

The date: 1/2/2026

The week number: 1

The walk number: 1852

The weather: 61 F; light rain

The walkers: Alan Cummings, Marsha Hirano-Nakanishi, Chip O'Connor, Calvin Kan, Kevin Kan, Wan-Ying Kan, Ellen Yu, Viveca Sapin-Areeda, Eric Warren

The birds (25)

| No. | First Name     | Last Name   | Prob |
|-----|----------------|-------------|------|
| 5   | Western        | Bluebird    | 0.50 |
| 12  |                | Bushtit     | 0.50 |
| 30  | American       | Crow        | 1    |
| 27  | Mourning       | Dove        | 0.88 |
| 3   | House          | Finch       | 1    |
| 1   | American       | Goldfinch   | 0.25 |
| 35  | Lesser         | Goldfinch   | 1    |
| 2   | Species        | Gull        | 0.38 |
| 2   | Red-tailed     | Hawk        | 0.62 |
| 1   | Anna's         | Hummingbird | 1    |
| 1   | Selasphorus    | Hummingbird | 0.50 |
| 1   | Dark-eyed      | Junco       | 1    |
| 2   | Ruby-crowned   | Kinglet     | 1    |
| 1   | Northern       | Mockingbird | 0.25 |
| 2   | Black          | Phoebe      | 1    |
| 1   | Common         | Raven       | 1    |
| 30  | White-throated | Swift       | 0    |
| 1   | Oak            | Titmouse    | 0.12 |
| 1   | California     | Towhee      | 0.62 |
| 2   | Orange-crowned | Warbler     | 0.50 |
| 3   | Yellow-rumped  | Warbler     | 1    |
| 8   | Cedar          | Waxwing     | 0.62 |
| 8   | Acorn          | Woodpecker  | 1    |
| 1   | Nuttall's      | Woodpecker  | 0.25 |
| 1   | Bewick's       | Wren        | 0.25 |

Walk lasted between 12:00 and 14:00

I'm pretty sure this was the wettest Caltech bird walk in history. I normally would have cancelled but the forecast calls for rain for the next four days in a row, so we were in danger of not getting a walk done for the first week of the year. It was difficult, but we got it done. And there were plenty of birds. We had 3 species with flocks of 30+. We observed 25 species, 2 short of the record for the week and 2.8 more than the prediction. My list didn't get too wet; I was aided by Eric who held his umbrella out for me to write in the observations on the wetter moments. So, now that it's over and I and my gear are drying out, the walk doesn't seem so bad. The numbers were good and 9 walkers turned out, which was great under the conditions. Next walk is on Wednesday 1/7/2026, which is the next dry day in the forecast.

Alan,  
1/2/2026