

DECEMBER 03, 2021 - CUYAHOGA VALLEY MONTHLY TOWPATH TRAIL CENSUS.

ROUTE: Red Lock Trailhead south to Merriman Valley, with a stop at Trail Mix in Peninsula. TIME: 7:40am - 4:45pm TEMP.: 38F ~ 39F

COND.: Cloudy all day; very light off and on sprinkles from 10:10am to 12:00pm; light south breezes from 3:10pm until end of census.

TRAIL COND.: Fair - plenty of sloppy areas with some puddling. RIVER COND.: Normal.

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

I. MAMMALS: 5 SPECIES.

1. Eastern Chipmunk - 6 (Second December Record on Census)
2. Eastern Gray Squirrel - 11 (5 black morph) (New Census High - previous was 10 on 10/2014)
3. Eastern Fox Squirrel - 4
4. Red Squirrel - 43
5. American Beaver - 1 (Third December Record on Census)

II. BIRDS: 49 SPECIES, 1 HYBRID, 1,137 TOTAL BIRDS.

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

1. Canada Goose - 31
2. Wood Duck - 1 (f) (Ira Beaver Marsh) (Fourth December Record on Census)
3. American Black Duck - 42 (19m,23f) (all at Ira Beaver Marsh)
4. Mallard - 16 (11m,5f)
5. Mourning Dove - 227 (all but one at Bolanz lot/Szalay's corn stubble field) (New Census High - previous was 161 on 12/2015)
6. Ring-billed Gull - 48
7. Herring Gull - 11
8. Great Blue Heron - 2
9. Cooper's Hawk - 1 (m)
10. Bald Eagle - 3 (2 adult,1 immature)
11. Red-tailed Hawk - 3 (2 adult,1immature) (plus - one dead immature caught in the crook of a honeysuckle bush after an apparent errant attack)
12. Belted Kingfisher - 4 (3m,1*)
13. Red-bellied Woodpecker - 27 (9m,10f,1?,7*)
14. Downy Woodpecker - 31 (13m,12f,6*)
15. Hairy Woodpecker - 11 (2m,4f,5*)
16. Northern Flicker - 3 (1m,2*)
17. Pileated Woodpecker - 4 (1m,1f,2*)
18. American Kestrel - 1 (m) (at East Stanford Swamp - Second December Record on Census)
19. Merlin - 1 (m) (flying south above Cuyahoga River between Akron Compost Facility and Towpath Tennis Courts - First December Record on Census & Tied Census High from 13 other occasions)
20. Peregrine Falcon - 1 (m) (flying south over Boston Trailhead parking lot and later seen under Ohio Turnpike bridge)
21. Blue Jay - 38
22. American Crow - 189
23. Black-capped Chickadee - 28

24. Tufted Titmouse - 21
25. White-breasted Nuthatch - 17 (7m,2f,4?,4*)
26. Brown Creeper - 1
27. Winter Wren - 1 (Fifth December Record on Census)
28. Carolina Wren - 11
29. Golden-crowned Kinglet - 5 (2m,1f,1?,1*)
30. Eastern Bluebird - 12 (6m,4f,2?)
31. American Robin - 21
32. Gray Catbird - 1 (at Ira Beaver Marsh in the berry-filled bushes behind beaver lodge - First December Record on Census)
33. European Starling - 9
34. House Sparrow - 36
35. House Finch - 2 (*)
36. American Goldfinch - 26
37. American Tree Sparrow - 17
38. Dark-eyed Junco - 24 (8m,14f,2*)
39. White-throated Sparrow - 64 (New Census High - previous was 59 on 11/2014)
40. Song Sparrow - 18
41. Swamp Sparrow - 2
42. Eastern Towhee - 1 (*)
43. Red-winged Blackbird - 34 (23m,11f)
44. Brown-headed Cowbird - 30 (18m,12f)
45. Rusty Blackbird - 21 (12m,9f)
46. Common Grackle - 1
47. Orange-crowned Warbler - 1 (behind Hunt Farm Visitor Center on Bolanz Rd. - flew up from brush and continued working its way north towards Furnace Run - First December Record on Census)
48. Yellow-rumped Warbler - 1 (same area as Orange-crowned Warbler - Fourth December Record on Census)
49. Northern Cardinal - 33 (11m,11f,11*)

HYBRID: American Black Duck X Mallard - 1 (m) (at Ira Beaver Marsh and paired-up with a female American Black Duck - Fourth December Record on Census & Tied Census High from 10 other occasions)
 ?? Unidentified Passerines - 3

FISHES: 2 SPECIES.

1. Central Mudminnow - 21 (all in Lock 28 - a.k.a. as "Deep Lock" - First December Record on Census)
2. Creek Chub - 35

Douglas W. Vogus - Akron, Ohio.