

Sea & Sage Audubon SJWS Census Report for December 2014

Census Date: 12/5/14 **Census Time:** 7:30 – 9:45 am **Weather:** cloudy, temperature in the 60's.

Birders who took part in the census were: Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Carol Freund, Jan Gaffney, Sharon Harrow, Lena Hayashi, Terry Hill, Nancy Kapplemann, Nancy Kenyon, Mark Kincheloe, Eva Lydick, Sally Menzel, Eunice Morita, Carolyn Noble, Barbara Sentovich, Jerry Tolman, and Darrell Wilson. **Comments:** The marsh was full of birds, many of them pretty active. A pair of Ospreys were perched on the raptor pole above pond E, and one was eating a fish. Later we saw the other Osprey with a fish or crab or something stringy looking, perched on another pole further out. The Spotted Sandpiper at pond E was bobbing his tail vigorously and scampering along the shore. No sedate meandering! A male Anna's Hummingbird repeatedly chased off 2 other hummers and then returned to his favored perch in the bare Elderberry bush. Marsh Wrens were loudly singing from the reeds. 4 Virginia Rails and 2 Soras were seen along the San Diego Creek. 131 white pelicans were on the island at pond 2, one of which had a strange leg band, not the normal wing tag. The juvenile Clark's Grebes were also seen at pond 2. A whopping 227 Double-crested Cormorants kept the birders busy counting at pond 1. They were also the lucky ones to find the Vermilion Flycatcher. Pond C ("Duck City") had 8 species of ducks in it including a Hooded Merganser and 57 Northern Shovelers milling around. The raptors were active all over the marsh: all of us heard the noisy Red-shouldered Hawks calling to each other, we saw the hungry Ospreys munching on fish, and a Northern Harrier, 3 Cooper's Hawks, 6 Red-shouldered Hawks, 3 Red-tailed Hawks, and even a Peregrine Falcon were seen during the count. As we were doing our tally, we watched a large flock of Cedar Waxwings flitting around two tall trees on the far side of the meadow.

GEESE & DUCKS	
41	Canada Geese
35	Gadwall
16	American Wigeon
150	Mallard
14	Cinnamon Teal
93	Northern Shoveler
76	Green-winged Teal
10	Redhead
19	Ring-necked Duck
9	Bufflehead
2	Hooded Merganser
30	Ruddy Duck
GREBES	
12	Pied-billed Grebe
2	Horned Grebe
12	Eared Grebe
36	Western Grebe
9	Clark's Grebe
CORMORANTS & PELICANS	
133	American White Pelican
2	Brown Pelican
261	Double-crested Cormorant
HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS	
11	Great Blue Heron
7	Great Egret
9	Snowy Egret
1	Green Heron
31	Black-crowned Night-Heron
DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY	
15	Turkey Vulture
2	Osprey
1	Northern Harrier
3	Cooper's Hawk
6	Red-shouldered Hawk
3	Red-tailed Hawk
1	Peregrine Falcon
RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS	
4	Virginia Rail
3	Sora
4	Common Gallinule
204	American Coot

PLOVERS	
13	Killdeer
STILTS & AVOCETS	
57	Black-necked Stilt
SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPES	
7	Spotted Sandpiper
1	Greater Yellowlegs
12	Western Sandpiper
2	Least Sandpiper
34	Long-billed Dowitcher
GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS	
3	Bonaparte's Gull
4	Ring-billed Gull
13	Western Gull
78	California Gull
4	gull sp.
9	Forster's Tern
PIGEONS & DOVES	
1	Rock Pigeon
10	Mourning Dove
SWIFTS	
25	White-throated Swift
HUMMINGBIRDS	
67	Anna's Hummingbird
30	Allen's Hummingbird
9	hummingbird sp.
KINGFISHER	
4	Belted Kingfisher
WOODPECKERS	
5	Nuttall's Woodpecker
3	Downy Woodpecker
4	Northern Flicker
FLYCATCHERS	
30	Black Phoebe
3	Say's Phoebe
1	Vermilion Flycatcher
11	Cassin's Kingbird
VIREOS	
1	Hutton's Vireo
CROWS & RAVENS	
36	American Crow
2	Common Raven

SWALLOWS	
27	N. Rough-winged Swallow
11	Tree Swallow
2	Cliff Swallow
WRENTITS, BUSHTITS & WRENS	
3	Wrentit
137	Bushtit
7	Bewick's Wren
1	House Wren
4	Marsh Wren
GNATCATCHERS & KINGLETS	
23	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
23	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
THRUSHES	
28	Hermit Thrush
MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS	
4	Northern Mockingbird
1	California Thrasher
PIPITS & WAXWINGS	
14	American Pipit
84	Cedar Waxwing
WARBLERS	
12	Orange-crowned Warbler
109	Common Yellowthroat
165	Yellow-rumped Warbler
1	Townsend's Warbler
TOWHEES, SPARROWS	
21	Spotted Towhee
3	California Towhee
110	Song Sparrow
1	Lincoln's Sparrow
107	White-crowned Sparrow
1	Golden-crowned Sparrow
BLACKBIRDS	
65	Red-winged Blackbird
FINCHES	
89	House Finch
75	Lesser Goldfinch
2	American Goldfinch
EXOTIC SPECIES	
35	Scaley-breasted Munia