

North Hills wild life sightings for November 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.

50 BIRD SPECIES

PHEASANTS AND QUAIL

California Quail (JC & ER)

NEW WORLD VULTURES

Turkey Vulture

HAWKS, EAGLES AND KITES

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Red-shouldered Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

American Kestrel (JC & ER)

PIGEONS AND DOVES

Rock Pigeon

Band-tailed Pigeon

Mourning Dove

OWLS

Great Horned Owl (AC, JC & ER)

HUMMINGBIRDS

Anna's Hummingbird

WOODPECKERS

Acorn Woodpecker (JC & ER)

Red-breasted Sapsucker (JC & ER)

Nuttall's Woodpecker (JC & ER)

Hairy Woodpecker (JC & ER)

Northern Flicker

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

Black Phoebe

VIREOS

Hutton's Vireo (JC & ER)

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 (JC & ER)

CREEPERS

Brown Creeper (JC & ER)

WRENS

Bewick's Wren

KINGLETS

Golden-crowned Kinglet (JC & ER)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Wrentit

THRUSHES

Hermit Thrush

Varied Thrush

American Robin

WAXWINGS

Cedar Waxwing (JC & ER)

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubons & Myrtle)

Townsend's Warbler

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS, TANAGERS, ALLIES

Spotted Towhee

California Towhee

Fox Sparrow

Song Sparrow

White-throated Sparrow (DK & NM)

White-crowned Sparrow

Golden-crowned Sparrow

Dark-eyed Junco

SISKINS, CROSSBILLS AND ALLIES

House Finch

Lesser Goldfinch

American Goldfinch

Pine Siskin

MAMMALS

Black-tailed Mule Deer

Coyote

Eastern Fox Squirrel

Dusky-footed Woodrat (MG)

HUMAN CONTRIBUTORS

JC & ER=John Colbert & Erica Rutherford, DK & NM = David Kessler & Nancy Mennel, MG = Marilyn Goldhaber, AC = Alexandra Cons

These contributors collectively reported at least 48 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.

More than a dozen wildlife pictures were added to the website during November. The photo galleries, monthly birda lists cumulated, and pictures of most of the above species are on my website: Wild Life of the North Hills (www.nhwildlife.net).

The birds you see now are likely to be around until early spring. For more detailed information about individual bird species, this is a good resource: allaboutbirds.org/



Photo by Kay Loughman

Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Setophaga coronata*) – our most frequently-seen winter warbler, and one that can be challenging to identify due to wide variation in plumage. With the brownish coloring, we can identify this bird as a young female. Bright yellow feathers at the base of the spine give the species its name, and are usually seen as the bird flies away. Regrettably, the brightest feathers are not visible in this picture.

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.

