

APRIL 06, 2024 - CUYAHOGA VALLEY MONTHLY TOWPATH TRAIL CENSUS.

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

TIME: 7:00am - 4:50pm TIME AFIELD: 9:50 TEMP.: 35F ~ 52F ~ 51F

COND.: Cool and cloudy early; clouds moving out at 10:15am and turning mostly sunny; partly cloudy after 12:30pm until end of census; breezy with variable winds all day.

TRAIL COND.: Sloppy; saturated and muddy in low spots from recent rains.

RIVER COND.: High, swift, and muddy from recent rains - no rockbars or sandbars showing.

FT. MI.: 14.0 OBS.: John Henry and Douglas W. Vogus.

I. MAMMALS: 6 SPECIES, 33 TOTAL.

1. Eastern Chipmunk - 4
2. Woodchuck - 1
3. Eastern Gray Squirrel - 6 (2 black morph)
4. Eastern Fox Squirrel - 5
5. Red Squirrel - 14
6. Common Muskrat - 3

II. BIRDS: 61 SPECIES, 761 TOTAL.

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

1. Canada Goose - 52 (6 nests)
2. Trumpeter Swan - 2 (at Ira Beaver Marsh - Third April Record on Census)
3. Wood Duck - 12 (8m,4f) (one male Wood Duck was cozier up with a female Mallard)
4. American Black Duck - 2 (1m,1f)
5. Mallard - 16 (9m,6f,1*)
6. Common Merganser - 8 (3m,5f)
7. Pied-billed Grebe - 1 (calling at Ira Beaver Marsh)
8. Rock Pigeon - 7
9. Mourning Dove - 21
10. Killdeer - 3
11. Wilson's Snipe - 1 (performing its courtship flight over Stanford Swamp near Lock 33 - Second Record on Census & First April Record on Census)
12. Ring-billed Gull - 2
13. Common Loon - 2 (both solo fly-overs of adult birds heading north over Stanford Swamp - Fifth Record on Census & Second April Record on Census)
14. Double-crested Cormorant - 9 (Third April Record on Census)
15. Great Blue Heron - 16
16. Turkey Vulture - 16
17. Cooper's Hawk - 1 (immature m)
18. Bald Eagle - 5 (3 adult,2 immature)
19. Red-shouldered Hawk - 1 (carrying an unidentified snake)
20. Red-tailed Hawk - 13 (1 immature)
21. Barred Owl - 1 (along Akron sewer line near Akron Compost Facility - Third Record on Census & First April Record on Census)
22. Belted Kingfisher - 6 (2m,3f,1?)
23. Red-bellied Woodpecker - 16 (3m,3f,1?,9*)

24. Downy Woodpecker - 11 (3m,3f,1?,3*)
25. Hairy Woodpecker - 6 (1m,2f,3*)
26. Northern Flicker - 13 (2m,1f,1?,9*)
27. Pileated Woodpecker - 3 (*)
28. Merlin - 1 (f) (First April Record on Census)
29. Peregrine Falcon - 1 (m)
30. Eastern Phoebe - 7
31. Blue Jay - 13
32. American Crow - 25
33. Fish Crow - 2 (pair at Szalay's corn field - Fourth Record on Census & Second April Record on Census)
34. Black-capped Chickadee - 7
35. Tufted Titmouse - 18
36. Tree Swallow - 37
37. Northern Rough-winged Swallow - 2
38. Golden-crowned Kinglet - 7 (2m,4f,1*)
39. White-breasted Nuthatch - 13 (3m,4f,2?,4*)
40. Brown Creeper - 3
41. Carolina Wren - 22
42. Winter Wren - 1
43. European Starling - 52
44. Eastern Bluebird - 4 (2m,2f)
45. American Robin - 24
46. House Sparrow - 9
47. House Finch - 6 (3m,2f,1?)
48. American Goldfinch - 14 (4m,3f,7?)
49. Field Sparrow - 1
50. Fox Sparrow - 2
51. Dark-eyed Junco - 7 (6m,1f)
52. White-throated Sparrow - 17
53. Song Sparrow - 40
54. Swamp Sparrow - 8
55. Eastern Towhee - 5 (2m,3?)
56. Red-winged Blackbird - 39 (37m,2f)
57. Brown-headed Cowbird - 4 (m)
58. Rusty Blackbird - 7 (5m,2f)
59. Common Grackle - 45
60. Louisiana Waterthrush - 1 (first footbridge south of Peninsula - Third April Record on Census - all at this location)
61. Northern Cardinal - 45 (31m,10f,4*)

?? Unidentified Blackbird Species - 23

?? Unidentified Passerines - 3

III. REPTILES: 5 SPECIES, 1 UNKNOWN, 200 TOTAL.

1. Common Snapping Turtle - 3
2. Red-eared Turtle - 6

3. Midland Painted Turtle - 188
4. Northern Water Snake - 1 (Third April Record on Census)
5. Eastern Garter Snake - 1 (Fourth April Record on Census)

?. Unidentified Snake - 1 (in the talons of a Red-shouldered Hawk)

IV. AMPHIBIANS: 4 SPECIES, 9 TOTAL.

1. Northern Spring Peeper - 6 (heard)
2. Western Chorus Frog - 1 (heard)
3. Bullfrog - 1 (Fourth April Record on Census)
4. Green Frog - 1 (Fifth April Record on Census)

V. FISHES: 1 SPECIES, 34 TOTAL.

1. Central Mudminnow - 34 (all in Lock 28 - a.k.a. "Deep Lock" - Fifth April Record on Census)

VI. BUTTERFLIES: 1 SPECIES, 1 TOTAL.

1. Eastern Comma - 1 (Third April Record on Census)

Compiler: Douglas W. Vogus - Akron, Ohio.