Field Trips, January 12th through February 11th, 2020. Scheduler, Richard Barbieri, offleash56@yahoo.com, 916-761-1124.

Sunday, January 12, 8am
Lincoln Grasslands/West Placer Co.
Leader: Richard Barbieri, 916-761-1124
offleash56@yahoo.com
Western Placer County can often rival the great wildlife refuges in numbers and diversity of waterfowl, and it is also known for large concentrations of raptors. Besides the expected species, Eurasian Wigeon, Bald Eagle, Ferruginous and Rough-legged Hawks, and Lewis’s Woodpecker are all possible. Join Richard for a full day of exploring this diverse area and bring liquids, lunch and FRS radios if you have them. Meet at the Park & Ride by Brookfield’s Restaurant, 1817 Taylor Road in Roseville. From Sacramento on I-80, take the Eureka Road offramp (Exit 105A) and continue straight through the signal light at Eureka Road and you’ll be on Taylor Road. Turn left just past the Shell Station and park on the right in the Park & Ride.

Sunday, January 12
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 trip we'll talk about habitat, field marks and bird behavior as we look at individual birds. Registration is required. Contact Cathie LaZier at empid77@gmail.com; put Beginning Birder in the subject line.

Monday, January 13, 8am
Mormon Island to Brown’s Ravine, Folsom Lake @ Sophia Pkwy
Leader: Rich Howard, 916-203-0952
rhowarda@gmail.com
On this half day trip Rich will explore Folsom Lake for both woodland and water birds. Rich covers this area for the Folsom Christmas Count and will be looking for any specialties to be found. A known pair of nesting Bald Eagles may be present. Other possibilities are Hairy Woodpecker, Audubon’s and Myrtle Yellow-rumped Warblers and Rufous-crowned Sparrows. Water birds could include gulls, five species of grebes, and Common Loon. Park on Sophia Parkway down from the Arco Station at 300 Green Valley Road. Meet Rich at the Arco Station.

Saturday, January 18, 8am
Sacramento Bar
Leader: Darrell Mohr, 916-225-3999
mohrdd@gmail.com
On this morning walk along the American River, you will see, and hear, a nice variety of resident and wintering birds. Possibilities include Phainopepla and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Goldeneye and mergansers should be on the water. This is a great trip for beginning and more experienced birders. From Highway 50, drive north on Sunrise Blvd.; turn left on Fair Oaks Blvd. and take the first left on Pennsylvania. A Sac County Park Pass or $5 entry fee is required for all vehicles.

Sunday, January 19, 8:30am
Cosumnes River Preserve
Leader: Cathie LaZier, 916-502-2699
empid77@gmail.com
Walking the 1-1/2 mile wetlands/boardwalk loop, we’ll check out the wintering waterfowl, including a variety of duck species, Greater White-fronted Geese, and Sandhill Cranes. Dowitchers, Wilson's Snipe and yellowlegs should be present, and there are always some passerines and raptors. Spotting scopes are helpful if you have them. This is a great trip for beginning birders. 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 Heavy rain cancels.

Thursday, January 23, 9:30am
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 before taking the 3.2 mile 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 9:30am. 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, January 25, 8am
Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area
Leader: Scott Hoppe, 916-835-8471
shoppe01@surewest.net
This great seasonal floodplain is only 10 minutes from downtown Sacramento. A variety of ducks, geese and shorebirds frequent the flooded fields, and American Bitterns and White-faced Ibises are often seen. Raptors and owls are also a possibility. From Sacramento on I-80 west, take the first exit at the west end of the Yolo Causeway, East Chiles/Rd. 32A, Exit #78. 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. This trip sometimes runs into early afternoon, so you may wish to bring water and snacks. FRS radios can be helpful.

Family Friendly Walk!!!
Saturday, January 25, 10am
Clarksburg Branch Line Trail, West Sacramento
Leader: Maureen Geiger, 916-281-6652
mkgeiger@comcast.net
Families are invited to join Maureen for a morning walk along a section of West Sacramento's Clarksburg Branch Line Trail. This paved trail is suitable for children and people with mobility issues as well as beginning birders, and the adjacent pond provides lots of good habitat for a variety of birds. Meet Maureen in the parking lot east of Nugget Market off Lake Washington Blvd. Note: Time permitting, an optional add-on to nearby Bridgeway Island Pond, a winter hotspot for Blue-winged Teal, is possible.

Sunday, January 26, 8am
Bobelaine Sanctuary
Leader: Brian Gilmore, bgilmore71@gmail.com
Join Brian for a 3 mile walk along the trails of this 430-acre National Audubon Sanctuary on the Feather River, managed by Sacramento Audubon. He’ll be looking for resident and wintering birds such as Hermit Thrush, Fox Sparrow, crowned sparrows, both towhees and various raptors. If there has been rain, the trails may be wet and muddy. This trip will end by noon.

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 Road, and then turn right into the parking area. Meet on the north side of the parking lot between Wells Fargo and Golden 1. To meet at Bobelaine, from Sacramento take Hwy.99 north toward Yuba City and about 2 miles north of the Feather River Bridge turn right on Laurel Avenue. Follow Laurel to the dead end at the Bobelaine parking lot. The group will probably arrive there about 8:30am.

**Wednesday, January 29, 8am**  
**Lincoln WWTP and Placer County Roads**  
**Leader:** Sonja Sorbo, 916-390-8463  
ssgasdoc@yahoo.com

In this morning trip we will start by birding the Lincoln water treatment plant. There are several large ponds which can hold a variety of ducks. Some years there have been hundreds of Canvasbacks and Wigeons present, with an occasional Redhead or Eurasian Wigeon in their midst. Depending on the water level, we might see shorebirds such as Black-necked Stilts, Greater Yellowlegs, Dowitchers, Dunlin, and Least Sandpipers. While driving on the levees around the ponds, we will search the adjacent trees, fields, and fenceposts for raptors, sparrows, woodpeckers, and other resident species. A small wetland area visible from the levees can hold rails, herons, egrets, gallinules, and Marsh Wrens. This trip will end around noon; if there is sufficient time we might drive some nearby backroads of Placer county, searching flooded fields for wintering geese. We will meet at the parking lot of Dry Creek Community Park at 9235 Walerga Road in Roseville at 8AM. FRS radios will be helpful. Bring a spotting scope if you have one. Dress warmly as the weather on the levees can be cold and breezy.

**IMPORTANT ADVISORY** — there is currently a huge bridge construction project underway on Walerga Road near the entrance to Dry Creek Community Park. Watch carefully for signs directing traffic to the park; the usual entrance is blocked and the new/temporary winding access road is not easily visible.

**Saturday, February 1, 7am**  
**Yolo/Solano Big Day**  
**Leader:** Scott Hoppe, 916-835-8471  
shoppe01@surewest.net

Get set for a full day of birding "hot spots" of Yolo and Solano Counties to see how many species we can tally. We have had as many as 121 species on this trip. We will be hitting many productive locations, targeting the best mix of waterbirds, raptors and passerines. Some likely spots include Lake Solano County Park, Lagoon Valley and Yolo Bypass. For all those wishing to attend, please plan on a *full day* in the field. We will be making a lot of stops at a wide range of locations, and it helps to have as few vehicles as possible. For those interested, Scott would like to have a casual dinner nearby to tally up species and talk about what was seen. Scopes and FRS radios are helpful. Bring lunch, snacks, and dress for changeable weather. Meet Scott at the Mace Blvd Park & Ride at 7:00 am. From Sacramento, take I-80 west towards Davis to Mace Blvd (Exit #75); turn right at the light, then right again at the signal light to the Park & Ride entrance, a short distance beyond Ikeda’s Market.

**Sunday, February 2, 8am**  
**Mather Lake**
Leader: Wayne Blunk, 916-206-3767
Wayne.Blunk@gmail.com
Mather Lake is one of Wayne’s favorite birding locations, and he usually turns up quite a list of bird species. Join him to look for a nice variety of resident and migrant birds. Possibilities include White-tailed Kites, California Quail, American Bittern, Green Heron 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 birders.

Tuesday, February 4, 8am
West Yolo County Raptor Ramble
Leaders: Tim Fitzger and Ann Burris
Tim, 916-870-5207 spskua2@comcast.net
Ann, 916-947-7573 burris.nellieann@gmail.com
On this trip we’ll travel to rural Western Yolo County. Meet in the parking lot behind Jack In The Box. Take I-5 north to Road 102, Exit #536; turn right (north) on 102 and take the next right turn onto East Main Street, and turn right into the Jack In The Box parking lot. The trip will last into the late afternoon so bring lunch, liquids and warm clothing. Bring FRS radios and scopes if you have them. Rain cancels.

Saturday, February 8, 8am
Wintering Raptors in the Central Valley
Leader: Craig Swolgaard, 530-334-3023
cswol@sbcglobal.net
A published study found that California’s Central Valley is one of the richest wintering areas for raptors in the country. The trip will include the whole length of Meiss Road in Sacramento County, plus a good portion of Michigan Bar Road. Many species of raptors have been found along this productive drive during the winter months, including Golden Eagle, Ferruginous and Rough-legged Hawks, White-tailed Kite, Prairie Falcon, Merlin, and Burrowing Owl. This is also a good area to find Mountain Bluebirds in winter and has potential for other vagrants. Meet at the small public parking lot on Highway 16 and Sunrise Blvd. at 8 AM. We will try to car pool to keep the car numbers down, as some of the route uses pullouts on a busy highway. Bring a spotting scope if possible. Trip may go into early afternoon so water and food may be a good idea.

Sunday, February 9, 8am
Bushy Lake
Leader: Dan Brown, 916-704-0951
naturestoc@aol.com
Meet Dan 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. He’ll 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.

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**Monday, February 10, 8am**  
**Sailor Bar**  
**Leader:** Mark Sawyer, 916-968-1661  
**Marksawyer3383@gmail.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. Meet at the boat launch parking area at the very end of the entrance road. Sailor Bar is at the south end of Illinois Avenue, off Winding Way, just west of Hazel. A Sac County Park Pass or $5 entry fee is required for all vehicles.