

## Napa Solano Audubon Society Birding Notes #3

Hello NSAS friends and members –

This is issue #3 of our biweekly Birding Notes series with updates on activities and birding opportunities within Napa and Solano Counties. Enjoy!

**Note #1** – Our 74<sup>th</sup> Benicia Christmas Bird Count (CBC) will be held on Monday, December 14, 2020. Hope to see you there!

Please note that after compiling the Benicia CBC for 34 years, Robin Leong would like to step down. We are now seeking a few NSAS members who would enjoy helping manage this CBC. Robin's goal is to organize a committee to work on making the Benicia CBC the best it can be! If you're interested in learning the details about how our counts work and assist Robin in coordinating this task, this year, and perhaps in years to come, please don't hesitate to contact either Robin at [robin\\_leong@netzero.net](mailto:robin_leong@netzero.net) or on his cell at (707) 643-1287 or Mark Stephenson at [NapaBirder@gmail.com](mailto:NapaBirder@gmail.com) or on his cell at (707)-246-2795.

**Note #2** – What's being seen locally –



- Kathleen Edson shared this picture of a Red-tailed Hawk that settled on the balcony of her daughter’s apartment in San Francisco. Her daughter had never seen a hawk in her neighborhood. A key attraction for the bird is the opportunity to dive bomb the local pigeons on the sidewalk below.
- They’re back! Northern Flickers, Golden-crowned Sparrows, and Ruby-Crowned Kinglets are just some of the returning migrant birds that have begun showing up to spend the winter with us.
- Check out the eBird reports for Lake Herman at <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L818100?yr=curM&m=&rank=mrec>. This is still the most active Hot Spot in Solano County with 101 different species having been reported in the first 10 days of October.
- American Canyon Wetlands has been a good spot for people who are birding in Napa County. Check out <https://ebird.org/region/US-CA-055/hotspots?yr=curM&m=> for more details.

**Note #3** – Remember that Saturday, October 17 is this year’s BIG DAY!



Last year over 20,000 birders from around the world observed over 6,700 species in the 24 hours of the 2019 Big Day. This year they are hoping to have even more birders participate and identify even more species. They could use your help. Check out [https://ebird.org/news/october-big-day-2020-bigger-than-ever?utm\\_source=Cornell+Lab+eNews&utm\\_campaign=de0963595d-ebird+enews+october+2020&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_47588b5758-de0963595d-320297257](https://ebird.org/news/october-big-day-2020-bigger-than-ever?utm_source=Cornell+Lab+eNews&utm_campaign=de0963595d-ebird+enews+october+2020&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_47588b5758-de0963595d-320297257) for details about how to participate.

**Note #4** – On Wednesday, October 7 Governor Gavin Newsom issued an executive order with the goal of protecting 30% of California’s lands and waters by 2030. The governor’s order directs state agencies to develop nature-based climate solutions which will reduce carbon in our atmosphere, protect biodiversity of animals and plants, and protect wildlife habitat. With this decision, California takes the lead as the first state in the U.S. to make this commitment, joining 38 countries from around the world that are committed to protecting 30% of their natural resources. Follow this link for more details about this historic announcement <https://ca.audubon.org/press-release/audubon-california-applauds-governor-order-shielding-environment-and-working-lands>.

**Note #5** – Thought I would finish this issue of notes with an uplifting video my daughter sent me. It’s from BBC Earth and documents “Penguin chicks rescued by an unlikely hero.” It’s a fun 3 minute watch. (I love the narrators’ accent.) Hope you like it! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lvkfpjiBt5k>