

North Hills wild life sightings for April 2014

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.*

74 BIRD SPECIES

PHEASANTS, GROUSE, QUAIL AND TURKEYS

California Quail
Wild Turkey

CORMORANTS

Double-crested Cormorant

PELICANS

American White Pelican (BB)

HERONS, EGRETS & BITTERNES

Great Blue Heron

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

OSPREYS

Osprey (JC & ER, BB)

KITES, EAGLES, & HAWKS

White-tailed Kite (JC & ER)

Sharp-shinned Hawk

(JC & ER, DK & NM)

Cooper's Hawk (JC & ER)

Red-shouldered Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Band-tailed Pigeon

Mourning Dove

Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon)

(JC & ER, DK & NM)

OWLS

Great Horned Owl

SWIFTS

White-throated Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS

Costa's Hummingbird (JC & ER)

Anna's Hummingbird

Rufous Hummingbird

Allen's Hummingbird

WOODPECKERS

Nuttall's Woodpecker (JC & ER)

Downy Woodpecker (JC)

Hairy Woodpecker (JC & ER)

Northern Flicker (Red-shafted)

FLYCATCHERS

Olive-sided Flycatcher (JC)

Pacific-slope Flycatcher

Black Phoebe

(JC & ER, DK & NM)

VIREOS

Hutton's Vireo

Warbling Vireo (DQ, mob)

CROWS AND JAYS

Steller's Jay

Western Scrub-Jay

American Crow

Common Raven

SWALLOWS

Tree Swallow (JC & ER)

Violet-green Swallow

Northern-rough-winged Swallow

(JC & ER)

CHICKADEES, TITS

Chestnut-backed Chickadee

Oak Titmouse

LONG-TAILED TITS

Bushtit

NUTHATCHES

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Pygmy Nuthatch

CREEPERS

Brown Creeper (JC & ER)

WRENS

Bewick's Wren

House Wren (JC & ER)

KINGLETS

Ruby-crowned Kinglet (JC & ER)

OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Wrentit

THRUSHES

Western Bluebird (SH, RM)

Swainson's Thrush

Hermit Thrush (JC & ER)

American Robin

Leucistic (KCS, ES)

Varied Thrush (JC & ER)

MOCKINGBIRDS

AND THRASHERS

Northern Mockingbird (JC & ER)

California Thrasher

WAXWINGS

Cedar Waxwing

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Orange-crowned Warbler

Townsend's Warbler (DK & NM)

Yellow-rumped Warbler-

MYWA+AUWA

Wilson's Warbler (JC)

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS,

TANAGERS, ALLIES

Spotted Towhee

California Towhee

Fox Sparrow

Song Sparrow

Lincoln's Sparrow

White-crowned Sparrow

White-throated Sparrow

(DK & NM)

Golden-crowned Sparrow

Dark-eyed Junco

Black-headed Grosbeak

Lazuli Bunting

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS

AND ALLIES

American Goldfinch

Lesser Goldfinch

Purple Finch

House Finch (RM)

BLACKBIRDS,

GRACKLES, ORIOLES

Hooded Oriole

19 BUTTERFLY SPECIES

Anise Swallowtail

Pale Swallowtail

Pipevine Swallowtail

Cabbage White

Large Marble

Sara Orangetip (JC)

Acmon Blue

Monarch

Mourning Cloak

Common Hairstreak

Common Buckeye

Painted Lady

Red Admiral

Lorquin's Admiral

Field Crescent

Myliatta Crescent

Variable Checkerspot

California Ringlet

Umber Skipper

MAMMALS & REPTILES

Coyote (mob)

Eastern Fox Squirrel



Photo by Jon Kaufman

Heard at night more often than seen during the day, the Coyote (Canis latrans) hunts rodents and other small mammals. Daylight sightings occur more frequently during the spring when adult coyotes work longer hours to provide food for their pups, which remain in the den.

Coastal Gartersnake (KF & KL)

Sharp-tailed Snake (AP)

Western Fence Lizard (RM)

HUMAN CONTRIBUTORS

JC & ER = John Colbert and Erica Rutherford, DK & NM = David Kessler and Nancy Mennel, RL = Robert Lewis, MG = Marilyn Goldhaber, SH = Steve Hawes, JK = Jon Kaufman, KCS = KC Seymour, EL = Estevan Luciano, RM = Robert MacConnell, DQ = Dave Quady, mob = many observers.

These contributors reported or photographed at least 65 species of birds from their yards and walks in the neighborhood. In the list above, I've given them credit only for the 20 species not seen by me.

More than 20 wildlife pictures were added to the website this month, and soon will be transferred to their ap-

propriate 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).

May continues the spring migration and breeding season for our birds. Of those who stay here all year, most are already defending territories; by the end of the month you'll see them feeding young. For more detailed information about individual bird species, go to 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.

