

The date: 10/29/2019

The week number: 44

The walk number: 1531

The weather: 66 F; sunny

The walkers: Alan Cummings, Meagan Gourley

The birds (20)

- 1 Northern Mockingbird
- 3 House Sparrow
- 2 Mourning Dove
- 3 Anna's Hummingbird
- 6 Acorn Woodpecker
- 2 American Crow
- 2 Turkey Vulture
- 1 Snowy Egret
- 1 Mallard
- 5 Black Phoebe
- 5 Bushtit
- 1 Townsend's Warbler
- 2 Ruby-crowned Kinglet
- 2 Say's Phoebe
- 3 Band-tailed Pigeon
- 2 Cassin's Kingbird
- 1 Hummingbird, Selasphorus
- 28 Yellow-rumped Warbler
- 1 Red-tailed Hawk
- 2 California Towhee

(Note: On 12/5/19, I decided the Costa's that was originally on the list was really an Anna's and corrected the record)

Original report:

Wow, great walk! We got a new bird for the Caltech list! It was a Costa's Hummingbird. It was spectacular. Meagan and I high-fived when we saw it, but I didn't know then that it was new for the Caltech bird list. I thought we might have seen one before, but a search of the records revealed otherwise.

So, we are up to 127 unique species sighted on the walks.

We have been getting a new one approximately once per year over the last few years. We got a new one in 2016 and 2017, but missed 2018. We are now back on track. FYI: the Costa's was over in the garden area on Wilson, just north of the parking structure.

We had some other good birds: 2 Cassin's Kingbirds in the Athletic field south of Brown Gym, a Townsend's Warbler down on Arden Rd., and the first Ruby-crowned Kinglets of the Fall season.

The weather was perfect, 66 F. Y'all should have been there!

Alan 10/30/19

PS: We are concerned about the Snowy Egret. It has often been seen looking at its reflection in the windows of Millikan, and it was there again today. It pecks at its image and also claws at it with a foot. Is it going to starve to death doing this all day, every day? Don't know, but it is disturbing.