

# FEATURES

## North Hills wild life sightings for May 2013

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 Boulevard. Neighbors of the area have been contributing to this wildlife list since October 2007.*

### 62 BIRD SPECIES

#### DUCKS AND GEESE

Goose (sp.)

#### PHEASANTS, GROUSE, QUAIL AND TURKEYS

Wild Turkey  
California Quail

#### CORMORANTS

Double-crested Cormorant (JC & ER)

#### HERONS, EGRETS AND BITTERNS

Great Blue Heron

#### NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

#### HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

Cooper's Hawk  
Red-shouldered Hawk  
Red-tailed Hawk

#### PIGEONS AND DOVES

Band-tailed Pigeon  
Rock Pigeon  
Mourning Dove

#### OWLS

Great Horned Owl

#### SWIFTS

White-throated Swift (JC & ER)

#### HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird  
Allen's Hummingbird

#### WOODPECKERS

Nuttall's Woodpecker (JC & ER)  
Hairy Woodpecker (JC & ER)  
Downy Woodpecker  
Northern Flicker

#### TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Olive-sided Flycatcher  
Pacific-slope Flycatcher (JC & ER)

#### VIREOS

Hutton's Vireo

#### CROWS AND JAYS

Steller's Jay  
Western Scrub-Jay  
Common Raven  
American Crow

#### SWALLOWS

Violet-green Swallow  
Northern Rough-winged Swallow

#### CHICKADEES, TITS

Chestnut-backed Chickadee  
Oak Titmouse

#### LONG-TAILED TITS

Bushtit

#### NUTHATCHES

Red-breasted Nuthatch  
Pygmy Nuthatch (JC & ER)

#### CREEPERS

Brown Creeper (JC & ER)

#### WRENS

Bewick's Wren  
House Wren (JC & ER)

#### OLD-WORLD WARBLERS

Wrentit

#### THRUSHES

Swainson's Thrush  
American Robin  
Western Bluebird

#### MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS

Northern Mockingbird  
California Thrasher (JC & ER)

#### WAXWINGS AND SILKY-FLYCATCHERS

Cedar Waxwing

#### NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Orange-crowned Warbler  
Wilson's Warbler  
MacGillivray's Warbler  
Yellow-breasted Chat\*\* (JC & ER)

#### BUNTINGS, SPARROWS,

#### TANAGERS, ALLIES

Spotted Towhee  
California Towhee  
Song Sparrow  
Dark-eyed Junco  
Lazuli Bunting  
Black-headed Grosbeak

#### SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND ALLIES

Pine Siskin  
American Goldfinch  
Lesser Goldfinch  
Purple Finch  
House Finch

#### BLACKBIRDS, GRACKLES, ORIOLES

Hooded Oriole  
Brown-headed Cowbird

#### OLD WORLD SPARROWS

House Sparrow

### 21 BUTTERFLY SPECIES

Pipevine Swallowtail  
Anise Swallowtail

#### Acmon Blue

#### (*Plebejus acmon*):

*two views of the same butterfly, feeding in weeds along the sidewalk. In spring, the sexes look much the same; but in the summer, the female's blue will instead be a blackish brown on top.*



Pale Swallowtail  
Western Tiger Swallowtail  
Cabbage White  
Sara Orangetip  
Large Marble  
Orange Sulphur  
Echo Blue  
Acmon Blue  
Field Crescent  
Mylitta Crescent  
Variable Checkerspot  
Northern Checkerspot  
Mourning Cloak  
Common Buckeye  
Lorquin's Admiral  
California Ringlet  
Common Checkered-Skipper  
Umber Skipper  
Fiery Skipper

### 9 MAMMALS AND REPTILES

Brush Rabbit  
Eastern Fox Squirrel  
Bat (sp.)  
Coyote  
Gray Fox (AC, JC & ER, MK)  
Striped Skunk  
Black-tailed Mule Deer  
Northern Pacific Rattlesnake  
Pacific Ring-necked Snake

\*\* A new and unexpected species for the neighborhood. Though they did not see the bird, JC & ER made an audio recording of this bird's distinctive vocalizations, and later confirmed the identity. Congratulations John and Erica!

### HUMAN CONTRIBUTORS

JC & ER = John Colbert & Erica Rutherford,  
AC = Alexandra Cons,  
DK = David Kessler, MK = Michael Kovac,  
RM = Robert MacConnell.

DK, JC & ER reported 41 bird species from their yards and hikes along the Ridge Trail. In the list above, I've given them credit only for the 10 species not seen by me.

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 (NHWildlife.net). A few wildlife pictures were added this month, and soon will be transferred to their appropriate galleries.

*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).*