Field Trips & Reports...



Field Trips in March

Montezuma Well & Picnic Area - Thursday, March 3rd, 8:00 - 10:30 Meet at Montezuma Well parking area. We'll bird the Well with scope views of migrant waterfowl here for the winter. Then we'll head down to the picnic area to walk a large circle around the tree line looking to see if the Common Black Hawk has returned and get views of wintering species. Walking approximately 2 miles total. Bring layers as the day turns from cool to warm, binoculars, hats, sunscreen, water, snacks and/or a picnic lunch to enjoy after the official walk at the picnic tables. Leader: Kay Hawklee: 432-703-0007. Please text or

email: khawklee@gmail.com with any questions. No park passes are required.

March 6 (Sunday): Walnut Ponds

Meet at 8:30 AM. 3-hour outing. No facilities. Meet here at Walnut "Lakes"

Leader: Debbie McMahon

Limited to 12. RSVP text only 928-707-0610 Please, vaccinated only

Huckaby Trail from Munds Wagon Trailhead

- March 7th 730-1100. Meet at the large parking lot at the Huckaby Trailhead (from round-a-bouts in center of Sedona go up Schnebly Hill Rd about 1 mile to big parking lot on left just before road turns to dirt). We will walk 1.5 miles through pinions and junipers ending in the riparian habitat along Oak Creek (3 miles roundtrip). This rocky trail can be moderately steep and technical, and water and good shoes are recommended. Contact: Tim Weber (928) 380-0555.

Clear Creek Campground - Camp Verde - Thursday March 10 8/830-11 - If you want to carpool or follow each other meet at Cottonwood Fry's Parking Lot near the entrance to the gas station, we will depart @ 8am, it is about a 30 minute drive, others can meet at the campground entrance at 830. We will bird approximately 2 - 3 hours. Bring binoculars, a hat, sunscreen, water, snacks etc. We will search out birds along the road, the creek and the trails Contact Janie Stewart for any further information 928-451-5794.

Sedona Wetlands Preserve Sunday March 13 8:30–9:45. Meet at the Sedona Wetlands parking lot at 9:30 and we will do a just over an hour walk out to the big pond and back. Great trip for beginners. We hope for ducks and wintering birds. Rich Armstrong will lead. 928-282-3675,

richarmstrong47@gmail.com

Clarkdale Water Treatment Plant - Wednesday, March 16, 8:00 - 10:00. Please come meet at the WTP. Directions: Off of South Broadway Road, make the first right past Tuzigoot Road marked 375, 375A. Park on the right just after some gravel hills. There are NO RESTROOMS. We will walk a loop that includes boulders and hills along Deception Gulch, the river corridor, Indian Springs as well as the treatment reservoir itself. Bring binoculars, water, a field guide, snack. Wear sturdy shoes. Call Kristen Rothrock, 928 634 3633, if you have any questions.

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Field Trips in March—Con't

Sedona Wetlands Preserve Friday March 18 8:30–9:45. Meet at the Sedona Wetlands parking lot at 9:30 and we will do a just over an hour walk out to the big pond and back. Great trip for beginners.We hope for ducks and wintering birds. Rich Armstrong will lead. 928-282-3675, <u>richarm-</u>

strong47@gmail.com

Jail Trail - 1101 N Main St, Cottonwood.

Monday March 21 8:30 - 11:00 - Meet at the Jail Trail parking lot. Bring binoculars, a hat, water, snacks etc. We will bird the trails and riparian corridor along the Verde River. Contact Janie Stewart for any further information 928-451-5794

March 23rd 8-11am. Meet at dirt parking lot - no restrooms. We will be trolling around the ponds and walking the Black Hawk Trail loop through mesquite bosque, grasslands and riparian corridor along Oak Creek - approx 1.8mi on easy, mostly flat surface looking for Summer migrants, residents and lingering Winter birds. Hats and sunscreen recommended. Bring binoculars, water, snacks, field guide and a scope if you like. Contact Lisa Grubbs for info 928-592-3684 - grubbs585@gmail.com

Sedona Wetlands Preserve Sunday March 27 8:30–9:45. Meet at the Sedona Wetlands parking lot at 9:30 and we will do a just over an hour walk out to the big pond and back. Great trip for beginners.We hope for ducks and wintering birds. Rich Armstrong will lead. 928-282-3675, <u>richarm-</u>

strong47@gmail.com

March 12 (Saturday): Elden Spring Area

Meet at 0730 in the NE corner of the upper parking lot at the Trinity Heights United Methodist Church (at the north end of N Fourth Street).

No facilities are available

Be prepared for up to 3 miles of walking on uneven trail

We will be walking a loop that takes us along the base of Mt. Elden out to Elden Spring, which winds through dense, mature Ponderosa forest and more open areas dominated by Gambel's oak and common shrubs such as Cliff Rose And Mt. Mahogany. We will be looking for early migrants such as White-throated Swift, Broadtailed Hummingbird, Violet-Green Swallow, Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, and Chipping Sparrow, along with typical year-round residents such as Mountain Chickadees, Stellar's Jays, and Pygmy Nuthatches.

Contact Anne Pellegrini

(<u>fiddlehopper@gmail.com</u>) with any questions.

Bell Trail #13/ Wet Beaver Creek- Wednesday March 31 rd 730-1100. Meet at the Bell Trail Parking Lot off of Forest Road 618 (SR 179 turns into FR 618 as it passes east under Highway 17). The Bell Trail parallels Oak and provides riparian habitat and to the uphill

side, steep, rolling grasslands and large patches of prickly pear cactus. If there is time, we can look for sparrows in the flat grasslands of Deadwood Draw just up the road. The trail is mostly flat but exposed; sunscreen and water recommended. Contact Tim Weber: (928)