

Sea & Sage Audubon SJWS Census Report for March 2013

Census Date: 3/01/13 **Census Time:** 7:30 - 9:30 am **Weather:** clear, temperature in the upper 70's. **Birders who took part in the census were:** Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Jan Gaffney, Sharon Harrow, Bob Hogan, Nancy Kenyon, Paul Klahr, Merri Levy, Sally Menzel, Dick Purvis, Cecil Proulx, Barbara Sentovich, Jerry Tolman, and Darrell Wilson.

Comments: Our count started out with the regular 3 Canada Geese flying directly over the parking lot, honking noisily. The water in the ponds was so still that I had problems counting the 67 Black-necked Stilts which were tightly bunched together in pond D. (Each bird had a perfect reflection beneath it.) One of the Ospreys was perched high on the end of a crane, announcing his presence with that peculiar un-raptor-like call. Wave upon wave of gulls flew overhead in "V" formation, their white wings reflected momentarily in the still water of the ponds. The American Avocets were in bright breeding plumage, and the sun shining on the heads of the Northern Shovelers turned them a bright iridescent purplish hue, their light eyes glowing in the sunlight. The Tree Swallows were busily flying in and out of the nestboxes and one of the Ospreys spent the entire count time sitting on the nest by pond 4. At pond 1, Barbara, Betsy and Cecil spotted a Least Bittern in the reeds with its beak pointing skyward. (We know the bitterns are around, but we don't get to see them very often.) The Marsh Wrens were absolutely silent, but the songs of the Common Yellowthroats and Song Sparrows were loud and clear. The White-crowned Sparrows were also silent and only 1 WCSP was reported for the entire count! Most of the ducks appeared in pairs and the male Cinnamon Teals were stunning! It was quite a morning!

GEESE & DUCKS		PLOVERS		BUSHTITS, WRENS & WRENTITS	
32	Canada Geese	3	Killdeer	121	Bushtit
8	Gadwall	STILTS & AVOCETS		4	Bewick's Wren
44	Mallard	71	Black-necked Stilt	5	House Wren
6	Blue-winged Teal	20	American Avocet	11	Marsh Wren
79	Cinnamon Teal	SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPES		2	Wrentit
191	Northern Shoveler	2	Greater Yellowlegs	GNATCATCHERS & KINGLETS	
11	Northern Pintail	1	Spotted Sandpiper	6	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
25	Green-winged Teal	15	Least Sandpiper	9	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
2	Bufflehead	2	Dunlin	THRUSHES	
90	Ruddy Duck	6	Long-billed Dowitcher	2	Hermit Thrush
GREBES		GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS		MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS	
13	Pied-billed Grebe	25	Ring-billed Gull	4	Northern Mockingbird
2	Eared Grebe	2	Western Gull	1	California Thrasher
4	Western Grebe	1200	California Gull (flyovers)	WARBLERS	
CORMORANTS & PELICANS		PIGEONS & DOVES		14	Orange-crowned Warbler
11	American White Pelican	37	Mourning Dove	104	Yellow-rumped Warbler
1 in creek	Brown Pelican	HUMMINGBIRDS		1	Yellow Warbler
45	Double-crested Cormorant	40	Anna's Hummingbird	84	Common Yellowthroat
BITTERN		27	Allen's Hummingbird	TOWHEES	
1	Least Bittern	1	Rufous Hummingbird	37	Spotted Towhee
HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS		KINGFISHER		2	California Towhee
7	Great Blue Heron	2	Belted Kingfisher	SPARROWS	
6	Great Egret	WOODPECKERS		122	Song Sparrow
6	Snowy Egret	6	Nuttall's Woodpecker	1	White-crowned Sparrow
2	Green Heron	4	Downy Woodpecker	BLACKBIRDS	
13	Black-crowned Night-Heron	4	Northern Flicker	6	Red-winged Blackbird
1	White-faced Ibis	FLYCATCHERS		3	Great-tailed Grackle
DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY		13	Black Phoebe	FINCHES	
13	Turkey Vulture	2	Say's Phoebe	53	House Finch
3	Osprey	2	Cassin's Kingbird	39	Lesser Goldfinch
2	Cooper's Hawk	VIRES		6	American Goldfinch
1	Red-shouldered Hawk	7	Hutton's Vireo	CROWS & RAVENS	
2	Red-tailed Hawk	CROWS & RAVENS		61	American Crow
RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS		4	Common Raven	SWALLOWS	
2	Sora	122	Tree Swallow		
1	Common Gallinule				
77	American Coot				