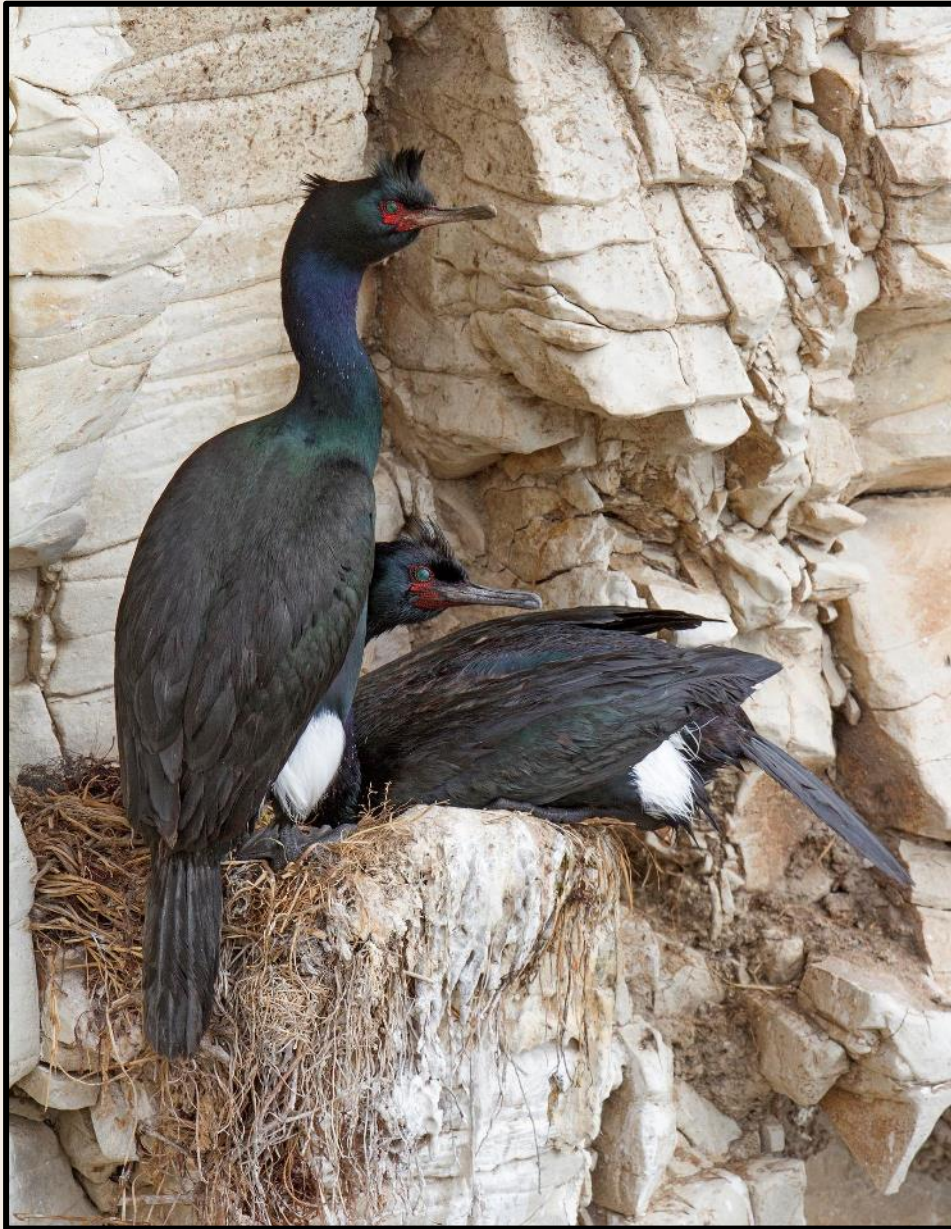


Santa Cruz County **BREEDING BIRD ATLAS II**



Annual Report
Year 4

YEAR 4 SUMMARY

Atlasing effort in Year 4 was higher than in any year previously. Atlasers submitted **45% more breeding confirmations** and spent **60% more hours atlasing** than in previous years. Five species were confirmed breeding for the first time during the project: American Avocet, Golden Eagle, Rufous-crowned Sparrow, Western Meadowlark, and Western Screech-Owl.

With support from the County of Santa Cruz Fish & Wildlife Advisory Committee, the atlas funded **four student internships** and created a **virtual training** for atlasers. Interns collected observations on poorly represented species in our dataset, such as Great-tailed Grackle and Purple Martin, while the virtual training helped recruit new atlasers during COVID-19.



Golden Eagle
© Bruce Lyon



American Avocet © Alex Rinkert

	<u>YEAR 4</u>	<u>CUMULATIVE</u>
BREEDING CONFIRMATIONS	6,500	17,400
ATLASING HOURS	5,800	10,300
BREEDING SPECIES	135	139

PROJECT PROGRESS

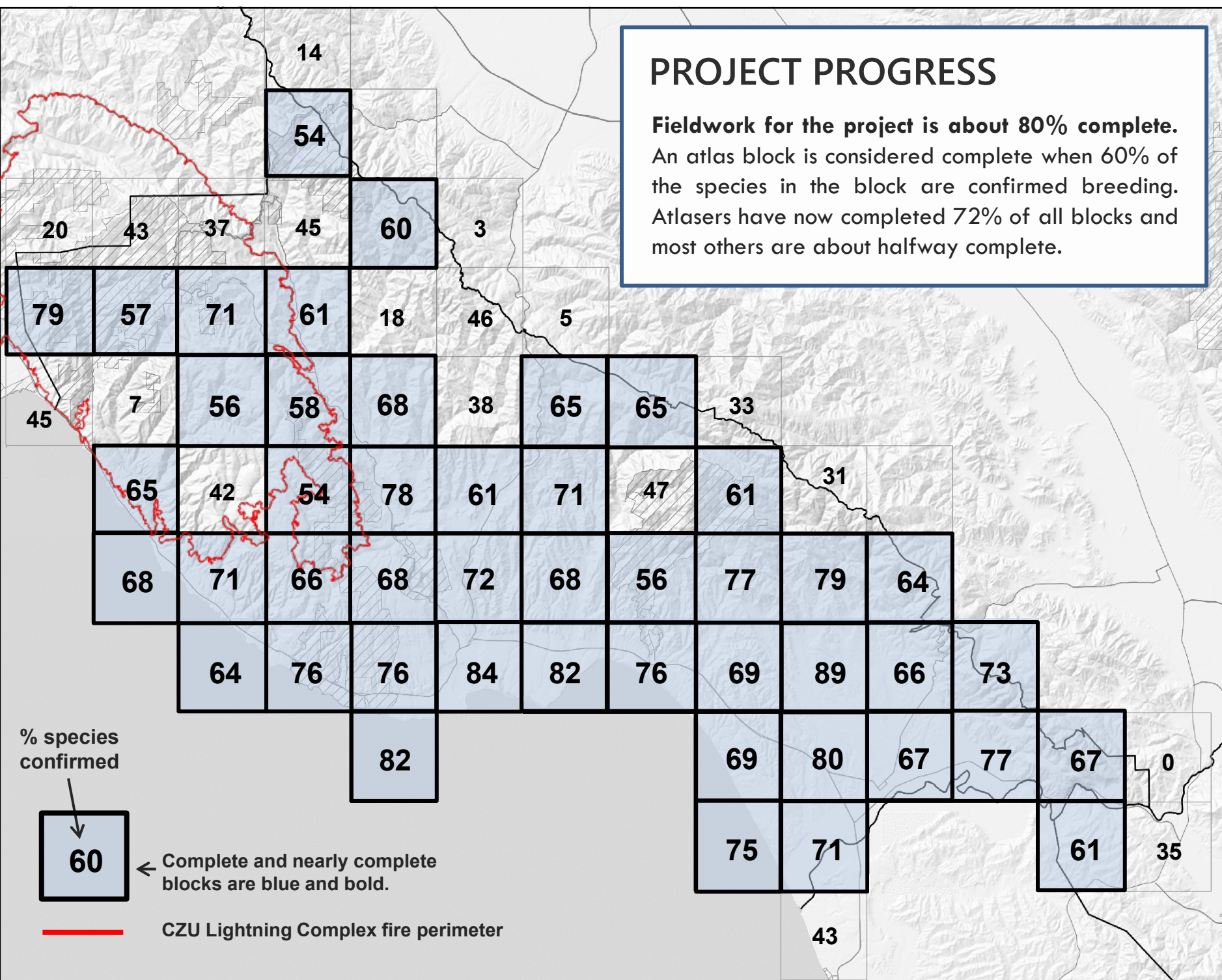
Fieldwork for the project is about 80% complete.

An atlas block is considered complete when 60% of the species in the block are confirmed breeding. Atlasers have now completed 72% of all blocks and most others are about halfway complete.

PROJECT PROGRESS

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ATLASING HOURS

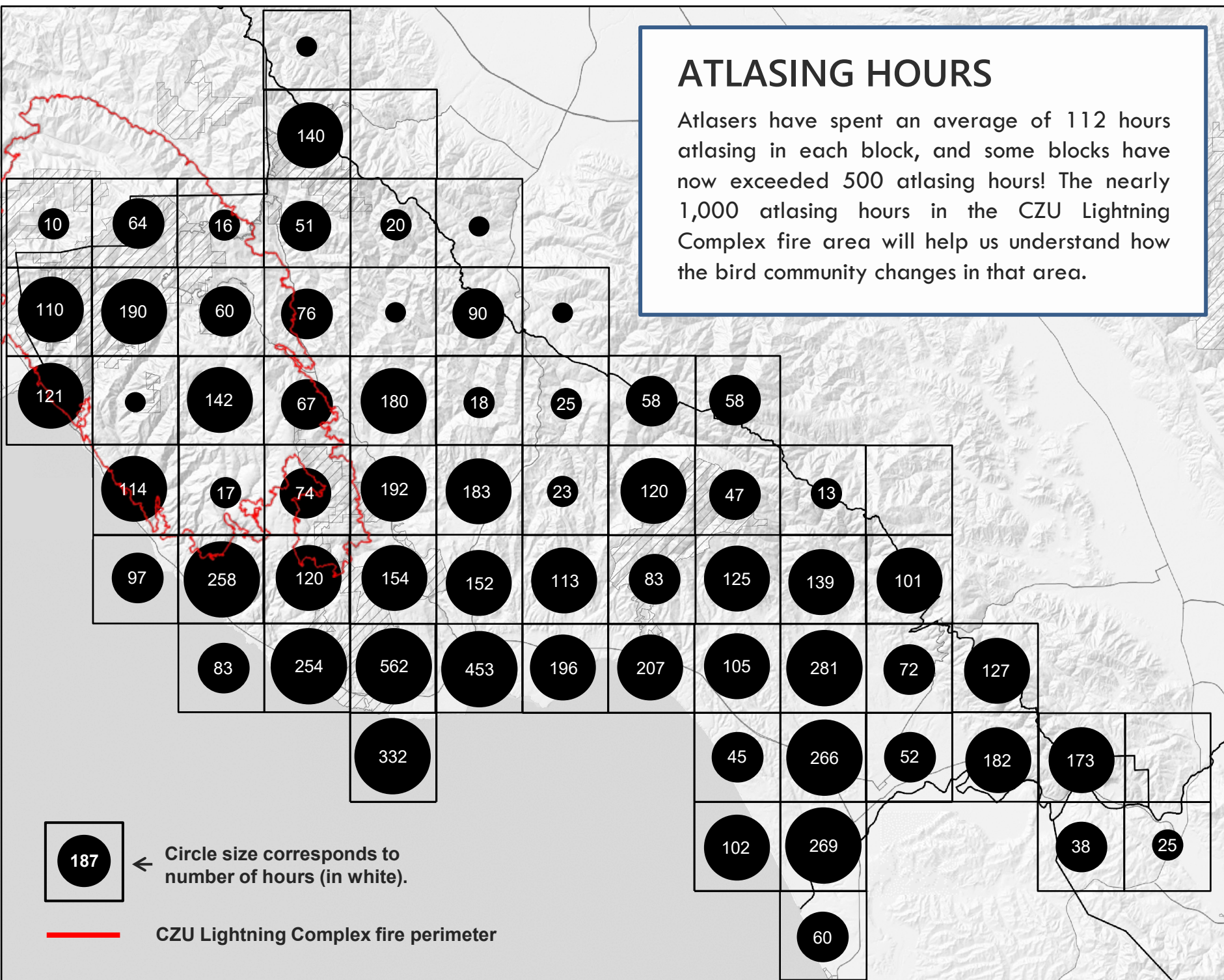
Atlasers have spent an average of 112 hours atlasing in each block, and some blocks have now exceeded 500 atlasing hours! The nearly 1,000 atlasing hours in the CZU Lightning Complex fire area will help us understand how the bird community changes in that area.



← Circle size corresponds to number of hours (in white).



CZU Lightning Complex fire perimeter



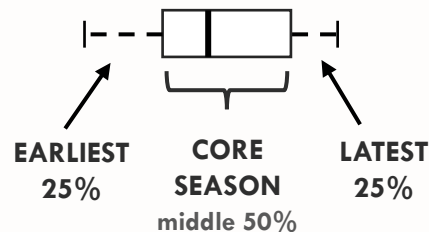
PHENOLOGY

Atlas data shows when each species is building a nest, has eggs or nestlings, and when fledglings are still dependent. These data help inform when management activities will have the least impact on breeding birds, and can also show how the timing of breeding has changed in response to climate change.

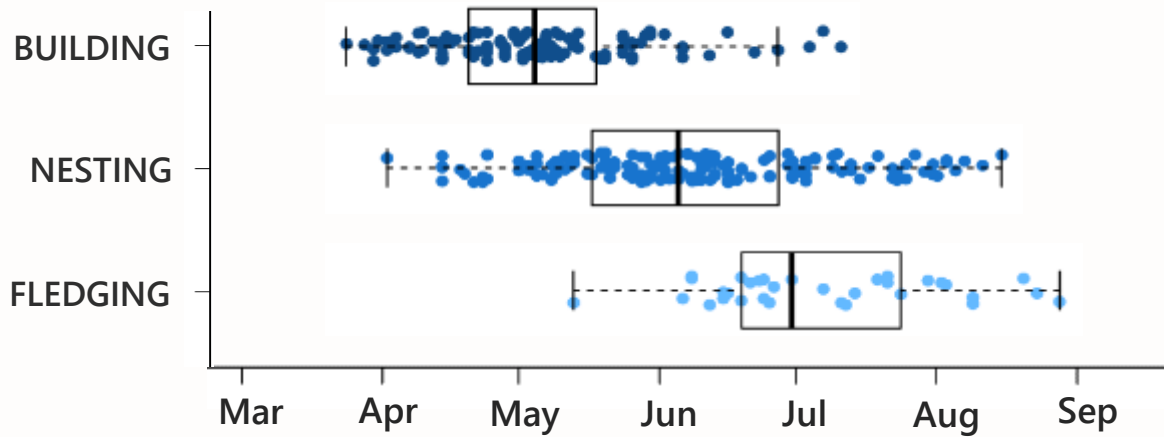


CLIFF SWALLOW

Petrochelidon pyrrhonota



	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>CORE SEASON</u>
BUILDING	Mar 24 – Jul 11	Apr 20 – May 18
NESTING	Apr 2 – Aug 15	May 17 – Jun 25
FLEDGING	May 13 – Aug 28	Jun 19 – Jul 24



VOLUNTEERS

This year the project maintained a core of 50 atlasers who participate year after year, and many new atlasers participated for the first time. Thanks to the atlasers and other observers for making this the most productive year of the project!

	<u>YEAR 4</u>	<u>CUMULATIVE</u>
ATLASERS	65	93
PROJECTS & GROUPS	4	8

Robin Abu-Shumays
RJ Adams
Jenny Anderson
Bonnie Bedzin
Theadora Block
Bill Bousman
Ann Brohmer
Jessica Brohmer

Perry Brohmer
Tracey Brookshier
Phil Brown
Bryan Cockel
Sonia Deetz
Hannah Doniach
David Ekdahl
Elisabeth Foster

Lois Goldfrank
Peggy Gotthold
Richard Griffith
Cole Heim
Sharon Hull
Chris Illes
Surrey Kent
June Langhoff
Lisa Fay Larson
Earl Lebow
Margaret Leonard
Nick Levendosky
Bruce Lyon
Jeff Manker
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Bobbie Mayer

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Zack Mikalonis
Liam Murphy
Shirley Murphy
Jane Orbuch
Sandi Pensinger
Margaret Perham
Bernadette Ramer
Bob Ramer
Alex Rinkert
Barbara Riverwoman
Richard Sandkuhle
Rusty Scalf
Elena Scott
Lisa Sheridan

Tomoko Shimotomai
David Sidle
Stephanie Singer
Logan Southall
Madeline Spencer
Kitty Stein
Peter Svensson
Jonah Svensson
Hanna Svensson
Scott Terrill
Tim Thompson
Simon Thornhill
Norman Uyeda
Jonny Wahl
Randy Wardle
Jim Williams
Melanie Wirtanen

Projects and Groups

Bay Heights Nest Box Project
iNaturalist community
Quail Hollow Nest Box Project
Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group
Wild Farm Alliance



SUPPORT

Thanks to the generosity of the many atlas supporters, **we fundraised \$15,600 in the past year.** These funds and in-kind contributions support the coordination of volunteers during fieldwork and future preparation of the atlas publication.

DONATE

Donations are tax-deductible

Individual Contributions

Kelly Arbor	Kevin Lohman
Keffi Bell	Jeff Manker
Anne Bourdeau	Bobbie Mayer
Heidi Brancatelli	Lora Monfils
Kristin Brunk	Liam Murphy
Mary Crouser	Valerie Neer
Tom Deetz	Hannah Nevins
Sue Dumller	Jennifer Parkin
Donna Elliott	June Ralston
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Jennifer F	Alex Rinkert
Vivian Fenner-Evans	Brian & Nico Schnack
Christina Floyd	Mike Shu
Elisabeth Foster	Madeline Spencer
Zeka Glucs	Jennilyn Stenske
Teresa Green	Scott Terrill
Jan Hintermeister	Laney White
Kent Johnson	Janet Wyner-Maze
Earl Lebow	Nickie Zavinsky
Stevan Leonard	Anonymous
Lynda Lewitt	

In-Kind Contributions

Kat Bailey & Joe Mancino	Tim Jolly	Mari Tustin
Henry Cleveland	Lisa Fay Larson	Tom & Connie Unsicker
Mary Crouser	Nick Levendosky	Elizabeth Van Dyke
Sonia Deetz	Kevin Lohman	
Sue Dumller	Amanda Preece	Businesses
Donna Elliott	Bernadette Ramer	Aptos Feed
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Elisabeth Foster	Heidi Sandkuhle	Cowbell Antiques
Cathy Gamble	Lisa Sheridan	
Terry Grove	Stephanie Singer	
	Pete Sole	

Osprey nestlings
© Lisa Fay Larson



SPONSOR-A-SPECIES

The Sponsor-a-Species fundraising campaign has begun and supporters are already claiming their favorite species! This fundraising campaign is to offset publication expenses such as research and writing, copy editing, graphics, and publishing fees. Sponsorship of a species funds the production of a species account.

What will be included in a species account?

- Range and abundance maps
- Phenology and population trend chart
- Conservation recommendations
- Habitat requirements and fire ecology
- Historical breeding status
- Synthesizing narrative

Hooded Oriole

© Lisa Fay Larson



Species Sponsors

Acorn Woodpecker	Susan Miracle
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American Kestrel	Surrey Kent
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Black Oystercatcher	Jenny Anderson
Black Swift	Stephanie Martin
Black-headed Grosbeak	David Ekdahl
California Thrasher	Jennifer McNulty
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Cedar Waxwing	Mari Tustin
Cooper's Hawk	Richard & Heidi Sandkuhle
Golden Eagle	Debra Love Shearwater
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Great Horned Owl	Kevin Lohman
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Lawrence's Goldfinch	Nico Schnack
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Pigeon Guillemot	Phil Brown
Pileated Woodpecker	Glen Tepke
Tree Swallow	Robert Stephens
Violet-green Swallow	Pete Solé & Nancy Collins
Western Bluebird	Amanda Preece
White-crowned Sparrow	Larry Corridon
Wild Turkey	Lois Goldfrank
Wrentit	Ketury Stein

PROJECT ORGANIZATION

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Project Director

Simon Thornhill

Data Management

Stephanie Singer

Lisa Sheridan

Phil Brown

Project Management

Bruce Lyon

Lisa Fay Larson

Alex Rinkert

Photography

Rusty Scalf

Maps

Larry Corridon

Elisabeth Foster

Lisa Fay Larson

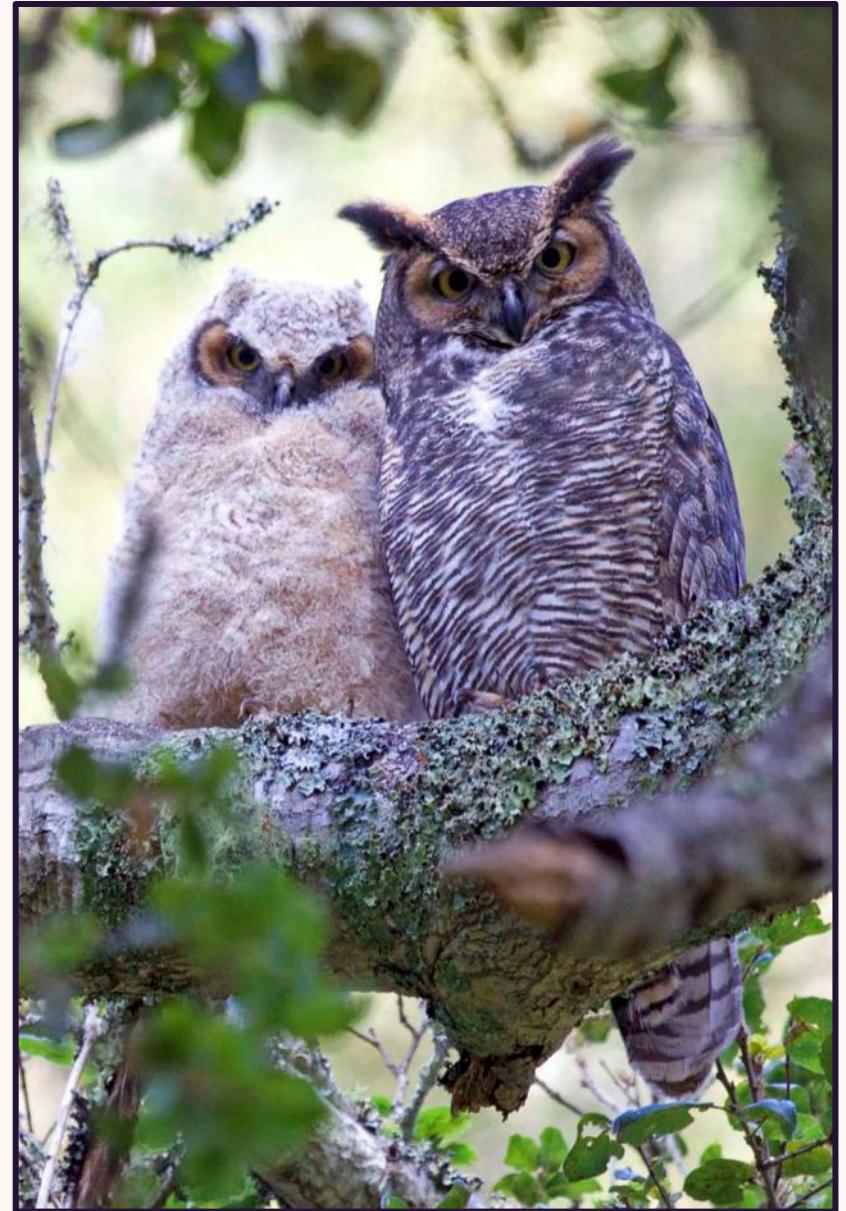
Brendan Quirk

Stephanie Singer

Fundraising Committee

**San Francisco Bay
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*Special thanks to **Sandi Pensinger** for facilitating virtual atlaser trainings this year.*

Great Horned Owls

© Bruce Lyon



Bushtit
© Bruce Lyon

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