

May Program (continued)

abundance and breeding presence with respect to salt pond restoration age and percent cover, and height of native and non-native plants. He conducted bird count surveys and botanical surveys at seven study sites, then mist-netted and banded birds at four study sites to detect breeding birds. Brad will discuss the results of his research and share recommendations for future restoration management projects.

Brad Speno is a wildlife biologist based in San Jose. He earned an undergraduate degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Colorado, and he worked for various Department of Interior agencies and consulting companies prior to completing a Master's of Science degree at San Jose State University. He volunteers with the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory, who assisted in his research, and he currently works for LSA Environmental Consultants.



Field Trips



Sabercat Creek, Fremont
Wednesday April 8, 9AM-12 Noon
Leaders: Bill Hoppes & Pat Gordon
Hoppes1949@gmail.com

Mines Road, Livermore
Saturday, April 11, 7:30am-3pm
Leaders: Bob Toleno & Juli Chamberlin
RSVP: birding@toleno.com

Sabercat Creek trail follows a stream in Fremont with excellent riparian woodland, in addition to many ornamental plantings. There are also grassy hillsides with sites for perching birds. We have a good chance to see both Allen's and Anna's Hummingbirds and have a five-woodpecker day. Since we will be in the middle of spring migration, we should see great birds. We will start the trip from Old Mission Park, where parking is plentiful and restrooms available. After a couple of blocks of street walking we will access the trail at its Pine Street entrance. Sabercat Creek has seen extensive excavations for fossils, so there are many interpretive signs and even an online audio tour, if you would rather listen to it than the birds. The trail is mostly level and paved the entire way. Total length is 3.2 miles but since it is an out-and-back, you can turn around whenever you wish.

Directions: *Old Mission Park is at 1000 Pine Street in Fremont. Heading south on I-680, take the first Mission Blvd exit. Turn left on Mission and then left on Pine. The park will be at the intersection of Pine and Ibero Way. From 880 take the Auto Mall Parkway/Durham Road Exit. Head east on Durham Road then left on Paseo Padre Parkway. Make a right on Camino del Campo and then left on Ibero Way to the park.*

Mines Road ascends from Livermore Valley into the hills of the Diablo Range. As you increase elevation the habitat moves from oak savannah through chemise chaparral and into mixed pine woodland. The varied habitats support an excellent variety of breeding and migrating birds, including some species that are rarely seen elsewhere in Alameda County. Some of the birds we'll hope to see will be Rufous-crowned Sparrow, Phainopepla, Lawrence's Goldfinch, and if we're very lucky, maybe even Greater Roadrunner or Prairie Falcon. We'll end the birding in San Antonio Valley, where we'll hope to see Lewis's Woodpeckers.

This caravan-style trip will meet at the Livermore Park & Ride on Portola Ave at 7:30am. We'll then arrange ourselves into carpools, because many of the pullouts on Mines Road are small, so we'll need to have as few vehicles as possible. Trip will be limited to 12 participants, so you must RSVP to attend. Bring sunscreen, lunch, and plenty of water. Scopes might be helpful, but not necessary.

Directions: *Take I-580 east to Exit 52, turn right on N Livermore Ave, then right on Portola Ave. The Park & Ride is at 1662 Portola Ave, Livermore. Please be on time as we will try to get on the road promptly at 7:45am*

(Field Trips Continued)

Birding by Ear, Garin Regional Park
Thursday, April 16 9am – 11am
Leaders: Maggie Clark and Bill Scoggins
maggieclark99@gmail.com



Come explore birding by ear. The willow and sycamore-lined creekside supports an amazing array of insects, which in turn provides food for foraging and nesting neotropical songbirds, such as Tree Swallow, Swainson's Thrush, Black-headed Grosbeak, Bullock's Oriole, Wilson's Warbler, and much more. Research has revealed that this rural setting provides habitat for nearly 150 bird species, of which more than 65 are breeding birds.

Directions/address: From Hwy 880 in Hayward, take the Industrial Parkway exit and travel east to Mission Boulevard. Make a right onto Mission Boulevard and travel one block to Garin Ave and then make a left. The park entrance is approximately one mile uphill at 1320 Garin Avenue, Hayward.

Sunol Wilderness Regional Preserve
Friday, April 24, 8:30am-noon
Leader: Bob Toleno
bob@toleno.com

Sunol Wilderness is one of the most beautiful parks in the East Bay. Spring migration can be an excellent time to hear and see birds in the park. Rufous-crowned Sparrows, Lazuli Buntings, and Black-headed Grosbeaks will be singing on breeding territories, and migrants like Cassin's Vireo and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher might also be seen. We'll hike along the main road to the Little Yosemite area, where we might hear the beautiful song of the resident Canyon Wren. If we're extremely lucky, we could catch sight of a Northern Pygmy-Owl. The hike will have some uphill parts, but we'll take it slow.

Directions: Take I-580 east to I-680 south to Exit 21, make a left on Calaveras Rd and follow it for six miles, then turn left on Geary Rd. There may be a \$5 entrance fee if the kiosk is open (free for EBRPD members). Once inside the gate, continue all the way to the furthest east parking lot at the start of Ohlone Road, where the hike will begin. A toilet is available at the trailhead.

Diablo Foothills, Walnut Creek
Saturday, April 25, 8:30 AM - noon
Leaders: Rich Nicholson and Bob Dunn
rsn711@yahoo.com

Enjoy a nice walk through oak woodlands in the Diablo foothills. Paved trails and moderate hills will give us a chance to see birds such as Cassin's Vireo, Rock and Canyon Wrens, and possibly nesting Peregrine Falcons. Scopes can be useful in certain areas, but they are not necessary. Meet at the Diablo Foothills Staging Area parking lot (1700 Castle Rock Rd.) at 8:30 am.

Directions: Take 680/24 to Ygnacio Valley Rd. Turn right onto Ygnacio and then turn right again at Walnut Ave. (NOT Walnut Blvd.). Follow Walnut Ave. to the turn circle and bear right onto Castle Rock Rd. Drive past the horse stables to Diablo Foothills parking area, 1700 Castle Rock Rd.

Mill Creek Road, Fremont
Saturday, May 2, 8:30am - noon
Leaders: Bob Toleno & Juli Chamberlin
birding@toleno.com

Mill Creek Road is an underappreciated birding hotspot in Fremont. It parallels Mill Creek, which creates a rich riparian habitat that flows from Mission Peak. In early May, we hope to see migrants like Ash-throated Flycatcher, Cassin's Vireo, migrating warblers, as well as Rufous Hummingbird, and maybe even an Olive-sided Flycatcher. Resident Rufous-crowned Sparrows should be singing, and we'll likely hear the song of the recently arrived Grasshopper Sparrow, too. Lazuli Buntings and Black-headed Grosbeaks should be relatively abundant and singing on their breeding territories. We'll walk about 1.5 - 2 miles on a paved road up the gentle hill and then back again.

Directions: From 880 S, take Auto Mall Pkwy east, then get on 680 N for 2 miles, exit on Mission Blvd, turn right, then turn left on Mill Creek Rd after just a couple blocks. Park on the street near the corner of Mill Creek Rd and Linmore Dr. There are no restrooms, so be sure to stop at the McDonalds or a gas station on Mission Blvd beforehand to use the facilities.

(Field Trips Continued)

Mitchell Canyon, Mt. Diablo State Park
Wednesday, May 13, 8:30 AM - noon
Leaders: Rich Nicholson and Bob Dunn
rsn711@yahoo.com

Enjoy an easy to moderate walk on a dirt road for a two to three mile round trip. Migration will be in full swing, so we'll be looking for flycatchers, thrushes, vireos, and warblers, in addition to the resident woodpeckers and raptors. Scopes can be useful, but they are not necessary. Lunch is optional as we recap the list after the walk.

Directions: Take SR-24 east or 680-north to Walnut Creek; exit at Ygnacio Valley Rd. Proceed east 8.5 miles to Clayton Rd; turn right. Drive one mile to Mitchell Canyon Rd.; turn right. At the end of the road, enter the park after paying the \$6 entry fee. Meet at the parking lot. Restrooms are available.

Sierra Weekend trip—

June 20-21, 2026 Yuba Pass & Sierra Valley

Leaders: Pat Gordon (pagpeg@aol.com) & Diana Brumbaugh

SAVE THE DATE!

Upcoming special birding tours!

Tour: **Breeding Birds and Migrants of Inyo County (plus a little Mono)**

Dates: **May 25 - 30, 2026** Leaders: Bob Toleno and Juli Chamberlin
TOUR IS SOLD OUT!

Email bob@toleno.com to put your name on the waiting list.

Proposed Tour: **Southern Arizona**
 Dates: **August 1 - 9, 2026**

Leaders: Bob Toleno and Juli Chamberlin
 Cost: TBD

(probably around \$2,500 - \$3,000 per person; does not include cost of flight to Tucson)

If you're a US birder, Southeastern Arizona is definitely a place you must visit at least once. Many species that can otherwise only be seen in Mexico occur in the sky island mountain ranges southeast of Tucson, including Mexican Chickadee, Mexican Jay, Yellow-eyed Junco, Botteri's Sparrow, Short-tailed Hawk, Greater Pewee, Coppery-tailed Trogon, and many others. In early August, as many as 14 species of hummingbirds can be seen! The tour will be limited to ten participants, and a minimum of seven will be needed for the trip to happen. Email bob@toleno.com ASAP if you're interested.

Nominations 2026-2027

In accordance with the Bylaws of our organization, the slate of officers nominated for the upcoming year must be presented to the membership, followed by the election of officers to occur at the May monthly meeting. In view that our monthly meetings are via Zoom, the slate of Officers for the Board of Directors 2026-2027 FY is listed below and members will be asked to vote "virtually" or by mail. Other board positions are appointed by the President.

Please send your vote (yea or nay) electronically via this link **VOTE**, email to pagpeg@aol.com, or via mail to 1922 Hillsdale St, Hayward, CA 94541. Write-ins are also accepted. Please vote by **May 31, 2026**. Thank you.



Slate of Officers for FY 2026-2027

- President: Bill Hoppes***
- Vice President: Marty Morrow***
- Treasurer: Gail Ryujin***
- Recording Secretary: Kathy Robertson***
- Corresponding Secretary: Jackie Bertillion***
- Director at Large (2029) Dave Riensche***

I accept the above slate of Officers ***Yea*** ***Nay*** ***Write in:*** _____

President's Corner

Two Endangered Species

I am always interested in tracking, the listing and delisting decisions for endangered species. Recently, there were two listing decisions: one good news and the other not so good. The U.S. recently made headlines with decisions affecting two notable bird species: the **Wood Stork** and the **Lesser Prairie-Chicken**. While both birds have been at the center of conservation discussions for years, their situations highlight different challenges and successes in protecting wildlife.

The **Wood Stork** is a large wading bird known for its bald, dark head and long bill. It lives primarily in wetlands across the southeastern United States, especially in Florida, Georgia, and the South Carolina coastal regions. In 1984, the U.S. government listed the species as endangered under the Endangered Species Act because its numbers had dropped dramatically. There were only as estimated 4000-5000 nesting pairs left in the U.S. The main causes were wetland drainage, development, and changes to water management that disrupted the bird's feeding and nesting habitats.



Good news for Wood Storks

Over the past several decades, conservation efforts have helped the Wood Stork recover. Wetland restoration, improved water management, and habitat protection allowed populations to grow. Wildlife agencies monitored breeding colonies and worked with land managers to maintain suitable conditions for the birds. As a result, the species was first reclassified from endangered to threatened in 2014. Continued population growth and expanded breeding ranges have now led to its proposed removal—called “delisting”—from the Endangered Species Act. The current population is estimated at 10,000-14,000 breeding pairs. Delisting means the species is considered recovered enough that it no longer needs federal protection, beyond the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, though monitoring typically continues to ensure populations remain stable.



A more complicated story for the Lesser Prairie Chicken

The story of the **Lesser Prairie-Chicken** is very different. This grouse-like bird lives in grassland ecosystems across the southern Great Plains, including parts of Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado, and New Mexico. Known for its spring mating displays—when males gather on open “leks” to perform dances and booming calls—the bird depends on large, intact prairie habitats.

Unlike the Wood Stork, the Lesser Prairie-Chicken has struggled as its habitat shrinks and becomes fragmented. Current population estimates are about 30,000 birds. Historically, millions of these birds occupied the southern plains. Expansion of agriculture, oil and gas development, wind energy infrastructure, and drought have all affected the grasslands it needs to survive. Because of these pressures, the bird was listed under the Endangered Species Act in 2023, with two distinct populations receiving different levels of protection.

However, the listing became controversial. Some states, industry groups, and landowners argued that existing conservation programs were already helping the species and that federal listing would create unnecessary restrictions. In 2024, a federal court decision in Texas vacated the listing, effectively removing the bird from federal protection—referred to as “delisting,” although in this case it resulted from a legal ruling rather than recovery of Lesser Prairie-Chicken populations. Future efforts to protect this species will depend on State and private efforts, unless follow-on lawsuits lead to its re-listing. Two birds, two different outcomes.

Bill Hoppas

Conservation

East County Conservation

Landowner Representative Plans to Appeal Court Decision on Dublin Boulevard Extension

Efforts to punch through Dublin's eastern Urban Limit Line (ULL) to complete the Dublin Boulevard extension continue. Dublin City Council proposed to extend Dublin Boulevard east of its ULL to connect with Livermore. To pay their share of the cost of the new road, Dublin planned to approve commercial development on the 80-acre Crosby Property that the new road would cross. To accomplish this, Dublin proposed Measure II which would punch eastward through the ULL.

Measure II was approved by 53.11% of voters in November 2024. Save Mount Diablo and Friends of Livermore opposed Measure II. and filed a lawsuit in April 2025 stating that the city was required by the California Environmental Quality Act to give voters an analysis of the environmental impacts of Measure II. The city had not done that. Superior Court Judge Michael Markman ruled in favor of the community groups in November 2025, a ruling that meant that the city must repeal Measure II. The city announced last month that it would not appeal Markman's decision in order to avoid the costs of continued litigation. Livbor-Manning LLC who represent the Crosby property owners announced that, despite Dublin's position, they will appeal the Superior Court decision. The \$154 million Dublin Boulevard Extension project, which would traverse the Crosby property, needs the revenues expected from the commercial development. Without such revenue, Dublin has identified only \$76 million of the \$126 million of its share required for the project. Dublin's partner in the project, the City of Livermore, has said it will withdraw its \$28 million from the extension project if Dublin pursues commercial development.

-Bill Hoppes

Save Skywest as Open Space in Hayward

Ohlone Audubon Society (OAS) has been coordinating with the grassroots organization Save Skywest in efforts to preserve the open space of the former golf course known as Skywest, located in Hayward, which closed its doors of operation in September 2020. Over 130 species of birds have been reported here. It also serves as a refuge for migrating Monarch butterflies and home to the Western Pond Turtle.

Hayward City Council recently met in a closed session on Tuesday, March 17, to discuss proposed development at Skywest. No final decisions have been announced. Hayward City Council has plans to redevelop the former 126-acre Skywest Golf Course. Development of this open space into an industrial business center would destroy the wildlife habitat, contribute to the urban heat island effect, and exacerbate climate change.

Members of OAS and the public can send letters of support of open space to decision makers. These entities include Hayward City Council, Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (HARD), and East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD).

The public can also provide comments to City of Hayward on how much the unique open space known as Skywest means to its community. Phone calls, letters, and statements during open public comment periods can be made at Hayward City Council meetings. The City of Hayward website contains a calendar of the meeting dates that can be attended both in-person and remotely on a Zoom link or telephone.

For more information please contact the Save Skywest grassroots organization to learn more:

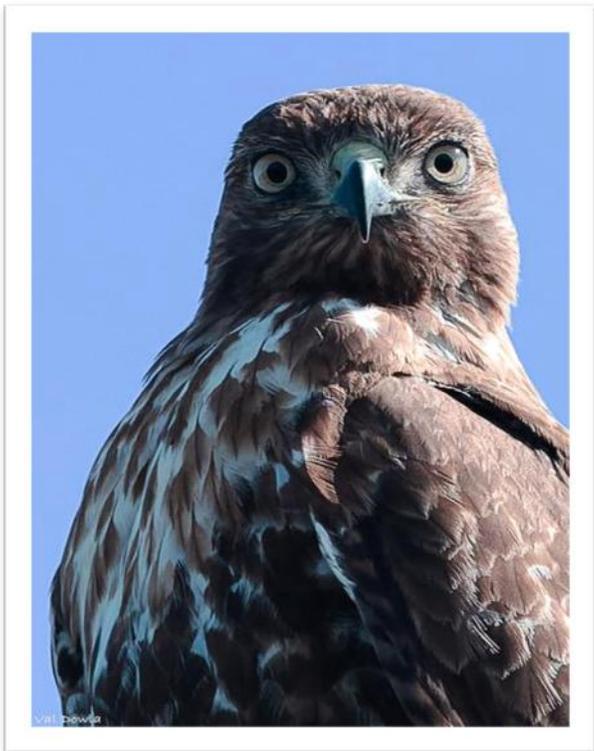
SAVESKYWEST@GMAIL.COM to join the coalition, receive updates, and sign up for tours of Skywest.

Facebook account: **<https://m.facebook.com/soskywest/>**

To sign the petition to Save Skywest, click on the link:

<https://www.change.org/p/save-skywest-as-open-space-in-the-city-of-hayward-from-destruction>

-Marlina Selva



Red-tailed Hawk, Oro Loma, Hayward Shoreline, 3/13/26 photo by Valerie Dowla



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*Elizabeth Dunbar
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Michael O'Brien
Jennifer Price
Violet Rodriguez
Hillary Walker
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We thank each of you for your invaluable support—whether renewing, donating, or joining us this year. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

More Birds Named for People

By Bill Hoppes

This is the next in a series of articles I am writing about the folks that have birds named for them. As you probably have heard, AOU plans to remove these names in the future and bury the history, good and bad, of the hobby we love. This is my effort to tell you a bit of that history before you have to dig farther to find it.

Buller’s Shearwater

Buller’s Shearwater is a seabird that ranges over most of the Pacific Ocean. It breeds in colonies on islands located off New Zealand. They occur offshore here during the Fall. Buller’s Shearwater was named for Sir Walter Lawry Buller (1838 – 1906), a New Zealand lawyer and naturalist who was a dominant figure in New Zealand ornithology. He was one of the first scientists to systematically study the birds of New Zealand. Born in the Bay of Islands, Buller developed an early interest in wildlife, especially birds. He is best known for his landmark book, “A History of the Birds of New Zealand” (1873), which carefully described many native species and included detailed illustrations. The work helped introduce the unique birdlife of New Zealand—such as the Kiwi and the Kākāpō—to the international scientific community.

Buller collected specimens, documented bird behavior, and worked with artists and scientists to record species that were little known at the time. His
(continued page 8)



Dr. Buller and his birds

(continued from page 7)

research played a major role in developing early knowledge of New Zealand's biodiversity. Although some of his collecting practices are debated today (collecting rare and soon to be extinct species), Buller's publications remain historically important. His work laid the foundation for modern ornithology in New Zealand and helped spark wider interest in conserving the country's distinctive bird species.

Scott's Oriole



Scott's Oriole inhabits dry landscapes such as deserts, scrublands, and yucca-filled hillsides across the southwestern United States and parts of Mexico. Its bright yellow body and bold black head make it easy to recognize, especially when it sings from the top of tall yucca plants.

Scott's Oriole was named in honor of Winfield Scott (1786-1866), an American military commander and presidential candidate. He served as Commanding General of the United States Army from 1841 to 1861, and was a veteran of the War of 1812, American Indian Wars, Mexican-American War, and the early stages of the American Civil War. Scott was the Whig Party's presidential nominee in the 1852 election, but was defeated by Democrat Franklin Pierce. Scott was known as Old Fuss and Feathers, for his insistence on proper military etiquette, and the Grand Old Man of the Army, for his many years of service.

The name of Scott's Oriole dates to the mid-nineteenth century, when many North American birds were being formally described from specimens collected during military and exploratory expeditions in the western United States. The species was described in 1853 by the noted ornithologist Charles Lucien Bonaparte. Bonaparte based his description on specimens obtained in the American Southwest and northern Mexico, regions that were only recently becoming better known to science following the Mexican-American War.

Bonaparte placed the bird in the genus *Icterus*, the group that includes the New World orioles, and gave it the scientific name *Icterus parisorum*. The species was soon widely known by the English name "Scott's Oriole," honoring Winfield Scott. His leadership during the Mexican-American War and his long association with the expanding American frontier made his name familiar to scientists and the public alike.

Although Scott himself had no direct connection with ornithology, naming species after famous political or military figures was a common nineteenth-century practice. It reflected both the culture of the period and the close ties between scientific collecting and military expeditions that opened western North America to natural history study.

Temminck's Stint

The Temminck's Stint is a small shorebird that breeds across northern Eurasia from Scandinavia to Siberia in tundra and marshy habitats. It migrates south in winter to Africa, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. It is a rare visitor to Alaska. This small wader prefers muddy shores, wetlands, and riverbanks, feeding on insects and small invertebrates. Its secretive behavior often makes it difficult to observe.

Temminck's Stint was named after Coenraad Jacob Temminck (1778-1858), a pioneering Dutch zoologist whose work played a major role in the development of modern ornithology. Born in Amsterdam, he developed an early interest in natural history through his father, who collected bird specimens. Temminck later became the first director of the National Museum of Natural History in Leiden where he helped transform the institution into one of Europe's leading centers for zoological research.

Temminck is best known for his extensive studies of birds and his efforts to classify and describe species from around the world. His most influential publication, *Manuel d'ornithologie* (1815-1820), was one of the first comprehensive guides to European birds. The book provided detailed descriptions, identification features, and systematic classifications, making it an essential reference for early nineteenth-century ornithologists.

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Names (continued from page 10)

He also collaborated with other naturalists to describe many new species collected during exploratory expeditions, especially from Asia and Africa. Temminck contributed to major illustrated works such as *Nouveau recueil de planches coloriées d'oiseaux*, which included hundreds of carefully illustrated bird species.

Through his publications, museum leadership, and taxonomic work, Temminck significantly advanced the scientific study of birds. Many species were later named in his honor, reflecting his lasting influence on zoology and ornithological classification.

As an aside, the term “stint” comes from an old English word meaning “small, limited, or stunted.” Over time, it became associated specifically with very small sandpipers.

Scripps’s Murrelet

The Scripps’s Murrelet is a small seabird native to the northeastern Pacific Ocean. Its breeding range extends mainly along the coast of California and Baja California, especially on offshore islands such as the Channel Islands and Islas San Benito. Outside the breeding season, it disperses northward along the Pacific coast to Oregon and Washington. The best place to see Scripps’s Murrelet is Santa Barbara Island in the Channel Islands, which has the largest breeding colony in the US.



Santa Barbara Island, main nesting colony for

Scripps’s Murrelet was named in honor of E. W. Scripps (1854-1926), a prominent American newspaper publisher and philanthropist from the early 20th century. Scripps was deeply involved in funding scientific research, particularly in California, where he supported natural history studies and the development of research institutions. His contributions enabled ornithologists and marine biologists to explore the Pacific coast’s unique seabird fauna, including the small, elusive murrelets nesting on offshore islands. Scripps’s Murrelet was first described scientifically in 1900, during a period when many new species from the Channel Islands and Baja were being formally documented. Ornithologists recognized Scripps’s support for their work by naming this species after him.

Still Seeking New Program Chairperson!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The Ohlone Audubon Society is currently looking for a new Program Chairperson. As of May we do not have a Program Chairperson. Can you help us out? We promise you a lot of help!

The Program Chair is responsible for arranging presenters for our monthly virtual membership meetings (first Tuesday of the month), as well as for our three in-person events: June Membership Potluck Picnic, September Membership Appreciation Picnic, and December Holiday Cookie Exchange. The Chair also reserves venues for these three in-person events. The Board meets virtually the second Thursday of each month, except for July and December. We would love to have you join the Board!

If interested or if you have any questions, please email our president, Bill Hoppes, at hoppes1949@gmail.com.

Tis the Season! Help With Wildlife



Spring brings increased bird activity and baby birds. Maybe it's a baby bird on the ground unable to fly or a gull at the dog park with a broken wing. Fortunately, we have some excellent wildlife rehabilitation centers in our area. Most are volunteer organizations. They may keep irregular hours, and none are open 24 hours. In most cases they don't do pickups. If it's after hours, you may have to keep the animal overnight: Follow the directions on their website or recorded telephone information.

Many wildlife situations do not require your intervention. Fledgling birds spend time on the ground as they learn to fly; the parents follow them around feeding them. Unless the bird is injured, leave it alone and let its parents raise it. If it injured, place in a dark cardboard box with towels or paper towels, Do not offer water or food. In an emergency, such as a deer hit by a car, call your city's local animal control services or police or sheriff's department. Call before taking an animal to a wildlife hospital. These two locations are now accepting native songbirds.

Sulfur Creek Nature Center 510-881-6747 Serving Hayward, San Lorenzo, Castro Valley
<https://www.haywardrec.org/1991/Nature-Centers>

Lindsay Wildlife Experience (Walnut Creek) 925-935-1978 <https://lindsaywildlife.org>

Arrivals/Departures—Who's arriving and who's leaving us this month

ARRIVING

Early April
 Warbling Vireo
 Caspian Tern
 Hooded Oriole

Mid April
 Vaux's Swift
 Ash-throated Flycatcher
 Western Kingbird
 Cassin's Vireo
 Swainson's Thrush

Yellow Warbler
 Black-thr Gray Warbler
 Western Tanager
 Chipping Sparrow
 Black-headed Grosbeak
 Lawrence's Goldfinch

Late April
 Olive-sided Flycatcher
 Western Wood-Pewee
 Lazuli Bunting
 Grasshopper Sparrow

DEPARTING

Early April
 White-crowned Sparrow
 Red-breasted Merganser

Mid April
 Bufflehead
 Say's Phoebe
 Osprey
 Sharp-shinned Hawk
 American Pipit

Late April
 American Wigeon
 Black Scoter
 Iceland Gull
 Fox Sparrow
 Cooper's Hawk
 Northern Harrier

Please note: some of "our" birds are staying with us year round !



Photos by Bob Toleno: 1 Wood Duck 3 White-breasted Nuthatch—Lk Solano Co Park 3/8/25; 2 Wild Turkey-Coyote Hills R.P. 3/11/25; 4 Ridgway's Rail - Arrowhead Marsh 3/1/25

Announcements



The **California Breeding Bird Atlas** Town Hall virtual meeting! The first one was held in March and for those of us who missed it and who have thought about joining the project but were hesitating or want more information, this video answers a lot of questions: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cCfPiGkkknQ>



Help us build our bird-loving community by sharing the Audubon Chapter Engagement Survey! We're closing the survey on Friday, April 10—if you haven't already, make sure to get the word out so your network's voice is heard! By capturing experiences of chapter leaders, members, and participants in this survey, we're hoping to create a more connected, inclusive, and thriving community of bird enthusiasts together.

Audubon Chapter Engagement Survey Deadline Soon!

[Survey here](#)

Rita Sklar's Paintings of Wildlife at the Castro Valley Library

Ohlone Audubon member Rita Sklar has her award-winning wildlife paintings at the Castro Valley Library through March. See birds plus African animals and more in the lobby. Prices have been reduced by 50 per cent for those who would like to take one home. The image is of Skimmers in watercolor. See more of her wildlife paintings online at www.ritasklar.com



Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour and Green Home Features Showcase— Registration is Now Open! - Free [Register here](#)

In-person Bayside: Saturday, May 2, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
In-person Inland: Sunday, May 3, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm.

Registration is now open for the free, self-guided Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour and Green Home Features Showcase. On **Saturday, May 2** you can choose from among fifty Bayside gardens; on **Sunday, May 3** twenty Inland gardens will be open. Come see how you can join in on restoring nature, one garden at a time. Volunteer Greeters and Garden Assistants are needed: sign up to volunteer when you register. Preview the seventy gardens on this year's Tour [here](#).

Using two free apps - Merlin and eBird - in Your Native Plant Garden

One of the joys of gardening with native plants is that they naturally attract birds - no rat-attracting bird seed is needed, as the plants are the bird feeders.

Garden Tour host Susan Teefy (you can visit her beautiful garden on the Tour this year) and her talented daughter, Michaela, have made a video showing how to use two free phone apps, Merlin and eBird, to identify birds in your yard and keep track of what you've seen. [Click here](#)

Merlin is so fun! It listens for birds, then shows you which birds are calling; when Merlin hears a bird a picture of that bird pops up on your phone. This helps you start learning bird calls, have an idea of what birds to look for, and find out for what birds are coming to your garden.

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to the Membership Chair.**

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