

Sea & Sage Audubon SJWS Census Report for August 2011

Census Date: 8/05/11 **Census Time:** 7:30 - 9:30 am **Weather:** overcast, temperature in the low 70's.
Birders who took part in the census were: Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Carol Freund, Jan Gaffney, Terry Hill, Nancy Kenyon, Merri Levy, Dick Purvis, Barbara Sentovich, Darrell Wilson.

Comments: The morning's count began under overcast skies and many of the songbirds were quiet. Birds that are normally quite vocal were still and it was difficult to locate them. In ponds E-C, we were excited to find that some of the shorebirds had returned. Most of the 63 Long-billed Dowitchers, in ponds E & D, were still in their bright breeding plumage, the lone Spotted Sandpiper still had a couple of spots on its breast, and both the Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs were in partial breeding plumage with heavily streaked breasts. The two juvenile Wilson's Phalaropes were wading in the shallows instead of swimming in circles the way we normally see them — which really had us fooled for a few minutes, causing us to hastily check our field guides. The highlight of the morning for some of us was relocating the Semipalmated Sandpiper that had been spotted earlier in the week. Other birds of interest on the count were the elusive Least Bittern found at pond 3, a lone California Quail heard in the Riparian Area, 2 Elegant Terns at pond 2 along with 2 juvenile coots, 7 Wood Ducks and a lone Northern Pintail in pond 1, an Egyptian Goose standing the shallow water of pond E (which attracted the interest of several passing birders), a Vaux's Swift flying over the Tree Hill area, and a single Bell's Vireo heard in the Riparian Area.

Geese & Ducks		
7		Wood Duck
102		Mallard
1		Northern Pintail
2		Ruddy Duck
Quail		
1		California Quail
Grebes		
17		Pied-billed Grebe
7		Western Grebe
Pelicans & Cormorants		
2		Brown Pelican
14		Double-crested Cormorant
Bitterns		
1		Least Bittern
Hérons & Egrets		
5		Great Blue Heron
9		Great Egret
10		Snowy Egret
2		Green Heron
4		Black-crowned Night-Heron
Diurnal Birds of Prey		
15		Turkey Vulture
2		Osprey
2		Red-tailed Hawk
Coots		
7		American Coot
Plovers		
6		Killdeer
Stilts & Avocets		
45		Black-necked Stilt
29		American Avocet

Sandpipers		
1		Greater Yellowlegs
1		Lesser Yellowlegs
1		Spotted Sandpiper
2		Whimbrel
1		Semipalmated Sandpiper
63		Long-billed Dowitcher
Phalaropes		
2		Wilson's Phalarope
Terns		
8		Caspian Tern
2		Elegant Tern
1		Forster's Tern
Doves		
31		Mourning Dove
Swifts		
1		Vaux's Swift
Hummingbirds		
14		Anna's Hummingbird
16		Allen's Hummingbird
Woodpeckers		
3		Nuttall's Woodpecker
2		Downy Woodpecker
Flycatchers		
8		Black Phoebe
Vireos		
1		Bell's Vireo
Crows		
25		American Crow
Swallows		
98		Tree Swallow
35		N. Rough-winged Swallow

45		Cliff Swallow
12		Barn Swallow
Bushtits & Wrens		
93		Bushtit
1		Bewick's Wren
1		House Wren
5		Marsh Wren
Mockingbirds		
3		Northern Mockingbird
Warblers		
8		Orange-crowned Warbler
7		Yellow Warbler
60		Common Yellowthroat
1		Yellow-breasted Chat
Towhees & Sparrows		
13		Spotted Towhee
2		California Towhee
104		Song Sparrow
Blackbirds		
9		Red-winged Blackbird
Finches		
48		House Finch
11		Lesser Goldfinch
1		American Goldfinch
Exotic species		
1		Egyptian Goose