

FEBRUARY 04, 2023 - CUYAHOGA VALLEY MONTHLY TOWPATH TRAIL CENSUS.

ROUTE: Red Lock Trailhead south to Merriman Valley.

TIME: 7:05am - 2:30pm TEMP.: 10F ~ 31F COND.: Frigid and cloudy early, turning sunny with blue skies and no clouds; clouding back up at 10:40am; back to sunny with blue skies from 11:35am until end of census; winds S at 5-7mph most of the day, gusting to 15mph from 1:30pm to 2:30pm.

TRAIL COND.: Fair; frozen and rutted, icy in many spots; all footbridges icy with packed snow; Stumpy Basin and Ira Beaver Marsh boardwalks icy and snow covered; little to no snow cover; all small creeks and runs frozen; Ira Beaver Marsh frozen.

RIVER COND.: Slightly above normal, swift, frozen on edges with small ice chunks forming and floating down river.

FT. MI.: 13.22 OBS.: Douglas W. Vogus.

I. MAMMALS: 4 SPECIES.

1. Eastern Gray Squirrel - 1
2. Red Squirrel - 4
3. Northern River Otter - 1 (swimming in Cuyahoga River near Lock 25 - Third Record on Census, First February Record on Census & Tied Census High from 10/2016 & 05/2022)
4. White-tailed Deer - 2 (does)

II. BIRDS: 42 SPECIES, 934 TOTAL BIRDS.

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

1. Canada Goose - 329
2. American Black Duck - 3 (m)
3. Mallard - 50 (23m,16f,11?)
4. Northern Pintail - 5 (3m,2f) (fly-over Cuyahoga River while at Ira Beaver Marsh - Fourth February Record on Census)
5. Hooded Merganser - 2 (1m,1f) (in Cuyahoga River near Towpath Tennis facility - Second February Record on Census)
6. Common Merganser - 37 (6m,14f,17?)
7. Rock Pigeon - 3
8. Mourning Dove - 5
9. Ring-billed Gull - 90
10. Great Blue Heron - 3
11. Bald Eagle - 3 (2 adult,1 immature)
12. Red-shouldered Hawk - 1
13. Red-tailed Hawk - 3
14. Eastern Screech-Owl - 1 (red morph)
15. Belted Kingfisher - 2 (m)
16. Red-bellied Woodpecker - 7 (1m,1f,3?,2*)
17. Downy Woodpecker - 9 (2m,4f,3*)
18. Hairy Woodpecker - 5 (2m,1f,2*)
19. Northern Flicker - 1 (*)
20. Pileated Woodpecker - 2 (*)
21. Peregrine Falcon - 1 (m)
22. Blue Jay - 16
23. American Crow - 25
24. Black-capped Chickadee - 12
25. Tufted Titmouse - 8
26. Golden-crowned Kinglet - 2 (1m,1f)
27. Cedar Waxwing - 4
28. White-breasted Nuthatch - 10 (1m,1f,8*)
29. Winter Wren - 1 (Third February Record on Census)
30. Carolina Wren - 6
31. European Starling - 84

32. Eastern Bluebird - 7 (4m,3f)
33. American Robin - 61
34. House Sparrow - 11
35. House Finch - 4 (2m,2f)
36. American Goldfinch - 38
37. American Tree Sparrow - 14
38. White-throated Sparrow - 16
39. Song Sparrow - 7
40. Swamp Sparrow - 2
41. Common Grackle - 1
42. Northern Cardinal - 37 (20m,10f,7*)

Unidentified Passerines - 6

III. FISHES: 1 SPECIES.

1. Smallmouth Bass - 1 (caught by a female Common Merganser - Third Record on Census & First February Record on Census)

Douglas W. Vogus - Akron, Ohio.