San Diego Christmas Bird Count 20 December 2025
218 species, 210 participants, 364.1 party-hours
15-mile diameter circle centered at the mouth of the Sweetwater River on San Diego Bay
Temperatures 56–64° F, morning foggy, afternoon partly cloudy.

Thank you to all 210 participants contributing to this year's San Diego Christmas bird count:

Christopher Adler
Supeena Adler
Becky Adrian
Jonah Alderson
Lisa Allen
Melissa Allen
Johanna Alpert
Aaron Anderson
Jeanie Anderson
Olivia Arizmendi
Mars Atchinson
Imran Badar
Jimmy Baiardi
Nick Barber
Samantha Barlin
Auliya Barricman
Blake Bass
Stephanie Beccera
Douglas Behner
David Blumberg
Meghan Bowen
Julia Bozarth
John Bruin
Kevin Burns
Matthew Byrd
Mary Cairns
Katrina Cantu
Caroline Cecena
Nancy Christensen
Ross Christie
Andrew Chung
Melanie Colon
Daniel Conley
Tim Cooper
Kenneth DeLaBarre
Jay Desgrosellier
Nicole Desnoyers
Asilia Diaz Vasquez
Jon Drobny
Patrick Dugan
Erik Dunham
Richard Emilson
Abby Ennamarato
Michael U. Evans
Sam Fellows
Kim Ferree
Lela Ferrigno
Thomas Ford-Hutchinson
Cindy Fortner
Dave Fortner
Isiah Freedman
John Freedman
Mia Freeman
Michael Gavin
Charlene Glacy
Zac Goldberg
Kayla Gorman
Diane Green
Richard Griebe
Angelica Grunloh
Sarah Gulyas
Michelle Haglund
Jess Haley
Ian Haliburton
Kathleen Haliburton
Lesley Handa
Erin Harold
Kenneth Hartman
Siew-Bee Hartman
Justin Hartsell
Erin Hay
Grigory Heaton
Tracy Henchbarger
Annette Henry
Ian Hirschler
Terry Hurst
Callen Hyland
Kyle Icke
Henry Ingersoll
Grace Jackson
Jennifer Jackson
Rustom Jamadar
Dan Jehl
Angela Johnson
Jennifer Johnson-Patel
Joshua Joun
Anitra Kaye
Daniel R. King
Linda King
Ellie Kitchen
Hannah Klisura
Henry Koertzen
Patti Koger
James Koren
Norma Jene Kreischer
Jacob Langford
Paul Lehman
Allison Liang
Alexis Luz
Jacques Lyakov
Stephanie Lym
Suellen Lynn
Celeste MacGuffey
Melanie Madden-Smith
Eve Martin
John Martin
Guy McCaskie
Stacy McCline
Leslie McCollum
Jenna McCullough
Rachelle McLaughlin
Kris McMillan
Holly McMullen
Susan Meiman
Shannon Mendia
Carol Mendoza
Jasmine Mendoza
Merlin Mendoza
Catherine Michaud
Betsy Miller
Erica Mills
Shannon Mindeman
Jeffrey Miner
Madelyn Mitchell
Brendan Mobley
Charlotte Morris
Caitlin Morrow
Paul Mulholland
Thomas Myers
Rebecca Nassimi
Veronica Ness
Andrew Newmark
Sarah Nolan
Richard Norgaard
Karina Ornelas
Robert Patton
James Pawlicki
Cindy Pencek
Danette Perez
Nicole Perretta
Stephen Perry
Charlene Peters
Olivia Poulos
Haylie Priest
Beatrice Quisano
Bernice Quisano
Mike Ray
Tera Ray
Nancy Richardson
Bruce Rideout
Vince Rivas
Jim Rocks
Melanie Rocks
Martina Rodriguez
Tuck Russell
Matt Sadowski
Brandi Sanchez
Bob Sanger
Cristina Santa Maria
Diana Saucedo
Greg Schonberger
Stephanie Schonberger
Holden Sebald
Mel Senac
Joanne Sherif
Janet Shields
Marcy Shugert
Colleen Southern
Crystal Spaulding
Jeffrey Spaulding
Lakota Spaulding
Laraina Spaulding
Justyn Stahl
Nancy Stalnaker
Trent R. Stanley
Chris Staurovsky
Susan Stevenson
Mark Stratton
Monica Stupaczuk
Barbara Swanson
Ian Swirka
Melissa Tamarkin
Lucia Tapia
Senay Taskin
Ryan Thiele
Nick Thorpe
Lisa Tomlinson
David Trissel
Melissa Tu
Philip Unitt
Hector Valtierra
Julia Varnergardner
Angie Vorhies
Gigi Wagnon
Stan Walens
Nicole Wedick
Roberta Wells-Famula
Cassidy White
Jeannette White
Peggy Wilcox
Martha Wild
Kathy Williams
Lindsay Willrick
Anabel Willy
Barbara Wise
Apollo Wynn
Aubrey Zepeda
Hannah Zhao
Pema Zonglo

A successful San Diego count requires not only the dedication of all our observers but special access to many areas not open to the general public or not open at the times best for seeing birds. Therefore we must also acknowledge

- Peggy Wilcox, Loni Beyer Wilson, Melanie Colón, Michelle Maley, David Blumberg, Nicole Desnoyers, and Capt. Mike Ray at Naval Facilities Command Southwest for access to Navy property.
- Lauren Pandori for early access to Cabrillo National Monument.
- Justyn Stahl of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for access to the San Diego National Wildlife Refuge.
- Chris Peregrin with California State Parks for access to Border Field State Park.
- Gabe for access to the Otay Landfill.
- Jim Kellogg and boat driver Daniel Conley with Tierra Data for use of the boat on San Diego Bay.
- Julia Varnergardner for access to Sweetwater Reservoir
- Jason Brustad for access to the San Diego Country Club in Chula Vista

As last year, the key organizations supporting this year's count were the San Diego Natural History Museum and San Diego Bird Alliance, to which we are very grateful.

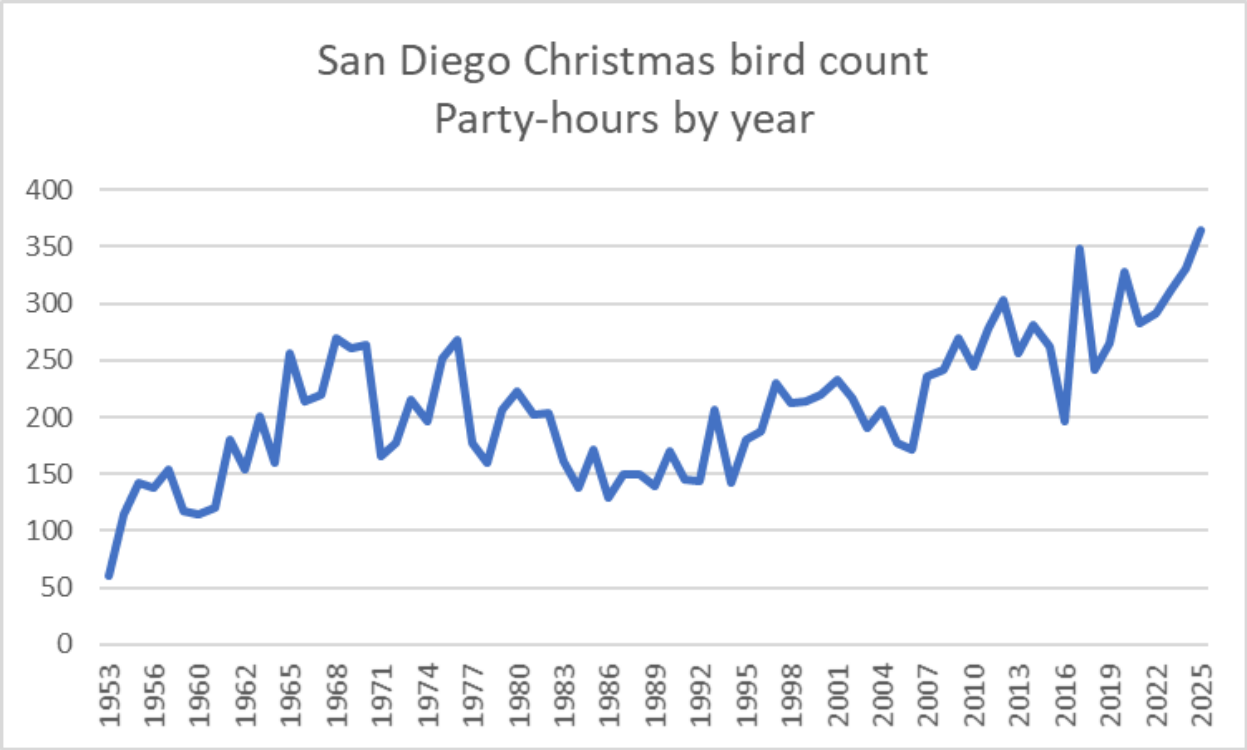
Though our total of 218 species is short of last year's record-smashing 230, it is close to the average over the past 15 years. The 218 does not include the Burrowing Parrot, Black-throated Magpie Jay, or Swinhoe's White-eye, exotic species that are breeding in the count circle but have not as yet been regarded as naturalized by the California Bird Records Committee. Or two exotics not known to be breeding locally, the Yellow-headed Parrot and Black Swan—the latter an Australian species never before reported on a San Diego CBC. Established nonnative species seen on this year's count were the Domestic or Rock Pigeon, Eurasian Collared Dove, Red-masked Parakeet, Red-crowned Parrot, Lilac-crowned Parrot, European Starling, Scaly-breasted Munia, and House Sparrow.

Among the resident species that have been on the decline in recent years the only one missed in 2025 was the Burrowing Owl. But the Loggerhead Shrike was represented by only a single individual at Border Field State Park.

Species hitting all-time highs were the Reddish Egret, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Bald Eagle, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Black Oystercatcher, Great Horned Owl, Allen's Hummingbird, Black Phoebe, Swinhoe's White-eye, and Orange-crowned Warbler.

None of these comparisons is adjusted for the variations in participation over the years.

The total of 210 participants in this year's San Diego CBC is a record—2025 is the first year we exceeded 200. Similarly, the 364.1 party-hours is a record high, surpassing 347.8 in 2017.



Many of the comparisons in the following annotated species list are based on the count's history since the circle was moved to its current location in 1963—a 63-year record.

Snow Goose: 3 at Sweetwater Reservoir. More remained outside the count circle nearer the east end of the reservoir (as did the Greater White-fronted Geese seen in the count circle the day after the count). Since 1963 recorded on 40 of 63 San Diego CBCs (annually since 2018); 1963–2024 average 3.2.

Brant: 2815. Since 1963 recorded on 60 of 63 San Diego CBCs (annually since 1978); 1963–2024 average 857, but over 1000 each year since 2007.

Canada Goose: 110, of which 75 were at Sweetwater Reservoir. Since 1963 recorded on 58 of 63 San Diego CBCs (annually since 1983); 1963–2024 average 261.

Blue-winged Teal: 22. Since 1963 recorded on 42 of 63 San Diego CBCs (annually since 2001), 1963–2024 average 12.

Cinnamon Teal: 35. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1956, 1963–2024 average 45.

Northern Shoveler: 998. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1941, 1963–2024 average 664.

Gadwall: 42. Since 1963 recorded on 58 of 63 San Diego CBCs (annually since 1981), 1963–2024 average 78.

Eurasian Wigeon: 2, 1 at D St. fill at the Sweetwater River mouth, 1 in the afternoon in the Sweetwater River channel near 2nd St. Though these could have been the same individual, two were reported together nearby on the Chula Vista shore of San Diego Bay on 24 December. Recorded on 31 San Diego CBCs since first noted in 1986, max 4 in 1995.



Eurasian Wigeon in Sweetwater River channel. Photo by Ian Swirka.

American Wigeon: 2642. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1935, 1963–2024 average 1070.

Mallard: 745. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1962, 1963–2024 average 415.

Northern Pintail: 375. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 747 (not equaled since 2007).

Green-winged Teal: 206. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1951, 1963–2024 average 211.

Canvasback: 2 at Sweetwater Reservoir. More remained outside the count circle nearer the east end of the reservoir. Since 1963 recorded on 50 of 63 San Diego CBCs, 1963–2024 average 15.

Redhead: 279. Since 1963 recorded on 55 of 63 San Diego CBCs (annually since 2006), 1963–2024 average 98.

Ring-necked Duck: 1 at North Island Naval Air Station, 2 at the Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve. Since 1963 recorded on 59 of 61 San Diego CBCs, 1963–2024 average 22.

Greater Scaup: 236, all within central or south San Diego Bay. Since 1963 recorded on 45 of 63 San Diego CBCs, annually since 2003. The 550 unidentified scaup reported may have included some Greater.

Lesser Scaup: 494. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922; 1963–2024 average 2801—not equaled since 2008. Even though the number of scaups rebounded from its record low last year, it is still well below this long-term average.

Long-tailed Duck: 2 in the south San Diego Bay salt works. Since 1963 recorded on 23 of 63 San Diego CBCs, 1963–2024 average 0.6. Max 5 in 1960 and 1978.



Long-tailed Ducks in the south San Diego Bay salt works. Photo by Michael U. Evans.

Surf Scoter: 6676. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 7692.

White-winged Scoter: 1 at the Imperial Beach pier. Since 1963 recorded on 43 of 63 San Diego CBCs, 1963–2024 average 8.3. The maximum of 2000 was in 1960, and since 1982 no count has had more than 3. Christmas bird count data nationwide reflect a northward retraction of the White-winged Scoter's winter range [E. R. Pandolfino and L. A. Douglas, *Western Birds* 57(1): 19–30; https://westernfieldornithologists.org/publications/journal/journal-volume-57-1/christmas_bird_count_data_confirm_northward_contraction_of_nonbreeding_range_of_white-winged_scoter/].



White-winged Scoter at the Imperial Beach pier. Photo by Mel Senac.

Black Scoter: 4, 1 female on San Diego Bay off the Naval Amphibious Base and 1 male and 2 females on the ocean near the Imperial Beach pier. Since 1963 recorded on 28 of 63 San Diego CBCs; 1963–2024 max 8, average 1.2.


Black Scoter at the Imperial Beach pier. Photo by Mel Senac.

Bufflehead: 705. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 597.

Common Goldeneye: 28, 25 in the south San Diego Bay salt works and 3 at the nearby Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve. Since 1963 recorded on 59 of 64 San Diego CBCs, 1963–2024 average 13. The max of 94 was in 1961.

Hooded Merganser: 1 female in the afternoon in the Sweetwater River channel near 2nd St. Since 1963 recorded on 21 of 64 San Diego CBCs, 1963–20242 average 0.6. The max of 8 was in 1961.


Hooded Merganser in Sweetwater River channel. Photo by Ian Swirka.

Red-breasted Merganser: 37. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1937, 1963–2024 average 91(not equaled since 2010).

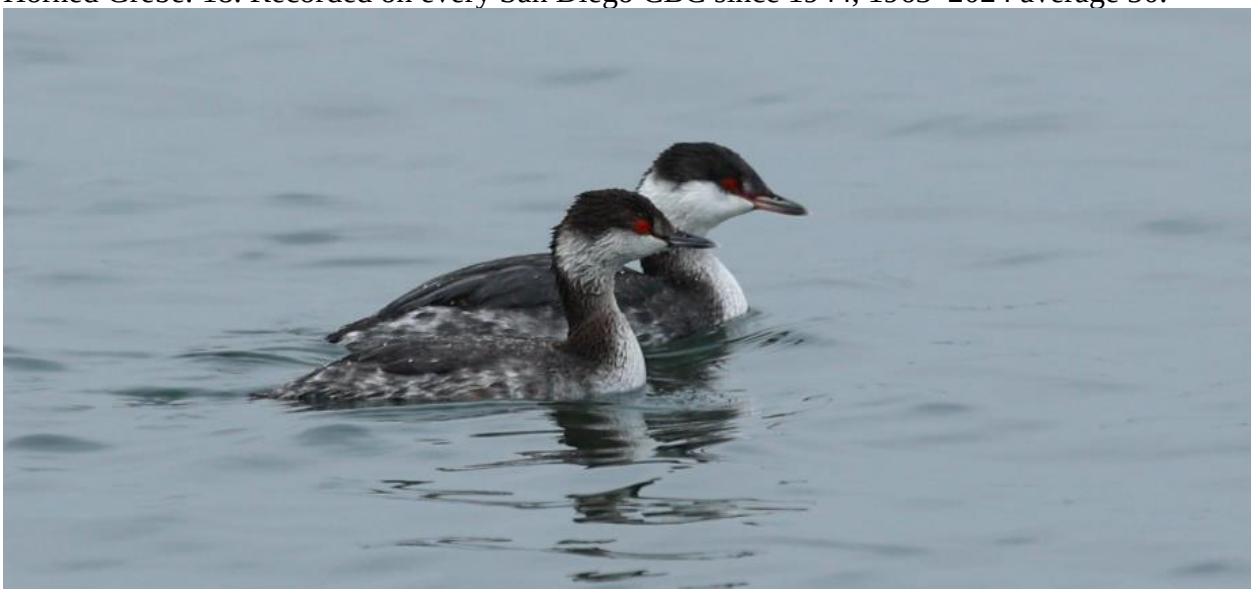
Ruddy Duck: 261. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 371.

California Quail: 4, 2 in Rice Canyon, Chula Vista, 2 at Border Field State Park. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1926, 1963–2024 average 129 (not equaled since 1982).

Pied-billed Grebe: 39. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1950, 1963–2024 average 54.

Red-necked Grebe: 1 at the Point Loma Naval Submarine Base, "hugging the piers in expected nooks." Most likely a returnee, a Red-necked Grebe having wintered in the same area in 2023–2024. Photos are not allowed on this U.S. Navy base. Since 1963 recorded on 10 of 63 San Diego CBCs, single individuals only.

Horned Grebe: 18. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1944, 1963–2024 average 50.



Horned Grebes on SW San Diego Bay. Photo by Jenna McCullough.

Eared Grebe: 447. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 1212.

Western Grebe: 1928. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1946, 1963–2024 average 2777.

Clark's Grebe: 10 (lowest since 1988). Recorded on every San Diego CBC since recognized as a species in 1983, average 82.

Domestic Pigeon: 1376. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the species was first included beginning in 1973, average 1917.

Eurasian Collared Dove: 108, Recorded annually since first appearance on a San Diego CBC in 2006, average 114. Peaked in 2014.

Common Ground Dove: 11, all in the community garden on the west side of Hollister St., Tijuana River valley. Recorded on 47 of 64 San Diego CBCs since first appearance in 1962, average 6.

Mourning Dove: 597. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 1247—surpassed only once since 2010.

Greater Roadrunner: 3, 1 in the northwest quadrant of the Tijuana River valley, 2 at the Tijuana River valley campground along Monument Rd. Since 1963, recorded on 59 of 63 San Diego CBCs, 1963–2024 average 3.7.



Greater Roadrunner at the Tijuana River valley campground. Photo by Nancy Christensen.

Vaux's Swift: 10 coming to the known roost at the downtown San Diego YWCA at 4:56 PM. Nick Thorpe was unable to photograph them on count day but wrote, “small swifts with fluttery, bat-like flight style. Stubbier than White-throated Swift, with shorter body/tail and rounder wingtips. In low light, appeared all dark gray. Flew in from the east together in a group, like the migratory (and wintering) Vaux’s Swifts tend to do during the monitoring season. Silent.” Recorded on 8 previous San Diego CBCs, max 60 in 2002.

White-throated Swift: 134, including 90 around Sweetwater Reservoir. Since 1963 recorded on 55 of 63 San Diego CBCs, 1963–2024 average 69.

Anna's Hummingbird: 922. Recorded on every previous San Diego CBC since the first in 1922; 1963–2024 average 638, a number exceeded every year since 2004, reflecting the species’ long-term increase—but the numbers have leveled off since the advent of Allen’s Hummingbird in the count circle about 2008.

Costa's Hummingbird: 1 female in flowering eucalyptus trees along Valley Vista Rd. at Valley Vista Elementary School, Bonita. Formerly much more numerous in San Diego in winter. Since 1963 recorded on 62 of 63 San Diego CBCs (missed only in 2005), 1963–2024 average 10.4—not equaled since 2001.

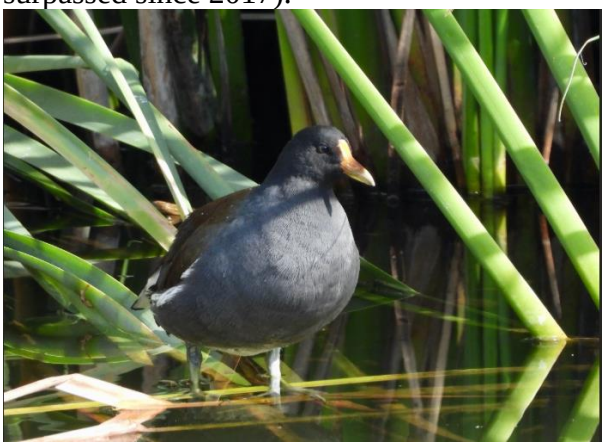
Allen's Hummingbird: 638 (includes those reported as Allen’s/Rufous), an all-time high, surpassing the previous high of 503 established last year. Reported annually since colonization in 2008 in rapidly increasing numbers.

Ridgway's Rail: 10. Since 1963 recorded on 61 of 63 San Diego CBCs, 1963–2024 average 13.

Virginia Rail: 2. 1 at Swetwater Reservoir, 1 In the marsh across from the junction of Rice Canyon and Rice Canyon-North trails, Chula Vista. Since 1963 recorded on every San Diego CBC, 1963–2024 average 4.1.

Sora: 2, 1 at the upper end of the Tijuana River estuary, 1 at the Dairy Mart Rd. ponds, Tijuana River valley. Since 1963 recorded on 60 of 63 San Diego CBCs, 1963–2024 average 8.6.

Common Gallinule: 5, 2 in Bonita, 3 in two areas of the Tijuana River valley. Since 1963 recorded on 62 of 63 San Diego CBCs (missed only in 1971), 1963–2024 average 10.7 (not surpassed since 2017).



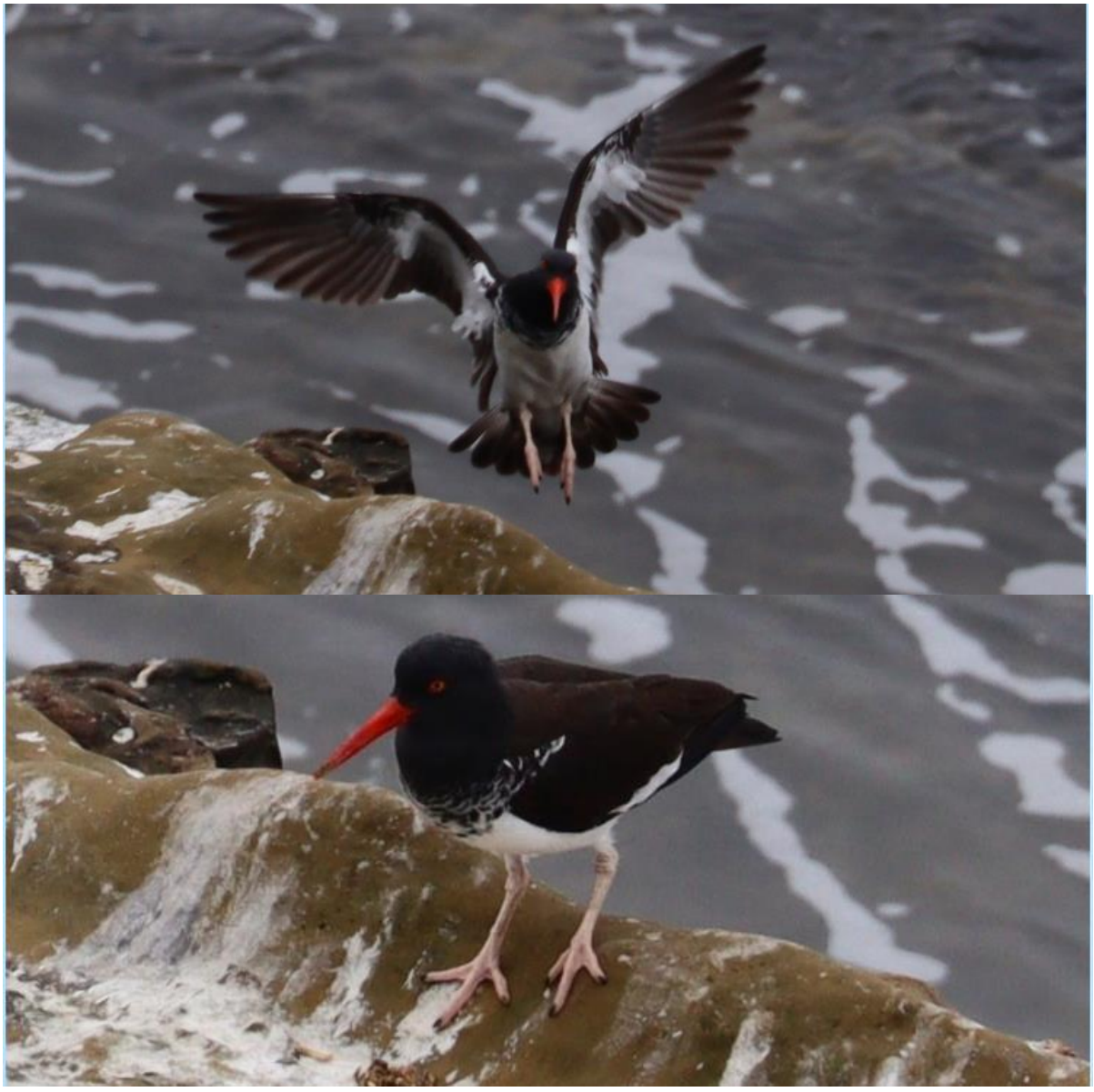
Common Gallinule, Bonita. Photo by Michelle Haglund.

American Coot: 613—a slight rebound from last year’s very low 508. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 1235.

Black-necked Stilt: 171, all in or near the south San Diego Bay salt works. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1954, 1963–2024 average 264.

American Avocet 34, lowest since 2010. All in or near the south San Diego Bay salt works. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1937, 1963–2024 average 266 (not equaled since 1996).

Black Oystercatcher: 6, 5, plus one American × Black Oystercatcher, at the tidepools along the ocean shore of Cabrillo National Monument, and one on Zuñiga Jetty on the east side of the entrance to San Diego Bay. Recorded on 20 previous San Diego CBCs since first noted in 1978, max 5.



American × Black Oystercatcher at Cabrillo National Monument. Photos by Jeff Spaulding.

Black-bellied Plover: 2128. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 759.

Pacific Golden Plover: 1 in the south San Diego Bay salt works. Recorded on 30 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, average 1.2, max 8 in 1966.



Pacific Golden Plover (at right) with Black-bellied Plovers, south San Diego Bay salt works. Photo by Michael U. Evans.

Killdeer: 288. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 357.

Semipalmated Plover: 493. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1953, 1963–2024 average 162.

Snowy Plover: 292, surpassed only by 299 in 2008. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1949, 1963–2024 average 92.

Whimbrel: 77, surpassed only by 99 in 2008. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1943, 1963–2024 average 23.

Long-billed Curlew: 184. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1927, 1963–2024 average 84.

Marbled Godwit: 1018. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 1650.

Short-billed Dowitcher: 80. As the 101 unidentified dowitchers reported were all around San Diego Bay, probably these were largely Short-billed as well. Even if they were all Short-billed, the total is only 25% of that species' 1963–2024 average of 724, making a third year of exceptionally low numbers of dowitchers.

Long-billed Dowitcher: 86. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1963, average 116.

Wilson's Snipe: 3, 2 at Sweetwater Reservoir, 1 at Camp Surf, Imperial Beach. in the Silver Recorded on 54 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, average 16—a number not equaled since 1987. Formerly annual, but sporadic since 2002.

Spotted Sandpiper: 31. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1943, 1963–2024 average 22.

Wandering Tattler: 1 along the shore of Cabrillo National Monument, Point Loma. Recorded on 56 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, average 4.4—a count not equaled since 2006.



Wandering Tattler, Cabrillo National Monument. Photo by Jeff Spaulding.

Willet: 1788. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 1351.

Greater Yellowlegs: 58. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1927, 1963–2024 average 38.

Ruddy Turnstone: 36. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1947, 1963–2024 average 71—a count surpassed only once since 2001.

Black Turnstone: 15—the lowest since another count of 15 in 1996. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1929, 1963–2024 average 66.5.

Red Knot: 78. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1960, 1963–2023 average 207. The rather low count may reflect, at least in part, the unfavorable tide schedule on count day.

Sanderling: 2093. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1925, 1963–2024 average 518.

Dunlin: 364. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1946, 1963–2024 average 514.

Least Sandpiper: 588. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 397.

Western Sandpiper: 6610. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2023 average 3453.

Parasitic Jaeger: 2, 1 from the boat on the ocean sector of the count circle, 1 seen from shore off Camp Surf, Imperial Beach. Recorded on 46 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 2.5.

Bonaparte's Gull: 24. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1949, 1963–2024 average 449—a number not equaled since 1991.

Heermann's Gull: 218. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1949, 1963–2024 average 383 (not equaled since 2015).

Short-billed Gull: 1 on the ocean near the whistling buoy just outside the entrance to San Diego Bay. Recorded on 59 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963—continuously until 2020 but now sporadic; 1963–2024 average 27.



Short-billed Gull near whistling buoy off entrance to San Diego Bay. Photo by Paul Mulholland.

Ring-billed Gull: 461. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1924, 1963–2024 average 1927—a number not equaled since 2008.

Western Gull: 2450. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 2256.

Herring Gull: 223—the highest since 1999. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1927, 1963–2024 average 509.

California Gull: 2732. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 2078.

Glaucous-winged Gull: 5, 1 at the fishing piers on the San Diego Bay shore of North Island Naval Air Station, 2 at the Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve, beach at Coronado, 2 at the Otay landfill. Recorded on 58 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 17—a number not equaled since 1988.

Thayer's Gull: 1 at Sweetwater Reservoir. Recorded on 43 of 53 San Diego CBCs since first recognized as a species different from the Herring Gull in 1973, average 3.5.

Black Skimmer: 4, 1 flying across central San Diego Bay, 2 at the Loews Coronado Bay Resort on the Silver Strand, and 1 at Bayfront Park, Chula Vista. Recorded on 36 of 53 San Diego CBCs since arrival in 1973, average 35. But sporadic since 2011, as the population nesting in the south San Diego Bay salt works typically all shifts outside the count circle to Mission Bay for the winter.



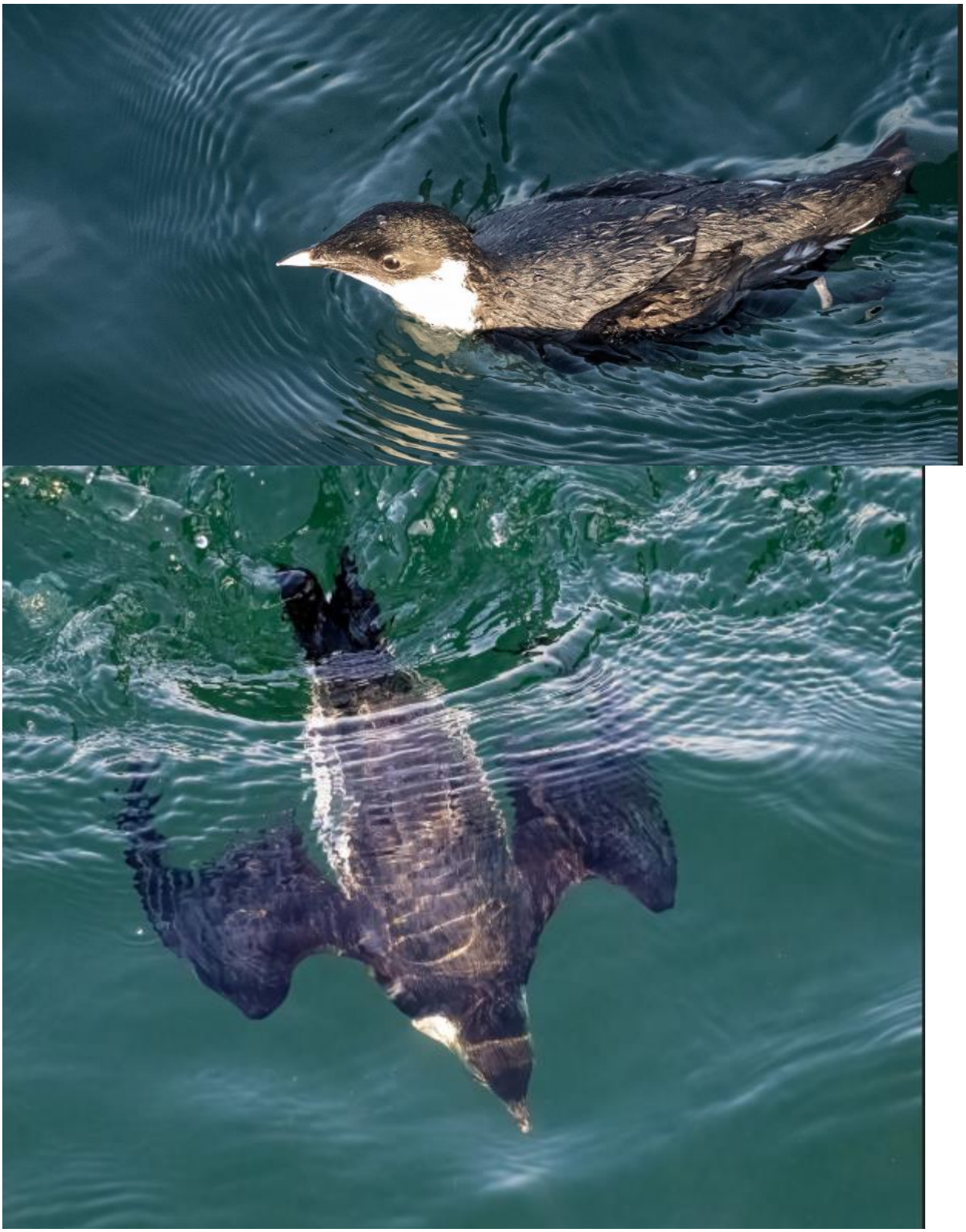
Black Skimmer crossing San Diego Bay. Photo by Lesley Handa.

Caspian Tern: 11. Recorded on 61 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, average 15—a number not equaled since 2004. In the 1960s and 1970s, much more numerous around San Diego in winter than in the 21st century.

Forster's Tern: 100. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1946, 1963–2024 average 250—a number not equaled since 2013, after which a sharp decrease ensued.

Royal Tern: 304. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1935, 1963–2024 average 101—a number surpassed each year since 2013.

Ancient Murrelet: 1 at the Imperial Beach pier, found by nonparticipant Heather Ridgeway but seen by many in the afternoon. Recorded on 6 previous San Diego CBCs since the first in 1979, max 7 in 1969, 1963–2024 average 0.3.



Ancient Murrelet at the Imperial Beach pier. Photos by Mel Senac.

Red-throated Loon: 29. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1954, 1963–2024 average 26.

Pacific Loon: 145. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1946, 1963–2024 average 208 (annual variation very wide).

Common Loon: 60. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1946, 1963–2024 average 27.

Black-vented Shearwater: 36. Recorded on 53 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 119 (annual variation very wide).

Brown Booby: 21, 20 from the boat on the ocean sector of the count circle, 1 seen from shore flying south off Camp Surf, Imperial Beach. Now a regular species within the count circle, recorded on the San Diego CBC annually since 2013 (average 12) and nesting just 10 miles from the edge of the count circle on Los Coronados Islands.

Brandt's Cormorant: 3083. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1954, 1963–2024 average 1120—a number surpassed each year since 2006.

Pelagic Cormorant: 33, 8 from the boat on the ocean sector of the count circle, 20 from Cabrillo National Monument, 1 on Harbor Island well inside San Diego Bay, where rare, 3 from Coronado, and 4 at the Imperial Beach pier. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1954, 1963–2024 average 24.



Pelagic Cormorant, Harbor Island, San Diego Bay. Photo by Angela Johnson.

Double-crested Cormorant: 879. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1924, 1963–2024 average 537.

Am. White Pelican: 179. Recorded on 40 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963 (annually since 2012), 1963–2024 average 21. This year’s total included 4 flying high over Hollywood Park, City Heights, several miles from any water.

Brown Pelican: 985. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1929, 1963–2024 average 482.

Least Bittern: 1 heard calling “rakrakrak” at the pond on the west side of Dairy Mart Rd., Tijuana River valley. Recorded on 19 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 0.6, max 7 in 1990.

Yellow-crowned Night Heron: 21, an all-time high, surpassing 16 in 2021 and 2023: 5 in or near the north arm of the Tijuana River estuary 3 at the east end of the Tijuana River estuary, and 3 in Imperial Beach. Annual on the San Diego CBC in generally increasing numbers since 2005.

Black-crowned Night Heron: 87. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1953, 1963–2024 average 45.

Little Blue Heron: 6, 3 in southwest San Diego Bay, 1 in Sweetwater Marsh, San Diego National Wildlife Refuge, San Diego Bay, 1 at the Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve, and 1 in the Tijuana River estuary. Recorded on 44 of 49 San Diego CBCs since arrival in 1977, average 3.1, max 7 in 2005 and 2014.



Little Blue Heron at Sweetwater Marsh, Chula Vista. Photo by Jay Desgrosellier.

Tricolored Heron: 1 immature 1 in Sweetwater Marsh, San Diego National Wildlife Refuge, San Diego Bay. Recorded on 35 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, average 0.9, max 5 in 1979. But since 2001 on only 7 of 25, single individuals only.



Tricolored Heron at Sweetwater Marsh, Chula Vista. Photo by Jay Desgrosellier.

Reddish Egret; 9, an all-time high, surpassing 6 in 2012: 1 along the Silver Strand in the Naval Amphibious Base, 5 at various points around the Chula Vista bayfront from the D St. fill south to Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve, 2 in the south San Diego Bay salt works, and 1 in the Tijuana River estuary. First recorded on a San Diego CBC in 1972, then on 37 of the 53 subsequent counts, annually since 2010.



Reddish Egret in Sweetwater River channel between National City and Chula Vista. Photo by Ian Swirka.

Snowy Egret: 221. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1929, 1963–2024 average 154.

Green Heron: 2, 1 at Chollas Lake, 1 at the upper end of the Tijuana River estuary. Recorded on 60 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 5.8—a number not equaled since 2010.

Cattle Egret: 4, 2 in the southwest corner of San Diego Bay, 2 in the Tijuana River estuary. First appeared on a San Diego CBC in 1966, then surged to a peak of 3512 in 1985, then declined sharply, becoming sporadic from 1994 onward. From 2008 to 2023, single individuals only.



Cattle Egret, SW corner San Diego Bay. Photo by Jenna McCullough.

Great Egret: 201, equaling the all-time high established in 2024. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1929, 1963–2024 average 84, exceeded every year since 2013.

Great Blue Heron: 134. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2023 average 86.

White-faced Ibis: 1 at Sweetwater Reservoir. Recorded on 24 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, average 4.4, owing to a spike from the late 1970s to mid 1980s. Sporadic since then.

Turkey Vulture: 57. Recorded on 42 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, sporadically until 2004 but annually since with all counts since 2011 over 20.

Osprey: 55. First appeared on a San Diego CBC in 1956, then recorded on 53 of 63 counts 1963–2024, annually since 1983, 21st-century average 35.

White-tailed Kite: 8. Recorded on 61 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, average 18—a number not equaled since 2012.

Northern Harrier: 40. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1930, 1963–2024 average 28.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 7. Recorded on 62 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 8.3.

Cooper's Hawk: 47. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1961, 1963–2024 average 24—a number surpassed each year since 1996.

Red-shouldered Hawk: 78, an all-time high, surpassing the previous high of 76 in 2024. Recorded on 62 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963 (last missed in 1963), average 23—a number

surpassed each year since 2010. 1963–2024 average 23, a number exceeded each year since 2010..

Red-tailed Hawk: 178, an all-time high, surpassing the previous high of 154 in 2021. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1926, 1963–2024 average 88—a number surpassed each year since 2007.

Barn Owl: 6. Recorded on 57 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 3.8.

Great Horned Owl: 19, an all-time high, surpassing 13 in 2024. Recorded on 58 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 5.0.



Great Horned Owl on grounds of San Diego Zoo. Photo by Trent Stanley.

Short-eared Owl: 2, 1 at the Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve, 1 in the south San Diego Bay salt works. Recorded on 38 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 1.6.



Short-eared Owl at the Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve. Photo by Joshua Joun.


Short-eared Owl in the south San Diego Bay salt works. Photo by John A. Martin.

Belted Kingfisher: 22. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1927, 1963–2024 average 18.

Red-naped Sapsucker: 2, 1 at the Sesame St. riparian and open space in Telegraph Canyon, 1 in Sunnyslope Park, Palm City, south San Diego. Recorded on 40 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 2.1.


Red-naped Sapsucker, Sunnyslope Park. Photo by Jacques Lyakov.

Red-breasted Sapsucker: 1 at Hollywood Park, City Heights, San Diego. Recorded on 43 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 2.0.

Downy Woodpecker: 6. Recorded annually since spreading south and colonizing the count circle in 1986, average since then 5.9.

Nuttall's Woodpecker: 100. Recorded on 59 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, annually since 1982 and in generally increasing numbers since 1989; 1963–2024 average 31, surpassed every year since 2006.

Northern Flicker: 18. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 44—a number not equaled since 2018.

American Kestrel: 60. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 71.

Merlin: 14. Recorded on 51 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963 (annually since 1985), 1963–2024 average 4.8, a number surpassed each year since 2017.

Peregrine Falcon: 18. Recorded on 48 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963 (annually since 1989), 1963–2024 average 5.9, a number surpassed each year since 2005.

Prairie Falcon: 1 at the Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve—photographed interacting with a Peregrine Falcon. Recorded on 45 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, average 1.2, max 5 in 1982.



Prairie Falcon with Peregrine Falcon at the Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve. Photos by Joshua Joun.

Red-crowned Parrot: 21. Recorded on 11 of 23 previous San Diego CBCs since first noted in 2001. Twenty additional unidentified parrots were reported. Most of San Diego's population of *Amazona* lives outside the count circle.

Lilac-crowned Parrot: 7. Recorded on 4 of 9 previous San Diego CBCs since first noted in 2016. The identifications of the parrots are as reported by the observers, but most of the >40 San Diego specimens of *Amazona* preserved at the San Diego Natural History Museum are intermediate in varying degrees between the Red-crowned and Lilac-crowned.

Red-masked Parakeet: 28. Recorded on 7 of 12 previous San Diego CBCs since first noted in 2013. Most of San Diego's population of hundreds or thousands of Red-masked Parakeets lives northwest or northeast of the count circle.

Least Flycatcher: 1 at the San Diego Country Club, Chula Vista. Recorded on 2 previous San Diego CBCs, with 1 each in 1993 and 1999.



Least Flycatcher at the San Diego Country Club. Note the stubby bill shape distinctive to the Least Flycatcher and the sharply white edges on the tertials characteristic of eastern species of *Empidonax*.

Black Phoebe: 549, an all-time high, surpassing the previous high of 528 in 2019. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 222—surpassed every year since 1997—a long-term increase extending over decades.

Say's Phoebe: 140. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1950, 1963–2024 average 86—surpassed every year since 2007.

Vermilion Flycatcher: 13, 1 at Holy Cross Cemetery, 2 at Greenwood Cemetery, 1 at Rohr Park, Bonita, 1 at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Bonita, 1 at the Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve, 1 at the San Diego Country Club, Chula Vista, 2 in residential Imperial Beach, 1 at Berry Park, Nestor, 1 at Nestor Park, Nestor, and 2 in the Tijuana River valley—a total exceeded only by 26 in 2024. Recorded on 37 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963 (but annual since 2007).



Vermilion Flycatcher, San Diego Country Club, Photo by Tom Ford-Hutchinson.

Tropical Kingbird: 2, 1 in Coronado, a regular site for the species on the San Diego CBC (“long notched tail, relatively long narrow beak, greenish back, bright yellow belly extending to chin. Slightly more svelte in appearance than nearby Cassin's. Initially seen at 9:23 am on utility line SW of Country Club & 6th, but flew to SW. Refound 9:29 through 9:40 on utility line west of Cabrillo & south of 6th. Seen again at 9:41 near west end of 6th heading west over fence into NAS North Island—Robert T. Patton), 1 at the Dairy Mart Rd. pond, Tijuana River valley (continuing, returning bird. Detected today by twittering calls, then could distantly see a much brighter yellow-bellied kingbird with 2 CAKI in the NE corner. Later it was on mid-pond snags—Justyn Stahl). Recorded on 22 San Diego CBCs, first in 1969, annually since 2010, max 3 in 2014, 2015, and 2020.

Cassin's Kingbird: 289. Recorded on 62 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, last missed in 1975; 1963–2024 average 80—surpassed every year since 2007—a species increasing strongly over the long term.

Hutton's Vireo: 10. Recorded on 53 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, annually since 1996, average 5.9—surpassed every year since 2005.

Cassin’s Vireo: 1 at Heritage Park, Chula Vista. Recorded on 30 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, average 0.7, max 10 in 2003.



Cassin's Vireo at Heritage Park, Chula Vista. Photo by Nick Thorpe.

Plumbeous Vireo: 4, 1 at the Educational Cultural Complex, southeast San Diego, 2 at Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park, Encanto, and 1 at Kimball Park, National City ("continuing; initially found by Bill Tweet on 12/10. In riparian along SE corner of park. Nearly all gray and white "Solitary" Vireo with strong contrast between gray auriculars and white malar, grayish wash along sides, and faint olive wash on lower flanks and vent"—Jim Pawlicki). Recorded on 37 San Diego CBCs since the first in 1978, max 5 in 2007.



Plumbeous Vireo, Educational Cultural Complex. Photo by Stephanie Schonberger.


Plumbeous Vireo, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park. Photo by Cindy Pencek.

Loggerhead Shrike: 1 at Border Field State Park. Recorded on every San Diego CBC from the first in 1922 until 2022—so far the only miss. 1963–2024 average 38—not equaled since 1993, reflecting a decline extending over decades.

California Scrub Jay: 73. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1932, 1963–2024 average 104—not equaled since 2013.

American Crow: 6415. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since colonization in 1990, 21st-century average 4993.

Common Raven: 274, second-highest total yet, exceeded only by 351 in 2024. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1962, 1963–2024 average 104—surpassed every year since 2016.

Horned Lark: 510. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1950, 1963–2024 average 213.

Tree Swallow: 13. Recorded on 58 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 179 (annual variation very wide).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: 7 at Sweetwater Reservoir. Recorded on 15 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 0.9.

Barn Swallow: 11, 10 at Sweetwater Reservoir, 1 at the 32nd St. naval base on San Diego Bay. Recorded on 29 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963—but on 16 of 20 since 2005—max 25 in 2016.

Bushtit: 1376. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1953, 1963–2024 average 819.

Wrentit: 183, just below the all-time high of 188 in 2024. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1953, 1963–2024 average 86.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 152. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1953, 1963–2024 average 144.

White-breasted Nuthatch: 1 at Rohr Park, Bonita. Recorded on 31 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, but on 20 of 22 since 2003, when drought drove an irruption.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 40. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1953, 1963–2024 average 40.

California Gnatcatcher: 30, 2 at Cabrillo National Monument, 2 in 34th St. Canyon, 1 in Swan Canyon, 2 in Chollas Canyon between Fairmount and Euclid avenues, 2 at Chollas Reservoir, 1 at the Educational Cultural Complex, 2 in Chollas Valley east of Kelton Rd., 5 in the block of sage scrub north of Market St. and east of Malcolm X Library, 1 in Radio Canyon, 2 in the Paradise Canyon open space 10 around Sweetwater Summit County Park and Sweetwater Reservoir, 1 along the Fenton Pond Trail, Otay Valley. Recorded on 60 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, average 29. The drop from 64 in 2024 to 30 in 2025 reflects a population crash because of drought, attested by intensive surveys at Marine Corps Station Miramar.

House Wren: 38. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1954, 1963–2024 average 29—surpassed every year since 2009.

Marsh Wren: 25. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1944, 1963–2024 average 40—not equaled since 1997.

Bewick's Wren: 175. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1961, 1963–2024 average 61—surpassed every year since 2016.

Cactus Wren: 12, 7 in Chollas Valley near Fairmount Ave. (a notable colonization after the species was first located at this site 2 years ago), 4 at various sites in Encanto, 1 in Rice Canyon, Chula Vista. Recorded on 55 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, average 6.4.



Cactus Wren in Rice Canyon. Photo by Jess Haley.

European Starling: 627. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1963, average 2083—not equaled since 1998 and reflecting a long-term decline since the peak in 1969.

California Thrasher: 123—one shy of the all-time high noted in 1968. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1947, 1963–2024 average 55. Though a chaparral bird and not an urban adapter, the California is evidently coping with habitat fragmentation.

Northern Mockingbird: 113. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922; 1963–2023 average 190—not equaled since 2013.

Western Bluebird: 213. Recorded on 62 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, missed only in 1995, a year of low participation; 1963–2024 average 67—surpassed every year since 2007 and reflecting the species' new status as an urban adapter since the late 1990s.

Varied Thrush: 1 female at the Bird and Butterfly Garden, Tijuana River valley. Recorded on 12 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 0.5, max 15 in 2014.



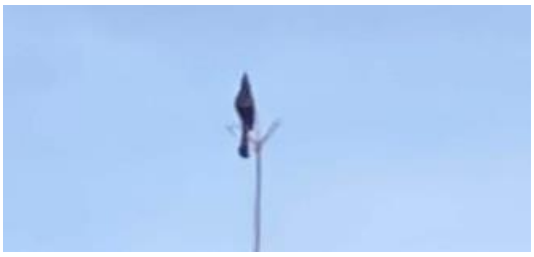
Varied Thrush, Tijuana River valley. Photo by Nancy Christensen.

Hermit Thrush: 116. Recorded on 62 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963 (missed only in 1993), 1963–2024 average 80 (annual variation wide).

American Robin: 49. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1947, 1963–2024 average 142—a number not equaled since 1984, except in the massive invasion of 2022.

Cedar Waxwing: 685, the highest total since 2018. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1963, 1963–2024 average 342 (annual variation very wide).

Phainopepla: 1, feeding in a thicket of fruiting Pittosporum bushes at Southwestern College, Chula Vista—a sharp swing down from last year's all-time high of 25. Recorded on 35 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963 (annually since 2015), 1963–2024 average 2.2.



Phainopepla at Southwestern College. Photo by Bob Sanger.

Scaly-breasted Munia: 200, second highest total since the species was first recorded on a San Diego CBC in 2012, surpassed only by 228 in 2023.

House Sparrow: 848. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 761.

American Pipit: 774. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 580.

House Finch: 2502. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 2551.

Lesser Goldfinch: 431. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1930, 1963–2024 average 243.

American Goldfinch: 46. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1954, 1963–2024 average 61.

Lawrence's Goldfinch: 3 at the Bird and Butterfly Garden, Tijuana River valley. "Male and female. Seen near the horse corrals close to Hollister. Gray birds with yellow in the wings. The male has a black face—Charlene Glacy, Nancy Christensen, and Mel Senac." Recorded on 14 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, average 5.9, max 237 in 1968.

Chipping Sparrow: 33. Recorded on 60 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 36.

Savannah Sparrow: 485, including 8 Large-billed Sparrows at the Chula Vista Wildlife Reserve on San Diego Bay. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 898—a number not equaled since 2002.

Lark Sparrow: 8, all at San Diego Gas & Electric Park West, Chula Vista. Recorded on 47 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 12.

Fox Sparrow: 7, 4 at Cabrillo National Monument on Point Loma, 1 in Switzer Canyon just east of Balboa Park, and 2 in Rice Canyon, Chula Vista. Recorded on 60 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 8.8—a number not equaled since 2007.



Fox Sparrow, Cabrillo National Monument. Photo by Jeff Spaulding.



Fox Sparrow, Rice Canyon. Photo by Jess Haley.

Dark-eyed Junco: 284. Recorded on 61 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 122. This year's total is the highest since 1975. Formerly, the junco occurred in the count circle as an irregular winter visitor only. It colonized as a breeding species and year-round resident in 2016 and since has been on the increase, especially since 2022.

White-crowned Sparrow: 1614. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 2731.

Golden-crowned Sparrow: 19. Recorded on 62 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963 (missed only in 1995, a year of low participation), 2000–2024 average 12 (much higher numbers in the 1960s dwindled through the 1980s).

White-throated Sparrow: 2, 1 at Spanish Landing Park, north San Diego Bay, 1 at the Bird and Butterfly Garden, Tijuana River valley. Recorded on 23 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 0.4, max 2.



White-throated Sparrow, Spanish Landing. Photo by Angela Johnson.



White-throated Sparrow, Tijuana River valley. Photo by Mel Senac.

Song Sparrow: 554. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 356.

Lincoln's Sparrow: 39. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1958, 1963–2024 average 47.

California Towhee: 603. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 404.

Rufous-crowned Sparrow: 5, 2 at Sweetwater Summit County Park near Sweetwater Dam, 3 on the slopes of Spooner Mesa and in Goat Canyon, Tijuana River valley. Recorded on 54 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 3.3.


Rufous-crowned Sparrow, Tijuana River valley. Photo by Mel Senac.

Green-tailed Towhee: 4, 1 at the Living Coast Discovery Center at the mouth of the Sweetwater River on San Diego Bay ("olive back, rusty cap, nasally mewing calls"—Jay Desgrosellier), 1 at Camp Surf, Imperial Beach, 1 in the Otay River restoration area at the mouth of the Otay River, SE corner of San Diego Bay, and 1 at the Tijuana Estuary visitors' center. Recorded on 42 of 634 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 1.6, max 9 in 1968.


Green-tailed Towhee, Tijuana River estuary visitors' center. Photo by Colleen Southern.

Spotted Towhee: 69. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1958, 1963–2024 average 31. This year's total is the highest since 2001, perhaps reflecting a rebound from an earlier decrease due to habitat fragmentation.

Western Meadowlark: 290. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2023 average 368.

Orchard Oriole: 2, 1 adult male on the grounds of the San Diego Zoo, 1 along Leon Ave. near Berry Park, Nestor. Recorded on 17 previous San Diego CBCs since 1963; 1963–2024 average 0.5; first noted in 1968—but on 13 of 18 counts since 2008—max 5 in 2008.



Orchard Oriole, San Diego Zoo. Photo by Trent Stanley.



Orchard Oriole, Nestor. Photo by Barbara Wise.

Hooded Oriole: 1 at Sunnyslope Park, located in afternoon. Recorded on 27 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963—but on 14 of 17 since 2007—1963–2024 average 0.8, max 5 in 2009 and 2016.



Hooded Oriole, Sunnyslope Park. Photo by Stephanie Schonberger.

Bullock's Oriole: 9, 2 on the grounds of the San Diego Zoo, 1 in Coronado, 1 at Emerald Hills Park, Encanto, 1 at Hilltop Park, Chula Vista, 2 at the San Diego Country Club, Chula Vista, 1 at Berry Park, Nestor, and 1 at Montgomery-Waller Park, South San Diego. Recorded on 52 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963—annually since 2003—1963–2024 average 5.0, max 20 in 2009.



Bullock’s Oriole, San Diego Zoo. Photo by Caitlin Morrow.

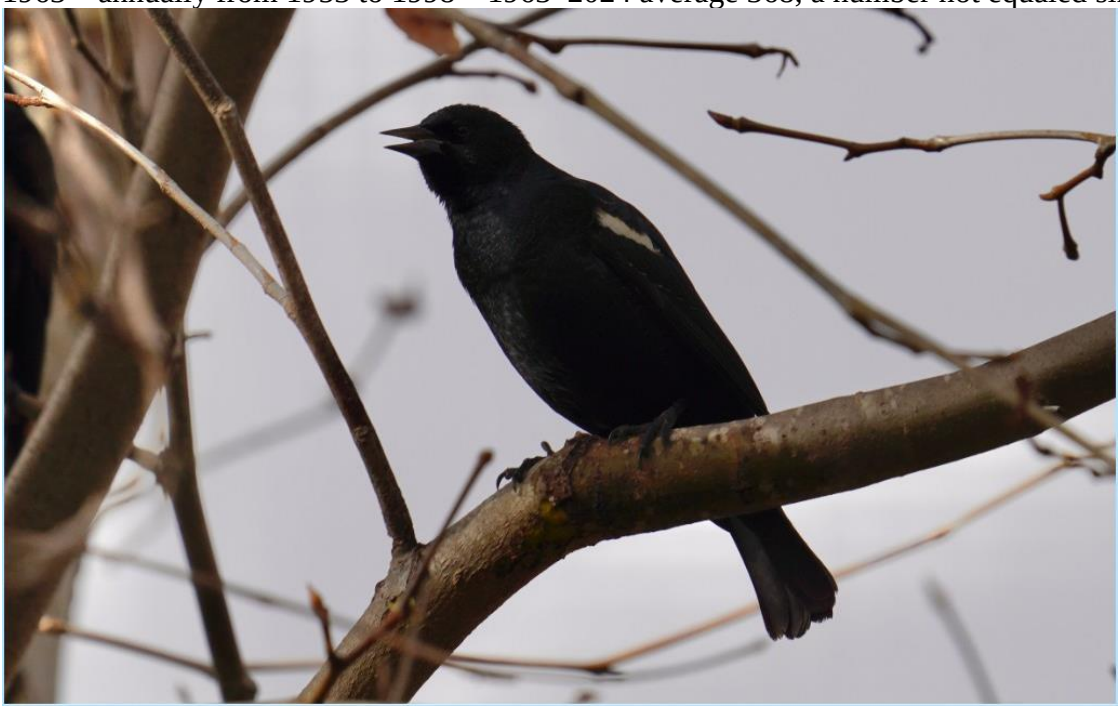


Bullock’s Oriole, San Diego Country Club, Chula Vista. Photo by Thomas Ford-Hutchinson.

Yellow-headed Blackbird: 2 adult males along Sunset Ave. east of Hollister St., Tijuana River valley.

Red-winged Blackbird: 211. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 719—a number not equaled since 2005.

Tricolored Blackbird: 54, 50 at the Otay landfill (now the only site of regular wintering within the count circle), 4 at Heritage Park, Chula Vista. Recorded on 57 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963—annually from 1953 to 1998—1963–2024 average 368, a number not equaled since 2011.



Tricolored Blackbird, Heritage Park, Chula Vista. Photo by Nick Thorpe.

Brown-headed Cowbird: 70. Recorded on 61 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 317.

Brewer's Blackbird: 103. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 833—a number not equaled since 1999.

Great-tailed Grackle: 7, 2 at Chollas Reservoir, 1 at Greenwood Cemetery, southeast San Diego, and 4 in the NW quadrant of theTijuana River valley. Recorded on 38 of 43 San Diego CBCs since first appearance in 1983, average 38.

Black-and-white Warbler: 1 at Spreckels Park, Coronado. Recorded on 33 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963—annually since 2010—1963–2024 average 0.9, max 4 in 2014 and 2017.



Black-and-white Warbler, Spreckels Park, Coronado. Photo by Ken Hartman.

Orange-crowned Warbler: 468, an all-time high, surpassing 383 in 2024. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1946, 1963–2024 average 134—a number exceeded every year since 2006, one measure of the species' long-term increase.

Nashville Warbler: 5, equaling the all-time high set in 2024, 1 at the Educational Cultural Complex, southeast San Diego 2 in Kimball Park, National City ("together in trees near NE corner of park. One bright, one duller, both with "euc face." Short-tailed and sharp-billed warblers with yellow throat and underparts, olive upperparts, and gray head with bold eye ring"—Jim Pawlicki), and 2 in Lauderbach Park, Chula Vista. Recorded on 40 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963—annually since 2010—1963–2024 average 1.2.



Nashville Warbler, Educational Cultural Complex. Photo by Stephanie Schonberger.



Nashville Warbler, Lauderbach Park. Note discoloration from eucalyptus sap—evident on 4 of the 5 Nashville Warblers reported on this year's San Diego CBC. Photo by Thomas Ford-Hutchinson.

Common Yellowthroat: 177. Recorded on every previous San Diego CBCs since the first in 1922, 1963–2024 average 138.

American Redstart: 1. Recorded on 31 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963—but on 18 of 24 since 2000—1963–2024 average 0.8, max 3 in 2001, 2011, 2013, 2014, and 2021.

Yellow Warbler: 5, 1 along Tidelands Ave., National City, 1 in Kimball Park, National City, 1 in the San Diego Country Club, Chula Vista, 1 at 11th St. and Cherry Ave., Imperial Beach, and 1 at the Dairy Mart Rd. ponds,Tijuana River valley. Recorded on 53 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963k 1963–2024 average 46; first noted in 1968, annual since 1996.

Grace's Warbler: 1 at Heritage Park, Chula Vista. Recorded on 6 San Diego CBCs, 2011, 2012, 2013 (1 returning individual), 2023, and 2024 (1 returning individual), as well as 2025.


Grace's Warbler, Heritage Park, Chula Vista. Photo by Marcus Stephens.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 4602. Only 1, on the grounds of the San Diego Zoo, was reported as a Myrtle Warbler. Recorded on every San Diego CBC since 1926, 1963–2024 average 2399.

Palm Warbler: 2, 1 at Paradise Creek Educational Park along W 18th St. in front of Kimball Elementary School, National City ("dull brownish warbler with bold pale supercilium, yellow upper and undertail coverts, and consistently bobbing tail"—Jim Pawlicki), 1 in the community garden, Tijuana River Valley. Recorded on 30 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 0.9, max 9 in 1979.

Black-throated Gray Warbler 8, 1 in the southeast corner of Balboa Park, 1 at Cherokee Point Park and Park de la Cruz, City Heights, San Diego, 2 in Coronado ("male foraging and calling in tree in front of 731 I Ave; minutes later, a female was foraging shrub to shrub and from fence at 749 I Ave."—Robert T. Patton), 1 at Rohr Park, Bonita, 1 at F St. and 5th Ave., Chula Vista, 1 at Palomar Park, Chula Vista, and 1 at Satellite Blvd. and Thermal Ave., Nestor. Recorded on 49 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2004 average 3.5. First noted in 1968, annual since 2001, max 15 in 2021.


Black-throated Gray Warbler, SE Balboa Park. Photo by Terry Hurst.



Black-throated Gray Warbler, Cherokee Point Park/Park de la Cruz. Photo by Andrew Newmark.



Black-throated Gray Warbler, F St. and 5th Ave., Chula Vista. Photo by Jay Desgrosellier.

Townsend's Warbler: 100. Recorded on 62 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963 (missed only in 1964), average 43—a number exceeded every year since 2006, one measure of the species' long-term increase as a winter visitor to San Diego.

Black-throated Green Warbler: 1 in tipu trees (*Tipuana tipu*) along Naples Ave. adjacent to the Costco store in Chula Vista. Recorded on 13 San Diego CBCs since 1963, first in 1978, max 2 in 2015.



Black-throated Green Warbler, Chula Vista. Photo by Thomas Ford-Hutchinson.

Wilson's Warbler: 7, 1 on the grounds of the San Diego Zoo, 1 at Chollas Reservoir, 2 along the Sweetwater River between National City and Chula Vista west of I-805, 1 at Berry Park, Nestor, 2 in the Tijuana River valley west of Hollister St.. Recorded on 51 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963—annually since 1984—1963–2024 average 3.5, max 16 in 2020.

Summer Tanager: 7, 1 at the Marston House, NW corner of Balboa Park, 1 in Coronado (“distinctive "pit-tuck" calls, yellowish with some small reddish splotches, relatively long heavy beak, no distinct wingbars. Initially heard at 9:14 am NE of Country Club & 6th then seen briefly as it flew to WSW. Briefly calling again at 9:41 near Balboa & 6th, landed on utility line, then flew to the west. Last seen at west end of 6th St on wall then over into North Island Naval Air Station”—Robert T. Patton), 1 at Greenwood Cemetery, 1 at an apartment complex near a 7-11 store in Imperial Beach, 1 at Berry Park, and 2 at Sunnyslope Park, Palm City, South San Diego. Recorded on 54 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963—annually since 1989—1963–2024 average 3.0, max 14 in 2010.



Summer Tanager, Marston House, Balboa Park. Photo by Christopher Adler.



Summer Tanagers, Sunnyslope Park. Photo by Jacques Lyakov.

Western Tanager: 4, 1 in Balboa Park west of Hwy. 163, 2 on the grounds of the San Diego Zoo, and 1 in Sunnyslope Park, Palm City, South San Diego. Recorded on 57 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963—annually since 2006—1963–2024 average 7.6, max 32 in 2018.

Western Tanager, San Diego Zoo, Balboa Park. Photo by Trent Stanley.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 1 female in Balboa Park west of Hwy. 163. Recorded on 18 of 63 San Diego CBCs since 1963, 1963–2024 average 0.4; first noted in 1966, max 3 in 2001.



Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Tijuana River valley. Photo by Michael and Sonja Beeve.

Exotics not yet regarded as naturalized:

Black Swan: 2 reported by 4 teams around south San Diego Bay.



Black Swans in Otay River restoration area, SE corner of San Diego Bay. Photo by Tuck Russell.

Am. Flamingo: 2 in the south San Diego Bay saltworks. These have been noted annually since 2022.

Yellow-headed Parrot: 1 in residential Imperial Beach, presumably one the same individuals noted there for the San Diego CBCs in 2023 and 2024. Recorded also in 1985 (5), 2011 (4), and 2015 (5).

Burrowing Parrot: 38, reported from 6 areas from Chollas Reservoir south to Chula Vista. First noted on a San Diego CBC in 2022, though the species has been seen within the count circle since 2012.

Black-throated Magpie Jay: 15, in three areas of the Tijuana River valley, where present continuously since the 1990s. Recorded on 25 of 28 San Diego CBCs since first noted in 1998, average over that interval 5.5, max 17 in 2012.

Swinhoe's White-eye: 305, an all-time high, surpassing 166 in 2023. Recorded annually in continuously increasing numbers since first appearance in 2021.

Hybrid:

Hermit × Townsend's Warbler: 1 in Spreckels Park, Coronado.



Hermit × Townsend’s Warbler, Coronado. Photo by Ken Hartman.