



Whittier Area Audubon Society

- **General Meeting:**
- **Bird Walk:: Sycamore Canyon 11/11 , 8am**
- **Field trip: 11/18 Chino Wetlands**

We are a chapter of National Audubon Society



Audubon

Avenue parking lot at Ruben Ayala Park at 7:45 AM. We will finish the day with lunch at the wetlands. Bring your birding equipment, cameras, water and lunch if you are joining us. **Steve Huber leads.**

Mailing Address:

Whittier Area Audubon Society
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Whittier, CA 90608-0548

Visit our website
www.whittieraudubon.org

- Fall migration is ongoing. Consider Lights Out Fall to protect migrating birds. Also it Weird Duck Time. Keep an eye out.

Nov Field Trips

Beginning Bird Walk, Sycamore Canyon

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

Nov 11, 2023, 8:00am

Join us 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. **Leader: Jim McNamara**

WAAS Field Trip Report, 10/21/2023

Larry Schmahl:

On October 21 twelve or so birders departed at 9 AM from the Island Packers dock in Ventura Harbor for a trip to Santa Cruz Island. Such a trip holds the promise of not just the endemic Island Scrub Jay but also the hope of seeing a variety of pelagic birds on both the out going and the return trip.

When we checked in to get our boarding pass, we were warned by the Island Packers personnel that the trip across would be a rough one and we could reschedule or get a refund if we wished. A look around showed no signs of foul weather. It was a beautiful morning, just a slight breeze and not a cloud in the sky. There were many people lined up to board, so we didn't have a second thought in joining them. The cruise out of the harbor turned up Surfbirds, both turnstones and Black Oystercatchers on the breakwaters. A good start.

GENERAL MEETING

November Program

Thursday, November 16,
2023 7:30 PM to 9:00 PM

The speaker and subject to be announced. Please check our website for more information.

At publication, we anticipate that this will be a Hybrid Program online and in person at the Whittier Community Center, located at 7630 Washington Ave. Whittier. Wearing a mask is optional. The program is free and open to the public.

Visit our website or contact web@whittieraudubon.org for a link to the online meeting.

Field trip to Chino Nov 18, 2023

Field trip to Chino - Burrowing Owls and Chino Creek Wetlands



We be visiting the burrowing owl preserve next to the Chino Chaffey College campus and then on to the Chino Creek Wetlands and Educational Park. We will be leaving the Whittier Community Center at 7:00 AM. Alternatively, meet us at the College Park



By the time the boat was half way across the channel the seas were extremely rough. The ship was slamming through white caps and heavy swells. The deck hands said they had seen it worse but not by much. There were very few birds. We saw a few Black-vented Shearwaters, a couple of Royal Terns, a few western type grebes and not much else. Most of the passengers disembarked and Scorpion Cove where had a good look at an adult Bald Eagle. We continued on to Prisoners Harbor, arriving at 11:30. No one felt like eating lunch.

Birding was decent at the Prisoners area where we easily found the Island Scrub Jay, a larger and brighter blue relative of the mainland California Scrub Jay. We found about 25 species but none in large numbers. The Island Kit Fox did not make an appearance.



By 3:30 we were back underway and dreading the return trip. Luckily, on the way back we were moving with the swells and not fighting them. It was rough but not as rough as the way out. We did see a couple of jaegers and eight or so Common Murres with the regular assortment of gulls, terns and Brown Pelicans. All and all it was a lot of trouble for one endemic bird. Next time Island Packers says the seas are rough, we will listen.

Audubon's Bird-friendly Communities strives to provide food, shelter, safe passage, and places for birds to raise their young, through our Plants for Birds and Bird-friendly Buildings programs. As we work to create healthy habitats, we also work to ensure safe spaces for our feathered friends.

Plants for Birds

By simply choosing native plants for our yards and public spaces, we can restore vital habitats for birds in our communities and help them adapt and survive in the face of climate change.

Audubon's **Plants for Birds** program is designed to enable anyone to have a positive impact by planting for birds, right where they live.

Bird-Friendly Buildings

The mission of our **Bird-Friendly Buildings** programs is to ensure a safer built environment for our favorite feathered friends. Glass and lights present major hazards to birds, killing hundreds of millions of birds each year. Birds hit buildings at all hours. At night migrating birds can be distracted by bright lights in our cities. During the day the problem is reflection or other confusing aspects of glass. Audubon chapters, centers, and programs across the country are working to make buildings safer for birds.

HOW TO MAKE HUMMINGBIRD NECTAR

Hummingbirds may be some of the smallest birds in the world, but fluttering those tiny wings can be quite a workout. Flapping away at up to 90 beats per second burns up calories fast; to maintain their momentum, hummingbirds need to eat—a lot! To satisfy their speedy metabolisms, these busy birds consume half their body weight in bugs and nectar, feeding every 10-15 minutes and visiting 1,000-2,000 flowers per day.

You can help these hardworking foragers get the nutrients they need by providing them with their favorite post-workout meal—nectar. This hummingbird sweet treat can be made right at home with a few simple ingredients. By filling your feeder with this DIY delight, you can complement **nectar-rich plants** and watch these beautiful little birds feed and flutter all day.

Materials:

- 1/4 cup refined white sugar
- 1 cup boiling water
- Bowl
- Spoon

Note: Please do not substitute honey, which can promote dangerous fungal growth, or use red food coloring, which is not necessary and could also prove harmful to birds.

1. Mix sugar and boiling water until sugar is dissolved.
2. Cool and fill feeder.
3. Hang up your feeder outside and wait for the hummingbirds to come.