



CHIRP-N-CHATTER

The Newsletter of the Wintu Audubon Society

**Chapter of the National Audubon Society serving Shasta
and eastern portions of Trinity County, California**

May 2022



Waterfowl Ecology in Suisun Marsh and the Pacific Flyway

Cory Overton is part of a team of wildlife biologists and geographers at the Dixon Field Station between Sacramento and San Francisco, a unit of the Western Ecological Research Center of the USGS. He has worked on migratory, game, and endangered species using telemetry methods from British Columbia to California and Nevada since 2000. For the last few years they have partnered with both California and Oregon's Departments of Fish and Wildlife to attach GPS neck collars to Tule Geese at Summer Lake, Oregon. This is part of their larger waterfowl research program in the Pacific Flyway, the goal of which is to increase

their understanding of waterfowl ecology and develop management options to meet habitat requirements and reduce competition for resources such as food water and space among waterfowl species while meeting human needs. Since they had an active, longer term monitoring program in place to compare with, they were able to observe effects to migrating geese in real time which resulted from unprecedented wildfire conditions in 2020. Here is the link to the presentation:

Topic: Waterfowl Ecology in Suisun Marsh and the Pacific Flyway

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83430912482>

Time: May 11, 2022 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Meeting ID: 834 3091 2482

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,83430912482# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,83430912482# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 834 3091 2482

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kg5M40qjJ>

When you login to our Zoom meetings you will be placed into a waiting room until the meeting begins. Participants are muted upon entry but are welcome to unmute themselves before the meeting begins. Once the presentation begins, you can type a question into chat. A moderator will control the order of your questions. The link to the presentation can also be found on the calendar page of our website.

All of our presentations will be posted on our YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/WintuAudubonSociety> where you can also find several bird videos. We are also posting Zoom presentations from several other organizations on our calendar page here: <https://www.wintuadubon.org/calendar/> - including Altacal Audubon, Redbud Audubon, Redwood Region Audubon, Mendocino Coast Audubon, Peregrine Audubon, Plumas Audubon and Golden Gate Audubon.



MAY & JUNE ACTIVITIES

Battle Creek Wildlife Area - May 7th @ 8:00 am



Join us for a walk on the Oak and Salmon Trails along Battle Creek, through marshes and oak woodland to look for nesting Bald Eagles, Osprey and Wood Ducks. Warblers and flycatchers would be a real treat as well. Meet at 8:00 at the Battle Creek Wildlife Area parking lot located at 23999 Coleman Fish Hatchery Road in Anderson, California. We will spend two to three hours walking about two miles on a dirt path

from the wildlife area to the fish hatchery. Vehicles will be placed at both ends of the trail and we will carpool back and forth. There is a port-a-potty at the wildlife area and bathrooms at Coleman Fish Hatchery. Please note: A visit to the area requires the purchase of a CDFW Lands Pass. Visitors who are in possession of a valid California hunting or fishing license in their name are exempt from this requirement. Lands passes may be [purchased online](#), by phone at (800) 565-1458, or in-person at locations wherever hunting and fishing licenses are sold. Contact trip leader Tricia Ford at triciathebirdnerd@gmail.com for more information.

Birding Manzanita Lake - May 14th @ 8:00 am



We will bird the 2 mile Manzanita Lake loop trail looking for mountain birds and early warblers. Likely suspects are Bald Eagle, American Dipper, Clark's Nutcracker, Bufflehead, White-headed Woodpecker, Brown Creeper and Mountain Chickadee. Meet at the Loomis Museum parking lot at 8:00am. Wear layers of clothes as it will most likely be pretty cool in the

morning. Entrance fees are required. If you don't have a pass I suggest you arrange ahead of time to ride with someone that has a Golden Age pass.

McArthur-Burney Falls State Park Outing - May 21 @ 7:30 am



Join us on a day journey to Burney Falls State Park. We will have opportunities to see Osprey, Bald Eagles, Steller's Jays, Turkey Vultures, Robins, Crows, Hawks, the Park's unique annual resident Black Swifts who flit in and around the falls themselves,

and possible Pacific Wrens. The falls are full and beautiful in the spring! The walk will last for a couple of hours. Bring a lunch and enjoy the park after the walk as we make our way to Lake Britton. Meet Wintu guides at the Kutras Lake Parking Area in Redding at 7:30 a.m., or meet at the Burney Safeway parking lot in Burney at 8:45 a.m. For more information contact Larry Jordan at 530-949-5266. Park day use fee \$10 per vehicle in cash.

Mary Lake Bird Walk - May 28th @ 8:00 am



Warblers and Wood Ducks are some of the usual suspects at this gem of a park in west Redding. Green and Great Blue Herons, Wilson's Snipe and an array of sparrows add to the cast of characters. Meet at 8:00 at the bulletin board at the corner of Lakeside Drive and Mary Lake Drive. We will spend about an hour and a half walking one mile on a cement path. There are no

bathrooms. Contact trip leader Tricia Ford at triciathebirdnerd@gmail.com for more information.

Wintu Audubon Annual Picnic - June 8th @ 6:00 pm



Join us for the return of a long-standing tradition! For many years, the last general meeting before our summer hiatus was held at the Tower House Historic District in Whiskeytown National Recreation Area. The 2018 Carr Fire and then the pandemic put the tradition on hold for the past three years. We will restart the tradition by meeting at the parking lot for the Tower House Historic

District at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, June 8. It is located on the south side of Highway 299 West just west of the turnoff to French Gulch. Bring your own brown bag dinner and we will eat by the creek and then go birding on the Camden Water Ditch Trail. This is a one-mile dirt trail that loops around the historic Camden House, Tenant Farm House, barn and outbuildings. Hiking boots are recommended. We hope to see Lawrence's Goldfinch, Lazuli Buntings, Bullock's Orioles, Western Tanagers, and maybe an American Dipper. An entrance pass is required to use the area and can be purchased online at [Your Pass Now](#). Senior, Access, Military and the Interagency Annual Pass can also be used. Contact trip leader Tricia Ford at triciathebirdnerd@gmail.com for more information.

Lassen Volcanic National Park Campout - June 24 - 26th



We have enjoyed the birding and camping at the Lost Creek Group Campground for several years, so we are scheduling this event again this year in conjunction with Altacal Audubon. Group Camp sites #5 and 6 have been reserved for the nights of Friday, June 24th and Saturday, June 25th. Campers can arrive at the campsite at a time of their choosing on Friday after 1pm and must break camp by noon Sunday. We are inviting the Redwood Region, Peregrine, Mendocino, Plumas and Redbud Chapters to join us. We will meet at the Loomis Museum parking lot

at 8am sharp on Saturday morning to bird Manzanita Lake. The rest of the itinerary is open and will depend on the interests of the participants. Folks can either camp at Lost Creek or drive up for either or both Saturday and Sunday. Vaccinated Saturday day trippers should meet at the Kutra's Park meeting place at 7:00 am Saturday morning to car pool or at the Loomis Museum parking lot at 8am sharp. Day trippers for Sunday, June 20th, will meet at the campsite at 8:00 am. Lost Creek has primitive facilities; vault toilets and no electricity. Potable water is available. Contact Larry Jordan, 949-5266 or email - webmaster@wintuadubon.org for other particulars.

TRIP REPORTS - photos by Tim Kashuba

Clear Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant



On a very blustery April 9th six intrepid Wintu Audubon members explored the City of Redding's Clear Creek Wastewater Treatment plant ponds. A total of 56 species were observed by the group, with good early spring birds such as Blue-winged Teal, Semipalmated Plover, Wilson's Snipe, Least and Western Sandpipers and Bullock's Oriole. Thank you Larry Jordan for leading the group on such a chilly spring day.

Anderson River Park



On a beautiful spring day in Anderson River Park, Tricia Ford lead six Wintu Audubon birders who tallied 52 species hiking along the fishing lagoon, woodlands and the Sacramento River. Species of note included MacGillivray's and Yellow Warbler, Cassin's Vireo, Ash-throated Flycatcher and two large broods of young Wood Ducks with their mothers.

John Reginato River Access Trail



A beautiful spring morning saw eight birders, lead by Larry Jordan, straining their necks at 55 species along the Sacramento River via the City of Redding John F Reginato River Access trail. Sightings of note included Wilson's, Black-throated Gray, Yellow, Orange-crowned and Yellow-rumped (Myrtle's and Audubon's) Warblers, Western Tanagers, Olive-sided, Pacific Slope and Ash-throated

Flycatchers, a Common Loon and hundreds of Greater White-fronted Geese heading out of town.

Note: All participants, ages 5 and older, must provide proof that they are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours and sign a waiver prior to all field trips.

A Note From Our Past President

Thanks to the current Board for continuing service into next year! The chapter leadership continues strong conservation activity around local bird-rich areas and is steering us into resuming field trips and educational programs as Covid wanes. Thanks to Tricia Ford for volunteering as our new Education Chair. We are still seeking a Membership Chair and Directors-at-Large. If you can spare a few hours/month and would like to help out, contact Dan Greaney at greaneys@yahoo.com or 530-276-9693. As noted last month, May is the chapter's Annual Business Meeting. Before the presentation begins will ask the membership to approve this slate of chapter officers for the new year. THANK YOU!

Office	Nominee
President	Rebeca Ladrón de Guevara
Vice President	<i>Vacant</i>
Treasurer	Beth Brockman
Secretary	Jaclyn White
Program Chair	Catherine Camp
Field Trip Chair	Tim Kashuba
Conservation Chair	Bruce Webb
Education Chair	Trish Ford
Membership Chair	<i>Vacant</i>
Corresponding Secretary	Jeannette Carroll
Newsletter Chair	Larry Jordan
Web Site Chair	Larry Jordan
New Director At Large	Dan Bye

This is a photo of Wintu Audubon members during a trip to Lassen Volcanic National Park in 2018. Apparently there was some question about the identification of a bird species that required some research. Even experienced birders sometimes must confer on a sighting. We are forever learning and enjoying nature as we enjoy the pleasure of birding.

