

Sea and Sage Audubon
Bird Seasons California at San Joaquin Marsh
UPDATES: CHANGES & CLARIFICATIONS (3/31/15)

1. Although the rule is to start at 7:30 AM, it is okay to start earlier, up to 6:45 AM, if circumstances recommend it, such as if it is expected to be very hot early.
2. You can use a scope if you want.
3. It is okay to separate while surveying at the ponds and open area, but stay within sight of, and reasonably near to, one another.
4. By NPN standard rules, flyovers are not counted. Because of the unusual circumstances of the marsh, we will count flyovers of Osprey and Great Blue Heron, being careful not to duplicate sightings. (Note the time, location, and general direction of flight on the data sheet.)
5. We have changed the amount of time per “site” to 15 minutes and added up to 5 minutes for travel along three trails as follows: From Pond C to Pond 4, From Pond 4 to Pond 1, From Pond 1 to the Open Area. (Revised route description will be on the website.)
6. The pond sites include the water and the trees and shrubs surrounding and adjacent to the ponds.
7. Think of the survey area as continuous, starting at Pond E and ending at the completion of the open area (Area 6). Make and record observations all along the way.
8. The survey area includes the trail and the trees and shrubs adjacent to the “other” side of the trail as well as – of course – the trees and shrubs on the pond side of the trail.
9. It is okay *briefly* to observe and record observations for a prior pond site, such as Pond D from Pond C, but be careful to record only new sightings and not to duplicate sightings.
10. Note that for the open area (Area 6), when you enter the area, follow the path to the left rather than to the right. The route goes by the Learning Center and through the grassy area to Audubon House, the Duck Club and restrooms.
11. You can choose to get to Area 7 from Area 6 by car or by foot, but:
 - a. Complete the survey of Area 6 immediately after you finish Area 5, and
 - b. Do not record observations during the travel time from 6 to 7, and do not include that travel time in the “time spent observing” figure.