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#### TRAVIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

# BE A BETTER BIRDER (B3) CLASS 2025

#### TV & BV EXERCISE

(5 MINUTES)

- ►I came up with **14 different** <u>comparative</u> field marks between TV & BV
- ► How many can you come up with?



#### COMPARATIVE FIELD MARKS

	$ ext{TV}$	&	BV
1.	White-ish primaries and secondaries (under-side)	1.	White patch on last 6 primaries (under-side)
2.	Red head	2.	Black head
3.	Slightly browner	3.	Generally blacker
4.	Slightly larger	4.	Slightly smaller
5.	Longer, rectangular wings	5.	Shorter, broader wings
6.	Longer, slimmer tail	6.	Shorter broader tail
7.	Dihedral flight profile	7.	Flat flight profile
8.	Wings held fairly straight	8.	Wings often canted forward
9.	Feet tucked to body	9.	Feet often hanging down
10.	More aerodynamic-looking tuck on downwind	10.	Less aerodynamic-looking tuck on downwind
11.	Pointy wingtips in high speed turns	11.	Round-ish wingtips in high speed turns
12.	Floppy wing flap	12.	Stiff wing flap
13.	Slightly slower wing flap	13.	Faster wing flap
14.	Wings point to ground at max downward flap	14.	Wings point to horizon at max downward flap

# TV VS BV PLUMAGE (1,2,3)

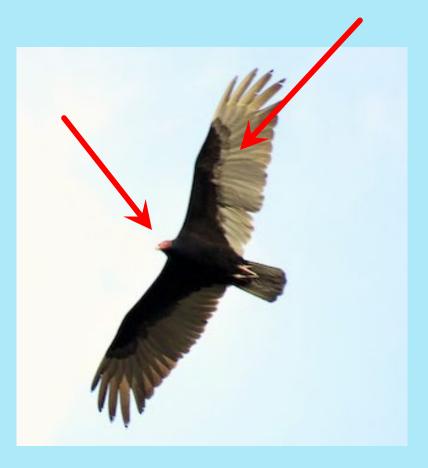




Photo by Oliver Komar

### TV VS BV STRUCTURE (GISS) (4,5,6)



### TV VS BV FLIGHT GISS (7,9)





Photo by Matt Davis

Photo by Evangelina Indelicato

# TV VS BV FLIGHT GISS (8)



Photo by Oliver Komar



Photo by Darfo Jung

# TV VS BV FLIGHT GISS (10)





# TV VS BV FLIGHT GISS (11)





Photo by Amed Hernandez Photo by Dave Bowman

#### TV VS BV FLIGHT GISS (12,13,14)





Photo by David Badke Photo by Chris Monaco

#### FIELD CRAFT

- ► Alone or small group vs field trips
- ► Move quietly, slowly
- Watch for movement
- ► Follow sounds
- ► <u>Try</u> not to point or raise bins quickly
- Look for odd bird on edges of groups
- ► Know your Texas Bio-Regions
- ▶ Be aware of habitat, especially edge-habitat
- Watch behavior. Watch flock behavior (predator?)
- ▶ Pishing
- ► Listen for vocalizations
- ▶ Listen for movement (e.g. feet on leaves) ("Feet quiet please")
- ▶ Time of day not always crack of dawn
- ► Keep records

#### **SUMMARY**

- BIRDING IS OBSERVING
  - Practice observing
  - See details
- **Look at the bird**, not the book
- Keep watching after ID
- Use the 7 Habits
- Learn
  - Distribution
  - Structure/GISS
  - Anatomy (feather topology)
  - Vocalizations
  - Habitats & Micro-habitats
  - Behavior
- Get a patch of your own

- Bird alone
- Make a diagnosis

"Eschew Field Mark Cronyism"

- Be prepared for mistakes
  - Mistake = chance to learn!!!
- Best thing that can happen?
  - You see something unknown!!
  - You are about to learn

OR

- You found a rare bird
- The best advice?
  - Go Bird.....
  - GO BIRD.....
  - REPEAT !!!