

North Hills wild life sightings for January 2015

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.*

61 BIRD SPECIES

DUCKS, GEESE, SWANS

Canada Goose (JC & ER)

PHEASANTS, GROUSE, QUAIL AND TURKEYS

California Quail

Wild Turkey

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Cooper's Hawk (JC & ER)

Red-shouldered Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

American Kestrel (JC & ER)

GULLS

Ring-billed Gull (JC & ER)

California Gull (JC & ER)

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Band-tailed Pigeon

Mourning Dove

OWLS

Great Horned Owl (JC & ER)

SWIFTS

White-throated Swift

HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird

Allen's Hummingbird (JC & ER)

WOODPECKERS

Acorn Woodpecker (first reported by GK)

Hairy Woodpecker (JC & ER)

Nuttall's Woodpecker

Northern Flicker

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Black Phoebe (JC & ER)

VIREOS

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

CREEPERS

Brown Creeper

WRENS

Bewick's Wren

House Wren (JC & ER)

KINGLETS

Golden-crowned Kinglet (JC & ER)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Wren-tit

THRUSHES

Western Bluebird (JC & ER)

Hermit Thrush

Varied Thrush (JC)

American Robin

MOCKINGBIRDS AND

THRASHERS

California Thrasher

WAXWINGS

Cedar Waxwing (JC & ER)

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Orange-crowned Warbler

Townsend's Warbler

Yellow-rumped Warbler-AUWA

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS, TANAGERS, ALLIES

Spotted Towhee

Rufous-crowned Sparrow

(JC & ER)

California Towhee

Fox Sparrow

Song Sparrow

Lincoln's Sparrow

White-crowned Sparrow

Golden-crowned Sparrow

Dark-eyed Junco (JC)

Black-headed Grosbeak

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS

AND ALLIES

Purple Finch

House Finch

Pine Siskin

Lesser Goldfinch



NON-BIRDS

Northern Raccoon paw-print

Striped Skunk

HUMAN CONTRIBUTORS

JC & ER = John Colbert and Erica Rutherford, DK & NM = David Kessler and Nancy Mennel, BB = Ben Bowen, GK = Gerry Keenan, VF = Vallery Feldman. These contributors collectively reported at least 59 species of birds and other

wildlife from their yards and walks in the neighborhood. In the list above, I've given them credit only for the 15 species not seen by me.

Lots of 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: 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.



Common Raven (*Corvus corax*) perched atop a chimney. Once quite uncommon here, these large birds are now frequently seen soaring over the hills. Related to jays and crows, ravens figure heavily in Native American mythology, and are known for being highly intelligent.

Photo by Kay Loughman