

## Sea & Sage Audubon SJWS Census Report for June 2011

**Census Date:** 6/03/11 **Census Time:** 7:30 - 9:30 am **Weather:** clear, mild temperatures, still water  
**Birders who took part in the census were:** Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Jan Gaffney, Sharon Harrow, Terry Hill, Nancy Kenyon, Merri Levy, Sally Menzel, Dick Purvis, Barbara Sentovich, Jerry Tolman & Darrell Wilson.  
 (The San Diego Creek was not covered.)

**Comments:** Nesting season is definitely in full swing. The Osprey nesting platform by pond 4 had 2 visible chicks in it. Several of the ponds had Mallard ducklings of varying ages swimming around in them. The younger ones stuck close to their mother while the older ones swam around without close parental supervision. A mother Mallard with 6 fuzzy ducklings led her family out of pond B, over the rocks, and onto the road's edge where they sat and preened while birders and photographers were able to approach and pass them in close proximity. The leucistic Mallard born at the SJWS last summer had 4 very young ducklings swimming closely behind her in pond E. It will be interesting to find out how many of the ducklings grow up to also show leucistic characteristics. Young Song Sparrows were scurrying around under the bushes, Tree Swallows were busy gathering food and taking it back to their nest boxes, one of the Egyptian Geese was sitting in the nest bucket high in the eucalyptus tree with a great "bird's eye view" of activities below and at pond B, the Pied-billed Grebe was calling its soft mellow call from a probable nest hidden in the reeds. At pond E, an American Avocet was sitting on a nest while other avocets were watching their youngsters feeding around the edge of the pond. At Pond 2 on the east island, 148 Black Skimmers were nesting and somewhere amidst the skimmers was a nesting Gull-billed Tern, though we weren't able to spot it this morning. Of special note: We saw 8 Willow Flycatchers and 8 Warbling Vireos; it will be interesting to see how long the vireos stay here. It was a wonderful morning to be out birding at the marsh!

<b>Geese &amp; Ducks</b>		<b>Terns &amp; Skimmers</b>		4	House Wren
5	Gadwall	46	Forster's Tern	30	Marsh Wren
95	Mallard	148	Black Skimmers	<b>Thrushes</b>	
1	Cinnamon Teal	<b>Doves</b>		2	Swainson's Thrush
6	Ruddy Duck	49	Mourning Dove	1	Western Bluebird
<b>Quail</b>		1	Eurasian Collared-Dove	<b>Mockingbirds &amp; Thrashers</b>	
6	California Quail	<b>Roadrunners</b>		2	Northern Mockingbird
<b>Grebes</b>		1	Greater Roadrunner	1	California Thrasher
8	Pied-billed Grebe	<b>Hummingbirds</b>		<b>Starlings</b>	
<b>Pelicans</b>		35	Anna's Hummingbird	1	European Starling
5	Brown Pelican	24	Allen's Hummingbird	<b>Warblers</b>	
<b>Cormorants</b>		<b>Woodpeckers</b>		4	Orange-crowned Warbler
12	Double-crested Cormorant	4	Nuttall's Woodpecker	23	Yellow Warbler
<b>Hérons &amp; Egrets</b>		1	Downy Woodpecker	98	Common Yellowthroat
4	Great Blue Heron	<b>Flycatchers</b>		6	Wilson's Warbler
4	Great Egret	2	Pacific-slope Flycatcher	14	Yellow-breasted Chat
5	Snowy Egret	7	Black Phoebe	<b>Towhees &amp; Sparrows</b>	
8	Green Heron	2	Western Wood-Pewee	35	Spotted Towhee
9	Black-crowned Night-Heron	10	Ash-throated Flycatcher	118	Song Sparrow
<b>Diurnal Birds of Prey</b>		8	Willow Flycatcher	<b>Grosbeaks</b>	
9	Turkey Vulture	<b>Vireos</b>		4	Black-headed Grosbeak
4	Osprey	11	Bell's Vireo	<b>Blackbirds</b>	
1	Northern Harrier	8	Warbling Vireo	22	Red-winged Blackbird
2	Cooper's Hawk	<b>Crows &amp; Ravens</b>		4	Great-tailed Grackle
<b>Gallinules &amp; Coots</b>		23	American Crow	1	Brown-headed Cowbird
1	Common Moorhen	<b>Swallows</b>		<b>Finches</b>	
15	American Coot	211	Tree Swallow	134	House Finch
<b>Plovers</b>		8	N. Rough-winged Swallow	38	Lesser Goldfinch
9	Killdeer	30	Cliff Swallow	13	American Goldfinch
<b>Stilts &amp; Avocets</b>		<b>Babblers, Bushtits, Wrens</b>		<b>Exotic species</b>	
7	Black-necked Stilt	1	Wrentit	2	Egyptian Goose
16	American Avocet	68	Bushtit	12	Nutmeg Mannikin
<b>Sandpipers</b>		3	Bewick's Wren		
2	Spotted Sandpiper				