Sea & Sage Audubon

SJWS Monthly Census Report for September 2009

Census date: 9/04/09; Census time: 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Birders who took part in the census were: Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Carol Freund, Jan Gaffney, Sharon Harrow, Bob Hogan, Mark Kincheloe, Nancy Kenyon, Merri Levy, Dick Purvis, Darrel Wilson.

Comments: In spite of the high temperatures and humid conditions, everyone managed to cover their area in a satisfactory manner which definitely showed great perseverance. We had several unexpected sightings: Dick spotted a Bobcat trotting down the trail with a coot in its mouth; with the aid of his scope, Mark spotted a kestrel on the antennae munching on a mockingbird; 6 Cattle Egrets were spotted at pond 1 by a passing birder, Robert McNab; Darrell found a Yellow-breasted Chat perched high in a tree; the Bell's Vireos were still lustily singing in the riparian area as well as in the “back 40” area and a couple of adult CA Quails with 1 small fuzzy baby were spotted near the riparian area. A sick Western Sandpiper was rescued from the muddy edge of pond D by a passing concerned birder. (The bird was on its back, flapping futile.) After placing it in a small carrying box provided by the Audubon House volunteer, she was able to deliver it to the Wetlands & Wildlife Care Center for medical attention.

See our chapter webpage for data on all of our monthly SJWS bird counts: http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org/BirdInfo/BirdCounts/SJWScensus/SJWScensus.htm

or, using the tinyurl system, http://tinyurl.com/cc5gry

The following birds were seen and/or heard on our census this morning:

**GEESE & DUCKS:**
- Mallard - 52
- Cinnamon Teal - 2
- Northern Shoveler - 25
- Green-winged Teal - 4
- Ruddy Duck - 16

**QUAIL:**
- California Quail - 3

**GREBES:**
- Pied-billed Grebe - 19

**CORMORANTS:**
- Double-crested Cormorant - 15

**HERONS:**
- Great Blue Heron - 4
- Great Egret - 9
- Snowy Egret - 15
- Cattle Egret - 6
- Green Heron - 5
- Black-crowned Night-Heron - 8

**DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY:**
- Turkey Vulture - 3
- Osprey - 1
- White-tailed Kite - 4
- Red-tailed Hawk - 1
- American Kestrel - 1

**RAILS, GALLINULES & COOTS:**
- Sora - 3
- Common Moorhen - 1
- American Coot - 16

**PLOVERS:**
- Killdeer - 8

**STILTS & AVOCETS:**
- Black-necked Stilt - 29
- American Avocet - 5

**SANDPIPERS:**
- Lesser Yellowlegs - 1
- Western Sandpiper - 15
- Long-billed Dowitcher - 102

**GULL & TERNs:**
- Western Gull - 1
- Caspian Tern - 3
- Forster's Tern - 8

**DOVES:**
- Mourning Dove - 34

**HUMMINGBIRD BIRDS:**
- Anna's Hummingbird - 30

**KINGFISHERS:**
- Belted Kingfisher - 1

**WOODPECKERS:**
- Nuttall's Woodpecker - 3
- Downy Woodpecker - 5

**FLYCATCHERS:**
- Black Phoebe - 11
- Cassin's Kingbird - 3

**VIREOS:**
- Bell's Vireo - 8
- Warbling Vireo - 1
- Hutton's Vireo - 2

**CROWS:**
- American Crow - 22

**SWALLOWS:**
- Tree Swallow - 10
- Cliff Swallow - 13
- Barn Swallow - 4

**BUSHITS & WRENS:**
- Bushtit - 59
- Bewick's Wren - 1
- House Wren - 1
- Marsh Wren - 9

**Gnatcatchers:**
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 1

**MOCKINGBIRDS:**
- Northern Mockingbird - 2

**WARBLERS:**
- Orange-crowned Warbler - 6
- Nashville Warbler - 1
- Yellow Warbler - 1
- Common Yellowthroat - 61
- Yellow-breasted Chat - 1

**TOWHEES & SPARROWS:**
- Spotted Towhee - 17
- Song Sparrow - 115

**GROSBEAKS:**
- Black-headed Grosbeak - 1

**BLACKBIRDS:**
- Red-winged Blackbird - 17
- Great-tailed Grackle - 2

**FINCHES:**
- House Finch - 32
- Lesser Goldfinch - 27
- American Goldfinch - 8