

NOVEMBER 03, 2024 - OTTAWA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE MONTHLY CENSUS.

ROUTES: East Side, Fox Unit parking lot, West Side, MS6 and Western Prairies in the morning and Wildlife Drive in the afternoon.

OBS. EAST & FOX UNIT: Jim Koppin, Jim Reyda, Al & Betty Schlecht.

OBS. WEST: Susan Brauning, Jennifer Kuehn, Donna Kuhn, David & Kim Myles, Chris Pierce, Tony Szilagye, Tracy Wiczer.

OBS. MS6 & WESTERN PRAIRIES: Douglas W. Vogus.

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

TIME: 7:15am - 12:35pm; 1:30pm - 4:55pm TEMP.: 40F ~ 61F ~ 58F

COND.: Brisk early with winds from the East; warming and breezy all morning with sunny skies; winds shifting to the Northeast in the afternoon with whitecaps on Lake Erie.

I. MAMMALS: 4 SPECIES, 33 TOTAL. (Recorded since 04/07/2002)

1. Woodchuck - 3 (Third November Record on Census)
2. Eastern Fox Squirrel - 15
3. Northern River Otter - 4 (observed by J. Reyda's East Side crew - family group "porpoising" across the marsh - Fifth Record on Census, Second November Record on Census & New Census High - previous was 1 on 11/2010, 02/2022, 04/2024 & 07/2024)
4. White-tailed Deer - 11 (4 bucks: 11-pt,8-pt,8-pt,8-pt,4 does,3 yearlings)

II. BIRDS: 83 SPECIES, 13,354 TOTAL. (Recorded since 03/02/1969)

1. Canada Goose - 844
2. Mute Swan - 11
3. Trumpeter Swan - 168
4. Tundra Swan - 213
5. Wood Duck - 104
6. Blue-winged Teal - 4
7. Northern Shoveler - 35
8. Gadwall - 2,211
9. American Wigeon - 152
10. American Black Duck - 26
11. Mallard - 755
12. Northern Pintail - 90
13. Green-winged Teal - 376
14. Ring-necked Duck - 21
15. Lesser Scaup - 39
16. Black Scoter - 4 (in Lake Erie in the afternoon off of the Ottawa fish gate to Metzger Marsh - Third Record on Census, Second November Record on Census & New

Census High - previous was 2 on 11/06/1983 - First Record was of 1 on 05/07/1972 - because I knew you would ask!)

17. Bufflehead - 4
18. Hooded Merganser - 24
19. Red-breasted Merganser - 1 (female with the Black Scoter group)
20. Ruddy Duck - 20
21. Pied-billed Grebe - 24
22. Mourning Dove - 18
23. American Coot - 104
24. Sandhill Crane - 45
25. Killdeer - 45
26. Dunlin - 558
27. Long-billed Dowitcher - 16
28. Wilson's Snipe - 8
29. Greater Yellowlegs - 36
30. Lesser Yellowlegs - 20
31. Bonaparte's Gull - 328
32. Ring-billed Gull - 575
33. Herring Gull - 4
34. Double-crested Cormorant - 45
35. American White Pelican - 500 (an estimate - J. Reyda and myself had an estimated 410 flying over Rt. 2 east of the refuge as we made our way west to Ottawa NWR; the D. Kuhn West Side crew (diked impoundments out to Crane Creek) had an estimated 450 on the refuge later; the Myles' West Side crew (south end and woodlots) had an estimated 300; I had two flocks totalling 77 birds over the Krause Rd. / Stange Rd. intersection; the East Side crew had an estimate of 500 near the mouth of Crane Creek; the Wildlife Drive crew settled for the 500 the East Side crew had - all at the mouth of Crane Creek on three separate sandbars. Impossible to count, even with a scope, between heads down, heads up, wings outstretched, birds flying from sandbar to sandbar - quite maddening! The record high is 523 from 11/2022)
36. Great Egret - 73
37. Great Blue Heron - 45
38. Northern Harrier - 5
39. Sharp-shinned Hawk - 1
40. Cooper's Hawk - 2
41. Bald Eagle - 29 (16 adult, 13 immature)
42. Red-tailed Hawk - 11
43. Eastern Screech-Owl - 1 (gray morph) (Myles' crew in the woods - great photo!)
44. Belted Kingfisher - 2
45. Red-headed Woodpecker - 1 (Myles' crew in the woods)
46. Red-bellied Woodpecker - 12
47. Downy Woodpecker - 14
48. Northern Flicker - 17
49. Eastern Phoebe - 1 (end of Krause Rd. at start of afternoon drive)
50. Blue Jay - 47
51. American Crow - 49 (J. Reyda's East Side crew)
52. Black-capped Chickadee - 8
53. Tufted Titmouse - 3
54. Horned Lark - 5 (D. Vogus - all along Krause Rd. in the morning)

- 55. Tree Swallow - 4 (D. Vogus - over the observation deck along Stange Rd.)
- 56. Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 1 (D. Vogus - end of Krause Rd. along the hedgerow in the morning)
- 57. Golden-crowned Kinglet - 11
- 58. White-breasted Nuthatch - 6
- 59. Carolina Wren - 8
- 60. Winter Wren - 1 (D. Kuhn's West Side crew)
- 61. European Starling - 889
- 62. Eastern Bluebird - 1 (heard by J. Reyda at the dead-end of Ottawa-Lucas Rd. in the morning)
- 63. Hermit Thrush - 4 (Myles' crew in the woodlands)
- 64. American Robin - 24
- 65. House Sparrow - 24
- 66. House Finch - 1
- 67. American Goldfinch - 35
- 68. Chipping Sparrow - 3 (J. Reyda's East Side crew)
- 69. Fox Sparrow - 10
- 70. American Tree Sparrow - 59
- 71. Dark-eyed Junco - 39
- 72. White-crowned Sparrow - 6
- 73. White-throated Sparrow - 63
- 74. Savannah Sparrow - 1 (D. Vogus - Stange Prairie)
- 75. Song Sparrow - 27
- 76. Swamp Sparrow - 21
- 77. Eastern Meadowlark - 1 (D. Vogus - flew out of Henry Marsh along Krause Rd.)
- 78. Red-winged Blackbird - 3,943
- 79. Brown-headed Cowbird - 58
- 80. Rusty Blackbird - 170
- 81. Common Grackle - 68
- 82. Yellow-rumped Warbler - 1 (D. Vogus - west end of MS6)
- 83. Northern Cardinal - 35
- ?? Unidentified Duck Species - 63 (very distant flocks)
- ?? Unidentified Shorebird Species - 23 (flock of 3 and flock of 20)

III. AMPHIBIANS: 1 SPECIES, 2 TOTAL. (Recorded since 04/07/2002)

- 1. American Bullfrog - 2 (Fifth November Record on Census)

IV. FISHES: 1 SPECIES, 34 TOTAL. (Recorded since 04/07/2002)

- 1. Blackstripe Topminnow - 34 (Second November Record on Census)

V. BUTTERFLIES: 6 SPECIES, 8 TOTAL. (Recorded since 04/07/2002)

- 1. Cabbage Butterfly - 2 (Fifth November Record on Census)

2. Clouded Sulphur - 3
3. Orange Sulphur - 1 (Fourth November Record on Census)
4. Bronze Copper - 1 (First November Record on Census)
5. Red Admiral - 1 (Fourth November Record on Census)
6. Common Buckeye - 6 (Third November Record on Census)

VI. MOTHS & CATERPILLARS: 1 SPECIES, 1 TOTAL. (Recorded since 04/07/2002)

1. Isabella Tiger Moth - 1 (caterpillar only) (Second Record on Census, Second November Record on Census & Tied Census High from 11/2023)

VII. DRAGONFLIES & DAMSELFLIES: 1 SPECIES. (Recorded since 05/06/2018)

1. Autumn Meadowhawk (Third November Record on Census)

Compiler: Douglas W. Vogus - Akron, Ohio.