

FEATURES

North Hills wild life sightings for November

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

49 BIRD SPECIES observed during November 2011

PELICANS

American White Pelican (JC&ER)

PHEASANTS, GROUSE, QUAIL AND TURKEYS

Wild Turkey (DJ)

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Cooper's Hawk

Red-shouldered Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

American Kestrel (SH)

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Band-tailed Pigeon

Mourning Dove

OWLS

Great Horned Owl (mob)

SWIFTS

White-throated Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird

WOODPECKERS

Red-breasted Sapsucker

(JC&ER)

Downy Woodpecker (WDL photo)

Hairy Woodpecker

Northern Flicker

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Black Phoebe

CROWS AND JAYS

Steller's Jay

Western Scrub-Jay

Common Raven

VIREOS

Hutton's Vireo

THRUSHES

Western Bluebird (JC&ER)

Hermit Thrush

American Robin

NUTHATCHES

Pygmy Nuthatch (JC&ER)

Red-breasted Nuthatch (JC&ER)

WRENS

Pacific (Winter) Wren

Bewick's Wren

LONG-TAILED TITS

Bushtit

KINGLETS

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Wrentit

CHICKADEES, TITS

Chestnut-backed Chickadee

Oak Titmouse

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

House Sparrow (PT)

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND ALLIES

American Goldfinch

Lesser Goldfinch

House Finch

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Yellow-rumped Warbler, both

Audubon's and Myrtle (SH

photos)

Townsend's Warbler

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS,

TANAGERS, ALLIES

Song Sparrow

Fox Sparrow

Lincoln's Sparrow

White-crowned Sparrow

White-throated Sparrow

Golden-crowned Sparrow

Dark-eyed Junco

Spotted Towhee

California Towhee

4 BUTTERFLY and MOTH SPECIES

Cabbage White

Fiery Skipper

Umber Skipper

Genista Broom Moth

6 OTHER MAMMALS and REPTILES

Black-tailed Mule Deer

Gray Fox (PT & DK)

Virginia Opossum (JF)



Photo by Bill Loughman

Female Downy Woodpecker (Picoides pubescens) sampling the seed-cake. Found year-round in suburbs and parks, this small woodpecker eats insects, seeds and suet. Distinguished from its similarly-plumaged larger cousin the Hairy Woodpecker by a short beak, softer call, and the presence of dark spots on the outer white tail feathers.

Eastern Fox Squirrel

Rat sp. (juvenile)

Coast Gartersnake (JH)

California Alligator Lizard

Contributors: JC&ER=John Colbert & Erica Rutherford, JF=Justin Falco, SH=Steve Hawes, JH=John Hovland, DJ=Don Jacobus, DK=David Kessler, WDL=Bill Loughman, PT=Pat Thorson, mob=many observers. Note: JC&ER reported seeing 37 bird species in the neighborhood (mostly on their regular hike up from Stonewall and along the Ridge Trail).

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.

