

# THE HOOT OWL



September / October 2019  
Issue 5, Volume 57

San Joaquin Audubon Society  
Affiliated with the National Audubon Society-California

## PROGRAMS

The meeting location is at Central United Methodist Church, 3700 Pacific Avenue (across from UOP) in Stockton, and begins at 7:30 p.m. Plenty of parking and refreshments. Everyone is welcome.

**TUESDAY, September 10**

**Philip Garone**

*"Waterfowl and Wetlands in the Delta and the Northern San Joaquin Valley"*

This presentation will highlight the long-term environmental history of the wetlands of the Central Valley—and the wildlife they support—from before California statehood to the present, and will focus particularly on the regions of the valley closest to San Joaquin County, the Northern San Joaquin Valley and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. After first introducing the Central Valley's importance for migratory waterfowl and other waterbirds, we'll look at the multi-generational story of how the duck hunters of the Northern San Joaquin Valley saved the state's largest remaining block of freshwater wetlands from the consequences of the Central Valley Project. Then we'll turn our attention to the Delta, and investigate how and why this region's wetlands were reclaimed, how it has been affected by California's hydraulic infrastructure, the successes that have been achieved in protecting and restoring significant portions of its wetlands, and the 2019 designation of the Delta as a National Heritage Area.

Philip Garone is Professor and Chair of History at California State University, Stanislaus. He teaches environmental history and his research focuses on California water issues. His book, *The Fall and Rise of the Wetlands of California's Great Central Valley* (University of California Press, 2011), analyzes the ecological transformation of the Central Valley from wetlands, riparian forests, and native grasslands to agriculture, as well as efforts to restore part of the valley's natural habitat. He is currently working on an environmental history of the terminal lakes of the Great Basin of the American West.

*(Continued on Page 2)*

## FIELD TRIPS

**SATURDAY, September 7— *Introductory Birding Field Trip***

Join leader Kasey Foley at the north end of Laurel Ave. in Lodi (on the east side of Lodi Lake Park, off of Turner Rd.) at 8:00 a.m. Birders of all skill levels are welcome, but the focus will be on birding fundamentals. Extra binoculars and field guides will be available.

**SATURDAY, September 14— *Cosumnes River Preserve***

Join leader Jim Rowoth (487-3489 or [rowoth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rowoth@sbcglobal.net)) for the monthly River Walk bird count through the varied habitats of the CRP. Meet Jim at the visitor center on Franklin Rd. Check website [www.cosumnes.org](http://www.cosumnes.org) for last minute updates. Double check with Jim for start time.

**SATURDAY, September 21— *Woodbridge Wilderness***

Join leaders Kathy and Virginia Bonham for our monthly census of this small riparian park on the banks of the Mokelumne River. Meet at the north end of Meadowlark Lane in Woodbridge at 8:00 a.m.

**SUNDAY, September 22— *Mokelumne River Fish Hatchery***

Join leaders Liz West and Joanne Katanic for our monthly census of this lovely little riparian area below Camanche Dam. Meet Liz and Joanne in the fish hatchery parking lot at 8:00 a.m.

**SATURDAY, September 28— *Ripon Oak Grove and Sewage Ponds***

Join leader Kasey Foley for a visit to this 55 acre park on the banks of the Stanislaus River in Ripon. Meet at 7:00 a.m. in the parking lot at Toot Sweets, (northwest corner of March Lane and Quail Lakes Drive in Stockton) to carpool, or in Ripon at 7:30 a.m. If driving yourself, from Hwy 99, take the Main St. exit in Ripon to S. Stockton Rd and go south. Before S. Stockton Rd. curves to the west and changes to Doak Blvd., pass the Diamond Pet Food plant on the left, and take the next driveway on your left to the unpaved parking area. Bring drinks and repellent. Email Kasey at [kaseyfoley@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kaseyfoley@sbcglobal.net) with any questions.

**SUNDAY, September 29— *Hawk Hill***

Join leader Liz West as she ventures to this west coast version of Hawk Mountain. The raptors pile up at Marin Headlands before they make the flight across the Golden Gate. Meet 7 a.m. at McDonalds at Hwy 5 and 12. Bring lunch and wear layers.

**SATURDAY, October 5— *Introductory Birding Field Trip***

Join leader Pat Paternostro at the north end of Laurel Ave. in Lodi (on the east side of Lodi Lake Park, off of Turner Rd.) at 8:00 a.m. Birders of all skill levels are welcome, but the focus will be on birding fundamentals. Extra binoculars and field guides will be available.

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## FIELD TRIPS

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### **SATURDAY, October 19— *Woodbridge Wilderness***

Join leaders Kathy and Virginia Bonham for our monthly census of this small riparian park on the banks of the Mokelumne River. Meet at the north end of Meadowlark Lane in Woodbridge at 8:00 a.m.

### **SUNDAY, October 20— *Cosumnes River Preserve***

Join leader Jim Rowoth (487-3489 or [rowoth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rowoth@sbcglobal.net)) for the monthly River Walk bird count through the varied habitats of the CRP. Meet Jim at the visitor center on Franklin Rd. Check website [www.cosumnes.org](http://www.cosumnes.org) for last minute updates. Double check with Jim for start time.

### **SUNDAY, October 20— *Mokelumne River Fish Hatchery***

Join leaders Liz West and Joanne Katanic for our monthly census of this lovely little riparian area below Camanche Dam. Meet the leaders in the fish hatchery parking lot at 8:00 a.m.

## PROGRAMS

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### **MONDAY, October 28**

**Steve Evans**

*"Wild and Scenic Rivers"*

**This is the Joint Delta Sierra Group/San Joaquin Audubon Annual Meeting so the meeting is being held during the regular Delta Sierra Group date and time.**

**Please note the date and time change! Monday, October 28, at 7:00 p.m.**

2018 marked the 50th anniversary of the National Wild & Scenic Rivers Act. California has 747 miles of nationally protected rivers and streams, as well as thousands of miles of waterways eligible for federal protection. Even in these politically troubled times, there is legislation pending in Congress that will more than double the miles of protected rivers in the state. The goal of CalWild's river program is to increase protected wild and scenic river mileage to 6,000 miles in the next ten years. Learn what you can do to be good stewards of rivers currently in the system and how to secure protection for new rivers and streams.

Steve Evans, the Wild & Scenic Rivers Program Director for CalWild, has been involved in the protection of more than 480 miles of wild and scenic rivers in the last 30 years.

## Analysis of breeding bird data finds US ecosystems shifting hundreds of miles north

Whole ecosystems are shifting dramatically north in the Great Plains, a phenomenon likely linked to human influences such as climate change, says new University of Nebraska–Lincoln research that analyzed nearly 50 years' worth of data on bird distributions.

To arrive at their conclusions, the researchers analyzed 46 years' worth of avian data collected for the North American Breeding Bird Survey, a U.S. Geological Survey program designed to track bird populations. That survey included more than 400 bird species found within a 250-mile-wide transect stretching from Texas to North Dakota.

The northernmost ecosystem boundary shifted more than 365 miles north, with the southernmost boundary moving about 160 miles from the 1970 baseline.

The findings could inform the development of an early-warning system that would give land managers decades to prepare for ecosystem shift or collapse, allowing them to accommodate or foster the change rather than simply reacting, the researchers said.

University of Nebraska–Lincoln. "Analysis finds US ecosystems shifting hundreds of miles north." ScienceDaily. ScienceDaily, 1 July 2019. <[www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2019/07/190701144652.htm](http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2019/07/190701144652.htm)>.

# 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Central Valley Birding Symposium

The Central Valley Bird Club will be hosting the 23rd annual Central Valley Birding Symposium Nov. 21–24, 2019, at the Stockton Hilton Hotel in Stockton, CA. The Great Central Valley, in the heart of California and the Pacific Flyway, is uniquely situated for excellent birding. Please join us as the CVBS again celebrates the best of birding in the Central Valley!

The CVBS kicks off with a delicious hors d'oeuvres buffet & no host bar on Thursday night, followed by one of our favorite keynotes, outstanding photographer, birder, and presenter, Ed Harper, with his program, "*Simply in Awe of Birds*".

Friday night's keynote program "*The Language of Birds*" will be presented by Nathan Pieplow, author of the Peterson Field Guide to Bird Sounds.

Saturday night's keynote program, "*The Genius of Birds*" will be presented by acclaimed science and nature writer, Jennifer Ackerman. Learn how birds make and use their own sophisticated tools, teach one another new skills, exercise astonishing feats of memory, create works of art, navigate, communicate in ways that resemble language, and even pass along cultural traditions.

Informative and entertaining workshops include: "*Subspecies for Birders*" with Joe Morlan, "*I Know It When I See It*" by Jon Dunn, and an update on Central Valley bird conservation and research programs. Build your skills at workshops: Nature/Wildlife Photography and Photo Editing (Ben Knoot), Bird Sketching (René Reyes), Beginning Birding (Sal Salerno) and Carving (Jim Burcio).

Field trips, offered Friday, Saturday and Sunday, always turn up exciting birds. Add in the entertaining and educational Bird ID Panel, the wonderful selection of optics, art and gifts at the Birder's Market plus the camaraderie of hundreds of like-minded folks, and you know you'll have a good time! There's something for everyone interested in birds. Come and join us to bird, learn, and just have fun!

To look over the schedule of events, go to: <http://www.cvbirds.org/events/symposium/>

Registration begins September 6, 2019.

CVBS Steering Committee

[www.cvbirds.org](http://www.cvbirds.org)

Linda Pittman

## BIRD SIGHTINGS

*June 15, 2019 - August 8, 2019*  
(All sightings pertain to San Joaquin County)  
Submitted by Liz West

David Yee found a singing **Northern Parula** where S Tracy Blvd. crosses Middle River on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. He says given the date and habitat it could be on territory.

Donna Marciano saw an adult **Bald Eagle** at the Mokelumne Fish Hatchery on July 13<sup>th</sup>.

On July 30<sup>th</sup> Virginia Bonham reported a **Willet** at the Lodi Sewage Ponds. She said that David Yee had found one there on July 22<sup>nd</sup>.  
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San Joaquin Audubon Society  
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Website: [www.sanjoaquinaudubon.org](http://www.sanjoaquinaudubon.org)

Listserve: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sjbirds/>

## Other California Birding E-mail Listserves

<https://groups.io/g/calbirds>

<https://groups.io/centralvalleybirds>

<https://groups.io/g/StanislausBirds>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/central-sierra-birds/>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sierra-nevadabirds/>

## Membership

### *National Membership*

By joining the National Audubon Society you are also a member of the San Joaquin Chapter. This includes subscriptions to the award-winning *Audubon Magazine* and to the chapter newsletter, *The Hoot Owl*. Both publications are bimonthly. For *national membership*, send check payable to the **National Audubon Society** to the address below.

- National Audubon Membership Rate: \$20

### **San Joaquin Audubon Society**

**Attn: Membership (National)**

**P.O. Box 7755  
Stockton, CA 95267**

### *Local-Only Membership*

This includes a subscription to the bimonthly chapter newsletter, *The Hoot Owl*. For *local membership*, send check payable to **San Joaquin Audubon Society** to the address below.

- Chapter Newsletter—mailed paper copy \$15
- Chapter Newsletter—electronic copy \$10

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