

FEBRUARY 04, 2024 - OTTAWA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE MONTHLY CENSUS.

ROUTES: East Side, Fox Unit (parking lot only), West Side, Western Prairies in the morning;
Auto Tour in the afternoon.

TIME: 7:30am - 4:10pm TEMP.: 28F ~ 37F COND.: Chilly and very frosty in the morning, turning sunny with blue skies; partly sunny for the rest of the day; no snow cover; most canals and ditches open, Crane Creek open, Lake Erie had ice with several large open leads.

OBS. EAST: Jim Koppin, Jim Reyda, Al & Betty Schlecht. OBS. WEST: Mary Applegate, Susan Brauning, Katie Clink, Donna Kuhn, David Myles, George Novosel, Chris Pierce, Tony Szilagye.

OBS. WEST PRAIRIES: Douglas W. Vogus.

OBS. AUTO TOUR: Bob Bartolotta, Jim Koppin, Jim Reyda, Douglas W. Vogus.

I. MAMMALS: 3 SPECIES. (Recorded since 04/06/2002)

1. Eastern Fox Squirrel - 7
2. Common Raccoon - 3
3. White-tailed Deer - 11

II. BIRDS: 67 SPECIES, 16,631 TOTAL. (Recorded since 03/02/1969)

1. Snow Goose - 2 (white morph)
2. Cackling Goose - 4 (fly-over at Stange Prairie observation platform with 7 Canada Geese - Fourth Record on Census & Second February Record on Census)
3. Canada Goose - 1,867
4. Mute Swan - 10
5. Trumpeter Swan - 162
6. Tundra Swan - 4,069
7. Northern Shoveler - 2 (Fifth February Record on Census)
8. Gadwall - 12
9. American Wigeon - 3
10. American Black Duck - 126
11. Mallard - 1,718
12. Northern Pintail - 90
13. Green-winged Teal - 3 (Fourth February Record on Census)
14. Canvasback - 21
15. Redhead - 38
16. Ring-necked Duck - 3
17. Lesser Scaup - 59
18. Bufflehead - 5
19. Common Goldeneye - 783
20. Hooded Merganser - 12
21. Common Merganser - 848
22. Mourning Dove - 6
23. Sandhill Crane - 24
24. Ring-billed Gull - 263
25. Herring Gull - 42
26. American White Pelican - 138 (First February Record on Census)
27. Great Blue Heron - 53
28. Northern Harrier - 7
29. Cooper's Hawk - 1
30. Bald Eagle - 26 (16 adult, 10 immature)
31. Red-tailed Hawk - 7
32. Great Horned Owl - 2
33. Belted Kingfisher - 1 (Fourth February Record on Census)
34. Red-headed Woodpecker - 1
35. Red-bellied Woodpecker - 12
36. Downy Woodpecker - 18

37. Hairy Woodpecker - 1
38. Northern Flicker - 5
39. Pileated Woodpecker - 1 (calling in South Woods - Tenth Record on Census, Second February Record on Census & Tied Census High from 05/1999, 09/2015, 12/2020, 01/2021, 02/2021, 04/2021, 03/2023, 04/2023 & 07/2023)
40. American Kestrel - 2
41. Merlin - 1 (female shadowing a large blackbird flock over Grimm Prairie - Fourth February Record on Census)
42. Northern Shrike - 1 (flew from corner of Pool 9 East to MS 4 on Auto Tour)
43. Blue Jay - 58
44. Black-capped Chickadee - 6
45. Tufted Titmouse - 6
46. Horned Lark - 26
47. Cedar Waxwing - 2
48. White-breasted Nuthatch - 8
49. Carolina Wren - 5
50. Winter Wren - 1
51. Northern Mockingbird - 1 (West Side)
52. European Starling - 917
53. American Robin - 165
54. House Sparrow - 44
55. American Pipit - 1 (fly-over West Side - First February Record on Census)
56. House Finch - 2
57. American Goldfinch - 35
58. Lapland Longspur - 1 (fly-over with a Horned Lark at Krause Rd.)
59. Snow Bunting - 1 (East Side)
60. American Tree Sparrow - 119
61. Dark-eyed Junco - 6
62. Song Sparrow - 9
63. Red-winged Blackbird - 2,512
64. Brown-headed Cowbird - 169
65. Rusty Blackbird - 183
66. Common Grackle - 864
67. Northern Cardinal - 34

?? Unidentified Duck Species - 7

III. REPTILES: 1 SPECIES, 1 TOTAL. (Recorded since 04/06/2002)

1. Northern Water Snake - 1 (slowly making its way along the ice along Trumpeter Trail - First February Record on Census)

Compiler: Douglas W. Vogus - Akron, Ohio.