



Dear Friends,

We are beyond happy that our October field trip was a success—lots of birds, excellent fielding by Alan Hopkins

and great photos by our intrepid photographers!!!

2021 was a very productive year. Heron Watch returned, 5 interns completed the spring program and published a magazine of their artwork, Senior Intern Joy directed "Great Blues of the Golden Gate" and field trips returned!!!

It's your donations that make these programs possible.

Please donate online via our Flipcause portal or via mail at address below.

As we plan for 2022, we hope to offer more field trips and extended tours at Heron's Head Park, and support more interns as well. We need your help. So, please stretch if you can and consider giving \$250, \$500, \$1,000 or even \$5,000 to help meet our goal of \$50,000.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Best regards,

Nancy

Nancy H. DeStefanis
Executive Director,
San Francisco Nature Education



Yellow Warbler (San Francisco Botanical Garden field trip) by Sandi Wong



Black-Throated Blue Warbler (SFBG) by Sandi Wong



Ovenbird (Salesforce Park) by Grace Ruth



Devil's Slide Cliff (cave marked in red) by Ian Reid

On the Pages Ahead

- 2** San Francisco Botanical Garden Field Trip Report – Alan Hopkins
SF Nature Needs a Volunteer Newsletter Editor
- 3-4** Peregrine Falcon's Nest at Devil's Slide – Ian Reid

Become a Member / Donate Online

Donate online or mail a check to: SFNE, PO Box 210303, SF, CA 94121
info@sfnature.org Tel: 415-205-0776 Tax ID: 54-2111941

Membership: Adults: \$35; Seniors 65+: \$30; Joint Membership for two seniors at same residence: \$50; Students 21 or under: \$25.

Flipcause is a secure portal



Our Field Trips are Back!

Please join us on the 2nd Sat. of each month at the SF Botanical Garden –

November 13th, 10am to noon. Meet trip leader Alan Hopkins at the main entrance kiosk. Rain cancels. Residents must show proof of San Francisco address for free entrance into the botanical garden. Field trip fee (separate from SF Botanical Garden entrance fee): SFNE members – free; non-member – \$10.00.

San Francisco Botanical Gardens Trip Report

October 9, 2021 – By Alan Hopkins

After a long COVID break it was wonderful to see a gathering of new and familiar faces on a beautiful October morning at the Botanical Garden Gate. At one time a flock of Canada Geese would have been a sign of the season's change however the flock of thirty or so honkers that greeted us are now year-round city residents.



Our group looking at Black-throated Blue Warbler. Photo by Alan Hopkins

Change is in the air. The swallows and Allen's Hummingbirds of summer have left for the south to be replaced by wintering sparrows and Yellow-rumped and Townsend's Warblers. For many birdwatchers migration is the most exciting time of the year. On a good day it is possible to see tanagers, grosbeaks, orioles and warblers that aren't found here at other times of year.

Plus, there is always the chance of seeing something really unusual and that was the case with our trip. A beautiful **Black-throated Blue Warbler** that had been found earlier in the week stuck around for us to see. To see this bird of eastern woodlands on the west coast is a real treat! There was another rare migrant in the gardens- a Yellow-green Vireo. The vireo is found in Texas and Arizona and is a real skulker so we missed that one.

We headed for the John Muir nature trail, and along the way we had nice views of **Nuttall's Woodpecker**. In the garden, as hoped, we found **Golden-crowned** and **Fox Sparrows** our new winter arrivals. A bright yellow **Lesser Goldfinch** perched on a blue ceanothus was a lovely eye full. Altogether we had a wonderful trip on a fine fall day.

Trip List: 29 Species

- Canada Goose
- Mallard
- Great Blue Heron
- Turkey Vulture
- Cooper's Hawk
- Red-shouldered Hawk
- Red-tailed Hawk
- Anna's Hummingbird
- Nuttall's Woodpecker
- Northern Flicker
- Black Phoebe
- Hutton's Vireo
- Chestnut-backed Chickadee
- Bushtit
- Pygmy Nuthatch
- Hermit Thrush
- American Robin
- Yellow Warbler
- Black-throated Blue Warbler
- Yellow-rumped Warbler
- Townsend's Warbler
- California Towhee
- Fox Sparrow
- Song Sparrow
- White-crowned Sparrow
- Golden-crowned Sparrow
- Purple Finch
- House Finch
- Lesser Goldfinch

SF Nature is Looking for a Volunteer Newsletter Editor

We are looking for a volunteer skilled in graphic design who can work at home or office. Our database manager emails our Newsletter ten times per year (except July and August). We are looking for someone who:

- Can prepare 4-6 page Newsletter 10 issues per year
- Can meet deadlines so that Newsletter is emailed on time
- Has experience producing a newsletter
- Plan to spend approximately 4-6 hours per month preparing photos and text

Position open till filled. If interested, please send a short resume to editor@sfnature.org.

Peregrine Falcons Nesting at Devil's Slide

May 2021 – Photo Essay by Ian Reid

*The falcon, from
her cairn on high,*

*Cast on the rout a
wondering eye,*

*Till far beyond her
piercing ken*

*The hurricane had
swept the glen.*

—Sir Walter Scott



Adult falcon flies high above Devil's Slide



Adult calling its mate



Parent and chick



Feeding time



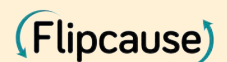
Three new chicks

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e-mail: info@sfnature.org telephone: 415-205-0776 www.sfnature.org
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San Francisco Nature Education is in its 21st year of delivering comprehensive environmental education programs to students from schools in the San Francisco Unified School District and conducting Saturday field trips and programs for adults and children.

Peregrine Falcons Nesting at Devil's Slide (cont.)

May 2021 – Photo Essay by Ian Reid



Don't go!



Catch of the day – Common Murre in talons!



Chick calling out for food



Boots off the ground!



First flight



Fledgling heading for the sky