the park, Hidden, Lost Horse and Queen Valleys. This part of the park is 3,000-5,000 ft with an abundance of rocks and Joshua Trees. And we hope to see a bird or two.

The daily use fee for the park will be waived for the Christmas count participants. The Joshua Tree National Park Association will cover the count participant fees. We can't make it any easier than that! Bring layers of clothing, it can be cold and windy or it can be warm and calm, we've had everything from 78 deg. to snow blowing straight at you. Also bring snacks, good walking shoes, lunch and drinks, or you can pickup lunch in Twentynine Palms if you choose group 1. Group 2 will have to rough it, no phones, no restaurants, but just beautiful country. We will meet about 5:30 p.m. at a restaurant in Twentynine Palms to compile the results.

### **Salton Sea - North CBC**

**Saturday, January 5, 2008 6:30 a.m.**

**Compiler: Chet McGaugh (909) 781-3699(H) or (909) 369-8060(W) (e) [chetmcgaugh@earthlink.net](mailto:chetmcgaugh@earthlink.net)**

We will meet at 6:30 a.m., at the big ARCO just off of the expressway near Mecca. . Dress warmly; it can be cold in the early morning hours. We will form six or seven groups and spread out over the count circle for a day of counting the multitudes of birds that spend the winter around the north end of Salton Sea.

Bird identification skills are helpful but not a prerequisite; the group leaders will handle any identification problems. Counting ability is a prerequisite. Each group leader needs people to count common birds (like Eared Grebes, Ruddy Ducks, American Coots, gulls), and someone to record the numbers, so that he/she can concentrate on finding the unusual and/or hard-to-find species.

If you want a mellow day of birding at Salton Sea, save yourself \$6 and we'll see you in January on the field trip. If you want a rather intense day of birding, and would like to contribute to the ever-growing (since 1969) data bank, come on out. You will see lots of birds. We typically record 130-140 species.

*After the count we will compile our results at a local restaurant.*

## Fall Very Beginning Bird Walk Schedule

### OCTOBER TO FEBRUARY / VERY BEGINNING BIRDWALKS 2007/08

#### FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH: OCTOBER - MAY

November 4 - Louis Robidoux Nature Center (Doug Karalun)  
 December 2 - San Jacinto Wildlife Area (Jennifer and Michelle Tobin)  
 January 6 - San Jacinto Wildlife Area (Doug Karalun)  
 February 3 - San Jacinto Wildlife Area (Jennifer and Michelle Tobin)  
 March 2 - Hidden Valley Wildlife Area (Jennifer and Michelle Tobin)  
 April 6 - Louis Robidoux Nature Center (Jennifer and Michelle Tobin)  
 May 4 - Fairmount Park (Doug Karalun)

#### VBBW / SAN JACINTO WILDLIFE AREA

Sunday, Dec. 2, Jan. 6 and Feb. 3 - 8:00 A.M. until 10:00 A.M.

Leaders: Jennifer and Michelle Tobin and/or Doug Karalun

We will meet at the main parking lot at the wildlife headquarters. From Riverside go south on Interstate 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: Cathy Tobin (951) 684-9613 for further information. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes. You may call ahead to confirm location and time.

#### VBBW / LOUIS ROBIDOUX NATURE CENTER

Sunday, November 4, 2006 - 8:00 A.M. until 10:00 A.M.

Leaders: Doug Karalun

The nature center is located at 5370 Riverview Drive in Rubidoux. From Highway 60, 2.7 miles west of the junction of Interstate 215 and Highway 60, exit at Rubidoux Blvd and go south to Mission Blvd and turn right. Turn left onto Riverview Drive (Limonite Avenue) and drive a half mile and turn left again onto Riverview Drive. The nature center will be on the left approximately 1.2 miles. If the gate is locked, please park outside and walk into the Nature Center. Be sure to pull well off the pavement. Please contact Doug Karalun (909-425-5355) for further information. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes. You may call ahead to confirm location and time.

### **Audubon California establishes endowment to support California State Parks**

Emeryville, CA – Audubon California announced today that it has established an endowment that will provide long-term financial assistance to California State Parks to support important conservation, restoration and public outreach projects. The endowment is the latest expression of a longstanding partnership between the two organizations. “Audubon California sees our state parks as a legacy that we all need to support,” said Glenn Olson, executive director of Audubon California. The decision to create the endowment stems from Audubon California’s long-standing partnership with California State Parks. Following the recent sale to the state of 220 acres of land located on the southern edge of Clear Lake, about 100 miles north of San Francisco, representatives of Audubon California saw the opportunity to create a unique legacy that will fund conservation projects on public lands for years to come. Audubon California’s initial contribution to the endowment is \$700,000. The organization has committed to continue to raise funds and contribute to this endowment, which is expected to pay out about 5 percent annually to projects throughout the state park system selected by Audubon through a competitive process involving local Audubon chapters and California State Parks.

“Audubon California is forging a unique, cooperative relation-

*(State Parks...Continued on page 7)*

*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 some 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! Binoculars and bird guides will be provided for use during the walks. However, please bring your own if you have them, as supplies are limited. Wear comfortable walking shoes, hats and sunscreen and bring water. The walks are free and no reservations are needed. Everyone is welcome and student lists will be signed.*

*(San Onofre State Park... Continued from page 1)*

shed environment. San Diego now joins Los Angeles, San Francisco and a dozen other cities in passing resolutions supporting efforts to protect San Onofre State Beach Park resources.

The Surfrider Foundation and its coalition partners were unsuccessful in their efforts to secure support from the San Diego City Council a year ago.

“Last year many of the City Council members commented that they just didn’t understand the issue well enough to support the resolution,” said Surfrider Foundation San Diego Chapter spokesperson Bill Hickman. “I think the fact that we spent the past year meeting with them, showing them the evidence, and then received a favorable vote speaks volumes.”

San Diego City Council members supporting the resolution include Scott Peters, Kevin Faulconer, Toni Atkins, Tony Young, Brian Maienschein and Donna Frye.

With this victory in hand, the Surfrider Foundation is now free to focus on an upcoming hearing by the California Coastal Commission to determine if plans for the SR-241 toll road extension are consistent with California Coastal Act.

#### CONTACT:

**Matt McClain, National Communications Director**  
 tel. (949) 492-8170

email: [info@surfrider.org](mailto:info@surfrider.org)

[www.surfrider.org/press\\_releases.aspx?PR\\_Id=130](http://www.surfrider.org/press_releases.aspx?PR_Id=130)

**NORTHERN SAN JACINTO VALLEY****Field Trip Schedule**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 7:00 AM

LEADER: TONY METCALF (909) 242-7038 EMAIL: AEMETCALF@EARTHLINK.NET

AH, COOLER WEATHER. Wintering birds of prey and waterfowl, coastal sage scrub and wetlands are all close by. Please join us for our fall field trip to the northern San Jacinto Valley. We have two goals for this trip. First is to have fun. Second, is to see 100 species. We always accomplish the first goal and have come very close to the second. Maybe this is the year - - Mystic Lake is very low due to the drought. The northern San Jacinto Valley is known for its high species diversity, but who knows this year. We have ranked highest in number of bird species seen for inland areas in North America for Audubon's Christmas Bird Counts, and are usually in the top 1-2% for all counts. At the heart of the region is the public San Jacinto Wildlife Area. You can call or e-mail Tony Metcalf or the San Jacinto Wildlife Area headquarters (909 654-0580) for updated road info to the Wildlife Area.

**THE MORRO BAY LONG WEEKEND \*PLAN TO JOIN US**

NOV 23, 24, 25 – FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY

LEADER: GENE CARDIFF (909) 875-5358 EMAIL: E.CARDIFF@WORLDNET.ATT.NET

For a long weekend exploring exciting habitats for great numbers of birds we will rendezvous at 8:00 AM. on Friday, November 23 at Osos group camp at Morro Bay State Park. The Ranger at the entrance is a good source of information. On Friday morning we will bird by walking around near the campground. Those birders that arrive late can meet us for lunch in Osos group camp. The campground has been reserved starting the evening of Thanksgiving through Sunday morning. Camping costs will be approximately \$5.00 per person per night.

On Friday afternoon we will bird Morro Bay South to Montana de Oro. Saturday we will head north up the coast on Highway 1 to Cambria and North of San Simeon. There will be a short field trip Sunday morning before we depart for home. Call Gene if you are able to join us because we do have a space limit and/or if you have any additional questions.

**AFTON CANYON TO NEWBERRY SPRINGS**

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 9:00 A.M.

LEADER: GENE CARDIFF (909) 875-5358 - E.CARDIFF@WORLDNET.ATT.NET

Again this year, instead of a field trip to Harpers Dry Lake, which is still very dry, we will look for wintering birds in the Afton Canyon, Newberry Springs and Daggett areas. Afton is on the Mojave River with wetlands and Newberry Springs - Daggett have alfalfa fields and ponds. We will meet at the BLM campground in Afton Canyon at 9:00 AM (after breakfast). To get there, take I-15 north through Barstow to Afton Road and turn right on the improved dirt road to the campground. Bring a lunch, water, snacks and warm clothes, because summer may be over by then. After lunch we will caravan back through Newberry and Daggett looking for hawks and other birds. For more information on weather etc. call Gene at the number above.

**SALTON SEA GOOSE & CRANE TRIP**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 2006; 7:00 AM

LEADERS: CHET MCGAUGH (909) 781-3699 JOHN GREEN (951) 686-2956 OR E-MAIL [BEWICKWREN@EARTHLINK.NET](mailto:BEWICKWREN@EARTHLINK.NET) GENE CARDIFF (909) 875-5358 - E.CARDIFF@WORLDNET.ATT.NET

This trip at times has been called the "waterfowl trip," the "goose trip," and "a wonderful field-trip." It is all of that, and more. Perhaps a glimpse at last year's list will help stoke the fires of desire: American white pelican, white-faced ibis, snow goose (thousands), Ross' goose (hundreds), surf scoter, white-winged scoter, peregrine falcon, prairie falcon, sandhill crane (hundred), mountain plover (hundred and a half), and gila woodpecker. We tallied twenty species of waterfowl, and we didn't have to count individuals. (For an opportunity to count every single duck on the Sea, see Salton Sea - North CBC blurb elsewhere in this issue.) We will meet at the Wister Unit of the Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge at 7:00 a.m. Wister is on Highway 111, east side of the Sea, several miles before Niland. The turn-off is Davis Road. We will bird around the southern end of the Sea, then go south into "ag" lands to look for raptors, mountain plovers, and the always entertaining sandhill cranes.

**SANTA BARBARA AREA WEEKEND FIELD TRIP**(detail will be in the Jan/Feb issue or on the web [SBVAS.ORG](http://SBVAS.ORG))

SATURDAY - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 - 10, 2008

LEADERS: JOHN GREEN: (951) 686-2956, E-MAIL: [BEWICKWREN@EARTHLINK.NET](mailto:BEWICKWREN@EARTHLINK.NET) AND STEVE MYERS PHONE: (760) 843-4009, E-MAIL: [STEPHENMYERS@EARTHLINK.NET](mailto:STEPHENMYERS@EARTHLINK.NET)



**NEW EDITOR NEEDED****The Western Meadowlark needs YOU....****Its fun...****Its full of information...****Meet new people...****Get involved at this very important time in history....****CALENDAR/FIELD TRIPS 2007-2008**

Nov 4-Sun-VBBW-Robidoux Nature Center/Doug Karalun

Nov 18-Sun-Northern San Jacinto Valley -

Tony Metcalf &amp; Dave Goodward

Nov 23,24,25 - Morro Bay State Park Reservations -

Gene Cardiff

Dec 2-Sun-VBBW-at SJWA - J &amp; M Tobin

Dec 8- Sat - Dagget &amp; Newbury Springs - Gene Cardiff

Dec 14 2007 ~ Jan 5, 2008 - Christmas Bird Counts

Jan 6 - Sun - VBBW-at SJWA - J &amp; M Tobin

Jan 12 - Sat - Salton Sea Goose &amp; Crane Trip -

Chet McGaugh &amp; John Green

Feb 3 - Sun - VBBW-at SJWA - J &amp; M Tobin

Feb 9 &amp; 10 - Weekend in Santa Barbara - Myers &amp; Green

Feb 24 - Sun - San Jacinto Wildlife Area - Tom Paulek

March 2 - Sun - VBBW / Hidden Valley - J &amp; M Tobin

March 8 - Sat - Bolsa Chica - Dori Myers

Apr 6-Sun - VBBW/Robidoux Nature Center-J &amp; M Tobin

Apr 19-Sat - Torres-Martinez Ponds Salton Sea-  
Dave Goodward

Apr 20 - Sun - Mojave Narrows - Steve Myers

May 3 - Sat - Big Morongo - Chet McGaugh

May 4 - Sun - VBBW - Fairmount Park - Doug Karalun

May 4 - Sun - Box Springs Mountain - John Green

May 10 - Sat - White Water Canyon - Steve Myers

May 17 - Sat - Baby Birds at Bear Paw - Cin Grayraven

June 7 -Sat - Wrightwood Field Trip - Gene Cardiff

July 19 &amp; 20-Weekend trip-

South fork of the Greenhorns - Steve Myers

August 24 - Sun - Insane Jaunt/Salton Sea - John Green

VBBW... Very Beginning Bird Walk

SJWA... San Jacinto Wildlife Area

GO TO SBVAS.ORG FOR FIELD TRIP UPDATES...

*(Toll Road... Continued from page 1)*

all known to populate the hillsides and creeks. From a habitat preservation standpoint, wilderness corridors are necessary to connect the beach with the foothills and interior mountains via river drainages and canyon bottoms. Access to a fresh water source is vital for survival, especially during the hot summers. They need rough mountains to make their dens and hide away, and open grassy hillsides to hunt and forage.

**The Problem:** Rancho Mission Viejo (RMV) and the County of Orange have approved a new city for the foothills east of San Juan Capistrano and Ladera Ranch for almost 40,000 new residents and 5 million square feet of commercial/office space. In addition, the Foothill/Eastern Transportation Corridor Agency approved a 16-mile extension of the Foothill South

## ***Please Report Observations of Color-Banded Tricolored Blackbirds!***

Nearly 1800 tricolored blackbirds were color-banded during the 2007 breeding season; your assistance in reporting observations of these color-banded birds is essential to help us to learn more about tricolors. Please report observations to: [tricolored.blackbird@gmail.com](mailto:tricolored.blackbird@gmail.com).

All birds were fitted with a USGS aluminum band, a white color band (denoting the year) and an additional color band denoting county (Yolo County = green, Yuba County = blue, Colusa County = orange).

Please report the following information:

1. observer name(s)
2. observer(s) email, mailing address, and phone number
3. observation date and time
4. county and approximate map location (USGS quad or DeLorme)
5. latitude (decimal degrees)
6. longitude (decimal degrees)
7. number of color-banded birds and color combinations observed
8. dominant land cover type(s) where foraging or roosting flocks were observed
9. approximate number of birds in flock
10. land ownership (public/private), if known
11. were birds roosting or foraging?
12. were birds on or near a dairy or other source of stored grains? (Y/N)
13. approximate distance to stored grains
14. additional information (any additional information that you deem relevant)

You may obtain latitude/longitude coordinates from either Google Earth (free download from [Google.com](http://Google.com); requires high-speed internet connection) or by free utility on [topozone.com](http://topozone.com).

Many thanks for your assistance! Bob Meese...

Robert J. Meese, Ph.D.

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University of California Davis, CA 95616;

530 752-1331, [rjmeese@ucdavis.edu](mailto:rjmeese@ucdavis.edu)

**TCA, a privately held agency**

Toll Road (SR 241) that will decimate the Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy and the San Onofre State Beach/San Mateo Campground and pollute the pristine water quality at Trestles Beach.

The future of Trestles grows increasingly uncertain. The Transportation Corridor Agencies (TCA) -- a privately held agency - has been aiming to build an extension to the existing 241 Toll Road for nearly ten years now. Plans would connect the expansion with Interstate 5 at Basilone Rd, just south of Trestles Beach. Environmental activists and concerned surfers have recently begun doing all they can to throw a wrench in TCA's plans.. **Call your representative and help stop this.**

## Huge victory for the California Condor Audubon California applauds signing of AB 821

In a major victory for Audubon California and other organizations that advocate on behalf of the endangered California Condor, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger this weekend signed landmark legislation to ban the use of lead ammunition from important habitat areas. Your calls, letters and emails helped make this victory happen. "This is a great day for the California Condor and the State of California," said Glenn Olson, executive director of Audubon California. "This is really an indication of how much of an impact we can have when we all work together for a common goal."

(State Parks...Continued from page 4)

ship with State Parks that will significantly enhance our common goals of protecting wildlife species and habitats across the State," said State Parks' Director Ruth Coleman. "This creative idea of an endowment establishes a new model for assisting State Parks with its land protection and management responsibilities and we welcome this new partnership."

The relationship between Audubon and California State Parks goes back to the 1960s when the state was beginning to identify and prioritize the protection of key natural areas for their scenic, natural, historical and recreational potential. Since then, the two organizations have partnered on many conservation and education projects, with Audubon contributing not just funding, but technical support and volunteers as well.

"Our state parks not only provide important habitat for birds and other wildlife, they are the places where millions of Californians learn about our natural heritage," said Graham Chisholm, director of conservation for Audubon California.

"Audubon California wants to help see them protected and enhanced by bringing Audubon funding and volunteers."

California State Parks owns and manages 278 park facilities across California, a total of more than 1.5 million acres, that make up some of the most diverse natural resources found anywhere in the world. As an example of the diversity: Fifty-eight per cent of the remaining old growth coastal redwood forests are found in State Parks; 27 per cent of federally listed endangered, threatened or rare species can be found in the State Park system; there are 71 natural preserves and reserves in the system; the largest desert state park in the nation, Anza-Borrego Desert State Park is within the system; and, more than one-quarter of the coastline of California, 295 miles, is within the park system. On average, 77 research projects, primarily related to wildlife habitat, are ongoing each year in the State Park System.

## A Field Study of Birds: Winter Course: BIO X405.1

An introduction to the local birds in relation to their communities. Emphasis is placed on identification in the field and museum. Field trips include local mountains and valleys, San Diego Bay, High Desert, Salton Sea and Imperial Valley. **Note:** Visitors not permitted. Class meets at San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands for first meeting only. All other dates are field trips. **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 **Date/Time:** Tue. 7:30-9:30 pm, Jan. 8. Field trips all day Sat. Jan. 12, 19, Feb. 2, 16, Mar. 1. (6 meeting/s) **Location:** SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM, REDLANDS **Text:** "A Field Study of Birds of North America, 4th edition," J. W. Fitzpatrick ( 07922-6877-6 ) **Fee:** \$219 / \$199 each for couples and family members / \$180 each with PINE discount **Reg #:** 073-SCF-F23 <http://www.extension.ucr.edu/>

## NEW EDITOR WANTED

The Western Meadowlark needs a new Editor. The old one is going to be leaving soon. Call Melissa Culley—ph# below

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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 1,743**

Everyone is always welcome

### SBVAS Calendar

Nov 7, 7:00... Board Meeting

**\*Nov 21, 7:30..... General Meeting**

**\*(cancelled because of Thanksgiving)**

Dec 5, 7:00...Board Meeting

Dec 19 6:00. Holiday Potluck & Meeting

## The 107th California Christmas Bird Counts

December 14th 2006 to January 5th 2007

*This holiday season join with thousands of birders who participate each year in the more than 100 Christmas Bird Counts across California. The one day bird counts provide valuable data about the number of bird species and numbers of each species occurring within a set geographic area. Whether you just watch your bird feeder or spend a full day in the field with friends, it a great way to have fun and gather important information on bird populations.*

*Participants are typically assigned to teams based on their bird identification skill level and endurance. A \$5.00 participation fee defrays a portion of the cost of tabulating and publishing the count results by National Audubon and Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Help is needed on many of these counts, so find one that interests you and contact the compiler for more information.*



Bearpaw Ranch is SBVAS's 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 a electronically operated entry gate. Members who wish to visit the Sanctuary should call ahead for the security code. Access to the code may be had by calling—

Bearpaw at (909) 794-0509. Bearpaw Sanctuary, 38801 Valley of the Falls Drive P.O. Box 88; Forest Falls, CA 923396

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Please make check payable to **National Audubon Society**

Includes chapter membership & Meadowlark if in SBVAS area

Also includes the National issue of Audubon magazine

#### San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society (SBVAS):

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SBVAS Chapter

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November 2007

#### THE WESTERN MEADOWLARK

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