

## URBAN, DISTURBED HABITAT, AGRICULTURE, & EUCALYPTUS WOODLAND VEGETATION COMMUNITIES



### URBAN LAND

Roughly 420,000 acres of land in San Diego County are now classified as Urban. The vast majority of urban lands once hosted Coastal Sage Scrub vegetation. There are also large areas of development that were originally covered with Chaparral. Depending on the nature of the development, there are wildlife that utilize urban areas, many of which are non-native and introduced.

The most common birds include the introduced House sparrow and Starling. However, a number of native species including the Mockingbird, Mourning dove, Scrub jay, and Common raven have also adapted to urban and suburban life. In addition, migrating songbirds may utilize large stands of ornamental plantings during the winter. Other urban wildlife includes Striped Skunk, the introduced Opossum, Norway rat, and House mouse as well as occasional Gray foxes. In highly urbanized areas, the diversity is reduced to Rock doves, Starlings, House sparrows, Norway rats and House mice.

### AGRICULTURAL LAND

San Diego County supports approximately 164,000 acres of intensive agricultural land. In the northern part of the County, the majority of the existing agricultural lands originally were Chaparral. However, in the southern part of the County Riparian Woodland dominated such as in the Tijuana River Valley, or Coastal Sage Scrub. Depending on the crop, intensively farmed agricultural land may serve as *habitat for some wildlife*. Well-managed, modern agriculturally producing areas for commercial rowcrops, orchard or nursery production are often nearly devoid of wildlife. However, Mockingbirds, House sparrows, House finches, and in some cases Black phoebes, often inhabit the areas around barns and outbuildings.



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