



THE OBSERVER

Volume 80, Issue 9, May 2022

Whittier Area Audubon Society

We are a chapter of National Audubon Society

Visit our website
www.whittieraudubon.org



Audubon

Expect good warm weather but consider bringing a light sweater / jacket in event it gets windy.

- Bring water, a hat, lightweight flashlight and wear long sleeves / pants to avoid the bugs.

- **General Meeting: Habitat Authority Trail Cams**
- **Bird Walk:: Sycamore Canyon**
- **Extra: Irvine Great Park**
- **Field trip: Claremont & Encanto**

of the Puente Hills Preserve Wildlife Camera Study”.

The Whittier Area Audubon Society general meeting and program will be a hybrid presentation Thursday, May 19, 2022 at 7:30 pm. Attend as you prefer, either in person at the

Whittier Community Center, located at 7630 Washington Ave. Whittier. Please wear a mask, or join online. The program is free and open to the public.

Please RSVP at web@whittieraudubon.org to receive a link

From Interstate 5 south, take Jamboree North (left turn at end of off-ramp). Stay on Jamboree and it dead ends into park.

At first opportunity after the entrance kiosk, turn left and park in Lot A - Lot A borders Sycamore Hill where Lark Sparrows, Chipping Sparrows, Sapsuckers, and Pine Siskins are sometimes found.

- Drive to Lot D and park. We will look for the Lewis's Woodpecker that has been reported here frequently, and recently in the Sycamores near the stables.

- Next we drive to Lot T where we may see Barn Owls, Great Horned Owls (and owlets!) and can hear a captive Western Screech Owl's bouncing ball behind zoo fence. Lot P is next stop. We walk from there East and North along the closed road and look east near sunset where Lesser Nighthawks have been seen recently.. From Lot T to Lot P we can sometimes hear Common Poorwill and California Quail from the dry creek.

Elections: Nominated Slate

President: Jay Oberholtzer

1st Vice Pres: Steve Huber

2nd Vice Pres: Linda Oberholtzer

Treasurer: Liz Huber

Recording Secr'ty: Jim McNamara

Corresp Secr'ty: Larry Schmahl

Field Trips

Beginning Bird Walk, Sycamore Canyon

Every second Saturday of the month (except July and August,)

May 14, 2022, 7:00am

We are back in Sycamore Canyon for our Beginning Bird Walks! The entrance is on Workman Mill Rd. just south of Rose Hills Gate 17. Be prompt as we are required to lock the gate behind us.

EXTRA! Irvine Regional Park

Friday, May 6, 2022, 3:00 to 8:00 PM Jim McNamara leads
Entry fee for park is \$3.00 Monday - Friday

Afternoon at Claremont Hills Wilderness

Park/Encanto Park

Saturday, May 21, 2022, 3pm to 8pm

Larry Schmahl leads

This location is known for the Spring presence of Black Swifts. Parking is available at the trail head (\$5) The lot is closed and locked by 8pm, but before then we will proceed to Encanto Park in Duarte to look for Lesser

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GENERAL MEETING

www.whittieraudubon.org

May Program: Habitat Trail Cams

Thursday, May 19, 2022

HYBRID MEETING

7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Michelle Mariscal, Ecologist from the Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority will be giving a presentation on "Preliminary results



Nighthawks flying over the riverbed. Bats are also a possibility. See our website for directions.

Mailing Address:

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Whittier, CA 90608-0548

From National Audubon PREVENTING BIRD COLLISIONS

Birds don't 'see' glass the way we do and may fly into windows and other surfaces that reflect the surrounding landscape or try to fly through glass that appears transparent and invisible. Birds need strong clues on or around glass to warn them that it's there. To prevent these collisions, which can occur day and night, check out the approaches below. Visit our [Reducing Collisions](#) page for additional resources.

Create patterns on the outer surface

Place dense patterns, such as stripes and dots, on the outer glass surface using commercial products designed for this purpose, or create your own design using craft paper, tape, stickers, paint, and markers designed to be used on glass.

Make the glass appear opaque

Completely cover the outer glass surface with paint, perforated vinyl film, or other materials that will make the glass appear opaque. Perforated vinyl film products are available, which create a solid appearance from the outside, but allows views from the inside.

Physical barriers

Place physical barriers like screens, netting, or hanging cords in front of the glass. As long as the physical barriers do not contain

open spaces that are larger than 2 x 2 inches, or the hanging cords are spaced no wider than 4 inches apart, they can effectively discourage most birds from trying to fly through them into the glass.

Close blinds or curtains

Blinds can help discourage birds from flying into windows by creating the appearance of a series of barriers. Closing curtains and shades can also discourage collisions on windows that appear transparent from the outside; however, they are best used on windows where collisions are being caused by the appearance of transparency.

Move interior plants away from windows

Plants directly visible within windows and atria can be a danger as birds perceive them as habitat and may try to fly towards them.

Place bird feeders directly on windows

Research has shown that feeders closer than three feet prevent birds from building up enough momentum to harm themselves if startled.

From Audubon California



It's official! The first Western Snowy Plover nests with eggs have been spotted along California's beaches.

Plover nests are like works of beach art. The eggs are camouflaged to blend in with the beach. Many nests are right out on the open sand.

Plovers also nest near kelp or driftwood and might adorn their nests with shells or pebbles - a beautiful sight to behold.

There are typically three eggs in each nest. Each one is critical to the recovery of this Threatened species.

Let's create a successful plover nesting season! The nests are vulnerable to predators and trampling by beach visitors and dogs. Remember to [Share the Shore](#) by respecting nesting fences and keeping dogs on leash. Your care will help plovers make a comeback.

AVIAN FLU has transferred to wild waterfowl and corvid populations, but unless you have them at your feeders, you don't have to remove your bird feeders at this time. But stay alert for local wildlife expert warnings.

APRIL FIELD TRIP REPORT

We started our Monterey area fieldtrip at the Moss Landing inlet along Jetty Road. The tide was in, but there was still a great selection of shorebirds, gulls and marine mammals. We left to make our reserved docent-led walk around Elkhorn Slough (pr: slew) National Estuarine Research Reserve. Much of our walk was through the grassy uplands and oak woodlands where we saw Wrentits, Spotted Towhees, Savannah Sparrows, Tufted Titmice and Jay's \$20 bird, a Grey Ghost (Male No. Harrier) Then we went out to Hummingbird Island and passed over the tidal mudflats and watched murmurations of Western Sandpipers, along with a Dunlin, Long Billed Curlews, Greater Yellowlegs, Black bellied Plovers. Then making a quick stop along the Monterey Bay Coastal Trail we were able to see a Common Loon, Pigeon Guillemots, Pelagic & Brandt's Cormorants, harbor seals with pups and a Sea Otter pair.

Sunday was the pelagic trip on a whale watching boat. Orcas were plentiful. Birds, however were few and far between, as reported by Kathleen Berry.