

## Field Trip Report: Central Valley/Yolo Basin

February 5, 2011

Trip Leader: Terry Colborn

A beautiful, breezy day in the Central Valley, east of Sacramento, covered both open agricultural lands and wetlands and produced 57 species of birds. Raptors were the highlight of the day and included Ferruginous, Rough-legged, and Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Prairie Falcon, Northern Harrier, White-tailed Kite, Great Horned and Burrowing Owls. Wilson's Snipe and Sora were found in a small pond in the farm country and Loggerhead Shrike were also seen. After visiting the Jepson Prairie Reserve, we moved on to the 16,000 acre Yolo Basin Wildlife Area. Terry serves on the board



of the Yolo Basin Foundation, a private organization dedicated to education, restoration and conservation in the Yolo Basin. This public/private restoration project has been a model for projects around the country. Herons, egrets, shorebirds and waterfowl were plentiful. Fifteen Horned Larks hanging around the parking area provided close looks and an exciting end to the day.

Trip Report by: Terry Colborn

Photos by: Richard Pavek