

Sea & Sage Audubon UCI Freshwater Preserve Census Report for May 2012

Census Date: 5/2/12 **Census Time:** 7:30 - 10:00 am **Weather:** Cloudy, breezy and cool.

Birders who took part in the census were: Bonny Ahern, Jan Gaffney, Sheila Harlow, Sharon Harrow, Terry Hill, Nancy Kenyon, Jim Stacy, Jerry Tolman, Donelda Warhurst, and Darrell Wilson.

Comments: Despite the threatening clouds and feeling of impending rain, many of the birds were singing lustily. Song Sparrows were hopping around on the ground everywhere we looked, flocks of House Finches were flying all over the place, Common Yellowthroats and Marsh Wrens were calling from the reeds, and a huge flock of swallows along with a few White-throated Swifts were milling about in the air high above our heads. At the arboretum, we found 7 species of warblers along with a Rufous Hummingbird and 15 Black-headed Grosbeaks. In a tree near Campus, we watched a White-tailed Kite munching on a mouse or rat despite being constantly harassed by a crow. Other sightings of interest included: a total of 8 White-tailed Kites (2 of which were juveniles), 9 Cedar Waxwings, 1 Hermit Thrush, a Greater Roadrunner, 4 Horned Larks, a Great Blue Heron with nesting material, and a possible Willow Flycatcher (heard briefly). It will be interesting to see what birds are nesting here when we do our count next month.

GEESE & DUCKS

7	Canada Geese
36	Gadwall
28	Mallard
7	Cinnamon Teal
34	Ruddy Duck

GREBES

17	Pied-billed Grebe
3	Eared Grebe

CORMORANTS & PELICANS

1	Brown Pelican
3	Double-crested Cormorant

HERONS, EGRETS & IBIS

2	Great Blue Heron
7	Great Egret
15	Snowy Egret
5	Green Heron
4	Black-crowned Night-Heron
23	White-faced Ibis

DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY

4	Turkey Vulture
1	Osprey
8	White-tailed Kite
1	Red-shouldered Hawk
4	Red-tailed Hawk

RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS

2	Virginia Rail
1	Common Gallinule
33	American Coot

PLOVERS

3	Killdeer
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STILTS & AVOCETS

12	Black-necked Stilt
12	American Avocet

SANDPIPERS & PHALAROPES

2	Greater Yellowlegs
89	Long-billed Dowitcher

GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS

2	Least Tern
5	Caspian Tern

31	Forster's Tern
2	Elegant Tern
3	Black Skimmer

PIGEONS & DOVES

34	Mourning Dove
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ROADRUNNERS

1	Greater Roadrunner
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SWIFTS

12	White-throated Swift
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HUMMINGBIRDS

12	Anna's Hummingbird
24	Allen's Hummingbird
1	Rufous Hummingbird

WOODPECKERS

2	Nuttall's Woodpecker
3	Downy Woodpecker

FLYCATCHERS

7	Black Phoebe
1	Say's Phoebe
4	Ash-throated Flycatcher
1	Western Kingbird
1	Western Wood-Pewee
1	possible Willow Flycatcher

VIROES

1	Bell's Vireo
1	Warbling Vireo

CROWS & RAVENS

27	American Crow
3	Common Raven

LARKS

4	Horned Lark
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SWALLOWS

24	N. Rough-winged Swallow
2	Tree Swallow
4	Barn Swallow
175	Cliff Swallow

BUSHTITS & WRENS

21	Bushtit
4	Bewick's Wren

1	House Wren
54	Marsh Wren

GNATCATCHERS & KINGLETS

2	California Gnatcatcher
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THRUSHES

1	Hermit Thrush
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MOCKINGBIRDS & THRASHERS

5	Northern Mockingbird
1	California Thrasher

PIPITS & WAXWINGS

9	Cedar Waxwing
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WARBLERS

8	Orange-crowned Warbler
3	Nashville Warbler
76	Common Yellowthroat
7	Yellow Warbler
3	Yellow-rumped Warbler
3	Wilson's Warbler
3	Yellow-breasted Chat

TANAGERS

3	Western Tanager
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TOWHEES, SPARROWS

11	Spotted Towhee
7	California Towhee
9	Savannah Sparrow
1	Chipping Sparrow
111	Song Sparrow
2	White-crowned Sparrow

GROSBEAKS

15	Black-headed Grosbeak
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BLACKBIRDS

51	Red-winged Blackbird
15	Great-tailed Grackle
1	Brown-headed Cowbird
6	Hooded Oriole
2	Bullock's Oriole

FINCHES

121	House Finch
31	Lesser Goldfinch