

**Wildlife of the North Hills:
Birds, Animals, Butterflies**



Oakland, California
2010

About this Booklet

The idea for this booklet grew out of a suggestion from Anne Seasons, President of the North Hills Phoenix Association, that I compile pictures of local birds in a form that could be made available to residents of the north hills. I expanded on that idea to include other local wildlife.

For purposes of this booklet, the “North Hills” is defined as that area on the Berkeley/Oakland border bounded by Claremont Avenue on the north, Tunnel Road on the south, Grizzly Peak Blvd. on the east, and Domingo Avenue on the west.

The species shown here are observed, heard or tracked *with some regularity* in this area. The lists are not a complete record of species found: more than 50 additional bird species and 15-20 butterfly species have been observed here, smaller rodents were included without visual verification, and the compiler lacks the training to identify some species such as bats. We would like to include additional species: advice from local experts is welcome and will speed the process.

A few of the species listed fall into the category of pests; but most - whether resident or visitor - are desirable additions to the neighborhood. We hope you will enjoy using this booklet to identify the wildlife you see around you.

Kay Loughman
January 2010



California Ringlet
Coenonympha californica
Wingspan: 1 - 1.25”
March - October



Spring Azure / Echo Blue
Celastrina ladon
Wingspan: 1 - 1.125”
February - July



Common Checkered Skipper
Pyrgus communis
Wingspan: .75 - 1.25”
March - October



Umber Skipper
Paratrytone melane
(*Poanes melane*)
Wingspan: 1.125 - 1.25”
March - June; July - October

Mylytta Crescent

Phyciodes mylitta

Wingspan: 1.125 - 1.625"

March - October



Cabbage White

Pieris rapae

(*Artogeia rapae*)

Wingspan: 1.625 - 2.25"

Early spring to fall



Variable Checkerspot

Euphydryas chelcedona

Wingspan: 1.5 - 2.125"

April - June

Contents

Birds

Turkey Vulture
Red-tailed Hawk
American Kestrel
California Quail
Mourning Dove
Rock Pigeon
Band-tailed Pigeon
Great Horned Owl
White-throated Swift
Anna's Hummingbird
Allen's Hummingbird
Rufous Hummingbird
Nuttall's Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Hutton's Vireo
Steller's Jay
Western Scrub Jay
Common Raven
Violet-green Swallow
Barn Swallow
Oak Titmouse
Chestnut-backed Chickadee
Bushtit
Red-breasted Nuthatch

Bewick's Wren
Wrentit
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
American Robin
Hermit thrush
Northern Mockingbird
Orange-crowned Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Townsend's Warbler
Wilson's Warbler
Black-headed Grosbeak
Spotted Towhee
California Towhee
Golden-crowned Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
Fox Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Purple Finch
House Finch
Pine Siskin
Lesser Goldfinch
American Goldfinch

Animals

Mule Deer
Coyote
Gray Fox
Northern Raccoon
Striped Skunk
Virginia Opossum
Ringtail
Eastern Fox Squirrel

House Rat
Broad-footed Mole
California Vole
Botta's Pocket Gopher
House Mouse
Western Harvest Mouse
North American Deermouse
California Deermouse

Butterflies

Anise Swallowtail	Cabbage White
Western Tiger Swallowtail	Variable Checkerspot
Pale Swallowtail	Lorquin's Admiral
West Coast Lady	California Ringlet
Painted Lady	Spring Azure / Echo Blue
Monarch	Common Checkered Skipper
California Sister	Umber Skipper
Mylitta Crescent	

Acknowledgements

Most of the drawings in this booklet first appeared in older field identification guides. A few were found on the World Wide Web. Artists include among others:

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F. Schuyler Mathews
John L. Ridgeway
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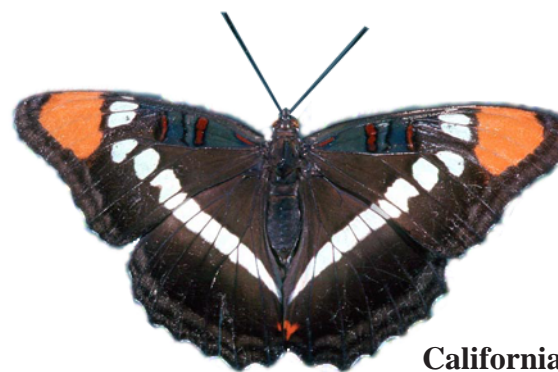
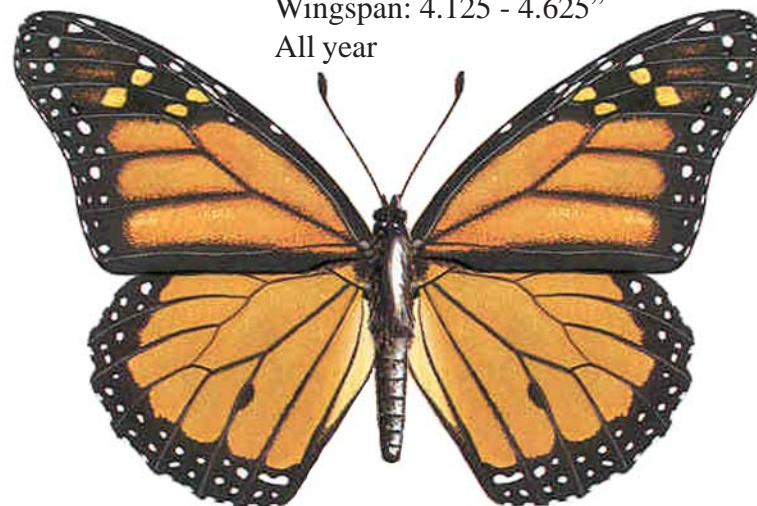
NOTE ON MEASUREMENTS
Birds: Tip of beak to end of tail
Animals: Nose to end of tail

Monarch

Danaus plexippus

Wingspan: 4.125 - 4.625"

All year



California Sister

Adelpha bredowii

Wingspan: 2.375 - 3.5"

April - October

Pale Swallowtail

Papilio eurymedon

Wingspan: 3 - 3.75"

May - June



West Coast Lady

Vanessa annabella

Wingspan: 1.75 - 2.125

All year

Painted Lady

Vanessa Cardui

Wingspan: 2 - 2.25"

All year



Turkey Vulture

Cathartus aura

26"

Year-round



Red-tailed Hawk

Buteo jamaicensis

19"

Year-round

Plumage variable; red tail acquired in spring of second year.



American Kestrel
Falco sparverius
9"
Year-round



Butterflies
Shown actual size

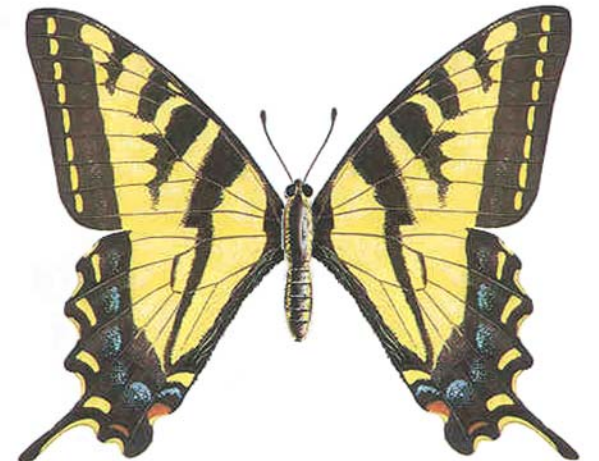
Anise Swallowtail
Papilio zelicaon
Wingspan: 3 - 3.125"
March - September



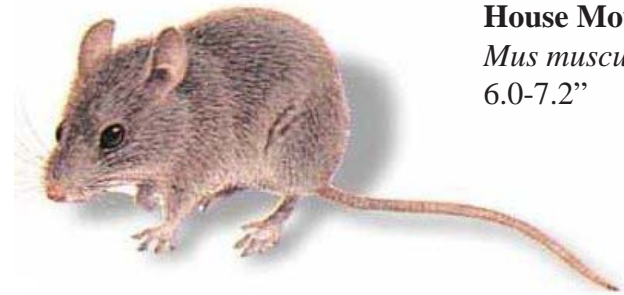
Male



California Quail
Callipepla californica
10"
Year-round



Western Tiger Swallowtail
Papilio rutulus
Wingspan: 3.5 - 4.375"
March - September



House Mouse
Mus musculus
6.0-7.2"



Western Harvest Mouse
Reithrodontomys megalotis
5.0-6.2"



North American Deermouse
Peromyscus maniculatus
4.8-9.0"



California Deermouse
Peromyscus californicus
8.8-10.4"

Mourning Dove
Zenaida macroura
12"
Year-round



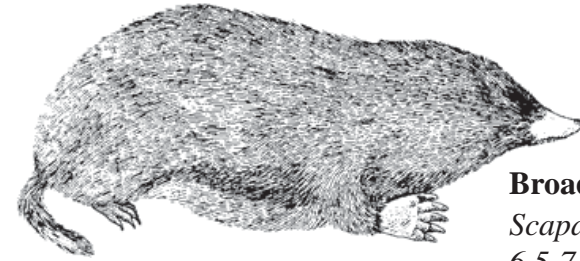
Rock Pigeon
Columba livia
12.5"
Year-round



Band-tailed Pigeon
Columba fasciata
14.5"
Year-round



Great Horned Owl
Bubo virginianus
22"
Year-round



Broad-footed Mole
Scapanus latimanus
6.5-7.5"

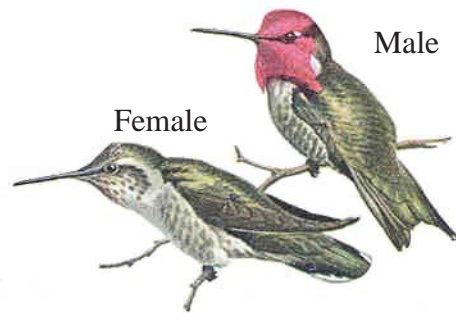
White-throated Swift
Aeronautes saxatalis
6.5"
Year-round



California Vole
Microtus californicus
6.3-8.5"



Anna's Hummingbird
Calypte anna
4"
Year-round



Male

Female



Botta's Pocket Gopher
Thomomys bottae
6.8-10.75"

Virginia Opossum
Didelphis virginiana
 24-33"



Three color phases
 of Fox Squirrel

Eastern Fox Squirrel
Sciurus niger
 25-40"



House Rat
Rattus rattus
 16"



Rufous Hummingbird
Selasphorus rufus
 3.75"
 March - April, August - September

Allen's Hummingbird
Selasphorus sasin
 3.75"
 March - July



Rufous or Allen's Hummingbird
Female

Rufous Hummingbird
Male

Anna's Hummingbird
Male

Allen's Hummingbird
Male

Nuttall's Woodpecker
Picoides nuttallii
7.5"
Year-round



Northern Flicker
Colaptes auratus
12.5"
Year-round

Hutton's Vireo
Vireo huttoni
5"
Year-round. Similar to
Ruby-crowned Kinglet.



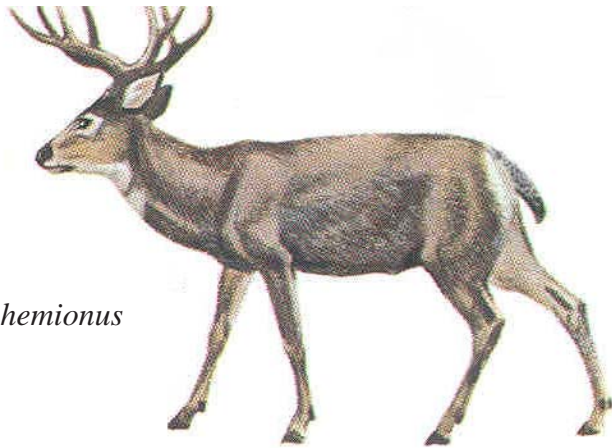
Striped Skunk
Mephitis mephitis
20-28"

Northern Raccoon
Procyon lotor
26-45"

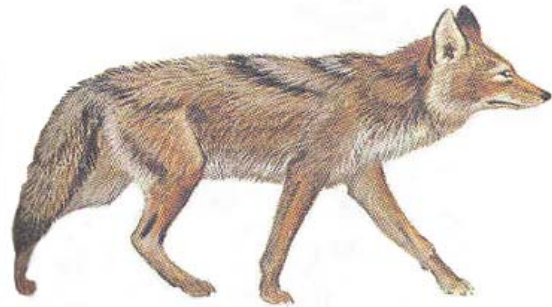


Ringtail
Bassariscus astutus
33-36"

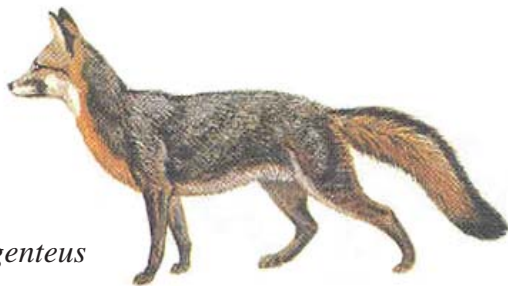
Animals



Mule Deer
Odocoileus hemionus
to 78"



Coyote
Canis latrans
43-70"



Gray Fox
Urocyon cinereoargenteus
32-60"
22



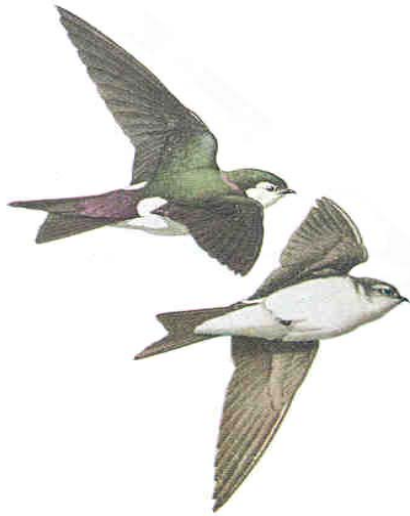
Steller's Jay
Cyanocitta stelleri
11.5"
Year-round



Western Scrub Jay
Aphelocoma californica
11.5"
Year-round



Common Raven
Corvus corax
24"
Year-round



Violet-green Swallow
Tachycineta thalassina
5.25"
April - July

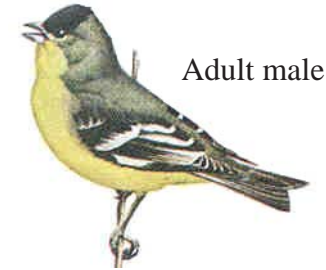


Pine Siskin
Carduelis pinus
5"
November-March



Barn Swallow
Hirundo rustica
6.75"
April - July

Lesser Goldfinch
Carduelis psaltria
4.5"
Year-round



Adult male



Oak Titmouse
Baeolophus inornatus
5.75"
Year-round



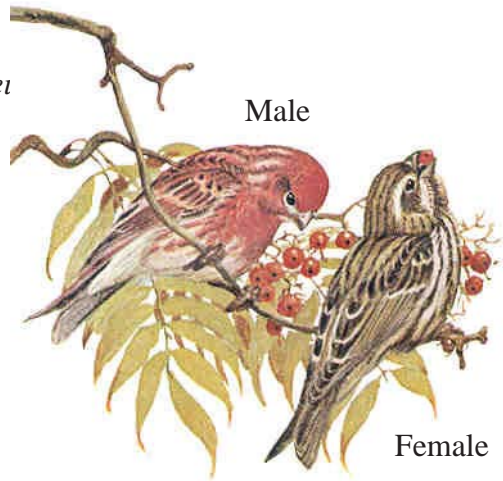
American Goldfinch
Carduelis tristis
5"
Year-round

Purple Finch

Carpodacus purpureus

6"

Year-round



Chestnut-backed Chickadee

Poecile rufescens

4.75"

Year-round



Bushtit

Psaltriparus minimus

4.5"

Year-round. Often seen in flocks of seven or more.

Male

House Finch

Carpodacus mexicanus

5"

Year-round



Red-breasted Nuthatch

Sitta canadensis

4.5"

Year-round

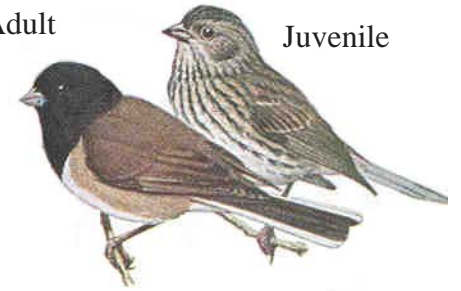


Bewick's Wren
Thryomanes bewickii
5.25"
Year-round

Adult

Juvenile

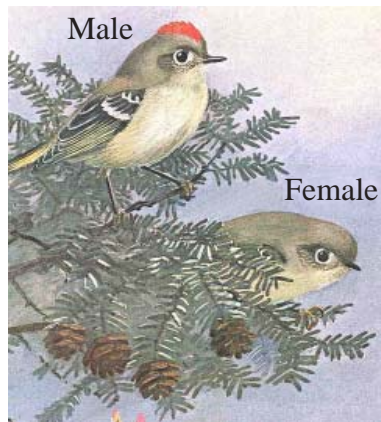
Dark-eyed Junco
Junco hyemalis
6.25"
Year-round



Wrentit
Chamaea fasciata
6.5"
Year-round



Fox Sparrow
Passerella iliaca
7"
October-April



Male

Female

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Regulus calendula
4.25"
October - March

Similar to Hutton's Vireo.
Red crown seen infrequently

Song Sparrow
Melospiza melodia
6.25"
Year-round

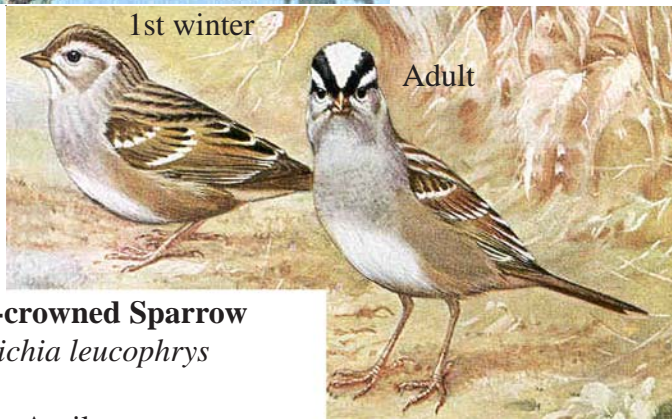




California Towhee
Pipilo crissalis
9"
Year-round



American Robin
Turdus migratorius
10"
Year-round



White-crowned Sparrow
Zonotrichia leucophrys
7"
October-April



Hermit Thrush
Catharus guttatus
6.75"
October - April



Golden-crowned Sparrow
Zonotrichia atricapilla
7.25"
October-April

Northern Mockingbird
Mimus polyglottos
10"
Year-round



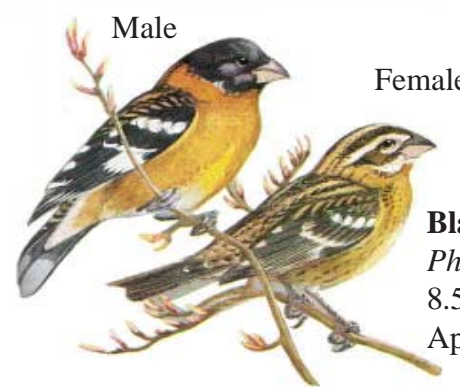


Orange-crowned Warbler
Vermivora celata
5"
April - September



Wilson's Warbler
Wilsonia pusilla
4.75"
April - September

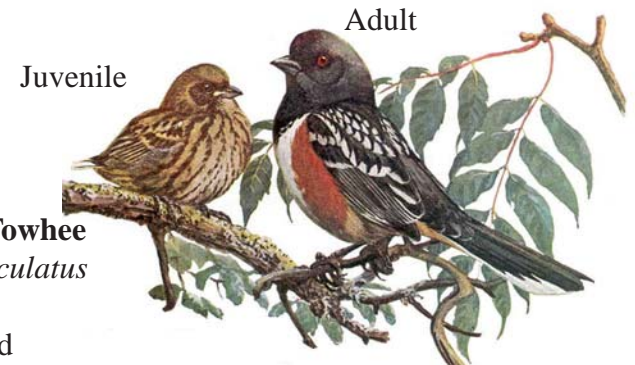
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Dendroica coronata
5.5"
October - April
Plumage variable



Black-headed Grosbeak
Pheucticus melanocephalus
8.5"
April - August



Townsend's Warbler
Dendroica townsendi
5"
October - April



Spotted Towhee
Pipilo maculatus
8.5"
Year-round