# HUMMIN'

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## NCCP Draft Plan for RPV

**By Jess Morton**

In the last issue of Hummin' we examined the overall status and some of the history of southern California's landmark Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP). Development of this regional plan was driven by the federal listing of the California Gnatcatcher as a Threatened Species and has served as a model for habitat conservation plans across America. The region itself was initially divided into thirteen sub-regions, each becoming a planning unit taking into account local habitat resources and needs. The Palos Verdes peninsula is one of them, and now, after decades of hashing out legal, ecological, financial and management issues, the draft plan for our sub-region is out for review, comment and final adoption. The "Preserve Properties" map, below right, is from the draft document.

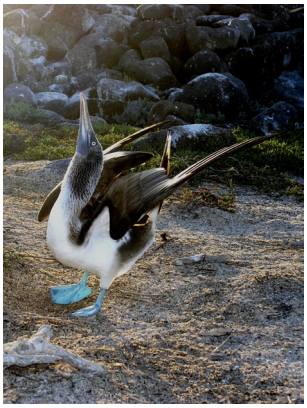
For Audubon chapter members, the NCCP will be familiar through the score of Hummin' articles about it that have appeared since it was first proposed in 1991. For others, though, this draft plan will be new, a matter of concern arising seemingly out of the blue. I hope this article will allay some of those concerns and perhaps move the reader to enthusiastic support for the NCCP and City of Rancho Palos Verdes (RPV) and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy (PVPLC) whose duties, with the help of the general public, it will be to see that the plan achieves its goals.

The NCCP arose out of controversy. At its core lay land use planning for southern California's remaining buildable open space. More than 80% of the coastal sage scrub habitat that had occupied much of the most favorable

(See NCCP continued on p.5)

## Christmas Bird Count

The 119th annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC) will find birders around the nation counting local birds. Of the more than 2500 counts, ours will be held **Saturday**, **December 23rd**. There is no fee to participate and you do not have to be out all day. We will meet at Madrona Marsh at dusk for a pot luck dinner and to tally the species that the ten count groups found. Please send count compiler Vincent Lloyd an email (svlloyd@elcamino.edu) if you want to take part.



"**Wonders of the Galapagos**" is **Josefina Madunich**'s topic at our Tuesday, **January 15th**, meeting at Madrona Marsh Nature Center, at 7 PM. Seventeen years living on the islands and working as a naturalist guide have given Josefina a rare perspective on the wildlife of these singular islands. Please join us for an intimate and personal view of one of the world's great birding destinations.

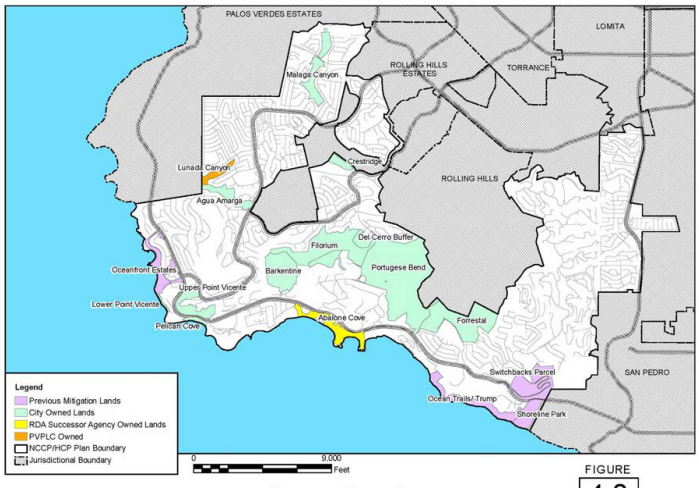



FIGURE 4-2

Preserve Properties

# From the President

## By David Quadhamer

# Celebrating the Year of the Bird

2018 has been the Year of the Bird. The National Audubon Society, National Geographic, BirdLife International, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and over 180 other organizations joined together in a yearlong celebration of birds. Why 2018? It marks the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), the most important bird-protection law in the United States. The goals of the Year of the Bird are to keep MBTA from being gutted and to celebrate birds by providing people with meaningful actions they can take to help birds, protecting birds not just this year, but on into the future.

Each month featured an activity, open to all, that Audubon members took part in. These activities included joining the Great Backyard Bird Count, planting native plants, learning more about the MBTA, participating in the Global Big Days and Audubon's Climate Watch, reducing the amount of single-use plastic used, sharing our knowledge with others, exploring parks, helping migrating birds and taking photos of birds.

Ongoing citizen science projects included the Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) and Global Big Days in May and October. The GBBC takes place over a four-day period every February. People are encouraged to count birds wherever they like, not necessarily just their backyards. Then people submit their checklists on eBird and wait for the results to be tallied. Last year, over 160,000 participants submitted checklists. providing a weekend snapshot of global bird populations.

The idea behind Global Big Days is to encourage people to go out birding on the designated day and submit checklists of the birds they find. These checklists are combined to discover how many species of birds can be found worldwide in a single day. In 2018, 30,316 participants reported 7,025 species on May 5th. Of those, 1,551 were reported in a single country, Columbia.

Audubon's Climate Watch is studying the effects of climate change on a pair of sample sets of indicator species: Eastern, Mountain, and Western Bluebirds and White-breasted, Red-breasted, Brown-headed, and Pygmy Nuthatches. Program volunteers follow a protocol to count birds in a 10 km x 10 km square. The results are then used to determine if the ranges of these birds are shifting in accord with the projections made by Audubon's climate models.

The Christmas Bird Count (CBC) is another prominent citizen science project everyone can participate in. Our chapter's 53rd CBC is on December 23rd. There is a note on page 1 with more information about our CBC in this newsletter. The data collected from CBCs around the county are used in scientific research and help inform policy decisions. We can even see trends in the data that our chapter has collected. Our data will be more accurate with a lot of people helping us count. At the end of the day, we meet at Madrona Marsh for a pot luck and to tally the results. It's always fun to hear what unusual birds were found.

Western Tiger Swallowtail Photo by David Quadhamer

You can help birds by using native plants at home. If that isn't an option, volunteer with a local organization that restores habitat with native plants. Native plants use less water and support more species of birds and the insects birds feed on. Other actions that you can take at home are placing decals, films with dots, translucent tape or UV stickers on windows to reduce bird colli-

sions. Windows can reflect the surrounding landscape and birds can't always tell that it is just a reflection. You can also turn off your household lights at night. Artificial lights can confuse birds migrating at night.

We can reduce the amount of plastic that we use. Plastic is convenient and has many uses, but less than ten percent of the plastic produced gets recycled. It ends up in landfills or in the ocean where it becomes hazardous for birds. Birds get entangled in plastic trash and they also mistake plastic for food. We can use reusable water bottles, skip plastic cutlery and straws, buy in bulk, recycle and use reusable bags.

You can visit a National Park. The National Park service manages 417 sites. You can explore a new park or revisit a favorite. If you're going to look for birds, you might be surprised at how many species have been reported at some of them. 260 species have been reported at the National Mall in Washington DC. 357 species have been reported in Death Valley National Park, the largest National Park in the lower 48. At the top of the list is Point Reyes National Seashore, located just north of San Francisco. 444 species have been reported there.

You can share what you know about birds with others by bringing someone with you when you go to a park or open space, or just share what you see with others near by who might be interested. This is something Steve Kaye talked about during his presentation at our October meeting. He described showing a hummingbird to a group of girl scouts and how they all waited patiently while each one looked through Steve's camera lens. The hummingbird obliged by sitting patiently as well. The girl scouts were all enthralled with the hummingbird. I think they developed an appreciation for birds because Steve shared the experience with them. This is something we can all do when we are out in nature by sharing what we are looking at with others.

In early 2019, PV Audubon will again award up to $5,000 from the Gambee Fund in grants and scholarships for local projects, students and groups. Each grant or scholarship application is limited to a maximum of $1,000, unless prior authorization is given to exceed this amount. Scholarships will be awarded to local birders, teachers and others to attend ornithology related conferences, classes and workshops. Grants will be awarded for research and data collection on birds, birding, habitat conservation and education. Organizations with missions similar to ours may also apply for grants for specific projects. Final guidelines are posted on our website. If you know of anyone who might be interested in applying, please encourage them to do so. All applications must be received by January 15th, 2019.

Another way people can get involved is to take photos. Photography is a wonderful way to share birds with others. Paul Blieden is busy organizing our second annual photo show that will take place July – August 2019. More details will be posted on our website. It will be held at the Malaga Cove Library in the Gallery Exhibit area. The photo show earlier this year was a big success and many people have inquired about when the next show is to be held. Mark your calendars and get out there and take some photos! If you haven't seen Jess Morton's informative Year of the Bird exhibit at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium yet, check it out soon before another exhibit takes its place. Some of Jess's wonderful photos are included in the exhibit.

Although 2018 is the Year of the Bird, the actions listed above are things to do now and on into the future. Protecting the MBTA is critical for birds and their habitats. The various counts provide data on bird populations for scientific study. Recycling and reusing reduce our impacts on the environment. We can all share the beauty of birds through photos and share our knowledge of birds with others. Finally, you can always support our chapter with a donation or get involved on the board or a committee. If there is something you would like to work on that we aren't doing, let me know.

## IPCC WARNS ABOUT GLOBAL WARMING

**By Ann Dalkey**

This past October the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued its latest report, titled "Global Warming of 1.5 °C," warning about the perils of global warming. Specifically, they warned that we need to address global greenhouse emissions immediately if we are to limit global temperature change to that figure, preventing an even more catastrophic rise of 2°C or more by 2100.

While reporting on the IPCC warning was widespread, it was too soon lost in the noise of ongoing daily news--worthy or not. Because this is the biggest issue to ever confront humans, it is important to spend more time discussing the topic. Herein, I provide highlights describing why limiting warming to 1.5°C change is important, as obtained from the IPCC's "Summary for Policymakers".[1]

By 2100, mean sea level rise is projected to be about 0.1m lower if global warming is limited to 1.5°C compared to 2.0°C. A slower rate of sea level rise will allow for more time to adapt to the many changes affecting coastal areas. On land, a similar comparison means that impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems, their species loss and extinction rates, will also be lessened. Species living in terrestrial, freshwater, and coastal ecosystems will have a greater chance of surviving. This makes me wonder how much snowy plovers or least terns with already stressed populations would benefit from a warming slow-down?

The oceans have already absorbed much heat from global warming. Limiting the increase to 1.5°C will reduce oceanic temperature rise with its associated increases of ocean acidity and decreased oxygen levels. A lower temperature increase lowers risks to marine biodiversity, fisheries, and ecosystems. Already crab fishermen along the North American west coast are contending with decreased catches due to warming-related zero oxygen zones.

Global warming will incur human costs, but limiting the warming to 1.5°C if we act immediately will help reduce catastrophic changes. We are already seeing human responses to the impacts on health, livelihoods, food security, water supply, human security, and economic growth in the rising number of refugees world-wide. Indeed, the current refugees from Honduras have cited loss of crops due to a 3-year drought as their reason to travel to our border. Other impacts include increased mortality due to high heat, increased risks from vector-borne diseases, and a reduction in crop yields.

Finally, adaption mechanisms for dealing with global warming will be less challenging and far less costly if the increase is limited to 1.5°C. Many mechanisms are needed to address global warming as our ecosystems, sea level, water management, and food sources will all be affected. For example, utilities have been compelled to install weather monitoring stations in order to shut down their systems during high winds to offset an increased wildfire threat.

There is a lot we must do and can be doing if we have the will to do it. The birds will appreciate it.

Cinnamon Teal *Photo by Evi Meyer*

[1] GLOBAL WARMING OF 1.5 °C, an IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C, Summary for Policymakers. See http://report.ipcc.ch/sr15/pdf/sr15_spm_final.pdf.

(NCCP continued from p.1)

developable land along the coast was now home to millions of people. All of the birds and other species dependent on that habitat were in serious decline and rather literally on the road to extirpation, if not extinction. When the California Gnatcatcher was listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), all development on the remaining land was stopped. The result was controversy and uproar, as you can well imagine. There was, however, a golden thread leading to a resolution, an unproven concept: the NCCP. It did not really please anyone, but everyone felt they had a chance to work with it.

The NCCP was authorized under the 4(d) rule for species listed as Threatened under ESA. The 4(d) rule lays out the only conditions under which any individual or critical habitat of a listed species may be harmed or destroyed. In its final form, the NCCP allowed jurisdictions party to it the ability to specify 5% of lands enrolled in the NCCP to be used for purposes other than the protection of the listed species. The environmental community, including this Audubon chapter, argued that 5% was way too much, considering how much of the habitat was already gone. The development community felt, of course, that a measly 5% would kill all future prosperity in the region, The 5% decreed in the NCCP was, as I say, a compromise.

With that background out of the way, let me turn to the draft NCCP for our sub-region now being considered for final adoption. Work on bringing it to fruition began many years ago, and has continued unabated since. It has involved all of the environmental groups on the hill at one time or another, especially PVPLC. RPV, the lead agency for the NCCP, is the only local city taking part, but that is where almost all of the best coastal sage scrub habitat remaining on the hill is located. Furthermore, almost all of that habitat, located on the ocean-facing coastal slope, will be protected under the NCCP as part of the Palos Verdes Nature Preserve. Not only that, the great majority of the land was purchased using state and federal funds made available because of the gnatcatcher's listing. There was, of course, a considerable amount of money contributed by private individuals and RPV itself as part of the land purchases, but none of that would have happened without the ESA listing and the resultant sub-regional NCCP.

Ah, but what of the 5%? Actually, most of it has already been allocated by RPV. During the 20 plus years it has taken to write, edit, take public comment, rewrite and get it approved by the RPV City Council and a host of state and federal agencies, the NCCP has been taken as tacitly approved. While many details have changed, especially in defining how the NCCP is to be administered (i.e. who does what and when), the properties to be included in the plan have remained much as they were first conceived by the local environmental groups when asked to prepare an "Alternative A" map. Eventually Alternative D was adopted, consisting of a preserve of 1400 acres, quite amazing considering that this includes some of the most scenic (and valuable) land in Los Angeles County. However, the 70 acres allowed per the 5% rule has grown to about 200 acres for practical reasons. The biggest calls are for landslide and fire hazard abatement measures, drainage improvements and road repair. There will be mitigation for habitat lost, and, of course, the public will have chances to comment on projects as they arise. More about this is in the article on page 9, where these measures are described in more detail.

In the meantime, we have a superb natural resource in the existing NCCP reserve, one that is worth supporting and taking the opportunities offered to explore and enjoy. I have only had space here to introduce the basics of the reserve itself. For the full description contained in the Draft NCCP, please visit online <https://ca-ranchopalosverdes.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/11671/NCCPHCP>.

# ASK ALLEN

Vincent asks, "Allen, help me! How can I tell a Sharp-shinned hawk from a Cooper's hawk?"

Allen: I feel your pain, but at least they don't try to eat you! Sharp-shinned hawks and Cooper's hawks are closely related hawks called accipiters (along with the Goshawk). Accipiters are hawks with short, rounded wings and long tails, built to maneuver through the woods. They prey mostly on other birds (like hummingbirds!). They can be annoyingly hard to tell apart — especially when they are whizzing by in hot pursuit. Cooper's Hawks are year-round residents in the South Bay, but Sharp-shins don't breed in the area, so any Accipiter seen during May, June, July, or August is almost certainly a Cooper's hawk.

During the rest of the year, here are some suggestions:

**1. DON'T PANIC**

Admire their beauty. Allow them to be who they are. Accept that you are not going to be able to ID every hawk to species. There is no shame in putting it down as Accipiter sp. They will know what species they are when it is important for them to know. (And, by the way, tell them to stay away from me!)

**2.** Cooper's hawks are bigger, but not necessarily much bigger.As with most hawks, the female is noticeably larger than the male. A female Cooper's hawk is nearly the size of a male Red-shouldered hawk, while a male Sharpie is about the size of a Kestrel. Size alone can often distinguish these two extremes cases. However, male Cooper's hawks are only about 20% larger than a female Sharp-shin. Let's say the length of a Kestrel is 1.0. Then here is how the Accipiters compare:

| | |
|---|---|
| Kestrel | 1.00 |
| Male Sharp-shin | 1.00 |
| Female Sharp-shin | 1.25 |
| Male Cooper's | 1.50 |
| Female Cooper's | 1.75 |
| Male Red-shoulder | 1.85 |

**3.** Immature Cooper's hawks have narrow vertical streaks that are sharp; immature Sharpies have streaks that aren't sharp at all, but indistinct or broken. First-year mortality is high, so many early seaason Sharp-shins you see will be immature, first winter birds. On perched birds, with a little experience (or a camera), this can be a good field mark in combination with overall shape and size.

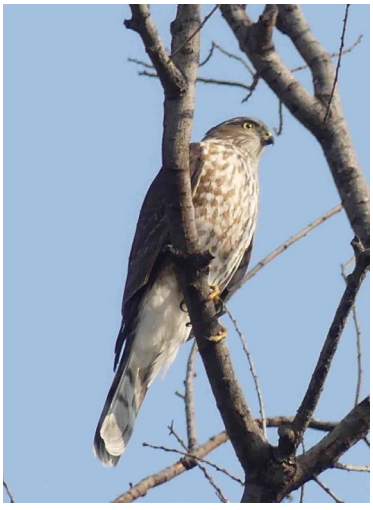
**4.** Watch lots of hawks.

The tips in Field Guides are good, but only by looking at many hawks can you really learn what they mean. If you can't get to a hawk watch during migration, look at hawk pictures on the Internet. Pay attention to the head, tail, and legs. In birds seen flying overhead, notice that the Sharp-shin has a square tail and a small head: as Dave Moody puts it, "Sharpies are neckless."

**5.** Sharpies are nervous.

Sharp-shins flap their wings noticeably faster. This character becomes helpful with experience. Sibley's comment on the Sharpie is wise: Best identified (with experience) by shape and quick snappy wingbeats.

Here is an accipiter that I spotted recently chasing a Kestrel at Harbor Park (and being chased by the Kestrel in return.) It was about one and a quarter times the size of the Kestrel. Based on the above tips, can you tell which hawk it was?



[Photo credits. Immature accipiters: National Audubon Society. Sharp-shin and Cooper's hawks in the air: Jay McGowan, Cornell Lab. Mystery accipiter: Vincent Lloyd.]

## Sand Maths

Birds score zero by what our IQ math books teach,
yet with sandy tracks of shorebird psi and seagull del
the birds scratch out sound mathematics on the beach
to solve for what the sands and breakers have to tell.

This one, a plover, runs short spurts along the sand.
To us it's odd, as if some silly exercise
has told it run a dozen steps. Stop. Freeze and stand.
Then run again. But stillness lets it analyze

what its feet are measuring through sand and ooze
with minute sensors feeling hints of what and where
masked by wave-shocked sands and shifting kelp
--faintest cues;
a triangulation that suggests something's there.

No feathered statue now, the plover turns aside,
its eyes aimed at a spot by the reckoning toes,
a swift calculus that says there, take one long stride
then probe in deep where an unwary sand crab goes;

has its own sense of place, its own arithmetic.
But this time the answer arrives too slow to say
scuttle back deep into the sea-sand slurry's thick
safety from shorebird bills, immune to the array

of bird-brained equations whose roots when applied
extract prey from the places it hides or holds fast,
while the ceaseless susurrus of wave, sand and tide
tallies the endless addition of each now to the past.

Black-bellied Plover

*photos and poem by Jess Morton*

## BIRDS OF THE PENINSULA

### By Vincent Lloyd

Fall: the leaves turn yellow, Eastern migrants lose their way and end up flying down the wrong coast, young Mexican birds slip across the border, and South Bay birders are busy checking out the many unusual species, hoping for a lifer. The two highlights of this season are both visitors from south: an American Oystercatcher at Pt. Fermin and a Nazca Booby at Cabrillo Beach.

The American Oystercatcher is a close relative of the native Black Oystercatcher (which is just as American, so there!). The American Oystercatcher is found along the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico coastlines and in the Gulf of California. It meets the range of the Black Oystercatcher on the Pacific Coast of Baja near Guerrero Negro. Occasionally, one wanders up the coast as far as southern California. They hybridize easily with the Black Oystercatcher, so the problem for precise birders is to be sure the bird they see is 100% American and not a hybrid (see "Odd Oystercatchers" by Jess Morton in Hummin' Dec. 2013/Jan. 2014). The one at Pt. Fermin, first reported on August 22 by Alexander deBarros (photo below by Jess Morton), has been confirmed to be a pure American Oystercatcher. But the question of hybrids came up when Tom Miko and Dessi Sieburth found that oystercatcher (or possibly another American Oystercatcher) at Cabrillo Beach on Sept. 8, when at the same time they observed two mostly black oystercatchers with patches of white.

Amazingly, the oystercatchers were accompanied by a Nazca Booby, a bird recently split from the Masked Booby; the Nazca Booby is distinguished by its distinctly orange-red beak. Other rarities at Cabrillo Harbor this year included a Northern Fulmar on Sept. 21-23 (Jonathan Nakai) and a juvenile Yellow-crowned Night Heron Sept. 13-19 (also reported by Jonathan).

Another wanderer from Mexico or Arizona is the Tropical Kingbird. This is a bird whose numbers are increasing, not decreasing, because of the destruction of tropical forests. Charlie Keller found two Tropical Kingbirds at Entradero Park, one of which remained into November. Other Tropical Kingbirds were seen at Harbor Park, Madrona Marsh, and the L.A. River at Willow St. Meanwhile, late Western Kingbirds lingered at Harbor Park, Entradero Park, and Henrietta Basin. Can you distinguish among Tropical, Western, and the resident Cassin's Kingbirds? See my story on kingbirds in Marsh Mailing Spring 2016.)

A surprising wrong-way migrant was the female Scarlet Tanager found at Harbor Park on Nov. 7 (Bob Shanman, Jonathan Nakai, Robert Trusela). (Believe it or not, a female tanager looking much like Bobby's was found in the Azores, in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, on Oct. 20!) Other unusual migrants this year were the Bank Swallow at the Willow St. crossing by Richard Barth on Sept. 29 and two Purple Martins seen at the same place on Sept. 24. Another Purple Martin was at Harbor Park on Sept. 16 (Ed Griffin). A Rose-breasted Grosbeak rested at Sand Dune Park on Sep. 3 (Jun and Bin). A Dickcissel stopped at Agua Amarga Park in Palos Verdes Estates on Oct. 20 (Jun and Bin). A rare Black-chinned Sparrow overnighted at Madrona Marsh on Oct. 9.

The Mountain Plover, seen at Dockweiler Beach on Oct. 19, is a bird that winters in Southern California but not normally along the coast. Another bird unusual in our area was the Brown Creeper seen at Sand Dune Park on Oct. 13 (Brooke Keeney); it was still there in early November. Another bird common in the mountains but rare in our area is the female Nuttall's Woodpecker continuing at Madrona Marsh.

Eastern warblers migrating through the area included a Canada Warbler that spent a couple of weeks at Banning Park (where it successfully eluded Yours Truly). Also seen were American Redstarts at El Segundo Library Park and Madrona Marsh, Tennessee Warblers at Sand Dune Park, Wilderness Park, and Agua Amarga; a Chestnut-sided Warbler at Harbor Park, Palm Warblers at Harbor Park, Entradero Park, CSU Dominguez Hills, and the Willow Street crossing; and Black-and-White Warblers at Harbor Park, Sand Dune Park, Wilderness Park, and Banning Park. The female Black-and-White Warbler now at Madrona Marsh may be the same bird that wintered there the last two years. Even more remarkable is the continuing Ash-throated Flycatcher at Madrona. This bird appears to have taken up permanent residence, as it (or a similar bird) has been seen nearly every month since April 2014. The normal wintering range of the Ash-throat is over 200 miles away in Baja and Arizona.

American Oystercatcher *Photo by Jess Morton*

# Open Space and Landslides

### By Jess Morton

The nature preserve that has evolved under the Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP, see p.1) and the open space remaining around the peninsula are products of geology. We live on an old channel island, one that has washed up on the shores of what is now Los Angeles. That "island" consists of a central ridge with lands that slope southwestward and northeastward away from it. Deep under those slopes in many places are layers of bentonite, a volcanic rock that becomes unstable when wet. The resulting potential for instability is a prime reason there is so much open space on the peninsula. It also drives much of the coastal planning for land use and habitat remediation.

The active Portuguese Bend landslide (1956 to present) is but one example of what happens when water seeps into the bentonite layer. Others are the "Sunken City" at Point Fermin (1929), the landslide that destroyed the eighteenth hole of the Ocean Trails Golf Course six weeks before opening (1999) and the failure of Paseo Del Mar by the White Point Nature Preserve (2011). The golf course disaster is especially sad since that was a case in which the City of Rancho Palos Verdes (RPV) chose not to abide by its coastal setback guidelines and, over the objections of this Audubon chapter and other environmental groups, allowed the developers to build on top of a known landslide risk.

In San Pedro, planning is under way to bridge the Paseo Del Mar gap and restore the road to full functionality. There are also plans to drill a core by the Point Fermin Lighthouse to determine the risks posed by seeps that have been noted at the base of the sea cliff there. If necessary, dewatering wells could be needed to protect the park itself. Managing water runoff and controlling its infiltration into the earth has been a major concern of RPV for years because of the enormous costs of dealing with resulting landslides. Nowhere is this more evident than in Portuguese Bend where the cost of keeping Palos Verdes Drive South open to traffic is about $500,000 per year.

## Dewatering and the NCCP

A small, but significant portion of NCCP preserve lands has been designated by RPV for future remediation, dewatering projects and fuel modification. Habitat restoration at a minimum of 5 acres per year will continue as part of NCCP requirements, but some habitat loss is also authorized. Table 5.1, set forth in the NCCP Draft Plan now out for final comments, is at the right. As is evident, much of the work listed has to do with water control and road repair. Each of the projects listed will be subject to normal public review and comment.

A project now under discussion, runoff control in the upper canyons of Portuguese Bend, is quite controversial because of the proposed removal of valuable mature coastal sage scrub habitat. Arguments have been made that the necessary control can be achieved without having to remove as much habitat as is called for (6.6 acres of coastal sage scrub and other, per the table). Whether this can be done is a matter of engineering requirements and the funding available to pay for it. Even if the desired control of runoff is achieved, it's effect on PV Drive South's long-term viability is unknown. The central portion of that roadway has sunk 30 feet in recent years. It is still well above sea level, but at the current sink rate will be under water in the foreseeable future.

**Table 5-1. Total Loss of Habitat by Covered City Projects and Activities**

| City Project Name | Total Habitat Loss (Acres) | | Habitat Loss In Preserve (Acres) | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | CSS | Grassland | CSS | Grassland |
| 1. Altamira Canyon Drainage Project | 2.5 | 3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 2. Dewatering Wells | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 |
| 3. Landslide Abatement Measures | 5.0 | 15.0 | 3.3 | 9.9 |
| 4. Misc. Drainage Repair in Landslide Areas | 10.0 | 15.0 | 6.6 | 9.9 |
| 5. PVDE Drainage Improvement Project | 5.0 | 15.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 6. Misc. Drainage Improvements | 20.0 | 60.0 | 6.6 | 20.0 |
| 7. Abalone Cove Beach Project | 1.0 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 2.0 |
| 8. *RPV Trails Plan Implementation | 4.0 | 10.0 | 2.0 | 5.0 |
| 9. Lower San Ramon Canyon Repair | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.34 | 0.0 |
| 10. Lower Point Vicente | 1.5 | 11.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 11. Palos Verdes Drive South Road Repair | 5.0 | 15.0 | 5.0 | 15.0 |
| 12. Upper Pt. Vicente | 2.0 | 22.0 | 1.0 | 11.0 |
| 13. Preserve Fuel Modification | 12.0 | 18 | 12.0 | 18 |
| 14. Utility Maintenance and Repair | 10.0 | 20.0 | 5.0 | 10.0 |
| 15. Unimproved City Park Projects | 10.0 | 20.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 16. Malaga Canyon Drainage Improvements | 5.0 | 15.0 | 5.0 | 15.0 |
| 17. Other Miscellaneous City projects | 20.0 | 60.0 | 10.0 | 30.0 |
| ****Total Acreage of Habitat Loss** | ***115.5*** | ***303.7*** | ***60.3*** | ***148.3*** |

*Part of the PUMP, a Covered City Project (see Section 9.2 of this Plan)

**Total habitat loss (CSS and Grassland) is 419.2 acres, of which 208.6 acres (50%) would occur in the Preserve. Included in the CSS loss are losses associated with southern cactus scrub, saltbush scrub, and coastal bluff scrub which are expected to be minimal. No more than 5 acres of southern cactus scrub, 2 acres of coastal bluff scrub, and 2 acres of saltbush scrub could be lost within the Preserve associated with Covered City Projects and Activities.

MEET, LEARN, RESTORE, ENJOY

# Chapter Calendar

## EVENTS

**Tuesday, Jan. 15, 7 p.m.**: Audubon Third Tuesday Get-Togethers. Our speaker for the night will be **Josefina Madunich**, presenting "**Wonders** of the Gala**pagos**". Come to Madrona Marsh to socialize with friends and to enjoy the bird quiz, raffle and prizes from Wild Birds Unlimited.

## FIELD TRIPS

**Sunday Dec. 2, 8 a.m. – 11 a.m**.: **Bird Walk** through Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park. Join Audubon leaders to explore the newly restored KMHRP and witness the birds' return to this sanctuary in the middle of our metropolitan area. Meet in the parking lot closest to Anaheim and Vermont.

**Tuesday, Dec. 4, 8:30 a.m.: "Tour de Torrance."** Join Audubon leader Tommye Hite and friends on a ramble around a great local birding area. Meet at Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

**Wednesday, Dec. 5: Birding with Bob**. Bob Shanman leads bird walks every first Wednesday of the month. For details, visit www.torrance.wbu.com and click on Birding with Bob.

**Saturday, Dec. 8, 9 a.m**.: Los Serenos de Point Vicente Natural History Walk to Abalone Cove Shoreline Park (Coastal Clean-up day). Tour the tide pools teeming with fascinating marine life. Moderate to strenuous. For details, visit www.losserenos.com/pvic.htm.

**Sunday, Dec. 9, 8 a.m.: Bird walk** at South Coast Botanic Garden. Audubon leader David Quadhamer will lead this walk through the garden, located at 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes. There is an entry fee charged for nonmembers of the SCBG Foundation, but you can join there.

**Sunday Dec. 9, 8 a.m.: Field trip** to Ballona Freshwater Marsh and Ballona Creek with Eric and Ann Brooks. For details, e-mail motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688.

**Tuesday, Dec. 11, 8:30 a.m.: "Tour de Torrance."** See Dec. 4 for details.

**Wednesday, Dec. 12, 8 a.m.: Bird Walk** at Madrona Marsh with Audubon leader Bob Shanman. Meet at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

**Saturday Dec. 15, 8 a.m.: Field trip** Kenneth Hahn Park with LAAS and Eric and Ann Brooks. For details, e-mail motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688.

**Tuesday, Dec. 18, 8:30 a.m.: "Tour de Torrance."** See Dec. 4 for details.

**Saturday, Dec. 22, 8:30-10:30 a.m.: Bird Walk** at Madrona Marsh with Audubon leader Dinuk Magammana. Meet at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

**Sunday Dec. 23: Palos Verdes Audubon Christmas Bird Count**. For details, e-mail motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688.

**Wednesday Jan. 2, 7:30 a.m.: LA Christmas Bird Count** For details, e-mail motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688.

**Wednesday, Jan. 2: Birding with Bob**. Bob Shanman leads bird walks every first Wednesday of the month. For details, visit www.torrance.wbu.com and click on Birding with Bob.

**Sunday Jan. 6, 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.: Bird Walk** through Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park. See Dec. 2 for details.

**Tuesday, Jan. 8, 8:30 a.m.: "Tour de Torrance."** See Dec. 4 for details.

**Wednesday, Jan. 9, 8 a.m.: Bird Walk** at Madrona Marsh. See Dec. 12 for details.

**Saturday, Jan. 12, 9 a.m.: PVPLC Natural History Walk** to Agua Amarga Reserve. Walk the trail, enjoy the view, and appreciate the results of many volunteers' trail and habitat restoration efforts in this quiet neighborhood canyon in the Agua Amarga Reserve. Moderate. For details, visit www.pvplc.org.

**Sunday, Jan. 13, 8 a.m.: Bird walk** at South Coast Botanic Garden. See Dec. 9 for details.

**Tuesday, Jan. 15, 8:30 a.m.: "Tour de Torrance."** See Dec. 4 for details.

**Sunday, Jan. 20, 8 a.m.: Bird walk** at Ballona Wetlands with Bob Shanman. For details, visit www.torrance.wbu.com.

**Tuesday, Jan. 22, 8:30 a.m.: "Tour de Torrance."** See Dec. 4 for details.

**Saturday, Jan. 26, 8:30-10:30 a.m.: Bird Walk** at Madrona Marsh with Audubon leader Dinuk Magammana. See Dec. 22 for details.

**Tuesday, Jan. 29, 8:30 a.m.: "Tour de Torrance."** See Dec. 4 for details.

NOTE: PV/South Bay Audubon field trips are generally free, but donations are much appreciated to support programs of the chapter.

The Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society and the National Audubon Society, of which PV/SB Audubon is the local chapter, are dedicated to the understanding and preservation of our natural heritage. Within the framework of National Audubon Society policies, we seek and implement ways to preserve indigenous flora and fauna, especially that of our local area, and provide educational services to the region's communities with respect to birds, wildlife, ecology and conservation.

**Executive Officers**

| | |
|---|---|
| President: | David Quadhamer, 310 833-3095 |
| Vice-Pres.: | Paul Blieden, pblieden@yahoo.com |
| | Ann Dalkey |
| Treasurer: | Jess Morton, jmorton@igc.org |
| Secretary: | Vincent Lloyd, svlloyd@elcamino.edu |
| **Directors:** | Robert Carr, Oliver Coker, Tracy Drake, Lillian Light |

**Committees:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Calendar: | Evi Meyer, evimeyer@cox.net |
| Christmas Bird Count and Field Trips: | Ann and Eric Brooks, motmots@aol.com |
| Hospitality: | Alene Gardner, alene.gardner@sbcglobal.net |
| Hummin': | Jess Morton, jmorton@igc.org |
| Mailing List: | Bob Shanman, wildbirdbob@gmail.com |
| Programs: | Jan Gardner, janet.gardner@ngc.com |
| | Bob Carr, Candy Groat |
| Snowy Plover | Tommye Hite tommyehite@hotmail.com |
| Webmaster: | Paul Blieden, pblieden@yahoo.com |
| YES: | David Quadhamer dquadhamer@yahoo.com |

## Chapter Support

Name _____

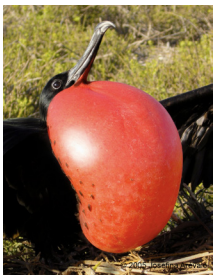
Address _____

City/State/Zip_____

Phone_____

E-mail _____

Your donation is tax-deductible $ _____
Please make checks to PV/SB Audubon and mail to: PO Box 2582, Palos Verdes, CA 90274



**Josefina Madunich** will present "**Wonders of the Galapagos**" on January 15th. Josefina spent more than 17 years living in the islands where she worked as a naturalist guide for the Galapagos National Park. She knows the islands as few people do, and in this presentation will speak about many aspects of their natural history, including the unique wildlife, geology, and many conservation issues. She regularly takes groups of visitors to see this amazing place.

Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society
P.O. Box 2582
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

Time-sensitive material

## Back by Popular Demand

The photo show we presented last February was so successful that a second will be held July 15th through August 19th, 2019, with an artists' reception July 20th, from 1 to 5. As in the last show, images submitted for consideration must be of California birds taken by California photographers. We will present the images at the same location, Malaga Cove Library art gallery.

So get out your cameras and capture some wonderful images of birds and get ready to submit them. We will accept older images if you have something special. Submission details will appear in the next issue.