

North Hills wild life sightings for March

LIST COMPILED BY KAY LOUGHMAN

Editor's note: The North Hills district is a residential neighborhood of Berkeley and North Oakland that borders the Cal campus and a wilderness area. Roughly, the boundaries of the area are Tunnel Road, Domingo Avenue, Claremont Canyon, and Grizzly Peak Blvd. Neighbors of the area have been contributing to this wildlife list since October 2007.

54 BIRD SPECIES seen or heard in the area during March 2011.

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

Sharp-shinned Hawk (photo-GS)

Cooper's Hawk (JC & ER)

White-tailed Kite (JC & ER)

Red-shouldered Hawk (JC & ER)

Red-tailed Hawk

PHEASANTS, GROUSE,

QUAIL AND TURKEYS

California Quail (PT)

Wild Turkey (DJ & mob)

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Rock Pigeon

Band-tailed Pigeon

Mourning Dove

HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird

Allen's Hummingbird (JC & ER)

Rufous Hummingbird (adult male)

WOODPECKERS

Northern Flicker

Hairy Woodpecker

Downy Woodpecker (PT)

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Black Phoebe (JC & ER)

CROWS AND JAYS

Steller's Jay

Western Scrub-Jay

Common Raven

THRUSHES

American Robin

Western Bluebird (photo) (BN & RM)

MOCKINGBIRDS AND

THRASHERS

Northern Mockingbird



Photo by Robert MacConnell

Western Bluebird (Sialia mexicana), adult male, checking out a nestbox at the Pacifica transmitter site on Grizzly Peak Blvd. Bluebirds have nested in this location for several years. A more human-accessible nesting site for bluebirds is in San Pablo Park in southwest Berkeley.

California Thrasher (JC & ER)

NUTHATCHES

Red-breasted Nuthatch (JC & ER)

Pygmy Nuthatch (JC & ER)

CREEPERS

Brown Creeper (JC & ER)

WRENS

Bewick's Wren

LONG-TAILED TITS

Bushtit

SWALLOWS

Violet-green Swallow

KINGLETS

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Wrentit (JC & ER)

CHICKADEES, TITS

Chestnut-backed Chickadee

Oak Titmouse

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND

ALLIES

Pine Siskin

American Goldfinch

Lesser Goldfinch

Purple Finch

House Finch

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Orange-crowned Warbler (JC & ER)

Yellow-rumped Warbler (PT, JC & ER)

Townsend's Warbler (PT, JC & ER)

Wilson's Warbler (JC & ER)

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS,

TANAGERS, ALLIES

Fox Sparrow

Song Sparrow

Lincoln's Sparrow

White-crowned Sparrow

White-throated Sparrow

Golden-crowned Sparrow

Dark-eyed Junco

Spotted Towhee

California Towhee

VIREOS

Hutton's Vireo (PT)

BUTTERFLIES

Cabbage White



MAMMALS and OTHERS

Gray Fox (BH & AO)

Black-tailed Mule Deer

Eastern Fox Squirrel

Sierran Treefrog (JR)

Contributors: JC=John Colbert, BH=Barbara Hird, RM=Robert MacConnell, BN=Bob Nelson, AO=Anne O'Shea, JR=Janet Rudolph, ER=Erica Rutherford, GS=Gillian Servais, PT=Pat Thorson, mob=many observers.

Looking ahead, April is a big transition month. Say goodbye to most sparrows, Townsend's and Yellow-rumped warblers, kinglets and siskins. Welcome back swallows, grosbeaks, and orioles.

Readers are invited to contribute photographs and records of sightings. For more information and for archives of previously published wild life lists as well as photos, go to: <http://www.NHWildlife.net>.

For more detailed information about specific bird species, go to: www.allaboutbirds.org/

Kay Loughman is a retired employee of Cal Libraries, a bird-er, a native plant gardener, and long-time resident of the Berkeley area. The North Hills Wild Life list (including photos) is published online at www.NHWildlife.net. She can be contacted at kayloughman@earthlink.net or by calling the editor at 548-2855.