

## Sea & Sage Audubon SJWS Census Report for August 2015

**Census Date:** 8/7/15 **Census Time:** 7:00 - 9:45 am **Weather:** heavy overcast; occasional breeze  
**Birders who took part in the census were:** Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Terry Hill, Barbara Sentovich, Lena Hayashi, Mark Kincheloe, Eunice Morita, Bob Hogan, Carol Freund, Nancy Kenyon, Jan Gaffney, Merri Levy, Darrell Wilson, Jerry Tolman, and Sharon Harrow.

**Comments:** It was heavily overcast when we started our count, making it seem much earlier than it actually was because of the heavy cloud cover. Because of the dim light, few birds were singing. A breeze ruffled the water in the ponds which looked gray in the morning light, but those dowitchers in breeding plumage still looked bright, their reddish brown feathers almost glowing in the dim light. The ducks were in eclipse plumage and many of them kept their heads below the surface of the water while feeding, making identification tricky. We missed seeing the Baird's and Solitary Sandpipers which had been seen here the day before; apparently, they showed up a couple of hours later after we had left. However, it was great to see so many dowitchers back busily feeding, a couple of Bell's Vireos were heard singing, a Western and a Clark's Grebe were both seen sitting on their nests, 17 Great Egrets and 17 Snowy Egrets were spotted on the island at pond 1, the Wood Ducks were also back on pond 1, two Least Terns were flying around, one of the Ospreys brought in a small fish in "his" left talon, and two wing-tagged American White Pelicans were spotted amongst the flock of 12 on pond 2. As is usually the case, during our tally when the sun began to emerge from the clouds, other birds made their presence known.

<b>GEESE &amp; DUCKS</b>		3	Short-billed Dowitcher	1	House Wren
84	Canada Geese	68	Long-billed Dowitcher	<b>MOCKINGBIRDS &amp; THRASHERS</b>	
4	Wood Duck	<b>GULLS, TERNS &amp; SKIMMERS</b>		2	Northern Mockingbird
8	Gadwall	1	Western Gull	1	California Thrasher
128	Mallard	2	Least Tern	<b>WARBLERS</b>	
10	Cinnamon Teal	14	Caspian Tern	4	Orange-crowned Warbler
2	Ruddy Duck	7	Forster's Tern	72	Common Yellowthroat
<b>GREBES</b>		21	Black Skimmer	7	Yellow Warbler
8	Pied-billed Grebe	<b>PIGEONS &amp; DOVES</b>		<b>TOWHEES, SPARROWS</b>	
8	Western Grebe	37	Mourning Dove	12	Spotted Towhee
10	Clark's Grebe	<b>HUMMINGBIRDS</b>		4	California Towhee
<b>CORMORANTS &amp; PELICANS</b>		26	Anna's Hummingbird	57	Song Sparrow
11	Double-crested Cormorant	11	Allen's Hummingbird	<b>BLACKBIRDS</b>	
19	American White Pelican	10	hummingbird sp.	14	Red-winged Blackbird
3	Brown Pelican	<b>KINGFISHER</b>		27	Great-tailed Grackle
<b>HERONS, EGRETS &amp; IBIS</b>		3	Belted Kingfisher	<b>FINCHES</b>	
9	Great Blue Heron	<b>WOODPECKERS</b>		50	House Finch
27	Great Egret	5	Nuttall's Woodpecker	14	Lesser Goldfinch
30	Snowy Egret	4	Downy Woodpecker	<b>EXOTIC SPECIES</b>	
22	Black-crowned Night-Heron	<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>		5	Egyptian Goose
<b>DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY</b>		16	Black Phoebe	3	Northern Red Bishop
33	Turkey Vulture	1	Cassin's Kingbird	93	Scaley-breasted Munia
3	Osprey	<b>VIREOS</b>		1	Mallard hybrid "Funny Duck"
2	Red-shouldered Hawk	2	Bell's Vireo		
<b>RAILS, GALLINULES &amp; COOTS</b>		1	Hutton's Vireo		
11	American Coot	<b>CROWS &amp; RAVENS</b>			
<b>PLOVERS</b>		44	American Crow		
1	Semipalmated Plover	1	Common Raven		
6	Killdeer	<b>SWALLOWS</b>			
<b>STILTS &amp; AVOCETS</b>		2	N. Rough-winged Swallow		
40	Black-necked Stilt	10	Tree Swallow		
15	American Avocet	1	Barn Swallow		
<b>SANDPIPERS &amp; PHALAROPES</b>		45	Cliff Swallow		
3	Spotted Sandpiper	<b>WRENTITS, BUSHTITS &amp; WRENS</b>			
7	Greater Yellowlegs	2	Wrentit		
33	Western Sandpiper	113	Bushtit		
2	Least Sandpiper	4	Bewick's Wren		