Tuesday, November 12, 9am
Colusa National Wildlife Refuge
Leader: Dan Tankersley, 916-662-1951
dantank1016@gmail.com

Approximately 1 hour north of Sacramento, the Colusa NWR is a great location to view large waterfowl concentrations. There will be plenty of ducks and geese, as well as other wetland species, passerines and raptors. We will spend a good amount of time on the viewing platform, and then take an easy walk on a level trail through riparian habitat next to the main viewing pond. We will finish our outing to this wonderful NWR by taking the short auto tour. Be prepared for cold and damp weather. Bring scopes and FRS radios if you have them. Meet Dan at the Colusa NWR in the parking area near the restrooms at 9am. From Sacramento, take I-5 north to Williams; take Exit 578, Hwy 20 east, and go approximately 6 miles to the refuge entrance on the right. Rain, strong winds, or thick fog cancels. No lunch break, but bring snacks and liquids. This trip will end around 12:30pm.

Saturday, November 16, 8am
Mid-Yolo County Hotspots
Leader: Dan Murphy, 916-541-4213
dmmurpete@gmail.com

Join Dan for a trip to several mid-Yolo hotspots, beginning with the Davis WTP and ending with the Plainfield Elementary School quadrangle. Target birds include Burrowing Owl, wintering waterfowl, Red-tailed and Ferruginous Hawks, and perhaps a Prairie Falcon. We should finish by noon. Bring a snack and liquids. Meet at the Mace Blvd. Park & Ride. From Sacramento take I-80 west towards Davis to Mace Blvd., Exit #75; turn right (north) and then right again at the signal light to the Park & Ride lot a short distance beyond Ikeda’s Market. Meet on the south side of the parking lot in the row nearest the big round water tank. FRS radios are helpful on this trip.

Sunday, November 17
Beginning Birding Field Trip
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 birds. On this autumn trip we’ll talk about habitat, field marks, and look for some of our returning winter birds, as well as residents. Registration is required. Contact Cathie LaZier at empid77@gmail.com; put Beginning Birder in the subject line.

Sunday, November 17, 9am
Robinson Road; Road 113 & Birds Landing
Leader: Paul Cordero, 916-454-4061

This is a great area for wintering Ferruginous and Rough-legged Hawks, Prairie Falcons, Merlins, curlews, possible Mountain Plovers, shrikes and other interesting birds. Bring liquids, lunch, warm clothes, spotting scopes, and FRS radios if possible. Meet at the Mace Blvd. Park & Ride. From Sacramento take I-80 west towards Davis to Mace Blvd., Exit #75; turn right (north) and then right again at the signal light to the Park & Ride lot a short distance beyond Ikeda’s Market. Meet on the south side of the parking lot in the row nearest the big round water tank. Heavy rain or high winds cancel the trip, which will end in the late afternoon.
Tuesday, November 19, 8am to 11am
Glenn Hall Park, Paradise Beach
American River Parkway
Leader: Sally Walters Schmoldt, 916-710-1077
bajaowl@surewest.net
Join Sally for a morning bird walk along the levee and willow covered sand bars of the American River. Sally will be looking for returning winter sparrows and waterfowl, plus the resident wrens, towhees, and other small passerine birds. From Highway 50 take Howe Ave north to Fair Oaks Blvd. Turn left onto Fair Oaks and cross over the American River. Turn right on Carlson Ave, which is the first stop light past the American River bridge. Continue on Carlson Ave to its end, at Glenn Hall Park. Meet Sally in the parking lot; there is no charge to park here. This will be a fairly easy walk, but expect some uneven terrain, gravel, sand, and rock cobble. This is an excellent trip for beginners.

Lincoln Grasslands Trips
#1, Saturday, November 23
Leaders: Richard Barbieri and Tim Fitzer
#2, Sunday, November 24
Leaders: Scott Hoppe and Mark Martucci
The grasslands and farmlands surrounding Lincoln provide some of the best winter birding in the Sacramento Valley. Because of the diversity and large area to be covered, back to back trips are being offered again this year. Once again, two teams of experienced field trip leaders will enter a friendly competition to show participants as many birds as possible. Richard and Tim will start Saturday, searching for the largest number of raptors and rarities; Scott and Mark will follow Sunday hoping to produce even better numbers. Both days, they will search the back roads of Placer County for a large variety of raptors, shorebirds, ducks, swans and sparrows plus specialty species such as Tri-colored Blackbirds and Lewis' Woodpeckers. These trips will last into the afternoon, so bring lunch and liquids as well as scopes and FRS radios if you have them. These are fast-paced trips, some portions on back country roads, so it is necessary to limit the number of participants and the number of vehicles. Sign up to get meeting time and place information.
Trip #1: Tim Fitzer, phone 916-870-5207
Trip #2: Scott Hoppe, email shoppe01@surewest.net

Friday, November 29, 8:30 am
Cosumnes River Preserve, Black Friday Trip
Leader: Cathie LaZier, 916-502-2699
empid77@gmail.com
Want to do something non-commercial? Meet Cathie at the main CRP parking lot and we'll walk the boardwalk loop looking for Sandhill Cranes, geese and a wide variety of duck species. Yellowlegs and Wilson’s Snipe will be in the shallower water, and other shorebirds are possible. Then we’ll take the walking trail to the river looking for smaller passerines. This is a great trip for beginners. From Sacramento, take I-5 south to Twin Cities Road, Exit #498; go left (east) to the stop sign at Franklin Blvd; turn right (south) on Franklin and, driving through the Preserve, watch for the Visitor Center parking lot on your left. Further directions and maps are available at www.cosumnes.org

Saturday, November 30, 7:30am
Gray Lodge SWR and Colusa NWR
Leaders: Daniel and Pam Thompson, 916-769-4476
keiran247@hotmail.com
Join Pam and Daniel for a tour of this prime wintering area for ducks and geese. After Gray Lodge, they’ll take the route back around the west side of the Sutter Buttes, looking for Sandhill Cranes, raptors and grassland birds, and then stop at the Colusa NWR viewing platform. Bring lunch, liquids, and warm clothing for this all-day trip. FRS radios and scopes are helpful if you have them. Meet in the Bel Air shopping center on Arena Blvd. 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. There is a $4.25 per person charge at Gray Lodge, and it’s wise to bring the exact amount for the Iron Ranger.

**Sunday, December 1, 8am**  
Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge  
Leader: John York, 530-320-4751  
Johnyork157@yahoo.com  
John will be looking for the enormous flocks of ducks, geese and swans that winter in the valley or stop to feed on their way south. This is also a good place for raptors, and Bald Eagles are a possibility. There is a 3.7 mile driving route and a great viewing platform as well. This trip will last into early afternoon. Bring lunch, snacks and hydration as the refuge has no restaurants and birds poop in the water. FRS radios are helpful on this trip. Meet at the Bel Air shopping center on Arena Blvd. 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. Meet on the north side of the parking lot between Wells Fargo and Golden 1. Please note there is a $6 day use fee for each vehicle at the refuge, or buy a Duck Stamp and support all our national refuges. This is a good trip for newer birders and experienced birders alike.

**Wednesday, December 4, 8am**  
Sailor Bar, American River Parkway  
Leader: Mark Martucci, 916-833-6722  
mutchbirdman@yahoo.com  
Join Mark for a morning walk checking out the resident and wintering birds. This is a good trip for beginners and experienced birders too, with Mark sharing his expertise on identification of the birds and their vocalizations. Sailor Bar is at the south end of Illinois Avenue, off Winding Way just west of Hazel. Meet at the last parking lot on your left, just before the boat launch parking area. A Sac County Park Pass or $5 entry fee is required for all vehicles.

**Saturday, December 7, 8am**  
Tonzi Road and Western Amador County  
Leader: Gary Fregien, 916-708-0636  
calaveri.gary@gmail.com  
Join Gary on a trip featuring the waters and back-country roads of the Sierra foothills in western Amador County. There is a surprising variety and number of passerines and raptors in this area, with a possibility of Lewis’s Woodpeckers, Hermit and Varied Thrushes, sparrows, Prairie Falcons and Ferruginous Hawks. This trip also includes stops for waterfowl and shorebirds at ponds near Sutter Creek and Ione. We may also stop at Lake Comanche, where a day-use fee is charged. There will be minimal hiking, but dress for winter conditions. Bring along hand held radios if you have them, food and water. Meet Gary at the Local Bean Cafe in the Rancho Murieta shopping center. Turn right at the 1st traffic light; junction of Hwy 16 (Jackson Rd) and Murieta Drive, and right again just past the fire station.

**Sunday, December 8**  
Beginning Birding Field Trip
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 birds. On this winter trip we’ll talk about habitat, field marks, and look for some of our returning winter birds, as well as residents. Registration is required. Contact Cathie LaZier at empid77@gmail.com; put Beginning Birder in the subject line.

Sunday, December 8
Gull I.D. trip on the American River
Leader: Ed Harper
Join Ed for an informative walk along the American River and a chance to sharpen your identification skills. Ed is a great birder who will be looking for any interesting or unusual birds, with emphasis on tricky identification of the many gulls that winter on the river. Herring, "Thayer’s" (which is now considered a race of Iceland Gull), Glaucous-winged, California, Ring-billed and Mew Gulls are all possibilities. Spotting scopes will be very useful, and be sure to bring your field guides and bird apps for this intensive study. Trip will end at noon and is limited to 15 people to ensure quality learning opportunity. To register for the trip contact Cathie LaZier, empid77@gmail.com, (put Gull Trip in the subject line), or phone 916-502-2699, to register and find meeting time and place.