

Sea & Sage Audubon SJWS Census Report for December 2011

Census Date: 12/02/11 **Census Time:** 7:30 - 9:30 am **Weather:** clear, temperature in the upper 40's. **Birders who took part in the census were:** Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Carol Freund, Jan Gaffney, Terry Hill, Sharon Harrow, Bob Hogan, Nancy Kenyon, Merri Levy, Sally Menzel, Carolyn Noble, Dick Purvis, Barbara Sentovich, Jim Stacy, Jerry Tolman and Darrell Wilson.

Comments: It was a beautiful morning — it was very clear, the water was still, there was no wind, and, it was chilly until the sun rose higher. Many of the birds were just standing in the water motionless which greatly helped with the counting. The lighting on the birds was superb, making the iridescent green on the heads of the ducks glow in the morning light. As the sun rose higher, the Song Sparrows began to sing around the ponds, followed by an occasional burst of song from a White-crowned Sparrow. Though the Harris's Hawk didn't make an appearance during our morning census, Terry, Barbara and Betsy did see the striking male Vermilion Flycatcher by pond 1. A Wilson's Phalarope swimming in pond D was spotted by Nancy & Carol; it was there for only a short appearance and then it disappeared. In the Back 40 area, Darrell & Jerry spotted a very unusual bird for the SJWS — a Swamp Sparrow! All in all, it was quite a morning!

GEESE & DUCKS		
121	9	Canada Goose
4		Wood Duck
39	3	Gadwall
13		American Wigeon
67	9	Mallard
2		Blue-winged Teal
18		Cinnamon Teal
163	1	Northern Shoveler
52		Green-winged Teal
4		Canvasback
16		Ring-necked Duck
8		Bufflehead
26		Ruddy Duck
GREBES		
18	3	Pied-billed Grebe
3		Horned Grebe
8		Eared Grebe
16		Western Grebe
5		Clark's Grebe
CORMORANTS & PELICANS		
206	3	Double-crested Cormorant
61		American White Pelican
1		Brown Pelican
HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS		
7	3	Great Blue Heron
6		Great Egret
26	3	Snowy Egret
5		Green Heron
27		Black-crowned Night-Heron
DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY		
14		Turkey Vulture
3		Osprey
1		White-tailed Kite
1		Northern Harrier
3	1	Cooper's Hawk
2		Red-tailed Hawk
2		American Kestrel
1		Merlin

RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS		
4		Sora
4		Common Gallinule
155	107	American Coot
STILTS & AVOCETS		
91		Black-necked Stilt
4		American Avocet
SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPES		
3		Spotted Sandpiper
7		Long-billed Dowitcher
1		Wilson's Phalarope
GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS		
32		Ring-billed Gull
2		Western Gull
44		California Gull
2		Caspian Tern
9		Forster's Tern
HUMMINGBIRDS		
44		Anna's Hummingbird
6		Allen's Hummingbird
KINGFISHER		
4	1	Belted Kingfisher
WOODPECKERS		
4		Nuttall's Woodpecker
1		Downy Woodpecker
FLYCATCHERS		
24	2	Black Phoebe
8	1	Say's Phoebe
9		Cassin's Kingbird
1		Vermilion Flycatcher
VIREOS		
3		Hutton's Vireo
CROWS & RAVENS		
18	5	American Crow
SWALLOWS		
155		Tree Swallow
1		N. Rough-winged Swallow
3		Barn Swallow
WRENTITS		
3		Wrentit

BUSHTITS & WRENS		
72		Bushtit
3		Bewick's Wren
1	2	House Wren
11		Marsh Wren
GNATCATCHERS & KINGLETS		
14		Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
13		Ruby-crowned Kinglet
THRUSHES		
2		Hermit Thrush
MOCKINGBIRDS		
3		Northern Mockingbird
STARLINGS		
8		European Starling
WAXWINGS		
137		Cedar Waxwing
WARBLERS		
23		Orange-crowned Warbler
92	26	Common Yellowthroat
156	7	Yellow-rumped Warbler
1		Black-throated Gray Warbler
TOWHEES, SPARROWS		
20		Spotted Towhee
3		California Towhee
108	11	Song Sparrow
42	20	White-crowned Sparrow
1		<i>Swamp Sparrow</i>
BLACKBIRDS		
16		Red-winged Blackbird
1		Brown-headed Cowbird
FINCHES		
32	4	House Finch
3		Lesser Goldfinch
2		American Goldfinch
EXOTIC SPECIES		
1		Egyptian Goose
5		Nutmeg Mannikin

Birds marked in blue were found in the San Diego creek.