

North Hills wild life sightings for September 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.

56 BIRD SPECIES seen or heard in the area during September 2011.

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Cooper's Hawk

Red-shouldered Hawk

PHEASANTS, GROUSE,

QUAIL AND TURKEYS

California Quail

Wild Turkey (DJ)

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Rock Pigeon

Band-tailed Pigeon

Mourning Dove

OWLS

Great Horned Owl

HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird

Rufous Hummingbird

WOODPECKERS

Nuttall's Woodpecker

Northern Flicker

Downy Woodpecker

Hairy Woodpecker (JC&ER)

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Black Phoebe



Western Wood-Pewee (JC&ER)

CROWS AND JAYS

Steller's Jay

Western Scrub-Jay

American Crow

Common Raven

VIREOS AND ALLIES

Warbling Vireo

Hutton's Vireo

THRUSHES

American Robin

Hermit Thrush (JC&ER)

MOCKINGBIRDS AND

THRASHERS

California Thrasher

NUTHATCHES

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Pygmy Nuthatch

CREEPERS

Brown Creeper

WRENS

Bewick's Wren

House Wren

Pacific (Winter) Wren (JC&ER)

GNATCATCHERS

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

LONG-TAILED TITS

Bushtit

OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Wrentit

CHICKADEES, TITS

Chestnut-backed Chickadee

Oak Titmouse

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND

ALLIES

Lesser Goldfinch

Purple Finch

House Finch

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Yellow Warbler

Townsend's Warbler

Wilson's Warbler

Hermit Warbler (JC&ER)

Orange-crowned Warbler

(JC&ER)

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS,

TANAGERS, ALLIES

Song Sparrow

White-crowned Sparrow

Golden-crowned Sparrow (JD)

Fox Sparrow (JC&ER)

Lincoln's Sparrow (possible by

JC&ER)

Dark-eyed Junco

Spotted Towhee

California Towhee

Western Tanager

Black-headed Grosbeak

BUTTERFLY & MOTH SPECIES

Anise Swallowtail

Cabbage White (mob)

Orange Sulphur (mob)

Acmon Blue

Western Pygmy Blue (new species for me!)

Monarch

Mylitta Crescent (mob)

Field Crescent (mob)

American Painted Lady

Painted Lady (mob)

West Coast Lady (mob)

Common Buckeye (mob)

Satyr Anglewing (mob)

California Ringlet (mob)

Mournful Duskywing

Common Checkered-Skipper

Fiery Skipper

Umber Skipper

Genista Broom Moth

MAMMALS and REPTILES

Mountain Lion (GW)

Coyote

Black-tailed Mule Deer

Northern Raccoon

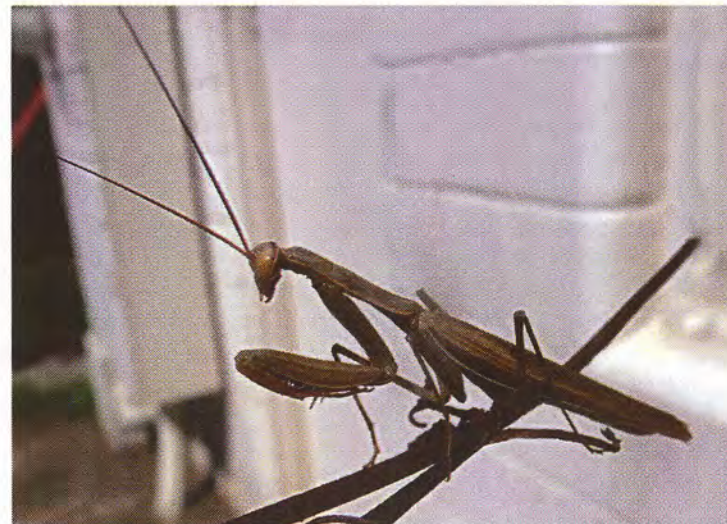


Photo by Robert MacConnell

European "Praying" Mantis (*Mantis religiosa*) at the Pacific transmitter site in Oakland. Introduced to the US more than a century ago for pest control, the species is now found throughout the country. These insects vary in color from green to tan, always the right shade to blend in with the local vegetation.

Striped Skunk (JC&ER)

Eastern Fox Squirrel

Northern Pacific Rattlesnake (TT)

Pacific Gophersnake (JC&ER)

Western Terrestrial Gartersnake

Contributors: JC & ER = John Colbert and Erica Rutherford, DJ = Don Jacobus, JD = Judith Dunham, TT = Tracey Taylor, GW = Georgia Wright, mob = many observers, in this case, participants in a Native Plant Society butterfly field trip. Additional note: for this month's list, JC & ER reported seeing 40 bird species in the neighborhood – mostly on their regular hike up from Stonewall

and along the Ridge Trail.

For photos and more info, go to: <http://www.nhwildlife.net>. For more detailed information about individual bird species, go to: 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. She can be contacted at kayloughman@earthlink.net or by calling the editor at 548-2855.