

OCTOBER 01, 2021 - CUYAHOGA VALLEY MONTHLY TOWPATH TRAIL CENSUS.

ROUTE: Red Lock Trailhead south to Merriman Valley, with stops at Trail Mix in Boston and Szalay's Farm & Market.

TIME: 7:25am - 5:30pm TEMP.: 43F ~ 73F ~ 72F COND.: Chilly and crisp early, warming around 9:30am; sunny and calm with blue skies.

TRAIL COND.: Good. RIVER COND.: Normal and very clear.

FT. MI.: 13.60 OBS.: John Henry and Douglas W. Vogus.

I. MAMMALS: 6 SPECIES.

1. Big Brown Bat - 1 (flying over river and hawking insects just north of Peninsula Rapids at 11:35am; First October Record on Census & Tied Census High from 08/2010, 07/2014 & 05/2019)
2. Eastern Chipmunk - 146 (New Census High - previous was 96 on 10/2019)
3. Woodchuck - 1 (Fifth October Record on Census)
4. Eastern Gray Squirrel - 5 (2 black morph)
5. Red Squirrel - 26
6. White-tailed Deer - 3 (doe with two yearlings)

II. BIRDS: 53 SPECIES, 2,720 TOTAL BIRDS.

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

1. Canada Goose - 99
2. Wood Duck - 22 (9m,23f)
3. American Black Duck - 8 (4m,4f)
4. Mallard - 13 (8m,5f)
5. Common Merganser - 9 (f) (Second October Record on Census)
6. Mourning Dove - 14
7. Chimney Swift - 2
8. Killdeer - 5
9. Double-crested Cormorant - 1 (Fourth October Record on Census)
10. Great Blue Heron - 4
11. Turkey Vulture - 23 (all in one kettle above Merriman Valley)
12. Osprey - 1 (being chased by an immature Bald Eagle just north of Stumpy Basin - Third October Record on Census)
13. Bald Eagle - 4 (2 adult,2 immature)
14. Red-tailed Hawk - 3
15. Belted Kingfisher - 4 (3m,1*)
16. Red-bellied Woodpecker - 22 (2m,2f,6?,12*)
17. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 1 (immature) (Fifth October Record on Census)
18. Downy Woodpecker - 17 (6m,3f,2?,6*)
19. Hairy Woodpecker - 2 (1m,1*)
20. Northern Flicker - 8 (1m,1f,6*)
21. Pileated Woodpecker - 7 (1?,5*,1 drumming)
22. Peregrine Falcon - 1 (f) (Ohio Turnpike bridge abutment)
23. Eastern Phoebe - 6
24. Blue Jay - 51

25. American Crow - 32
26. Black-capped Chickadee - 30
27. Tufted Titmouse - 15
28. White-breasted Nuthatch - 8 (2m,2f,1?,3*)
29. House Wren - 3 (Fourth October Record on Census)
30. Marsh Wren - 1 (at Ira Beaver Marsh in reeds where Virginia Rail usually is found - First Record Since 07/2010 - Second Record on Census & First October Record on Census)
31. Carolina Wren - 12
32. Golden-crowned Kinglet - 1 (?) (Fifth October Record on Census)
33. Eastern Bluebird - 10 (3m,1f,4?,2*)
34. American Robin - 73 (2 immature)
35. Gray Catbird - 5
36. European Starling - 102
37. Cedar Waxwing - 24
38. House Sparrow - 11
39. House Finch - 3 (1?,2*)
40. American Goldfinch - 30
41. White-throated Sparrow - 7
42. Song Sparrow - 12
43. Lincoln's Sparrow - 1
44. Swamp Sparrow - 9
45. Eastern Towhee - 1 (m)
46. Red-winged Blackbird - 267 (38m,18f,211 mixed flocks)
47. Common Grackle - 1,667 (one flock of an estimated 1,240 birds at Red Lock in the morning)
48. Orange-crowned Warbler - 1
49. Nashville Warbler - 1 (f)
50. Common Yellowthroat - 3 (1m,2f)
51. Blackpoll Warbler - 2 (1m,1f)
52. Yellow-rumped Warbler - 25
53. Northern Cardinal - 29 (6m,1 immature m,5f,1 immature f,12*,4 immature *)

Unidentified Passerines - 8

III. REPTILES: 3 SPECIES, 1 DEAD.

1. Common Snapping Turtle - 1
2. Red-eared Turtle - 2
3. Midland Painted Turtle - 213

X. Northern Brown Snake - 1 (dead - trail casualty)

IV. AMPHIBIANS: 3 SPECIES, 2 DEAD.

1. Northern Spring Peeper - 8 (heard only)
2. Bullfrog - 2
3. Green Frog - 5

X. Unknown Salamander - 1 (belly-up and dead in Lock 28 - "Deep Lock")

X. Wood Frog - 1 (dead - trail casualty)

V. FISHES: 6 SPECIES.

1. Central Mudminnow - 1 (Third October Record on Census)
2. Bluntnose Minnow - 283 (Second October Record on Census & New Census High - previous was 273 on 08/2020)
3. Northern Hog Sucker - 7 (Fourth October Record on Census)
4. Largemouth Bass - 3 (Fifth October Record on Census)
5. Bluegill - 42
6. Pumpkinseed - 3 (Third October Record on Census)

VI. BUTTERFLIES: 4 SPECIES.

1. Cabbage Butterfly - 3
2. Clouded Sulphur - 2
3. Red-spotted Purple - 1 (First October Record on Census)
4. Viceroy - 3 (Third October Record on Census)

VII. DRAGONFLIES & DAMSELFLIES: 3 SPECIES.

1. Shadow Darner - 4 (Third October Record on Census)
2. Autumn Meadowhawk - 11 (Fourth October Record on Census)
3. Slender Spreadwing - 1 (First October Record on Census)

OTHER INSECT of NOTE: 1. Chinese Mantid (Praying Mantis) - 1

Douglas W. Vogus - Akron, Ohio.