Sea & Sage Audubon
SJWS Monthly Census Report for May 2010

Census date: 5/07/10; Census time: 7:15 - 9:30 a.m. Weather: clear & warm

Birders who took part in the census were: Barbara Dixon, Betsy Flynn, Carol Freund, Jan Gaffney, Terry Hill, Sharon Harrow, Nancy Kenyon, Merri Levy, Sally Menzel, Eunice Morita, Dick Purvis, Barbara Sentovich, Jerry Tolman and Darrell Wilson. Comments: Sally & Barbara watched one of the adult Ospreys catch a fish in Pond 2 and fly off with it. Many of us saw it eating the fish on the nesting platform by Pond 4. Sharon & Eunice got a good look at the baby Osprey in the nest. This is the first known pair of Ospreys to nest at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary and we are hopeful the will be successful. At Pond E, Carol & Nancy found 3 young American Avocet chicks in the water feeding under the watchful eye of one of the parents; 2 more Avocets were sitting on nests. A pair of Greater Yellowlegs in Pond E could be heard from quite a distance calling to each other. In Pond C, one of the Spotted Sandpipers was in partial breeding plumage with spots and the male Ruddy Ducks were striking in their breeding plumage. In the Riparian Area, Jan, Merri & Betsy had an interesting collection of warblers which included 2 Orange-crowned, 11 Yellow, 6 Townsend’s, 21 Common Yellowthroats, 3 Wilson’s, 3 Yellow-breasted Chats, & 1 Hermit Warbler. Jerry & Darrel found an Olive-sided Flycatcher at the west end of Pond C trying to eat an enormous bug. Dick Purvis discovered 3 Brown-headed Cowbirds in his Pond 3 area, and Terry and Barbara found the beautiful male Mandarin Duck at Pond 1 along with 8 Yellow Warblers. At Pond 2, Sally & Barbara counted 107 Black Skimmers. It was a wonderful morning to be out birding!

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

GEES & DUCKS
Canada Goose - 4
Gadwall - 19
Mallard - 45
Cinnamon Teal - 1
Ruddy Duck - 19

QUAIL
California Quail - 2

GREBES
Pied-billed Grebe - 1
Eared Grebe - 1

CORMORANTS
Double-crested Cormorant - 9

HERONS
Great Blue Heron - 21
Great Egret - 6
Snowy Egret - 9
Green Heron - 7
Black-crowned Night-Heron 17

DIURNAL BIRDS OF PREY
Turkey Vulture - 11
Osprey - 3
White-tailed Kite - 1
Cooper’s Hawk - 3

RAILS & COOTS
Sora - 1
American Coot - 8

PLOVERS
Semipalmated Plover - 2
Killdeer - 10

STILTS & AVOCETS
Black-necked Stilt - 7
American Avocet - 39

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SANDPIPPERS
Greater Yellowlegs - 4
Spotted Sandpiper - 4
Whimbrel - 1
Long-billed Dowitcher - 14

GULLS
Ring-billed Gull - 5
Western Gull - 2

TERNS
Caspian Tern - 3
Elegant Tern - 3
Forster’s Tern - 21
Black Skimmer - 107

DOVES
Mourning Dove - 39

HUMMINGBIRDS
Anna’s Hummingbird - 42
Allen’s Hummingbird - 12

WOODECKERS
Downy Woodpecker - 1

FLYCATCHERS
Pacific-slope Flycatcher - 1
Black Phoebe - 6
Western Wood-Pewee - 1
Ash-throated Flycatcher - 14
Olive-sided Flycatcher - 1
Cassin’s Kingbird - 1

VIREOS
Bell’s Vireo - 12
Warbling Vireo - 11
Hutton’s Vireo - 1

CROWS & BIRDS
American Crow - 20
Common Raven - 1

SWALLOWS
Tree Swallows - 216
N. Rough-winged Swallow - 3
Cliff Swallow - 2
Barn Swallow - 2

BABBLERS
Wrentit - 1

BUSHTITS & WRENS
Bushtit - 39
Bewick’s Wren - 1
Marsh Wren - 43

THRUSHES
Hermit Thrush - 1
Swainson’s Thrush - 3
American Robin - 2

Western Bluebird - 2

MOURNINGBIRDS & THRASHERS
Northern Mockingbird - 3
California Thrasher - 2

STARLINGS & WAXWINGS
European Starling - 1
Cedar Waxwing - 7

WARBLERS
Orange-crowned Warbler - 10
Yellow Warbler - 28
Townsend’s Warbler - 7
Common Yellowthroat - 100
Wilson’s Warbler - 9
Yellow-breasted Chat - 18
Hermit Warbler - 1

TOWHEES & SPARRROWS
Western Tanager - 5
Spotted Towhee - 46
California Towhee - 2
Song Sparrow - 104

GROSBEAKS
Black-headed Grosbeak - 18

BLACKBIRDS & ORIOLES
Red-winged Blackbird - 7
Great-tailed Grackle - 5
Brown-headed Cowbird - 3
Hooded Oriole - 4
Bullock’s Oriole - 1

FINCHES
House Finch - 129
Lesser Goldfinch - 26
American Goldfinch - 3

EXOTIC SPECIES
Mandarin Duck - 1

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