

Sea & Sage Audubon

SJWS Monthly Census Report for November 2009

Census date: 10/06/09; Census time: 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Birders who took part in the census were: Betsy Flynn, Carol Freund, Terry Hill, Bob Hogan, Nancy Kenyon, Mark Kincheloe, Paul Klahr, Merri Levy, Carolyn Noble, Dick Purvis, Carolyn Raynesford, Barbara Sentovich, Jerry Tolman, Darrell Wilson.

Comments: The Canada Geese took off "on schedule," this morning, honking in typical goose fashion. All of us saw the the immature Cooper's Hawk perched on an overhead wire above the driveway; he sat there for quite a while, allowing us to get a good look at him as we walked back and forth beneath him. In Pond C, we got good views of a couple of Virginia Rails and Soras, both of which spent a fair amount of time out in the open at the far edge of the pond. A Merlin was spotted flying between Ponds 1 & 3, and there were several Osprey in evidence. We had a surprising 8 Brown Pelicans this morning, one of which made repeated aerial plunges into the water in pond B; it looked like "he" was successful with his catch. In Pond E, there was a large group of sandpipers (82 Western, 1 Least, & 8 Dunlin) and they never stayed in the same place for very long, making the counting process very tedious. Counting was also fraught with frustration in Pond C with a group of 45+ Northern Shovelers which swam round and round in a tight circle. We were all glad that the kingfishers were back; they were spotted at pond 1, pond 4, and the "Back 40" area. The American White Pelicans were very much in evidence; we saw them flying overhead singly and in groups. Also of interest 76 Ring-necked Ducks in Pond 1 and 6 Western Bluebirds in the "Back 40" area. **See our chapter webpage for data on all of our monthly SJWS bird counts:** <http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org/BirdInfo/BirdCounts/SJWSCensus/SJWSCensus.htm> **or, using the tinyurl system,** <http://tinyurl.com/cc5gry>

BIRDS MARKED IN (PARENTHESIS) WERE SEEN IN THE SAN DIEGO CREEK

GEESE & DUCKS:

Canada Geese - 30
Gadwall - 3 (53)
American Wigeon - 3
Mallard - 21 (15)
Cinnamon Teal - 14
Northern Shoveler - 102
Northern Pintail - 2
Green-winged Teal - 39
Ring-necked Duck - 92
Lesser Scaup - 1
Ruddy Duck - 67

GREBES:

Pied-billed Grebe - 20 (5)
Eared Grebe - 10
Western Grebe - 3 (1)

PELICANS & CORMORANTS:

American White Pelicans - 135 (79)
Brown Pelican - 6 (2)
Double-crested Cormorant - 140 (4)

HERONS & EGRETS:

Great Blue Heron - 6 (4)
Great Egret - 1 (3)
Snowy Egret - 17 (6)
Green Heron - 2
Black-crowned Night-Heron - 28

DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY:

Turkey Vulture - 9 (1)
Osprey - 2 (2)
Northern Harrier - 2
Cooper's Hawk - 2 (1)
Red-shouldered Hawk - 3
Red-tailed Hawk - 1
American Kestrel - 2
Merlin - 1

RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS:

Virginia Rail - 2
Sora - 2
American Coot - 53 (76)

PLOVERS:

Killdeer - 20

STILTS & AVOCETS

Black-necked Stilt - 28 (1)
American Avocet - 16

SANDPIPERS:

Greater Yellowlegs - 1
Spotted Sandpiper - 5 (3)
Western Sandpiper - 82
Least Sandpiper - 1
Dunlin - 8
Long-billed Dowitcher - 56

GULLS & TERNS:

Bonaparte's Gull - 1
Ring-billed Gull - 10 (1)
California Gull - 2
Western Gull - 2
Caspian Tern - 1 (3)
Forster's Tern - 4

DOVES:

Mourning Dove - 14 (1)

HUMMINGBIRDS:

Anna's Hummingbird - 37
Allen's Hummingbird - 4

KINGFISHERS:

Belted Kingfisher - 3

WOODPECKERS:

Nuttall's Woodpecker - 6 (1)
Downy Woodpecker - 4
Northern Flicker - 3

FLYCATCHERS:

Black Phoebe - 22 (6)
Say's Phoebe - 3

VIREOS:

Hutton's Vireo - 1

CROWS:

American Crow - 25 (6)

SWALLOWS:

Tree Swallow - 16

BUSHTITS & WRENS:

Bushtit - 118
Bewick's Wren - 1
House Wren - 2 (2)
Marsh Wren - 22 (6)

KINGLETS & GNATCATCHERS:

Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 19
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 30

THRUSHES:

Hermit Thrush - 6
Western Bluebird - 6

MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS:

Northern Mockingbird - 6
California Thrasher - 3

STARLINGS:

European Starling - 1

WARBLERS:

Orange-crowned Warbler - 14
Yellow Warbler - 1
Yellow-rumped Warbler - 116
Townsend's Warbler - 1
Common Yellowthroat - 93 (43)

TOWHEES & SPARROWS:

Spotted Towhee - 9
California Towhee - 1
Song Sparrow - 47 (10)
Dark-eyed Junco - 1
White-crowned Sparrow - 49 (30)

BLACKBIRDS:

Red-winged Blackbirds - 1 (7)

FINCHES:

House Finch - 96 (35)
Lesser Goldfinch - 48