

Sea & Sage Audubon

SJWS Monthly Census Report for May 2010

Census date: 5/07/10; **Census time:** 7:15 - 9:30 a.m. **Weather:** clear & warm

Birders who took part in the census were: Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Carol Freund, Jan Gaffney, Terry Hill, Sharon Harrow, Nancy Kenyon, Merri Levy, Sally Menzel, Eunice Morita, Dick Purvis, Barbara Sentovich, Jerry Tolman and Darrell Wilson. **Comments:** Sally & Barbara watched one of the adult Ospreys catch a fish in Pond 2 and fly off with it. Many of us saw it eating the fish on the nesting platform by Pond 4. Sharon & Eunice got a good look at the baby Osprey in the nest. This is the first known pair of Ospreys to nest at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary and we are hopeful the will be successful. At Pond E, Carol & Nancy found 3 young American Avocet chicks in the water feeding under the watchful eye of one of the parents; 2 more Avocets were sitting on nests. A pair of Greater Yellowlegs in Pond E could be heard from quite a distance calling to each other. In Pond C, one of the Spotted Sandpipers was in partial breeding plumage with spots and the male Ruddy Ducks were striking in their breeding plumage. In the Riparian Area, Jan, Merri & Betsy had an interesting collection of warblers which included 2 Orange-crowned, 11 Yellow, 6 Townsend's, 21 Common Yellowthroats, 3 Wilson's, 3 Yellow-breasted Chats, & 1 Hermit Warbler. Jerry & Darrel found an Olive-sided Flycatcher at the west end of Pond C trying to eat an enormous bug. Dick Purvis discovered 3 Brown-headed Cowbirds in his Pond 3 area, and Terry and Barbara found the beautiful male Mardarin Duck at Pond 1 along with 8 Yellow Warblers. At Pond 2, Sally & Barbara counted 107 Black Skimmers. It was a wonderful morning to be out birding!

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>

GEESE & DUCKS

Canada Goose - 4
Gadwall - 19
Mallard - 45
Cinnamon Teal - 1
Ruddy Duck - 19

QUAIL

California Quail - 2

GREBES

Pied-billed Grebe - 1
Eared Grebe - 1

CORMORANTS

Double-crested Cormorant - 9

HERONS

Great Blue Heron - 21
Great Egret - 6
Snowy Egret - 9
Green Heron - 7
Black-crowned Night-Heron 17

DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY

Turkey Vulture - 11
Osprey - 3
White-tailed Kite - 1
Cooper's Hawk - 3

RAILS & COOTS

Sora - 1
American Coot - 8

PLOVERS

Semipalmated Plover - 2
Killdeer - 10

STILTS & AVOCETS

Black-necked Stilt - 7
American Avocet - 39

SANDPIPERS

Greater Yellowlegs - 4
Spotted Sandpiper - 4
Whimbrel - 1
Long-billed Dowitcher - 14

GULLS

Ring-billed Gull - 5
Western Gull - 2

TERNs

Caspian Tern - 3
Elegant Tern - 3
Forster's Tern - 21
Black Skimmer - 107

DOVES

Mourning Dove - 39

HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird - 42
Allen's Hummingbird - 12

WOODPECKERS

Downy Woodpecker - 1

FLYCATCHERS

Pacific-slope Flycatcher - 1
Black Phoebe - 6
Western Wood-Pewee - 1
Ash-throated Flycatcher - 14
Olive-sided Flycatcher - 1
Cassin's Kingbird - 1

VIROs

Bell's Vireo - 12
Warbling Vireo - 11
Hutton's Vireo - 1

CROWS & RAVENS

American Crow - 20
Common Raven - 1

SWALLOWS

Tree Swallows - 216
N. Rough-winged Swallow - 3
Cliff Swallow - 2
Barn Swallow - 2

BABBLERS

Wrentit - 1

BUSHTITS & WRENS

Bushtit - 39
Bewick's Wren - 1
Marsh Wren - 43

THRUSHES

Hermit Thrush - 1
Swainson's Thrush - 3
American Robin - 2

Western Bluebird - 2

MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS

Northern Mockingbird - 3
California Thrasher - 2

STARLINGS & WAXWINGS

European Starling - 1
Cedar Waxwing - 7

WARBLERS

Orange-crowned Warbler - 10
Yellow Warbler - 28
Townsend's Warbler - 7
Common Yellowthroat - 100
Wilson's Warbler - 9
Yellow-breasted Chat - 18
Hermit Warbler - 1

TOWHEES & SPARROWS

Western Tanager - 5
Spotted Towhee - 46
California Towhee - 2
Song Sparrow - 104

GROSBEAKS

Black-headed Grosbeak - 18

BLACKBIRDS & ORIOLES

Red-winged Blackbird - 7
Great-tailed Grackle - 5
Brown-headed Cowbird - 3
Hooded Oriole - 4
Bullock's Oriole - 1

FINCHES

House Finch - 129
Lesser Goldfinch - 26
American Goldfinch - 3

EXOTIC SPECIES

Mandarin Duck - 1