

North Hills wild life sightings for July 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.*

49 BIRD SPECIES

QUAIL AND TURKEYS

California Quail
Wild Turkey

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

Cooper's Hawk
Accipiter sp.
Red-shouldered Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk (MF)

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Band-tailed Pigeon
Rock Pigeon
Mourning Dove

SWIFTS

White-throated Swift (JC & ER)

HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird
Allen's Hummingbird
Rufous Hummingbird (DK & NM)

WOODPECKERS

Nuttall's Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker (BM, DK & NM)
Hairy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Pacific Slope Flycatcher
Olive-sided Flycatcher

VIREOS

Hutton's Vireo (BM, JC & ER)

CROWS AND JAYS

Steller's Jay
Western Scrub-Jay
Common Raven

SWALLOWS

Swallow sp. (JC & ER)

CHICKADEES, TITS

Chestnut-backed Chickadee
Oak Titmouse

LONG-TAILED TITS

Bushtit

NUTHATCHES

Pygmy Nuthatch (JC & ER)
Red-breasted Nuthatch

CREEPERS

Brown Creeper (BM, JC & ER)

WRENS

House Wren
Bewick's Wren

KINGLETS

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (JC & ER), very early arrival

OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Wrentit

THRUSHES

Swainson's Thrush
American Robin

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Wilson's Warbler

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS, TANAGERS,

ALLIES

Spotted Towhee
California Towhee
Song Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Black-headed Grosbeak

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND ALLIES

American Goldfinch (BM)
Lesser Goldfinch
Purple Finch

House Finch

BLACKBIRDS, GRACKLES, ORIOLES

Brown-headed Cowbird
Hooded Oriole (V & MF)

10 BUTTERFLY SPECIES

Western Tiger Swallowtail
Cabbage White
Echo Blue
Acmon Blue
Gulf Fritillary
Mylittla Crescent

Common Buckeye

Red Admiral
Lorquin's Admiral
Umber Skipper

MAMMALS & REPTILES

Black-tailed Mule Deer
Gray Fox (JC & ER, PM)
Red Fox (RC)
Striped Skunk (also RC)
Eastern Fox Squirrel
Western Terrestrial Gartersnake
Northern Pacific Rattlesnake (JC & ER)

HUMAN CONTRIBUTORS

JC & ER = John Colbert & Erica Rutherford, RC = Rabia Cons, V & MF = Vallery & Marc Feldman, BM = Bruce Mast, DK & NM = David Kessler & Nancy Mennel, PM = Paul McGee. These contributors reported at least 40 species of birds from their yards and walks in the neighborhood. In the list above, I've given them credit only for the eight 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). For more detailed information about individual bird species, this is a good resource: 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 contacted at kayloughman@earthlink.net.



Photo by Marc Feldman.

*Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) perched atop a Monterey pine. This species is this community's most common raptor, frequently seen soaring over the hills. Note the dark streaks across the belly: they'll help with identification even when there is no red visible in the tail.*

AS TIME
GOES BY



SEE PAGE 13 >