Let's Take a Walk
Birdwatching in IV

Words + Illustration: Hailey Walker

Hawks soar high above Ellwood Mesa and perch in tall trees and power lines in IV. Look for their distinct red-brown tail feathers.

Snowy Egret

Find egrets wading through shallow water in Devereux Slough, on Sands Beach, or perched high in trees. Egrets hunt frogs, fish, worms, crabs, and insects.

Red-Tailed Hawk

Threatened plovers nest at Sands Beach and forage for small crabs, scurrying after retreating waves and pecking at wet sand.

Snowy Plover

Kites beat their wings and hover in place above large open areas, like Ellwood Mesa, hunting small mammals. Look for their white tail and black underwing patches.

White-Tailed Kite

Anna’s Hummingbird

Hummingbirds fly throughout IV. Look for a flash of pink and green zipping through the air, or get a hummingbird feeder to attract them to your home.

Great Blue Heron

The majestic gentle giants of IV. Herons love Devereux Slough, UCSB lagoon, and IV's meadows. They hunt with precision, snapping fish out of the water. See if you can spot them. Standing atop kelp beds off of Dews, waiting for their next meal to swim past.

Black-necked Stilt

Shallows can be found often at Devereux Slough, wading through shallow water on bright pink legs, probing with their thin beaks for aquatic invertebrates.

Walk a map: copr.nrs.ucsb.edu/visiting/self-guided-tour