

North Hills wild life sightings for June 2014

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.*



54 BIRD SPECIES

PHEASANTS, GROUSE, QUAIL AND TURKEYS

- California Quail
- Wild Turkey

CORMORANTS

- Double-crested Cormorant

PELICANS

- American White Pelican (JC & ER)

NEW WORLD VULTURES

- Turkey Vulture

OSPREY

- Osprey

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

- Sharp-shinned Hawk
- Red-shouldered Hawk
- Red-tailed Hawk

PIGEONS AND DOVES

- Band-tailed Pigeon
- Mourning Dove
- Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon) (DK & NM)

SWIFTS

- White-throated Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS

- Anna's Hummingbird
- Allen's Hummingbird

WOODPECKERS

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

FLYCATCHERS

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

VIREOS

- Hutton's Vireo

CROWS AND JAYS

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



SWALLOWS

- Violet-green Swallow (JC & ER)

CHICKADEES, TITS

- Chestnut-backed Chickadee
- Oak Titmouse

LONG-TAILED TITS

- Bushtit

NUTHATCHES

- Red-breasted Nuthatch
- Pygmy Nuthatch (JC & ER)

CREEPERS

- Brown Creeper

WRENS

- Bewick's Wren
- House Wren (JC & ER)

OLD-WORLD WARBLERS

- Wrentit

THRUSHES

- Swainson's Thrush
- American Robin

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS

- Northern Mockingbird (JC & ER)
- California Thrasher (JC & ER)

NEW-WORLD WARBLERS

- Orange-crowned Warbler
- Wilson's Warbler

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS, TANAGERS, ALLIES

- Spotted Towhee
- California Towhee
- Song Sparrow
- Dark-eyed Junco
- Black-headed Grosbeak
- Lazuli Bunting (JC & ER)

BLACKBIRDS, GRACKLES, ORIOLES

- Hooded Oriole
- ### SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND ALLIES
- Purple Finch
 - House Finch
 - Lesser Goldfinch
 - American Goldfinch

16 BUTTERFLIES, MOTHS, & DRAGONFLIES

- Anise Swallowtail
- Western Tiger Swallowtail
- Pale Swallowtail
- Cabbage White
- Echo Blue
- Gulf Fritillary
- Mylitta Crescent
- Variable Checkerspot
- Northern Checkerspot
- Polygona sp. butterfly
- Common Buckeye
- Red Admiral
- California Ringlet
- Fiery Skipper
- Umber Skipper
- Genista Broom Moth
- Vivid Dancer damselfly
- red dragonfly (DK)

MAMMALS PLUS

- Black-tailed Mule Deer
- Coyote (MA, JC & ER)
- Red Fox (RC)
- Gray Fox (JC&ER)
- Eastern Fox Squirrel
- Striped Skunk
- Pacific Gophersnake (DG)



HUMAN CONTRIBUTORS

JC & ER = John Colbert and Erica Rutherford, DK & NM = David Kessler and Nancy Mennel, MA = Marian Altman, RC = Rabia Cons, DG = Dan Grasseti, DK = Donna Karch . These contributors reported at least 53 species of birds and other wildlife from their yards and walks in the neighborhood. In the list above, I've given them credit only for the 13 species not seen by me.

Many wildlife pictures were added to the website this month, and soon will be transferred to their appropriate galleries. 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).

July is family time for our birds. You'll see them feeding young, and you'll see the nestlings fledge. Families will vacate the nest area as immature birds learn to hunt on their own. For more detailed information about individual bird species, go to 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.



Photo by Kay Loughman

This female Brown-spotted Bush-cricket (Tessellana tessellata), a type of katydid, is native to southern Europe where its preferred habitat is dry grass meadows. First described in California in 1955, the species has since spread to Oregon and Washington. I found this insect walking across the kitchen floor at 5:30 a.m.

NOTE: I have reformatted the original Berkeley Times article so that it can appear on a single page in this PDF. ---- KHL