

Birding the Big Bend

Friday, Nov. 14, 2025

East Rim Ranch
Christmas Mountains Oasis

Borderlands Research Institute at Sul Ross State University is partnering with Holland Hotel in Alpine to bring you a birding experience on private ranches in the Big Bend!

We will begin our day at East Rim Ranch, a property that is opening its gates to birders for the first time. Target species include Chihuahuan raven, black-tailed gnatcatcher, crissal thrasher, black-chinned sparrow, and Scott's oriole.

Next we will travel to Christmas Mountain Oasis, with a great bird blind and trails nestled into a sky-island landscape. Target species include rufous and Anna's hummingbirds, black-tailed gnatcatcher, black phoebe, and phainopepla.

Scan the QR code to register or go to <http://bit.ly/birdbigbend>.



\$160
Includes transportation,
guide, and lunch



Special hotel rates for participants
at The Holland Hotel and The
Maverick Inn! Use the links
available at registration.



CONSERVING THE LAST FRONTIER



Photos by Bryan Calk,
used with permission



****Important information****

- This event takes place in a remote area! That makes for excellent birding, but please be aware that we will be up to 1.5 hr away from Alpine and will spend most of the day without cell service. Event staff will have a satellite phone on hand in case of emergency.
- We will be walking on uneven, unpaved surfaces throughout the day and participants will need to get in and out of the large SUVs/trucks that we take to the field. For your safety and the enjoyment of all our participants, we ask that you confirm your ability to walk a mile on uneven terrain and to climb in and out of tall vehicles before registering.
- Availability of brick-and-mortar restrooms is limited. “Green rooms” (aka bushes!) are unlimited! Please plan accordingly. Toilet paper provided.
- Participants are responsible for their own transportation to either The Maverick Inn or Holland Hotel on the morning of the event.
- We can accommodate vegetarian and gluten-free dietary restrictions only. We typically avoid foods with tree nuts but please let us know if you have a specific allergy.

Draft Itinerary

Subject to change

6:40am	Pickup at Maverick Inn
6:45am	Pickup at Holland
7:00am	Depart for East Rim Ranch
7:30 – 11:30am	Birding on ERR
11:30am	Lunch at ERR
12:30pm	Depart for Christmas Mountains Oasis
1:30 – 3:00pm	Birding at CMO
3:00pm	Depart from CMO
4:30pm	Return to Holland, Maverick

