

Sea & Sage Audubon

SJWS Census Report for October 2013 (revised)

Census Date: 10/4/13 **Census Time:** 7:30 - 10:00 am **Weather:** clear, temperature in the 70's.

Birders who took part in the census were: Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Carol Freund, Jan Gaffney, Sharon Harrow, Nancy Kenyon, Merri Levy, Sally Menzel, Carolyn Noble, Barbara Sentovich, Jim Stacy, Jerry Tolman, Darrell Wilson.

Comments: We were very lucky with our weather for this count. Gusty winds were predicted but they didn't show up until after our count was finished. Actually, there was no breeze when we started out and the water was absolutely still, making it difficult to distinguish standing shorebirds from their reflections. The lighting was perfect. In pond D, the stilts facing us were almost spot-lit by the morning sun, their brilliant white breasts showing up clearly against the deep green of the water and reeds. There were a number of egrets flying around and we saw some perched in a green tree. . . a beautiful sight! We also saw flocks of White-faced Ibis and American White Pelicans in flight. Pond C had a large number of shorebirds all along the water's edge closest to the path and we were able to get stunning views of the Solitary and Pectoral Sandpipers along with all the dowitchers, peeps, and a Spotted Sandpiper. On one of the dowitchers, we got unusually good looks at the heavy barring on the tail feathers. We were surprised to see that there were still grebe chicks around: 3 Western Grebe chicks at pond 1 and 1 Clark's Grebe chick at pond 2. Besides the Solitary & Pectoral Sandpipers, highlight birds included a Franklin's Gull at Pond C, a Least Bittern at both ponds 3 and 4, and a Brewer's Sparrow by the new chain link fence beyond pond C. White-crowned Sparrows and a lone California Thrasher were singing – a special treat!

GEESE & DUCKS		
107	22	Mallard
28	4	Gadwall
27		Green-winged Teal
1		American Wigeon
77		Northern Shoveler
4		Blue-winged Teal
2		Cinnamon Teal
2		Ring-necked Duck
1		Lesser Scaup
52		Ruddy Duck
GREBES		
12	8	Pied-billed Grebe
2		Horned Grebe
9		Eared Grebe
10		Western Grebe
4		Clark's Grebe
CORMORANTS & PELICANS		
22	8	Double-crested Cormorant
119		American White Pelican
4		Brown Pelican
BITTERNS		
2		Least Bittern
HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS		
6	5	Great Blue Heron
58	5	Great Egret
9	7	Snowy Egret
2		Green Heron
9	2	Black-crowned Night-Heron
35	4	White-faced Ibis
DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY		
11		Turkey Vulture
2		Osprey
2		White-tailed Kite
1		Cooper's Hawk
2		Red-shouldered Hawk
3		American Kestrel
RAILS		
2	1	Sora

GALLINULES & COOTS		
4	1	Common Gallinule
57	52	American Coot
PLOVERS		
2	4	Killdeer
STILTS & AVOCETS		
26		Black-necked Stilt
22		American Avocet
SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPES		
4	2	Greater Yellowlegs
1	4	Spotted Sandpiper
261		Western Sandpiper
23		Least Sandpiper
1		Pectoral Sandpiper
1		Solitary Sandpiper
1		Dunlin
113		Long-billed Dowitcher
	9	dowitcher sp.
1		Wilson's Snipe
GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS		
13		Ring-billed Gull
1		Franklin's Gull
PIGEONS & DOVES		
9	6	Mourning Dove
HUMMINGBIRDS		
21	2	Anna's Hummingbird
8		Allen's Hummingbird
KINGFISHER		
3	3	Belted Kingfisher
WOODPECKERS		
5	1	Nuttall's Woodpecker
2		Downy Woodpecker
FLYCATCHERS		
1		Pacific-slope Flycatcher
13	19	Black Phoebe
2	2	Say's Phoebe
1		Cassin's Kingbird
VIROES		
3		Hutton's Vireo

CROWS & RAVENS		
340		American Crow
5		Common Raven
SWALLOWS		
24		Cliff Swallow
BUSHTITS, WRENTITS, WRENS		
104	3	Bushtit
4		Wrentit
4		House Wren
	1	Bewick's Wren
	2	Marsh Wren
GNATCATCHERS & KINGLETS		
8		Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
1		Ruby-crowned Kinglet
		American Robin
MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS		
1		Northern Mockingbird
1		California Thrasher
STARLINGS		
5		European Starling
WARBLERS		
11		Orange-crowned Warbler
90		Common Yellowthroat
18		Yellow-rumped Warbler
TOWHEES, SPARROWS		
35		Spotted Towhee
3		California Towhee
83	23	Song Sparrow
29	47	White-crowned Sparrow
1		Brewer's Sparrow
BLACKBIRDS		
86	14	Red-winged Blackbird
2		Great-tailed Grackle
FINCHES		
52	15	House Finch
10		Lesser Goldfinch
EXOTIC SPECIES		
6	60+	Nutmeg Mannikin

Birds seen at the SD Creek are shown in blue.