

Fall Migration Hot Spot -

First good rain of the season – Sept. 22, 2007

Quick Overview – This day was planned to go explore the habitat that makes up just a portion of the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay Wildlife Refuge. The marshy areas and open ponds of the south bay and Alviso make up just part of this large refuge. These open habitats attract many vagrant species as shorebirds and others take advantage of the ponds and passerines hunker down in the wooded areas. As is often the case this time of year, many vagrant species are being reported in the area right now (Brown Booby, Common Tern, Jaegers, Baird's and Stilt Sandpipers...) and we hoped to go find many of them for ourselves. Although we had some great views of many different birds, the rain held us back and the choice to not walk the wet, muddy levees kept us from finding some of these rarities for ourselves and we cut the day short. But not all was lost because some of the birds observed this day were firsts. The Black Skimmer with its chick was a fun moment while looking through a dripping, spotting scope and welcoming back many of the other species as they return for the season is always fun.



A bunch of good sports who spent the morning walking around in the first of the season rain. All wish to remain un-identified because they do not wish for their friends or family to recognize them dripping like this.
Picture taken during our day by trip observer "Julie"

Memorable Observations!

- Fantastic comparison of Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs foraging together
- Start our day with a feeding Peregrine Falcon
- Red Necked Phalaropes circling in the slough waters
- Quick glimpse of an Osprey fly-by
- Burrowing Owl looking at us looking at him
- First of the year's Say's Phoebe joining the Burrowing Owl

Total Species Counted for the Day = 54 includes heard only (H)
Birds are listed in the taxonomic order currently recognized by the AOU

Mallard	Black-necked Stilt	Rock Pigeon	Northern Mockingbird
Northern Shoveler	American Avocets	Mourning Dove	European Starling
American White Pelican	Greater Yellowlegs	Barn Owl	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Brown Pelican	Lesser Yellowlegs	Burrowing Owl	Common Yellowthroat
Great Egret	Long-billed Dowitcher	Anna's Hummingbird	Wilson's Warbler
Snowy Egret	Marbled Godwit	Black Phoebe	Western Tanager
Osprey	Western Sandpiper	Say's Phoebe	Song Sparrow
Northern Harrier	Least Sandpiper	Loggerhead-Shrike	White-crowned Sparrow
White-tail Kite	Killdeer	Warbling Vireo	Fox Sparrow
Red-tail Hawk	Black-bellied Plover	Common Raven	Lincoln's Sparrow
American Kestrel	California Gull	Violet Green Swallow	Red-winged Blackbird
Peregrine Falcon	Western Gull	Bewick's Wren (H)	Brewer's Blackbird
American Coot	Red-Necked Phalarope	Marsh Wren	House Finch
	Black Skimmer	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	