

Avian Species Impacted by AngelFest Proposal

The following is only a list of those bird species which have been observed in the proposed event area, during the proposed time period for this event, and which would be impacted by this proposal.

American White Pelican – This migratory winter resident (California Bird Species of Special Concern – First Priority) begins arriving from its breeding grounds, in and around the Great Salt Lake in Utah, as early as September 26 (2012). Most years there are 50 or more birds that inhabit the Sepulveda Basin and can often be seen circling directly over Woodley Park as they prepare to land in the Wildlife Lake. The Wildlife Lake is their primary feeding area and the island in that lake is their primary overnight roosting site.

The noise from Stage 2, the lights from the event, and the activity of more than 60,000 people would certainly destroy the habitability of the entire Sepulveda Basin for the duration of the event and during most of the setup and take down. This could prevent them from getting established as they arrive and cause them to go elsewhere, thereby eliminating their presence from the entire San Fernando Valley – possibly for several years. It took them 10 years to become established after the lake was created.

Osprey – This fish eating hawk (California Bird Species of Special Concern) is an all year resident in the Basin. Although I am not personally aware of a nest in the area, a mated pair has been seen here every month for the last four years with an occasional third bird present. These birds mate for life adding to the same nest every year. They have been observed foraging in Lake Balboa, the Wildlife Lake, and the Los Angeles River. Depending on the location of the nest, the impact of this event could be catastrophic or merely a nuisance to them.

Swainson's Hawk - This rarely seen raptor (California Threatened Species) has been observed in the Sepulveda Basin on 10/10/2010, 10/5/2013, 10/5/2014, and 10/10/2015 (all within the impact time of the AngelFest proposal). These migrating birds were observed foraging early in the morning (having arrived the previous evening). The nocturnal disturbances of this event, and the removal of foraging territory, would prevent them from landing and feeding here for the entire 3 weeks of disturbance.

Great Horned Owl – An all year resident pair has been nesting, and successfully produced young, in the approximate center of this proposed event for the last 3 years. October is when they begin displaying courtship behavior and selecting a nest sight. This event would almost certainly prevent that from happening. This is the only known pair to ever nest in the Sepulveda Basin.

Willow Flycatcher (Southwestern) – This migrant (Federal Endangered Species) has been present each of the last 3 years between September 14 and October 7. It prefers riparian habitat such as provided by Haskell Creek between stages 2 and 3.

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Bank Swallow – This migrant (California Threatened Species) passes through the Sepulveda Basin and has been reported twice in mid-September. It rarely perches and is very difficult to identify in flight and may be much more common than casual reports indicate.

Bald Eagle – Immature birds (Federal Threatened Species) are occasionally seen in the Sepulveda Basin, albeit most often in December and January.

Bell's Vireo (Least) – This Federally Endangered Species breeds along Haskell Creek and may still be present with young, but they are difficult to locate and identify when they are not singing and displaying on territory. Migratory vireos from territories further north may also be using this habitat at this time during their migration.

Other California Species of Special Concern which are normally present in the Sepulveda Basin during the time period of this proposed event and which would be negatively impacted by noise, light and human disturbance:

Peregrine Falcon – present all year foraging throughout the Sepulveda Basin

Double-crested Cormorant – all year, breeds and roosts on the Wildlife Lake island

White-faced Ibis – migrant passes through in Fall

Sharp-shinned Hawk – migrant passes through in Fall

Cooper's Hawk – present all year and breeds in Woodley 2 + 3

Yellow Warbler – migrant breeds all along Woodley Creek and departs mid-October

Vaux's Swift – migrant passes through with its peak presence during this event

Birds that are present and breed during the period of this event.

Anna's Hummingbird,

Allen's Hummingbird

Pied-billed Grebe

American Coot

Birds always present during this time period which would be completely extirpated from Woodley 1,2, and 3 during this event set-up, performance and take-down:

Mourning Dove – spend the evenings and night roosting in trees of Woodley 1+2

Nuttall's Woodpecker – feeds on trees in all Woodley Park areas

Downy Woodpecker – feeds on trees in all Woodley Park areas

Red-breasted Sapsucker – feeds on trees in all Woodley Park areas

Cassin's Kingbird – forages over open fields in all Woodley Park areas

Western Bluebird – nests, feeds and stays in Woodley Park areas all year

American Pipit – feeds on the lawns of all Woodley Park areas

Chipping Sparrow – feeds on the lawns of all Woodley Park areas

Lark Sparrow – feeds on the lawns of all Woodley Park areas

White-crowned Sparrow – feeds on the lawns of all Woodley Park areas

Golden-crowned Sparrow – feeds on the lawns of all Woodley Park areas

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Savannah Sparrow – feeds on the lawns of all Woodley Park areas

Western Meadowlark – feeds on the lawns of Woodley Park areas

Lawrence’s Goldfinch – feeds on the lawns of Woodley Park areas

Other migratory birds present during the time period of this proposed event which would be impacted by noise, light and human disturbance during this event:

Canada Geese – throughout the Sepulveda Basin

Great-blue Heron – throughout the Sepulveda Basin

Great Egret – throughout the Sepulveda Basin

Snowy Egret – throughout the Sepulveda Basin

Black-crowned Night Heron – throughout the Sepulveda Basin

Wood Duck – on the Wildlife Lake

Gadwall – on the Wildlife Lake

American Wigeon – throughout the Sepulveda Basin

Mallard – throughout the Sepulveda Basin

Ring-necked Duck – on the Wildlife Lake

Ruddy Duck – throughout the Sepulveda Basin

Eared Grebe – Lake Balboa and the Wildlife Lake

Northern Harrier – forages in the Wildlife Area immediately south of the event.

American Kestrel – throughout the Sepulveda Basin

White-throated Swift – forages in flight over the entire Sepulveda Basin

Northern Flicker – feeds on the lawns and trees throughout the Woodley Park areas

Merlin – forages throughout the Sepulveda Basin

Western Wood Pewee – forages throughout the Sepulveda Basin

Say’s Phoebe - throughout the Sepulveda Basin and forages in event area

Pacific-slope Flycatcher – forages throughout the Sepulveda Basin

Warbling Vireo – forages throughout the Sepulveda Basin

California Thrasher – in immediately adjacent Wildlife Area

Northern Rough-winged Swallow – forages above the entire Sepulveda Basin

Tree Swallow – forages above the entire Sepulveda Basin

Violet-green Swallow – forages above the entire Sepulveda Basin

Barn Swallow – forages above the entire Sepulveda Basin

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – located in the Wildlife Area only

Ruby-crowned Kinglet – forages throughout the Sepulveda Basin

Swainson’s Thrush – possible anywhere during migration

Yellow-rumped Warbler – throughout the Sepulveda Basin

Western Tanager – migrant

Cedar Waxwing - migrant

This report was prepared by Kris Ohlenkamp (kris.ohlenkamp at sbcglobal.net) from personal observations during the last 5 years with supporting documents available on ebird. Final edit May 16, 2016.