

# Checklist of Animals of San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary Irvine, Orange County, CA

**WELCOME!** Many different kinds of animals live in this 300-acre freshwater marsh. If you walk quietly and use your eyes and ears, you will discover the marsh's residents. Because animal presence changes with the seasons, we suggest that you visit in each season. Check the Audubon House front porch list for recent sightings, and add what you see so we can keep this checklist updated. **Enjoy your visit!**

**WINTER** is the rainy season which provides plenty of water for wildlife. Because of cold weather, only a few insects are active, and most reptiles hibernate until it becomes warmer. After a rain, frogs croak to attract mates.



In **SPRING**, there is still abundant water for wildlife. Longer days and warmer weather bring out reptiles and insects, plus many plants grow new flowers and leaves. Look for butterflies on sunny days, and male fence lizards doing territorial "push-up" displays. Many animals begin breeding and raising young.



**SUMMER** is the dry season. Days are long and hot with little water in the creek. Insects are plentiful, and butterflies sip from flowers and lay eggs on their host plants. Reptiles bask in the warm sun, and the bobcat family walks along the trails. In late summer if pond water is too hot, large carp fish gulp air at the surface.



In **AUTUMN**, weather transitions from hot and dry to cooler temperatures. Deciduous trees turn yellow and drop their leaves. At dusk, large Argiope spiders weave circular webs to capture night insects. Dragonflies are abundant as they mate and lay eggs in the ponds.



## MAMMALS

- Audubon's Cottontail
- Bobcat
- Botta's Pocket Gopher
- Calif. Ground Squirrel
- Coyote
- Long-tailed Weasel
- Mice and rats
- Raccoon
- Striped Skunk
- Virginia Opossum (I)
- Vole



Bobcat



Raccoon

## BATS

- Hoary Bat
- Mexican Free-tailed Bat
- Western Mastiff Bat
- Western Red Bat (8/2017)
- Yuma Myotis Bat

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

We encourage you to learn more about local nature by attending our free monthly **Wildlife Walk at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary** on the first Saturday of the month at 9 AM.

Read about animals you see using these resources:

- [Insects of the Los Angeles Basin](#) by Charles L. Hogue, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 1993.
- [Field Guide to Amphibians and Reptiles of the San Diego Region](#) by Jeffrey M. Lemm, University of California Press, 2006.
- [Mammals of North America](#) by Roland W. Kays and Don E. Wilson, Princeton University Press, 2002.



Raccoon Tracks

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Red Admiral

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Please remember that this is a wildlife sanctuary and that you are responsible for protecting and not harming anything during your visit. Thank you!

Prepared by Trude Hurd, rev. 1/2019.  
Project Director of Education

## INSECTS, SPIDERS, AND CRUSTACEANS

### BUTTERFLIES and MOTHS

- Acraea Moth
- Anise Swallowtail
- Buckeye
- Cabbage White
- California Ringlet
- Checkered White
- Checkered Skipper
- Fatal Metalmark
- Fiery Skipper
- Funereal Duskywing
- Giant Swallowtail
- Gray Hairstreak
- Gulf Fritillary
- Lorquin's Admiral
- Monarch
- Mourning Cloak
- Orange (Alfalfa) Sulfur
- Marine Blue
- Painted Lady
- Queen
- Red Admiral
- Sylvan Hairstreak
- Virginia Lady
- West Coast Lady
- Western Pygmy Blue
- Western Tiger Swallowtail



Tiger Swallowtail



Mourning Cloak



Painted Lady

### DRAGONFLIES and DAMSELFLIES

- Black Saddlebags
- Black-fronted Forktail
- Blue Dasher
- Blue-eyed Darner
- Common Green Darner
- Familiar Bluet
- Flame Skimmer
- Mexican Amberwing
- Pacific Forktail
- Red Rock Skimmer
- Red-tailed Pennant
- Red Saddlebags
- Spot-winged Glider
- Variegated Meadowhawk
- Vivid Dancer damselfly



Green Darner



Flame Skimmer

### FLIES, ANTS, BEES, and WASPS

- Argentine Ant (I)
- Bee Fly
- Bumblebee
- Carpenter Bee
- Cactus Fly
- Carrot Wasp
- Crane Fly
- Cuckoo Wasp
- Digger Bee
- Green Bottle Fly
- Green Metallic Sweat Bee
- European Honeybee (I)
- Flower (Hover) Fly
- Mining Bee
- Mosquito
- Robber Fly
- Spittle Bug
- Tarantula Hawk Wasp
- Water Midge



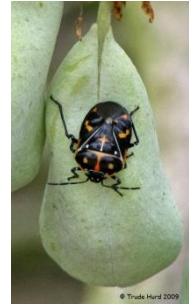
Carpenter Bee



Honeybee

### BETTERLES and TRUE BUGS

- Armored Stink Beetle
- Backswimmer
- Brown Leatherwing Beetle
- Carpet Beetle
- Green Fig Beetle
- Harlequin Bug
- Ironclad Beetle
- Ladybird Beetle ("ladybug")
- Milkweed Bug
- Sagebrush Mealybug
- Say's Stink Bug
- Lace Bug
- Water Boatman
- Water Scavenger Beetle
- Western Cucumber Beetle
- Woolly Darkling Beetle
- Whitefly



Harlequin Bug



Ladybird Beetle



Wolf Spider

### SPIDERS

- Golden Orb Weaver (Argiope)
- Sowbug Killer
- Water Mite
- Wolf Spider

### OTHER INVERTEBRATES

- Bordered Mantis
- Crayfish (I)
- Earthworm
- Field Cricket
- Garden Snail (Helix) (I)
- Isopod ("roly poly")
- Katydid
- Willow Aphid



Mantis

## REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

### LIZARDS

- Western Fence Lizard
- Side-blotched Lizard
- So. Alligator Lizard



Fence Lizard

### SNAKES

- Red Racer/Coachwhip
- Striped Racer Snake
- Gopher Snake
- California Kingsnake
- Rattlesnake species



CA Kingsnake

### TURTLES

- Red-eared Slider Turtle(I)
- Spiny Softshell Turtle (I)
- Western Pond Turtle



Red-eared Slider

### AMPHIBIANS

- African Clawed Frog (I)
- Bullfrog (I)
- Pacific Chorus Frog ("Pacific Tree Frog")
- Western Toad

## FISH

- Bluegill (I)
- Carp (I)
- Green Sunfish (I)
- Large-mouth Bass (I)
- Mosquito Fish (I)
- Additional 5 fish species that are less common (Brown Bullhead, Fathead Minnow, Redear Sunfish, Red Shiner, and Threadfin Shad)(I)



Mosquito Fish

(I) = Introduced, non-native species