

# The Quail

Volume 66, Number 1

SEPTEMBER 2020

# Next Monthly Program Meeting: Thursday, September 3

Please mark your calendar for our first virtual monthly program meeting! Join us to see the winners of our photo contest and hear about the adventures of Eric Schroeder on his Big Year 2019. Please see **BELOW** for webinar access info.

7:00 PM Welcome and Introductions

**7:05 PM** Winning photos from the first-ever MDAS Photo Contest!

7:25 PM Board Announcements

**7:35 PM** Main Program: *Eric Schroeder's Big Year 2019* 

8:30 PM Adjourn

# 7:35 PM Main Program:

Big Year 2019

Eric Schroeder

Eric Schroeder will share stories from his big year 2019. Knowing he was doing some international travel that year, he decided he would use his birding trips to fundraise for the **Golden Gate Audubon Society** (GGAS). He set two goals for himself: to see 1,000 different species of birds and to raise \$5,000 for GGAS. In his talk he'll share photos of many of the species he saw on his adventures and recount some of the birding highlights of his big year.



Eric Schroeder is currently President and Travel Program coordinator at the Golden Gate Audubon Society. Eric worked at UC Davis where he had a thirty-year career as a lecturer and administrator. He taught for several departments—including the University Writing Program, the English Department, and the American Studies Program—and

directed the Study Abroad Program for which he taught summer courses in Australia, South Africa, and Scotland. His volunteer work includes serving as President of the Tilden Wildcat Horsemen's Association and as a member of the East Bay Regional Park District's Volunteer Mounted Patrol. He completed the GGAS Master



Birder Program and has published nature articles in *Undercurrent*, *Bay Nature*, and *The Gull*. He received his BA in Greek and English from UCLA, his MA in Renaissance Studies from the University of Sussex, and his PhD in English Literature from UCLA.

Cape Robin-chat (top)
Helmet Vanga (bottom)

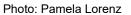
Photos: Eric Schroeder

# 7:00 PM Birding Info: Winning photos from the first-ever MDAS Photo Contest!

Rosalie Howarth, *Social Media & Publicity Chair* Krista Vossekuil, *Social Media Committee & Board Member-at-Large* 

Rosalie Howarth and Krista Vossekuil will show us the winning photos from the first-ever MDAS Photo Contest! See who won the top prize and make plans to enter next year.

Wrentit





#### **Webinar Access Info:**

Date: September 3, 2020

**Time:** 7:00 PM–8:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

**Location:** Zoom online meeting

Access: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83237942592?

pwd=UTRLa2VXaHBZRk9TSHNObFhHbzFXdz09

**Passcode:** 051073

**Phone access:** Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current

location):

US: +1 408 638 0968 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799

or +1 646 876 9923

Webinar ID: 832 3794 2592

Passcode: 051073

International numbers available:

https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kwnkZmSrf

#### **President's Letter**

Jerry Britten, MDAS President

The grand social restructuring experiment that is COVID-19 has no immediate end in sight, so MDAS is embarking on a new path to bring our membership together virtually via Zoom meetings starting this September 3. Please find the **meeting information** in this issue of *The Quail*. We hope all of you find the program



interesting and ask that you please provide feedback so that we can tailor the

vote on changes to our Bylaws electronically rather than during an in-person meeting, similar to our elections earlier this year. This will be coming to you in a membership email separately in the coming weeks. Our field trip program remains on hiatus for now, but we encourage you to go out birding on your own during this time and report interesting sightings to our sightings list **East Bay Birding - Sightings** (details on how to sign up for this list are **HERE** on our website). We fully intend to stage our two Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs) in mid-December. The structure will of course be different than past events, with virtual round-up meetings rather than post-count dinners, no carpooling, smaller groups (hopefully with expanded routes to maintain participation levels), and other modifications. Detailed planning for these will begin in September. MDAS has sponsored a CBC every year since at least 1955.

meetings to be the best they can be. We will also be asking our members to

Our governing board underwent some reshuffling for 2020–2021. I went from *Vice-President* to *President*, Ariana Rickard went from *Co-President* to *Vice-President*, and Maren Smith stepped away from *Co-President* but retains her *Education Committee Chair* position on the board. Steve Buffi and Carol Pachl retained their *Treasurer* and *Secretary* positions, respectively. Changes to the non-elected positions include Marc Desin stepping up to become *Web Editor* in addition to his position as editor of *The Quail*, and Alan Bade, our *Community Science Chair*, is now a voting *Member-at-Large*. Currently, our *Sales Manager* position is vacant. If anyone is interested in this position, please contact me or another board member. Our contact info can be found **HERE**.

MDAS will be providing more financial support than we have in the past to worthy conservation/wildlife nonprofits that have been negatively impacted by the pandemic. This will help to bridge the gap and enable them to continue to provide the important services they perform.

Our Chapter is going on-record to support the U.S. Fish and Wildlife (FWS) plan to eradicate the non-native house mouse from the Farallon Islands. The Environmental Impact Statement of this proposal from the FWS is **HERE**. House mouse eradication is necessary to protect vulnerable nesting seabirds, notably the Ashy Storm Petrel. It was a difficult decision, and not unanimous, since the plan is to use a rodenticide, something MDAS otherwise strongly opposes in cooperation with **Raptors Are The Solution** (RATS). However, it is the only option to restore the islands as a safe nesting place for these seabirds. The plan is also supported by National Audubon, many other local Audubon Chapters, and other local and national conservation organizations.

Again this year, MDAS will be partnering with Julie Woodruff and her Northern Saw-Whet Owl banding project this fall in the Las Trampas Regional

Wilderness. Look for updates and info on this project in forthcoming issues of *The Quail*, MDAS facebook feeds, and during our online meetings.

On the national front, great news for birds! Please see *The Quail* announcement and link concerning an August Federal Court ruling overturning a Dept. of Interior policy that would have removed penalties for the incidental take of birds and only criminalize purposeful kills.

As always, stay safe, enjoy your solo and/or socially-distanced birding adventures as well as our September virtual membership meeting. And please provide feedback so that we can evolve future virtual meetings and make them more entertaining for all.

### Welcome, New Members!

Usha Vadagiri, Walnut Creek
Mark Guilday, Pleasant Hill
Lisa Maddaus, Sacramento
Alison Murdock, San Ramon
Hallie Daly, Alamo
Ann Dailey, Walnut Creek
Wyatt Johnson, Orinda
Arnold Joe, Danville
Kristen Oliver, Pleasant Hill
William and Lana Rocha, Walnut Creek

# MDAS Annual Treasurer's Report—2020

Steve Buffi, MDAS Treasurer

Mt. Diablo Audubon Society remains in an excellent position to serve our chapter and community. We had another successful year. The annual fundraising drive continues to be strong, and our total chapter membership is strong, too.

The financial health of MDAS, due to the generosity of our members, allows us to actively pursue our mission. During the year, we funded important habitat preservation projects and continued our community education outreach efforts for young people. Your generosity supports our monthly presentation program, this newsletter, the annual Christmas Bird Count, our web site, and much more. You have read about these important community efforts in this and prior issues of *The Quail*. Each dollar you give is put to good use for the benefit of our community.

The General Fund balance supports chapter programs and services, the Conservation and Education balance is used towards these efforts, and the *Breeding Bird Atlas* reflects the books held for sale and the results of book sales. During the past fiscal year, conservation and education activities were funded through the General Fund and Conservation and Education Fund. The Conservation and Education Fund is now depleted. In the future, these activities will be funded through the General Fund.

Fund balances are held in checking, money market, and certificate of deposit accounts.

**July 2019–June 2020** 

Funds	Revenue	Expenses	Net	Fund Balance 7/1/2020
General	31,372.39	29,023.96	2,348.43	130,471.93
Conservation and Education	33.79	11,777.73	(11,743.94)	_
Breeding Bird Atlas	(97.02)	4.20	(101.22)	17,845.15
Total All Funds	31,309.16	40,805.89	(9,496.73)	148,317.08

# Do These Simple Things To Help Stop Climate Change Juan Pablo Galván, Young Birders Club Chair

The U.S. Is Simultaneously Failing To Solve Two Crises. Don't Do
The Same. There Must Be A New Normal. Act Now.

Many people are disappointed that despite a half-year of crisis, COVID-19 is still very much alive and well in the Bay Area and across the U.S. It may be disappointing, but unfortunately it is not surprising. Many of the same underlying issues that have prevented the U.S. from taking dramatic, absolutely necessary action to halt catastrophic climate change all but ensured that there would be no quick way out of the global pandemic, even as many other countries around the world have rid themselves of the virus.

The time is now. Communicate and act in your community, your circle of family and friends, and by yourself. Get out of your comfort zone. Make change. The climate crisis is and will be harder to solve than COVID-19, but it is possible. The technology exists, all that is necessary is doing the work, at all levels and by everyone. The alternative to not solving it is absolute disaster. Don't know where to begin? Read below.

- TALK ABOUT IT. Do some of your family, friends, or neighbors not accept the facts of climate change? See how to effectively talk to them about it and make change with THIS awesome TED talk.
- 2. **JOIN THE MOVEMENT.** The power of many can be greater than the power of one. Want to team up with climate change experts and advocates? Check out these two local organizations: **350 Bay Area** and **Sunrise Bay Area**.
- 3. GO RENEWABLE. It's hot, and your house consumes energy. One of the best ways to fight climate change is to reduce energy use. Open your blinds and let in sun instead of turning on a light. Drink a cool beverage and get in some shade before turning on the AC. If you do use power, use 100% renewable energy. Check out these options for the Bay Area HERE and HERE.
- 4. **INFLUENCE BATTLEGROUND STATES.** The November 2020 election will not be decided by how people vote in California. Arizona, Michigan, Florida, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin—these are some of the battleground states that will determine the outcome. If Trump wins, it is a fact that the absolutely disastrous environmental policies he has implemented in his administration will not only continue, but grow worse. It doesn't matter if you like politics or think of yourself a Democrat, Republican, Conservative, or Liberal. The only reason to not get involved is if you hate the environment. Look for ways to influence things. You can start **HERE**.
- 5. FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE IS FIGHTING ECONOMIC AND RACIAL INJUSTICE. Remember when everyone thought COVID-19 would be a great equalizer? As it turns out, disasters like the pandemic are anything but. Turns out that those on the lower end of the professional totem pole are the "essential workers" but are still underpaid and exposed to the greatest danger. Black and Latino/a communities suffer the most from the virus. And the economic toll to higher-income white collar and office workers is much less than the major blow felt by less-secure hourly, blue-collar, and service workers. White, machine-gun toting anti-mask protests might not draw a single cop, but black and brown people protesting the murder of young black and brown people are met with beatings and tear

gas. What does this have to do with climate change? A lot. Know the story. You can start **HERE**.

#### **Great News For Birds!**

Jerry Britten, MDAS President

In an August ruling over a lawsuit brought by the National Audubon Society and other conservation organizations against the U.S. Dept. of Interior, a Federal Judge overturned the current Administration's rollback of protections of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), a 100-year-old bird protection law. The Interior Dept. had sought to narrow the scope of the MBTA by ruling that it only protects against purposeful killing of birds, and not incidental kill. For context, if this legal opinion had been in place in 2010, BP would have faced no consequences under the MBTA for the more than one million birds killed in the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. See **THIS LINK** to National Audubon for more details and to ask your representative to defend the MBTA from further attacks by passing the Migratory Bird Protection Act.



Atlantic Puffin

Photo: Jerry Britten

# **Birding During COVID-19**

Due to the continuing coronavirus threat, Mt. Diablo Audubon Society (MDAS) is not offering field trips at this time. It is uncertain when field trips will resume, so please check the **MDAS** website and/or the **MDAS** Facebook page for information about the resumption of field trips.



Ruddy Turnstone

Photo: Jay McGowan/Macaulay Library at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology (ML45254791)

It is always a good time to go birding on your own. If you choose to stay close to home, the National Audubon Society has great information on **backyard birding** and photographing birds at home.

And getting out into nature is a proven way to improve your physical and mental health. Just be sure to keep in mind local laws and social distancing best practices. See the **National Audubon Society's suggestions for socially distant birding**.

MDAS has compiled the following list of suggested birding destinations where you will likely see a variety of birds in summer and fall. This list will be updated on the **MDAS website** as destinations open up. Click on each destination link for more information including possible COVID-19 restrictions.

#### Hayward Regional Shoreline, Hayward

This is a very popular location for walkers, fishing persons, and birders. Parking at the Winton Avenue parking lot is best at the first area before entering through the open gate. One can walk to the low, elevated mound known as "Mt. Trashmore." Can you guess what is below the dirt and short grass vegetation? It is about a half-mile out to the edge of San Francisco Bay along the flood control channel. Going north past another landfill area brings one to a large, mostly dry mudflat known as "Frank's Dump." This can be shorebird heaven in late summer and fall, as they either gather for the winter or use the area as a stopping point during their southerly migration. One can see Willets, Marbled Godwits, Red Knots, Short-billed Dowitchers, Ruddy Turnstones, Black-bellied Plovers, and the occasional Pacific Golden-Plover. Migrant passerines may be seen in the trees and weedy areas near the parking lot; raptors can be anywhere.

#### Outer Point Reyes, Pt. Reyes

The Outer Point Reyes area is a wonderful place to find fall migrants, many of them Eastern passerine vagrants. The best places to check are the trees around the visitor center and monument at Drake's Beach, the trees at the Mendoza Ranch, the trees at the Nunes Ranch, the trees around the residence at the Fish Docks, and the trees near the residence above the lighthouse. Some of the specialty migrants have included Blackburnian, Blackpoll, Chestnut-sided, Connecticut, Black-and-white, Magnolia, Prothonotary, Yellow-throated, and Black-throated Blue Warblers. We have seen Yellow-green, Red-eyed and White-eyed Vireos, Orchard Orioles, Ovenbirds, American Redstarts, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Peregrine Falcons, and Broad-winged Hawks. Look on the water for Common Murres, Pigeon Guillemots, Cormorants and Loons. The chance to see migrants is very much dependent on the weather; the absence of winds from the northwest and an overcast night sky will help trap these land birds at the Outer Point. Be sure to check the National Park Service Point Reyes website for road closure information.

## **Save The Song Birds**

Mike Eliot, MDAS Member-at-Large

Backyard birds need your help. North American bird populations have decreased by 2.9 billion over the last 50 years. Scientists note that habitat loss is the single largest culprit, followed closely by predators such as cats.

But what can we do to help? The **National Wildlife Federation** (**NWF**) is a champion for birds and has a Certified Wildlife Habitat program that helps us learn what to do. You can



participate and become certified or just do what you can to help bring back the song birds. Check out the program at **Certified Wildlife Habitat**.



There are basically five elements to a backyard that is bird-friendly. The basics include: Food, Water, Cover, Places to raise young, and Sustainability. Doing some or all of these can be easy, fun, rewarding, and accomplished without great expense.

**Food** includes three types for birds: seed, suet, and nectar. You can create a bird feeding station with all three using a variety of quality foods that attract large numbers and greater varieties of birds. These will give you hours of enjoyment watching and hearing all the birds. You can educate yourself and your children by learning to identify different

species and their habits and personalities. In addition, you can plant bird-friendly native plants that also provide seeds, berries, nuts, or nectar.

**Water** is provided through a water feature such as a bird bath, fountain, pond, or stream. It can be as simple as a water dish. Drippers and misters can also provide additional water sources. Many species of birds that do not visit feeders will still visit your yard to drink and bathe. Science tells us that birds need both to maintain their health and body temperature by keeping their feathers clean. And, some of the funniest moments watching birds happen when they are bathing.

**Cover** includes both nest or roosting boxes and protective cover like thick shrubs or trees, or even rock piles. These give birds the opportunity to retreat quickly from predators or foul weather. Birds also need cover for times of rest, social interaction, and training young. Nest or roosting boxes need to be scientifically designed to protect against heat, predators, mites, and more. Many types of hand-made boxes may not have appropriate size or height openings, drainage, air flow, and ability to be properly cleaned. Here is a link to the **NWF Native Plants list**.

**Places** to raise young include many of the same native plants used for food sources. There are both cavity-nester and cup-nester song birds. Cup-nesters can build simple or very complex nests in the branches of bushes or trees. Individual species prefer different elevations from about two feet to thirty feet or more above ground. Cavity-nesters prefer holes in tree trunks or branches and appropriate nest boxes. With the increased loss of bird habitat, many of these birds are having trouble finding safe nesting places.

**Sustainability** practices include replacing exotic or invasive species with native plants, avoiding pesticides and herbicides, removing pavement and replacing with plants or grasses, and keeping cats indoors. A few weeds is a small price to pay for better health for birds, people, and the environment.

Mike Eliot
Wild Birds Unlimited, Pleasant Hill

#### Auk the Vote!

# America's birds don't vote. But they have a huge stake in the outcome of the 2020 elections.

**Auk the Vote!** is an entirely grassroots campaign. They have no paid staff, no office space, no product lines, no partisan affiliations, and no 501(c)(3) status. They are birders rising to the unprecedented challenge of the current moment, doing all they can to protect the birds, the habitats, and the communities—natural and human—that we love.

To learn more about *Auk The Vote!* and what's at stake click HERE.

#### **Swainson's Thrush Rescue**

Rosalie Howarth, MDAS Social Media & Publicity Chair

One morning in April as I carried the bird feeder out the patio door to hang it up, I discovered, of all things, an injured Swainson's Thrush lying outside the screen door. I never see Swainsons at our feeder though it abounds with the usual suspects, so it was a bit of a shock. There are redwoods and pines on the golf course behind us, but not a lot of scrub and chaparral. Maybe my attempt to plant native plants is paying off? I had to suspect a window strike as the glass is covered in UV decals, but I know they lose strength over time.

The bird was alert and could lift its head, so I rummaged around and found the old pierced shoebox, and we trundled off to the Lindsay Wildlife Experience animal hospital. Their COVID-19 protocols were in place, so I left the bird in one of their boxes under the pop-up shade tent, and filled out the required form. I dropped some bills in the donation jar and left, hoping for the best.

Imagine my surprise when almost six weeks later I get a call—yes a phone call—from a Lindsay volunteer rehabilitator named Herman. He says the bird was all healed up and ready to release where it had been; would I like to attend? Would I ever! I said heck yeah, and since he couldn't come through the house to the patio, we agreed to meet at the big pine out front.



Rosalie Howarth and Herman with Swainson's Thrush in bag ready to release

When he arrived I told him I was with the Audubon Society, and he replied "Do NOT go all talking birds on me; I don't know anything about birds. I mean I can tell a pelican from a pheasant, but that's about it. I'm really a squirrel guy." And at that moment, in one of the oddest coincidences I've ever experienced, a young squirrel came bulleting out of the landscaping, made a beeline across the lawn to Herman and scrabbled all over his white sneakers, before ricocheting off and scrabbling up the old pine. "I guess you really ARE a squirrel guy!" was all I could manage.

The bird was racketing around in a paper bag held closed by a wooden clothespin; he had recovered extremely well from a serious shoulder injury. Herman said he was "a real dickens" and had escaped while inside the hospital (I suspect that's the reasons for the clothes pin). And indeed he shot out like a bat out of hell when Herman opened the bag. You can see him directly above his cupped hands if you look closely! I will always regret not getting a shot of the manic squirrel though.



Herman releasing Swainson's Thrush - "he shot out like a bat out of hell"

I told him he did a great job on the thrush considering he's not a bird guy. I'm glad the plucky little guy is flying free again, and I hope you will consider donating to the **Lindsay Wildlife Experience** at this very tough time for them.

## **Birder's Diary**

Hugh Harvey, Field Trips Chair

**Editor's Note:** In 1996 the author, Hugh Harvey, wrote a lot of stories about the first sightings of many species that contributed to his life list. This story was written on July 11, 1996 about his first sighting of a Dusky Flycatcher on June 18, 1994.

Those darned Empidonax flycatchers, here they come again! It is another case of taking someone's word for it.

We had been to Yuba Pass, and I think this was the third time. As some, or I should say many, of these birds nest in the mountains, it is necessary to go to them. This is true with the Gray, Dusky, and Hammond's Flycatchers. They migrate through the Bay Area in spring, but do not nest here. It is interesting to hear the experts discuss the identifying characteristics of the various flycatchers.

On this occasion, Denise Wight and Mike Danzenbaker found this bird in the earlier part of the day. Actually, I think Mike showed it to Denise. We were driving up the hill beyond the campground, on a decent forest service road, to look for the Spruce Grouse. Denise stopped us because we were not a large group.



**Dusky Flycatcher** 

Photo: Robert McNab/Macaulay Library at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology (ML37046381)

Mike had found a female Dusky Flycatcher sitting on a nest. She did not look comfortable sitting in the sun, as she was, and Denise had not wanted to scare her with a large group of viewers. We did not stay long, either, and that was it.

We went on up the hill and saw the Spruce Grouse; it was sitting relatively exposed, high in a pine tree on the downhill side of the road. This was the same area in which it was seen in 1990, our first Yuba Pass trip and our first camping experience together. Wow!!

#### **Events**

# **Golden Gate Audubon Society Online Birding Class**



#### **Evolution of Birds**

A science-based course for curious adult learners who have some birding

experience.

The focus of this class is on avian evolution—including the scientists whose work has led to the modern theory of evolution, the evolutionary processes that have resulted in over 10,000 species of birds today, and the geological events that have been much of the cause of today's avian multitude. From dinosaurs in Pangea to mountains rising in California, we'll cover one hundred million years of the earth's history, ending with California's remarkable birdlife—all in six weeks. PDFs of the Powerpoint slides will be available after the presentations.

**Date:** Six Tuesday classes by Zoom

August 25, September 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29

**Time:** 7:00 PM–9:00 PM

**Location:** Zoom online meeting

**Instructors:** Bob Lewis and Bruce Mast

**Cost:** \$75 for GGAS members, \$110 for non-members

Registration: Click here to register online

Limited to 95 participants.

#### SF Bay Bird Observatory—Birdy Hour Speaker Series



## Birding—Love at First Sight by Sebastian Casarez

In this special edition of Birdy Hour, join **SFBBO** and **Latino Outdoors** to hear from Sebastian Casarez, an accomplished 17-year-old birder and bird educator from Texas. Learn how a love for birding changed his life and how that passion for birds grew into a birding movement throughout his community and the state of Texas. He will share his experiences being a young birder and all the breakthroughs he was able to accomplish by educating his community about birds and birding. He will also explain the benefits and importance of having a birding mentor or becoming a birding mentor to youth.

**Date:** Thursday, September 3

Time: 5:00 PM-6:00 PM

**Location:** Zoom online meeting

Cost: Free

Registration: Click here to register online

#### Save Mount Diablo's Virtual Gala Event



#### **Moonlight on the Mountain**

Join Save Mount Diablo for Moonlight on the Mountain, Save Mount Diablo's signature annual fundraising gala, a celebration of Diablo's precious beauty and support for Save Mount Diablo's essential work. This year, the gala has gone virtual.

This virtual gala will include everyone's favorite Moonlight on the Mountain experiences, such as entertainment, exciting silent and live auctions, inspirational presentations, a live Fund-a-Need, virtual audience participation, and more!

Their hope that this year's virtual event will allow even more of the Bay Area's conservation community to join them and participate in this special event.

**Date:** Saturday, September 12

Time: 5:30 PM Location: Online

Cost: Donation to Save Mount Diablo Registration: Click here to register online

# Golden Gate Audubon Society Online Birding Class



# Introduction to Avian Anatomy and Physiology

A science-based course for curious adult learners who have some birding experience.

An overview of what makes birds unique, including feathers and flight; how birds breathe, and how they produce song; their amazing hearts and circulatory system; how they feed, digest, and excrete; how they reproduce and raise their

young; how they migrate and navigate. We will look at some comparison and contrasts to mammals, and we will explore resources for continued learning.

**Date:** Six Tuesday classes by Zoom

October 6, 13, 20, 27, November 3 and 10

**Time:** 7:00 PM–9:00 PM

**Location:** Zoom online meeting

**Instructor:** Maureen Lahiff

**Cost:** \$75 for GGAS members, \$110 for non-members

Registration: Click here for more information

Limited to 50 participants. Registration opens in September. Once the class is full, you may register to

be on a waiting list.

### **Contra Costa County Fish & Wildlife Committee**



#### **CCC Fish & Wildlife Committee Accepting Applications**

The Contra Costa County Internal Operations Committee of the Board of Supervisors is now accepting applications from individuals to fill two (2) At-Large Member Seats and one (1) At-Large Alternate member seat on the Contra Costa County Fish & Wildlife Committee. Existing members seeking reappointment and individuals seeking a new appointment may apply. Applications are due by October 2, 2020 at 5:00 P.M.

Fish & Wildlife Committee meetings are held six times a year on the third Wednesday of the month from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM. For more information regarding the Fish & Wildlife Committee, please visit the **Committee's website**. An application is available on the website **HERE**.

# **September Gallery**

MDAS Photo Contest 2020 Honorable Mentions Some more of the superb submissions in the Portrait Category!



Common Raven
Photo: Alan Krakauer
Wildcat Canyon Regional Park

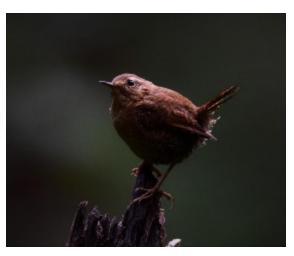


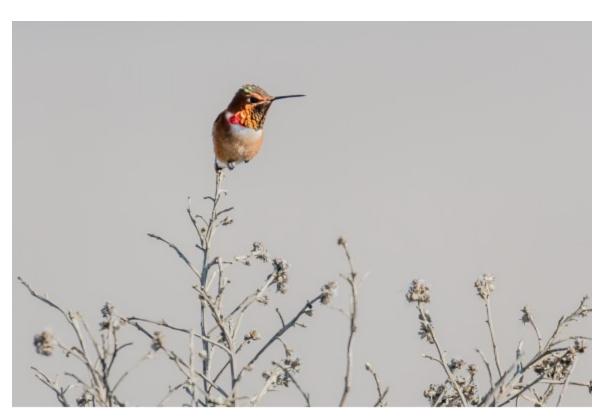
Western Meadowlark
Photo: Jean Halford
Cosumnes Regional Preserve



Photo: David Miner
Walnut Creek







Allen's Hummingbird Photo: Wayne Narr Grizzly Island Wildlife Area



Hooded Oriole
Photo: Alice Castellanos
Martinez



Great Blue Heron Photo: Lisa Gorrell Heather Farm Park

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Mt. Diablo Audubon Society Leadership

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