



**Quick Overview** – San Mateo County, CA. offers such a wide variation in birding habitat that it's hard to decide where to go. This bay area county encompasses habitats along the Pacific Coast, up and over the Santa Cruz Mountains and back down to the marshlands surrounding San Francisco Bay. This day we concentrated on the bay and started our morning just south of the San Francisco Airport at Coyote Point. A blanket of high fog was overhead as we looked for migrants throughout tall stands of Eucalyptus and evergreens when a flock of Pygmy Nuthatch stole the show and were interrupted for a moment by a few Vaux's Swift. From the point we could watch planes approaching to land while we also scanned the waters below for both Elegant and Forster's Terns. One Black Oystercatcher sitting on distant rocks was quite the find! Once back to looking up in the tree tops we found a beautiful Townsend's Warbler, a Red Shouldered Hawk and Turkey Vultures. We then moved to the Marsh Trail and learned what a sturdy product Nikon has to offer! We were also rewarded with a mixed flock of shorebirds. Everything was here from peeps & plovers to Surfbirds, Whimbrels and Marbled Godwits. A single Long Billed Curlew also joined the group. Scanning over their heads we found a feeding Harlequin Duck! There was much more area to bird but it was time to head south to Seal Point. Many on the trip had never visited this location and we searched the rolling grasses for anything out of the ordinary, but just House Finch, blackbirds & cowbirds made an appearance. Our next stop - Redwood Shores and the ponds behind Nob Hill. While we ate lunch here we had great views of Black Skimmers, Green Heron, a leucistic Morning Dove and more, but the clock was ticking and we moved on to Radio Road. Holy Cow, birds everywhere including ducks in eclipse plumage and more shorebirds. Mostly Marled Godwits and Willets, but you could find yellow legs and dowitchers tucked here & there. We looked for anything out of range but came up empty handed. A few Blue Winged Teal in eclipse plumage were a nice find. There were more places to go but our day came to an end. And it was a wonderful way to end our day. Thank you all.

**Birds Observed –**

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Canada Goose             | Surfbird                  |
| Mallard                  | Killdeer                  |
| Gadwall                  | Black-bellied Plover      |
| American Widgeon         | Red-necked Phalarope      |
| Northern Shoveler        | Ring-billed Gull          |
| Cinnamon Teal            | Western Gull              |
| Blue Winged Teal         | Elegant Tern              |
| Ruddy Duck               | Forster's Tern            |
| Harlequin Duck           | Band Tailed Pigeon        |
| Pied-billed Grebe        | Rock Pigeon               |
| Western Grebe            | Mourning Dove             |
| Clark's Grebe            | Eurasian Collared Dove    |
| Double Crested Cormorant | Anna's Hummingbird        |
| Brown Pelican            | Vaux's Swift              |
| American White Pelican   | Belted Kingfisher         |
| Great Blue Heron         | Nuttall's Woodpecker      |
| Great Egret              | Pacific Slope Flycatcher  |
| Snowy Egret              | Black Phoebe              |
| Green Heron              | Common Raven              |
| Red Shouldered Hawk      | American Crow             |
| Red-tail Hawk            | Barn Swallow              |
| Turkey Vulture           | Chestnut Backed Chickadee |
| Cooper's Hawk            | Bushtit                   |
| Black Necked Stilt       | Pygmy Nuthatch            |
| American Avocets         | American Robin            |
| Black Oystercatcher      | Northern Mockingbird      |
| Willet                   | European Starling         |
| Greater Yellowlegs       | Townsend's Warbler        |
| Long-billed Curlew       | California Towhee         |
| Short Billed Dowitcher   | Song Sparrow              |
| Marbled Godwit           | Dark-eyed Junco           |
| Whimbrel                 | Red-winged Blackbird      |
| Western Sandpiper        | Brewer's Blackbird        |
| Least Sandpiper          | Brown-headed Cowbird      |
| Black Turnstone          | Western Meadowlark        |
|                          | House Finch               |
|                          | House Sparrow             |



Images taken during our day – Resting shorebirds, ducks and American White Pelicans out on Radio Road – Lisa Myers / The Dumbarton Bridge at a distance – Douglas Joo  
Flock of Black Skimmers lift off the pond at Radio Road – Douglas Joo  
Mixed flock of shorebirds (Marbled Godwits, Whimbrels, Willet) at Coyote Point – Lisa Myers  
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