

North Hills wild life sightings for September 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.*

63 BIRD SPECIES

QUAIL AND TURKEYS

California Quail (JC & ER)

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

Cooper's Hawk

Sharp-shinned Hawk (JC & ER)

Red-shouldered Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Band-tailed Pigeon

Mourning Dove

OWLS

Great Horned Owl (JC & ER)

SWIFTS

White-throated Swift (JC & ER)

HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird

Allen's Hummingbird

WOODPECKERS

Acorn Woodpecker (also reported by JC & ER, TM, GC)

Nuttall's Woodpecker

Downy Woodpecker (JC & ER, DKe)

Hairy Woodpecker (JC & ER)

Northern Flicker

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Western Wood-Pewee (JC & ER)

Pacific-slope Flycatcher

VIREOS AND ALLIES

Hutton's Vireo

Warbling 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 (JC & ER)

WRENS

Bewick's Wren

KINGLETS

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (GC)

OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Wrentit

THRUSHES

Swainson's Thrush (JC & ER)

Hermit Thrush (JC & ER)

American Robin

MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS

Northern Mockingbird (JC & ER)

California Thrasher

WAXWINGS AND SILKY-FLYCATCHERS

ERS

Cedar Waxwing

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Orange-crowned Warbler

Yellow Warbler

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Townsend's Warbler

Wilson's Warbler

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS,

TANAGERS, ALLIES

Spotted Towhee

California Towhee

Fox Sparrow

Song Sparrow

Lincoln's Sparrow

White-crowned Sparrow

Golden-crowned Sparrow

Dark-eyed Junco

Western Tanager

Black-headed Grosbeak

BLACKBIRDS, GRACKLES, ORIOLES

Red-winged Blackbird

Hooded Oriole

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND ALLIES

Purple Finch (JC & ER)

House Finch

Pine Siskin

Lesser Goldfinch

American Goldfinch (JC & ER)

11 BUTTERFLY & MOTH SPECIES

Anise Swallowtail

Western Tiger Swallowtail

Cabbage White

Orange Sulfur

Myliatta Crescent

Gulf Fritillary

Monarch

California Ringlet

Fiery Skipper

Umber Skipper



Genista Broom moth

MAMMALS, ETC.

Black-tailed Mule Deer (mob)

Coyote (AP)

Gray Fox (WP, PT)

Northern Raccoon (DKa)

Eastern Fox Squirrel

Pacific Ring-necked Snake

Coast Range Fence Lizard (DKa)

HUMAN CONTRIBUTORS

JC & ER = John Colbert & Erica Rutherford, GC = Graham Chisholm, WP = Wanda Peake, PT = Pat Thorson, TM = Tamia Marg, AP = Alex Pierce, JR = Janet Rudolph, DKa = Donna Karch, DKe = David Kessler. These contributors reported at least 50 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 16 species not seen by me.

A few 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).

October concludes songbird migration, although it appears that most expected spe-



Photo by John Colbert

Acorn Woodpeckers (Melanerpes formicivorus), female in front; male behind in Claremont Canyon Regional Preserve. This species is rarely seen on the bay side of the hills; but large numbers of the birds were spotted in Berkeley and Oakland during September.

cies have already arrived. Of particular interest this month was the irruption of Acorn Woodpeckers, a species rarely reported on the bay side of the hills. See John Colbert's photos at nhwildlife.net/album/New/

For more detailed information about individual bird species, this is a good resource: 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.