

North Hills wild life sightings for March 2013

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

PHEASANTS, GROUSE, QUAIL AND TURKEYS

Wild Turkey (mob)

CORMORANTS

Double-crested Cormorant (JC & ER)

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Red-shouldered Hawk (also AC)

Red-tailed Hawk

Falcon (sp.) PEFA or AMKE?

(JC & ER)

GULLS

gull sp.

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Band-tailed Pigeon

Rock Pigeon (DK)

Mourning Dove

SWIFTS

White-throated Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird

Allen's Hummingbird

WOODPECKERS

Nuttall's Woodpecker (JC & ER)

Hairy Woodpecker

Downy Woodpecker

Northern Flicker

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Pacific Slope Flycatcher

(JC & ER)

Black Phoebe (JC & ER)

VIREOS

Hutton's Vireo (JC & ER)

CROWS AND JAYS

Steller's Jay

Western Scrub-Jay

Common Raven

SWALLOWS

Violet-green Swallow

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

House Wren (JC & ER)

KINGLETS

Golden-crowned Kinglet

(JC & ER)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

THRUSHES

American Robin

Varied Thrush

OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Wrentit

MOCKINGBIRDS AND

THRASHERS

California Thrasher (JC & ER)

STARLINGS

European Starling (JC & ER)

WAXWINGS AND SILKY-FLY-CATCHERS

Cedar Waxwing

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Orange-crowned Warbler

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Townsend's Warbler (JC & ER)

Wilson's Warbler

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS,

TANAGERS, ALLIES

Spotted Towhee

California Towhee

White-throated Sparrow

(JC & ER)

White-crowned Sparrow

Golden-crowned Sparrow

Fox Sparrow

Song Sparrow

Lincoln's Sparrow

Dark-eyed Junco

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS

AND ALLIES

Pine Siskin

American Goldfinch

Lesser Goldfinch

Purple Finch

House Finch

6 BUTTERFLY SPECIES

Cabbage White

Gray-veined White

Echo Blue

Mylitta Crescent (see photo)

Field Crescent

California Ringlet

OTHER

Western Terrestrial Gartersnake

Coast Range Fence Lizard

Eastern Fox Squirrel

Black-tailed Mule Deer

Gray Fox sp. (AC, R & GP)

Coyote (R & GP)

HUMAN CONTRIBUTORS

JC & ER = John Colbert & Erica Rutherford, AC = Alexandra Cons, DK = David Kessler, R & GP = Randi and Gary Plotner, mob = many observers. John Colbert and Erica Rutherford reported 54 bird species in the neighborhood, mostly from their regular hike up Stone-wall and along the Ridge Trail. In



Photo by Kay Loughman

The Mylitta Crescent (Phyciodes mylitta) is common in the Bay Area seen on warm days during most months of the year. The host plants for these small butterflies include any of a variety of thistles.

this listing I have given them credit only for the 15 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).

April is a big month for spring migration. Say goodbye to Varied and Hermit Thrushes, Ruby- and Golden-crowned Kinglets, Yellow-rumped and Townsend's Warblers, and White- and Golden-crowned, and White-throated Sparrows. Welcome back Pacific-slope Flycatchers, Wilson's Warblers, and Black-headed Grosbeaks.

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.

