

# North Hills wild life sightings for April 2016

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.*

## 66 BIRD SPECIES

### SEABIRDS

Double-crested Cormorant (also JC & ER)

Caspian Tern (JC & ER)

### PHEASANTS, GROUSE, QUAIL AND TURKEYS

Wild Turkey

California Quail

### NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

### HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Cooper's Hawk

Red-shouldered Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

### PIGEONS AND DOVES

Rock Pigeon (also DK & NM)

Band-tailed Pigeon

Eurasian Collared-Dove (JC & ER) \*\*

Mourning Dove

### OWLS

Great Horned Owl

### SWIFTS

White-throated Swift

### HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird

Rufous Hummingbird

Allen's Hummingbird

### WOODPECKERS

Acorn Woodpecker (JC & ER)

Nuttall's Woodpecker (JC & ER)

Downy Woodpecker (JC & ER)

Hairy Woodpecker

Northern Flicker

### FALCONS

Peregrine Falcon (JC & ER)

### TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Pacific-slope Flycatcher

Olive-sided Flycatcher (JC & ER)

### VIREOS

Hutton's Vireo

### CROWS AND JAYS

Steller's Jay

Western Scrub-Jay

American Crow

Common Raven

### SWALLOWS

Violet-green Swallow

### CHICKADEES, TITS

Chestnut-backed Chickadee

Oak Titmouse

### LONG-TAILED TITS

Bushtit

### NUTHATCHES

Pygmy Nuthatch (JC & ER)

Red-breasted Nuthatch

### CREEPERS

Brown Creeper (JC & ER)

### WRENS

House Wren (JC & ER)

Bewick's Wren

### KINGLETS

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (JC & ER)

### OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Wrentit

### THRUSHES

Western Bluebird (JC & ER)

Swainson's Thrush (JC & ER)

Hermit Thrush (JC & ER)

American Robin

### MOCKINGBIRDS AND

### THRASHERS



Photo by Kay Loughman

**Rock Pigeon** (*Columba livia*) is our familiar city pigeon, found throughout the US and Mexico. Though groups of these pigeons often contain several individuals with variant coloring, the bird in this picture has what is believed to be the ancestral natural coloration.

California Thrasher  
**WAXWINGS AND SILKY-FLYCATCHERS**  
 Cedar Waxwing  
**NEW WORLD WARBLERS**  
 Orange-crowned Warbler  
 Townsend's Warbler (JC & ER)  
 Yellow-rumped Warbler (AUWA)  
 Wilson's Warbler  
**BUNTINGS, SPARROWS, TANAGERS, ALLIES**  
 Spotted Towhee  
 Rufous-crowned Sparrow (JC & ER)  
 California Towhee  
 Song Sparrow  
 Fox Sparrow (JC & ER)  
 White-throated Sparrow (DK & NM)  
 Golden-crowned Sparrow  
 Dark-eyed Junco  
 Black-headed Grosbeak  
**BLACKBIRDS, GRACKLES, ORIOLES**  
 Brown-headed Cowbird  
**SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND ALLIES**  
 Purple Finch  
 House Finch  
 Lesser Goldfinch  
 Pine Siskin  
**13 BUTTERFLY SPECIES**  
 Anise Swallowtail  
 Western Tiger Swallowtail  
 Sara Orangetip  
 Cabbage White  
 Large Marble  
 Echo Blue  
 Mourning Cloak  
 Mylitta Crescent  
 Northern Checkerspot  
 Lorquin's Admiral  
 California Ringlet  
 Common Buckeye  
 Umber Skipper

Alligator Lizard (JC & ER)  
 Pacific Gophersnake (JC & ER)  
 Sharp-tailed Snake (AP)  
 Northern Pacific Rattlesnake (JC & ER)  
 \*\* new species for Claremont Canyon

### HUMAN CONTRIBUTORS

JC & ER = John Colbert & Erica Rutherford; DK & NM = David Kessler & Nancy Mennel; DKa = Donna Karch; RS = Ron Saxen; AP = Alex Pierce. These contributors collectively reported at least 65 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 18 bird species not seen by me.

Nearly 100 wildlife pictures were added to the website during April and will be transferred to their appropriate galleries within the next few days. 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).

In May, the last of the winter residents will depart. Neo-tropical migrants, who breed in the area, will continue to arrive. For more detailed information about individual bird species, this is a good resource: [allaboutbirds.org](http://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](http://www.NHWildlife.net). She can be contacted at [kayloughman@earthlink.net](mailto:kayloughman@earthlink.net).*

