

Field Trips, April 12th through May 11 2019.
Scheduler, Andi Salmi, andisalmi@yahoo.com, 916-508-7192

Saturday, April 13, 7am

Lincoln Grasslands

John York, 530-320-4751

johnyork157@yahoo.com

John will be eating breakfast at Sterling Cafe in the Raley's parking lot on Lincoln Blvd. in Lincoln at 7:00 AM. Feel free to join in. We will leave the parking lot for local hot spots in the Lincoln area, including looking for Burrowing Owls in the fields off the old highway and Tri-colored Blackbirds to the east of town. Very easy walking and short distances. Bring a lunch and fluids; if the birding is good, the trip may last late into the afternoon.

Sunday, April 14, 8am

Bushy Lake, Cal Expo Floodplain

Leader: Darrell Mohr, 916-225-3999

mohrdd@gmail.com

Meet Darrell in the cul-de-sac at the south end of Ethan Way, just south of where Hurley Way goes into Gate 12 of Cal Expo. Darrell will be looking for a variety of resident species and Wood Ducks are a good possibility on the lake. This will be a 1 to 2 mile hike that will take 2 to 3 hours. Bring water and sunscreen. This is a great trip for beginners.

Tuesday, April 16, 8am

Putah Creek Riparian Preserve

Leader: Bill Bianco, 916-889-4849

biancowm@yahoo.com

This UC Davis Reserve along Putah Creek is a fine place to find migrants and resident species. Join Bill for a leisurely walk on an easy trail west of UC Davis. This trip is good for beginners and those already familiar with the birding on the creek. Trip will end before noon. From I-80 near Davis, take Hwy. 113 north and exit on Hutchison Drive, exit 27. Turn left. At the first round-about, stay right, passing new student housing, and at the second round-about go west onto Hutchison Drive. At about 1 mile, turn left onto Hopkins Road. About 1 mile, going south Hopkins dead ends. Turn left onto Levee Road and park at area on your left. You will see one of the entrances to the Reserve.

Saturday, April 20, 10:30am

Effie Yeaw Family Nature Walk

Join Audubon birding leaders Sue Darst and Sheila Green and a Nature Center docent for a family friendly nature walk at the Effie Yeaw Nature Center in Carmichael. Acorn Woodpeckers, Wild Turkeys, and other resident birds such as towhees and Bushtits will be active.

Reservations are not needed, families can simply show up and enjoy a one-hour walk in the lovely Nature Area with naturalists/birders who know the area and enjoy sharing their knowledge. For directions, see sacnaturecenter.net.

Saturday, April 20, 7am

Deer Creek, El Dorado Co.

Leader: Gary Fregien, 916-708-0636

calaveri.gary@gmail.com

This trip follows the riparian zone along Deer Creek, but also includes oak woodlands and open grasslands, affording a variety of bird habitats. The route takes us along the Placerville &

Sacramento Valley Railroad tracks, which have become a Rails-to-Trails corridor, now open to the public for hiking. There are many migrant and resident passerines during this season. Expected species include Willow & Ash-throated Flycatchers, Yellow-breasted Chat, Black-headed Grosbeak, Bullock's Oriole, and numerous woodpeckers, sparrows and raptors. Be prepared to hike along the ties of the tracks, which can be uneven. Bring adequate water and snacks, and dress for a cool morning with seasonal warming during the day. The trip should end around mid-day. Meet at the south side of the Bella Bru parking lot in the Raley's shopping center in El Dorado Hills. From Hwy 50 east take Exit #30B; turn right on El Dorado Hills Blvd and go north under the freeway to the shopping center on the right.

Sunday, April 21, 6:30am

Sand Creek Road

Leaders: Tim Fitzer and Ann Burris

Tim: 916-870-5207, spskua2@comcast.net

Ann: 916-947-7573, burris.nellieann@gmail.com

Join Tim and Ann for a trip to Arbuckle and then up Sand Creek Road. Target birds include Sage Sparrow, Lawrence's Goldfinch, Western Kingbird, Roadrunner, Western Screech Owl, Pileated Woodpecker, Mountain Quail, and other migrants. The road can be rough and all wheel drive is recommended. Bring a lunch and liquids and be prepared for an afternoon return. We will meet at the Woodland Jack-in-the-Box. Take 1-5 north toward Woodland; exit at County Road 102 (#536); turn right (north) on 102 and turn right into the Jack-in-the-Box parking lot. FRS radios are helpful on this trip.

Tuesday, April 23, 8am

Teal Bend

Leader: Mark Martucci, 916-833-9009

matuchbirdman@yahoo.com

Join Mark to explore the rich habitat at Teal Bend Golf Course. He will explore a variety of habitats, including wooded and riparian areas, and expects to see a variety of spring migrants, among other birds. Meet at the Raley's Shopping Center on Arena Blvd at 8:00 am. From Sacramento, take I-5 north to Arena Blvd., go west (left) over the freeway. Take the first left, Duckhorn Rd., and then turn right into the parking area. We will meet on the north side of the parking lot between Wells Fargo and Golden 1.

Saturday, April 27, 7:30am

Sweetwater Creek

Leader: Richard Barbieri, 916-761-1124

offleash56@yahoo.com

At this favorite spring hotspot you should find wild flowers in bloom and hear the song of the Yellow-breasted Chat. Other possibilities are Lazuli Buntings, Wrentits, California Thrashers, migrating hummingbirds, and colorful warblers. Meet at the Bella Bru in the shopping center on the northeast corner of El Dorado Hills Blvd. and Highway 50. From Hwy 50 east take Exit #30B; turn right on El Dorado Hills Blvd. and go north under the freeway to the shopping center on your right. This is a great trip for beginners and more experienced birders, and an opportunity to see several good birds.

Sunday, April 28, 7:30 am

Knickerbocker Creek - Auburn State Recreation Area

Leader: Timothy Jackson, 530-558-5164

eldoradobirds@yahoo.com

We will look (and listen) for songbirds, raptors, woodpeckers, game birds, and hummingbirds in a three to four mile walk through predominately oak grasslands. We'll visit a couple of ponds early in the walk to look for wetland species and then parallel part of the creek which feeds the north fork of the American River. We'll be on the lookout for incoming breeding season migrants and a few lingering non-breeding season migrants. The trip should last until 12 noon or 1 pm. Depending on precipitation the trails may be muddy and bordered by wet grass. Meet Tim at the Northside Elementary School parking lot at 7:30 am. The address is 860 Cave Valley Rd. Cool, CA 95614.

Directions from Highway 50 (recommended route): From Sacramento head east and leave highway 50 at exit 30B. This will cloverleaf onto El Dorado Hills Blvd. heading north. At approximately 5 miles the road crosses Green Valley Rd. and becomes Salmon Falls Rd. Continue on Salmon Falls Rd. for a little under 12 miles. Turn right on Salmon Falls Cutoff Rd. and in a few hundred feet turn left onto Highway 49 heading north. Go about three miles and turn left onto Cave Valley Rd. Park in the Northside Elementary School lot on the left.

Directions from Highway 80 (descends into and ascends out of the American River Gorge): From Sacramento head east and leave Highway 80 at exit 119C. The exit lane will split in two during the cloverleaf so make sure to get in the left lane and turn left onto Elm Ave at the stoplight. In a few hundred feet turn left at another stoplight onto Highway 49. Continue for seven miles and turn right onto Cave Valley Rd. Park in the Northside Elementary School lot on the left. While the destination is closer to the highway on this route it does involve hairpin turns on a rural highway in a river gorge. Take the route from Highway 50 if you are not prepared for this type of drive.

Thursday, May 2, 8am

Sweetwater Creek

Leaders: Tim Fitzer and Ann Burris

Tim: 916-870-5207, spskua2@comcast.net

Ann: 916-947-7573, burris.nellieann@gmail.com

This trip is another chance to bird this favorite hotspot for Yellow-breasted Chat, Lazuli Buntings, Wrentits, California Thrashers, migrating hummingbirds, and colorful warblers. Meet at the Bella Bru in the shopping center on the northeast corner of El Dorado Hills Blvd. and Highway 50. From Hwy 50 east take Exit #30B; turn right on El Dorado Hills Blvd. and go north under the freeway to the shopping center on your right. This will be a half day trip and is a good one for beginners.

Saturday, May 4, 7am

Driver's Flat, Ruck-a-Chucky

Auburn State Recreation Area

Leader: Scott Hoppe, 916-835-8471

shoppe01@surewest.net

We will be exploring the beautiful canyon of the Middle Fork of the American River off Foresthill Road to look for spring migrants and resident breeding birds. This is one of Scott's favorite birding spots. Possibilities include several species of flycatcher, including Hammond's and Pacific-slope; Hutton's, Cassin's and Warbling Vireos; up to 7 species of warbler; Black-headed Grosbeak; Lazuli Bunting and Bullock's Oriole. Walking will be up to a mile at a time with moderate inclines. In honor of Global Big Day, we will go a full day. If we seem to have exhausted species at the location, we will continue to other locations in search of more birds. Those who wish to leave earlier may want to connect with others that also want to leave early. For us die-hards, we will keep going until....? Bring lunch, snacks and drinks. Meet at the

Horseshoe Bar Road Park & Ride in Loomis, Exit 110 off I-80. NOTE: there is a \$10 per car parking fee at Driver's Flat.

Sunday, May 5

Beginning Birding Field Trip for Adults

William Pond Park

These beginners' field trips are designed to introduce new birders to the fun of birding. Limited to 10 adults per trip with 3 Audubon trip leaders, it's a low-key introduction to finding and identifying common birds in a variety of habitats, with an emphasis on looking and listening. Registration is required. Contact Cathie LaZier at empid@earthlink.net, 916-502-2699.

Sunday, May 5, 7:30am

Mather Field

Leader: Wayne Blunk, 916-206-3767

wayne.blunk@gmail.com

Mather Lake is one of Wayne's favorite birding locations. Join Wayne to look for a nice variety of resident birds. Targeted birds will be Yellow-headed Blackbirds, Black-headed Grosbeaks, White-tailed Kites, Wild Turkey and Green Heron. Meet in the parking lot of Mather Regional Park; from Highway 50 go south on Zinfandel, Exit #17, about 2-1/2 miles. After crossing Douglas Blvd. take the first left into the park area. A Sac County Park Pass or \$5 entry fee is required for all vehicles. This is a wonderful trip for beginning birders.

Wednesday, May 8, 8am

Falcon Crest, El Dorado Hills

Leader: Craig DeMartini, 916-599-3300

cloudwalk7@icloud.com

We will be scouting the oak woodlands and floodplains of Folsom Lake for falcons, eagles and osprey as well as passerines, woodpeckers and water birds. Early nest builders should be active. Meet at the Falcon Crest turnout parking lot, off Salmon Falls Road. From Sacramento head east on Highway 50 towards Placerville. Take the El Dorado Hills Blvd. exit #30B and go north on El Dorado Hills Blvd. for approximately 4 miles to Green Valley Road. Go straight across Green Valley Road where El Dorado Hills Blvd. becomes Salmon Falls Road. Continue on Salmon Falls Road for 3 miles to a large dirt parking lot on the left with a large wooden sign that reads "Falcon Crest". Use caution when crossing oncoming traffic to enter the parking lot. This trip may last into early afternoon; you may want to bring snacks and water. There are no bathrooms.

Saturday, May 11, time TBD

Dragonfly Trip - Location: TBD

Leader: Tim Manolis, 916-485-9009

Ylightfoot@aol.com

Since the weather will affect the best location to see a variety of dragonfly species, including the California endemic Exclamation Damselfly, Tim will scout his favorite haunts and choose the exact meeting location as the date approaches. Call or email Tim the week before the trip to get the time and meeting place; the trip is typically a few hours in the morning. With his expertise as the author of a field guide to California dragonflies and damselflies, you can be sure that he will lead you to the best possible site, and share fascinating information about migration patterns of the odenates, and other bits of natural history. (Ask him about spiders!) Bring your binoculars and wear shoes that can get wet - just in case

