

North Hills wild life sightings for October 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.*

59 BIRD SPECIES

QUAIL AND TURKEYS

- California Quail (JC & ER)
- Wild Turkey (GS)

NEW WORLD VULTURES

- Turkey Vulture

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

- Sharp-shinned Hawk
- Cooper's Hawk (JC & ER)
- Red-shouldered Hawk (also by JL)

PIGEONS AND DOVES

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

OWLS

- Great Horned Owl
- (also by JC & ER, AC)

HUMMINGBIRDS

- Anna's Hummingbird
- Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird (JC & ER)



WOODPECKERS

- Acorn Woodpecker
- Red-breasted Sapsucker
- Nuttall's Woodpecker
- Hairy Woodpecker (JC & ER)
- Northern Flicker

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

- Black Phoebe

VIREOS

- Hutton's Vireo

CROWS AND JAYS

- Steller's Jay
- Western Scrub-Jay
- American Crow (JC & ER, DK & NM)

COMMON RAVEN

CHICKADEES, TITS

- Chestnut-backed Chickadee
- Oak Titmouse

LONG-TAILED TITS

- Bushtit

NUTHATCHES

- Red-breasted Nuthatch
- White-breasted Nuthatch (JC & ER, new species for Claremont Canyon!)
- Pygmy Nuthatch (JC & ER)

CREEPERS

- Brown Creeper (JC & ER)

WRENS

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

KINGLETS

- Golden-crowned Kinglet (JC & ER)

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET

OLD WORLD WARBLERS

- Wrentit (JC photo)

THRUSHES

SWAINSON'S THRUSH

- Hermit Thrush
- American Robin
- Varied Thrush (JC & ER)

THRASHERS AND

MOCKINGBIRDS

- California Thrasher (JC & ER)

WAXWINGS AND SILKY-FLY-CATCHERS

- Cedar Waxwing

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

- Yellow-rumped Warbler
- Townsend's Warbler
- Hermit Warbler (JC & ER)

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS, TANAGERS, ALLIES

- Spotted Towhee
- California Towhee
- Fox Sparrow
- Song Sparrow
- Lincoln's Sparrow
- White-crowned Sparrow
- White-throated Sparrow
- Golden-crowned Sparrow
- Dark-eyed Junco
- Black-headed Grosbeak

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS

AND ALLIES

- Purple Finch (JC & ER)
- House Finch
- American Goldfinch
- Lesser Goldfinch
- Pine Siskin

OTHER ANIMALS

- Black-tailed Mule Deer
- Gray Fox (JC & ER)
- Eastern Fox Squirrel
- Cabbage White Butterfly



MONARCH BUTTERFLY

- Gulf Fritillary Butterfly
- Umber Skipper Butterfly (also by JR)

HUMAN CONTRIBUTORS

JC & ER = John Colbert and Erica Rutherford, AC = Alexandra Cons, JR = Janet Rudolph, DK & NM = David Kessler and Nancy Mennel, GS = Gillian Servais.

These contributors reported at least 55 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.

Several 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).

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



Photo by John Colbert

More often heard than seen, the Wrentit (Chamaea fasciata) lives in the dense chaparral of western hillsides, where its soft coloring provides the perfect camouflage. Listen for the male's song, which is likened to a bouncing ball, with two loud sharp notes, followed by a rapid series of notes in a descending trill.

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