

North Hills wild life sightings for November 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.*

53 BIRD SPECIES

QUAIL AND TURKEYS

Wild Turkey

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

Red-shouldered Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Cooper's Hawk (JC & ER)

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Band-tailed Pigeon

Mourning Dove

OWLS

Great Horned Owl

SWIFTS

White-throated Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird

WOODPECKERS

Red-breasted Sapsucker
(BC & BCh)

Nuttall's Woodpecker

Downy Woodpecker (JC & ER)

Hairy Woodpecker (JC & ER)

Northern Flicker

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Black Phoebe

VIREOS AND ALLIES

Hutton's Vireo

CROWS AND JAYS

Steller's Jay

Western Scrub-Jay

American Crow (JC & ER)

Common Raven

CHICKADEES, TITS

Chestnut-backed Chickadee

Oak Titmouse

LONG-TAILED TITS

Bushtit

NUTHATCHES

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Pygmy Nuthatch (BC)

CREEPERS

Brown Creeper (JC & ER, BC)

WRENS

House Wren (JC & ER)

Bewick's Wren (photo)

KINGLETS

Golden-crowned Kinglet (BC)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Wrentit

THRUSHES

Western Bluebird (JC & ER)

Hermit Thrush

American Robin

Varied Thrush (JC & ER)

MOCKINGBIRDS

AND THRASHERS

Northern Mockingbird

California Thrasher

WAXWINGS

Cedar Waxwing

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Townsend's Warbler

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS,

TANAGERS, ALLIES

Spotted Towhee

California Towhee

Fox Sparrow

Lincoln's Sparrow

Song Sparrow

White-crowned Sparrow

White-throated Sparrow (also DK & NM)

Golden-crowned Sparrow

Dark-eyed Junco (BC)

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND

ALLIES

Lesser Goldfinch

House Finch

MAMMALS & REPTILES

Black-tailed Mule Deer

Coyote (JC & ER)

Gray Fox (J & LL)

Red Fox (DK)

Striped Skunk

Eastern Fox Squirrel (HM)

Coast or Western Terrestrial Gartersnake

BUTTERFLIES

Umber Skipper

Fiery Skipper

HUMAN CONTRIBUTORS

BC = Bill Clark, BCh = Bob Chilvers, JC & ER = John Colbert & Erica Rutherford, DK & NM = David Kessler & Nancy Mennel, J & LL = Jennifer & Leif Loe, HM = Howard Matis. These contributors reported at least 47 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.

Several 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. <http://www.NHWildlife.net>

December continues the winter season for our birds. Most of the species seen this month are likely to be with us through February or March. For more detailed information about individual bird species, this is a good resource: www.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. She can be contacted at kayloughman@earthlink.net.



Photo by Kay Loughman

In the last several years, Wild Turkeys (Meleagris gallopavo) have been sighted frequently in the East Bay hills, including this one, which was one of four foraging under a neighborhood redwood tree.