

Field Trips, December 12, 2018 through January 11, 2019

Saturday, December 15, 8am

Mather Lake

Leader: Wayne Blunk, 916-488-8151

Wayne.Blunk@gmail.com

Mather Lake is one of our most popular birding locations, with quite a list of bird species. A nice variety of resident and migrant birds are possible, including White-tailed Kites, American Bittern, Green Heron, Pied-billed Grebe and Common Yellowthroat. Meet in the parking lot of Mather Regional Park; from Highway 50, go south on Zinfandel about 2-1/2 miles. After crossing Douglas Blvd. take the first left into the park area. There is a \$5 per car entrance fee; your Sac County Parkway pass is valid here. This is a wonderful trip for beginning and more advanced birders.

Saturday, December 15

Auburn CBC

Sunday, December 16

Stockton CBC

Sunday, December 16

Putah Creek CBC

Wednesday, December 19

Woodfords CBC

Saturday, December 22

Sacramento CBC

Saturday, December 22 and

Sunday, December 23, 3:15pm till sunset

Sandhill Cranes and Other Wintering Birds

Cosumnes River and Delta area

Trips run by Save Our Sandhill Cranes, Inc.

Coordinator: Mike Savino, 916-446-1392

View Sandhill Cranes and the wide variety of waterfowl, shorebirds and raptors which feed in the flooded fields and marshy areas of the delta. Dress for changeable weather and bring binoculars, snacks and water if you wish. Meet on the deck of the Visitor Center at 3:15pm. 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. NOTE: A new photography option is available; a digiscope allowing those with smart phone cameras to attach them and use the scopes to take pictures. Join us and try it.

Thursday, December 27

Lincoln CBC

Saturday, December 29, 8am

Bushy Lake

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 and wintering species. With most leaves fallen from the trees, there will be better views of the lake, and Wood Ducks are a good possibility. This will be a 1 to 2 mile hike that will take 2 to 3 hours. You may want to bring water. This is a good trip for beginners and more experienced birders.

Sunday, December 30
Folsom CBC

Tuesday, January 1, 9am
Family Friendly Trip
New Year's Day at the Cosumnes River Preserve
Leader: Tim Fitzer, 916-870-5207
spskua2@comcast.net

Start the New Year off right; go birding! Bring the family! Wintering Sandhill Cranes, Greater White-fronted Geese and a wide variety of duck species frequent the preserve. Yellowlegs and Wilson's Snipe will be in the shallower water, and other shorebirds are possible. Tim will walk along the wetland ponds, stopping at the "Ducks In Scopes" activity and then going out to the boardwalk viewing area. Meet at the CRP Visitor Center parking lot. Bring water and snacks and dress for changeable weather. This is an enjoyable trip for everyone, and beginners and families are welcome. 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, January 5, 7am
Gray Lodge SWR and Colusa NWR
Leaders: Daniel and Pam Thompson, 916-799-1093
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. 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 \$4.32 *per person* charge at Gray Lodge, and it's wise to bring the exact amount for the Iron Ranger.

Sunday, January 6, 8am
Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area
Leader: Scott Hoppe, 916-835-8471
shoppe01@surewest.net

Join Scott in this great area 10 minutes from downtown Sacramento. Depending on the extent of flooded fields on the auto tour route, there may be good numbers of shorebirds and waterfowl as well as raptors. From Sacramento, take I-80 west, take the first exit (#78) at the west end of the Yolo Causeway. Turn right at the stop sign, go under the freeway, make a left up onto the levee, then drop down into the Wildlife Area. The trip begins at the first parking lot (Lot A) on your left, at the beginning of the auto tour. FRS radios and scopes are helpful on this trip, which

is a good trip for both beginners and more experienced birders. The trip could last into the afternoon, so bring lunch or a snack. If the bypass is closed due to flooding, the trip is canceled.

Tuesday, January 8, 8am

Bucks Creek Trail/Serrano Parkway, El Dorado Hills

Leader: Maureen Geiger, 916-281-6652

mkgeiger@comcast.net

Join Maureen for a leisurely walk through this riparian habitat and look for resident and wintering species such as woodpeckers, nuthatches, towhees, wrens, bluebirds, warblers, marsh birds and sparrows. In this varied habitat, there is always the possibility of unusual finds. Meet at the southeast corner of Silva Valley Parkway and Serrano Parkway. Meet at the southeast corner of the intersection of Silva Valley Parkway and Serrano Parkway. To reach this spot, from Hwy. 50 take Exit #31, Silva Valley Parkway, and turn left. Follow the Parkway about a mile to the first stop light, Serrano Parkway make a U-turn and immediately park along the Parkway.