

DECEMBER 02, 2023 - CUYAHOGA VALLEY MONTHLY TOWPATH TRAIL CENSUS.

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

TIME: 7:30am - 4:40pm TIME AFIELD: 9:10 TEMP.: 46F ~ 54F ~ 51F

COND.: Foggy early; cloudy to mostly cloudy all day; light, misty sprinkles at 10:22am lasting less than five minutes.

TRAIL COND.: Saturated and soggy from the previous day of eight hours of rain; no snow cover.

RIVER COND.: Slightly above normal from the previous day of eight hours of rain; all water open.

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

I. MAMMALS: 6 SPECIES, 50 TOTAL MAMMALS.

1. Eastern Chipmunk - 8 (Third December Record on Census)
2. Eastern Gray Squirrel - 7 (1 black morph)
3. Eastern Fox Squirrel - 1
4. Red Squirrel - 29
5. Common Raccoon - 1 (First December Record on Census)
6. White-tailed Deer - 4 (?)

II. BIRDS: 46 SPECIES, 1 HYBRID, 3,592 TOTAL BIRDS.

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

1. Canada Goose - 80
2. Trumpeter Swan - 2 (First December Record on Census & Tied Census High from 04/2016, 03/2022 & 09/2023)
3. American Black Duck - 36 (mix of males and females - all at Ira Beaver Marsh)
4. Mallard - 50 (34m,16f)
5. Rock Pigeon - 2
6. Mourning Dove - 30
7. Ring-billed Gull - 57
8. Herring Gull - 17
9. Great Blue Heron - 9
10. Cooper's Hawk - 2 (1 immature m,1 adult f)
11. Bald Eagle - 5 (4 adult,1 immature)
12. Red-tailed Hawk - 4
13. Belted Kingfisher - 5 (3m,2\*)
14. Red-bellied Woodpecker - 23 (7m,4f,3?,9\*)
15. Downy Woodpecker - 18 (6m,6f,1?,5\*)
16. Hairy Woodpecker - 4 (1f,1?,2\*)
17. Northern Flicker - 8 (3m,1f,4\*)
18. Pileated Woodpecker - 6 (1m,1f,2?,2\*)
19. Merlin - 1 (m) (Third December Record on Census)
20. Peregrine Falcon - 1 (m)
21. Blue Jay - 33
22. American Crow - 1,708 (all counted heading to roost over Merriman Valley - New Census High - previous was 1,058 on 01/2023)
23. Black-capped Chickadee - 24
24. Tufted Titmouse - 20
25. Golden-crowned Kinglet - 2 (1m,1f)
26. Cedar Waxwing - 71
27. White-breasted Nuthatch - 13 (1m,4f,3?,5\*)
28. Carolina Wren - 23
29. Winter Wren - 4
30. Gray Catbird - 1 (just north of Boston between Towpath Trail and Boston horse pasture - Second December Record on Census)
31. European Starling - 93
32. Eastern Bluebird - 11 (4m,4f,3\*)
33. American Robin - 971 (New Census High - previous was 907 on 02/2021)
34. House Sparrow - 34

35. House Finch - 7 (2m,2f,1?,2\*)
36. American Goldfinch - 47
37. American Tree Sparrow - 17
38. Dark-eyed Junco - 4 (2m,2f)
39. White-throated Sparrow - 23
40. Song Sparrow - 11
41. Swamp Sparrow - 2
42. Eastern Towhee - 2 (\*)
43. Red-winged Blackbird - 6 (4m,2?)
44. Brown-headed Cowbird - 18 (two mixed flocks) (Fourth December Record on Census)
45. Common Grackle - 1
46. Northern Cardinal - 37 (18m,12f,7\*)

HYBRID. American Black Duck X Mallard - 1 (m) (Tied Census High from 14 other occasions - all at the Ira Beaver Marsh)

?? Unidentified Flock fly-over at Szalay's corn fields (possible Horned Larks or American Pipits) - 45

(could have been growing flock of 35 American Pipits seen along Bolanz Rd. on 11/13/23)

?? Unidentified Passerines - 3

### III. AMPHIBIANS: 2 SPECIES, 11 TOTAL AMPHIBIANS.

1. Northern Spring Peeper - 1 (\*) (First December Record on Census)
2. Green Frog - 10 (all in Lock 29 - a.k.a. "Deep Lock" - First December Record on Census)

### IV. FISHES: 2 SPECIES, 70 TOTAL FISHES.

1. Central Mudminnow - 68 (all in Lock 29 - a.k.a. "Deep Lock" - Third December Record on Census & New Census High - previous was 58 on 08/2021)
2. Creek Chub - 2

### V. MOTHS: 1 SPECIES, (1 NEW TO CENSUS), 33 TOTAL MOTHS.

1. Bruce Spanworm Moth (Winter Moth) - 33 (New Species on Census - currently at 22 Species of Moths since 01/2010)

Douglas W. Vogus - Akron, Ohio.