

Sea & Sage Audubon

SJWS Monthly Census Report for September 2009

Census date: 9/04/09; Census time: 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Birders who took part in the census were: Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Carol Freund, Jan Gaffney, Sharon Harrow, Bob Hogan, Mark Kincheloe, Nancy Kenyon, Merri Levy, Dick Purvis, Darrel Wilson.

Comments: In spite of the high temperatures and humid conditions, everyone managed to cover their area in a satisfactory manner which definitely showed great perseverance. We had several unexpected sightings: Dick spotted a Bobcat trotting down the trail with a coot in its mouth; with the aid of his scope, Mark spotted a kestrel on the antennae munching on a mockingbird; 6 Cattle Egrets were spotted at pond 1 by a passing birder, Robert McNab; Darrell found a Yellow-breast Chat perched high in a tree; the Bell's Vireos were still lustily singing in the riparian area as well as in the "back 40" area and a couple of adult CA Quails with 1 small fuzzy baby were spotted near the riparian area. A sick Western Sandpiper was rescued from the muddy edge of pond D by a passing concerned birder. (The bird was on its back, flapping futilely.) After placing it in a small carrying box provided by the Audubon House volunteer, she was able to deliver it to the Wetlands & Wildlife Care Center for medical attention.

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

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

or, using the tinyurl system, <http://tinyurl.com/cc5gry>

The following birds were seen and/or heard on our census this morning:

GEESE & DUCKS:

Mallard - 52
Cinnamon Teal - 2
Northern Shoveler - 25
Green-winged Teal - 4
Ruddy Duck - 16

QUAIL:

California Quail - 3

GREBES:

Pied-billed Grebe - 19

CORMORANTS:

Double-crested Cormorant - 15

HERONS:

Great Blue Heron - 4
Great Egret - 9
Snowy Egret - 15
Cattle Egret - 6
Green Heron - 5
Black-crowned Night-Heron - 8

DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY:

Turkey Vulture - 3
Osprey - 1
White-tailed Kite - 4
Red-tailed Hawk - 1
American Kestrel - 1

RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS:

Sora - 3
Common Moorhen - 1
American Coot - 16

PLOVERS:

Killdeer - 8

STILTS & AVOCETS:

Black-necked Stilt - 29
American Avocet - 5

SANDPIPERS:

Lesser Yellowlegs - 1
Western Sandpiper - 15

Long-billed Dowitcher - 102

GULL & TERNS:

Western Gull - 1
Caspian Tern - 3
Forster's Tern - 8

DOVES:

Mourning Dove - 34

HUMMINGBIRD BIRDS:

Anna's Hummingbird - 30

KINGFISHERS:

Belted Kingfisher - 1

WOODPECKERS:

Nuttall's Woodpecker - 3
Downy Woodpecker - 5

FLYCATCHERS:

Black Phoebe - 11
Cassin's Kingbird - 3

VIREOS:

Bell's Vireo - 8
Warbling Vireo - 1
Hutton's Vireo - 2

CROWS:

American Crow - 22

SWALLOWS:

Tree Swallow - 10
Cliff Swallow - 13
Barn Swallow - 4

BUSHTITS & WRENS:

Bushtit - 59
Bewick's Wren - 1
House Wren - 1
Marsh Wren - 9

GNATCATCHERS:

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 1

MOCKINGBIRDS:

Northern Mockingbird - 2

WARBLERS:

Orange-crowned Warbler - 6
Nashville Warbler - 1
Yellow Warbler - 1
Common Yellowthroat - 61
Yellow-breasted Chat - 1

TOWHEES & SPARROWS:

Spotted Towhee - 17
Song Sparrow - 115

GROSBEAKS:

Black-headed Grosbeak - 1

BLACKBIRDS:

Red-winged Blackbird - 17
Great-tailed Grackle - 2

FINCHES:

House Finch - 32
Lesser Goldfinch - 27
American Goldfinch - 8