

Sea & Sage Audubon

SJWS Census Report for October 2015

Census Date: 10/2/15 **Census Time:** 7:00 - 9:45 am **Weather:** sunny with puffy white clouds; perfect weather!
Birders who took part in the census were: Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Carol Freund, Jan Gaffney, Sheila Harlow, Sharon Harrow, Lena Hayashi, Terry Hill, Bob Hogan, Nancy Kappelmann, Nancy Kenyon, Mark Kincheloe, Eunice Morita, Carolyn Noble, Barbara Sentovich, Sandy Smith, Jim Stacy, Jerry Tolman, and Darrell Wilson.

Comments: As I drove in to the SJWS, I noticed that ground fog covered the UCI marsh across the street with only the bare branches of the tree tops sticking up through the mist. Fortunately, the SJWS was clear and the white pelicans & dark-colored cormorants clustered on the island at pond 2 stood out prominently against the blue of the water. Small flocks of Canada Geese and White-faced Ibis were flying overhead out of the marsh and clouds of Scaley-breasted Munias were rising up above the vegetation at pond E, circling around, and then settling down again in a new spot. Two Red-shouldered Hawks were perched high in a tree making their presence known by a lot of vocalizations which could be heard all over the marsh for most of the morning. Pond C was the center of activity for both ducks and shorebirds. Usually this pond is rather full of water, but at the present time it has just the right amount of water to attract 5 sp. of ducks, 78 stilts & 18 avocets, 115 Western and 33 Least Sandpipers, 116 Long-billed Dowitchers, along with a number of other species including 50 Mourning Doves! Other count highlights included 2 raccoons up a tree at pond 4 and a coyote at pond E early in the count (that may have been the reason why there were no birds along the shore there), Lincoln Sparrows at pond C and along the creek, a Peregrine Falcon spiraling above pond E, 3 grebe chicks at pond 1 as well as a pair of Western Grebes on a late nest there, visible wing tags on 2 of the 27 American White Pelicans on the island at pond 2, and hearing my first White-crowned Sparrow song of the season! It was a wonderful morning to be out birding!

GEESE & DUCKS		33	Killdeer	BUSHTITS & WRENS	
95	Canada Geese	STILTS & AVOCETS		160	Bushtit
15	Gadwall	81	Black-necked Stilt	2	Bewick's Wren
44	Mallard	18	American Avocet	2	House Wren
5	Cinnamon Teal	SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPES		7	Marsh Wren
24	Northern Shoveler	6	Spotted Sandpiper	GNATCATCHERS & KINGLETS	
2	Northern Pintail	1	Greater Yellowlegs	21	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
16	Green-winged Teal	125	Western Sandpiper	THRUSHES	
2	Ring-necked Duck	41	Least Sandpiper	2	Hermit Thrush
44	Ruddy Duck	173	Long-billed Dowitcher	MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS	
GREBES		GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS		1	Northern Mockingbird
14	Pied-billed Grebe	1	Ring-billed Gull	1	California Thrasher
1	Horned Grebe	3	Western Gull	STARLINGS	
9	Eared Grebe	1	gull sp.	3	European Starling
12	Western Grebe	2	Caspian Tern	WARBLERS	
16	Clark's Grebe	PIGEONS & DOVES		16	Orange-crowned Warbler
CORMORANTS & PELICANS		85	Mourning Dove	134	Common Yellowthroat
37	Double-crested Cormorant	1	Eurasian Collared-Dove	3	Yellow Warbler
41	American White Pelican	HUMMINGBIRDS		18	Yellow-rumped Warbler
3	Brown Pelican	58	Anna's Hummingbird	1	Black-throated Gray Warbler
HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS		27	Allen's Hummingbird	1	Townsend's Warbler
9	Great Blue Heron	8	hummingbird sp.	TOWHEES, SPARROWS	
13	Great Egret	KINGFISHER		40	Spotted Towhee
8	Snowy Egret	4	Belted Kingfisher	2	California Towhee
1	Green Heron	WOODPECKERS		2	Savannah Sparrow
12	Black-crowned Night-Heron	10	Nuttall's Woodpecker	114	Song Sparrow
16	White-faced Ibis	6	Downy Woodpecker	6	Lincoln's Sparrow
DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY		FLYCATCHERS		28	White-crowned Sparrow
1	Turkey Vulture	1	Pacific-slope Flycatcher	TANAGERS & GROSBEAKS	
2	Cooper's Hawk	28	Black Phoebe	1	Western Tanager
3	Red-shouldered Hawk	8	Say's Phoebe	BLACKBIRDS	
1	American Kestrel	5	Cassin's Kingbird	56	Red-winged Blackbird
1	Peregrine Falcon	VIREOS		FINCHES	
RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS		3	Hutton's Vireo	113	House Finch
2	Virginia Rail	CROWS & RAVENS		46	Lesser Goldfinch
4	Sora	71	American Crow	5	American Goldfinch
2	Common Gallinule	4	Common Raven	EXOTIC SPECIES	
168	American Coot	WRENTITS		374	Scaley-breasted Munia
PLOVERS		3	Wrentit	3	Northern Red Bishop