

Results of the 2015 Orange County Spring Count (OCSC)

International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD) celebrates one of the most important and spectacular events in the Americas: bird migration. Sea and Sage Audubon participated in the celebration by sponsoring the Orange County Spring Count. The “Day” is fixed as the second Saturday in May each year, but everyone recognizes that bird migration occurs at different times in different places and extends over several weeks. The Sea and Sage count efforts were focused on May 8, 9, and 10. We also included checklists from many regularly scheduled field trips and counts in the April and May time period.

The IMBD organization requested that all bird count information collected as part of the celebration be entered into eBird. Many of the OCSC count leaders entered their checklists in the field; others entered the data at home. Altogether, there were 200 checklists entered into eBird and shared with the Sea and Sage account. Including the field trip participants, about 150 people contributed to this year’s count.

Total birds counted: 48023 in 101 locations.

AOU recognized species:243

Exotics species: 6

Highest five counted:

Number of birds

3501	Elegant Tern
3038	House Finch
2751	Sooty Shearwater
1494	Lesser Goldfinch
1402	Western Gull

Distribution of top ten species:

Number of locations

80	House Finch
76	American Crow
68	Mourning Dove
66	Anna’s Hummingbird
65	Allen’s Hummingbird
65	Lessor Goldfinch
63	Bushtit
63	California Towhee
61	Black Phoebe
61	Song Sparrow

The spreadsheet showing all of the results is available by contacting Darrell Wilson.