

Sea & Sage Audubon – SJWS Census Report for Aug. 2014

Census Date: 8/1/14

Census Time: 7:15 am – 9:30 am

Weather: sunny & hot

Birders who took part in the census were: Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Carol Freund, Jan Gaffney, Sharon Harrow, Terry Hill, Bob Hogan, Nancy Kappelman, Nancy Kenyon, Eva Lydick, Sally Menzel, Gail & Stan Richards, Barbara Sentovich, Jerry Tolman, and Darrell Wilson.

Comments: We were glad to see the return of the shorebirds. Only 2 Canada Geese showed up; the others had probably already left the area hours earlier for Mason Park and vicinity. We had some unexpected species this morning which included a Phainopepla & a Blue Grosbeak, as well as a large collection of exotic species: Orange Bishop, Yellow-crowned Bishop, a large flock of Scaley-breasted Munias (formerly known as Nutmeg Mannikins), and 2 Orange-cheeked Waxbills. We're not sure where all of these exotic birds came from, but figure they must have been let loose at the sanctuary this past week. It will be interesting to see how long they remain here. It was great to have the white pelicans back again. Due to the creek being a little lower than usual, there were mudflats along the shore and at one of them was a flock of white pelicans, cormorants, and a few egrets. We had a large number of Least Terns, many of which appeared to be fledglings. Since they don't normally nest here, they must have come from a nearby tern nesting colony. It was fun to see the Wilson's Phalaropes spinning in tight circles on the ponds, and the sighting of a Least Bittern was one of the highlights of the morning.

GEESE & DUCKS		9	American Avocet	2	N. Rough-winged Swallow
2	Canada Geese	SANDPIPERS		6	Cliff Swallow
4	Wood Duck	1	Greater Yellowlegs	5	swallow sp.
6	Gadwall	4	Spotted Sandpiper	BUSHTITS	
216	Mallard	15	Western Sandpiper	129	Bushtit
1	Blue-winged Teal	6	Least Sandpiper	WRENS	
1	Cinnamon Teal	85	Long-billed Dowitcher	3	Bewick's Wren
	Green-winged Teal	19	Wilson's Phalarope	1	House Wren
2	Ruddy Duck	GULLS		1	Marsh Wren
GREBES		1	Ring-billed Gull	WRENTITS	
12	Pied-billed Grebe	TERNs		1	Wrentit
7	Western Grebe	5	Caspian Tern	MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS	
4	Clark's Grebe	10	Forster's Tern	2	California Thrasher
CORMORANTS & PELICANS		47	Least Tern	WARBLERS	
27	American White Pelican	PIGEONS & DOVES		8	Orange-crowned Warbler
2	Brown Pelican	27	Mourning Dove	16	Yellow Warbler
30	Double-crested Cormorant	HUMMINGBIRDS		73	Common Yellowthroat
BITTERNS		45	Anna's Hummingbird	3	Yellow-breasted Chat
1	Least Bittern	2	Black-chinned Hummingbird	TOWHEES & SPARROWS	
HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS		17	Allen's Hummingbird	29	Spotted Towhee
6	Great Blue Heron	9	hummingbird sp.	2	California Towhee
16	Great Egret	KINGFISHER		102	Song Sparrow
20	Snowy Egret	1	Belted Kingfisher	GROSBEAKS	
4	Green Heron	WOODPECKERS		1	Blue Grosbeak
11	Black-crowned Night-Heron	5	Nuttall's Woodpecker	BLACKBIRDS	
DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY		8	Downy Woodpecker	43	Red-winged Blackbird
4	Turkey Vulture	FLYCATCHERS		1	Brown-headed Cowbird
1	Osprey	16	Black Phoebe	FINCHES	
2	Cooper's Hawk	SILKY FLYCATCHER		52	House Finch
RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS		1	Phainopepla	10	Lesser Goldfinch
1	Sora	VIREOS		EXOTIC SPECIES	
7	Common Gallinule	17	Bell's Vireo	7	Orange Bishop
10	American Coot	1	Warbling Vireo	1	Yellow-crowned Bishop
PLOVERS		3	Hutton's Vireo	104	Scaley-breasted Munia
5	Semipalmated Plover	CROWS & RAVENS		2	Orange-cheeked Waxbill
17	Killdeer	19	American Crow		
STILTS & AVOCETS		SWALLOWS			
65	Black-necked Stilt	2	Tree Swallow		