

North Hills wild life sightings for July 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.

50 BIRD SPECIES found in the North Hills area during the month of July 2011.

PELICANS

American White Pelican
(JC&ER)

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Red-shouldered Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk (MG)

PHEASANTS, GROUSE,

QUAIL AND TURKEYS

California Quail

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Band-tailed Pigeon

Rock Pigeon

Mourning Dove

OWLS

Great Horned Owl (also late report by Claudine Torfs)

SWIFTS

White-throated Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird

Allen's Hummingbird

WOODPECKERS

Northern Flicker

Hairy Woodpecker (JC&ER)

Nuttall's Woodpecker (JC&ER)

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Olive-sided Flycatcher

CROWS AND JAYS

Steller's Jay

Western Scrub-Jay

Common Raven

VIREOS AND ALLIES

Warbling Vireo

THRUSHES

American Robin

Swainson's Thrush

MOCKINGBIRDS AND

THRASHERS

Northern Mockingbird (JC&ER)

California Thrasher (JC&ER)

NUTHATCHES

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Pygmy Nuthatch

WRENS

Bewick's Wren

House Wren (JC&ER)

LONG-TAILED TITS

Bushtit

SWALLOWS

Violet-green Swallow

Cliff Swallow

OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Wrentit

CHICKADEES, TITS

Chestnut-backed Chickadee

Oak Titmouse

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND

ALLIES

American Goldfinch

Lesser Goldfinch

Purple Finch

House Finch

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Orange-crowned Warbler

Wilson's Warbler

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS,

TANAGERS, ALLIES

Lazuli Bunting

Song Sparrow

Dark-eyed Junco



Photo by Kay Loughman

Pacific Spiketail (Cordulegaster dorsalis) Male. When it's around, this big black-and-yellow dragonfly is easy to spot. It tends to fly low and often follows trails or roads.

Spotted Towhee

California Towhee

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Black-headed Grosbeak

BLACKBIRDS, GRACKLES,

ORIOLES

Hooded Oriole (late report also

by GD)

Brown-headed Cowbird

18 BUTTERFLY SPECIES

Western Tiger Swallowtail

Anise Swallowtail

Pale Swallowtail

Cabbage White

Gray-veined White

Echo Blue

Mourning Cloak

Gulf Fritillary

Common Buckeye

Variable Checkerspot

Northern Checkerspot

Satyr Anglewing

Mylitta Crescent

Lorquin's Admiral

Red Admiral

California Ringlet

Fiery Skipper

Umber Skipper

OTHER SPECIES

Black-tailed Mule Deer (mob)

Red Fox (JB)

Gray Fox (NT)

Brush Rabbit (PT)

Striped Skunk (DJ, GK)

Western Terrestrial Gartersnake

(GK)

Pacific Ringneck Snake (late report

by TMA)

California Alligator Lizard (GK, JC&ER)

Contributors: JB=Janis Barbour; JC=John Colbert; MG=Marilyn Goldhaber; DJ=Don Jacobus; GK=Gerry Keenan; ER=Erica Rutherford; NT=Nancy Talcott; PT=Pat Thorson; mob=many observers.

Several new pictures were added to the photo galleries during July, and have now been sorted into their appropriate albums. The photo galleries, monthly bird lists cumulated, and pictures of most of the above species are on my website: Wild Life of the North Hills. <http://www.nhwildlife.net>. For more detailed information about individual bird species, go to: www.allaboutbirds.org.

August is the month for practicing skills, exploring the neighborhood and, for migrants, fattening up for the long trip ahead. Toward the end of the month a few migrants will depart; others will arrive.

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. She can be contacted at kayloughman@earthlink.net or by calling the editor at 548-2855.