

Sea & Sage Audubon SJWS Census Report for September 2, 2016

Highlights: The Clark's Grebes had a reed nest with eggs in it on the island at pond 2. One of the photographers reported that last week, raccoons swam over there and took eggs from two of the nests. On Tuesday, birders watched the grebes turn one of the eggs. On count day, one of the grebes was sitting on the nest probably incubating while its mate was swimming near by. In another area, birders saw 2 Clark's Grebes courting with heads bobbing. One bird swam off and returned with a fish in its beak which "he" passed to his mate. Later he was observed bringing nesting materials. (According to our records, both Clark's and Western Grebes have nested there in Sept - Oct. in 2012, 2013, and 2015; we have no record of them nesting there in 2014.) Other count highlights included an American Bittern by the San Diego Creek; Bell's Vireos still singing in several areas; Common Yellowthroats very active and vocal; flocks of 100 or more Scaly-breasted Munias rising up from the Fleabane at pond E, circling around and then settling back down again into the vegetation where no one could see them. Possible sightings included a rail sounding like a Ridgway's Rail in pond 6 and warblers sounding like Yellow-rumps at pond E. A young Cooper's Hawk perched in a bare Elderberry shrub for over half an hour waiting for some unwary birds to show up; unfortunately for him, the ponds he chose had not a single bird in them.

GEESE & DUCKS	
34	Canada Geese
17	Gadwall
21	American Wigeon
81	Mallard
3	Cinnamon Teal
6	Northern Shoveler
9	Green-winged Teal
GREBES	
15	Pied-billed Grebe
9	Western Grebe
8	Clark's Grebe
CORMORANTS & PELICANS	
6	Double-crested Cormorant
34	American White Pelican
BITTERNS	
1	American Bittern
HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS	
12	Great Blue Heron
20	Great Egret
20	Snowy Egret
6	Green Heron
12	Black-crowned Night-Heron
8	White-faced Ibis
DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY	
5	Turkey Vulture
1	Osprey
2	Cooper's Hawk
2	Red-shouldered Hawk
1	American Kestrel
RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS	
1	Sora
21	American Coot
1	Ridgeway's Rail (possible)
PLOVERS	
2	Semipalmated Plover
17	Killdeer
STILTS & AVOCETS	
6	Black-necked Stilt
11	American Avocet
SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPES	
2	Spotted Sandpiper
2	Greater Yellowlegs
1	Marbled Godwit

100	Western Sandpiper
3	Least Sandpiper
60	Long-billed Dowitcher
GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS	
1	Least Tern
3	Caspian Tern
25	Forster's Tern
1	Elegant Tern
30	Black Skimmer
PIGEONS & DOVES	
50	Mourning Dove
OWLS	
1	Barn Owl
SWIFTS	
7	Vaux's Swift
4	White-throated Swift
HUMMINGBIRDS	
41	Anna's Hummingbird
28	Allen's Hummingbird
3	hummingbird sp.
KINGFISHER	
1	Belted Kingfisher
WOODPECKERS	
6	Nuttall's Woodpecker
3	Downy Woodpecker
FLYCATCHERS	
22	Black Phoebe
3	Cassin's Kingbird
VIREOS	
7	Bell's Vireo
1	Hutton's Vireo
CROWS & RAVENS	
39	American Crow
4	Common Raven
SWALLOWS	
2	N. Rough-winged Swallow
51	Barn Swallow
2	Cliff Swallow
BUSHTITS & WRENS & WRENTITS	
113	Bushtit
3	Bewick's Wren
3	House Wren
6	Marsh Wren

1	Wrentit
GNATCATCHERS & KINGLETS	
1	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
1	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS	
2	Northern Mockingbird
WARBLERS	
10	Orange-crowned Warbler
153	Common Yellowthroat
3	Yellow Warbler
8	Yellow-rumped Warbler
2	Black-throated Gray Warbler
1	Wilson's Warbler
TOWHEES, SPARROWS	
18	Spotted Towhee
2	California Towhee
93	Song Sparrow
BLACKBIRDS	
19	Red-winged Blackbird
21	Great-tailed Grackle
8	Brown-headed Cowbird
FINCHES	
66	House Finch
1	Lesser Goldfinch
EXOTIC SPECIES	
246	Scaly-breasted Munia
4	Northern Red Bishop

Pond 1: Terry Hill, Betsy Flynn and Barbara Dixon.

Pond 2: Sally Menzel, Lena Hayashi, Barbara Sentovich, Savithri Singh.

Pond 3: Nancy Kappelmann and Maureen Myers.

Ponds 4,5,6: Bob Hogan & Eunice Morita.

Ponds A,B,C: Sharon Harrow & Mark Kincheloe.

Ponds E & D: Nancy Kenyon & Carol Freund.

Riparian: Merri Levy & Jan Gaffney,,
Back 40 & Tree Hill: Jim Stacy, Jerry Tolman, & Darrell Wilson.

San Diego Creek: Carolyn Noble.