

Sea & Sage Audubon SJWS Census Report for November 2011

Census Date: 11/07/11 **Census Time:** 7:30 - 9:30 am **Weather:** clear, temperature in the upper 40's. **Birders who took part in the census were:** Betsy Flynn, Jan Gaffney, Terry Hill, Sharon Harrow, Bob Hogan, Nancy Kenyon, Sally Menzel, Eunice Morita, Carolyn Noble, Dick Purvis, Barbara Sentovich, Jim Stacy, Jerry Tolman and Darrell Wilson.

Comments: Our census was supposed to have been done on Friday but it rained that morning, so we did our count on Monday instead. The foliage was fragrant with moisture from recent rain, a white mist swirled over the creek and lower ponds, and in the distance, Mt. Baldy could be seen with a light coating of snow on it. It was very cold, the water in the ponds was absolutely still, forming perfect reflections, and many of the ducks were motionless in the water. A Great Egret stood like a statue by the edge of a pond and Black-crowned Night-Herons looked like small white sentinels at the water's edge. Pond D which usually has an abundance of bird life in it, was completely devoid of birds and in Pond E, there was 1 lone Least Sandpiper standing in the shallow water. In other parts of the sanctuary however, there were many interesting sightings. In Pond 2, Sally & Barbara counted a rousing 250 American White Pelicans and 103 Double-crested Cormorants. In pond B, a Pied-billed Grebe somehow managed to swallow a very large crayfish. At Pond 1, two Soras ran across the path right in front of Terry & Betsy. Other birds of interest included a Merlin at Pond 2, a Least Bittern at Pond 1, 5 Wrentits & 3 Horned Grebes seen in various locations, a small flock of 6 Western Bluebirds, 3 Black-throated Gray Warblers & a Townsend's Warbler, and great views of White-tailed Kites against the blue sky.

GEESE & DUCKS			4	1	American Kestrel	WRENTITS		
1	4	Wood Duck	1		Merlin	4	1	Wrentit
14		Gadwall	RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS			BUSHTITS & WRENS		
57	2	Mallard	1		Virginia Rail	155	11	Bushtit
2		Blue-winged Teal	4		Sora	7		Bewick's Wren
12		Cinnamon Teal	2	2	Common Gallinule	3		House Wren
25		Northern Shoveler	110	35	American Coot	19		Marsh Wren
20		Green-winged Teal	STILTS & AVOCETS			GNATCATCHERS & KINGLETS		
10		Ring-necked Duck	84		Black-necked Stilt	23		Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
2		Bufflehead	2		American Avocet	6		Ruby-crowned Kinglet
38		Ruddy Duck	SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPES			THRUSHES		
GREBES			4	2	Spotted Sandpiper	6		Western Bluebird
18	2	Pied-billed Grebe	1		Least Sandpiper	6		Hermit Thrush
3		Horned Grebe	GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS			MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS		
3		Eared Grebe	10	1	Bonaparte's Gull	5		Northern Mockingbird
3		Western Grebe	8		Ring-billed Gull	2		California Thrasher
1		Clark's Grebe	64		Western Gull	12		American Pipit
CORMORANTS & PELICANS			1		California Gull	WARBLERS		
103		Double-crested Cormorant	SWIFTS			14	1	Orange-crowned Warbler
251		American White Pelican	28		White-throated Swift	117	16	Common Yellowthroat
3		Brown Pelican	HUMMINGBIRDS			178	12	Yellow-rumped Warbler
BITTERN			52		Anna's Hummingbird	3		Black-throated Gray Warbler
1		Least Bittern	4		Allen's Hummingbird	1		Townsend's Warbler
HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS			KINGFISHER			TOWHEES, SPARROWS		
7	2	Great Blue Heron	2	1	Belted Kingfisher	22		Spotted Towhee
12		Great Egret	WOODPECKERS			77	16	Song Sparrow
19		Snowy Egret	3		Nuttall's Woodpecker	1		Lincoln's Sparrow
3		Green Heron	2		Downy Woodpecker	34	35	White-crowned Sparrow
19		Black-crowned Night-Heron	1		Northern Flicker	BLACKBIRDS		
4		White-faced Ibis	FLYCATCHERS			15	14	Red-winged Blackbird
DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY			24	2	Black Phoebe	17	2	Great-tailed Grackle
8		Turkey Vulture	5		Say's Phoebe	1		Brewer's Blackbird
2		Osprey	3		Cassin's Kingbird	FINCHES		
2		White-tailed Kite	CROWS & RAVENS			79	60	House Finch
2		Northern Harrier	66	3	American Crow	48		Lesser Goldfinch
3		Cooper's Hawk	2		Common Raven	2		American Goldfinch
2		Red-shouldered Hawk	SWALLOWS			EXOTIC SPECIES		
5		Red-tailed Hawk	70		Tree Swallow	12	5	Nutmeg Mannikin

(BIRDS MARKED IN BLUE WERE FOUND IN THE SAN DIEGO CREEK.)