I can’t believe it’s already May, the end of our 2023-2024 season. I am so grateful for all who have made this year possible: members, staff, volunteers and donors. Your dedication and generosity continue to have a big impact on birds and our community. Thank you!

Even though our programs and newsletters will take a pause, our Shorebird Recovery team will be working hard this summer monitoring western snowy plovers and California least terns and participating in outreach events. For the latest Shorebird news, visit the Bird Blog (click HERE). On May 25 we will be hosting our volunteer Beach Naturalist Workshop. If you want to join us in protecting threatened and endangered shorebirds or come learn all about this impactful work, then this workshop is for you! Keep reading for more details on how to sign up.

Our end of the year celebration will be a VAS hosted trivia night at Topa Topa Brewery on Colt Street. April’s trivia night at VCBC was a blast, and you won’t want to miss out on this fun event. A portion of the evening’s sales will be donated to...
VAS, so bring friends, share your love of birds, and help us celebrate another great year!

Wishing everyone a happy and fun summer,

Membership Webpage
Join VAS via PayPal

VAS Year End Party
it's Trivia Time
Thursday, May 16th at 7pm

Put your thinking caps on, Topa Topa Brewing Company and Ventura Audubon are hosting Thursday Night Trivia at Topa's Colt Street location. We'll be testing your trivial bird knowledge in various bird subjects. Topa Topa will be donating a portion of the nights sales to our chapter. Come out and enjoy a challenging night of bird themed trivia and support our chapter.

Topa Topa Brewing Company is located at:
4880 Colt St, Ventura

Map and Directions

Ventura Audubon Members, RSVP to membership@venturaaudubon.org for a sticker pack and to be entered into a drawing for a VAS gift bag. We will be drawing the winning member at halftime!

Volunteer Beach Naturalist Workshop

Saturday May 25th 9am - 2pm
Classroom : Port Hueneme
Field Training : Ormond Beach

If you'd like to help protect this year's nesting western snowy plovers and least terns, please consider become a volunteer Beach Naturalist!

Join Our Team!
Attend a free half-day workshop, where you'll learn about beach ecology, bird biology, rules and regulations, and data collection. After training, complete two beach shifts per month to share your knowledge.

WHAT IS A BEACH NATURALIST?
As a beach naturalist, you will educate and inform visitors to area beaches as part of the Shorebird Recovery Program. You will teach them about Western snowy plovers and California least terns and how to help these birds.

Half-day workshop:
• Morning session: in-person classroom learning
• Early afternoon: Practice what you learn in classroom - field training at either Ormond, Hollywood, or Hueneme Beaches

Volunteers learn about the following topics from a Ventura Audubon Biologist and Outreach Coordinator:
• Beach/Dune Ecology: History and Processes of the Beach
• Biology/Ecology of Western Snowy Plover and CA Least Terns
• Rules and Regulations pertaining to locations we serve
• Data collection to support population recovery and wrack abundance

After volunteers have completed training, they sign up for two 2-hour beach shifts per month through September at either Ormond or Hollywood Beach to share their knowledge, help with community science projects and assist with habitat protection.

The class is free, but all participants must register. Click the button below or go to https://www.venturaaudubon.org/beach-naturalists to register.

For more info you can email volunteer@venturaaudubon.org

This work is supported by Whale Tail and National Coastal Wetlands Conservation grants

REGISTER HERE
Ventura Audubon Birding Field Trips

Beginners are always welcome on field trips!
Please do not be shy if you are learning bird ID or are just curious.
We love having and encouraging beginner birders!

- We request that all participants sign up no less than 24 hours in advance for field trips - *this allows us advance time to ensure we have enough trip leaders*
- This also enables us notify participants of any changes

Sign up early to participate in a field trip and to get notifications if a field trip is changed or cancelled!
1. Visit our [Field Trip webpage](#)
2. Scroll to the bottom of the field trip descriptions, and fill out; your name, email address and select the trip you want to attend
3. You will be sent an email by our Field Trip Coordinator

Questions or need help? Email [fieldtrips@venturaaudubon.org](mailto:fieldtrips@venturaaudubon.org)

*Light drizzle does not necessarily cancel trips, but heavier rain will. Please wear appropriate clothing (layers are suggested), comfortable shoes, and bring snacks, water, hats, sunscreen, binoculars and field guides.*

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**May Field Trips**

**Ventura Settling Ponds**

**Saturday, May 11th**

**Meeting Time:**

8:30am

An easy walk along dirt paths around the
shore of the settling ponds, one of the top birding locations in Ventura County. We’ll be looking for Ducks, Grebes and Herons. Gulls and Pelicans are likely, and Hawks and Harriers possible. No restrooms or drinking water, nearest public restrooms are at Surfer’s Knoll parking lot.

For directions please sign up here: Field Trip webpage

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**Lake Casitas**

**Saturday May 25th**

**Meeting Time: 8:30am**

Join us for a walk by the lake, there’s usually something for everyone here. From Hummingbirds, Woodpeckers, and Warblers, to Ducks, Grebes, and Raptors. Recent sightings include Bullock’s Oriole and Black-headed Grosbeak. And there’s always a chance we might see one of the resident Bald Eagles! Restrooms are available throughout the park.

For directions please sign up here: Field Trip webpage

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**Raise the Roost Thanks!**
The Shorebird Recovery team and all of Ventura Audubon would like to thank our volunteers, staff, Ventura Coast Brewing, the business who donated many cool prizes and all of you who turned out to support our program. It was a beautiful day for beer, prizes and conservation at this years fundraiser. We look forward to seeing next year!
2nd Annual Pollinator Palooza
Saturday May 18, 2024 • 10am – 2pm
Barranca Vista Park
7050 Ralston Street

What’s all the BUZZ about pollinators? Join our partners at the City of Ventura in the park for this family-friendly event to learn about bees, birds, butterflies, and other pollinators.

Participate in eco-friendly arts & crafts, educational activities, and more.

For more details visit the City of Ventura Events Page HERE

Welcome New Dog Rangers

Welcome New Dog Rangers!

Five new rangers took the pledge in April. Welcome to the dog ranger family! On Saturday April 27th at our shorebird recovery fundraiser, we recruited our newest members. These pooches came for the party and left with a pledge.

Tonka, Chanel, Zoe, Benny, and Tico commit to always wear their leash, give birds space, never chase birds, and never run through a nesting site! Each new ranger was awarded a Dog Ranger Bandana, logo button and a special dog ranger treat donated by Three Dogs Bakery Encino
Support Ventura Audubon Society

Thank you to our supporters!
Financial contributions to our chapter allow us to continue our work protecting birds and their habitat

- The Holdfast Collective
- In memory of Waltraud (Trudy) Letsch
- The Nature Conservancy, National Coastal Wetlands Conservation (NCWC) grant
- National Foundation of Fish and Wildlife (NFWF)
- National Audubon Society, Audubon in Action Grant
- California Coastal Commission, Whale Tail Grant
- The Port of Hueneme
- The City of Port Hueneme
- 1% for the planet
- Ventura Coast Brewing Company
- Topa Topa Brewing Company
- Paradise Pantry
- Santa Barbara Adventure Company
- Ventura Music Hall
- David Wappler

Ventura Audubon Society is a registered tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.