Field Trip Report: Abbott’s Lagoon
November 11, 2012
Trip Leaders: Carolyn and John Longstreth

Twenty-two of us joined Carolyn and John on a beautiful fall day for an outing at Abbott’s Lagoon. Before heading out, Carolyn talked about interesting research on the six dialects of Nuttall’s White-crowned Sparrow populations in the Pt. Reyes area. American Widgeon, Gadwall, Northern Pintail and Ring-necked Ducks were on the upper pond and a first-year Bald Eagle spotted overhead provided a close and lengthy look before being chased off by ravens. Two American Bittern foraged on the far side, giving excellent views. Goodly numbers of Yellow-rumped Warblers were in the wax-myrtle bushes, some still in breeding plumage. Among the 65 species tallied during the day were three species of loons, four of grebes, five of gulls, four sparrows (including Lincoln’s). On the Great Beach we saw about 20 Snowy Plover. Two Ferruginous Hawks, a not-so-common winter visitor to Pt. Reyes, were seen by at least some of us on the drive out. It was a particularly good day for a few folks new to birding and there were plenty of scopes for all to get good looks. We encourage all new birders to attend our trips.

By Dave Herrema