

JANUARY 01, 2022 - CUYAHOGA VALLEY MONTHLY TOWPATH TRAIL CENSUS.

ROUTE: Red Lock Trailhead south to Merriman Valley. TIME: 7:35am - 4:20pm TEMP.: 49F ~ 46F

COND.: Cloudy with sprinkles starting at 8:35am then ending at 9:10am; sprinkles starting up again at 10:35am, turning to

light mist with heavy fog rolling in; very low ceiling with poor visibility, then fog lifting and back to sprinkles, turning to steady

light rain for the rest of the census.

TRAIL COND.: Wet, slick, rutted and sloppy; many dead ash trees along trail from 12/10/21 high winds/tornadic weather from

southwest; several large trees, roots and all, collapsed into Cuyahoga River and taking out large sections of riverbank.

RIVER COND.: Muddy, slightly above normal, and rising.

OBS.: John Henry (Red Lock Trailhead to Bolanz Rd.) and Douglas W. Vogus.

I. MAMMALS: 5 SPECIES.

1. Eastern Gray Squirrel - 8 (3 black morph)
2. Eastern Fox Squirrel - 1
3. Red Squirrel - 37
4. Common Raccoon - 1 (First January Record on Census)
5. White-tailed Deer - 1 (doe)

II. BIRDS: 41 SPECIES, 1,508 TOTAL BIRDS.

(NOTE: m = male; f = female; ? = bird was seen but not sexed; * = bird was heard calling but not sexed)

1. Canada Goose - 81
2. American Black Duck - 37 (sexes not separated due to rain)
3. Mallard - 14 (10m,4f)
4. Common Merganser - 3 (f) (at the mouth of Sand Run where it empties into Cuyahoga River)
5. Mourning Dove - 35
6. Ring-billed Gull - 23
7. Herring Gull - 4
8. Great Blue Heron - 3
9. Cooper's Hawk - 1 (immature male)
10. Bald Eagle - 6 (2 adults - m & f - perched near Dover Lake; 2 immatures dog-fighting over Stanford Swamp; 1 adult at Lock 29 Beaver Marsh; 1 "dirty" adult overlooking Szalay's corn stubble field)
11. Red-tailed Hawk - 4 (2 immature)
12. Eastern Screech-Owl - 1 (gray morph)
13. Belted Kingfisher - 2 (m) (one male at Ira Rd. dropped onto a sandbar and captured a crayfish, carried it to a perch, beat it senseless, and scarfed it down)
14. Red-bellied Woodpecker - 11 (2m,3f,2?,4*)
15. Downy Woodpecker - 11 (4m,2f,5*)
16. Hairy Woodpecker - 7 (1m,2f,4*)
17. Pileated Woodpecker - 6 (1m,1f,4*)
18. Peregrine Falcon - 1 (f) (perched on snag along river at Stumpy Basin)
19. Blue Jay - 26

20. American Crow - 489 (majority heading to roost on last leg of census)
21. Black-capped Chickadee - 35
22. Tufted Titmouse - 25
23. White-breasted Nuthatch - 17 (8m,3f,1?,5*)
24. Carolina Wren - 19
25. Golden-crowned Kinglet - 6 (1m,2f,3?)
26. Eastern Bluebird - 10 (6m,3f,1?)
27. American Robin - 69 (a partially leucistic one at Ira Beaver Marsh - a little white around beak and eye and plenty on primaries and secondaries - resembling Northern Mockingbird in flight)
28. European Starling - 154
29. House Sparrow - 33
30. House Finch - 13 (6m,4f,1?,2*)
31. American Goldfinch - 29
32. American Tree Sparrow - 6
33. Dark-eyed Junco - 9 (8m,1?)
34. White-throated Sparrow - 41
35. Song Sparrow - 14
36. Swamp Sparrow - 1
37. Eastern Towhee - 1 (*)
38. Red-winged Blackbird - 2 (m) (mixed in with large Rusty Blackbird flock)
39. Rusty Blackbird - 200 (estimated - birds were staged in trees near Szalay's corn stubble field and entire flock bolted east before being able to sort through entire flock to separate sexes)
40. Common Grackle - 1 (male flying north above East Stanford Swamp)
41. Northern Cardinal - 53 (28m,14f,11*)

Unidentified Passerines - 5

III. AMPHIBIANS: 2 SPECIES.

1. Northern Spring Peeper - 1 (heard at Red Lock at start of census - First January Record on Census)
2. Wood Frog - 3 (calling - crazy weather yields crazy results! - First January Record on Census)

IV. CRUSTACEANS: 1 SPECIES.

1. Crayfish - 1 (see: Belted Kingfisher above - First January Record on Census)

V. FISHES: 2 SPECIES.

1. Central Mudminnow - 29 (in Lock 28 - a.k.a. "Deep Lock" - Second January Record on Census)
2. Creek Chub - 13 (Second January Record on Census)

Compiler: Douglas W. Vogus - Akron, Ohio.