

# North Hills wild life sightings for May 2011

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.*



Photo by Kay Loughman

*Striking plumage and a cheery melodious song make this male Black-headed Grosbeak (Pheucticus melanocephalus) a favorite summer visitor.*

62 BIRD SPECIES seen or heard in the area during May 2011.

It was a stellar month for turkeys, which were reported on a deck railing, in trees, in flight, and on the street, sometimes shepherding chicks.

## CORMORANTS

Double-crested Cormorant

## DUCKS, SWANS, GEESE

Canada Goose

## HERONS, EGRETS AND BITTERNS

Great Egret

## VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

## HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Cooper's Hawk

Red-shouldered Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

Golden Eagle (Loughman's first sighting in 15 years)

## PHEASANTS, GROUSE, QUAIL AND TURKEYS

California Quail

Wild Turkey (mob)

## PIGEONS AND DOVES

Mourning Dove

Band-tailed Pigeon

## OWLS

Great Horned Owl

## SWIFTS

White-throated Swift

## HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird

Rufous Hummingbird

Allen's Hummingbird

## WOODPECKERS

Hairy Woodpecker

Northern Flicker

Nuttall's Woodpecker

## TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Western Wood-Pewee (JC & ER)

Olive-sided Flycatcher (mob)

Pacific-slope Flycatcher (JC & ER)

## CROWS AND JAYS

Steller's Jay

Western Scrub-Jay

American Crow

Common Raven

## VIREOS AND ALLIES

Warbling Vireo

## WAXWINGS AND SILKY-FLY-CATCHERS

Cedar Waxwing

## THRUSHES

American Robin

Swainson's Thrush (mob)

Western Bluebird

## MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS

Northern Mockingbird

California Thrasher

## NUTHATCHES

Pygmy Nuthatch (JC & ER)

Red-breasted Nuthatch (JC & ER)

## CREEPERS

Brown Creeper (JC & ER)

## WRENS

House Wren (JC & ER)

Bewick's Wren

## LONG-TAILED TITS

Bushtit

## SWALLOWS

Violet-green Swallow

Cliff Swallow

## OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Wrentit

## CHICKADEES, TITS

Chestnut-backed Chickadee

Oak Titmouse

Wilson's Warbler

MacGillivray's Warbler (mob)

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS,

TANAGERS, ALLIES

Song Sparrow

Golden-crowned Sparrow

Rufous-crowned Sparrow

(JC & ER)

Dark-eyed Junco

Spotted Towhee

California Towhee

Black-headed Grosbeak

Lazuli Bunting

## BLACKBIRDS,

GRACKLES, ORIOLES

Hooded Oriole

## 14 BUTTERFLY SPECIES

Anise Swallowtail

Pale Swallowtail

Cabbage White

Gray-veined White

Sara Orangetip

Large Marble

Western Brown Elfin

Variable Checkerspot

Northern Checkerspot

Common Buckeye

Red Admiral

Lorquin's Admiral

California Ringlet

Umber Skipper

## 6 MAMMAL SPECIES

Gray Fox (late report by MG, JB)

Coyote (DC)

Northern Raccoon (LH, MT)

Striped Skunk (DJ, HL)

Virginia Opossum (HL, SM)

Black-tailed Mule Deer (mob)

Contributors: JB=Janis Barbour;

DC=Donna Castro; JC=John

Colbert; MG=Margaret Gutowski;

LH=Lynn Hovland; DJ=Don

Jacobus; HL=Han-Yu Loo;

MT=Marcia Tanner; SM=Stuart

Malcom; ER=Erica Rutherford;

mob=Many Observers.

Looking ahead, June and July

are family times for most bird

species. Watch for baby birds

- being fed and learning to fly.

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/](http://www.allaboutbirds.org/)

*Kay Loughman is a retired employee of Cal Libraries, a birder, 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](http://www.NHWildlife.net). She can be contacted at [kayloughman@earthlink.net](mailto:kayloughman@earthlink.net) or by calling the editor at 548-2855.*

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND  
ALLIES

American Goldfinch

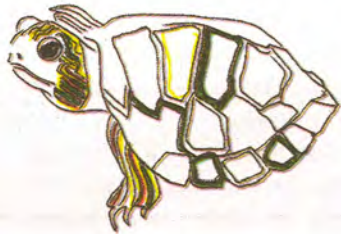
Lesser Goldfinch

Purple Finch

House Finch

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Orange-crowned Warbler



Berkeley Times, June 9, 2011, page 12