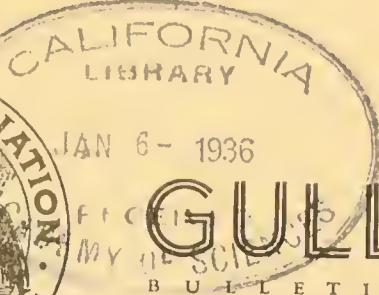
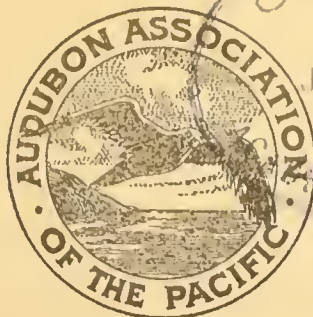


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F. C. I. GULL
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VOLUME 18

SAN FRANCISCO, JANUARY, 1936

NUMBER 1

Christmas Bird Census for Bay Farm Island, Alameda

Bay Farm Island, Alameda, California, December 22, 1935, taking in entire shore line of the Island and adjacent waters only, from 10 a. m. to 3 p. m. The high tide for Fort Point was 5.6 feet at 8:19 a. m. and low tide 0.4 feet at 3:45 p. m.

Red-throated Loon	2	Killdeer	16
Eared Grebe	14	Black-bellied Plover	12
Pied-billed Grebe	6	Western Willet	175
Great Blue Heron	1	Yellow-legs	2
Pintail	25	Red-backed Sandpiper	5000+
Scaup	4	Western Sandpiper	1000+
American Golden-eye	12	Marbled Godwit	125
Surf Scoter	200	Sanderling	100
Ruddy Duck	50	Glaucous-winged Gull	100+
Marsh Hawk	2	Western Gull	6
Sparrow Hawk	1	California Gull	50
Clapper Rail	10	Ring-billed Gull	20
Coot	12	Bonaparte Gull	300+
Snowy Plover	18		

There were a few scattered Least Sandpipers, too difficult to count among the other Sandpipers. I was so busy with the shore-birds that I could not count the few land birds that were along the shore; however, I saw two Audubon Warblers, a few Pipits, Meadowlarks, Brewer Blackbirds, Bryant and Alameda Song Sparrows.

Junea W. Kelly (Mrs. G. Earle).



In San Mateo County

On December 25, 1935, a cold and overcast day, a trip was taken to San Andreas and Crystal Springs Lakes, and then to Searsville Lake in Portola Valley. The following species were counted at these localities:

San Andreas Lake: Pied-billed Grebe 4; Ruddy Duck 7; Red-breasted Merganser 7; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Sparrow Hawk 2; Coot 11; Wren-tit 1; Brown Towhee 3.

North Crystal Springs Lake: Great Blue Heron 1; Canada Goose 29; Mallard 3; Baldpate 17; Ring-necked Duck 1; Ruddy Duck 8; Red-breasted Merganser 11; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Quail 4; Coot 278+; Flicker 1; California Woodpecker 1; Black Phoebe 3; Coast Jay 1; California Jay 7; Wren-tit 2; Robin 22; Audubon Warbler 3; House Finch 3; Brown Towhee 5; Spotted Towhee 2; Golden-crowned Sparrow 15.

South Crystal Springs Lake: Great Blue Heron 2; Whistling Swan 4; Canada Goose 208+; Pintail 254; Canvas-back 40; Red-tailed Hawk 2; Marsh Hawk 2; Sparrow Hawk 5; Coot 300+; Killdeer 1; Red-shafted Flicker 1; Say Phoebe 2; Shrike 1; Meadowlark 6; Savannah Sparrow 3.

Searsville Lake: Pied-billed Grebe 10; Anthony Green Heron 1; Black-crowned Night Heron 6; Ring-necked Duck 20; Canvas-back 39; Ruddy Duck 40; Hooded Merganser, male, 1; Coot 72; Killdeer 2; Yellow-leg 2; Western Sandpiper 14; Kingfisher 1; Red-shafted Flicker 1; Black Phoebe 2; California Woodpecker 1; Chickadee 2; Plain Titmouse 1; Vigors Wren 2; Bush-tit 15; Western Bluebird 8; Meadowlark 3; Song Sparrow 1.

Laura A. Stephens.



Christmas Bird Census for San Francisco

The Christmas census for San Francisco, embracing Fort Mason, the Marina, the Presidio, the ocean beach, Golden Gate Park, Lake Merced and Sunset Boulevard from Golden Gate Park to Lake Merced, was taken on Sunday, December 22, 1935, from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m. An ideal day, quite warm in the sun, with an average temperature of 51°.

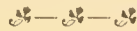
	Fort Mason to Beach	Golden Gate Park	Sunset Boulevard	Lake Merced
Eared Grebe .....	....	3	....	50
Western Grebe	18	....	....	7
Pied-billed Grebe	3	12	....	47
Mallard	15	338	....	1
Baldpate	33	....	....	51
Pintail	1	1	....	....
Canvas-back	67	177	....	101
Lesser Scaup .....	....	34	....	10
Ruddy Duck	10	133	....	21
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	2	....	....
Cooper Hawk	1	....	....	1
Red-tailed Hawk	3	4	....	....
Quail	169+	263	....	16
Coot	287	300	....	279
Killdeer	29	179	1	4
Glaucous-winged Gull	155	15	....	8
Western Gull	909+	11	....	3
California Gull	3447+	157	....	1367
Ring-billed Gull	42	4	....	....
Anna Hummingbird	33	16	1	6
Red-shafted Flicker	24	5	4	7
Black Phoebe	6	3	....	7
Say Phoebe	4	....	1	....
Barlow Chickadee	17	41	....	2
Bush-tit	119	85	....	....
Red-breasted Nuthatch	6	7	....	1
Winter Wren	2	1	....	1
Vigors Wren .....	....	12	....	1
Western Robin	2	24	....	....
Dwarf Hermit Thrush.....	12	14	....	9
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	16	23	....	5
Pipit	46	3	4	....
Shrike.....	4	....	1	....
Audubon Warbler	24	14	....	19
English Sparrow	76	75	1	47
Meadowlark	24	....	....	6
Brewer Blackbird	409	....	....	82
Common House Finch.....	97	12	....	2
San Francisco Towhee.....	9	21	....	4
Junco	21	40	....	10
Nuttall Sparrow	232	308	86	67
Golden-crowned Sparrow	5	....	1	....
Fox Sparrow	3	9	....	2
Song Sparrow	36	31	2	31

In addition to the above, the following birds were observed only along the Marina, Presidio and at the Beach: Brown Pelican 105, Farallon Cormorant 76+, Brandt Cormorant 200, Ring-necked Duck 64, Sparrow Hawk 2, Surf-bird 18, Ruddy Turnstone 15, Black Turnstone 75, Sanderling 68, Herring Gull 8, Short-billed Gull 123, Barn Owl 1, Horned Owl 1, Willow Woodpecker 2, Horned Lark 25, California Jay 1, Western Bluebird 34, Townsend Warbler 1.

Golden Gate Park only: Green-winged Teal 1 female, Redhead 2, Buffle-head 1 female, California Creeper 2.

Lake Merced only: California Heron 1, Tule Wren 1, Yellow-throat 9, Red-wing Blackbird 4. Total 70 species, 12,012 individuals.

A summary of our Christmas censuses from records available for twelve years gives a total of 133 species. For the past few years a number of species have been missing from their accustomed localities due to changed conditions: nine at Fort Point where the Golden Gate bridge is under construction, twenty-two at Lake Merced where a wooded canyon has been stripped of every tree and shrub preparatory to building a highway, twelve in Golden Gate Park where excessive clearing away of shrubbery, which afforded ideal cover for birds, has been one of the activities of the WPA for some time.



Christmas Bird Census at Benicia

Benicia, California, December 21, 1935, from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. Clear; no wind; temperature 42° at start, 46° at return. Observers traveling together by automobile with frequent stops to canvass the marsh and hills along the highway between Benicia and Cordelia, the two towns being fourteen miles apart.

White Pelican 1; California Heron 5; American Egret 11; Black-crowned Night Heron 2; Whistling Swan 13; Lesser Snow Goose 3,000; Mallard 9; Baldpate 52; Pintail 800; Canvas-back 600; Lesser Scaup Duck 27; Ruddy Duck 70; White-tailed Kite 1; Red-tailed Hawk 9; Marsh Hawk 13; Sparrow Hawk 33; Valley Quail 75; Coot 1,100; Killdeer 46; Black-bellied Plover 14; Wilson Snipe 1; Red-backed Sandpiper 23; Long-billed Dowitcher 24; Western Sandpiper 30; Glaucous-winged Gull 210; Western Gull 738; California Gull 485; Band-tailed Pigeon 1; Burrowing Owl 4; Anna Hummingbird 1; Red-shafted Flicker 63; Say Phoebe 5; Horned Lark 65; Nicasio Jay 32; Plain Titmouse 3; Bush-tit 45; Rock Wren 4; Mockingbird 2; Western Robin 14; Western Bluebird 8; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 13; American Pipit 38; Shrike 37; Audubon Warbler 10; Meadowlark 500; San Francisco Red-wing 7; Brewer Blackbird 7,800; House Finch 225; Willow Goldfinch 800; Green-backed Goldfinch 18; San Francisco Towhee 3; San Francisco Brown Towhee 1; Savannah Sparrow 150; Junco 7; Nuttall Sparrow 74; Golden-crowned Sparrow 30; Suisun Song Sparrow 7. Total 57 species, about 17,359 individuals.

The White-tailed Kite, with its customary unwariness of the species, alighted in the top of a buckeye tree a short distance from us, where it spread its black-shouldered wings to the sun.

One of the Whistling Swans had an injured wing. It is planned to take this bird to Lake Merritt, where it is hoped it will recover.

The Lesser Snow Geese were resting on the waters of the Suisun slough in one compact flock. This flock is spending the winter on the Suisun marshes.

Several thousands of ducks were observed through our field glasses resting on the bay waters or in small ponds a half-mile and more away. These were not included in the census as we did not have the time nor boat equipment necessary to "round them up" in order to identify them.

The greatly increased numbers of Gulls now found along these shores is due to the activity at the new fish reduction and canning plants recently put into operation on the Benicia waterfront. The boats bringing sardines and mackerel to these plants are accompanied by great numbers of gulls, which pick up the refuse and fish which fall overboard during the unloading.

Emerson A. Stoner and James M. Barkley.

Audubon Notes

January Meeting: The 19th annual meeting will be held on Thursday evening, the 9th, at 8 o'clock, room 19, Ferry Building.

Annual reports will be presented and officers and directors will be elected for the ensuing year.

The speaker of the evening will be Mrs. Junea W. Kelly, whose subject will be "Distribution of Birds."



January Field Trip will be taken to the wild waterfowl sanctuary at Lake Merritt, Oakland, on Sunday, the 12th. San Francisco members will take Key Route boat at 9:20 a. m. and the Grand Avenue car on the Twenty-second Street train, leaving the car at Grand Avenue and Perkins Street, where party will meet.

East Bay members will transfer from any traction main line to Grand Avenue or Lakeshore Avenue cars. Bring luncheon. Leader, Chas. A. Bryant.



1936 Dues. The annual dues for the year of 1936 are now payable and all members are asked to make their remittances as early as possible to the Treasurer. It is requested that all checks be made in the name of the Audubon Association of the Pacific.



December Meeting: The 221st regular meeting was held on December 12th, room 19, Ferry Building, with thirty-three members and guests present. President Junea W. Kelly presiding.

The following observations were reported by Commander Parmenter: Cliff House, 78 Black Turnstones, November 30th, 30± Surf Birds, December 9th;

Crystal Springs Lake, 327± Canada Geese, December 10th, 2 adult and 2 young Whistling Swans, November 15th and 25th; Searsville Lake, 4 Whistling Swans (perhaps the same birds as above), 100± Ring-necked Ducks, December 10th, 1 Florida Gallinule, 4 Mountain Bluebirds and 2 Western Gnatcatchers; Mountain View marshes, 10 Long-billed Curlew; Redwood City ponds, 100± Avocets, December 10th.

Mr. Joseph Dixon spoke on the present status of certain species and the danger of extinction threatening others.

The Trumpeter Swan and Whooping Crane are causing serious concern. The Sandhill Crane is diminished to the danger point on account of hunters in its wintering grounds.

Among the ducks the Golden-eye is doing fairly well, while the Shoveller is becoming scarce. The American Merganser is hunted by fishermen because they believe it is the better fisherman. The Sierra Grouse is increasing, but the Sharp-tailed Grouse and Sagehen of the open plains, easily reached by automobiles, are likely to go.

The danger to the California Condor is food supply. No longer do cattle, in great numbers, run at large over the ranges, but are kept under closer supervision, hence carrion is less abundant.

The draining of marshes and shallow lakes has concentrated the White Pelicans in one breeding ground in California, which in itself is a menace.

The Red-tailed Hawk suffers much from man's unwarranted enmity.

Only those birds which have adequate protection or live in remote places, out of reach of man, will be able to survive.

Audubon Association of the Pacific

Organized January 25, 1917

For the Study and the Protection of Birds

President.....Mrs. G. Earle Kelly.....1311 Grand Ave., Alameda, Calif.
 Corresponding Secretary.....C. B. Lastreto.....260 California St., San Francisco
 Treasurer.....Mrs. A. B. Stephens.....1695 Filbert St., San Francisco

Monthly meeting second Thursday, 8 P. M., Room 19, Ferry Building.

Address Bulletin correspondence to Mrs. A. B. Stephens, Editor, 1695 Filbert St., San Francisco.

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Student memberships, \$1.50 per year.

Life memberships, \$50.00.

Members are responsible for dues until written notice of resignation is received by Treasurer.