

DECEMBER 02, 2022 - CUYAHOGA VALLEY MONTHLY TOWPATH TRAIL CENSUS.

ROUTE: Red Lock Trailhead south to Merriman Valley, with a stop at Trail Mix in Peninsula.

TIME: 7:20am - 5:00pm TEMP.: 29F ~ 48F ~ 44F ~ 45F ~ 44F COND.: Chilly early with light southerly breezes, gray and cloudy until

12:30pm; then partly sunny until 2:00pm; turning gray and cloudy again, five minutes of very light sprinkles at 2:15pm, and another

five minutes of light sprinkles at 4:50pm.

TRAIL COND.: Frozen early, thawing out to wet and muddy in some parts.

RIVER COND.: Slightly above normal from rains on 11/30.

FT. MI.: 13.51 OBS.: John Henry and Douglas W. Vogus.

I. MAMMALS: 5 SPECIES.

1. Eastern Gray Squirrel - 1
2. Eastern Fox Squirrel - 4
3. Red Squirrel - 11
4. Common Muskrat - 1 (Third December Record on Census)
5. White-tailed Deer - 10 (8-pt. buck,6-pt. buck,3 does,2 yearlings,3 unknown)

II. BIRDS: 42 SPECIES, (1 HYBRID), 1,266 TOTAL BIRDS.

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

1. Canada Goose - 53
2. American Black Duck - 45 (mix of males and females actively feeding at Ira Beaver Marsh)
3. Mallard - 35 (19m,16f)
4. Common Merganser - 51 (mix of females and immatures - Third December Record on Census)
5. Rock Pigeon - 8
6. Mourning Dove - 4
7. Ring-billed Gull - 10 (a single fly-over north of Boston and a group of nine kettling over Ira Beaver Marsh)
8. Great Blue Heron - 4 (1 immature)
9. Cooper's Hawk - 1 (m)
10. Bald Eagle - 4 (1 adult,3 immature)
11. Red-tailed Hawk - 2
12. Eastern Screech-Owl - 2 (gray morphs)
13. Great Horned Owl - 1 (vicinity of Szalay's and Cuyahoga River - First December Record on Census & Tied Census High from 03/2016 & 08/2016)
14. Belted Kingfisher - 1 (f)
15. Red-bellied Woodpecker - 12 (8m,2f,1?,1*)
16. Downy Woodpecker - 18 (6m,7f,1?,4*)
17. Hairy Woodpecker - 4 (3f,1*)
18. Northern Flicker - 1 (m)
19. Pileated Woodpecker - 1 (?)
20. American Kestrel - 1 (m) (east side of Stanford Swamp - Third December Record on Census)
21. Merlin - 1 (?) (fly-over at Red Lock Trailhead and heading north - Second December Record on Census - Tied Census High from 15 other occasions)
22. Peregrine Falcon - 2 (1m,1f) (Ohio Turnpike bridge pair)

23. Blue Jay - 27
24. American Crow - 645 (all counted with handheld clicker as late afternoon flocks headed southwest to roost)
25. Black-capped Chickadee - 32
26. Tufted Titmouse - 16
27. White-breasted Nuthatch - 17 (7m,6f,4*)
28. Brown Creeper - 2
29. Winter Wren - 1
30. Carolina Wren - 20
31. European Starling - 98
32. Eastern Bluebird - 10 (3m,4f,3?)
33. American Robin - 5
34. House Sparrow - 2
35. House Finch - 1 (*)
36. American Goldfinch - 17
37. American Tree Sparrow - 24
38. Dark-eyed Junco - 11 (2m,5f,3?,1*)
39. White-throated Sparrow - 12
40. Song Sparrow - 7
41. Red-winged Blackbird - 19 (13m,6f)
42. Northern Cardinal - 35 (13m,8f,14*)

H. American Black Duck X Mallard - 1 (m) (at Ira Beaver Marsh - Tied Census High from 13 other occasions)

???. Unidentified Passerines - 3

III. AMPHIBIANS: 1 SPECIES.

1. Bullfrog (tadpole) - 1 (in Deep Lock - First December Record on Census)

IV. FISHES: 3 SPECIES.

1. Eastern Gizzard Shad - 1 (Second December Record on Census)
2. Central Mudminnow - 26 (all in Deep Lock - Second December Record on Census)
3. Bluntnose Minnow - 57 (First December Record on Census)

Compiler: Douglas W. Vogus - Akron, Ohio.