

Bird Species in Claremont Canyon in Winter
Based Upon Observations During the Month of December, 1976 - 2011

Species		Status Codes, from
Common Name	Scientific Name	MVZ Data
1	California Quail	R 2
2	Turkey Vulture	S, R 3
3	Northern Harrier	V -
4	Sharp-shinned Hawk	W, R 3
5	Cooper's Hawk	R 3
6	Red-shouldered Hawk	- -
7	Red-tailed Hawk	R 1
8	American Kestrel	R 1
9	Band-tailed Pigeon	R 2
10	Mourning Dove	S, R 1
11	Western Screech-Owl	R 5
12	Great Horned Owl	R 3
13	Northern Saw-whet Owl	- -
14	White-throated Swift	S, R 3
15	Anna's Hummingbird	R 1
16	Red-breasted Sapsucker	W 3
17	Nuttall's Woodpecker	V -
18	Downy Woodpecker	R 2
19	Hairy Woodpecker	R 4
20	Northern Flicker	W, R 1
21	Black Phoebe	R 1
22	Hutton's Vireo	R 2
23	Steller's Jay	R 1
24	Western Scrub-Jay	R 1
25	Common Raven	V -
26	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	R 1
27	Oak Titmouse	R 2
28	Bushtit	R 1
29	Red-breasted Nuthatch	W, R 3
30	White-breasted Nuthatch	V -
31	Pygmy Nuthatch	- -
32	Brown Creeper	W, R 3
33	Bewick's Wren	R 1
34	Pacific Wren	W 4
35	Golden-crowned Kinglet	W 4

Species		Status Codes, from
Common Name	Scientific Name	MVZ Data
36	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	W 1
37	Wrentit	R 1
38	Hermit Thrush	W 1
39	American Robin	W, R 1
40	Varied Thrush	W 2
41	Northern Mockingbird	W 4
42	California Thrasher	R 2
43	Cedar Waxwing	W, M 1
44	Orange-crowned Warbler	S, M 1
45	Nashville Warbler	M 5
46	Yellow-rumped Warbler	W, M 3
47	Townsend's Warbler	W, M 3
48	Hermit Warbler	M 5
49	Spotted Towhee	R 1
50	Rufous-crowned Sparrow	R 5
51	California Towhee	R 1
52	Fox Sparrow	W 2
53	Song Sparrow	R 1
54	Lincoln's Sparrow	W 5
55	White-throated Sparrow	V -
56	White-crowned Sparrow	W, R 1
57	Golden-crowned Sparrow	W 1
58	Dark-eyed Junco	W, R 1
59	Purple Finch	R 2
60	House Finch	R 1
61	Pine Siskin	R 2
62	Lesser Goldfinch	R 3
63	American Goldfinch	R 2

Notes

- "Claremont Canyon" is defined as the Claremont Creek watershed, from the ridgeline (which generally follows Grizzly Peak Boulevard) west to Stonewall Road, and bounded on the north and south by the ridgelines that separate the Claremont Creek watershed from the Strawberry Creek and Temescal Creek watersheds
- Birds listed are ones I have recorded in Claremont Canyon on one or more Oakland Christmas Bird Counts (typically held on the Sunday before Christmas) during the years 1976 - 2011 and/or when scouting for the Count earlier in December.
- Status Codes derived from the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology's (MVZ's) checklist are as follows:
First column -- an asterisk indicates a non-native introduced species. I have recorded none in Claremont Canyon as defined. But Rock Pigeon, European Starling, and House Sparrow occur a little further downslope, in the commercial area along Domingo Avenue. Others have recorded Rock Pigeon in the canyon. Also, I heard one or more Wild Turkeys in the canyon in April 2003, April 2004, May 2011, and September 2008. They are now almost certainly resident in the canyon throughout the year.
Second and third columns -- seasonal status and rarity from "List of the Birds of the Berkeley Hills," by Ned K. Johnson, dated February 8, 1984; issued by the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California. Data on this checklist go back to at least the 1940s, to the days of Alden H. Miller and Frank A. Pitelka, who no doubt built upon Joseph Grinnell's data.
Note that MVZ's list encompasses an area larger than Claremont Canyon.
Seasonal status: R -- resident throughout the year; S -- summer resident; W -- winter visitant; M -- migrant (so designated only if all or a conspicuous part of population passes through area); V -- occasional visitant. When more than one designation is given, the first is the more prevalent status. The status relates only to the area of the list in the last few years, not necessarily to the San Francisco Bay region as a whole.
Rarity: Numbers denote the frequency and ease with which species may be observed in the seasons indicated: 1 -- the most readily detected; 5 -- the least. Numbers of individuals, amount of suitable habitat, and a species' conspicuousness of action and appearance influence this index.

Prepared by D. E. Quady; last revised January 2, 2012.