

Sea & Sage Audubon

SJWS Census Report for December 2015

Census Date: 12/4/15 **Census Time:** 8:00 - 10:45 am **Weather:** sunny and cold.

Birders who took part in the census were: Barbara Dixon, Carol Freund, Jan Gaffney, Sheila Harlow, Sharon Harrow, Terry Hill, Bob Hogan, Nancy Kappelman, Nancy Kenyon, Mark Kincheloe, Merri Levy, Eunice Morita, Carolyn Noble, Barbara Sentovich, Jerry Tolman, and Darrell Wilson.

Comments: Though there were a lot of Canada Geese on the island at pond 1, we noticed several large flocks leaving the marsh early in the count and flying off to their daytime location. A great deal of vegetation had been cleared from pond E and the ducks were there in mass, clearly enjoying the new environment. The Green-winged Teal were packed in at the end of the pond when we arrived, taking a morning snooze; later on, they woke up and began to swim around, making us glad we had counted them earlier when they were stationary. At pond D, we saw one lone Wilson's Snipe emerge from the tall grasses at the water's edge and stand in the open, absolutely motionless. The diagnostic stripes on his back blended with the shadows of the grass, making him very difficult to spot. At pond 5, Bob & Eunice watched as two Ospreys on the nesting platform there were greeted by a 3rd Osprey with nesting material. The two Ospreys did not welcome the third one, and he finally flew off with his stick. The flock of American White Pelicans has diminished since last month when there were 133 of them. We are hoping that some of them will remain throughout the winter. We get many visitors to the SJWS who want to see these magnificent birds. Recently there has been quite a good sized flock of Cassin's Kingbirds here and across Campus Dr. at the UCI Marsh. We were thrilled that the visiting Red-necked Grebe is still with us at pond B; we hope he'll remain here for the winter. This is a very special bird not commonly seen in southern CA.

GEESE & DUCKS	
187	Canada Geese
24	Gadwall
7	American Wigeon
72	Mallard
4	Blue-winged Teal
33	Cinnamon Teal
144	Northern Shoveler
28	Northern Pintail
158	Green-winged Teal
5	Canvasback
38	Ring-necked Duck
16	Bufflehead
63	Ruddy Duck
GREBES	
20	Pied-billed Grebe
7	Eared Grebe
24	Western Grebe
23	Clark's Grebe
CORMORANTS & PELICANS	
147	Double-crested Cormorant
45	American White Pelican
1	Brown Pelican
HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS	
16	Great Blue Heron
4	Great Egret
20	Snowy Egret
1	Green Heron
26	Black-crowned Night-Heron
25	White-faced Ibis
DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY	
17	Turkey Vulture
3	Osprey
2	Northern Harrier
4	Cooper's Hawk
1	Red-shouldered Hawk
4	Red-tailed Hawk
1	American Kestrel
1	Peregrine Falcon
RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS	
1	Virginia Rail
3	Sora

4	Common Gallinule
204	American Coot
PLOVERS	
1	Black-bellied Plover
18	Killdeer
STILTS & AVOCETS	
66	Black-necked Stilt
2	American Avocet
SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPES	
6	Spotted Sandpiper
3	Least Sandpiper
20	Long-billed Dowitcher
1	Wilson's Snipe
GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS	
6	Ring-billed Gull
3	Western Gull
1	California Gull
5	Forster's Tern
PIGEONS & DOVES	
5	Mourning Dove
SWIFTS	
98	White-throated Swift
HUMMINGBIRDS	
24	Anna's Hummingbird
23	Allen's Hummingbird
KINGFISHER	
6	Belted Kingfisher
WOODPECKERS	
10	Nuttall's Woodpecker
1	Downy Woodpecker
2	Northern Flicker
FLYCATCHERS	
30	Black Phoebe
7	Say's Phoebe
1	Vermilion Flycatcher
38	Cassin's Kingbird
CROWS & RAVENS	
18	American Crow
3	Common Raven
SWALLOWS	
10	N. Rough-winged Swallow

41	Tree Swallow
1	Barn Swallow
BUSHTITS, WRENS, WRENTITS	
126	Bushtit
1	Bewick's Wren
3	House Wren
8	Marsh Wren
2	Wrentit
GNATCATCHERS & KINGLETS	
24	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
41	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
THRUSHES	
10	Hermit Thrush
MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS	
1	Northern Mockingbird
1	California Thrasher
PIPITS & WAXWINGS	
17	American Pipit
WARBLERS	
5	Orange-crowned Warbler
2	Yellow Warbler
190	Yellow-rumped Warbler
1	Townsend's Warbler
137	Common Yellowthroat
1	Wilson's Warbler
TOWHEES, SPARROWS	
27	Spotted Towhee
7	Savannah Sparrow
114	Song Sparrow
118	White-crowned Sparrow
1	Golden-crowned Sparrow
BLACKBIRDS	
16	Red-winged Blackbird
3	Western Meadowlark
FINCHES	
36	House Finch
1	Lesser Goldfinch
EXOTIC SPECIES	
32	Scaly-breasted Munia
ADDITIONAL (Special) SPECIES:	
1	Red-necked Grebe