

# KITE TALES

a monthly newsletter from the  
Redwood Region Ornithological Society

Volume 58 Number 1

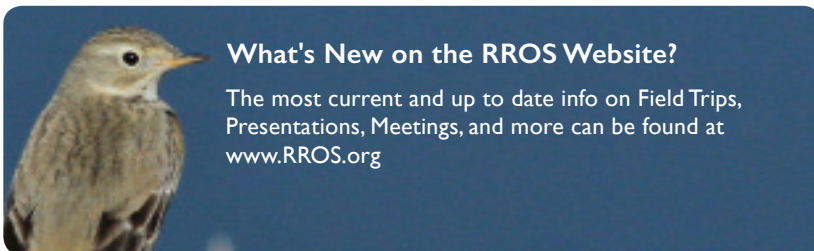
September 2022



Nazca Booby, Bodega Bay 📷 Rick LeBaudour



**Next RROS Meeting**  
**Fall Pot Luck @ Sugarloaf SP**  
**September 14th // 5:30 pm**



### What's New on the RROS Website?

The most current and up to date info on Field Trips, Presentations, Meetings, and more can be found at [www.RROS.org](http://www.RROS.org)

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## SAVE THE DATE

September Membership Meeting : Wednesday, September 14th , 5:30 pm

**This month's program: Annual Fall Outdoor Meeting Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, 5:30PM**

This is our first Membership Meeting for 2022-2023. Meet at Sugarloaf at the picnic tables on the right, just past the entrance kiosk and across from the main parking lot.

Come earlier for late afternoon birding and/or stay after dinner for a late evening bird walk out towards the observatory. Outdoor dining at the picnic tables near the first parking lot. BYO - everything. Only share safely!! If desired, bringing your own camp chair and/or blanket.

*Where: Sugarloaf Ridge State Park.*

*Directions: From Hwy 12 East, about 6 miles beyond Calistoga Road, take a left on Adobe Rd. Follow Adobe Rd to its end in the park. Main parking lot is on the left, past the entrance kiosk.*

*What to Know: State Park entrance fee is \$10 per car / \$8 for senior or student. Covered with California State Parks pass.*

## UPCOMING RROS FIELD TRIPS & EVENTS

### *RROS Field Trips in the Time of COVID-19*

This last year, due to Covid, we required field-trip attendees to make reservations in order to limit the size of the group. We will not be doing that this year, unless a specific trip needs to be limited due to physical restraints. However, you are encouraged to RSVP for all trips. In return, you will receive a reminder of the trip and automatically be shared on the group eBird list.

To RSVP, contact Malcolm Blanchard by email at [mab@mabco.com](mailto:mab@mabco.com) or text at (707) 480-2210.

### September 10, 2022, 8:30AM – 1:00PM, Putah Creek Riparian Preserve, near Davis, Ruthie Rudesill

This is a great place for mostly western migrants, but can have some eastern birds as well. It has easy trails. You can bring a folding chair to sit creekside to watch for birds, dragonflies, and mammals (otter and mink). It can be hot later in the morning.

Meet at 7:15AM for car pooling at the highway 121/116 Park 'n' Ride in Sonoma (38.2360345, -122.4611217) or at 8:30AM at the Preserve. To get to the Preserve, head east on highway 80. Nearing Davis, take the Pedrick Road exit north (there's a gas station with restroom and snacks at the freeway exit). Drive a few minutes until the bridge over Putah Creek. Turn left immediately after crossing the bridge (there is no sign) and park in the parking lot (38.5275724, -121.8042537).

Bring water, snacks or lunch, layered clothing and hats.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Malcolm Blanchard (707) 480-2210.

### Wednesday - September 14, 2022, Annual Spring Outdoor Meeting Sugarloaf Ridge State Park, 5:30PM




Meet at Sugarloaf at the picnic tables on the right, just past the entrance kiosk and across from the main parking lot. Come earlier for late afternoon birding and/or stay after dinner for a late evening bird walk out towards the observatory. Outdoor dining at the picnic tables near the first parking lot. BYO - everything. Only share safely!! If desired, bringing your own camp chair and/or blanket.

*Where: Sugarloaf Ridge State Park. Directions: From Hwy 12 East, about 6 miles beyond Calistoga Road, take a left on Adobe Rd. Follow Adobe Rd to its end in the park. Main parking lot is on the left, past the entrance kiosk. What to Know: State Park entrance fee is \$10 per car / \$8 for senior or student. Covered with California State Parks pass.*

### Saturday - September 24, 2022, 7:00AM – 12:00PM, Bodega Bay, Peter Colasanti

Join Peter Colasanti looking for Autumn vagrants at Bodega Bay. Historically this is the prime weekend for them. We'll start at Campbell Cove and work our way around the harbor, our exact itinerary will be determined by conditions that day. Meet at the Campbell Cove parking lot (38.3053818, -123.0578580) at the end of Westshore Road between 7:00AM and 8:00AM.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Malcolm Blanchard (707) 480-2210.

**Saturday - October 8, 2022, 8:00AM – 12:00PM, Huichica Creek, Larry Kent**   

Huichica Creek is a unit of the Napa-Sonoma Wildlife Area in Napa County on the border with Sonoma County. It hosts an abundance of water fowl and shorebirds. We will be led by Larry Kent, one of the top birders in Napa County and one who knows this location well. We will meet at the parking lot at Huichica Creek at the end of Buchli Station Road (38.2147295, -122.3318977). Drive past Hudeman Slough on Ramal Road. Once in Napa County, turn right on Las Amigas Road, then right on Buchli Station Road, continue until just past the railroad tracks. For more information or to RSVP, contact Malcolm Blanchard (707) 480-2210.

**Saturday - October 22, 2022, 8:00AM – 12:00PM, Ellis Creek, Craig Roth**   

Ellis Creek is one of the best birding hotspots in central Sonoma County, where many rare birds have been documented over the years. We will be led by Craig Roth, who has participated in the Petaluma Wetland's surveys to this spot for many years. Expect water fowl and shore birds. Least Bittern were seen here this year, though they have probably gone into hiding by now. Meet in the parking lot off Cypress Drive, Petaluma (38.2268466, -122.5850014) at 8:00AM.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Malcolm Blanchard (707) 480-2210.

**Saturday - November 12, 2022, 8:30AM – 12:30PM, Willow Creek Road, The Tufflis**   

Join Teresa and Miles Tuffli for a morning of birding along Willow Creek Road in Jenner. During raptor migration season, we'll have the potential for multiple species - Ferruginous Hawks, American Kestrels, Bald Eagles, and more. Many wintering and year-round passerines will be frequenting the willows, alders, and scrub. With a view of the Russian River, we'll look for some water birds as well.

We'll meet at the defunct Russian House #1 restaurant, and bird the road's entrance on foot. We'll then move all cars down the road to a large pullout. We'll bird the willows, creek area, and river view on foot before continuing down the road (birders are encouraged to carpool from there), stopping to bird various sections.

No bathrooms. Heavy rain cancels. Bring layers, water, lunch or snacks, and sunscreen.

Location & Directions: The address for the defunct Russian House #1 is 9960 CA-1, Jenner, California 95450. If coming from Bodega Bay, it's 9 miles north directly along CA-1 (15-20 mins), on the right just before the Russian River bridge. If coming from River Road/ Highway 116, take Highway 116 west through Guerneville, Monte Rio, and Duncans Mills until you reach the Y-intersection w/ CA-1. Head left (south) on Highway 1, and the defunct Russian House #1 is on your left immediately after crossing the Russian River bridge. For more information or to RSVP, contact Malcolm Blanchard (707) 480-2210.

**YAMS field trips are for school-aged kids and their chaperone(s)**

**Sunday - Sept 4, 2022, YAMS Field Trip: Bodega Bay , 8:30AM – 12:30PM**   

Meet at Port o Bodega parking lot (1500 Bay Flat Road) at 8:30am. We will drive to several locations; most likely including Doran Regional Park (\$7 day use fee) and Bodega Head. Some probable sightings include both Brown and American White Pelicans, Black Oystercatchers, and a large assortment of shorebirds. If we are lucky there might be a few unexpected migrants lurking in the bushes. Please bring your own snacks, water, lunch, binoculars, field guides, layered clothing, comfortable shoes and water.

*To RSVP or more information, contact Lisa Hug.*

**Sunday - September 25, 2022, YAMS Field Trip: Point Reyes National Seashore , 7:30AM – 3:00PM**   

Meet at the Lakeville Highway Park and Ride at the corner of Highway 116 and Highway 101 at the south end of Petaluma. [https://moovitapp.com/index/en/public\\_transit-Lakeville\\_Highway\\_Park\\_and\\_Ride-SF\\_Bay\\_Area\\_CA-site\\_7737082-22](https://moovitapp.com/index/en/public_transit-Lakeville_Highway_Park_and_Ride-SF_Bay_Area_CA-site_7737082-22)

We will carpool from this location and try to get to Point Reyes by about 8:30am or so. We will explore areas like "The Fish Docks" and Drake's Beach. We will look for fall migrants, waterbirds and the nearly California endemic tricolored blackbirds. Please bring your own snacks, water, lunch, binoculars, field guides, layered clothing, comfortable shoes and water.

*To RSVP or more information, contact Lisa Hug.*

**Sunday - October 9, 2022, YAMS – Annual Fundraising “bird-a-thon” 6:45am to dusk and dinner**   

YAMS have participated in the annual "Point Blue Rich Stallcup bird-a-thon" since we were founded in 2014. This year we may also contribute some of our funds to Western Field Ornithologists. We will be just one of several teams participating in this event. The idea is to bird all day long and see as many species of birds as possible. We typically encounter around 120 bird species for the day. We bird all around Sonoma County, starting at the Sebastopol Community Center and ending at Ellis Creek Water Recycling Facility around dusk. We then have a celebratory pizza dinner at Mike's Pizza in Petaluma. This is a LONG day. But it's fun! Please bring your own snacks (lots), water (lots), lunch, binoculars, field guides, layered clothing, comfortable shoes and water.

*To RSVP or more information, contact Lisa Hug.*



: Bring Lunch



: Bring Water



: Restrooms Not Available



: Restrooms Available



: Parking Fee

## OBSERVATIONS

April 21, 2022 to August 20, 2022 // COMPILED BY DAVID A. HOFMANN

Species	Date/s	Location	Ct y	#	Observer/s
Black Scoter	05/08/22	Campbell Cove State Park	SO N	1 m	JoB
Nighthawk species	07/27/22	Ellis Creek ponds	SO N	1	LeR fly-over
Common Poorwill	05/11/22	Sugarloaf Ridge State Park	SO N	1	GaP heard only
Common Poorwill	06/24/22	Sugarloaf Ridge State Park	SO N	5	WiA
Black Swift	05/15/22	Pine Flat Road---upper	SO N	5	Ma&LuS photos
Black-chinned Hummingbird	04/27/22	Sonoma yard	SO N	1 m	RiL
Sandhill Crane	05/01/22	Petaluma—Luchesi Park	SO N	1	JuC photos fly-over
Pacific Golden Plover	07/21-08/ 01/22	San Pablo Bay NWR	SO N	1	LuS, GaP photos
Red Knot	05/02/22	Bodega Bay—Gafney Point	SO N	3	RiL
Red Knot	06/03-07/ 22	Bodega Bay---Spud Point	SO N	2	ScC, AlW, StA, EuH photo
Red Knot	08/02-04/ 22	Bodega Bay---Spud Point	SO N	1	JoS, LiH photo
Semipalmated Sandpiper	07/11/22	Carmody Road---south pond	SO N	1	Ma&LuS
Semipalmated Sandpiper	08/09-20/ 22	Bodega Bay harbor	SO N	1	LuC, JoS, JeV, MaS photos
Semipalmated Sandpiper	08/11/22	Salmon Creek mouth	SO N	1	LuC, LuS
Long-tailed Jaeger	05/08/22	Pelagic---"headed northwest to the Football and never made it to Bodega Canyon."---35 observers	SO N	1	LuC, Ma&LuS, ScC, JoB, WeY, ViW, CoC, EmI, EIG, MaB, DaT, AiB, AsP, BrM, DoK, MaR, PeC, EtM, EvC, GIT, JuU, RaL, ZaM, LiH, AlM, BrB photos
Rhinoceros Auklet	07/23-08/ 13/22	Bodega Head State Park	SO N	2	GaP, JaS, ScS photos
Rhinoceros Auklet	07/31/22	Doran Regional Park	SO N	1	AlW photo
Least Tern	05/18/22	San Pablo Bay NWR	SO N	2	Ma&LuS
Least Tern	06/26/22	San Pablo Bay NWR	SO N	1	Ma&LuS photo
Murphy's Petrel	05/08/22	Pelagic---"headed northwest to the Football and never made it to Bodega Canyon."---35 observers	SO N	8	LuC, Ma&LuS, ScC, JoB, WeY, ViW, CoC, EmI, EIG, MaB, DaT, AiB, AsP, BrM, DoK, MaR, PeC, EtM, EvC, GIT, JuU, RaL, ZaM, LiH, AlM, BrB photos

Cook's Petrel	05/08/22	Pelagic---see above--35 observers	SO N	1	LuC, LuS, ScC, DaT photos
<b>Nazca Booby</b>	06/05/22	Bodega Bay---harbor <b>First Sonoma County record</b>	SO N	1 a	PeC, MaB, ScC, ToB, ReB, DAH, EuH, LiH, DoK, GaP, WeD, ZaM, ThB, EtM, Je&EvV, Ma&LuS, AIW, Br&OrO, RAR, RiL, JoS, JaS, JoK, ViV photos
<b>Nazca Booby</b>	06/20/22	Landed on boat and rode boat from Bodega Canyon to Bodega Bay	SO N	1	KeM, Per ScC video
Least Bittern	07/06-08/20/22	Ellis Creek ponds	SO N	2	FoT, EIC, ReL, MaB, BW, LeR, RoS, LiH, CoH, MaG, JoS, JeV, EIC, LuS, PhB, EuH, WeD photos
White-faced Ibis	05/13/22	Hudeman Slough	SO N	2	Ma&LuS, GaP photos
White-faced Ibis	05/21-15/22	Ellis Creek ponds	SO N	1 1	DoK, ViH, EuH, Ma&LuS, JuC, PeC photos
White-faced Ibis	05/25/22	Doran Regional Park	SO N	1	NaS photos
White-faced Ibis	08/18/22	Adobe Road X Stage Gulch Road	SO N	2	JeV
Common Black-Hawk X Red-shouldered Hawk	04/21-08/2022	Santa Rosa Creek Trail west of Willowside Road (multiple photos & tapes of mating with a male Red-shouldered Hawk)	SO N	1f	BrW, Ma&BeB, MeC, GaP, DeF, ScC, BrR, HeA, TeK, Je&EvV, WeD, LiH, GaP, RAR, Ma&LuS, KuN, JaH photos
Lewis's Woodpecker	04/22/22	Pepperwood Preserve	SO N	2	NiB
Prairie Falcon	08/20/22	Tolay Regional Park	SO N	1	LeR photo
Hammond's Flycatcher	05/01/22	Pine Flat Road upper	SO N	1	Ma&LuS, LuC, GaP photos
Dusky Flycatcher	05/22/22	Robert Louis Stevenson State Pk	SO N	1	LuC
Say's Phoebe	04/21-05/03/22	South Santa Rosa yard <b>1st record of a successful breeding pair in Sonoma County.</b>	SO N	2	DaB photos
Red-eyed Vireo	06/15/22	Russian Gulch State Beach	SO N	1	BrB, LuS
Townsend's Solitaire	05/22/22	Robert Louis Stevenson State Pk	SO N	1	LuC, LuS

Lawrence's Goldfinch	06/02-20/22	Hood Mtn Regional Park---parking lot	SO N	8	DeF, EuH, GaP, GoB, JeV, JoS, WeD, CoM, ReL, MaB, DoK, MaL, ReO, KeW, ScC, BaK, KaM, DaLa, MaG, ChN, EIC, DaLe, AlW, Na&EuH photos
Lawrence's Goldfinch	08/09/22	Riverfront Regional Park	SO N	1	Ma&LuS
Bell's Sparrow	05/07/22	Pine Flat Road upper	SO N	1	DoK
Bell's Sparrow	05/15/22	Pine Flat Road upper	SO N	4	Ma&LuS photos
Yellow-breasted Chat	05/04/22	Kenwood yard	SO N	1	RAR
Yellow-breasted Chat	05/14/22	Santa Rosa Crk Trail west of Willowside Road	SO N	1	BrW, PeC photo
Yellow-breasted Chat	05/15/22	Dry Creek---Yoakim Bridge	SO N	1	Ma&LuS photo
Yellow-breasted Chat	05/30-06/08/22	Russian River---Steelhead Beach	SO N	1	LiH, DoK, JaH photo
Yellow-breasted Chat	06/09/22	Geyser Road---south end	SO N	1	LiH
MacGillivray's Warbler	05/11-18/22	Pocket Canyon yard	SO N	1	JoS photos
MacGillivray's Warbler	06/29/22	Salt Point SP---Woodside CG	SO N	1 m	NaS
Hooded Warbler	06/06/22	Bodega Bay---Cheney Gulch	SO N	1 m	DaN, Ma&LuS, ToB, JeV photo
Summer Tanager	07/27/22	Maxwell Farms Regional Park	SO N	1 m	LuS
Summer Tanager	08/01-06/22	Boyes Hot Springs yard	SO N	1 m	Je&EvV, GaP, RAR photos
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	06/13/22	Sebastopol---Peaks Pike Road	SO N	1 m	CaJ photo

### OBSERVERS FOR THIS PERIOD

Steve Abbot • Will Anderson • Heather Anderson • Dave Barry • Nicole Barden • Gordon Beebe • Jonah Benningfield • Malcolm Blanchard • Malcolm & Beatrice Blanchard • Theodora Block • Tony Briggs • Renee Briggs • Brian Browne • Aiden Brubaker • Josh Bruening • Phil Burton • Scott Carey • Everett Clark • Julie Clark • Connor Cochrane • Peter Colasanti • Megan Collins • Lucas Corneliussen • Elizabeth Crouthamel • Wendy Dandridge • Dea Freid • Mani Gomez • Mary Grishaver • Eli Gross • Connie Haile • Jack Hayden • Vinayak Hebbagil • David A. Hofmann • Lisa Hug • Eugene Hunn • Nancy & Eugene Hunn • Emmett Iverson • Carolyn Johnson • Barbara Kendrick • Ted Keyel • John King • Don Kirker • Mary Lamke • Rachel Lawrence • Rebecca Lawton • Rick LeBaudour • David Lumpkin • Bruce Mast • Keith McMurray • Karen Meredith • Alex Merritt • Colin Meusel • Zack Mikalonis • Ethan Monk • Christian Naventi • Dan Nelson • Kurt Niznik • Brook & Orion OConnor • Rebecca Olsen • Asher Perla • Garrett Pierce • Mark Rauzon • Levi Rehberg • Brandy Rucker • Ruth Ann Rudesill • Mark Sawyer • Nathan Smale • Josh Snead • Jackie Sones • Scott Sorby • Mark & Lucas Stephenson • Lucas Stephenson • Ron Storey • Glen Tepke • David Tomb • Forest Tomlinson • Julien Ueda • Jeff & Eva Valfer • Vicens Vila • Brian Webb • B Westerhold • Alan Wight • Ken Wilson • Violet Wu • Wentao Yang

# PHOTO GALLERY



Nazca Booby (First Sonoma County Record!) • June, 5, 2022 Bodega Bay, Ca • Rick LeBaudour



The Nazca Booby made for quite the day in Bodega Bay! Particularly for Lisa Hug, who marked it as her 400th county bird!



Snowy Plover • Bodega Bay, Ca • Malcolm Blanchard



Western Screech Owl • Glen Ellen, Ca • Malcolm Blanchard



White-tailed Kite • Dennis Luz



## ABOUT RROS

*Redwood Region Ornithological Society was organized in 1962 “to encourage the study and conservation of birds, other wildlife, and their natural habitat.”*

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month October through April, at 7 pm at the First United Methodist Church, 1551 Montgomery Dr, Santa Rosa.

Sept & May meetings are held outside at 5:30pm.

Annual dues are \$20 per individual, \$25 per family, and \$5 per student.

Membership forms can be found at [www.rros.org/join-rros](http://www.rros.org/join-rros)

Dues can be sent to RROS Treasurer Bob Hasenick, 4453 La Paz Lane, Santa Rosa, CA 95404-9510

**Visit us on the web at [www.RROS.org](http://www.RROS.org)**

## RROS STAFF

### OFFICERS

President: Eugene Hunn .....enhunn323@comcast.net // 707-981-7301  
 Vice President: Monica Schwalbenberg-Peña .....fieldsketcher@gmail.com // 707-479-2949  
 Secretary: Peter Colasanti.....peter\_colasanti@yahoo.com // 707-780-7296  
 Treasurer: Bob Hasenick.....bobhasenick@att.net // 707-486-0055

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Field Trips: Malcolm Blanchard.....mab@mabco.com // 707-480-2210  
 Observations: David A. Hofmann .....nnamfoh@comcast.net // 707-546-0325  
 Christmas Bird Count: Eugene Hunn.....enhunn323@comcast.net // 707-981-7301  
 Kite Tales: Eva Valfer.....evaantonvalfer@gmail.com //415-524-3222  
 YAMS Coordinator: Lisa Hug.....lisahug@sonic.net // 707-535-9370  
 Membership: Bob Hasenick.....bobhasenick@att.net // 707-486-0055  
 Website: Katharine Branstetter.....kathbran@well.com

Kite Tales deadline is the 20th of each month. Observations may be sent to David A. Hofmann.  
 All other content may be sent to Eva Valfer.