

NOVEMBER 01, 2024 - CUYAHOGA VALLEY MONTHLY TOWPATH TRAIL CENSUS.

ROUTE: Red Lock Trailhead south to Merriman Valley, with a stop at the Peninsula Coffee House for lunch.

TIME: 7:50am - 5:00pm TIME AFIELD: 9:10 TEMP.: 44F ~ 55F ~ 53F

COND.: Brisk and mostly sunny until 8:35am; breezy with winds shifting from the north, bringing total cloud cover to the Cuyahoga Valley for the rest of the census.

TRAIL COND.: Great; leaf-blown and dry.

RIVER COND.: Lowest to date - dark from fallen leaves with many exposed rockbars and sandbars, and exposed rocks and rock shelves never seen before.

FT. MI.: 13.85 OBS.: John Henry and Douglas W. Vogus.

I. MAMMALS: 6 SPECIES, 64 TOTAL.

1. Eastern Cottontail - 1 (Second November Record on Census)
2. Eastern Chipmunk - 34
3. Eastern Gray Squirrel - 6
4. Eastern Fox Squirrel - 4
5. Red Squirrel - 15
6. White-tailed Deer - 4 (9-pt. buck, 6-pt. buck, 2 does)

II. BIRDS: 51 SPECIES, 1 HYBRID, 2,282 TOTAL.

(14-year November average is 49.2 Species with a low of 43 Species in 2020 and a high of 55 Species in 2012)

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

1. Canada Goose - 54
2. Wood Duck - 8 (4m, 4f)
3. American Black Duck - 28 (15m, 13f)
4. Mallard - 43 (25m, 18f)
5. Rock Pigeon - 4
6. Mourning Dove - 3

7. Killdeer - 5
8. Ring-billed Gull - 7 (one flock over Boston)
9. Great Blue Heron - 4 (one caught a large Green Frog at Ira Beaver Marsh)
10. Turkey Vulture - 1
11. Cooper's Hawk - 1 (adult male that tried and missed for an Eastern Chipmunk at Stumpy Basin)
12. Bald Eagle - 7 (four adults in sky at same time over east side of Stanford Swamp and two adults and one immature over Szalay's corn field in Everett)
13. Red-shouldered Hawk - 1
14. Red-tailed Hawk - 6 (2 immature)
15. Belted Kingfisher - 5 (4m,1?)
16. Red-bellied Woodpecker - 42 (15m,6f,7?,14*) (New Census High - previous was 29 on 11/2014)
17. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 1 (f) (Fourth November Record on Census)
18. Downy Woodpecker - 28 (11m,9f,3?,4*)
19. Hairy Woodpecker - 13 (3m,4f,1?,5*)
20. Northern Flicker - 6 (1f,2?,3*)
21. Pileated Woodpecker - 7 (1m,1f,1?,4*)
22. Northern Shrike - 1 (east side of Stanford Swamp, then flew to northeast end of swamp, briefly landed, then continued north again, to Jaite Swamp? Fourth Record on Census, First November Record on Census & Tied Census High from 02/2014, 03/2015 & 01/2024)
23. Blue Jay - 43
24. American Crow - 34
25. Black-capped Chickadee - 18
26. Tufted Titmouse - 18
27. Golden-crowned Kinglet - 1 (f)
28. Cedar Waxwing - 302
29. White-breasted Nuthatch - 20 (9m,4f,1?,6*)
30. Carolina Wren - 27
31. Winter Wren - 1

32. Gray Catbird - 1 (at Ira Beaver Marsh - First November Record on Census)
33. European Starling - 501
34. Eastern Bluebird - 33 (8m,7f,12?,6*)
35. Hermit Thrush - 1 (at Ira Beaver Marsh - First November Record on Census)
36. American Robin - 295
37. House Sparrow - 12
38. House Finch - 15 (4m,5f,5?,1*)
39. Purple Finch - 14 (5m,9f) (6 at Red Lock,1 south of Deep Lock, and 7 along Riverview Rd. at Lock 25 - all feasting on wild grapes and honeysuckle berries - Fourth November Record on Census & New Census High - previous was 6 on 02/2011)
40. American Goldfinch - 20
41. Fox Sparrow - 2
42. Dark-eyed Junco - 6 (1m,1f,2?,2*)
43. White-throated Sparrow - 48
44. Song Sparrow - 10
45. Swamp Sparrow - 5
46. Eastern Towhee - 4 (all males and together scratching in the leaf-litter south of Deep Lock)
47. Red-winged Blackbird - 121 (102m,19f)
48. Rusty Blackbird - 21 (3m,5f,13?)
49. Common Grackle - 350 (all in one flock moving through the sycamores south of Deep Lock)
50. Yellow-rumped Warbler - 7
51. Northern Cardinal - 29 (14m,6f,9*)
52. HYBRID: American Black Duck X Mallard - 1 (m) (at Ira Beaver Marsh - 18th. Record on Census & Third November Record on Census - all at Ira Beaver Marsh)
- ?? Unidentified Duck Species - 10 (early morning lowlight flight of ten heading south above the Cuyahoga River at Red Lock - possible Common Mergansers)
- ?? Unidentified Hawk (Buteo) Species - 1 (fleeting glimpse and lost behind the Ohio Turnpike bridge)
- ?? Unidentified Kinglet Species - 1 (fleeting glimpse and backlit that dropped into thicket across canal at Ira Beaver Marsh)

?? Unidentified Blackbird Species - 24 (distant fly-by's in bad light)

?? Unidentified Passerines - 11

III. REPTILES: 3 SPECIES, 17 TOTAL.

1. Red-eared Turtle - 6 (Fourth November Record on Census)
2. Midland Painted Turtle - 10
3. Northern Water Snake - 1 (First November Record on Census)

IV. AMPHIBIANS: 3 SPECIES, 14 TOTAL.

1. Northern Spring Peeper - 8 (heard only)
2. American Bullfrog - 3 (Fifth November Record on Census)
3. Green Frog - 3 (Fourth November Record on Census)

V. FISHES: 3 SPECIES, 70 TOTAL.

1. Central Mudminnow - 3 (Third November Record on Census)
2. Creek Chub - 18
3. Bluntnose Minnow - 49 (Fifth November Record on Census)

VI. DRAGONFLIES: 2 SPECIES, 5 TOTAL.

1. Shadow Darner - 2 (Fourth November Record on Census)
2. Autumn Meadowhawk - 3 (Fifth November Record on Census)

Douglas W. Vogus - Akron, Ohio.