

Sea & Sage Audubon SJWS Census Report for March 2016

Pond 1: Lena Hayashi, Betsy Flynn, Barbara Dixon. **Pond 2:** Sally Menzel & Barbara Sentovich. **Pond 3:** Nancy Kappelman, Sheila Harlow, Maureen Myers. **Ponds 4,5,6:** Eunice Morita & Bob Hogan. **Ponds A,B,C:** Sharon Harrow & Mark Kincheloe. **Ponds E,D:** Nancy Kenyon & Carol Freund. **Riparian:** Jan Gaffney & Merri Levy. **Back 40 & Tree Hill:** Darrell Wilson, Jim Stacy, Jerry Tolman. **Parking Lot, Meadow, Butterfly Garden:** Barbara Sentovich & Sally Menzel. **San Diego Creek:** Carolyn Noble.

Comments: The morning started out bright and sunny; the male Cinnamon Teals were gorgeous in the bright sunlight, a pair of Tree Swallows perched in an elderberry bush showed brilliant iridescent blue-green feathers on their backs, and even a lone male Red-winged Blackbird showed off his red wing-patch for us to admire. At pond E, the vegetation had grown up 4-5 inches, completely obscuring a flock of Western and Least Sandpipers which were scurrying around behind the leaves, busily feeding; we were only able to occasionally catch a glimpse of a head or body until something spooked them, and they all flew up, circled around a couple of times, and returned to their hidden feeding areas again – after we had made a quick count of them. We watched a noisy group of 4 American Avocets chasing each other, doing leap frog maneuvers, bumping bodies, landing on heads feet first, and squabbling noisily until they appeared to match up with mates, copulated, and then became quiet. Two Ospreys were in the vicinity of the nesting platform at pond 4, one was sitting on the nest & the other on an nearby branch. It was unclear whether or not there was a chick in the nest. The Tree Swallow population had definitely increased since last month and the swallows were busily feeding over the ponds. At pond 3, a Song Sparrow was gathering nesting materials. We were pleased to see that the white pelicans had returned even though their island at pond 2 had limited space on which to perch, and we enjoyed watching a small flock of them circling overhead against a blue sky. A Great Horned Owl was spotted at Tree Hill, but the Long-eared Owls were hiding.

GEESE & DUCKS		STILTS & AVOCETS		14	Cliff Swallow
36	Canada Geese	33	Black-necked Stilt	BUSHTITS & WRENS	
1	Wood Duck	33	American Avocet	69	Bushtit
34	Gadwall	SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPES		4	Bewick's Wren
2	American Wigeon	1	Spotted Sandpiper	1	House Wren
59	Mallard	2	Greater Yellowlegs	35	Marsh Wren
2	Blue-winged Teal	43	Western Sandpiper	GNATCATCHERS & KINGLETS	
56	Cinnamon Teal	10	Least Sandpiper	13	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
260	Northern Shoveler	11	Long-billed Dowitcher	19	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
7	Northern Pintail	GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS		THRUSHES	
33	Green-winged Teal	11	Ring-billed Gull	3	Hermit Thrush
1	Lesser Scaup	2	Western Gull	2	American Robin
3	Bufflehead	7	California Gull	STARLINGS	
92	Ruddy Duck	PIGEONS & DOVES		1	European Starling
GREBES		11	Rock Pigeon	PIPITS & WAXWINGS	
8	Pied-billed Grebe	31	Mourning Dove	1	American Pipit
5	Eared Grebe	OWLS		WARBLERS	
4	Western Grebe	1	Great Horned Owl	21	Orange-crowned Warbler
5	Clark's Grebe	HUMMINGBIRDS		135	Common Yellowthroat
CORMORANTS & PELICANS		68	Anna's Hummingbird	95	Yellow-rumped Warbler
18	Double-crested Cormorant	32	Allen's Hummingbird	1	Black-throated Gray Warbler
22	American White Pelican	2	hummingbird sp.	TOWHEES, SPARROWS	
HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS		KINGFISHER		42	Spotted Towhee
6	Great Blue Heron	3	Belted Kingfisher	1	California Towhee
8	Great Egret	WOODPECKERS		136	Song Sparrow
11	Snowy Egret	7	Nuttall's Woodpecker	2	Lincoln's Sparrow
16	Black-crowned Night-Heron	10	Downy Woodpecker	11	White-crowned Sparrow
1	White-faced Ibis	FLYCATCHERS		BLACKBIRDS	
DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY		19	Black Phoebe	24	Red-winged Blackbird
6	Turkey Vulture	2	Say's Phoebe	FINCHES	
3	Osprey	7	Cassin's Kingbird	124	House Finch
1	Sharp-shinned Hawk	VIREOS		22	Lesser Goldfinch
1	Cooper's Hawk	13	Hutton's Vireo	15	American Goldfinch
1	Red-shouldered Hawk	CROWS & RAVENS		EXOTIC SPECIES	
3	Red-tailed Hawk	46	American Crow	1	Egyptian Goose
RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS		3	Common Raven	2	Mandarin Duck
1	Common Gallinule	SWALLOWS		33	Scaley-breasted Munia
95	American Coot	5	N. Rough-winged Swallow		
PLOVERS		165	Tree Swallow		
13	Killdeer	8	Barn Swallow		