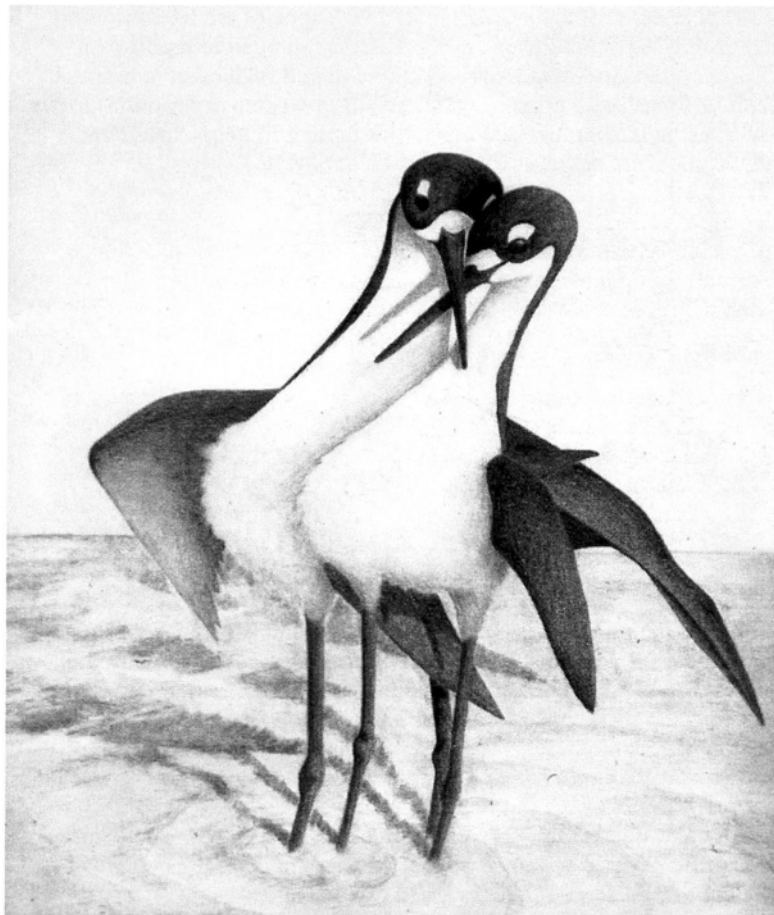


**A Checklist of the Birds of  
San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary**  
Irvine, Orange County, California



**SEA & SAGE AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
**5 Riparian View, Irvine, CA 92612**  
**(949) 261-7963**

[www.seaandsageaudubon.org](http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org)

Trails are open daily from sunrise to sunset.  
Audubon House visitor center is open daily 8 AM to 4 PM  
Cover Art "Black-necked Stilt Pair" by Nora Papian

## A Checklist of the Birds of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary

### **WELCOME TO SAN JOAQUIN WILDLIFE SANCTUARY (SJWS)**

Owned and operated by the Irvine Ranch Water District, this 300-acre freshwater marsh is a quiet sanctuary for wildlife and people. Over 282 bird species, including 170 regularly-occurring species and another 112 less frequently observed species, have been documented through visitor and staff observations. With year-round resident birds, wintering species, summering species and fall/spring migrants, you are guaranteed good birding no matter when you visit!

Use the abundance graphs to discover which species are likely present and during what time of year. Visitors are encouraged to report their sightings on the Audubon House front porch and to document unusual species or times (with photos, sketches and/or written description) to the Audubon House volunteer on duty. Your input will help expand our knowledge of bird status and distribution at SJWS.

### **KEY TO ABUNDANCE CODES**

The abundance codes in the graphs are defined as follows:

- Abundant > 50 individuals, seen on nearly all visits
- ≡ Common > 25 individuals, seen on most visits at the right time of year
- Uncommon < 20 individuals, not always seen on every visit
- Rare < 5 individuals, not always present, even at the right time of year
- Absent, not expected at that time of year

Less Frequently Observed < 10 accepted records at SJWS

### **REPORTING AND DOCUMENTATION**

This checklist updates the 1999 checklist compiled by Charles Austin. It is based upon daily and monthly sightings and census data from 1999 to 2010 and includes observations from SJWS and adjacent San Diego Creek. Abundance graphs for regularly-occurring species are based upon observer data at SJWS and county-wide patterns as reported in *The Birds of Orange County California: Status and Distribution* (1996) by Robert Hamilton and Douglas Willick. For additional information about how this checklist was prepared, contact Project Director of Education, Trude Hurd.

To learn more about Sea and Sage Audubon Society's education and conservation programs, and/or how to become involved, you can talk with the Audubon House volunteer or go to our website at  
[www.seaandsageaudubon.org](http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org)

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The compilers wish to thank Trude Hurd, Nancy Kenyon, Sylvia Gallagher, Doug Willick and most especially Brian Daniels for their long-term observations, input, advice and editing. Special thanks go to Nora Papian for her beautiful artwork.

A Checklist of the Birds of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
<b>GEESE, DUCKS</b>												
___ Canada Goose	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Wood Duck	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
___ Gadwall	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ American Wigeon	██	██	....	....				....	....	██	██	██
___ Mallard	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Blue-winged Teal	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Cinnamon Teal	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Northern Shoveler	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Northern Pintail	██	██	....					....	██	██	██	██
___ Green-winged Teal	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Canvasback	....	....								....	....	██
___ Redhead	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Ring-necked Duck	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Lesser Scaup	....	....	....	....						....	....	██
___ Bufflehead	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Hooded Merganser	....	....	....							....	....	██
___ Ruddy Duck	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
<b>QUAIL</b>												
___ California Quail	....	....	....	....	....	██	██	██	██	....	....	....
<b>GREBES</b>												
___ Pied-billed Grebe	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Horned Grebe	....	....								....	....	██
___ Eared Grebe	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Western Grebe	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Clark's Grebe	....	....	....	....	██					....	....	██
<b>PELICANS, CORMORANTS</b>												
___ American White Pelican	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Brown Pelican	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Double-crested Cormorant	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
<b>BITTERNS, HERONS, EGRETS</b>												
___ American Bittern	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
___ Least Bittern	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
___ Great Blue Heron	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Great Egret	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Snowy Egret	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Cattle Egret	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Green Heron	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Black-crowned Night-Heron	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ White-faced Ibis	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
<b>NEW WORLD VULTURES</b>												
___ Turkey Vulture	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
<b>HAWKS, KITES, EAGLES</b>												
___ Osprey	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ White-tailed Kite	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Northern Harrier	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Sharp-shinned Hawk	....	....	....	....						....	....	██
___ Cooper's Hawk	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Red-shouldered Hawk	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Red-tailed Hawk	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
___ Golden Eagle	....	....								....	....	██



A Checklist of the Birds of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
<b>ROADRUNNERS</b>												
___ Greater Roadrunner	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
<b>OWLS</b>												
___ Great Horned Owl	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
___ Barn Owl	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
<b>NIGHTHAWKS, SWIFTS</b>												
___ Lesser Nighthawk				••••				••••				
___ Vaux's Swift				••••	••••			••••	••••			
___ White-throated Swift	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
<b>HUMMINGBIRDS</b>												
___ Black-chinned Hummingbird				••••	••••	••••	••••	••••				
___ Anna's Hummingbird	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
___ Costa's Hummingbird				••••	••••	••••	••••					
___ Allen's Hummingbird	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
<b>KINGFISHERS</b>												
___ Belted Kingfisher	••••	••••	••••	••••				••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
<b>WOODPECKERS</b>												
___ Nuttall's Woodpecker	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
___ Downy Woodpecker	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
___ Northern Flicker #	••••	••••	••••							••••	••••	••••
<b>FLYCATCHERS</b>												
___ Olive-sided Flycatcher				••••	••••				••••			
___ Western Wood-Pewee				••••	••••				••••			
___ Willow Flycatcher				••	••				••	••••		
___ Pacific-slope Flycatcher				••••	••••	••			••	••••	••••	
___ Black Phoebe	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
___ Say's Phoebe	••••	••••	••••	••••					••••	••••	••••	••••
___ Ash-throated Flycatcher				••••	••••				••••	••••		
___ Cassin's Kingbird	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
___ Western Kingbird				••••	••••				••••	••		
<b>VIREOS</b>												
___ Bell's Vireo				••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••			
___ Hutton's Vireo	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
___ Warbling Vireo				••••	••••				••••	••		
<b>CROWS, RAVENS</b>												
___ American Crow	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
___ Common Raven	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
<b>SWALLOWS</b>												
___ Tree Swallow	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
___ Violet-green Swallow				••••	••••	••••	••••			••••		
___ N. Rough-winged Swallow	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
___ Bank Swallow				••••	••••				••••	••••		
___ Cliff Swallow				••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••		
___ Barn Swallow	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
<b>BUSHTITS, WRENS</b>												
___ Bushtit	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
___ Bewick's Wren	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
___ House Wren	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••
___ Marsh Wren	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••	••••

# - red-shafted form of Northern Flicker

A Checklist of the Birds of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary

**KINGLETS, GNATCATCHERS**

- \_\_\_ Ruby-crowned Kinglet
- \_\_\_ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

**BLUEBIRDS, THRUSHES**

- \_\_\_ Western Bluebird
- \_\_\_ Swainson's Thrush
- \_\_\_ Hermit Thrush
- \_\_\_ American Robin


**MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS**

- \_\_\_ Northern Mockingbird
- \_\_\_ California Thrasher


**STARLINGS, PIPITS, WAXWINGS**

- \_\_\_ European Starling
- \_\_\_ American Pipit
- \_\_\_ Cedar Waxwing


**WARBLERS, CHATS**

- \_\_\_ Orange-crowned Warbler
- \_\_\_ Nashville Warbler
- \_\_\_ Yellow Warbler
- \_\_\_ Yellow-rumped Warbler\*
- \_\_\_ Black-throated Gray Warbler
- \_\_\_ Townsend's Warbler
- \_\_\_ Hermit Warbler
- \_\_\_ MacGillivray's Warbler
- \_\_\_ Common Yellowthroat
- \_\_\_ Wilson's Warbler
- \_\_\_ Yellow-breasted Chat


**TANAGERS**

- \_\_\_ Western Tanager

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

**TOWHEES, SPARROWS**

- \_\_\_ Spotted Towhee
- \_\_\_ California Towhee
- \_\_\_ Savannah Sparrow
- \_\_\_ Fox Sparrow
- \_\_\_ Song Sparrow
- \_\_\_ Lincoln's Sparrow
- \_\_\_ White-crowned Sparrow
- \_\_\_ Golden-crowned Sparrow


**GROSBEAKS, BUNTINGS**

- \_\_\_ Black-headed Grosbeak
- \_\_\_ Blue Grosbeak
- \_\_\_ Lazuli Bunting


\* - Audubon's race of Yellow-rumped Warbler

A Checklist of the Birds of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary

**BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES**

- \_\_\_ Red-winged Blackbird
- \_\_\_ Western Meadowlark
- \_\_\_ Brewer's Blackbird
- \_\_\_ Great-tailed Grackle
- \_\_\_ Brown-headed Cowbird
- \_\_\_ Hooded Oriole
- \_\_\_ Bullock's Oriole

**FINCHES**

- \_\_\_ House Finch
- \_\_\_ Lesser Goldfinch
- \_\_\_ American Goldfinch

**OLD WORLD SPARROWS**

- \_\_\_ House Sparrow

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Red-winged Blackbird	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
Western Meadowlark	....	..							..	██	██	
Brewer's Blackbird			....	....					....	....	....	....
Great-tailed Grackle	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
Brown-headed Cowbird			....	██	██	██	██	██	██	██		
Hooded Oriole			....	██	██	██	██	██	██	██		
Bullock's Oriole			....	██	██	██	██	██	██	██		
House Finch	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
Lesser Goldfinch	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
American Goldfinch	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██	██
House Sparrow	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....

**LESS FREQUENTLY OBSERVED SPECIES**

- |                                 |                            |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ___ Tundra Swan                 | ___ Red Knot               |
| ___ Greater White-fronted Goose | ___ Sanderling             |
| ___ Snow Goose                  | ___ Little Stint           |
| ___ Ross's Goose                | ___ Baird's Sandpiper      |
| ___ Brant                       | ___ White-rumped Sandpiper |
| ___ Cackling Goose              | ___ Sharp-tailed Sandpiper |
| ___ Eurasian Wigeon             | ___ Stilt Sandpiper        |
| ___ Garganey                    | ___ Ruff                   |
| ___ Greater Scaup               | ___ Red Phalarope          |
| ___ Surf Scoter                 | ___ Long-tailed Jaeger     |
| ___ Common Goldeneye            | ___ Sabine's Gull          |
| ___ Common Merganser            | ___ Franklin's Gull        |
| ___ Red-breasted Merganser      | ___ Mew Gull               |
| ___ Red-throated Loon           | ___ Herring Gull           |
| ___ Little Blue Heron           | ___ Glaucous-winged Gull   |
| ___ Tricolored Heron            | ___ Gull-billed Tern       |
| ___ Reddish Egret               | ___ Arctic Tern            |
| ___ Wood Stork                  | ___ Eurasian Collared-Dove |
| ___ Bald Eagle                  | ___ Spotted Dove           |
| ___ Broad-winged Hawk           | ___ White-winged Dove      |
| ___ Swainson's Hawk             | ___ Common Ground-Dove     |
| ___ Zone-tailed Hawk            | ___ Yellow-billed Cuckoo   |
| ___ Ferruginous Hawk            | ___ Burrowing Owl          |
| ___ Rough-legged Hawk           | ___ Short-eared Owl        |
| ___ Prairie Falcon              | ___ Black Swift            |
| ___ Clapper Rail                | ___ Calliope Hummingbird   |
| ___ American Golden-Plover      | ___ Rufous Hummingbird     |
| ___ Pacific Golden-Plover       | ___ Acorn Woodpecker       |
| ___ Snowy Plover                | ___ Red-naped Sapsucker    |
| ___ Ruddy Turnstone             | ___ Gray Flycatcher        |

A Checklist of the Birds of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary

**LESS FREQUENTLY OBSERVED SPECIES (continued)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Hammond's Flycatcher	<input type="checkbox"/> Blackpoll Warbler
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Phoebe	<input type="checkbox"/> Black-and-white Warbler
<input type="checkbox"/> Vermilion Flycatcher	<input type="checkbox"/> American Redstart
<input type="checkbox"/> Tropical Kingbird	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Waterthrush
<input type="checkbox"/> Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	<input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Warbler
<input type="checkbox"/> Loggerhead Shrike	<input type="checkbox"/> Canada Warbler
<input type="checkbox"/> Plumbeous Vireo	<input type="checkbox"/> Summer Tanager
<input type="checkbox"/> Cassin's Vireo	<input type="checkbox"/> Green-tailed Towhee
<input type="checkbox"/> Philadelphia Vireo	<input type="checkbox"/> Chipping Sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> Western Scrub-Jay	<input type="checkbox"/> Clay-colored Sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> Horned Lark	<input type="checkbox"/> Brewer's Sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> Purple Martin	<input type="checkbox"/> Vesper Sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> Cactus Wren	<input type="checkbox"/> Lark Sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> Rock Wren	<input type="checkbox"/> Black-throated Sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> Golden-crowned Kinglet	<input type="checkbox"/> Grasshopper Sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> California Gnatcatcher	<input type="checkbox"/> Large-billed Savannah Sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Bluebird	<input type="checkbox"/> Swamp Sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> Varied Thrush	<input type="checkbox"/> White-throated Sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> Wrentit	<input type="checkbox"/> Harris's Sparrow
<input type="checkbox"/> Sage Thrasher	<input type="checkbox"/> Dark-eyed Junco
<input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Yellow Wagtail	<input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut-collared Longspur
<input type="checkbox"/> Red-throated Pipit	<input type="checkbox"/> Rose-breasted Grosbeak
<input type="checkbox"/> Phainopepla	<input type="checkbox"/> Indigo Bunting
<input type="checkbox"/> Virginia's Warbler	<input type="checkbox"/> Bobolink
<input type="checkbox"/> Lucy's Warbler	<input type="checkbox"/> Tricolored Blackbird
<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Parula	<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-headed Blackbird
<input type="checkbox"/> Chestnut-sided Warbler	<input type="checkbox"/> Orchard Oriole
<input type="checkbox"/> Magnolia Warbler	<input type="checkbox"/> Baltimore Oriole
<input type="checkbox"/> Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler	<input type="checkbox"/> Red Crossbill
<input type="checkbox"/> Prairie Warbler	<input type="checkbox"/> Pine Siskin
<input type="checkbox"/> Palm Warbler	<input type="checkbox"/> Lawrence's Goldfinch

**EXOTIC SPECIES**

Mute Swan  
Egyptian Goose  
Mandarin Duck  
Budgerigar  
Nutmeg Mannakin  
Orange Bishop

Compiled by Greg and Bruce Aird, January, 2011  
Completed as an Eagle Scout project with Boy Scout Troop 604 by Greg Aird