Field Trip Report - Mt. Burdell

May 14 , 2011

With Lisa Hug

Fourteen of us joined Lisa for a very pleasant visit to Mt. Burdell in Novato. Mixed oak/bay woodlands provided **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**, **Bushtit**, **Brown Creeper**, **Dark-eyed Junco**, **Oak Titmouse**, **White-breasted Nuthatch** and the elusive **Warbling Vireo**. We had a very cooperative **Purple Finch** and everyone had a good look. Back on the main trail, a beautiful **Black-throated Gray Warbler** made his appearance (my bird-of-the-day).

Photo By Dave Herrema

Moving up into the open country, **Tree** and **Barn Swallows** were catching insects over the open meadow, joined by **Western Bluebird** and a pair of **Western Kingbird**. Several **Lazuli Bunting** and **Bullock's Oriole**, and a **Lark Sparrow** were seen up-close. We also saw a **Band-tailed Pigeon** fly over, **Acorn** and **Nuttall's Woodpeckers**, **White-tailed Kite** and the ubiquitous **Red-tailed Hawk**. A total of 45 species were found.

Lisa is a professional biologist and bird guide and teacher at College of Marin. I would highly recommend one of her classes, for the beginning birder or anyone who wants to get out with a great teacher.

By Dave Herrema

Bullock's Oriole (juvenile) Photo by Bud Hedrick