

PADRE TRAILS CAMERA CLUB

*Nature #3 - July 27, 2014*

*Judged by: Sande Parker*

**JUDGES COMMENTS**

GROUP A

1. A Pair of Brandt's Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax penicillatus*) in Mating Pose **HM**  
*Sharp, detailed, wonderful.*

2. Bald Eagle With Salmon Head **THIRD**  
*One of those images I wish I had gotten. Excellent.*

3. Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) Feeds Chick  
*Nice capture. Nice nature moment. A little soft in comparison to others.*

4. Brandt's Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax penicillatus*) in Group Squabble  
*A little too busy for me.*

05. Brandt's Cormorant Feeding Chicks **FIRST**  
*This is excellent. The separation of each head, and the one cormorant feeding....*

06. Brandt's Cormorant Feeding Young **HM**  
*Another excellent image.*

07. Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) Driving for Fish  
*Nice image. Good timing.*

08. Bumblebee Taking Water from Algae on Rocks  
*Nice story. A little soft for me.*

09. Colorado Moose (*Alces alces*) in the Morning  
*Perhaps positioning off center would provide more impact. Light was not your friend.*

10. Desert Cottontail Grooming Itself on Trail  
*The image appears soft, including the rabbit. Cropping some of the vegetation might provide better impact.*

11. Great Blue Skimmer Dragonfly (*Libellula vibrans*) **HM**  
*Nice depth of focus, selective background, and positioning in the frame. Good attention to detail.*

12. Greater Flamingos **HM**  
*Nice separation of each head. Bent leg tells great story.*

13. Gull About to Feed on Umbilicus of Newly Born Harbor Seal  
*Very nice story.*
14. Harbor Seal with Pup **HM**  
*A rare opportunity and a meaningful nature story.*
15. Humpback Whales (*Megaptera novaengliae*) and Sea Lions (*Zalophus californianus*) feeding on Anchovies  
*Sharp image. A nice moment and wonderful travel experience.*
16. Juvenile Brown Bear Attempting to Catch Salmon **HM**  
*Fantastic capture. Great positioning.*
17. Kestrel with Mouse **HM**  
*Beautiful moment. Good catch-light.*
18. Learning to Hunt **HM**  
*This is a wonderful image.*
19. Lightning Strike in Pengree, CO  
*In this case, a vertical might add more drama. Good capture.*
20. Lion Cubs on Giraffe Kill **HM**  
*Amazing to have been there. Great nature story.*
21. Moose Cow and Calf  
*Nice catch-light. Prefer facing front. Great capture.*
22. Osprey (*Pandion hallaetus*) Lifts Fish Prey into the Air  
*Nice moment. Seems soft to me.*
23. Pacific Tree Frog (*Pseudacris Egilla*) Camouflage  
*Good selective focus. Great pacific tree frog.*
24. Red-winged Blackbird Chasing Great Blue Heron **SECOND**  
*An incredible story. This was so very difficult to capture.*
25. Sea Otter (*Enhydra lutris*) With Two Clams on its Chest **HM**  
*Nice capture.*
26. Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*) Lunges for a Fish  
*Sharp with a nice reflection. A touch over-exposed.*
27. Tufted Puffin **HM**  
*These guys are so tiny. This is a great capture with the wing skimming just above the water.*

28. Weaver Building Nest **HM**

*Wonderful seeing. Great image.*

29. White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*) Looks Backward

*Beautiful image. Nice catch-light.*

30. White-tailed Kite

*Nice timing. Crop seems to have softened image.*

*Winners recapped on following page...*

**1st Place** 05. Brandt's Cormorant Feeding Chicks - **Peter Monteforte**

*This is excellent. The separation of each head, and the one cormorant feeding....*

**2nd Place** 24. Red-winged Blackbird Chasing Great Blue Heron - **Peter Monteforte**

*An incredible story. This was so very difficult to capture.*

**3rd Place** 02. Bald Eagle With Salmon Head - **Julie Chen**

*One of those images I wish I had gotten. Excellent.*

## **HMs**

A Pair of Brandt's Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax penicillatus*) in Mating Pose - **Jerry Gifford**  
*Sharp, detailed, wonderful.*

Brandt's Cormorant Feeding Young - **Richard Bucich**  
*Another excellent image.*

Great Blue Skimmer Dragonfly (*Libellula vibrans*) - **Ben Grasmuck**  
*Nice depth of focus, selective background, and positioning in the frame. Good attention to detail.*

Greater Flamingos - **Doug Steakley**  
*Nice separation of each head. Bent leg tells great story.*

Harbor Seal with Pup - **Peter Monteforte**  
*A rare opportunity and a meaningful nature story.*

Juvenile Brown Bear Attempting to Catch Salmon - **Julie Chen**  
*Fantastic capture. Great positioning.*

Kestrel with Mouse - **Richard Bucich**  
*Beautiful moment. Good catch-light.*

Learning to Hunt - **Doug Steakley**  
*This is a wonderful image.*

Lion Cubs on Giraffe Kill - **Doug Steakley**  
*Amazing to have been there. Great nature story.*

Sea Otter (*Enhydra lutris*) With Two Clams on its Chest - **Peter Monteforte**  
*Nice capture.*

Tufted Puffin - **Julie Chen**  
*These guys are so tiny. This is a great capture with the wing skimming just above the water.*

Weaver Building Nest - **Doug Steakley**  
*Wonderful seeing. Great image.*