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Highlights from August 20 Bird Walk to the Bergen Peak State Wildlife Area – Evergreen Audubon

3 minutes



Photo courtesy of Bill Schmoker

Nine of us did our best Saturday morning to look through the dense cloud layer and try and see the tops of the trees we were standing right next to. It was a bit difficult, and it was a bit chilly (for August). Nonetheless we persevered, the sun came out eventually, and we came away having tallied 31 species (see list below).

Among the highlights was a juvenile Red-tailed Hawk impersonating an Anhinga, while trying to dry out from a soggy

night. Good effort was put in on learning a bit about flycatchers, with multiple close looks at Western Wood-Pewees and Cordilleran Flycatchers.



Photo courtesy of Bill Schmoker

We also were fortunate to pick up a few interesting migrants, an Orange-crowned Warbler and a Lazuli Bunting. Finally, perhaps the real highlight of the morning was getting to have numerous Evening Grosbeaks perched all around us in the fog and calling.

Aug 20, 2016: 31 species

- Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) 4
- Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) 1
- Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) 2
- Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*) 5
- Northern Flicker (Red-shafted) (*Colaptes auratus* [cafer Group])
7
- Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) 1
- Western Wood-Pewee (*Contopus sordidulus*) 6

- Cordilleran Flycatcher (*Empidonax occidentalis*) 3
- Plumbeous Vireo (*Vireo plumbeus*) 1
- Steller's Jay (Interior) (*Cyanocitta stelleri* [diademata Group]) 9
- Black-billed Magpie (*Pica hudsonia*) 1
- American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) 4
- Common Raven (*Corvus corax*) 1
- Violet-green Swallow (*Tachycineta thalassina*) 1
- Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*) 1
- Mountain Chickadee (*Poecile gambeli*) 7
- Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*) 5
- White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*) 2
- Pygmy Nuthatch (*Sitta pygmaea*) 6
- House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) 8
- Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) 2
- American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) 23
- Orange-crowned Warbler (*Oreothlypis celata*) 1
- Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's) (*Setophaga coronata auduboni*) 2
- Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) 4
- Green-tailed Towhee (*Pipilo chlorurus*) 3
- Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) 3
- Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amoena*) 1

- House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*) 1
- Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) 16
- Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) 12