

Sea & Sage Audubon SJWS Census Report for April 2013

Census Date: 4/05/13 **Census Time:** 7:30 - 9:30 am **Weather:** heavily overcast & cool

Birders who took part in the census were: Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Jan Gaffney, Sharon Harrow, Terry Hill, Bob Hogan, Nancy Kenyon, Paul Klahr, Merri Levy, Eva Lydick, Sally Menzel, Carolyn Noble, Dick Purvis, Barbara Sentovich, Jim Stacy, Jerry Tolman, and Darrell Wilson.

Comments: The shorebirds appeared to be mobilizing; there were 109 Long-billed Dowitchers in Pond E, many in breeding plumage. Flocks of very active Western Sandpipers were flying around and feeding in Ponds E & C. At Pond D, a Canada Goose flew over and then landed in the middle of the pond, honking loudly; from another pond we could hear a goose answering, but it never joined the first one which finally appeared to give up and flew off. Most of the American Avocets were in breeding plumage, and both the stilts and the avocets engaged in quite a bit of squabbling over territory rights. On the grassy bank above Pond C, we watched a small flock of Cliff Swallows repeatedly picking up nesting material and then flying off with it. In the Riparian Area, a Townsend's Warbler was singing and in the Back 40 Area they found 2 Yellow-breasted Chats. A total of 12 Bell's Vireos were found at Ponds 4 & 6, in the Back 40 Area, and in the Riparian Area. (The count done along the San Diego Creek is color-coded in blue.)

GEESE & DUCKS		
58	12	Canada Geese
43		Gadwall
65	15	Mallard
6		Blue-winged Teal
23	2	Cinnamon Teal
117	2	Northern Shoveler
14		Green-winged Teal
2		Bufflehead
59	3	Ruddy Duck
GREBES		
3	1	Pied-billed Grebe
4	1	Eared Grebe
8		Western Grebe
1		Clark's Grebe
CORMORANTS & PELICANS		
55		American White Pelican
45	1	Double-crested Cormorant
HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS		
8	1	Great Blue Heron
8	1	Great Egret
1	1	Snowy Egret
2	1	Green Heron
15	1	Black-crowned Night-Heron
DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY		
21	26	Turkey Vulture***
2		Osprey
1		Cooper's Hawk
1		Red-shouldered Hawk
	1	Red-tailed Hawk
RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS		
3		Sora
	2	Common Gallinule
59	38	American Coot
PLOVERS		
4		Semipalmated Plover
2	4	Killdeer
STILTS & AVOCETS		
27		Black-necked Stilt
77	3	American Avocet

SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPES		
1	3	Spotted Sandpiper
2		Whimbrel
72		Western Sandpiper
6		Least Sandpiper
131		Long-billed Dowitcher
GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS		
2		Ring-billed Gull
105	flyover	California Gull (fly-overs)
4		California Gull
5		gull sp. (distant)
5		Caspian Tern
5	1	Forster's Tern
5		Black Skimmer
PIGEONS & DOVES		
41	2	Mourning Dove
HUMMINGBIRDS		
33	2	Anna's Hummingbird
12		Allen's Hummingbird
KINGFISHER		
	1*	Belted Kingfisher
WOODPECKERS		
6		Nuttall's Woodpecker
14		Downy Woodpecker
FLYCATCHERS		
11	5	Black Phoebe
1		Ash-throated Flycatcher
VIREOS		
12	2**	Bell's Vireo
1		Hutton's Vireo
CROWS & RAVENS		
12	22	American Crow
8		Common Raven
SWALLOWS		
409	2	Tree Swallow
35	51	N. Rough-winged Swallow
234	250	Cliff Swallow (estimate)
25		Barn Swallow

BUSHTITS, WRENS & WRENTITS		
42		Bushtits
2		Bewick's Wren
5		House Wren
19	30	Marsh Wren
1		Wrentit
THRUSHES		
2		American Robin
2		Western Bluebird
MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS		
1		Northern Mockingbird
1		California Thrasher
WARBLERS		
28	2*	Orange-crowned Warbler
61		Yellow-rumped Warbler
3	4**	Yellow Warbler
1		Townsend's Warbler
118	40	Common Yellowthroat
3		Wilson's Warbler
2		Yellow-breasted Chat
TOWHEES & SPARROWS		
48	4**	Spotted Towhee
4		California Towhee
145	35	Song Sparrow
1		Lincoln's Sparrow
18		White-crowned Sparrow
BLACKBIRDS		
17	10	Red-winged Blackbird
2		Great-tailed Grackle
3	6	Brown-headed Cowbird
FINCHES		
106	30	House Finch
16		Lesser Goldfinch
4		American Goldfinch

* Under the Campus Dr. bridge
 ** Across the San Diego Creek
 *** The San Diego Creek was covered on Thursday, so it's possible there were fewer Turkey Vultures than listed.