

# North Hills wild life sightings for May 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.*

**64 BIRD SPECIES**

**PHEASANTS, GROUSE, QUAIL AND TURKEYS**

- California Quail
- Wild Turkey

**NEW WORLD VULTURES**

- Turkey Vulture

**HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES**

- Sharp-shinned Hawk
- Cooper's Hawk
- Red-shouldered Hawk (JC & ER)
- Red-tailed Hawk

**GULLS**

- gull (sp)

**PIGEONS AND DOVES**

- Band-tailed Pigeon
- Mourning Dove

**OWLS**

- Great Horned Owl

**SWIFTS**

- White-throated Swift

**HUMMINGBIRDS**

- Allen's Hummingbird
- Anna's Hummingbird

**WOODPECKERS**

- Acorn Woodpecker (JC & ER)
- Hairy Woodpecker
- Downy Woodpecker (JC & ER)
- Nuttall's Woodpecker
- Northern Flicker

**FLYCATCHERS**

- Olive-sided Flycatcher
- Western Wood Pewee (JC & ER)
- Pacific-slope Flycatcher (JC & ER)

**VIREOS**

- Warbling Vireo
- Hutton's Vireo

**CROWS AND JAYS**

- Steller's Jay
- Western Scrub-Jay

**American Crow**

- 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)

**OLD WORLD WARBLERS**

- Wren
- Western Bluebird (JC & ER)
- Swainson's Thrush
- American Robin
- California Thrasher (JC & ER)

**WAXWINGS**

- Cedar Waxwing (JC & ER)

**NEW WORLD WARBLERS**

- Orange-crowned Warbler
- MacGillivray's Warbler (JC & ER)
- Yellow-rumped Warbler (JC & ER)
- Yellow Warbler (GC)
- Townsend's Warbler (GC)
- Wilson's Warbler

**BUNTINGS, SPARROWS,**

**TANAGERS, ALLIES**

- Spotted Towhee
- California Towhee
- Song Sparrow
- White-throated Sparrow (DK & NM)
- Golden-crowned Sparrow

**Dark-eyed Junco**

- Black-headed Grosbeak

**Lazuli Bunting**

- Western Tanager (JC & ER)

**SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND**

**ALLIES**

- Purple Finch
- House Finch
- Lesser Goldfinch
- Pine Siskin (GC)
- American Goldfinch

**BLACKBIRDS, GRACKLES,**

**ORIOLES**

- Hooded Oriole

**BUTTERFLIES**

- Common Buckeye
- Field Crescent
- Umber Skipper
- Cabbage White
- Northern Checkerspot
- Variable Checkerspot
- California Ringlet
- Mournful Duskywing
- Painted Lady

**OTHER**

- Black-tailed Deer
- Coyote
- Eastern Fox Squirrel
- Striped Skunk (AG)
- Western Fence Lizard

**HUMAN CONTRIBUTORS**

JC & ER = John Colbert and Erica Rutherford, DK & NM = David Kessler and Nancy Mennel, JR = Janet Rudolph, AG = Ann Glucroft, GC = Graham Chisholm.

These contributors collectively reported at least 60 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 13 bird species not seen by me.

June and July are family time for our birds. You'll see them feeding young, and you'll see the nestlings fledge. Families will vacate the nest area as immature birds learn to hunt on their own.

More than 30 wildlife pictures were added to the website during May and have now been 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 info about individual bird species, go to 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 kay-loughman@earthlink.net.*



*Hairy Woodpecker (Picoides villosus) male in willow tree. Distinguish this species from the very similar Downy Woodpecker by the much greater size (9") and long bill. Woodpeckers use their beaks to dig out insects from bark, excavate nest holes, and to announce territory by drumming on tree trunks.*

Photo by Kay Loughman

