

JULY 05, 2024 - CUYAHOGA VALLEY MONTHLY TOWPATH TRAIL CENSUS.

ROUTE: Red Lock Trailhead south to Merriman Valley with a stop at the Peninsula Coffee House and Szalay's Sweet Corn Farm & Market.

TIME: 6:05am - 3:10pm TIME AFIELD: 9:05 TEMP.: 68F ~ 85F

COND.: Very foggy and humid early; fog finally lifting at 8:15am and turning sunny, hot and humid, muggy and buggy; gray clouds by late afternoon.

TRAIL COND.: Poor - many wet, slick, and sloppy sections with heavy puddling in the low sections from previous day's rains.

RIVER COND.: High and muddy with poor visibility - no rockbars or sandbars showing.

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

I. MAMMALS: 9 SPECIES, (1 DEAD), 82 TOTAL MAMMALS.

1. Little Brown Myotis - 1 (Fifth July Record on Census)
2. Eastern Cottontail - 9 (Tied Census High from 06/2024)\
3. Eastern Chipmunk - 41
4. Woodchuck - 1
5. Eastern Gray Squirrel - 2 (1 black morph)
6. Red Squirrel - 16
7. Common Muskrat - 2
8. White-tailed Deer - 10 (1 buck,7 does,2 fawns)

X. Deer Mouse - 2 (dead - late night bike ride casualties?)

II. BIRDS: 68 SPECIES, 715 TOTAL BIRDS.

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

1. Canada Goose - 18
2. Wood Duck - 33 (5m,5f,duckling groups of 5 on their own,8,6 & 4 with hen parent)
3. Mallard - 7 (3m,1f,3 juvenile)
4. Rock Pigeon - 2
5. Mourning Dove - 12
6. Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 1
7. Chimney Swift - 6
8. Ruby-throated Hummingbird - 3 (1m,2f)
9. Killdeer - 2 (one parent bird feigning injury on Stumpy Basin boardwalk as young presumably moved into woods because of high water)
10. Spotted Sandpiper - 3
11. Great Blue Heron - 6
12. Green Heron - 3 (all juveniles on a downed tree along raging Cuyahoga River south of Peninsula)
13. Turkey Vulture - 12
14. Cooper's Hawk - 1 (un-aged male flying away and backlit - Fifth July Record on Census)
15. Red-shouldered Hawk - 2
16. Red-tailed Hawk - 8 (4 juvenile)
17. Belted Kingfisher - 6 (3m,1 juvenile m,1f,1? - juvenile male "learning the ropes" of raging river with both parent birds)
18. Red-bellied Woodpecker - 7 (1m,1?,5*)
19. Downy Woodpecker - 5 (1f,2?,2*)

20. Hairy Woodpecker - 2 (1 juvenile m,1?)
21. Northern Flicker - 4 (1 juvenile m,1f,2*)
22. Pileated Woodpecker - 3 (*)
23. Peregrine Falcon - 3 (1m,1 juvenile m,1f) (adult female flew in and gave morsel of food to adult male and then dealt with crying youngster)
24. Great Crested Flycatcher - 3
25. Eastern Wood-Pewee - 11
26. Acadian Flycatcher - 5
27. Willow Flycatcher - 2
28. Eastern Phoebe - 8
29. White-eyed Vireo - 2
30. Yellow-throated Vireo - 1
31. Warbling Vireo - 12
32. Red-eyed Vireo - 20
33. Blue Jay - 11
34. American Crow - 17
35. Black-capped Chickadee - 11
36. Tufted Titmouse - 10
37. Northern Rough-winged Swallow - 6
38. Barn Swallow - 13
39. Cedar Waxwing - 10
40. White-breasted Nuthatch - 7 (*)
41. Carolina Wren - 29
42. House Wren - 2
43. Gray Catbird - 18
44. European Starling - 26
45. Veery - 1
46. Wood Thrush - 2
47. American Robin - 40 (1 juvenile)
48. House Sparrow - 10
49. House Finch - 3 (m)
50. American Goldfinch - 19 (4m,2f,4?,9*)
51. Chipping Sparrow - 2
52. Song Sparrow - 64
53. Swamp Sparrow - 10
54. Eastern Towhee - 4 (3m,1*)
55. Yellow-breasted Chat - 1 (Second July Record on Census)
56. Orchard Oriole - 1 (f)
57. Red-winged Blackbird - 43 (25m,9f,8 juvenile,1*)
58. Brown-headed Cowbird - 4 (3m,1f)
59. Common Grackle - 21
60. Common Yellowthroat - 33 (32m,1*)
61. Hooded Warbler - 5 (m)
62. Northern Parula - 1 (m)
63. Yellow Warbler - 1 (m)
64. Yellow-throated Warbler - 1 (m)
65. Scarlet Tanager - 3 (m)
66. Northern Cardinal - 49 (34m,5f,8*,2 juvenile*)

67. Rose-breasted Grosbeak - 3 (m)
68. Indigo Bunting - 15 (13m,1f,1*)

Unidentified Passerines - 6

III. REPTILES: 5 SPECIES, 126 TOTAL REPTILES.

1. Common Snapping Turtle - 5
2. Red-eared Turtle - 1
3. Midland Painted Turtle - 113
4. Eastern Spiny Softshell - 6
5. Eastern Garter Snake - 1 (Third July Record on Census)

IV. AMPHIBIANS: 4 SPECIES, 32 TOTAL AMPHIBIANS.

1. American Toad - 3 (toadlets)
2. Gray Treefrog - 1 (heard)
3. Bullfrog - 7
4. Green Frog - 21 (2 seen,19 heard)

V. FISHES: 5 SPECIES, 27 TOTAL FISHES.

1. Central Mudminnow - 8
2. Bluntnose Minnow - 6 (Fifth July Record on Census)
3. Largemouth Bass - 10 (7 fry)
4. Bluegill - 1
5. Pumpkinseed - 2

VI. BUTTERFLIES: 10 SPECIES, 47 TOTAL BUTTERFLIES.

1. Eastern Tiger Swallowtail - 3
2. Cabbage Butterfly - 22
3. Clouded Sulphur - 1
4. Summer Azure - 4 (Fifth July Record on Census)
5. Pearl Crescent - 5
6. Red Admiral - 5
7. Red-spotted Purple - 2
8. Viceroy - 2
9. Little Wood Satyr - 1
10. Silver-spotted Skipper - 2

VII. MOTHS / CATERPILLARS: 9 SPECIES, 56 TOTAL MOTHS / CATERPILLARS.

1. Turbulent Phosphila - 48 (caterpillars - all feasting on one vine) (New Moth / Caterpillar Species on Census - currently at 25 Species since 01/2010)
2. White-striped Black Moth - 1 (New Moth Species on Census - currently at 26 Species since 01/2010)
3. Reticulated Fruitworm Moth - 1 (New Moth Species on Census - currently at 27 Species since 01/2010)
4. Texas Gray Moth - 1 (Second Record on Census, First July Record on Census & Tied Census High from 10/2022)
5. Striped Eudonia Moth - 1 (New Moth Species on Census - currently at 28 Species since 01/2010)
6. Bent-line Carpet - 1 (New Moth Species on Census - currently at 29 Species since 01/2010)
7. Lucerne Moth - 1 (New Moth Species on Census - currently at 30 Species since 01/2010)
8. Large Lace-border - 1 (Second Record on Census, First July Record on Census & Tied Census High from 06/2022)
9. Green Cloverworm - 1 (New Moth Species on Census - currently at 31 Species since 01/2010)

VIII. DRAGONFLIES & DAMSELFLIES: 13 SPECIES, 108 TOTAL ODONATA.

1. Common Green Darner - 7 (Fourth July Record on Census & New Census High - previous was 5 on 05/2023)
2. Slaty Skimmer - 5 (Fourth July Record on Census)
3. Widow Skimmer - 4
4. Blue Dasher - 41
5. Eastern Amberwing - 3 (Third July Record on Census & Tied Census High from 09/2020)
6. Common Whitetail - 5 (Tied Census High from 07/2018)
7. Ruby Meadowhawk - 1 (Fifth July Record on Census)
8. Black Saddlebags - 2 (Third July Record on Census)
9. Ebony Jewelwing - 9
10. Blue-fronted Dancer - 3
11. Blue-tipped Dancer - 10
12. Azure Bluet - 4
13. Skimming Bluet - 14 (Second July Record on Census & New Census High - previous was 6 on 07/2023)

IX. INSECT (of note): 1 SPECIES.

1. Green June Beetle - 14 (in an active cluster (orgy?) of males battling males over females behind the Akron Compost Facility)

X. SPIDER (of note): 1 SPECIES.

1. American Nursery Web Spider - 2

Compiler: Douglas W. Vogus - Akron, Ohio.