



Robinson Road to Birds Landing

This area is southwest of Sacramento in Solano County. It is especially good birding in the winter, when raptors can be found among the open grasslands, and clusters of eucalyptus and Osage orange trees. This area is excellent for wintering Mountain Plovers (check the Central Valley Bird Club listserv for the latest reports: see RESOURCES), and for Loggerhead Shrikes year-round. Traffic is sparse along these quiet dirt roads, which helps make birding pleasant and rewarding. The best times to bird are from October to February, although at times it can be foggy.

Birding the site: Ferruginous Hawks, Rough-legged Hawks (numbers vary year to year) and Red-tailed Hawks are quite reliable during the winter. Bald and Golden Eagles are occasionally found, especially around the large power lines also frequented by Prairie Falcons. Watch the fields for large flocks of Mountain Plovers and Horned Larks. Other species found in this area are Long-billed Curlew, Loggerhead Shrikes, American Pipits, Burrowing Owls, Great Horned Owls, Merlins, Say's Phoebe, Western Bluebirds and Savannah Sparrows. Watch the ponds for wintering waterfowl and geese. Highlights in this area have included Gyrfalcon and Northern Shrike.

Directions: Take Interstate 80 about 19 miles east of Sacramento to the Highway 113 South exit in Dixon. Go south through Dixon for 17 miles to Robinson Road. Drive Robinson Road and explore the many country roads: Creed Road, Goosehaven Road, Flannery Road and McCormack Road. Continue south across Highway 12 and take Birds Landing Road to Shiloh Road.

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