

# 27th year 2022 *Flyway Festival*

January 14, 2022

Dear Flyway Festival Friends and Fans,

## **Migrate, ebb and flow. Wild within and without us.**

This evening, the Napa River rushes to the shore, overflowing its banks before me in a combination of high tide and swollen flooding with the distinctive lapping from the Ferry's deep and powerful wake.

Nitro sits silently close to me on a small rise above the roadway to the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve where we spend a portion of every afternoon and evening. Where we have sat side-by-side every day since the day we were kept from entering the gate to the parkland my fellow volunteer pioneers and I opened to the public for the first time in 150 years, in February 2007 during the San Francisco Bay Flyway Festival.

Imagine the exhilaration, then! About this same time of evening, as the winter sun was setting on the other side of the bluff, we gathered for guided outings and a peek at our soon to be visitor center – a cavernous mass of Bethlehem steel girders formed the ceiling above, surrounded on 4 sides by 8-inch thick steel reinforced poured concrete walls attached to deep concrete flooring, 6-10 ft thick, perched on the former marshes of the same River I view, tonight. So little has changed in the now, not 150 years, but 165 years since the Naval Ammunition Depot was



Photo: Myrna Hayes, At the gate of the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve

established here on the original hill and marshes of the south end of the Shipyard. I sit amongst the great blue gum eucalyptus trees that were planted along the route to the visitor center, a half a mile away from the gate, as the winter clouds in the distant sky take on a slight hue of pink.

Pacific tree or chorus frogs, croak. A hummingbird trill alerts all in the area, that its' nest and territory are near. The deep repetitive voice of a great-horned owl emanates from the mixed forest of coast oak, acacia and eucalyptus on the bluff behind me.

Toyon berries hang dense, deep red and ripened on their host native shrubs. New growth glows almost



fluorescently on the young oaks while the winter glimmer of golden yellow has muted some on the willow across the way. The willow to the north, was adorned with bright yellow into December and then, in a mysterious moment, it appears almost ephemeral with not a leaf. How does Fall just one day become winter?

A eucalyptus "button" falls near us. Another solo frog calls from its world of wetness. The owl hoots, once more. A duck's voice wafts from the river. There is this silence here that so many visitors and users remark on. The quiet. The peace. The magic.

Yet, you likely see it as "not perfect". Elderly ammunition storage buildings, magazines and bunkers. An electrical substation with massive power towers shuttling electricity to the Island. Still, I see beyond all this industrial edginess to the iconic mountains across the town, beyond the river.

Where you see mud puddles and potholes, I see reflections of the sky and clouds and willows. Where you see chainlink fences and gates with warning signs, I see past them to hillsides where ancient old growth grasses flourish and a bunker fills with an evening glow of the last light before the night falls. This is the magic of magic. There is a verse in the Bible I am recalling: "Be still, and know that I am god."

As a bicyclist rides swiftly past, even he does not break the silence of this special place of peace. All is sacred here. Even the old concrete buildings at the river's shore have been imbued with cathedral-like qualities.



Photo: Fred Niehoff, Interior of munition storage magazine. Mare Island Naval Ammunition Depot

My reverence for these sacred lands; these woodlands from before time; these mysterious lands where indigenous peoples came to say their prayers, gather, hunt, plant, tend, bury and honor their ancient ones; these lands are held in trust now, by you and me. For us to honor and hold. For us to share together as sacred space. For us to be inspired by. For us to be restored in the presence of.

*(Continued, next page)*

# Wilderness—wild near us...so close.

This wilderness, as I say, “wild near us”, isn’t for others to profit from. These lands have survived and now been set aside for eternity to serve their natural purpose. Their time of toil is over. Their time of war is bygone. They are now for all that is wild. All that might find a place to raise their young, to feed and forage. These lands are a place of undisturbed respite for those migrating on their great journey, as those before them, since the beginning of time.

May we gather together to celebrate this season of migration, of rest, of nourishment, for all who travel the great Flyway. May we devote ourselves more than ever before, to keeping our open spaces open, our serene places, untouched, our magnificent and majestic vistas clear, our places of peace, preserved.

May all who share this purpose, all who care deeply about these ways, all who have not yet discovered our wildnesses and wildernesses where waters, earth and sky coalesce, come together, gather together at this annual celebration with a specific purpose. To certainly find ourselves awed and inspired. And, more.

Let’s renew our vows together during this time of seasonal wonder. That we, you and I and each of us who cherish this land held in trust, will commit to helping ensure that our wildlands here on Mare Island and throughout the San Francisco Bay, will be forever open and free. Free on which

to roam, to rest, to reflect and to renew.

Night is surrounding Nitro and me, now. The land and its waters, shores, clouds and stars above, envelope us as one, as we snuggle under our winter covers of warmth and wild loveliness. Sleep well, my precious ones. Dream of safe places and spaces for all.

.....  
This year, February 11, 12 and 13, 2022 we will once again celebrate the migration of as many as 1 million shorebirds, a quarter million waterfowl, ducks and geese, and likely tens of thousands of raptors, hawks and millions of songbirds, to and through San Francisco Bay. We are privileged to live nearby to these gatherings on the waters and in the sky at our national wildlife refuges and state wildlife areas.

Frustrating as it is to once again, be pretty restricted in terms of public gatherings, I’m certain you will agree that getting outdoors for guided hikes will be really wonderful, as will the choice to just snuggling under your favorite blanket on the couch and soak up history and nature of the Bay’s “north shore”!

Continued generous sponsorship by the Redwood Chapter of the Sierra Club and the local Solano Group,



Photo: CA Scrub Jay, Mare Island Preserve, Bill George

as well as other expected sponsors, will help us hold our beloved San Francisco Bay Flyway Festival headquartered on Mare Island for 27 years.

Throughout the second weekend in February, we will offer a combo IN-PERSON/ VIRTUAL Flyway Festival. Although we will not host our Wildlife Expo in-person, our exhibitors and presenters will join us, Virtually. During the weekend, you can still get out on self-guided and guided socially-distanced hikes and wildlife viewing expeditions.

**Our FLYWAY FESTIVAL schedule is 2-PART Virtual and In-person Outings. This is ALL In-person Mare Island and Regional Outings. Look for detailed Virtual Wildlife Expo schedule on the Facebook Group by Feb. 9th**

MAKE YOUR DONATION NOW BY CREDIT CARD: Click **DONATE**

or **Paypal**

TO DONATION BY CHECK:

**Mare Island Heritage Trust**  
816 Branciforte St.  
Vallejo, CA 94590

Over the past year, more than 9,400 of you have signed and shared our online petition (<http://chnng.it/wtqYqngM>) intended to send a clear message to our Vallejo Mayor and Council asking them to ensure that our nonprofit returns as the gentle and skilled managers of the Mare island Preserve. Will you please sign and share and ask those you share with, to share? We are closing in on 10,000 online signatures.

**Will you help underwrite the Flyway Festival and our “Preserve the Preserve” campaign? Please make a donation to ([PayPal.me/mareislandheritage09](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://www.preservemareislandpreserve.com) or <https://www.preservemareislandpreserve.com>)**

To view and keep up to date on the Virtual Wildlife Expo, join the **Facebook Group**. Call/text or email me at 707-249-9633 [[myrnahayes@mac.com](mailto:myrnahayes@mac.com)] with questions and suggestions. In all the ways you can, please help us ensure our 27th Flyway Festival is a great event. We are so grateful.

Warmly,

Myrna Hayes  
Festival Director/Co-founder  
Mare Island Heritage Trust



Photo: Myrna Hayes and Nitro, Juan Polanco

SFBayFlywayFestival.com

Facebook Group: **Facebook Group Link**

# IN-PERSON Mare Island and Regional Outings

Friday, February 11, Saturday, February 12 and Sunday, February 13

## Friday, February 11, Mare Island In-person Outings

8:00am-5:00pm

### Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve Self-guided Hiking and Biking

*Repeats Saturday and Sunday 8:00am-5:00pm*

Walk or bike at your own pace as far as you like on the 1.3 mile paved road/trail along the route to the hilltop 7-county scenic vista and beyond. Dogs are allowed on leash.

**Directions:** [167 O'Hara Ct](#) at southern end of Azuar Dr. **From the Mare Island entrance at Tennessee and Mare Island Way**, continue to Azuar Dr. Turn left 2 miles. Continue beyond gate to parking. **From Marin or Napa** take the Mare Island exit off of Hwy 37 and follow Walnut Ave. south 3/4 mile to stop sign at "G" St. Turn right one block to Azuar Dr. Turn left 2 miles. Continue beyond entrance gate to parking.

8:00am-6:00pm

### San Pablo Bay Walking Trail Self-Guided Walk Hosted by Weston Solutions, Inc.

*Repeats Saturday and Sunday 8:00am-6:00pm*

Explore the wetland and bay habitats of Mare Island on a self-guided wildlife viewing trail to the Bay and seasonal ponds.

**Directions:** Once you've reached Mare Island travel West to Azuar Dr., turn left onto Azuar Dr. Continue on Azuar Dr. to the first right at A St./Dump Rd. onto the gravel road. Park in the gravel parking lot at the end of A St. Entrance Azuar Dr. at A St.

### 8:00am-9:30am "UnOfficial Mare Island Preserve Photographer", Bill George, will give an early morning Wildlife Photography guided outing for those interested in photographing the Preserve

Former Mare Island Shipyard worker, Bill George regularly chronicles wildlife and humans using the Preserve. His photography visits are always posted on our

Facebook Preserve Community page. Bill has agreed to guide a short wildlife photographing walk in the Preserve. This isn't really a class. Feel free to walk further up the Trail on your own. Bill will help you to see where nesting birds have been seen, including Osprey, great blue herons and great egrets. Bill will guide as far as the Rowser Garden, about 1/2 mile from the parking lot. Bring binoculars, (will you share or bring an extra pair?) a scope if you have one, camera and hike gear – hats, sunscreen, water for

1-mile roundtrip walk on a paved trail. Meet at Mare Island Preserve parking lot. See directions above to 167 O'Hara Ct. at Azuar Dr. southern end of Mare Island. FREE. No reservation required. Call/text 707-249-9633.

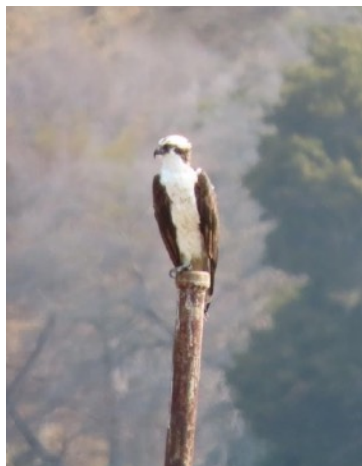


Photo: Osprey perched on lightning rod, Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve, Bill George

10:00am-11:30am

### Guided birdwatching walk in the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve

**Robin Leong, Napa-Solano Audubon Society field guide**

When you join Robin Leong for a birding outing on Mare Island, you get to spend time with not only an expert and enthusiastic birdwatcher, but, you will learn about Mare Island history from a 30-plus year civilian employee of the Mare Island Naval Shipyard. The walk is about one-mile, but does rise somewhat steeply near the top of the hill. You will likely see great blue herons, possibly great egrets and osprey, certainly red-tailed hawks, possibly a red-shouldered hawk and white tailed kites, and certainly, songbirds. Bring what you need for a hike and if you have binoculars or cameras, that would be great! Meet at the visitor center parking lot. See directions above Friday, 8:00am.



Photo: Say's phoebe, Mare Island San Pablo Bay Trail, Bill George

2:00pm – 4:30pm

### Mare Island Birding Hot Spots Carpool Tour meets at 690 Walnut Ave., Mare Island, Vallejo, CA 94592

**With Robin Leong, Napa-Solano Audubon Society field trip leader**

Get to know what's on Mare Island. Stroll amongst "Captain's Row", Alden Park, and the grounds around St. Peter's Chapel. Learn about the people, it's historic buildings, the trees, avian fauna, and possibly, monarch butterflies. Visit the San Pablo Bay Trail with pickleweed and saltmarshes, prime salt marsh harvest mouse and Ridgeway rail habitat. There are always lots of waterfowl in San Pablo Bay and in the pond near the trailhead. Portable restroom at trailhead, only. Meet Robin to form car caravan at the parking lot at the corner of Walnut Ave. and Pintado St. near 690 Walnut Ave. on Mare Island in Vallejo, CA. Call 707-249-9633 for assistance.

5:30pm – 6:30pm

### Festival Opening Reception, Wildlife Expo Virtual Headquarters, Building 126, Ste. 213, 1101 Nimitz Ave. Mare Island

Join us at our 2022 Flyway Festival Wildlife Expo headquarters for a social-distanced, pandemic safe in-person gathering. We understand that if for various reasons, you may not wish to attend in-person, or are far away. Still, we're eager for you to join us in person and in spirit, as well as in that third strata we have become more and more accepting of, if not resigned to. Hop on Zoom with us. Here's the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82780926779> No reservations or passcodes required! Enjoy good company and a spot of yummy refreshments. We'll be joined by **Festival Host Sponsor Sierra Club Redwood Chapter Chair Victoria Brandon and Executive Director, Jeff Morris, Sierra Club, Solano Group Chair Joe Feller and Vallejo Mayor Robert McConnell.**

**Directions:** Continue across the Blue Bridge onto Mare Island. Turn left onto Railroad Ave. Turn left onto the Alley just beyond the stopsign at 10th St. and Railroad Ave. You will see a modern two-story industrial building with blue trim. Turn left immediately past that building, Building 126, [1101 Nimitz Ave. Mare Island](#) (written directions are to reach the building from Railroad Ave. entrance) Park in the alley. Walk towards the Drydocks to the doorway and take the elevator to the 2nd floor. Lost? Call/text Myrna Hayes, 707-249-9633.

# IN-PERSON Mare Island Outings

## Saturday, February 12

### Saturday, February 12, In-Person Outing and Virtual Wildlife Expo

What's a Virtual Wildlife Expo? Due to the pandemic, in place of our traditional exhibitor booths, art show and live presentations held in a Mare Island historic building, as we had for 24 years, we are foregoing the In-person gathering under one roof. Instead, view a curated group of pre-recorded presentations, video tours and outings and Live coverage of In-person outings, too. On our [Facebook Group](#), we will live stream each day, a curated group of presentations, videos, Youtube and links from websites of our presenters. The majority of our Guided Outings are In-person. You will see descriptions and directions to meet-up locations in this schedule. Check in on the [Facebook Group](#) February 9th for our daily lineup of Virtual Wildlife Expo programming.

**Our FLYWAY FESTIVAL schedule is 2-PART Virtual and In-person Outings. This schedule is ALL In-person Mare Island and Regional Outings. Look for a detailed Virtual Wildlife Expo schedule on the [Facebook Group](#) by Feb. 9th**

### 8:00am-5:00pm Mare Island Preserve open for self-guided hiking and biking

**Repeats Friday and Sunday, 8:00am-5:00pm**

**Directions:** 167 O'Hara Ct at southern end of Azuar Dr. **From the Mare Island entrance at Tennessee and Mare Island Way**, continue to Azuar Dr. Turn left 2 miles. Continue beyond gate to parking. **From Marin or Napa** take the Mare Island exit off of Hwy 37 and follow Walnut Ave. south 3/4 mile to stop sign at "G" St. Turn right one block to Azuar Dr. Turn left 2 miles. Continue beyond entrance gate to parking.

### 8:00am-6:00pm

#### San Pablo Bay Walking Trail Self-Guided Walk Hosted by Weston Solutions, Inc.

**Repeats Friday and Sunday 8:00am-6:00pm**

There will be 2 porta potties on Mare Island, over the Festival weekend. One will be posted at the Volkswalk checkin on Nimitz Ave. One will be stationed at the San Pablo Bay Trail.

**Directions:** Once you've reached Mare Island travel West to Azuar Dr., turn left onto Azuar Dr.

Continue on Azuar Dr. to the first right at A St./Dump Rd. onto the gravel road. Park in the gravel parking lot at the end of A St. Entrance on Azuar Dr. at A St.



Photo: Bill George, Mare Island Preserve



Photo: Native American Prayer Flags made and hung for the 2021 Flyway Festival by Michelle Herrera, San Pablo Bay Trail, Myrna Hayes

9:00am

**Opening Greeting and Native American Prayer to bless the sacred Native lands and waters on which our Flyway Festival is held this weekend. Mare Island San Pablo Bay Trail Virtual Facebook Live Stream from our 2021 Flyway Festival on [Facebook Group](#)**

Myrna Hayes, Flyway Festival Co-founder and Director with Michelle Herrera

9:30am – 3:00pm

### Come Aboard USS LCS 102 WWII Landing Craft Support Gunboat and You May See Fishing Birds!

*Location: Berth 6, A St @ Nimitz Ave. Mare Island*

Mare Island is home to the last of its kind of the 130 boats built for this purpose during WWII. The Historic WWII Mighty Midget Landing Craft Support (LCS-102) Gunboat is located at Berth 6, the historic WWII submarine repair berth. Flags will be flying on the boat.

There's a chance of seeing a kingfisher perched on the mooring lines, osprey, great blue herons and a "pet" gull that follows the crew around. All volunteer. Tours are free. Donations appreciated.

**Directions:** From the Blue Bridge, G. St/Wichels Causeway: Turn left onto Nimitz Ave. Look for a wayfinding sign on your right showing LCS-102. Turn left at A St. Continue to Berth 6. Park in parking lot near dock and boat.



Photo: LCS-102, WWII Landing Craft Support Gunboat, Berth 6, Mare Island

10:00am-12noon

### Go Take a Hike in the Mare Island Preserve with the Sierra Club and Mare Island Heritage Trust Volunteer Guides

Flyway Festival Sponsor Solano Group Chair, Joe Feller and Mare Island Heritage Trust hiking guides, Gordon McMahon and Belinda Seidemann team up to guide you on a 4-mile roundtrip hike to the Preserve Hilltop at 284 ft elevation with stupendous 7-county views of the Bay region. From the Hilltop you will explore further in the Preserve. The trek is chocked full of nature and cultural history points of interest with scenic vistas and birdwatching.

**Bring: Lunch/snacks and water, hiking shoes, binoculars, outing wear, and your questions!**

Meet at the Mare Island Preserve parking lot, 167 O'Hara Ct. 94592

**Directions:** See Saturday, 8:00 am directions on left below gold box.

# IN-PERSON Mare Island Outings

## Saturday, February 12, continued

### Saturday, February 12 In-Person Mare Island Outings

**10:30am - 12noon**

#### **Beginning Birding for All Ages at the Mare Island San Pablo Bay Trail**

*Repeats Saturday, 2:30-3:30pm* Wally Neville, Napa-Solano Audubon Society field guide

**Leader: Michelle Eliker, Mare Island Preserve Field Guide and Birding Enthusiast**

Meet at the wetlands pond a short distance from the Parking lot and Trailhead. Turn left immediately after entering gate. Meet Michelle at the pond for birding there, before continuing on to the Bay, if you want to.

No matter what your birding skill level, take advantage of this special opportunity for a morning of learning how to look for birds in the sky and in the wetlands. This is easy, on trail and short. A portable restroom is stationed at the parking/trailhead area of the San Pablo Bay Trail.

**Directions:** Once you've reached Mare Island travel West to Azuar Dr., turn left onto Azuar Dr. Continue on Azuar Dr. to the first right at A St./Dump Rd. onto the gravel road. Park in the gravel parking lot at the end of A St. Entrance on Azuar Dr. at A St.

**11:00am – 2:00pm**

#### **Tour St. Peter's Chapel**

*Repeats Saturday 11:00am-2:00pm*

St. Peter's Chapel, the oldest existing Navy chapel built in 1901, is home to an early collection of Tiffany stained glass windows..

**Directions:** Park across from Chapel Park, 1181 Walnut Ave south of the historic Captain's Row mansions on Mare Island. \$5.00 per person donation. (12 and under, free).

**12noon – 4:00pm**

#### **In Fine Feather, a Birds in Textiles In-person show presented by Fiber Expressions Art Quilters at Mare Island Art Studios**

*Repeats Sunday, February 13, 12noon-4:00pm*

I You are invited to an artist reception Saturday, February 12, 3:00pm-5:00pm at the Mare Island Art Studios, 110 Pintado St on Mare Island. [mareislandartstudios.com](http://mareislandartstudios.com)



#### IN FINE FEATHER

February 3rd through 28th



Fiber Expressions Art Quilters Present Birds in Textiles  
Mare Island Art Studios

Birds in Textiles

By

Fiber Expressions Art Quilters

February 3rd - February 28th

Open to the public Saturdays & Sundays 12 to 4

Please join us for an artist reception on February 12th from 3 to 5

Mare Island Art Studios  
110 Pintado St  
Vallejo, California

<https://mareislandartstudios.com/>



Contact - [jlincoln59@gmail.com](mailto:jlincoln59@gmail.com)

**2:30pm-3:30pm**

#### **Mare Island San Pablo Bay Trail Birdwatching**

with Wally Neville, Napa-Solano Audubon Society field guide

Meet Wally at the wetlands pond a short distance from the Trailhead. Turn left immediately after entering gate. After birding at the pond, continue on to the Bay if you want. Views of San Pablo Bay, Mt. Tamalpais and Sonoma Mountain. Seasonal wetlands with ducks,

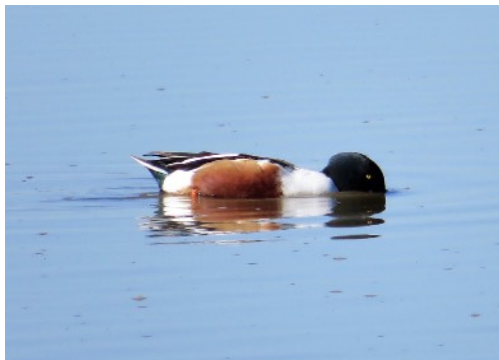


Photo: northern shoveler, American Canyon Wetlands, Bill George

egrets and shorebirds. A good chance of spotting raptors in the sky and trees.

Spend an hour with Wally, then continue on along the levee-top trail, if desired.

**Directions:** Once you've reached Mare Island travel West to Azuar Dr., turn left onto Azuar Dr. Continue on Azuar Dr. to the first right at A St./

Dump Rd. onto the gravel road. Park in the gravel parking lot at the end of A St. Entrance on Azuar Dr. at A St. A portable restroom is stationed at the parking/trailhead of the San Pablo Bay Trail.

**5:30-8:30pm**

#### **"Love You to the Moon" PopUp LightUp in Alden Park**

Lighted Valentine's Day Gathering, Self-Guided and Guided Walk in a Nighttime Decorated Alden Park with [astrobotanicals.com](http://astrobotanicals.com)



Photo: Polaris "Love you to the moon" missile with Victorian bandstand gazebo, Alden Park, Mare Island, Myrna Hayes

Since the day following the Flyway Festival is Valentine's Day, the international day to celebrate those we love, it seems logical to host a Flyway Festival Valentine's Day evening/night walk through [Mare Island's Alden Park](http://Mare Island's Alden Park), adjacent to the historic Captain's Row with its stately mansions. For the occasion, we are decorating the lovely park with its towering old growth trees and quirky concentration of WWI bomb shelters and the Victorian Bandstand Gazebo, with Astrobotanicals' inflatable, lighted art sculptures and "Bliss Lights" shooting into trees and landscape.

Bring friends and family for an evening exploration of the Park splashed with lights and Valentine's decor with music and light refreshments. Extend your stroll along Captain's Row. Myrna Hayes, Flyway Festival Co-founder and Director, will lead a guided cultural history and nature walk through the Park continuing along Captain's Row, 7:30pm-8:15pm.

# IN-PERSON Mare Island Outings

## Sunday, February 13

### Sunday, February 13 In-Person Mare Island Outings

#### 8:00am-5:00pm Mare Island Preserve open for self-guided hiking and biking

**Repeats Friday and Sunday, 8:00am-5:00pm**

**Directions:** 167 O'Hara Ct at southern end of Azuar Dr. **From the Mare Island entrance at Tennessee and Mare Island Way**, continue to Azuar Dr. Turn left 2 miles. Continue beyond gate to parking. **From Marin or Napa** take the Mare Island exit off of Hwy 37 and follow Walnut Ave. south 3/4 mile to stop sign at "G" St. Turn right one block to Azuar Dr. Turn left 2 miles. Continue beyond entrance gate to parking.

#### 8:00am-6:00pm

#### San Pablo Bay Walking Trail Self-Guided Walk Hosted by Weston Solutions Inc.

**Repeats Friday and Saturday 8:00am-6:00pm**

**Directions:** Once you've reached Mare Island travel West to Azuar Dr., turn left onto Azuar Dr. Continue on Azuar Dr. to the first right at A St./Dump Rd. onto the gravel road. Park in the gravel parking lot at the end of A St. Entrance on Azuar Dr. at A St. A portable restroom will be located at the trailhead/parking area over the weekend.



Photo: Native American Prayer Flags made and placed with prayer for the 2021 Flyway Festival by Michelle Herrera, San Pablo Bay Trail, Myrna Hayes

#### 9:00am

**Opening Greeting and Native American Prayer to bless the sacred Native lands and waters on which our Flyway Festival is held this weekend. Mare Island San Pablo Bay Trail Virtual Facebook Live Stream from our [FACEBOOK GROUP](#)**

Myrna Hayes, Flyway Festival Co-founder and Director with Michelle Herrera

#### 10:00am-11:30am

#### Birding for All Ages Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve

**Leader: Marcia Grefsrud, Wildlife Specialist and Field Guide**

No matter what your birding skill level, take advantage of this opportunity for a morning of learning how to look for birds and wildlife wherever you are. Orient to looking for birds in the sky and all around you at the Mare Island Preserve. Walk with Marcia as far as you want. Turn back or head-off on your own whenever you like. This is an easy and fun outing because Marcia is warm and gracious as well as knowledgeable! Meet Marcia at parking lot, 167 O'Hara Ct at the south end of Azuar Dr. **Directions:** Above 8:00am description.

#### 10:00am-12:30pm

#### Join a Sierra Club Hike in the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve

The Loma Prieta Chapter, in collaboration with the Redwood Chapter's Solano Group, will co-host an approximately 4-mile hike with 284 feet of gain. Concentrated on the North Slope of the



Photo: Hiking the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve, Bill George

Preserve with 7-county panoramic vistas, abundant wildlife and historical points of interest. Founded in 1854, as the first U.S. Naval Base in the Pacific, Mare Island's landmark structures and historical architecture coupled with its significant contributions to US Naval and Maritime history led the National Park Service to declare it a National Historic Landmark, the highest ranking given a historic site in America.

The hike will be led by Lisa Barboza, Outings Chair, Loma Prieta Chapter and assisted by Joe Feller, Chair Solano Group. Meet at the Mare Island Preserve parking lot 167 O'Hara Ct. Vallejo, CA 94592.

**Cost:** Free. **Signup Instructions:** Please [RSVP to the Sierra Club Loma Prieta Calendar](#). As a Front country hike, no medical form is required. Bring: A lunch/snacks, hiking shoes, binoculars, outing wear, and your questions! Lisa Barboza Email: [lisa.barboza@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.barboza@gmail.com); Call: (650) 493-8099

#### 11:00am – 2:00pm

#### Tour St. Peter's Chapel

**Repeats Saturday 11:00am-2:00pm**

St. Peter's Chapel, the oldest existing Navy chapel built in 1901, is home to a large collection of early Tiffany stained glass windows. 16 of the 29 windows are signed by the Tiffany Studio. This is the first time in a number of years, that the Chapel has been open for the Flyway Festival. A must see, as it is normally only open by appointment.

**Directions:** Park across from Chapel Park, 1181 Walnut Ave south of the historic Captain's Row mansions on Mare Island. \$5.00 per person donation. (Under 12, free).



Photo: St Peter's Chapel, Mare Island, John Klycinski

#### 12noon-4:00pm

#### In Fine Feather, a Birds in Textiles show presented by Fiber Expressions Art Quilters at Mare Island Art Studios

**Repeats Saturday, February 12, 12noon-4:00pm**

You are invited to an artist reception Saturday, February 12, 3:00pm-5:00pm at the Mare Island Art Studios, 110 Pintado St on Mare Island. [mareislandartstudios.com](http://mareislandartstudios.com)

# IN-PERSON Regional Outings

## Friday, February 11 and Saturday, February 12

**Friday, February 11 and  
Saturday, February 12**

### **In-Person Regional Outings**

*All 7:00am self-guided repeat, daily  
Feb.11-13.*

**7:00am-6:00pm**

### **Self-guided walk on Lower Tubbs Island and Toley Creek Trail Loop to San Pablo Bay – San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge**

*Repeats Saturday and Sunday 7:00am-6:00pm*

The trail offers hiking, fishing, photography, wildlife viewing and biking opportunities. Parking lot is located at the trailhead. The Lower Tubbs Island Trail loop is 8.15 miles. **Directions:** Entrance to Trail is located off of east bound Highway 37, just east of the Highway 121/37 intersection in Sonoma County.

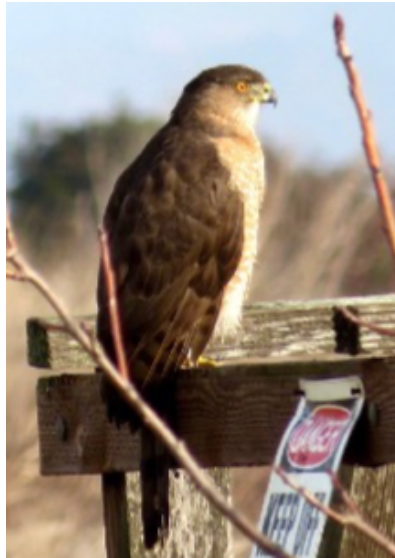


Photo: Cooper's hawk, Rita LeRoy

**7:00am – 6:00pm**

### **Self-guided walk on Sonoma Baylands Tidal Wetland Levee Trail – San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge**

*Repeats Saturday and Sunday 7:00am-6:00pm*

Walk the levee trail along this wetland transition zone restoration of a 348 acre tidal marsh habitat constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1995. **Directions:** Turn south off Hwy 37 at Port Sonoma Marina, follow directional signs.

**7:00am – 6:00pm**

### **Self-guided walk, bike or paddle on Cullinan Ranch Tidal Wetland Levee Trail – San Pablo Bay NWR**

*Repeats Saturday and Sunday 7:00am-6:00pm*

The Cullinan Ranch Restoration Project has restored over 1500 acres of tidal wetlands in the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge. The site is open to the public to explore on foot, bicycle or kayak. Thousands of ducks and geese raft-up on the tidal wetlands.

**Directions:** From Vallejo, Solano and Contra Costa Counties take Hwy 37 West 3.4 miles past the Mare Island exit ramp to the Cullinan Ranch Unit parking lot and trailhead. From Marin and Sonoma Counties take Hwy 37 east approximately 9 miles past the Hwy 121 junction to the Mare Island exit. Veer left on the exit to the stop sign. Then turn left onto the overpass towards Hwy 37 West. Parking lot/trailhead 3.4 miles from the Mare Island overpass.

**7:00am-6:00pm**

### **Self-guided walk at Green Island Unit, CA Dept Fish and Wildlife Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area**

*Repeats Saturday and Sunday 7:00am-6:00pm*

Walk the trails in the restored 1,400 acre Napa salt ponds. **Directions:** From northbound Highway 29 in American Canyon, turn onto Paoli Loop Road/Green Island Road. (From south turn onto Paoli Loop Road .08 miles north of Walmart and follow Paoli Loop under Hwy 29). At stop sign turn left onto Green Island Rd. Proceed straight for 0.9 miles. At 2nd stop sign turn right continuing on Green Island Rd. straight for one long block; continue as it turns left, then approximately 1.4 miles to end. Turn left into the park driveway at Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area, Green Island Unit sign. Follow the driveway around to the parking lot.

**Saturday, February 12 only  
In-Person Regional Outings**

**8:30am – 11:00am**

### **Birding American Canyon Wetlands to Quarry**

Robin Leong, Napa Solano Audubon Society field guide, leads a morning of birding at [Wetlands Edge Park in American Canyon](#) to look for waterfowl and shorebirds, then to American Canyon Quarry to look for raptors.

**Directions:** Meet at the parking lot at the corner of 2 Eucalyptus Drive and Wetlands Edge Rd. From Highway 29 coming from Vallejo: turn left on West American Canyon Rd. Drive to end and turn right on Wetlands Edge Rd. Drive to the end and turn left on Eucalyptus Dr. From Napa: turn right on Rio Del Mar, make a sharp right on Eucalyptus Dr.; drive to the end.

**9:30am-11:00am**

### **Beginning Bird Walk for Kids with Tammy Saunders!**

Enjoy the fun of birding with Tammy Saunders, who will lead a Beginning Bird Walk for Kids at American Canyon Wetlands as part of the San Francisco Bay Flyway Festival. This walk is designed for students ages 7 - 14 and their parents. Please preregister with Tammy at [nsasedcoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:nsasedcoordinator@gmail.com). American Canyon Wetlands is known for its wetland birds including a variety of ducks such as Green-winged, Cinnamon, and even Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shovelers, Gadwall, Buffleheads, Canvasbacks, and Lesser Scaup Ducks. Great and Snowy Egrets, Great Blue Herons and Black-crowned Night-Herons are seen regularly. Shorebirds include Marbled Godwits, American Avocets, Willits, Greater Yellowlegs,

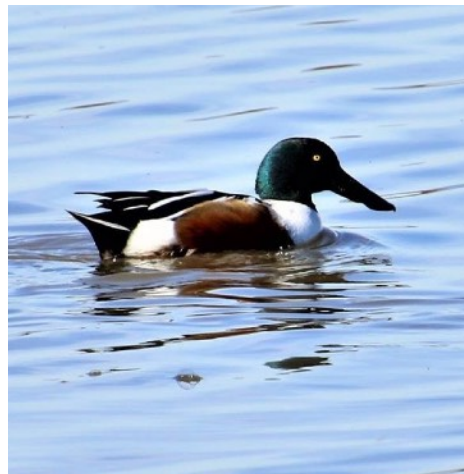


Photo: northern shoveler, American Canyon Wetlands, Bill George

Least Sandpipers, Dunlin, Black-bellied Plovers, and Long-billed Dowitchers. If you listen carefully you might hear Virginia, Sora or even Black Rails. Woodland birds in the woodlands, grasslands and Eucalyptus groves next to the marsh, include Red-tailed Hawks, Peregrin Falcons, Merlins and Kestrels, along with Western Bluebirds, Black Phoebe, Savannah and Song Sparrows, Yellowthroats and Yellow-rumped Warblers.

# IN-PERSON Regional Outings Saturday, February 12

## Saturday, February 12, In-Person Regional Outings, continued

9:30am-1:00pm *Start time update from 10am as of Feb 07, 2022*

### Skaggs Island Bird Tour (NEW MEET-UP SITE-NORTH GATE SKAGGS ISLAND IN THE CARNEROS OFF OF HWY 12/121. TURN SOUTH ONTO RAMAL RD/DUHIG LN. LOOP, TURN SOUTH ONTO SKAGGS ISLAND RD. TO THE BRIDGE DEADEND TO MEET HOST)

Field Guide: Murray Berner, Birding Expert  
*Repeats Sunday, 9:30am-1:00pm*

Join our guided bird tours at Skaggs Island – part of the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge, in an area normally closed to the public. Skaggs Island, a former Naval Communication Station, is located near Hwy 37 between Novato and Vallejo. The 4,400-acre Skaggs Island supports deer, birds of prey, coyote, egrets, herons, and assorted other wildlife that use the various grasslands, shrub stands, ephemeral pools, old drainage channels, and nonnative eucalyptus trees as habitat.

The Flyway Festival tours focus on the many raptors that winter on Skaggs Island. Possible sightings could include: white-tailed kites, Northern harriers, rough-legged hawks, merlins, American kestrels, golden eagle, peregrine falcons, ferruginous hawks, and several species of owls.

Primarily car caravan tours with little walking. Upon arrival of all field trip participants, before gate entry, auto caravans with as few vehicles as possible will be made. No early departures. Wear layers and sturdy shoes. Bring binoculars, scopes, sunscreen, water and snacks. No restrooms. Meet at the NORTH gate on Skaggs Island Road. Directions below. **(ARRIVE BY 9:15AM ON TIME; GATE WILL BE CLOSED ONCE THE TOUR BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 9:30AM. Updated START time from 10:00am original as of Feb 07, 2022 )**

NOTE: Fog or drizzle may cancel, to be determined on site. All ages and levels of birding experience.

**Directions: From Marin and Sonoma Counties:** travel eastbound on Highway 37 to light at Sears Point/Sonoma Raceway. Turn left onto Hwy 12 towards Sonoma.

Continue Hwy 12/121 towards Napa. Turn right onto Ramal Rd. Turn right onto Skaggs Island Rd. to deadend at bridge. **From Vallejo, Napa and the East Bay:** travel north on Hwy 29. Make left turn onto Hwy 12/121. Turn left onto Duhig Ln. Turn left onto Skaggs Island Rd. Follow to the deadend at bridge beyond Hudeman Slough.

[Directions from Marin 28020 Skaggs Island Rd, Sonoma, CA 95476.](#)

[Directions from Vallejo, Napa 28020 Skaggs Island Rd. Sonoma CA 95476.](#)

**Lost? Saturday, Mark Stephenson, Text/call 707-246-2795. Sunday, Myrna Hayes, Text/call 707-249-9633.**

10:00am-2:00pm

### Lynch Canyon Open Space Park Eagles, Hawks and Other Birds of Prey Guided Hike

Link to registration and details: <https://g.co/kgs/2aQqLa>

Join Larry Broderick, West County Hawkwatch for a Birds of Prey Migration Hike featuring resident, migrating and over-wintering birds of prey hosted by Solano Land Trust and Solano County Parks. Over-wintering hawks are the highlight of this day. Lynch Canyon already boasts a large population of raptors, but over-wintering birds added in makes for a peak level of Hawks, Eagles, Falcons, Harriers, Accipiters,

Kites and even Osprey. Arrive by 9:45 am for parking and orientation. Larry brings over 25 years of experience researching, rescuing and rehabilitating raptors. Raptor identification tips. Learn about where they go and do, and how to distinguish different species based on their looks, behaviors, and ways they fly. Golden and Bald Eagles, Rough-legged, Cooper's, Sharp-shinned and Ferruginous Hawks, Peregrine and Prairie Falcons, and other more common raptor species. **Free: requested \$10 donation. Parking \$6 cash or check per day.** Stay on trails. No dogs allowed. A working ranch—stay a safe distance from cattle. Bring water, snacks, sunglasses, camera, hiking sticks, bug repellent, binoculars and bird books. Wear sturdy shoes. Dress for all types of weather. Hike off trail: steep and rugged 4 miles. Restroom at parking lot. A phone

number for Larry is 707-791-0335. Pre-registration appreciated—not required. Register at [Solanolandtrust.org](http://Solanolandtrust.org) Select Events

**Directions:** [3100 Lynch Road, just west of the intersection of Lynch Road & McGary Road, Vallejo, CA](#)

**From San Francisco / I-80 East just east of Vallejo:** Take the American Canyon/Hiddenbrooke exit. Turn towards Hiddenbrooke Parkway. Just before entering the Hiddenbrooke, turn east (left) on McGary Road (frontage road parallel to I-80). Follow McGary Road for 1.6 miles to Lynch Road. Turn left, go under the I-80 underpass through gate at end of cul-de-sac to parking lot. **From Sacramento / I-80 West toward Vallejo beyond Fairfield:** Take the Red Top Road exit. Go south (left) under the underpass. In less than 0.1 mile, turn right on McGary Road (frontage road parallel to I-80). Follow McGary Road for 1.8 miles. Turn right on Lynch Road. go under the I-80 underpass, and through the gate at the end of the cul-de-sac.



Photo: Red-tailed hawk, Mare Island Preserve, Bill George

#### FESTIVAL HOST

Mare Island  
Heritage Trust

#### Festival Champions (\$1,000-\$2,000)

- Vallejo Flood Control and Waste Water District
- Vallejo Watershed Alliance
- The Nimitz Group/  
Southern Land Company  
(in-kind and underwriting  
donation)

#### FESTIVAL HOST SPONSOR

(\$7,000-\$8,000)

SIERRA CLUB, REDWOOD CHAPTER

#### Festival Supporters (\$500 to \$999)

- Astro Botanicals In-Kind
- Sierra Club, Solano Group
- Small Business Outsource In-kind
- Swarovski Optik of North America

#### Festival Friends (\$100 to \$249)

- California Native Plant  
Society, Willis Jepson  
Chapter
- Robin Leong



# In-person Regional Outings Sunday, February 13

## Sunday, February 13, In-person Regional Outings

**7:00am-6:00pm**

### **Self-guided walk on Lower Tubbs Island and Tolay Creek Trail Loop to San Pablo Bay – San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge**

*Repeats Saturday and Sunday 7:00am-6:00pm*

The trail offers hiking, fishing, photography, wildlife viewing and biking opportunities. Parking lot is located at the trailhead. The Lower Tubbs Island Trail loop is 8.15 miles.

**Directions:** Entrance to Trail is located off of east bound Highway 37, just east of the Highway 121/37 intersection in Sonoma County.

**7:00am – 6:00pm**

### **Self-guided walk on Sonoma Baylands Tidal Wetland Levee Trail – San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge**

*Repeats Saturday and Sunday 7:00am-6:00pm*

Walk the levee trail along this wetland transition zone restoration of a 348 acre tidal marsh habitat constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1995. **Directions:** Turn south off Hwy 37 at Port Sonoma Marina, follow directional signs.

**7:00am – 6:00pm**

### **Self-guided walk, bike or paddle on Cullinan Ranch Tidal Wetland Levee Trail – San Pablo Bay NWR**

*Repeats Saturday and Sunday 7:00am-6:00pm*

The Cullinan Ranch Restoration Project has restored over 1500 acres of tidal wetlands in the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge. The site is now open to the public to explore on foot, bicycle or kayak. Thousands of ducks and geese raft-up on the tidal wetlands.

**Directions:** From Vallejo, Solano and Contra Costa Counties take Hwy 37 West 3.4 miles past the Mare Island exit ramp to the Cullinan Ranch Unit parking lot and trailhead. From Marin and Sonoma Counties take Hwy 37 east approximately 9 miles past the Hwy 121 junction to the Mare Island exit. Veer left on the exit to the stopsign. Then turn left onto the overpass towards Hwy 37 West. The parking lot and trailhead is 3.4 miles from the Mare Island overpass.

**7:00am-6:00pm**

### **Self-guided walk at Green Island Unit, CA Dept Fish and Wildlife Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area**

*Repeats Saturday and Sunday 7:00am-6:00pm*

Walk the trails in the recently restored 1,400 acre Napa salt ponds.

**Directions:** From northbound Highway 29 in American Canyon, turn onto Paoli Loop Road/Green Island Road. (From south turn onto Paoli Loop Road .08 miles north of Walmart and follow Paoli Loop under Hwy 29). At stop sign turn left onto Green Island Rd. Proceed straight for 0.9 miles. At 2nd stop sign turn right continuing on Green Island Rd. straight for one long block; continue as it turns left, then approximately 1.4 miles to end. Turn left into the park driveway at Napa-Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area, Green Island Unit sign. Follow the driveway around to the parking lot.



Photo: male cinnamon teal, Wetlands Edge Trail American Canyon, Bill George

**10:00am-1:00pm**

### **Flyway Festival -Valentine's Kayak Paddle at Sunshine Smoothies near the Hwy 37 Napa River Bridge, Vallejo**

*Meet at Sunshine Smoothies at 821 Wilson Ave at the intersection of Lighthouse Dr. Vallejo at 9:30am for coffee and smoothies. (We will talk about the details of the paddle)*

*Bring a snack to share, a change of clothes just in case, and a donation of \$2- \$10 to keep the group afloat) Thank you! Info: Steve Souza call/text 707-301-8701. Email: [souzasounds@gmail.com](mailto:souzasounds@gmail.com)*



Photo: Sunshine Smoothies put-in near Hwy 37, Steve Souza

**9:30am-1:00pm** *Start time update from 10am as of Feb 07, 2022*

### **Skaggs Island Bird Tour with Access at **NORTH** Gate**

Field Guide: Murray Berner, Birding Expert

*Repeats Saturday, 9:30am-1:00pm (must Arrive by 9:15am)*

**SEE VERY DETAILED DESCRIPTION AND DIRECTIONS SATURDAY, REGIONAL OUTINGS, 10:00AM.**

**12:00noon-2:00pm**

### **Birding Cullinan Ranch and Pond 1**

Join Naomi Feger and Becky Tuden from the Friends of San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge to learn about the birds and wetland restoration of north bay habitats. Potential to see hundreds of shore birds and ducks foraging and resting in these two wetlands and learn about restoration efforts of thousands of acres of wetlands between the Napa and Petaluma Rivers.

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**Directions:** From Vallejo, Solano and Contra Costa Counties take Hwy 37 West 3.4 miles past the Mare Island exit ramp to the Cullinan Ranch Unit parking lot and trailhead. From Marin and

**Sonoma Counties** take Hwy 37 east approximately 9 miles past the Hwy 121 junction to the Mare Island exit. Veer left on the exit to the stopsign. Then turn left onto the overpass towards Hwy 37 West. The parking lot and trailhead is 3.4 miles from the Mare Island overpass.