

GRAY LODGE WILDLIFE REFUGE / Gridley

Thursday, Dec 4, 2025

SIGN UP REQUIRED: carolann123@me.com – limited to 20 hikers

DIFFICULTY: Easy

HIKE DISTANCE: 4 Miles plus 3-mile drive on auto route

ELEVATION/GAIN: 95' with no gain

PACE: Relaxed hike on fine gravel trails with some pavement. The focus will be on birdwatching and taking photos.

DESCRIPTION: Bring your camera and binoculars! It's migration time at Gray Lodge, a 9,200 acre expanse of protected wetlands on one of four flyways in the country. Nature trails, birdwatching, and a taxidermy exhibit. The area is located to the north of the Sutter Buttes, which offers a backdrop to some of the ponds. In addition to the nature trek, we will drive the 3-mile auto route. Four people per car for maximum viewing of birds on the ponds. Check out the photos of last year's hike!

FACILITIES: Porta potty at parking lot

DRIVE TIME/MILES: One hour and 10 minutes – approx. 55 miles

DONATION: \$10 to driver. WE WILL NEED DRIVERS! Four maximum per car.

ENTRY FEE: Purchase CDFW Lands Pass ONLINE (\$5.56): <https://www.licenses.wildlife.ca.gov/internetsales/>

LEADER/SWEEP: Carol Yoder: (530) 210-0215 – carolann123@me.com. Sweep TBD.

MEET/LEAVE TIME: Meet at 8:45 am. Depart at 9:00 am. Return mid-afternoon.

PREPARATION FOR HIKE

- Being prepared physically as well as having the right equipment makes for a better experience, not only for you, but for your fellow hikers.
- **If you have any health issues, please consider your condition before hiking at high altitude or at a fast pace.**

What to Bring

- Recommend 50 oz /1.5 liters of water. Pack a lunch and snacks.
- Hiking boots/shoes, hat, sun protection, insect repellent, small first aid kit. Wind/rain jacket always advisable.
- ID (driver's license), health insurance card, emergency contact / phone number.
- Extra pair of shoes to change into after hike and a plastic bag for muddy/dusty hiking boots to keep your driver's car clean.

Driving Directions to 3207 Rutherford Rd, Gridley, CA 95948

- To be provided to drivers at Orchard Creek meetup. GPS a good idea.