

# Sea & Sage Audubon – SJWS Census Report for June 2014

**Census Date:** 6/6/14

**Census Time:** 7:30 am – 9:30 am

**Weather:** Overcast until around 9:15

**Birders who took part in the census were:** Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Carol Freund, Sharon Harrow, Bob Hogan, Nancy Kappelmann, Nancy Kenyon, Mark Kincheloe, Merri Levy, Eva Lydick, Cecil Prouix, Barbara Sentovich, Sandy Smith, Jim Stacy, Jerry Tolman, and Darrell Wilson.

**Census:** In ponds E & D, the American Avocet, Black-necked Stilts, and Killdeer had young chicks which were feeding at the water's edge under the aggressive protection of their parents. When any adult bird ventured too close to their chicks, the parents would chase them away. The stilts and avocets even chased away the Mallard mothers and their ducklings who got too close several times. Several of the very young chicks would feed by themselves for a while and then scurry back to the parent where they "hid" underneath her. At ponds D & E, there were several family groups of Mallards and Gadwalls with young ducklings swimming behind the mother. At pond C, a family of 4 Black-necked Stilts walked right in front of us on the path, going from pond D to pond C. The parents scurried past first, leaving their young chicks to follow more slowly. Carol and I did not dare to move until the chicks had passed within a couple of feet of us. There were no shorebirds seen at any of the ponds, but we are looking forward to seeing them return here in middle to late July, some in breeding plumage. The mockingbirds were quiet but the thrashers were singing as were several of the Marsh Wrens which have been so silent this past year. It was great to see 5 Western and 5 Clark's Grebes; we are hoping they will nest here at the SJWS again this year.

(We decided to add the San Diego Creek birds in with the other sections of the count. They will not be counted separately from now on. We put their count in a separate column before because the creek was not consistently counted. However, from now on, we plan to cover it every month, so there is no need to separate that count from the others.)

<b>GEESE &amp; DUCKS</b>	
16	Canada Geese
12	Gadwall
82	Mallard
1	Ring-necked Duck
9	Ruddy Duck
<b>GREBES</b>	
7	Pied-billed Grebe
5	Western Grebe
5	Clark's Grebe
<b>CORMORANTS &amp; PELICANS</b>	
11	Double-crested Cormorant
<b>HERONS, EGRETS &amp; IBIS</b>	
10	Great Blue Heron
9	Great Egret
12	Snowy Egret
4	Green Heron
7	Black-crowned Night-Heron
<b>DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY</b>	
3	Turkey Vulture
3	Osprey
2	Cooper's Hawk
<b>RAILS, GALLINULES &amp; COOTS</b>	
5	American Coot
<b>PLOVERS</b>	
21	Killdeer
<b>STILTS &amp; AVOCETS</b>	
33	Black-necked Stilt
36	American Avocet
<b>GULLS</b>	
1	Western Gull

<b>TERNs</b>	
4	Caspian Tern
24	Forster's Tern
3	Least Tern
<b>SKIMMERS</b>	
11	Black Skimmer
<b>PIGEONS &amp; DOVES</b>	
45	Mourning Dove
<b>SWIFTS</b>	
3	White-throated Swift
<b>HUMMINGBIRDS</b>	
20	Anna's Hummingbird
20	Allen's Hummingbird
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>	
1	Downy Woodpecker
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>	
1	Pacific-slope Flycatcher
14	Black Phoebe
3	Say's Phoebe
<b>VIREOS</b>	
9	Bell's Vireo
<b>CROWS &amp; RAVENS</b>	
18	American Crow
3	Common Raven
<b>SWALLOWS</b>	
88	Tree Swallow
173	Cliff Swallow
<b>BUSHTITS &amp; WRENS,</b>	
156	Bushtit
1	Bewick's Wren
11	Marsh Wren
<b>WRENTITS</b>	
3	Wrentit

<b>MOCKINGBIRDS &amp; THRASHERS</b>	
2	California Thrasher
<b>WARBLERS</b>	
4	Orange-crowned Warbler
25	Yellow Warbler
117	Common Yellowthroat
1	Wilson's Warbler
13	Yellow-breasted Chat
<b>TOWHEES &amp; SPARROWS</b>	
41	Spotted Towhee
1	California Towhee
81	Song Sparrow
<b>BLACKBIRDS</b>	
4	Red-winged Blackbird
1	Great-tailed Grackle
2	Brown-headed Cowbird
<b>FINCHES</b>	
111	House Finch
14	Lesser Goldfinch
1	American Goldfinch
<b>EXOTIC SPECIES</b>	
2	Egyptian Goose
20	Nutmeg Mannikin