

SLAVIN RANCH FIELD TRIP

Sunday, September 6, 2015

Weather delayed our trip to Slavin Ranch Conservation Area by a day but it turned out well in the long run. The migrating song birds along the wooded trail towards the lake were in good numbers and not at all timid. Among other species, we saw both the Golden-crowned and the Ruby-crowned Kinglet, a Wilson's Warbler, a White-breasted Nuthatch and a Merlin eating a small bird. The lake is now a series of ponds due to the lack of rain and held a variety of wading and shore birds plus the usual waterfowl. We spent time trying to identify a sandpiper, no easy task, and felt satisfied that we had a Solitary Sandpiper. A distant Snipe that refused to give us a profile presented a challenge but when the famous beak came into view we had him!

After we had finished with Slavin Ranch we decided to head out to Sprague Lake on the chance of finding the Great Egrets seen there the previous day. No luck with that but the sky was filled with swallows - Violet-green, Barn, and Northern Rough-winged. It was a day well spent. Participants: Janet Callen, Karen Williams, Darlene Carlton and Judy Waring.

Total trip List

Canada Goose
Black-billed Magpie
America Crow
California Quail
Rock Pigeon
Northern Flicker
Red-tailed Hawk
Black-capped Chickadee
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Flycatcher (sp)
Wilson's Warbler

Raven
White-breasted Nuthatch
Great-blue Heron
Merlin
Osprey
Western Grebe
Mallard
Ring-billed Gull
Killdeer
Barn Swallow
Violet-Green Swallow
Rough-winged Swallow
Double-crested Cormorant
Red-winged Blackbird
Common Snipe
Bald Eagle
Ruddy Duck
Gadwall
Solitary Sandpiper
White-crowned Sparrow
Yellow Warbler
Turkey Vulture

