

# North Hills wildlife sightings for December 2010

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

52 bird species seen or heard during December 2010 in the North Hills neighborhood.

## NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

## HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

Sharp-shinned Hawk  
Red-shouldered Hawk  
Red-tailed Hawk  
American Kestrel

## PHEASANTS, GROUSE, QUAIL, AND TURKEYS

Wild Turkey (DJ)

## WOOD-PARTRIDGES

California Quail (PT)

## PIGEONS AND DOVES

Rock Pigeon  
Band-tailed Pigeon  
Mourning Dove

## OWLS (owl species heard on CCC field trip)

Northern Saw-Whet Owl (mob)  
Western Screech-Owl (mob)  
Great Horned Owl (mob)

## SWIFTS

White-throated Swift

## HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird

## WOODPECKERS

Northern Flicker  
Red-breasted Sapsucker (EB)



Kay Loughman

*Photo Townsend's Warbler (Dendroica townsendi) is one of only two warbler species that regularly spend the winter in the Bay Area. Often found in conifers, the yellow throat tells us this individual is a female.*

## Downy Woodpecker (PT)

Hairy Woodpecker

## TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Black Phoebe

## CROWS AND JAYS

Steller's Jay  
Western Scrub-Jay  
Common Raven

## VIREOS

Hutton's Vireo

## WAXWINGS AND SILKY-FLYCATCHERS

Cedar Waxwing

## THRUSHES

Hermit Thrush  
American Robin  
Western Bluebird

## MOCKINGBIRDS AND THRASHERS

Northern Mockingbird

## NUTHATCHES

Red-breasted Nuthatch

## WRENS

Bewick's Wren

## LONG-TAILED TITS

Bushtit

## KINGLETS

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (photo)

## OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Wrentit

## CHICKADEES, TITS

Chestnut-backed Chickadee  
Oak Titmouse

## SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND ALLIES

Pine Siskin  
American Goldfinch (PT)  
Lesser Goldfinch  
Purple Finch  
House Finch

## NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Yellow-rumped Warbler  
Townsend's Warbler (photo)

## BUNTINGS, SPARROWS, TANAGERS, ALLIES

Song Sparrow  
Fox Sparrow (photo)  
Lincoln's Sparrow (photo)  
White-crowned Sparrow

White-throated Sparrow (photo)  
Golden-crowned Sparrow  
Dark-eyed Junco  
Spotted Towhee  
California Towhee

## BUTTERFLIES

Red Admiral  
Vanessa (sp.)

## MAMMALS & OTHER

Black-tailed Mule Deer  
Eastern Fox Squirrel  
Gray Fox (mob)  
Bobcat (probable - RN)  
Western Terrestrial Gartersnake

Contributors: EB=Elaine Bild, DJ=Don Jacobus, RN=Robert Nelson, PT=Pat Thorson; mob=Many Observers.

Several new pictures were added to the photo galleries during December, and have been sorted into their appropriate albums. 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. <http://www.NHWildlife.net>

For more detailed information about specific bird species, this is a good resource: [www.allabout-birds.org/](http://www.allabout-birds.org/)

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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) or by calling the editor at 548-2855.