

Sea & Sage Audubon

SJWS Monthly Census Report for March 2009

Birders who took part in the census were: Betsy Flynn, Jan Gaffney, Bob Hogan, Nancy Kenyon, Paul Klahr, Merri Levy, Sally Menzel, Carolyn Noble, Paul Scionti, Barbara Sentovich, Jerry Tolman, and Darrell Wilson.

See our chapter webpage for data on all of our monthly SJWS bird counts:

<http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org/BirdInfo/BirdCounts/SJWSscensus/SJWSscensus.htm>

COMMENTS:

Spring was in the air this morning in spite of the intermittent icy breeze and many of the birds which had been quiet during the past few months were singing; the Common Yellowthroats, Marsh Wrens, and Spotted Towhees were especially loud. The Red-tailed Hawk was on his usual perch on the antennae and the Cooper's Hawk was making his rounds in the parking lot area, causing the small birds there to be absolutely silent. For the 2nd month in a row, there were no terns and only one species of gull, and there were very few shorebirds. Some of the water birds were showing signs of breeding plumage, among which were the Ruddy Ducks and the American Avocets. Five Hooded Mergansers were spotted: 2 at Pond 1 and 3 in the "Back 40" area. Flocks of swallows were swooping over the ponds as well as darting about high overhead, and there was a lot of activity around the Tree Swallow nest boxes. Jerry & Betsy found a Rufous Hummingbird in the "Back 40" area while Jan & Merri found a Virginia Rail in the riparian area. It was a great morning to be out birding!

BIRDS SEEN AND/OR HEARD on 3/06/09: (Birds seen along the San Diego Creek are in parenthesis.)

Canada Goose - 6	Pied-billed Grebe - 13 (2)
Gadwall - 4 (2)	Western Grebe - 1
Mallard - 42 (14)	
Blue-winged Teal - 7 (1)	American White Pelican - 2
Cinnamon Teal - 37	Double-crested Cormorant - 137 (2)
Northern Shoveler - 165	Great Blue Heron - 6 (3)
Northern Pintail - 4	Great Egret - 12
Green-winged Teal - 44 (2)	Snowy Egret - 18
Ring-necked Duck - 1	Black-crowned Night-Heron - 21
Lesser Scaup - 1	
Bufflehead - 6	Turkey Vulture - 5
Hooded Merganser - 5	Cooper's Hawk - 1
Ruddy Duck - 49	Red-shouldered Hawk - 1

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Red-tailed Hawk - 1	Yellow-rumped Warbler - 109 (3)
American Kestrel 2 (1)	Common Yellowthroat - 100 (25)
	Wilson's Warbler - 1
Virginia Rail - 1	Spotted Towhee - 18 (1)
Common Moorhen - 3	Song Sparrow - 139 (17)
American Coot - 83 (77)	White-crowned Sparrow - 9
Killdeer - (4)	Red-winged Blackbird - 29
	Great-tailed Grackle - 5
Black-necked Stilt - 72	House Finch - 132
American Avocet - 19	Lesser Goldfinch - 37
Spotted Sandpiper - 2	American Goldfinch - 17
Long-billed Dowitcher - 1	House Sparrow - (5)
	Nutmeg Mannikin - 1
Ring-billed Gull - 56 (1)	
Mourning Dove - 47 (2)	
Anna's Hummingbird - 50 (5)	
Allen's Hummingbird - 11 (2)	
Rufous Hummingbird - 1	
Nuttall's Woodpecker - 2 (1)	
Downy Woodpecker - 2	
Northern Flicker - 2	
Black Phoebe - 10 (2)	
Say's Phoebe - 3 (2)	
American Crow - 37 (11)	-
Common Raven - 3	
Tree Swallow - 286	
N. Rough-winged Swallow - 31	
Cliff Swallow - 14	
Bushtit - 36 (3)	
Bewick's Wren - 1	
House Wren - 2 (1)	
Marsh Wren - 74 (6)	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 6 (1)	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 5	
Hermit Thrush - 1	
Northern Mockingbird - 3	
American Pipit - 1	
Orange-crowned Warbler - 11	