Thirty-five eager birders turned out for our popular Birding in Marin field trip, this month a beautiful spring tour of the Rock Springs and East Peak areas of Mount Tam on March 19. Our initial search for an earlier reported Burrowing Owl did not produce the owl, however, Kevin Minkoff made the day for all of us with his skillful spotting of a flock of **Red Crossbills** near the Mountain Theatre. These crossbills didn’t just fly over our group—they stayed in close range feeding on Douglas Fir cones and drinking from a small creek where everyone watched and admired them for an extended time. The other birding highlight of the day was the repeated loud calling of **Pileated Woodpeckers**, two of which were seen in flight. Thanks to all the fine folks who add so much to our Marin Audubon field trips.

Report and Photo by: Bob Chilvers