

Sea & Sage Audubon

SJWS Monthly Census Report for July 2010

Census date: 7/02/10; **Census time:** 7:15 - 9:30 a.m. **Birders who took part in the census were:** Carol Freund, Jan Gaffney, Sharon Harrow, Nancy Kenyon, Mark Kincheloe, Merri Levy, Sally Menzel, Eunice Morita, Dick Purvis, Barbara Sentovich, Jerry Tolman and Darrell Wilson.

Comments: It was comfortably cool and overcast this morning — perfect birding weather! Last month, many of the birds were silent, but this morning, we heard a lot of bird vocalizations. We found 2 Wilson's Phalaropes in breeding plumage in Pond E where there were also 3 very young American Avocets. One of the adult Ospreys was observed carrying a stick to the nesting platform by Pond 4. Since their Osprey "chick" fledged last week, this behavior brought up some interesting possibilities; we hope other birders will keep an eye on them and report their findings. 2 Cattle Egrets were discovered in pond 2. "Charlie", the Great Blue Heron, was patrolling his territory by the edge of Pond B. A female Wood Duck was in pond 1. 2 American White Pelicans were found at Pond 2. Most of the Mallard ducklings had grown up and we found only 4 young ones huddled with their mother, taking a nap on the bank of one of the ponds. 12 Bell's Vireos were found in the back area of the sanctuary. Surprisingly, we didn't hear any orioles or quail, though both had been reported during the past week. We were dismayed to find 7 Brown-headed Cowbirds (2 at Pond 3, 3 at Ponds 4 & 5, 1 in the "Back 40" area, and 1 in the Riparian area). We had 3 species of terns which were actively patrolling the ponds in search of food and 8 Green Herons. Some of the male Ruddy Ducks had brilliant blue bills.

GEESE & DUCKS

Canada Goose - 8
Wood Duck - 1
Gadwall - 14
Mallard - 79
Cinnamon Teal - 4
Ruddy Duck - 8

GREBES

Pied-billed Grebe - 4
Western Grebe - 1

PELICANS & CORMORANTS

American White Pelican - 2
Double-crested Cormorant - 20

HERONS & EGRETS

Great Blue Heron - 13
Great Egret - 6
Snowy Egret - 8
Cattle Egret - 2
Green Heron - 8
Black-crowned Night-Heron 11
White-faced Ibis - 15

IBIS

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DIURNAL BIRDS of PREY

Turkey Vulture - 11
Osprey - 3
Cooper's Hawk - 1
Red-shouldered Hawk - 1

GALLINULES & COOTS

Common Moorhens - 2
American Coot - 13

PLOVERS

Killdeer - 7

STILTS & AVOCETS

Black-necked Stilt - 13
American Avocet - 28

PHALAROPES

Wilson's Phalarope - 2

GULLS

Western Gull - 1

TERNs

Caspian Tern - 17
Forster's Tern - 17
Least Tern - 3

SKIMMERS

Black Skimmer - 8

DOVES

Mourning Dove - 30

SWIFTS

White-throated Swift - 1

HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird - 17
Allen's Hummingbird - 14

WOODPECKERS

Nuttall's Woodpecker - 5
Downy Woodpecker - 3

FLYCATCHERS

Black Phoebe - 11
Cassin's Kingbird - 1

VIREOS

Bell's Vireo - 12
Hutton's Vireo - 2

CROWS & RAVENS

American Crow - 20
Common Raven - 5

SWALLOWS

Tree Swallows - 242
N. Rough-winged Swallow - 41
Cliff Swallow - 40

BUSHTITS

Bushtit - 96

WRENS

Marsh Wren - 22

THRUSHES

American Robin - 1

MOCKINGBIRDS

Northern Mockingbird - 2

THRASHERS

California Thrasher - 2

WARBLERS

Orange-crowned Warbler - 3
Yellow Warbler - 16
Common Yellowthroat - 87
Yellow-breasted Chat - 17

TOWHEES

Spotted Towhee - 33

SPARROWS

Song Sparrow - 73

BLACKBIRDS

Red-winged Blackbird - 21
Great-tailed Grackle - 4
Brown-headed Cowbird - 7

FINCHES

House Finch - 139
Lesser Goldfinch - 29
American Goldfinch - 4