

# Arizona Field Ornithologists Annual Meeting 2022 Sky Islands and Desert Waters Mini-Expeditions



**Friday, September 23**

For all trips, bring sturdy shoes, hat/sunscreen, and at least 1-2 liters of water.

## **Gillespie Wash and Stockton Pass Campground**

**Led by:** Kale Van Shaar

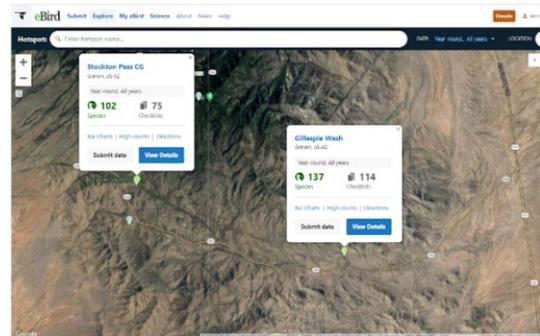
**Limit:** 12 participants

**Meeting Place:** Gillespie Wash (GPS 32.561740, -109.759472; also labeled on Google Maps).

**Meeting Time:** Friday, Sept 23. 7:30 a.m. Trip Ending Time: 1:00 p.m.

**Sign Up:** Email Kale [kalevanshaar@gmail.com](mailto:kalevanshaar@gmail.com); cc Jennie [jmacfarland@tucsonaudubon.org](mailto:jmacfarland@tucsonaudubon.org)

**Description:** Explore this oak-juniper habitat type at the height of fall migration. Who knows what great birds are to be found. There is very little data for this area in eBird during late September of this trip so you can be a part of documenting what birds are present. Classic Madrean oak habitat species are likely including Arizona Woodpecker, Bewick's Wren, Bridled Titmouse, Mexican Jay, and Hutton's Vireo. More localized species such as Juniper Titmouse are also very possible. It is also possible we will find all four towhee species!



**eBird Hotspots:**

Gillespie Wash

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L811390>

Stockton Pass Campground

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L873407>

## **Pinaleno Mountains – Twilight Road and Campground**

**Led by:** Richard Fray and Jennie MacFarland

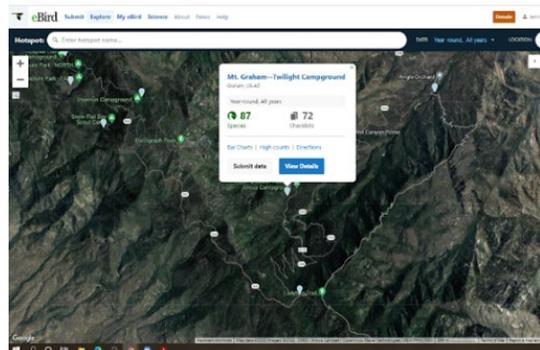
**Limit:** 12 participants

**Meeting Place:** Mt. Graham Market (address: 1000 AZ-366)

**Meeting Time:** Friday, Sept. 23, 12 noon. Trip Ending Time: 4:00 p.m.

**Sign Up:** Email Jennie [jmacfarland@tucsonaudubon.org](mailto:jmacfarland@tucsonaudubon.org) cc Richard [rpfray@gmail.com](mailto:rpfray@gmail.com)

**Description:** This site is an excellent place to look for interesting birds during this peak season for Fall migration. This site is also underbirded during this time of year so our efforts will really contribute to what is known about this site. This habitat is on the edge of oak woodland into pine forest with species typical of both of these habitat types. We can expect species such as Greater Pewee, Mountain Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Yellow-eyed Junco and Hermit Thrush. Migrants such as Hermit Warbler and Wilson's Warbler along with other unexpected species are a main target for the afternoon.



**eBird Hotspot:**

Twilight Campground

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L936054>

## Pinaleño Mountains – Noon Creek, Wet Canyon and Arcadia Campground

Led by: Tracy McCarthy

Limit: 12 people

Meeting Place: Arcadia Campground

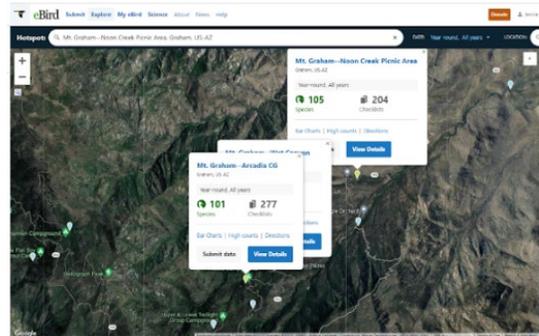
Meeting Time: Friday, Sept. 23, 1:00 p.m., done by 4:00 p.m.

Sign up: Email Tracy [tmccarthey@azgfd.gov](mailto:tmccarthey@azgfd.gov); cc Jennie [jmacfarland@tucsonaudubon.org](mailto:jmacfarland@tucsonaudubon.org)

\*Please indicate if you are interested in carpooling and want your name and email shared with others that would like to carpool.

Description: Classic higher elevation Madrean Sky Island mountain habitat with all three nuthatches, abundant American Robins, Hermit Thrush, and Steller's Jays. Also possible are Olive Warbler, Western Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire and migrant warblers.

These sites are also underbirded during Fall migration so who knows what is there to be found!



eBird Hotspots:

Noon Creek  
Wet Canyon  
Arcadia Campground

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L733485>

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L935977>

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L733406>



**Greater Roadrunners have been observed at elevations of 9,000 feet along Swift Trail in the Pinaleño Mountains!**

## Pinaleño Mountains – Hospital Flat and Snow Flat

Led by: Chrissy Kondrat

Limit: 12 people

Meeting Place: Snow Flat (google map <https://goo.gl/maps/az33XBCuuLFxwt166>)

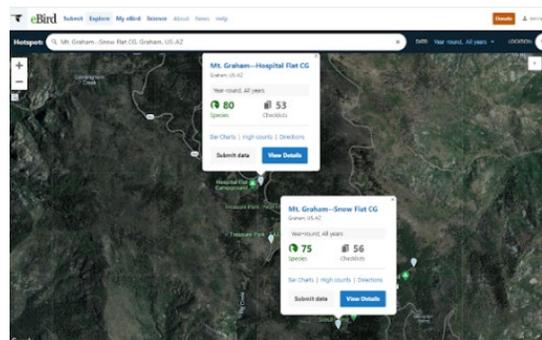
Meeting Time: Friday Sept. 23, Meet at 11:00 a.m.; end by 4:00 p.m.

Sign Up: Email Chrissy [ckondrat@azgfd.gov](mailto:ckondrat@azgfd.gov); cc Jennie [jmacfarland@tucsonaudubon.org](mailto:jmacfarland@tucsonaudubon.org)

\*Please indicate if you are interested in carpooling and want your name and email shared with others that would like to carpool.

\*\*Difficulty is moderate. Expect to hike on uneven terrain and off-trail.

Description: These upper elevations of this large mountain range should be comfortable in the afternoon and there are lots of great birds to be found in this underbirded area during Fall migration. Classic Sky Island species such as Broad-tailed Hummingbird, Brown Creeper, Hermit Thrush and Yellow-eyed Junco are expected. We also hope to find migrant warblers, flycatchers and others as well!



eBird Hotspots:

Hospital Flat Campground  
Snow Flat Campground

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L936072>

<https://ebird.org/hotspot/L936067>