

Walk report and Photos from Whelan Lake Tues Oct 15, 2019

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What a great day for a bird walk. Thanks to all who showed up. Thank you photographers and Russ for write-up and list. Bill S.
Photos below write up - list below photos.

Whelan Lake Bird Sanctuary - Russ Butcher ***October 15, 2019 – 44 species***

Our group of birdwatchers enjoyed a bright sunny morning of birding at Whelan Lake Bird Sanctuary.

The surface of the lake was initially smooth as glass, on which ruddy ducks and other waterbirds created delicate V-shaped wakes. As the temperatures slowly rose from the low 60s to the mid-70s, westerly ocean breezes gradually picked up.

Highlights included spotting a lone White-tailed Kite that swiveled its head quickly from side to side in search of prey;

identifying other raptors such as a Red-tailed Hawk, a Red-shouldered Hawk, American Kestrels and a Turkey Vulture;

watching at least a half-dozen American White Pelicans as they repeatedly seemed to enjoy circling gracefully above the lake and splashing down to swim on its surface;

observing two Green Herons, a Great Blue Heron and a Great Egret at the swampy edge of the lake; and

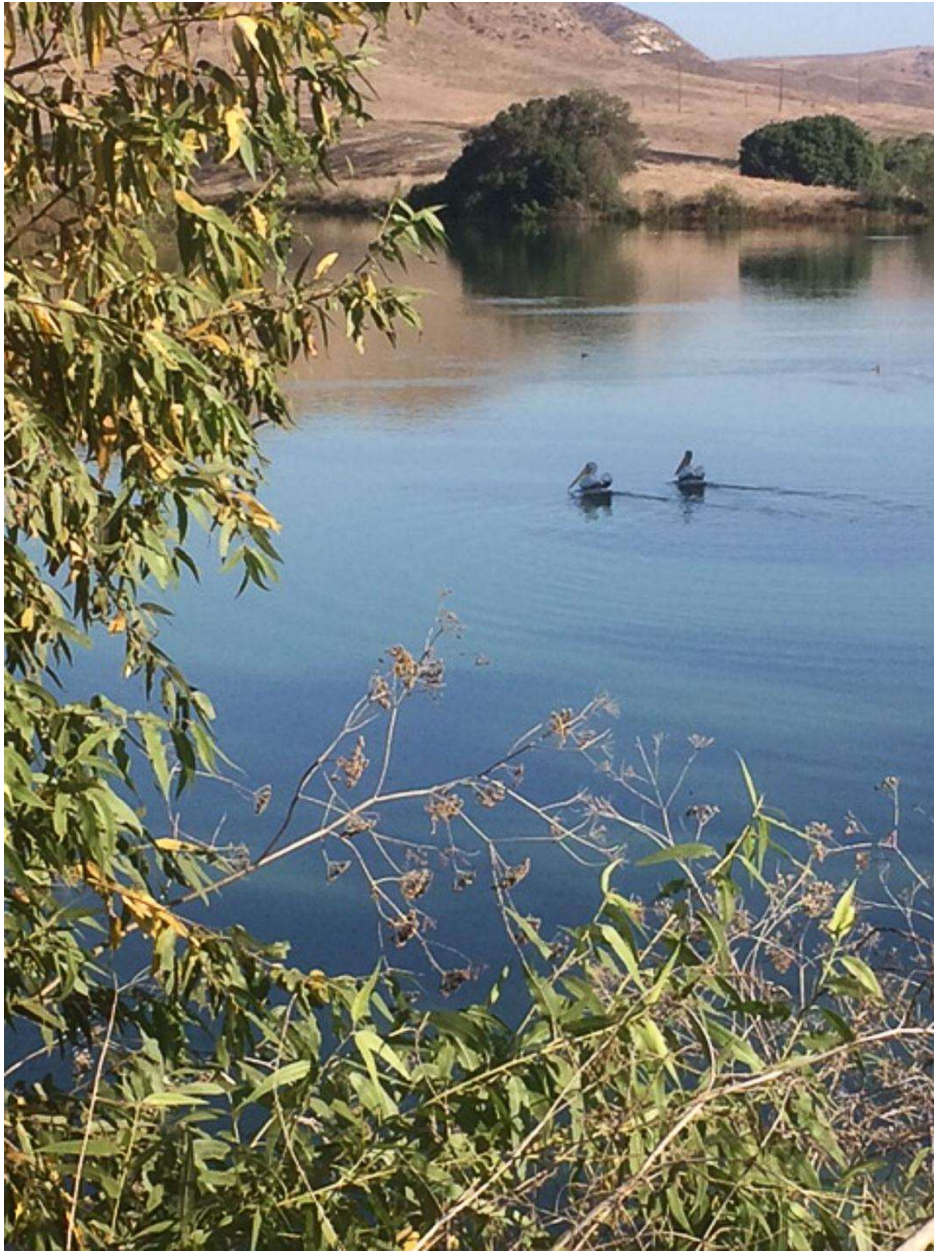
hearing two songbirds that spend the winter here in San Diego County: Yellow-rumped Warblers and musical White-crowned Sparrows.



Whelan Lake - Joan Comito



OHCC Birders at Whelan Lake - Photo Joan Comito



Another view of Whelan with White Pelicans - Russ Butcher



White Pelican Preening - Joan Comito.



Ring-necked ducks - Joan comito



White Pelican with wing structure showing through bright sunlight - Bill Saltzman



Black Phoebe - Vicki Bates



Scope on wheels - photo Vicki Bates



Ring-necked Ducks - Bill saltzman



Kingbird Dance- Ann Baldwin



Great Egret - Ann Baldwin



White Pelican's flying across lake - photo Russ Butcher



Turtle in pond - Joan Comito



Northern Harrier -not often seen - Ann Baldwin



Black-throated Warbler in dense brush - resolution weak but wanted to show.
Spotted by Jane Johnson - Bill Saltzman, a first for me.



American Kestrel - Ann Baldwin - Smallest American Raptor



Green Heron - Ann Baldwin - again not often seen.



Yellow Rumped Warbler - Ann Baldwin



Cassin's Kingbird - Ann Baldwin



Say's Phoebe - Ann Baldwin



Ruddy Duck - Bill Saltzman



Anna's Hummingbird choosing breakfast. The 4 bugs are almost clearer than the bird
Next shot with mouth wide open. Again sorry for the resolution but capturing hummingbirds on the fly is an art to be learned.





Song Sparrow - Bill Saltzman



A very nice group showed up for this walk. Bill S

Bird List: 44 species.

- Pied-billed Grebe**
- Eared Grebe**
- Mallard**
- Cinnamon Teal**
- Wood Duck**
- Ruddy Duck**
- Ring-necked Duck**
- American Coot**
- Common Gallinule**

American White Pelican
Great Blue Heron - 1
Green Heron
Great Egret - 1
Snowy Egret
White-tailed Kite - 1
Cooper's Hawk - 1
Red-tailed Hawk - 1
Red-shouldered Hawk - 1
Turkey Vulture - 1
American Kestrel
Mourning Dove
Anna's Hummingbird
Allen's Hummingbird - 1
Nuttall's Woodpecker
Cassin's Kingbird
Black Phoebe
Say's Phoebe
N. Rough-winged Swallow
Crow
Raven – (heard only)
California Scrub-Jay – (heard only)
House Wren – (heard only)
Wrentit
California Thrasher – (heard only)
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Western Meadowlark – 1
White-crowned Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Spotted Towhee
California Towhee
House Finch
Lesser Goldfinch
Northern Harrier - seen by Ann Baldwin - makes 44

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