

Sea & Sage Audubon SJWS Census Report for July 2011

Census Date: 7/01/11 **Census Time:** 7:30 - 9:30 am **Weather:** clear, temperature in the mid 80's, water in the ponds still enough to form reflections beneath some of the more quiet wading birds.

Birders who took part in the census were: Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Jan Gaffney, Sharon Harrow, Bob Hogan, Nancy Kenyon, Merri Levy, Sally Menzel, Carolyn Noble, Moss Noble, Dick Purvis, Barbara Sentovich, Jerry Tolman & Darrell Wilson.

Comments: It was a warm summer morning and many of the songbirds were quiet. Some were still nesting while others had young ones with them. Birders noted 2 Lesser Goldfinch nests with young; an Osprey was attempting to build a nest on top of the pile driver in the construction area; 3 American Avocets, 1 Killdeer, and a Mallard were sitting on probable nests; a mother Gadwall had 9 young ducklings with her; several Mallards had families of young ducklings swimming with them; an avocet pair was keeping watch on their juvenile offspring as it walked around the edge of the pond feeding; and the 800+ Cliff Swallows were still busily catching flying insects to feed their young in nests on the side of the Campus Drive bridge. A few shorebirds were back which was a welcome sight! In pond D, there were 4 Greater Yellowlegs and 1 Western Sandpiper in breeding plumage. A pair of Wrentits were singing lustily in the meadow. The Yellow-breasted Chats were still vocally defending their territories. The Green Herons were very much in evidence and one was perched out in the open on top of a chain-link fence, preening. Only 10 Bell's Vireos were counted which is a markedly lower number than last July. One of the Song Sparrows was missing most of its tail causing us to speculate on what animal almost caught it. It was a wonderful morning to be out birding!

| Geese & Ducks | | |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 1 | | Wood Duck |
| 11 | | Gadwall |
| 106 | 6 | Mallard |
| 6 | | Cinnamon Teal |
| Grebes | | |
| 10 | 1 | Pied-billed Grebe |
| Cormorants | | |
| 3 | 1 | Double-crested Cormorant |
| Hérons & Egrets | | |
| 5 | 1 | Great Blue Heron |
| 7 | 3 | Great Egret |
| 28 | 2 | Snowy Egret |
| 6 | 2 | Green Heron |
| 11 | | Black-crowned Night-Heron |
| 2 | | White-faced Ibis |
| Diurnal Birds of Prey | | |
| 1 | 3 | Turkey Vulture |
| 1 | | Osprey |
| 1 | | Northern Harrier |
| 5 | | Cooper's Hawk |
| 1 | | Red-shouldered Hawk |
| 2 | | Red-tailed Hawk |
| Gallinules & Coots | | |
| | 4 | Common Moorhen |
| 5 | 1 | American Coot |
| Plovers | | |
| 15 | | Killdeer |
| Stilts & Avocets | | |
| 9 | | Black-necked Stilt |
| 38 | | American Avocet |
| Sandpipers | | |
| 4 | | Greater Yellowlegs |
| 1 | | Western Sandpiper |

| Terns & Skimmers | | |
|----------------------------------|------|-------------------------|
| 3 | 1 | Caspian Tern |
| 35 | 13 | Forster's Tern |
| 7 | | Least Tern |
| 5 | | Black Skimmers |
| Doves | | |
| 30 | | Mourning Dove |
| Hummingbirds | | |
| 18 | 1 | Anna's Hummingbird |
| 28 | 1 | Allen's Hummingbird |
| Woodpeckers | | |
| 6 | 2 | Nuttall's Woodpecker |
| 6 | | Downy Woodpecker |
| Flycatchers | | |
| 7 | | Black Phoebe |
| Vireos | | |
| 10 | | Bell's Vireo |
| Crows & Ravens | | |
| 17 | | American Crow |
| Swallows | | |
| 107 | | Tree Swallow |
| 10 | 42 | N. Rough-winged Swallow |
| 53 | 800+ | Cliff Swallow |
| Babblers, Bushtits, Wrens | | |
| 2 | | Wrentit |
| 123 | | Bushtit |
| 3 | | Bewick's Wren |
| 1 | 1 | House Wren |
| 7 | 5 | Marsh Wren |
| Mockingbirds | | |
| 5 | | Northern Mockingbird |
| | | |
| | | |

| Warblers | | |
|---------------------------------|----|------------------------|
| 4 | | Orange-crowned Warbler |
| 21 | 3 | Yellow Warbler |
| 70 | 37 | Common Yellowthroat |
| 1 | | Wilson's Warbler |
| 15 | | Yellow-breasted Chat |
| Towhees & Sparrows | | |
| 34 | | Spotted Towhee |
| 89 | 5 | Song Sparrow |
| Grosbeaks | | |
| 3 | | Black-headed Grosbeak |
| Blackbirds & Orioles | | |
| 11 | 2 | Red-winged Blackbird |
| 12 | | Great-tailed Grackle |
| 2 | | Brown-headed Cowbird |
| 2 | | Hooded Oriole |
| Finches | | |
| 148 | 27 | House Finch |
| 40 | 5 | Lesser Goldfinch |
| | 3 | American Goldfinch |
| Exotic species | | |
| 3 | 2 | Egyptian Goose |