

Sea & Sage Audubon SJWS Census Report for December 2013

Census Date: 12/6/13 **Census Time:** 7:30 - 9:45 am **Weather:** cloudy & very cold. **Birders who took part in the census were:** Barbara Dixon, Barbara Sentovich, Betsy Flynn, Bob Hogan, Carol Freund, Darrell Wilson, Dick Purvis, Eunice Morita, Eva Lydick, Jan Gaffney, Jerry Tolman, Jim Stacy, Merri Levy, Nancy Kenyon, Sharon Harrow, Terry Hill, Paul Klahr. **Comments:** Our census began in cloudy 40 degree weather. There was an abundance of birds and many of them were quite vocal in spite of the clouds and the chilly weather. When we were nearly finished counting all the birds in pond E, a rapidly flying Peregrine Falcon swooped over the pond, flushing all the shorebirds; interestingly, the ducks stayed put. The water in pond D was so still that it was difficult to distinguish the Black-necked Stilts from their reflections; all 116 of them were standing close together in two groups, motionless in the water, their long pink legs showing up clearly against the blue gray of the pond. Around 9 o'clock, the White-crowned Sparrows began to sing and a Hermit Thrush could be heard calling. We watched a flock of American White Pelicans fly in single file formation against the purple clouds and the sunlit buildings in the distance. Pond C was thronged with ducks, many of which were in constant motion, making counting quite a challenge. Toward the end of the count, a huge flock of several hundred cormorants flew by. A Clark's Grebe with 2 young grebes riding on "her" back was swimming around in pond 2. A large number of Cedar Waxwings were seen in the Riparian and Back 40 area where there is a plentiful supply of berries. It was quite a morning! (Birds observed in or along the San Diego Creek are shown in blue.)

GEESE & DUCKS		
282		Canada Geese
82	20	Mallard
65	29	Gadwall
78		Green-winged Teal
5		American Wigeon
13		Northern Pintail
205		Northern Shoveler
2	7	Blue-winged Teal
42		Cinnamon Teal
1		Redhead
4		Ring-necked Duck
3	1	Bufflehead
1		Hooded Merganser
71	2	Ruddy Duck
GREBES		
11	2	Pied-billed Grebe
2		Horned Grebe
3	1	Eared Grebe
13		Western Grebe
8		Clark's Grebe
CORMORANTS & PELICANS		
314	20	Double-crested Cormorant
83		American White Pelican
HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS		
4	3	Great Blue Heron
6	1	Great Egret
15	1	Snowy Egret
3		Green Heron
22	1	Black-crowned Night-Heron
11	1	White-faced Ibis
DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY		
37		Turkey Vulture
3		Osprey
2		Northern Harrier
2		Cooper's Hawk
2		Red-shouldered Hawk
5	2	Red-tailed Hawk
	1	American Kestrel
1		Merlin
2		Peregrine Falcon
RAILS & GALLINULES		
3		Sora
1	2	Common Gallinule

COOTS		
92	46	American Coot
PLOVERS		
3	7	Killdeer
STILTS & AVOCETS		
116		Black-necked Stilt
15		American Avocet
SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPES		
2		Spotted Sandpiper
11		Western Sandpiper
3		Least Sandpiper
49		Long-billed Dowitcher
	1	Wilson's Snipe
GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS		
10		Ring-billed Gull
3		California Gull
27		Western Gull
11		gull sp.
17		Forster's Tern
PIGEONS & DOVES		
1		Rock Pigeon
3		Mourning Dove
SWIFTS		
24		White-throated Swift
HUMMINGBIRDS		
46	1	Anna's Hummingbird
24		Allen's Hummingbird
KINGFISHER		
3		Belted Kingfisher
WOODPECKERS		
1		Nuttall's Woodpecker
1		Downy Woodpecker
1		Northern Flicker
FLYCATCHERS		
17	7	Black Phoebe
2	1	Say's Phoebe
5		Cassin's Kingbird
VIREOS		
3		Hutton's Vireo
CROWS & RAVENS		
409	3	American Crow
6		Common Raven
SWALLOWS		
8		Tree Swallow

1		N. Rough-winged Swallow
1		Barn Swallow
BUSHTITS, WRENTITS, WRENS		
129		Bushtit
3		Wrentit
2		Bewick's Wren
4		Marsh Wren
GNATCATCHERS & KINGLETS		
36		Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
16		Ruby-crowned Kinglet
THRUSHES		
4		Hermit Thrush
MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS		
1		Northern Mockingbird
3		California Thrasher
STARLINGS, PIPITS & WAXWINGS		
2		European Starling
	1	American Pipit
286		Cedar Waxwing
WARBLERS		
6		Orange-crowned Warbler
86	20	Common Yellowthroat
1		Yellow Warbler
111		Yellow-rumped Warbler
1		Black-throated Gray Warbler
4		Townsend's Warbler
TOWHEES, SPARROWS		
11	1	Spotted Towhee
3		Lincoln's Sparrow
103	15	Song Sparrow
110	16	White-crowned Sparrow
BLACKBIRDS		
1		Western Meadowlark
	15	Red-winged Blackbird
1		Brewer's Blackbird
4		Great-tailed Grackle
FINCHES		
79	20	House Finch
9		Lesser Goldfinch
EXOTIC SPECIES		
9		Nutmeg Mannikin
1		Egyptian Goose