

OCTOBER 06, 2024 - OTTAWA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE MONTHLY CENSUS.

ROUTES: East Side, Fox Unit (parking lot), West Side, Western Prairies and Henry Marsh in the morning;

Wildlife Drive in the afternoon.

OBS. EAST: Jim Koppin, Jim Reyda, Al & Betty Schlecht. OBS. FOX UNIT: Donna Kuhn, George Novosel, Tracy Wiczer.

OBS. WEST: Mary Applegate, Katie Clink, Valerie Horobik, Donna Kuhn, Kim Myles, George Novosel, James O'Brien,

Chris Pierce, Tony Szilagye, Tracy Wiczer. OBS. WESTERN PRAIRIES & HENRY MARSH: Douglas W. Vogus.

OBS. WILDLIFE DRIVE: Bob Bartolotta, Claire Johnson, Jim Koppin, Jim Reyda, Douglas W. Vogus.

TIME: 7:20am - 12:00pm; 1:05pm - 4:25pm TEMP.: 62F ~ 78F ~ 77F COND.: Cool early, turning sunny with blue skies and warming throughout the morning; steady S/SW winds throughout the morning, shifting W/NW by late afternoon.

I. MAMMALS: 5 SPECIES, 21 TOTAL. (Recorded since 04/07/2002)

1. Woodchuck - 7
2. Eastern Fox Squirrel - 10
3. Common Muskrat - 1 (Fifth October Record on Census)
4. Common Raccoon - 1 (crossed Krause Rd. in the morning and was missing its right front forepaw)
5. White-tailed Deer - 2 (does)

II. BIRDS: 88 SPECIES, 8,514 TOTAL. (Recorded since 03/02/1969)

1. Canada Goose - 202
2. Trumpeter Swan - 141 (one with yellow neckband "1A2" - reported since 07/2008 and not seen since 11/05/2023)
3. Wood Duck - 187
4. Blue-winged Teal - 32
5. Northern Shoveler - 16
6. Gadwall - 80
7. American Wigeon - 22
8. American Black Duck - 4
9. Mallard - 1,934
10. Northern Pintail - 137
11. Green-winged Teal - 543
12. Pied-billed Grebe - 6
13. Mourning Dove - 37
14. Chimney Swift - 4
15. Common Gallinule - 2 (one on the West Side and one at Henry Marsh)
16. American Coot - 20
17. Sandhill Crane - 29

18. Black-bellied Plover - 1
19. American Golden-Plover - 2
20. Killdeer - 49
21. Pectoral Sandpiper - 16
22. Semipalmated Sandpiper - 1
23. Short-billed Dowitcher - 8 (fly-over and calling over Grimm Prairie)
24. Wilson's Snipe - 2 (one on the West Side and one at Henry Marsh)
25. Greater Yellowlegs - 24
26. Lesser Yellowlegs - 16
27. Ring-billed Gull - 396
28. Herring Gull - 3
29. Double-crested Cormorant - 156
30. American White Pelican - 16
31. Great Egret - 148
32. Great Blue Heron - 43
33. Unidentified Plegadis Ibis - 1 (immature bird in southwest corner of Pool 2a)
34. Turkey Vulture - 13
35. Northern Harrier - 4
36. Sharp-shinned Hawk - 1
37. Cooper's Hawk - 1
38. Bald Eagle - 13 (10 adult, 3 immature)
39. Red-shouldered Hawk - 1 (Fourth October Record on Census)
40. Red-tailed Hawk - 6
41. Great Horned Owl - 1
42. Belted Kingfisher - 1
43. Red-headed Woodpecker - 3
44. Red-bellied Woodpecker - 7
45. Downy Woodpecker - 12
46. Northern Flicker - 19
47. American Kestrel - 2 (along Krause Rd.)
48. Merlin - 2 (East Side dogfighting and chasing each other)
49. Peregrine Falcon - 1 (West Side)
50. Eastern Phoebe - 3
51. Blue Jay - 83
52. Black-capped Chickadee - 9
53. Tufted Titmouse - 1
54. Horned Lark - 15 (all along Krause Rd. or fly-overs there)
55. Tree Swallow - 263
56. Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 66
57. Golden-crowned Kinglet - 63
58. Cedar Waxwing - 5
59. White-breasted Nuthatch - 4
60. Carolina Wren - 6
61. Northern House Wren - 5
62. Northern Mockingbird - 1 (along Krause Rd. - immature bird dismantling a "wooly bear")
63. European Starling - 646 (most in large flocks over Grimm Prairie in the morning)
64. Hermit Thrush - 13 (all seen by K. Myles' group on West Side)
65. American Robin - 73

- 66. House Sparrow - 87
- 67. House Finch - 1
- 68. American Goldfinch - 40
- 69. Dark-eyed Junco - 22
- 70. White-crowned Sparrow - 5
- 71. White-throated Sparrow - 81
- 72. LeConte's Sparrow - 1 (Fox Unit in the morning - Fourth October Record on Census)
- 73. Savannah Sparrow - 4 (all at Henry Marsh along Krause Rd.)
- 74. Song Sparrow - 20
- 75. Swamp Sparrow - 4
- 76. Eastern Meadowlark - 3 (all together at Henry Marsh along Krause Rd.)
- 77. Red-winged Blackbird - 2,368
- 78. Brown-headed Cowbird - 45
- 79. Rusty Blackbird - 1
- 80. Common Grackle - 123
- 81. Magnolia Warbler - 1 (afternoon on Wildlife Drive)
- 82. Bay-breasted Warbler - 4 (three on West Side in K. Myles' group and one for D. Vogus by the white barn at north end of Grimm Prairie)
- 83. Blackpoll Warbler - 3 (two on West Side in K. Myles' group and one on Wildlife Drive along Lake Erie)
- 84. Palm Warbler - 3 (one on West Side in G. Novosel's group, one in Grimm Prairie and one at Henry Marsh)
- 85. Yellow-rumped Warbler - 38
- 86. Black-throated Green Warbler - 2 (one on West Side in K. Myles' group and one on the Wildlife Drive along Lake Erie)
- 87. Northern Cardinal - 23
- 88. Indigo Bunting - 1 (Henry Marsh)
- ?? Unidentified "Peep" Sandpiper - 12
- ?? Unidentified Warbler Species - 1 (fly-over at Grimm Prairie)

III. REPTILES: 4 SPECIES, 25 TOTAL. (Recorded since 04/07/2002)

- 1. Map Turtle - 11 (Fourth October Record on Census)
- 2. Midland Painted Turtle - 9
- 3. Northern Water Snake - 1 (Fifth October Record on Census)
- 4. Eastern Garter Snake - 4 (plus one dead along Krause Rd.) - (four ties the high from 04/2019 & 05/2022)

IV. AMPHIBIANS: 3 SPECIES, 50 TOTAL. (Recorded since 04/07/2002)

- 1. American Bullfrog - 11
- 2. Green Frog - 3
- 3. Northern Leopard Frog - 36

V. FISHES: 2 SPECIES, 144 TOTAL. (Recorded since 04/07/2002)

- 1. Common Carp - 1
- 2. Blackstripe Topminnow - 143 (Second October Record on Census)

VI. BUTTERFLIES: 8 SPECIES, 59 TOTAL. (Recorded since 04/07/2002)

1. Cabbage Butterfly - 20
2. Clouded Sulphur - 15
3. Orange Sulphur - 2 (Fifth October Record on Census)
4. Southern Dogface - 1 (Fifth Record on Census & First October Record on Census)
5. Bronze Copper - 6
6. Viceroy - 1
7. Monarch - 8
8. Unidentified Skipper - 6

**VII. DRAGONFLIES & DAMSELFLIES: 8 SPECIES, 2 NEW TO CENSUS.
(Recorded since 05/06/2018)**

1. Shadow Darner - (1) (working the ditch along Stange Rd. - New Dragonfly Species on Census - currently at 25 Odonata Species since 05/06/2018)
2. Common Green Darner (Third October Record on Census)
3. Comet Darner - (1) (along the Wildlife Drive - New Dragonfly Species on Census - currently at 26 Odonata Species since 05/06/2018)
4. Eastern Pondhawk - (1) (Third October Record on Census)
5. Blue Dasher - (2 - 1 male with 1 female in ditch along Stange Rd. - First October Record on Census)
6. Autumn Meadowhawk - (3) (Third Record on Census & First October Record on Census)
7. Familiar Bluet - (1) (in ditch along Stange Rd. - First October Record on Census)
8. Eastern Forktail - (1) (in ditch along Stange Rd. - Second October Record on Census)

ADDENDUM: After an eBird reviewer studied the photos of 5 dowitchers observed by D. Kuhn & T. Wiczer in September, they were determined to be Long-billed Dowitchers and were added to the September census list bumping it up to 116 Species. Thank you!

Compiler: Douglas W. Vogus - Akron, Ohio.