

# The "Gallinago Go Go's" fundraise for SFBBO's 2015 California Fall Challenge - Sept. 27, 2015

trip leader Lisa Myers



Quick Overview - The "Gallinago Go Go's" has a goal to see 100 species during our big day. We do this as part of the SFBBO annual fundraiser, the California Fall Challenge. There were nine of us on the team this year. Some started in Campbell and then we all met on Terminal Blvd. at 7:30 AM. We walked the loop around Coast Casev Forebay and checked out Shoreline Lake and Adobe Creek. After we were done we had our first 52 species for the day. All three teals were nice with a pair of BLUE WINGED TEAL found on the north edge of Coast Casey Forebay. We also flushed a WILSON'S SNIPE, had great views of COMMON YELLOWTHROAT and spent time adding up shorebirds all to be expected. We also had several BARN SWALLOWS with VIOLET GREEN SWALLOWS fly through. From here we stopped at Geng Road where we found a CALIFORNIA THRASHER, WESTERN BLUEBIRDS, a HOUSE WREN and a RED-SHOULDERED HAWK. Next, we thought we'd look for sparrows at the Palo Alto Baylands "fennel patch". The only new sparrow for the day found here was a SAVANNAH SPARROW. Looking into the exposed mug flats, we also added SEMIPALMATED PLOVER to our list of shorebirds. Our next stop was at Ulistac Nature Area. We were there from roughly 10:30 - noon. This has been an active spot this fall and at the "seep" we found a bathing WILSON'S WARBLER. Also here were YELLOW WARBLERS, YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLERS and an ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER. While here we also had BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK, FOX SPARROW, RED-BREASTED SAPSUCKER, DOWNY WOODPECKER, BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER and a PACIFIC-SLOPE FLYCATCHER. Although seen before we got there, we did not find Lincoln Sparrows here. Alviso was our next stop. On our way down Grand Blvd. we found 4 WHITE-FACED IBIS. A PEREGRINE FALCON also flew over after harassing a RED-TAIL HAWK. After lunch we checked out the ponds behind the EEC. We found a few BROWN PELICANS in amongst the hundreds of AMERICAN WHITE PELICANS. Looking across the pond toward the distant 880 we found 6 REDHEAD DUCKS in the water. Here we also added CASPIAN, FORSTER'S and ELEGANT TERNS. A heard only VIRGINIA RAIL was added to our previously heard only SORA. Our last stop was just off Grand Blvd. along Los Esteros Road where we parked just past the railroad tracks. We scanned the fields between us and the Jubilee Christian Center and found 2 BURROWING OWLS, a LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE, a SAY'S PHOEBE, WESTERN MEADOWLARK and an AMERICAN KESTREL. Our last bird of the day was a single and quite vocal WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE. The "speckle belly" flew directly over our heads and we called it a day! We were surprised, but the day's list did not include American Robin, Spotted Towhee or Dark-Eyed Junco. Every year we seem to miss a bird that really should have made the list. Thank you to all who supported our efforts and to those that participated in the 2015 CFC. This is a very important fundraiser for the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory. We ended our day around 3:00 PM with the 102 species listed. The numbers per species coincide with our route.

- 1 Met half the group in Campbell / 2 Terminal Blvd. in Mountain View
- 3 A quick walk around Geng Road in Palo Alto / 4 Palo Alto Baylands
- **5** Ulistac Nature area in Santa Clara / **6** Locations in Alviso around the Environmental Education Center

## **Anseriformes**

- 1 Canada Goose
- 6 Greater White Fronted Goose
- 2 Mallard
- 2 Gadwall
- 2 American Wigeon
- 2 Northern Pintail
- 2 Northern Shoveler
- 6 Redhead
- 2 Green-winged Teal
- 2 Cinnamon Teal
- 2 Blue-winged Teal
- 2 Ruddy Duck
- 2 Surf Scoter

## **Podicipediformes**

- 2 Pied-billed Grebe
- 2 Eared Grebe

### **Suliformes**

2 Double-crested Cormorant

### **Pelecaniformes**

- 6 Brown Pelican
- 2 American White Pelican
- 2 Great Blue Heron
- 2 Great Egret
- 2 Snowy Egret
- 2 Green Heron
- 2 Black Crowned Night

### **Accipitiformes**

- 6 Northern Harrier
- 3 Red Shouldered Hawk
- 6 Red-tail Hawk
- 2 Turkey Vulture

### **Gruiformes**

- 6 Virginia Rail (H)
- 2 Sora (H)
- 2 American Coot
- 2 Common Gallinule

# Charadriiformes

- 6 White-faced Ibis
- 2 Black-necked Stilt
- 2 American Avocets
- 2 Willet
- 2 Greater Yellowlegs
- 2 Long-billed Curlew
- 2 Long-billed Dowitcher
- 2 Marbled Godwit
- 2 Least Sandpiper
- 2 Wilson's Snipe
- 2 Killdeer
- 2 Black-bellied Plover
- 4 Semipalmated Plover
- 2 Ring-billed Gull
- 2 California Gull
- 4 Western Gull
- 6 Elegant Tern (H)
- 6 Forster's Tern
- 6 Caspian Tern
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- 2 Mourning Dove
- 3 Eurasian Collared Dove

# **Strigiformes**

6 Burrowing Owl

# **Apodiformes**

1 Anna's Hummingbird

# **Coraciiformes**

2 Belted Kingfisher

# **Piciformes**

- 5 Red Breasted Sapsucker
- 2 Nuttall's Woodpecker
- 5 Downy Woodpecker

### **Falconiformes**

- 6 American Kestrel
- 6 Peregrine Falcon

### **Passeriformes**

- 5 Pacific-Slope Flycatcher
- 1 Black Phoebe
- 6 Say's Phoebe
- 6 Loggerhead-Shrike
- 3 Western Scrub-Jav
- 1 American Crow
- 6 Common Raven
- 2 Violet Green Swallow
- 2 Barn Swallow
- 5 Chestnut Backed Chickadee
- 3 Oak Titmouse
- 2 Bushtit
- 2 Bewick's Wren
- 3 House Wren
- 2 Marsh Wren
- 5 Blue Gray Gnatcatcher
- 3 Western Bluebird
- 1 Northern Mockingbird
- 3 California Thrasher
- 1 European Starling
- 2 Cedar Waxwing (H)
- 5 Orange-Crowned Warbler
- 3 Yellow Warblers
- 4 Yellow Rumped Warbler
- 2 Common Yellowthroat
- 5 Wilson's Warbler
- 5 Western Tanager 2 California Towhee
- 2 Song Sparrow
- 2 White-crowned Sparrow
- 2 Golden-crowned Sparrow
- 5 Fox Sparrow
- 4 Savannah Sparrow
- 5 Black Headed Grosbeak
- 3 Red-winged Blackbird
- 3 Brewer's Blackbird 6 Western Meadowlark
- 1 House Finch
- 1 Lesser Goldfinch
- 2 American Goldfinch
- 1 House Sparrow