

THE

OHIO CARDINAL

DEVOTED TO THE STUDY AND APPRECIATION OF OHIO'S BIRDLIFE • VOL. 46, NO. 2, WINTER 2022-23





*Ryan Lesniewicz found this Long-eared Owl perched openly along the roadside in **Wood**, where Traci Gentry got a clear view to photograph it from her vehicle on 26 Dec.*

On the cover:

This Glaucous-winged Gull was a thrilling sight for Anthony Rodgers when he found and photographed this first state record in Cleveland over the Cuyahoga River by Shooters on the Water on 01 Jan.

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COMMENTS ON THE SEASON

By Ron Canterbury

A major winter storm hit much of Ohio on 22 and 23 Dec with heavy snow and cold temperatures; however, much of Dec was relatively mild. The powerful Arctic front wrecked havoc across much of the nation from 21 to 25 Dec, and brought heavy rains, snow, ice and high winds, and sent temperatures plummeting at record speed. Across the contiguous United States, diurnal temperatures averaged slightly above average in Dec, while rainfall was below average and ranked 16th.

The contiguous United States average maximum temperature during January was 4.0 degrees Fahrenheit above the 20th century average and ranked 12th warmest on record. Much of the eastern United States was well above average in temperature during Jan. Ohio ranked 126 out of 128 for Jan temperatures. Ohio had above average rainfall in Jan and ranked 111. Temperatures in Feb in Ohio were the highest record in 128 years, while rainfall was near average and ranked 74.

Weather data are from the National Weather Service (<http://water.weather.gov/precip/>) and the NOAA (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/temp-and-precip/maps.php>).

The 123rd Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC) was held during its usual 14 Dec to 05 Jan period. I am indebted to Mike Busam for providing us with an overview and highlights to accompany the table of data, and to our Emeritus Editor, Craig Caldwell, for producing the 123rd CBC summary table for Ohio and this issue. Craig continues his phenomenal service of also still writing the “Years Ago” section.

In the species accounts which follow this “Comments” section I note the highest number of a species found. Most of these values are those of single birders or parties, usually birding in a relatively small area, and often are the counts from a single route within a CBC. However, I seldom include counts from an entire CBC, each of which is the result of many parties’ efforts in scattered locales within a 15-mile diameter circle; those data are in the table.

This issue of the *Cardinal* contains reports of 196 species, 10 less than last winter. Seven hybrids (all of them ducks or gulls), and 12 entries at the genus or family level are also listed. One exotic species, a likely escapee, was seen. Seventeen species were reported in all 88 counties, and

included the Canada Goose, Mourning Dove, Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Blue Jay, American Crow, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, European Starling, American Goldfinch, Dark-eyed Junco, Song Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, and Northern Cardinal. Five species were seen in 87 counties, and 17 were seen in between 80 to 86 counties.

Species reported that usually leave the state during the winter included Virginia Rail, Dunlin, Least and Spotted sandpipers, both Yellowlegs species, Osprey, a few swallows, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, a Wood Thrush, at least five species of warblers, and a few cardinalids. Many of the duck species increased in sightings across the state in Feb, as birds pushed northbound. Those included Ring-necked Duck, both Scaup species, Common Goldeneye, Common Merganser, and Red-breasted Merganser. Gulls were in excellent numbers, and the reports contained two first state records. In addition, included in this issue is an article on winter gulls in Cleveland by Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr. As you dive into the species accounts, you will find nine shorebird species during the season, 14 species of sparrows, and nine species of warblers. Blackbirds were found in impressive numbers, and the icterids included a record of a Western Meadowlark. Single records of Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, and Dickcissel enlightened birders who saw any of those three species during the season. Yet, Boreal finches were low in numbers.

Bald Eagles’ occurrence in all 88 counties will continue to solidify the species’ recovery. Merlins continue to expand southward. Moreover, two mimids, the Gray Catbird and Brown Thrasher, continue to expand their winter range to the north, but the harsh winter storm during late Dec likely proved fatal for some of the Rufous/Allen’s Hummingbirds.

The Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC) under Secretary Jon Cefus has continued to evaluate reports of Review Species. The Committee has completed three rounds of voting since their last report and the results of the second batch are published here. The first batch for 2023 was published in Volume 46, No. 1 of *The Cardinal*. Five review species were reported during this season and all five were accepted by the OBRC. The OBRC and this editor continue to urge birders to formally report all sightings of Review List

species, of Core List species found at unusual times, of nesting by birds previously not known to nest in the state, and of course sightings of birds never before found in Ohio. An easy-to-use on-line form is available at <http://ohiobirds.org/rare-birds/report-a-rare-bird-sighting/>.

Other regular features for the winter Cardinal include the Field Notes and Years Ago sections.

A quick note—counts ending with two or more zeros should be taken as estimates even if I don't specifically say so!

Data for the following Species Accounts come from reports submitted directly to *The Cardinal* and from eBird (<http://ebird.org/content/ebird>). Data from *The Bobolink* area reports were not available.

Taxonomic sequence and nomenclature follow the *Check-List of North and Middle American Birds*, 7th Edition (1998) as updated through the 63rd Supplement (2023). These documents are produced by the North American Classification Committee of the American Ornithological Society and are available at <http://www.checklist.aou.org/>.

County names are in bold italics. Locations whose counties are of the same name, for example Ashtabula (city) and Delaware Wildlife Area, usually do not have the counties repeated. County names for sites described in Cincinnati (*Hamilton*), Cleveland (*Cuyahoga*), Columbus (*Franklin*), Dayton (*Montgomery*), and Toledo (*Lucas*) are also omitted. Shortened names and a few sets of initials are used for locations and organizations that occur repeatedly; these abbreviations are listed here. The term “*vide*” is used in some citations; it means “in trust of” and is used where the reporter was not the observer.

Abbreviations:

Alum Creek = Alum Creek Reservoir, *Delaware*, unless otherwise noted

Armleder Park = a Cincinnati city park on the Little Miami River, *Hamilton*

Audubon = the National Audubon Society (<http://www.audubon.org>)

Aullwood = Aullwood Audubon Farm and Sanctuary, *Montgomery*

Bayshore = a fishing access site near a power plant a bit east of Toledo

Barrow FS = James H. Barrow Field Station, *Portage*

BBS = the North American Breeding Bird Survey, a joint project of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS)

Berlin Lake = Berlin Lake (or Reservoir), *Ma-honing* and *Portage*

Big Island = Big Island Wildlife Area, *Marion*
Blendon Woods = Blendon Woods Metro Park, *Franklin*

The Bowl = a limited-access area near the *Har-rison* airport

BSBO = Black Swamp Bird Observatory, *Ottawa* (<http://www.bsbo.org>)

Buck Creek = Buck Creek State Park, *Clark*

Burke Airport = Cleveland Burke Lakefront Air-port, *Cuyahoga*

Caesar Creek = Caesar Creek State Park, *War-ren*, unless the lake itself is specified; a bit of the lake is also in *Clinton*

CBC = Audubon's Christmas Bird Count

CCE = Crane Creek Estuary, *Lucas* and *Ottawa*, viewable from both ONWR and the CCE Trail that originates at Magee

Clear Creek = Clear Creek Metro Park; the eastern 2/3 is in *Hocking*, the rest in *Fairfield*

Clear Fork = Clear Fork Reservoir (or Lake), partly in *Morrow* but most of the birding is done in the larger *Richland* section

CLNP = Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve (the former Dike 14), *Cuyahoga*

CNC = Cincinnati Nature Center; a non-governmental entity whose Long Branch Farm and Rowe Woods units are in *Clermont*

Conneaut = the mudflats to the west of Conneaut Harbor, *Ashtabula*

CP = County Park

CPNWR = Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge, *Lucas*

CVNP = Cuyahoga Valley National Park, *Cuyahoga* and (mostly) *Summit*

Darby Creek = Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park, almost entirely in *Franklin* but with bits in other counties as well. The Wet Prairie, Teal, and Harrier Trails are the most often cited.

Deer Creek = the State Park is in *Pickaway*, the Wildlife Area is in *Fayette*, and Deer Creek Lake is in both but mostly *Pickaway*

EcOhio = EcOhio Farm and Wetland, *Warren*

East Fork = East Fork State Park, *Clermont*

East Harbor = East Harbor State Park, *Ottawa*
Edge Preserve = The Nature Conservancy's Edge of Appalachia Preserve, multiple parcels mostly in *Adams* and extending a bit into *Scioto*.

Edgewater = the Edgewater unit of Cleveland Lakefront Metroparks, *Cuyahoga*

Ellis Lake = the eBird hotspot Ellis Lake Wetlands, outside Fairfield, *Butler*

Englewood = Englewood MetroPark, *Montgomery*

Fernald = Fernald Preserve, *Butler* and *Hamilton*

- Findlay Reservoirs = several contiguous water bodies east of town in **Hancock**
- Funk = Funk Bottoms Wildlife Area, **Ashland** and (mostly) **Wayne**
- Gilmore = Gilmore MP, **Butler**
- Grand Lake = Grand Lake St. Marys. The State Park, the state fish hatchery, and the eastern 20% of the lake itself are in **Auglaize**. The rest of the lake is in **Mercer**.
- Great Miami WMB = Great Miami Wetlands Mitigation Bank, **Montgomery**
- Headlands = Headlands Dunes State Nature Preserve, Headlands Beach State Park, and adjoining waters, **Lake**
- Holden = Holden Arboretum, **Lake**, except for its Stebbins Gulch unit in **Geauga**
- Hoover NP = Hoover Nature Preserve, **Delaware**
- Hoover Reservoir = the northern 80% is in **Delaware**, the rest and the dam in **Franklin**
- Howard Marsh = Howard Marsh Metropark, a bird magnet in **Lucas**
- Hueston Woods = Hueston Woods State Park, which contains Acton Lake; about half is in each of **Butler** and **Preble**.
- Huron = the harbor, breakwalls, and old dredge spoil impoundment in that **Erie** city, unless noted otherwise
- Indian Lake = Indian Lake State Park, **Logan**
- Jones Preserve = Jones Preserve at Long Point, on Kelleys Island, **Erie**
- Kelleys Island = the island and adjoining waters, **Erie**
- Killbuck = Killbuck State Wildlife Area, **Holmes** and **Wayne**
- Killdeer = Killdeer Plains State Wildlife Area; a bit is in **Marion** but it's mostly in **Wyandot**
- Kiwanis Park = Kiwanis Riverway Park, on the Scioto River in Dublin, **Franklin**
- LaDue = LaDue Reservoir, **Geauga**
- Lake Erie Bluffs = a **Lake** Metroparks parcel overlooking the eponymous water body
- Lake Hope/Zaleski = Lake Hope State Park and surrounding Zaleski State Forest, **Vinton**
- Lake Loramie = Lake Loramie State Park, **Shelby**
- Lorain = the dredge spoil impoundment east of downtown in the city and county of the same name, unless otherwise noted
- Lost Bridge = a Great Miami River crossing on Lawrenceburg Road near Elizabethtown, **Hamilton**, where a covered bridge was lost to fire in 1903
- m. obs. = multiple observers
- Magee = the boardwalk and immediate vicinity in Magee Marsh Wildlife Area, **Lucas**, unless otherwise noted. The northern third of the causeway is also in **Lucas**, the rest in **Ottawa**.
- Malek Park = a city park on the west side of Conneaut, **Ashtabula**
- Mallard Club = Mallard Club Marsh Wildlife Area, **Lucas**
- Marblehead Light = Marblehead Lighthouse State Park, **Ottawa**
- Maumee Bay = Maumee Bay State Park, **Lucas**, unless otherwise noted
- Medusa = Medusa Marsh, **Erie**, an informally named and privately owned area between Sandusky and Bay View
- Mentor Lagoons = Mentor Lagoons Nature Preserve, **Lake**
- Mentor Marsh = Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve, **Lake**
- Metzger = Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area, **Lucas**, not to be confused with Metzger Reservoir, **Allen**
- Mill Creek = Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, a limited-access area in **Mahoning**
- Mohican = Mohican State Forest and State Park. Many trails cross the boundaries so some reports include sightings from both without distinction.
- Mohican SF = Mohican State Forest, **Ashland**
- Mohican SP = Mohican State Park, (mostly) **Ashland** and (slightly) **Richland**
- Mosquito Lake = Mosquito Lake State Park, formerly Mosquito Creek SP, and also called Mosquito Creek Reservoir, **Trumbull**. Mosquito (Creek) Wildlife Area adjoins it.
- Motus = a wildlife tracking system managed by Bird Studies Canada
- Nimisila = Nimisila Reservoir, **Summit**
- MP = Metro Park, MetroPark, or Metropark depending on the system
- NC = Nature Center
- NF = National Forest
- NP = Nature Preserve, except as part of CVNP
- OBBA II = the second Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas
- OBRC = Ohio Bird Records Committee
- Old Highland Stone = that company's water-filled gravel pits, **Highland**
- Old Woman Creek = Old Woman Creek (National Estuarine Research Reserve) State Nature Preserve, **Erie**
- OOPMP = Oak Openings Preserve MetroPark, **Lucas**
- ONWR = Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, **Lucas** and **Ottawa**
- ONWR Blausey, Boss, Fox, Koontz, and Navarre = units of ONWR separate from the main area, all in **Ottawa**; of them Boss, Fox, and Koontz are open to the public

- ONWR WD = Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Wildlife Drive, the monthly opening of areas otherwise closed to vehicles, **Lucas** and **Ottawa**
- OSU = The Ohio State University, of course; sites are in **Franklin** unless noted otherwise
- Painesville TP = Painesville Township Park, overlooking Lake Erie in **Lake**
- Pearson MP = Pearson Metro Park, **Lucas**
- Perry TP = Perry Township Park, on Lake Erie in eastern **Lake**
- Pickrel Creek = Pickrel Creek Wildlife Area, **Sandusky**
- Pickerington Ponds = Pickerington Ponds Metro Park, **Fairfield** and **Franklin**
- Pipe Creek = Pipe Creek Wildlife Area, in the city of Sandusky, **Erie**
- Pleasant Hill Lake = an impoundment straddling the **Ashland/Richland** line
- Quail Hollow = Quail Hollow State Park, **Stark**
- Rocky Fork = Rocky Fork State Park, **Highland**
- Salt Fork = Salt Fork State Park, **Guernsey**
- Sandy Ridge = Sandy Ridge Reservation, **Lorain**
- Sandhill Crane = Sandhill Crane Wetlands, a newly-designated area within The Nature Conservancy's Kitty Todd Preserve, **Lucas**
- Seneca Lake = most of the lake and the (non-state) Park are in **Noble**, while the dam is in **Guernsey**
- SF = State Forest
- Shawnee = Shawnee State Forest, **Scioto**, unless otherwise noted
- Shawnee Lookout = Shawnee Lookout County Park, **Hamilton**
- Sheldon Marsh = Sheldon Marsh State Nature Preserve, **Erie**
- Sherod Park = a city park overlooking Lake Erie in Vermilion, **Erie**
- SNP = State Nature Preserve
- SP = State Park
- Springfield Lake = in Greater Akron, **Summit**
- Springville Marsh = Springville Marsh State Nature Preserve, **Seneca**
- Spring Valley = Spring Valley Wildlife Area, almost entirely in **Greene** but extending into **Warren**
- Stillfork = The Nature Conservancy's Stillfork Swamp Preserve, **Carroll**
- Sunset Park = a city park overlooking Lake Erie in Willoughby, **Lake**
- SWA = State Wildlife Area
- TNC = The Nature Conservancy (<http://www.nature.org>)
- TP = Township Park
- Vinton Furnace = Vinton Furnace Experimental Forest, **Vinton**
- Villa Angela = the Villa Angela unit of Cleveland's Lakefront Reservation
- Volunteer Bay = a private neighborhood on Lake Erie in **Erie**
- WA = Wildlife Area
- Wake Robin = a trail and boardwalk in Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve, **Lake**
- Wendy Park = a lakeshore Cleveland park, **Cuyahoga**
- Wilderness Road = a road that traverses Funk Bottoms Wildlife Area, **Wayne**, and adjoining farmland
- The Wilds = a limited-access big-mammal breeding and research facility in **Muskingum**, also used generically to include the surrounding reclaimed strip mines
- Willow Point = Willow Point Wildlife Area, **Erie**
- Winous Horseshoe = a limited-access part of Winous Point Shooting Club, **Ottawa**
- Winous Point = Winous Point Shooting Club, **Ottawa**
- Wintergarden Woods = Wintergarden Woods and Saint Johns Nature Preserve, **Wood**
- Woodman Fen = a natural area, part of Dayton's Five Rivers MetroParks system, **Montgomery**
- WRGBT = Western Reserve Greenway Bike Trail, **Trumbull**
- Wright Marsh = a hotspot in Killbuck WA north of Shreve, **Wayne**
- WWTP = Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Zaleski = Zaleski State Forest, **Vinton**

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

By Ron Canterbury and Olivia Canterbury

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck

Potentially the same adult bird from summer and fall 2022 continued along Millersburg Road in Wooster, **Wayne**, from 02 to 10 Dec. There were no other winter records.

Snow Goose

Leslie Sours estimated 175 geese were in flight at Hoover Reservoir on 16 Dec. (57 counties)

Ross's Goose

John Kuenzli counted the most, five along Bixby Road in Lockboure, **Franklin**, on 18 Dec. (31 counties)



*Hope was fulfilled for the McKelveys when these two Ross's Geese visited their home pond for two days in **Lorain** on 02 and 03 Dec (see Field Notes).*

Snow/Ross's Goose

Indeterminate birds were reported from 12 counties.

Greater White-fronted Goose

Ron Sempier's count of 322 on 04 Jan at Mari-on Community Foundation Lake, **Marion**, was the most on 04 Jan. Second most were 300 near Troy, **Miami**, on 07 Feb for Joe Anderson. (62 counties)

Cackling Goose

The high count of 42 birds was tallied by John Kuenzli at a pond in Grove City, **Franklin**, on 23 Jan. (46 counties)

Canada Goose

The high count of 3734 came from the 01 Jan ONWR monthly census (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). (all 88 counties)

Cackling/Canada Goose

Indeterminate birds were reported from 10 counties.

Mute Swan

The high count was Jeff Sailer's 25 at Metzger on 30 Dec. From 16 to 21 were noted there on other dates. Outside **Lucas**, the most elsewhere were 18 near Lancaster, **Fairfield**, on 29 Dec and 02 Jan (Heather Aubke and Dawn McCoy). (45 counties)

Trumpeter Swan

Jane Riker reported a large group of about 500 at Harpster, **Wyandot**, on 18 Feb. Second most was Alecia Gorski's 325 at ONWR on 18 Feb. (53 counties)



*Jethro Raber photographed these two Trumpeter Swans along Clark Road in **Wayne** on 26 Feb.*

Tundra Swan

The monthly censuses at ONWR produced 4359 on 05 Feb (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). Counts of 3000 to 4079 were seen there on other dates. The most elsewhere were 2000 for Paul Sherwood, along Cedar Point Chaussee, **Erie**, on 15 Jan. (53 counties)

Trumpeter/Tundra Swan

Indeterminate birds were reported from 22 counties.

Wood Duck

Tyler McClain reported 25 at Sandy Ridge on 28 Feb, which was the most. (60 counties)

Blue-winged Teal

Four at Killdeer, on 26 Feb, were the most (Cam Lee). (11 counties)

Northern Shoveler

Two different observations produced the high count of 100. That number was noted by a group of four birders along the Cedar Point Chaussee, **Erie**, on 04 Dec, and by a group of six birders at Killbuck on 23 Feb. (52 counties)

[Cinnamon Teal x Northern Shoveler]

A hybrid was photographed at Hoover Reservoir

by John Kuenzli on 15 Jan. It was perhaps the same bird seen at that reservoir during the previous winter.

Gadwall

This species is typically an abundant species during winter throughout the state. A high count of 1000 was made by a group of four birders along the Cedar Point Chaussee, **Erie**, on 04 Dec. The next most, also from **Erie**, were the 500 noted by Paul Sherwood in Castalia on 26 Dec. Away from the lakefront, Tyler Ficker and Mollie Langdon counted 300 along Roxanna New Burlington Road, **Greene**, on 01 Jan. (74 counties)

Eurasian Wigeon

Richelle Gatto reported three in Mogadore, **Portage**, on 17 Dec. Numerous birders saw the bird at Nimisila on 08 and 09 Feb. Likewise, one was noted in Alliance, **Stark**, on 13 and 14 Feb (m. obs.). One male or perhaps two different birds moved between Killbuck and Prairie Lane Wetlands, **Wayne**, from 19 to 28 Feb (m. obs.). George Billman described one with a group of American Wigeons at Big Island on 23 Feb. Jordan Parrott photographed one at Killdeer on 26 Feb. (6 counties)

American Wigeon

Josh Davidson and Cassidy Ficker counted the most, 156 at Metzger on 25 Feb. Second most were 150 from three different locations. That number was noted by Tyler Ficker and Mollie Langdon along Roxanna New Burlington Road, **Greene**, on 01 Jan, Larry Richardson at Mosquito Creek WA, **Trumbull**, on 21 Feb, and by Joli Reising at Willow Point on 26 Feb. (55 counties)

Mallard

Douglas Vogus' ONWR census team tallied the seasonal high count of 4433 on 04 Dec. Outside the ONWR, the second most were 2500 noted by Lucas Liu in Toledo on 05 Feb. Only **Henry**, **Jackson**, and **Putnam** didn't have reports.

American Black Duck

The high count of 200 were likely the same group of ducks observed by Sarah Preston at Headlands on 09 Feb and then by Sally Isacco at Morton Community Park, **Lake**, on 10 Feb. The most inland were 150 that Josh Yoder noted at Killbuck on 06 Feb. (72 counties)

[Mallard x American Black Duck]

The high count of this relatively common hybrid was Dan Best's 10 at Walter C. Best Wildlife Preserve, **Geauga**, on 01 Feb. (24 counties)

Northern Pintail

Data from eBird disclosed large numbers moved in Feb. An estimated tally of 1500 from Killbuck on 23 and 24 Feb represented the high count (m. obs.). Cam Lee conservatively estimated 1000 at Big Island on 15 Feb. (62 counties)

[Mallard x Northern Pintail]

Sue Evanoff and Su Snyder photographed a hybrid at Killbuck on 08 Feb.



Su Snyder looked close at this unusual hybrid Mallard x Northern Pintail along Valley Road at Killbuck on 08 Feb.

Green-winged Teal

The high count of 76 was noted by Larry Early at the Haley + Gleason Quarry, **Clinton**, on 11 Dec. Josh Yoder observed 70 along Wilderness Road on 18 Feb. Third most were Cam Lee's 68 at Killdeer on 26 Feb. (56 counties)

Canvasback

At Maumee Bay, Alex Damiano and Jeremy Dominguez counted 3200 on 08 Feb. At least 1200 were noted there on another date. Gautam Apte's careful count of 881 were the most away from **Lucas**, and came from CLNP on 26 Dec. (53 counties)

Redhead

An estimate of 2000 flying over the **Erie** lakefront at Maumee Bay was noted by Tyler Ficker on 13 Feb. Ten counties added the species in Feb, as the species started moving northbound. (69 counties)

Ring-necked Duck

A duck species that can occur in relatively large numbers during winter in Ohio. Tyler Ficker and Mollie Langdon tallied the most, 1500 along Roxanna New Burlington Road, **Greene**, on 01 Jan. An estimated 1500 were also counted at Killbuck on 23 and 24 Feb (m. obs.). (81 counties)

Greater Scaup

Gautam Apte carefully counted 1136 at CLNP

on 26 Dec. During the Kelleys Island monthly census, Tom Bartlett and Tyler McClain roughly estimated 1000 on 07 Jan. Away from Lake Erie, 100 were tallied by Laura Brown at Hoover Reservoir on 26 Feb. (55 counties)

Lesser Scaup

Alex Damiano and Jeremy Dominguez together, and Jeff Sailer birding separately, produced a high count of 10,000 at Maumee Bay on 18 Dec. An estimated 5234 by Gautam Apte were second most, at CLNP on 26 Dec. (77 counties)



Debbie Parker was ready when these Lesser Scaup took off from the harbor at Lorain (city) on 21 Feb.

Greater/Lesser Scaup

About 5000 were off Kelleys Island on 06 Jan for Tom Bartlett, and Dave Rodriguez had a mixed cluster of about 4000 at Maumee Bay on 14 Jan. (51 Counties)

Common Eider

Brian Miller found one at Pymatuning SP, *Ashtabula*, on 18 Dec. Many birders saw the bird through 20 Dec.

Harlequin Duck

Likely the same four ducks spent the winter off Lake Erie shore in *Cuyahoga* and *Lorain*. Three observers saw three Harlequin's at Avon Lake Power Plant/Miller Road Park, *Lorain*, on 11 Dec. Likely the additional bird was photographed nearby on 13 Dec by James Kerner in Avon Lake, *Lorain*. Either the same four ducks or a different group were first noted on 16 Dec at Rocky River Park, *Cuyahoga* (m. obs.). Dan Gesualdo and Corey Sees saw one at Sherod Park, *Erie*, on 01 Jan; it was also seen on 13 Jan by Dan Gesualdo. One spent from 06 to 17 Feb at CLNP (m. obs.).

Surf Scoter

Theo Bockhorst observed 44 at Sims Park,

Cuyahoga, on 12 Feb. Up to 38 were counted the same day at that location by other observers. Craig Holt had a flyover flock of nine at Lakeshore Park, *Ashtabula*, on 18 Jan. Inland counts were more variable than last winter, with several observations of at least three birds and as many as four to five at a several locations, as well as seven for m. obs. at Caesar Creek on 20 and 21 Dec. (22 counties)

White-winged Scoter

Sixteen were noted by Theo Bockhorst at CLNP on 15 Jan. Chad Wilson photographed 12 at Avon Lake Veterans Memorial Park, *Lorain*, on 15 Jan. Six, the most inland, were noted by Shane Myers at Findlay Reservoirs, *Hancock*, on 20 Dec. (11 counties)

Black Scoter

Jeff Harvey's eight at Sims Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 12 Feb were the most. (9 counties)

Scoter sp.

Indeterminate birds were reported from *Ashtabula*, *Cuyahoga*, and *Lake*. Five birders counted 51 that were too far to identify to species off Rocky River Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 08 Jan.

Long-tailed Duck

Lori Brumbaugh found seven at Sims Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 27 Feb. Jon Kurtz observed the second most, six along Route 6 in Huron, *Erie*, from 21 to 22 Dec. (16 counties)

Bufflehead

Waters off Kelleys Island held 900 for Tom Bartlett on 07 Jan. Second most were 532 on the Lake Erie Islands CBC on 18 Dec (*vide* John Pogacnik), while third most were the 500 that MiMi Hoffmaster tallied at Lakewood Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 30 Dec. (70 counties)

Common Goldeneye

The high count was an estimated 5000 at Sims Park, *Cuyahoga*, as noted by Tyler McClain on 14 Jan. Additional Lake Erie viewpoints produced from 1170 to 3000 on other dates. Considerably away from the lakefront, Tim, Wendell, and Winston Troutner noted 125 at Bresler Reservoir, *Allen*, on 18 Feb. (62 counties)

Hooded Merganser

Terry Bronson reported 300 at Seneca Lake on 21 Dec. Fannie Courtier saw the next most, 280, at East Fork on 28 Dec. (77 counties)

[Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser]

Numerous birders saw one that spent 02 to 16 Jan at Eastwood Lake, *Montgomery*, and it was likely the same bird as last winter.

Common Merganser

Paul Jacyk estimated 3400 off 119th Street in Toledo on 09 Feb. The inland high count of 430 came from Mosquito Lake on 12 Feb (Don Kefer). (70 counties)

Red-breasted Merganser

During observation of an immensely large concentration of ducks, Gautam Apte estimated 38,125 during careful counting at CLNP on 26 Dec. Up to 25,000 were estimated on other dates at that location. John Pogacnik tallied 17,250 at Fairport Harbor Lakefront Park, **Lake**, on 01 Dec. Gary Cowell's 135 at Clear Fork on 28 Feb were the most at an inland site. (54 counties)

Ruddy Duck

Brian Wulker had 500 at Rocky Fork on 04 Feb. Bird Smith noted 400 at Oberlin Reservoir, **Lorain**, on 05 Dec. (69 counties)

Northern Bobwhite

Records came from only **Columbiana**, **Perry**, **Preble**, and **Wayne**. Jon Costanzo estimated 12 near Camden College Corner Road, **Preble**, on 03 Dec.

Wild Turkey

A group of four birders saw the most, 98 in Butler, **Richland**, on 06 Feb. Ben Morrison's count of 91 along Sam Krabill Avenue, **Stark**, on 09 Jan, was the second most. (76 counties)

Ruffed Grouse

The Hocking Hills CBC had the only Dec record on 18 Dec (*vide* Joe Moosbrugger), and there were no Feb records this season, which is of continued concern for this declining species. One potential record of a bird flushed by a dog, but not seen by the observer on 01 Jan, was inconclusive from **Harrison**.

Ring-necked Pheasant

The River Drive area south of Circleville, **Pickaway**, harbored 45 for Tii McLane on 21 Jan, and up to 42 were seen there on other dates. Evelyn Reisinger reported 33 from Eastern Avenue in Kingston, **Ross**, on 20 Feb. (32 counties)

[Chukar]

Four different birders photographed at least two birds that roamed between North Benton-Carroll Road and Zensor Road in Oak Harbor, **Ottawa**, from 07 to 08 Feb. Likely escaped birds were seen as far south as West Duff-Washa Road and coordinates, distance, and eBird records may indicate an escaped group of 3–4 birds. Another plausible scenario is birds were released in the local conservation club area for hunting purposes. Another likely escaped bird was photographed by Robert Landon and then by Ron Marek at Alum Lake, **Delaware**, on 18 Feb.

Pied-billed Grebe

Rick Nelson counted 38 at Mosquito Lake on 08 Dec and shared that number with a trio of birders at East Fork on 01 Jan. Bill Stanley tallied 29 at Rocky Fork on 03 Dec. (64 counties)

Horned Grebe

A team of birders during the Lakewood CBC counted 77 on 30 Dec (*vide* John Pogacnik). Jason Estep saw the most elsewhere, 70 at Alum Creek on 15 Dec. (52 counties)

Red-necked Grebe

The influx was more prevalent than last winter. Joshua Vardous found seven at Lorain on 10 Dec and shared the high with Brad and Josh Davidson, who tallied at least seven at Edgewater on 11 Dec. At Edgewater and minutes later, Luke Robertson saw those same seven grebes. (10 counties)



Seeing three Red-necked Grebes together was a treat for Joshua Vardous on 10 Dec at the fishing pier in Lorain (city).

Eared Grebe

All winter records were of one or two birds. Reports came from **Allen**, **Cuyahoga**, **Knox**, **Lake**, **Lorain**, and **Warren**.



Jim Smallwood managed a sharp image of this Eared Grebe riding the waves near the Fairport Harbor Port Authority Pier on 02 Dec in **Lake**.

Rock Pigeon

Isaiah Craft counted 1000 at Dayton's Veterans Park on 07 Dec. He also tallied 1000 at Carillon Historical Park on 01 Feb. Those two parks are less than two miles driving distance apart, so like-

ly the same group of birds. Irina Shulgina saw 400 at OSU's Waterman Farm on 01 Dec and that number was also noted by Carl Winstead along Case Road, **Franklin**, on 05 Dec. Only **Carroll** and **Mercer** didn't have reports.

Eurasian Collared-Dove

A foraging flock of 25 was observed in Weston, **Wood**, by Shane Myers on 09 Jan. Madeline Wellman studied 11 in Beaverdam, **Allen**, on 21 Jan. (8 counties)

Mourning Dove

Larry Richardson counted 300 along Route 236 in Bristolville, **Trumbull**, on 11 Dec. Next most were the 160 tallied by Carl Winstead along Sullivan Trace Trail, **Franklin**, on 18 Dec. (all 88 counties)

Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird

Several lingered into Dec and some may have perished during the severe winter storm that occurred on 22 Dec. All these records were *fide* Allen Chartier. A female Rufous was last seen in Blue Ash, **Hamilton**, on 22 Dec. A male Rufous near Westfield, **Medina**, was also last seen on 22 Dec. Another female Rufous in Hamilton Township, **Warren**, was last seen on 23 Dec. The male Rufous near Friendship, **Scioto**, was last observed on 27 Dec. A female Rufous/Allen's in Cheviot, **Hamilton**, was last observed on 12 Dec. Allen Chartier reported that no Rufous/Allen's lingered into Jan/Feb.

Virginia Rail

Four were tallied on Ohio CBCs in Dec (see Mike Busam's 123rd CBC summary later in this issue). Sean Hollowell reported one at Spring Valley on 01 Jan. Josh Yoder heard one calling at Killbuck on 28 Jan that Cynthia Norris likely then audio recorded on 29 Jan. That bird continued until at least 06 Feb. Jana Reser heard one at the gravel pit of Roxanna New Burlington Road, **Greene**, on 20 Feb.

American Coot

The high count of 1200 came from Portage Lakes SP, **Summit**, by m. obs. As many as 1100 were also reported at that location on other dates. Outside **Summit**, Brian Wulker noted 1000 at Old Highland Stone on 04 Feb, which he noted was an unusually high number for that area. (56 counties)

Sandhill Crane

Brian Wulker counted 650 flying over Fernald on 27 Dec. An estimated 500 flew over Lost Creek Reservoir in Lima, **Allen**, on 19 Dec (*fide* Rebecca Pescosolido). (66 counties)

Killdeer

Atlee and Josh Yoder saw 106 at Clendenning Lake, **Harrison**, on 10 Dec. Gary Cowell made a very accurate count of 104 at the mudflats at Charles Mill Lake, **Ashland**, on 16 Dec. Only **Fulton**, **Gallia**, **Henry**, **Monroe**, and **Vinton** didn't have reports.

Dunlin

Some lingered into Dec. Lindsey Kunkel saw two along Zenser Road, **Ottawa**, on 03 Dec. The 04 Dec ONWR census team saw nine (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). Six were seen a day earlier in ONWR (John Brikmans). Atlee and Josh Yoder had one at Clendenning Lake, **Harrison**, on 10 Dec. Rebecca Pescosolido photographed one on a sandbar at Williams Reservoir, **Allen**, on 12 Dec. Multiple birders saw the 29 to 30 Dec bird first reported by Jana Reser at Caesar Creek. John Pogacnik also saw one at Conneaut Harbor, **Ashtabula**, on 31 Dec. One was at Wendy Park on 04 Feb for multiple birders to see. (7 counties)

Purple Sandpiper

The reports are:

One at Lorain Harbor on 05 Dec (m. obs.).

One found by Jen Brumfield at East Ninth Street pier in Cleveland on 10 Dec (m. obs.).

Two were at the Cleveland breakwall across from Wendy Park on 17 Dec (m. obs.). Potentially one of these birds or a different bird was found by Bobby Irwin at Wendy Park Coast Guard Station on 15 Jan (m. obs.).

One at CLNP on 25 and 26 Dec. (Gautam Apte and Chance Morris)

One on the Ashtabula CBC on 31 Dec (*fide* Marc Hanneman)

Least Sandpiper

Eric Elvert found four at Dayton's Veterans Park on 11 Dec.

American Woodcock

There were only two records, each of single birds, from Dec. Aaron Ambos flushed one at



Su Snyder met these Sandhill Cranes on 02 Feb along Valley Road at Killbuck.

Hueston Woods on 05 Dec and Tyler Ficker and Austin Langdon had a flyover in South Lebanon, **Warren**, on 29 Dec. There were no Jan records and numbers picked up in Feb as birds returned to breeding locations. The high count of 26 came from Josh Yoder at Jockey Hollow WA, **Harrison**, on 26 Feb. Corinna Honscheid and Beth Lenoble estimated a minimum of 15 peenting and displaying at Gallant Woods Park, **Delaware**, on 20 Feb. (54 counties)

Wilson's Snipe

Larry Early counted 19 at Cowan Lake SP, **Clinton**, on 05 Dec. Second most were the 17 tallied by Atlee and Josh Yoder at Clendening Lake, **Harrison**, on 10 Dec. (31 counties)

Spotted Sandpiper

A few lingered into Dec. Three birders, all birding separately, saw the Alum Creek bird on 01 Dec. Paul Jacyk photographed one at Bay View Park, **Lucas**, on 01 and 04 Dec. Wayne Wauligman photographed one along the Great Miami River, **Hamilton**, near Old Hamilton Cleves Road on 18 Dec.

Lesser Yellowlegs

Marianne Gorman photographed one at Gilmore on 23 Feb. Prairie Lane Wetlands, **Wayne**, held at least two from 23 to 25 Feb (m. obs.). Kari Warner Matsko and John Pogacnik found one at Mentor Lagoons on 26 Feb. Two were present at Buckeye Lake, **Licking**, on 28 Feb (Matt Mason). Records were from **Butler**, **Lake**, **Licking** and **Wayne**.

Greater Yellowlegs

David Wilkins verified one at Pickerel Creek on 08 Dec.

Shorebird sp.

Reports of indeterminate birds are:

A probable Purple Sandpiper at Lorain Harbor on 05 Dec (James Kerner)

Two potential Wilson's Snipes or perhaps dowitchers were flushed, and without good enough views, at Pickerington Ponds on 07 Feb (Marcella Grottoli)

Red Phalarope

Todd Eiben photographed one at Sims Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 04 Dec. Tom Frankel re-found the bird and got another definitive photo a few hours later at nearby Wildwood Park of Euclid Creek Reservation, **Cuyahoga**.

Pomarine Jaeger

A bird first located during the Toledo CBC by Brandon Brywczynski and Greg Links at Bayshore Power Plant, **Lucas**, on 18 Dec was observed and photographed by m. obs. Leigh Casal reported one at Edgewater on 24 Dec.

Pomarine/Parasitic Jaeger

An indeterminate bird was noted by six observers at Lakewood Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 11 Dec.

Black-legged Kittiwake

It was a good winter season for this species in Ohio. One bird was well documented at Caesar Creek on 03 and 04 Dec (m. obs.). Many birders saw one from 05 to 07 Dec at Cowan Lake, **Clinton**. Likewise, numerous birders saw one that traveled along the Cleveland lakefront from 05 to 12 Dec and potentially the same bird was seen in late Feb at Wendy Park. A bird at Bresler Reservoir, **Allen**, was noted from 09 to 14 Jan (m. obs.). Ed Wransky found one at Lorain Harbor that was observed from 13 to 16 Jan. Kari Warner Matsko found one at the Fairport Harbor Port Authority, **Lake**, that stayed from 05 to 15 Feb. (m. obs.). (6 counties)



This first winter Black-legged Kittiwake was photographed by Cynthia Norris on 06 Dec at Wendy Park.

Bonaparte's Gull

Numbers started to dwindle in Feb. Jen Brumfield provided the high count of 6500, at Wendy Park on 02 Dec, and up to 5500 were found there on other dates. The most elsewhere were Ethan Maynard's 1500 at Sunset Harbor, **Lake**, on 06 Dec. Inland, Tyler Ficker estimated 550 at East Fork on 14 Dec. (49 counties)

Black-headed Gull

One well-documented bird, seen by m. obs.,



This formidable Pomarine Jaeger was photographed by Jamie Cunningham on 18 Dec at the Bayshore Power Plant, Lucas.

spent Jan and Feb along the Cleveland lakefront where it was often observed at Cleveland Harbor, Edgewater Marina, and Wendy Park. At times, a second bird was also noted. For example, on 29 and 30 Dec two were seen with a group of Bonaparte's Gulls at the mouth of the Cuyahoga and at the Coast Guard Station (see Field Notes), and one bird appeared to be a bird discovered in Nov and the second was a bird noted this winter in **Lake** on 27 Dec (Michael Hochstetler, Anthony Rodgers, and Dakota Swisher). The **Lake** bird was noted at Fairport Harbor and was seen by many birders.

Little Gull

One spent Dec and Jan along the Cleveland lakefront (m. obs.) and was often seen at Wendy Park and adjacent areas. One to three were observed at Fairport Harbor Lakefront Park, **Lake**, from 09 to 12 Dec (m. obs.).



The small size of a Little Gull is evident in Ed Wransky's photo, seen on 12 Jan from the East Ninth Street pier in Cleveland.

Common Gull

Todd Eiben found our first state record for this species on 30 Dec at Wendy Park; it stayed until at least 02 Jan for many to see. The OBRC quickly confirmed the record. Refer to the additional Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr. article later in this issue.



The magical gull season began on 30 Dec with Todd Eiben's amazing discovery of Ohio's first record of a Common Gull in the Cuyahoga River seen from Wendy Park.

Ring-billed Gull

Four birders estimated 47,500 at Wendy Park

on 30 Dec, and up to 45,000 were noted there on other dates. Away from **Cuyahoga**, the next most were 12,000 noted by Sean Williams at Huron on 20 Dec. Inland, Jon Cefus and Kent Miller had 5000 at the American Landfill, **Stark**, on 14 Dec. Only **Brown**, **Fayette**, **Jackson**, and **Williams** didn't have reports.

California Gull

Gautam Apte photographed one with a group of Ring-billed Gulls at the East Ninth Street pier in Cleveland on 13 Dec and the bird was seen by numerous birders. Based on photographs and analysis of the plumage and eBird records, that bird was also reported by Anthony Rodgers at the Cleveland Coast Guard Station pier on 25 Feb. Perhaps, a different one was seen by Kari Warner Matsko and John Pogacnik at the fishing pier of Lorain Harbor on 21 Jan.

Herring Gull

Anthony Rodgers' outing at Wendy Park produced 20,000 on 25 Feb, and up to 16,000 were recorded there on other dates. Meyers Lake, **Stark**, held the inland high of 4200 on 15 Dec. (Jeff Goff and Kent Miller). (68 counties)

Iceland Gull

Thirteen were off Wendy Park on 14 Jan (Robert Irwin and Justin Labadie). As many as 10 were seen there on other dates. While most records came from the lake counties, as usual, records were reported as far inland as **Hancock** and **Montgomery**. Kent Miller noted the inland high of four at Meyers Lake, **Stark**, on 02 Dec. (11 counties)

Lesser Black-backed Gull

Paul Jacyk found the most, 61 at Bay View Park, **Lucas**, on 08 Feb. This was followed by a close 60, which were noted by Shane Myers at Findlay Reservoirs on 01 Dec; see Field Notes for additional detail. (32 counties)

[Herring x Lesser Black-backed Gull]

Jon Cefus and Kent Miller photographed one at Countrywide Landfill, **Stark**, on 02 Dec. Kari Warner Matsko and John Pogacnik noted two at Lorain Harbor on 21 Jan. John Pogacnik also had one at Fairport Harbor Lakefront Park, **Lake**, on 06 Feb.

Slaty-backed Gull

Our third state record was first found by Kent Miller on 03 Jan. The bird was first noted at West Third Street in Cleveland and until 10 Jan. The individual was often found at Scranton Road Peninsula of Lakefront Reservation. Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr. discovered a second-of-the-season bird that, according to wingtip coloration, would be the fourth state record. The bird that Slusarczyk found on 24 Feb was at Wendy Park,

but not far from the first bird that was along the Cuyahoga River and just east of Wendy Park. This second bird was seen by many birders until at least the end of the season. Refer to the additional Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr. article later in this issue.

Glaucous-winged Gull

Anthony Rodgers found a first state record at Shooters on the Water along the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland on 01 Jan. Many birders saw the bird on 02 Jan. See Field Notes for additional detail. The OBRC quickly confirmed the record.

Glaucous Gull

Isaiah Craft had five at Wendy Park on 17 Feb. (7 counties)

[Herring x Glaucous Gull]

Anthony Rodgers and Dakota Swisher found one at Wendy Park on 29 Dec. Potentially, the same bird was at Lorain Harbor on 20 Jan (Ed Wransky). Moreover, that same or a different bird was also seen at Wendy Park by Gautam Apte on 05 Feb.

Great Black-backed Gull

The high count of 50 was reported from Wendy Park on 04 Feb (Donna Kuhn and Lisa Phelps), which shared the high count with Maria Antoniw at Rocky River Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 19 Feb. Joli Reising saw the second most, 40 at Main Street Beach, *Erie*, on 05 Feb. (14 counties)

[Herring x Great Black-backed Gull]

Kari Warner Matsko and John Pogacnik saw one at Eastlake Seawall (formerly, Eastlake Power Plant), *Lake*, on 25 Feb.

Red-throated Loon

Shane Myers found a lingering loon at Findlay Reservoirs on 25 Feb that Jane Riker relocated the same day, and the bird stayed into the next day (Katie Ware). One also lingered until 20 Feb at the CLNP (Eric Paul Castro-Dean). The high count of 166 was tallied during the Lakewood CBC on 18 Dec (*vide* Nancy Howell). (8 counties)

Pacific Loon

There were a few scattered reports for the winter. Of these, all were of single birds, except two that spent the winter at Lakewood Park, *Cuyahoga* (m. obs.). In each case, each bird was seen by many birders. *Cuyahoga* potentially had three locations that held birds. Other than Lakewood Park, those included Cahoon and Rocky River parks. Records came from *Cuyahoga*, *Delaware*, *Franklin*, *Knox*, *Lorain*, and *Warren*.

Common Loon

There were relatively few records in Feb and all were of single birds, except three from

Cuyahoga. Six birders recorded the most, 67 at Lakewood Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 11 Dec, and up to 53 were found there on other dates. Isoo O'Brien counted 46 at Clear Fork on 12 Dec. (43 counties)

Northern Gannet

Jim McCormac saw one on 04 Dec in Huron. The record was accepted by the OBRC.

Double-crested Cormorant

The high count of 550 came from Wendy Park on 26 Feb (m. obs.). Up to 500 were noted there on other dates. Outside *Cuyahoga*, the next most were two flocks of 150 flying over Caesar Creek on 04 Dec (Isaiah Craft). (48 counties)

American White Pelican

At some localities, fall birds persisted into Dec. Trevor Zook estimated 250 at CPNWR on 14 Dec. May have been more in that flock; see Field Notes for more. Ryan Lesniewicz estimated 198 from a flyover flock at ONWR on 18 Dec. (9 counties)

American Bittern

The only record of American Bittern was by call only and at Darby Creek on 20 Feb (Ben Warner).

Great Blue Heron

Christine Parthemore reported a large group of 111 at Cedar Point Chaussee, *Erie*, on 17 Dec. Mark Shieldcastle counted 94 at Navarre Marsh, where the birds were concentrated at the open water mouth of the Toussaint River, *Ottawa*, on 01 Jan. *Crawford*, *Henry*, *Paulding*, *Pike*, and *Williams* didn't have reports.

Great Egret

There were few sightings in Jan and Feb, including only *Wayne* with a report in Jan. Four counties had locations that each held three in Dec. Gary Cowell noted that number at Charles Mill Lake, *Richland*, on 09 Dec. Rodney McCollum had three along the Hocking River in Lancaster, *Fairfield*, on 10 Dec. Eric Sullenberger had three flying over Piqua, *Miami*, on 10 Dec. Su Snyder also had that many along Wilderness Road on 13 Dec. (17 counties)

Black-crowned Night-Heron

Anthony Marino noted 25 along the Maumee River in Toledo on 14 Dec. (8 counties)

Black Vulture

Tyler Ficker and Mollie Langdon counted 200 in a soaring kettle off I-275 in *Clermont* on 15 Jan. The second most, not from a CBC, were 130, a conservative estimate of birds perched on Lin Hall at Ohio University in Athens on 19 Feb (John Kolar). (64 counties)

Turkey Vulture

Tara Hutson tallied 186 flying north in Lancaster, **Fairfield**, on 22 Feb. Only **Auglaize**, **Defiance**, **Fayette**, **Fulton**, **Paulding**, and **Van Wert** didn't have reports.

Osprey

The reports are:

Two at Walnut Woods MP, **Franklin**, on 09 Dec (Marc Dearnemey)

One photographed at Spring Valley on 15 Dec (Rick Asamoto)

One at Nimisila on 11 Feb (Deb Koprek-Nauer)

One on a cell phone tower nest along Cristland Hill Road in Thornville, **Licking**, on 20 Feb (Linda Woolard). Two were noted on this nest on 27 Feb.

Golden Eagle

Paul Sherwood saw the season's first, in Castalia, **Erie**, on 11 Dec. Benjamin Miller photographed one along Wally Road, **Knox**, on 17 Jan, four birders saw two adults at that same location on 19 Jan, and Atlee and Josh Yoder photographed those same two eagles on 23 Jan. They were also observed on several Feb dates (m. obs.). The two eagles seen in nearby **Holmes** in Feb were likely that same duo. Other than **Erie**, **Knox**, and **Holmes**, reports of singles came from **Coshoc-ton** and **Washington**.

Northern Harrier

River Drive, **Pickaway**, hosted 27 on 19 Jan for Tom Bartlett. A trio of birders secured the second most, 21 at Killdeer on 26 Jan. (81 counties)



Tammy Orsborn photographed this male "Gray Ghost" Northern Harrier at her farm in Mount Vernon, **Knox**, on 05 Feb.

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Nearly all records were of single birds. Ben Wang noticed two at Acacia Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 15 Dec. (64 counties)

Cooper's Hawk

Brian Tinker found eight at PPG Lime Lakes, **Summit**, on 27 Jan, and five to six were noted on other Jan dates at that site. Jen Brumfield had

five along Vista Way, **Cuyahoga**, on 18 Feb. (84 counties)

Bald Eagle

Larry Richardson tallied the most, 64 at Mosquito Lake, on 13 Feb. (all 88 counties)

Red-shouldered Hawk

Ron Bystrom had seven along Manchester Road in Perry, **Lake**, on 25 Feb. There were numerous records of three or four birds. Only **Auglaize**, **Defiance**, **Henry**, **Madison**, **Paulding**, **Putnam**, and **Shelby** didn't have reports.



This vocal Red-shouldered Hawk was photographed by Kathy Mock on 26 Feb at the Clinton Towpath in **Summit**.

Red-tailed Hawk

Jen Brumfield counted 17 along Vista Way in Cleveland on 18 Feb. Subspecies *calurus* and *abieticola* were reported from several counties. No *krideri* morphs were reported this winter. (all 88 counties)

Rough-legged Hawk

Josh Yoder logged eight along Cadiz-Flushing Road, **Harrison**, on 26 Feb, and he counted six there on 09 Jan. A trio of birders noted the second most, six at The Wilds on 06 Jan. (46 counties)

Barn Owl

Records were sparse, and with only two records of more than a single bird. Robert Hershberger saw two in Millersburg, **Holmes**, on 18 and 28 Jan. Michele Skolmutch viewed two along Centerville Road, **Holmes**, on 22 Jan. (9 counties)

Eastern Screech-Owl

Along Cadiz-Flushing Road, **Harrison**, Adam Mitchell counted eight on 20 Jan. Sara Davis and Tom Kemp had the second most, six during the Waterville CBC, **Lucas**, on 31 Dec. (55 counties)

Great Horned Owl

The 01 Jan ONWR census tallied five (Douglas

Vogus *et al.*). There were also five reports of four birds. (69 counties)

Snowy Owl

Reports came only from **Wood**. David Wilkins noted the first of the season, a single along Portage Road in Weston on 22 Dec. The same or a different owl was seen nearby in Custar on 28 Dec (Tajinder Singh). The season's last was along Sugar Ridge Road near Bowling Green on 24 Jan (m. obs.).



Traci Gentry photographed one of the few Snowy Owls seen this winter on 24 Jan in **Wood**.

Barred Owl

Michael Crist provided the high count, six at Poland Municipal Forest, **Mahoning**, on 18 Feb. (64 counties)

Long-eared Owl

The Wilmont CBC located one on 16 Dec (*vide* Ben Morrison). Ryan Lesniewicz found one that Traci Gentry photographed in **Wood** on 26 Dec, but sensitive-species eBird data were not available for additional information. The Ragersville CBC noted one on 27 Dec (*vide* Ed Schlabach). The species returned to a **Lorain** roost location and individuals were observed through Jan (m. obs.); see the map.

Short-eared Owl

Jackie Delk counted 19 at Huffman Prairie, **Greene**, on 04 Dec. (44 counties; see the map)

Northern Saw-whet Owl

Alvin and David Miller photographed one and confirmed three at CLNP on 04 Feb. Tom Bartlett and his team had 13 captures in Dec, which included 12 new owls and one foreign recapture on Kelleys Island. (11 counties; see the map)

Belted Kingfisher

The high count of five was at Caesar Creek on

15 Dec (Daniel DeLapp). Four other counties had counts of four. (85 counties)

Red-headed Woodpecker

William Albrecht counted 22 at the Kopf Family Reservation, **Lorain**, on 07 Jan. The 01 Jan ONWR census tallied 18 (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). (66 counties)

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Tom Kemp tallied the high count, 33 along the Towpath Trail, **Lucas**, on 12 Feb. (all 88 counties)

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

A trio of birders observed four at Eastwood MP, **Montgomery**, on 05 Dec, and shared the high with Brian Bielfelt at Valley View Preserve, **Clermont**, on 26 Dec. (65 counties)

Pileated Woodpecker

Three locations had counts of five, and there were numerous counts of four. Only **Auglaize**, **Fayette**, **Monroe**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.



Roger Friedman quickly snapped this image of a Pileated Woodpecker when it bolted through his **Cuyahoga** backyard on 05 Feb.

Downy Woodpecker

The 04 Dec ONWR census team tallied 25 (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). This number shared the



With its eyes partly open, this Northern Saw-whet Owl looks from its hiding place as Roger Friedman photographed it on 09 Dec at CLNP.

high with a trio of birders at Glenwood Gardens, **Hamilton**, on 10 Dec. (all 88 counties)

Hairy Woodpecker

Inga Schmidt had 12 along Chagrin River Road, **Geauga**, on 22 Jan. (all 88 counties)

Northern Flicker

The high count of 14 came from Killdeer on 22 Dec (Eric Mullholand). Two other locations had counts of 13. Only **Putnam** didn't have a sighting.

American Kestrel

Thirteen were counted by Sally Isacco at The Wilds on 21 Jan. Only **Monroe** didn't have sighting.



An American Kestrel peeks over its shoulder at Ed Wransky and his camera on 18 Dec in **Lorain**.

Merlin

Kathy Mock counted eight at Akron's Greenlawn Memorial Park on 10 Dec and others saw that many there on other dates. Additional counts at that location were five to seven birds. Elsewhere, second most were four at Highland Park in Westerville, **Franklin**, on 24 Jan (Donna Kuhn), as well as that many at New Saint Joseph Cemetery, **Hamilton**, on 06 Jan (Brian Wulker) and other dates (Kathi Hutton and Paul Korn). (54 counties; see the map)

Peregrine Falcon

The only report of more than one or two was of three along Avondale Avenue, **Lorain**, on 20 Feb (Janice Farral and Alecia Gorski). (41 counties; see the map)

Eastern Phoebe

All observations were of single birds. (30 counties)

Northern Shrike

All sightings were of single birds, except two. Sally Isacco observed two at The Wilds on 21 Jan.

Two were also reported by Domenic Rocco, but without details, at the ONWR on 26 Jan. One of the ONWR' shrikes was perhaps the one seen by Alan Griffiths on 25 Feb, and either a different individual or one of the two birds from ONWR was also seen at Magee by Ryan Lesniewicz on 01 Feb. (19 counties; see the map)



Debbie Parker encountered this Northern Shrike along the ONWR WD on 03 Dec.

Blue Jay

Ned Keller's tally of 64 during his **Adams** CBC route was the most. (all 88 counties)

American Crow

Many birders will know that crow roosts may harbor large number of birds, which are often difficult to count or estimate to specific numbers. Julie Karlson conservatively estimated 12,000 in Springfield, **Clark**, on 16 Dec. (all 88 counties)

Fish Crow

Amy Longley and Betsy MacMillan counted 40 that flew over Ira Road Beaver Marsh, **Summit**, on 28 Jan. These were likely birds from the known Chapel Hill Plaza roost site. The most elsewhere where eight that Anna Kozlenko saw at Oakwood Green NP, **Cuyahoga**, on 26 Feb. The rest of the reports came from additional sites in **Cuyahoga** and **Summit**, as well as from **Franklin** and **Lorain**.

Common Raven

Josh Yoder had an estimated 25 along Cadiz-Flushing Road, **Harrison**, on 29 Dec and 09 Jan. He tallied 12 there on 26 Feb, and the most elsewhere were counts of four from **Lake** and **Tuscarawas**. (21 counties; see the map)

Carolina Chickadee

Jeremy Barkley provided the high count of 50 from Sharon Woods Park, **Hamilton**, on 10 Dec. Several other **Hamilton** sites also each held from 30 to 35 birds, including Glenwood Gardens on 10 Dec (m. obs.), Shawnee Look-out on 17 Dec (Jack Stenger, Reanna Thomas, and Leah Trutschel), Cincinnati's Spring Grove

Cemetery on 17 Jan (Neill Cade), and Mitchell Memorial Forest on 28 Jan (Neill Cade). Likewise, Marcella Grotto also tallied 30 at Blendon Woods on 16 Dec. (69 counties)

Black-capped Chickadee

A high count of 51 was tabulated at Tri-Reservoir, **Portage**, by Fred Losi and Paula Lozano on 29 Dec. The second most were 43 and also from **Portage**. That count was from Kent Miller at Mogadore Reservoir on 17 Dec. Away from **Portage**, the 02 Dec CVNP Towpath Trail census tallied 36 (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). (45 counties)

Carolina/Black-capped Chickadee

Indeterminate birds were reported in 27 counties.

Tufted Titmouse

A party of birders had 32 at Blendon Woods on 18 Dec. (all 88 counties)

Horned Lark

Cam Lee observed 454 in Morral, **Marion**, on 23 Jan. While **Muskingum** had no reports in Dec and Jan, 400 were noted along Gene Cox Memorial Drive on 03 Feb (Jon Cefus and Kent Miller). (76 counties)

Tree Swallow

Unlike the previous winter, there were no reports of birds in Dec and Jan. Birds started arriving on nesting territories in Feb. The earliest date was 09 Feb, where Debbie Parker photographed one at Chippewa Inlet Trail, **Medina**. High counts of four came from **Butler**, **Franklin**, and **Hamilton**. (13 counties; see the map)

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

The sole record for the season was Jeff Harvey's single at Mill Creek on 26 Feb.

Barn Swallow

Carl Engstrom found two in West Jefferson, **Madison**, on 25 Feb; see Field Notes for more. A few hours later, Brian Tsuru also saw those same two birds nearby, and the birds were reported through 28 Feb.

Swallow sp.

Luke Thies had a probable Northern Rough-winged Swallow at Harbor Lake in the Miami Whitewater Forest near Harrison, **Hamilton**, on 16 Dec.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Your editor had three in Cincinnati on 01 Dec and shared the high with Scott Albaugh, who also had that many at Friendship Park, **Jefferson**, on 01 Dec. (39 counties)

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Molly Gurien provided the highest number, 26 along Katharine Road in Jackson on 30 Dec.

Next most were 18 for Bennie Saylor and Atlee Yoder along the Sandy Creek in Bolivar, **Stark**, on 15 Dec. (78 counties)



A Golden-crowned Kinglet showed off its brilliant crown to Jethro Raber on 08 Feb along Willow Road in Wayne.

Cedar Waxwing

The numbers in many areas were very low. However, LaDue hosted an estimated 180 on 06 Feb (Ethan Maynard). The second highest tally was 130 noted by a trio of birders at the Norma Johnson Center, **Tuscarawas**, on 27 Dec. (59 counties)

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Kent Miller found 11 along Town Highway in Meigs Township, **Muskingum**, on 27 Jan. Next most were Bryan Smith's 10 at Crown City WA, **Gallia**, on 28 Dec. (77 counties)

Brown Creeper

Gabriella Lindsey noted 10 along River Trail in Dresden, **Muskingum**, on 12 Dec and shared the high with Karen Cline, who noted that number at Riverbend Recreation Area, **Hancock**, on 05 Jan. At least five other counts produced eight or nine birds. (84 counties)



A Brown Creeper uses its long tail to brace against a tree during a short pause. Su Snyder captured the moment on 08 Jan at Clark Road, Killbuck.

White-breasted Nuthatch

Jeff Harvey counted 22 in Salem, **Mahoning**, on 20 Jan. (all 88 counties)

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Emily Keeler observed two at Watermark Quarries in Columbus on 29 Jan. Janice Farral heard one at Black River Reservation in Sheffield Lake, **Lorain**, on 23 Feb.

Carolina Wren

The high count of 32 came from a trio of birders at Glenwood Gardens, **Hamilton**, on 10 Dec. **Williams** didn't have a report.



This Carolina Wren visited Jethro Raber's home in **Wayne** on 05 Feb.

House Wren

Bill Stanley saw one along Bootjack Road, **Clermont**, on 07 Dec.

Winter Wren

The 01 Jan ONWR census team counted 12 (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). Atlee and Josh Yoder observed six at Killbuck on 02 Jan. (63 counties)

Marsh Wren

The reports, all of single birds except where noted, are:

Dueber Avenue along Sandy Creek in Boliva, **Stark**, on 15 Dec (Bennie Saylor and Atlee Yoder)

Caesar Creek on 15 Dec (m. obs.)

Killbuck on 21 Dec (Colin Danch). Three were at this location on other dates in Jan and Feb (Atlee and Josh Yoder)

Holmesville, **Holmes**, on 15 Jan (Gabe Troyer)

Wooster, **Wayne**, on 18 Jan (Kurt Garver)

Sheldon Marsh on 05 Feb (Joli Reising and Robert Rosin)

Four were found during the Wooster CBC on 02 Jan (*vide* Roger Troutman). That circle is mostly in **Wayne** and partly in **Holmes**, so those birds might be already accounted for above.

Gray Catbird

Jeff Goff found two in Alliance, **Stark**, on 13 Dec and obtained a nice photographic confirmation.

All other reports were singles. (16 counties; see the map)

Brown Thrasher

Two were heard singing/calling along Bootjack Road, **Clermont**, on 16 Feb (Bill Stanley). All other reports were of single birds. (20 counties)

Northern Mockingbird

Emily White observed 20 at the gravel pits west of Kilby Road, **Hamilton**, on 09 Jan. **Hamilton** also had the second most, where Mark Dwenger tallied eight, along the Ohio River between Schmidt Park and Turkey Ridge Park, on 04 Jan. (66 counties)

European Starling

A group of four birders estimated 20,650 at Caesar Creek on 15 Dec. (all 88 counties)

Eastern Bluebird

Thirty-seven was the seasonal high count, which came from Fernald on 10 Jan (Luke Thies). Only **Auglaize** didn't have sightings.

Hermit Thrush

Julie Karlson and Doug Overacker counted nine at Buck Creek on 06 Dec. James Muller's seven at Walnut Woods MP, **Franklin**, on 10 Dec were the second most. (58 counties)

Wood Thrush

A lingering migrant was photographed by Renee Sparks at Dillon Falls, **Muskingum**, on 21 Dec.

American Robin

Josh Davidson estimated a flyover flock of at least 4570 birds at Darby Creek on 05 Dec. Reanna Thomas estimated 1500 from several flyover flocks at Indian Creek WA, **Brown**, on 12 Feb. Estimated counts of 1000 came from **Cuyahoga**, **Erie**, and **Montgomery**. Only **Monroe** didn't have a report.

House Sparrow

Bennie Saylor and Atlee Yoder estimated the high count of 160 in Pike Township, **Stark**, on 15 Dec. Only **Monroe** and **Vinton** didn't have sightings.

American Pipit

Many of the observations were of single flyover birds. The high count of 27 came from Maureen Short's residence in Troy, **Miami**, on 03 Dec. David Carr and Rick Marra had the second most, 10 along the Little Miami Scenic Trail at Bass Island, **Hamilton**, on 26 Dec. (34 counties; see the map)

Evening Grosbeak

A small flock spent the winter along Park Road in Perryville, **Ashland**, and nearby Mohican SP. The highest count of this flock was 51 (m. obs).

One to eight were noted in Coolville, *Athens*, from 18 to 25 Feb (m. obs.). (11 counties)

House Finch

David English and Matt Valencic estimated 150 in Cortland, *Trumbull*, on 18 Dec. (84 counties)

Purple Finch

An estimated 30 birds at Dillion SP, *Muskingum*, on 13 Jan were the high count (Jon Cefus and Kent Miller; see Field Notes for more). Second most were David Helm's 16 along Coon Hill Road in Winchester, *Adams*, on 17 Dec. (60 counties)

Common Redpoll

An indeterminate number flew over Nathan Miller in Walnut Creek, *Holmes*, on 07 Dec. The Cuyahoga Falls CBC had one on 18 Dec (*fide* Dan Toth). Ron Sempier had the only other report, a single along Chanteloup Drive, *Mari-on*, on 30 Jan.

Red Crossbill

Dan Gesualdo provided the only season's record. He noted four at Volunteer Bay on 20 Dec.

White-winged Crossbill

As for the previous species, there was only a single observation for the winter. Jeremy Ross observed seven flying over at Limerick Road in Clyde, *Sandusky*, on 01 Jan.

Pine Siskin

Eric Mullholand found 15 at his residence in Crawford Township, *Wyandot*, on 08 Jan. Therese McNulty saw nine in South Lebanon, *Warren*, on 17 Feb. (37 counties)

Lapland Longspur

Matt Mason counted 360 among four flocks in Hartford, *Licking*, on 27 Dec. Benjamin Miller's count was a close second, which tallied 350 along Tulloss Road, *Knox*, on 28 Dec; see Field Notes for more. Counts of 300 came from *Geauga* and *Lorain*. (56 counties)



A Lapland Longspur hopped up on a stump for Traci Gentry on 31 Jan in *Wood*.

American Goldfinch

A high count of 420 was tallied by David English along Payne Road, *Geauga*, on 25 Dec. (all 88 counties)

Snow Bunting

Traci Gentry conservatively estimated 750, including counts from photos, along Nelson Road in Bowling Green, *Wood*, on 30 Jan. Counts of 200 came from *Hancock* and *Lucas*. (34 counties)

Chipping Sparrow

Kiah Jasper and Alessandra Kite noted four along Dogwood Trail of Sand Run MP in Akron on 06 Dec, which were a shared high with Brian, Judith, and Larry Ellyson at Pickerington Ponds on 17 Dec. (28 counties)

Field Sparrow

Cassidy Ficker found 20 at East Fork on 06 Jan. (57 counties)

Fox Sparrow

Bela Anand-Apte saw the most, nine at CLNP on 27 Dec. (60 counties)

American Tree Sparrow

Brandon Brywczynski and Greg Links counted 390 during the Toledo CBC at Bayshore Power Plant, *Lucas*, on 18 Dec. The 01 Jan ONWR census had 310 (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). Also, from *Lucas*, Brandon Brywczynski's 225 along Wilkins Road in Swanton on 31 Dec shared third most with Josh Yoder at Wilderness Road on 06 Feb. Only *Meigs*, *Monroe*, *Pike*, *Shelby*, and *Washington* didn't have reports.



An American Tree Sparrow was grabbing an easy meal when Kathy Mock came along the Towpath Trail in *Summit* on 22 Dec.

Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco

During the *Adams* CBC, Ned Keller tallied 103 on 17 Dec. (all 88 counties)

Dark-eyed Junco (Other)

All sightings were of single birds, except two to three birds of the *cismontanus* subspecies were reported from *Hancock*. Shane Myers noted

three *cismontanus* subspecies in Findlay on 01 Jan, and the two he reported from the Rieck Center for Habitat Studies, on 27 Jan, were likely the same birds he noted along Main Street in Findlay. Individuals of *cismontanus* subspecies were also noted in **Hamilton**, **Licking**, **Lorain**, and **Wayne**. “Oregon” juncos or birds that may have phenotypically been of the “Oregon” race were observed from **Builer**, **Darke**, **Franklin**, **Hamilton**, **Holmes**, **Licking**, and **Wayne**, and from the Quail Hollow-Hartville CBC on 17 Dec (*vide* Ronnie Macko). Moreover, a count week bird was noted on the Toledo CBC (*vide* Matt Anderson).

White-crowned Sparrow

Mollie Bading counted 50 at Armleder Park on 20 Jan. Cory Gratz tallied 48 along Clutter Road in Utica, **Knox**, on 26 Dec. (76 counties)

Harris’s Sparrow

One spent 23 to 30 Jan along Mahan Denman Road, **Trumbull** (m. obs.). Many photos were taken of this bird and posted on eBird.

White-throated Sparrow

Brian Bielfelt and Wes Prichard had a tally of 96 at East Fork’s Williamsburg Wetland on 02 Jan. (84 counties)

Nelson’s Sparrow

One spent 21 Jan to 01 Feb at Killbuck (m. obs.).

Savannah Sparrow

The high count of 13 was provided by Bryan Smith in Proctorville, **Lawrence**, on 15 Jan. Second most were the five that Josh Yoder counted along Wilderness Road on 04 Feb. (28 counties; see the map)

Song Sparrow

The high count of 65 was noted along Braun Road in Madison Township, **Franklin**, on 30 Dec (James Muller). (all 88 counties)

Lincoln’s Sparrow

As expected, there were no sightings for Jan and Feb. Dec birds were likely lingering fall migrants. Singles were noted in **Franklin**, **Hamilton**, and **Summit**. Michael Pogue provided the last seasonal observation, where one was observed in Norton, **Summit**, on 26 Dec.

Swamp Sparrow

Mike Busam and Jack Stenger reported the most, 50 at Pierce Preserve, **Clermont**, on 26 Dec. (73 counties)

Eastern Towhee

A species that has been expanding its wintering range north during the last couple of decades. Blake Anderson found 17 at Withrow NP, **Hamilton**, on 18 Feb. (67 counties)

Yellow-headed Blackbird

There were no Dec records. All reports were of single birds. A male was located by Anthony Hershberger along Swinehart Road in Orrville, **Wayne**, and the bird was re-located by Lucas Weaver on 14 Jan. Brian Tinker saw one with a massive redwing flock at PPG Lime Lakes, **Summit**, on 27 Jan. Matt Mason reported a male at Evans Park, **Licking**, on 02 Feb (see Field Notes for more). Along Oberlin Road in Elyria, **Lorain**, Ed Wransky observed a male among a large, mixed species blackbird flock, that was flushed by a Peregrine Falcon, on 17 Feb. This latter bird was seen later during the same day by James Kerner. Alecia Gorski saw a male yellow-headed among redwings along Russia Road at the Lorain County Regional Airport, where a Cooper’s Hawk flushed that flock on 19 Feb.

Eastern Meadowlark

Bill Stanley’s 30 at Old Highland Stone on 21 Jan were the most. A trio of birders saw the second most, 25 at Big Island on 26 Jan. (65 counties)

Western Meadowlark

Jon Cefus and Kent Miller described one based on plumage and audio recording from Country-wide Landfill, **Stark**, on 30 Dec. The bird continued through 07 Jan and was also seen by Jeff Goff and Ben Morrison. Many birders saw the bird that spent from 13 to 28 Feb at Howard Marsh.



On 13 to 28 Feb, Debbie Parker photographed this Western Meadowlark at Howard Marsh, seen and heard by others over the next two weeks.

Red-winged Blackbird

Numbers were impressive this winter and increased throughout much of the state in Feb as early arrivals reached breeding locations. Lucas Weaver roughly estimated 20,000 along Swinehart Road in Orrville, **Wayne**, on 14 Jan. (all 88 counties)

Brown-headed Cowbird

Lucas Weaver saw the most, an estimated 6000 at North Millborne Road in Orrville, **Wayne**, on 14 Jan. (74 counties)

Rusty Blackbird

About 600 were at Kopf Family Reservation, **Lorain**, on 13 Feb (Greg Pasek). Second most were at least 200 at Darby Creek on 14 Feb (Donna Kuhn). (53 counties)



Phil Cantino was happy to find this visiting Rusty Blackbird at his home in Athens on 27 Dec.

Brewer's Blackbird

A single was reported from the Grand Rapids-Waterville CBC on 31 Dec (*vide* Tom Kemp).

Common Grackle

Isoo O'Brien observed a massive flock roosting in Burbank, **Medina**, and estimated 17,000 on 20 Feb. Several other large flocks, from 10,000 to 16,000 birds were noted during the winter in other locations. (81 counties)

Blackbird sp.

Kathy Mock photographed and estimated an enormous flock, mostly grackles, at 250,000 at PPG Lime Lakes, **Summit**, on 01 Feb. Flocks of 10,000 to 20,000 came from several locations.

Ovenbird

Bridgette Stambaugh observed one at her Toledo home on 25 Dec.

Orange-crowned Warbler

This winter had only three records and all were from Dec. Chuck McClaugherty saw one along South Freedom Avenue in Alliance, **Stark**, on 03 Dec. Tom Kemp observed one along the Towpath Trail and Maumee River, **Lucas**, on 13 Dec. The one that Nicky Rosner found on 12 Nov at Tam O'Shanter Park, **Stark**, persisted until at least 15 Dec.

Common Yellowthroat

All sightings were of single birds and there were no Jan records. The last sighting was along the **Holmes** County Trail in Millersburg on 25 Feb (Daniel Beechy). Isaiah Craft photographed one at Caesar Creek on 04 Dec. Nancy Howell saw one at CLNP on 11 Dec. Four birders saw one during a CBC at Spring Valley on 15 Dec. A group of five birders saw a male at the Bayshore

Power Plant, **Lucas**, on the Toledo CBC on 18 Dec. Don Keffer and Larry Richardson observed one at Mosquito Lake on 19 Dec. Lastly, Brian Wulker photographed one at Fernald on 21 Dec. Two were found on the Wilmont CBC on 16 Dec (*vide* Ben Morrison), which may be represented by birds listed above. (8 counties)

American Redstart

Three birders got a brief look, but well enough, to identify a female at Armleder Park on 10 Dec.

Cape May Warbler

Numerous birders saw the bird at Walnut Woods MP, **Franklin**, on 08 Dec.

Northern Parula

One was present during the Cuyahoga Falls CBC on 18 Dec (*vide* Dan Toth).

Palm Warbler

Unlike the previous winter, there were few sightings and no records in Jan and Feb. George Sydowski saw one at the seed nursery in the Blue Creek Conservation Area, **Lucas**, on 02 Dec. Luke Thies noted a single at Fernbank Park, **Hamilton**, on 10 Dec. Josh Yoder photographed three at Killbuck on 18 Dec and Evan Miller saw those three on 20 Dec, which were the season's last.

Pine Warbler

Reports came from eight locations, and most were from Feb. One spent 05 Dec to 25 Feb at Columbus' Green Lawn Cemetery (m. obs.). Apparently, that bird was at the exact same location and coming to the same bird feeder as last winter. All sightings were of single birds, except two early, singing males noted at Wayne NE, **Athens**, on 23 Feb (Zella Nisley and Nancy Pitre), and one of those was noted by Melissa Wales within an hour later. Phil Cantino observed one singing at that same location on 26 Feb; see Field Notes for more. Reports also came from two other **Franklin** locations, **Hamilton**, **Lawrence**, **Meigs**, and **Scioto**. Among CBCs, the Portsmouth CBC reported seven birds on 16 Dec (*vide* David Riepenhoff).

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Armleder Park held 38 on 10 Dec (Kirk Westendorf), and 28 were seen there on another date. Gabby and Sebastian Martin tallied the next most, 16 at Alum Creek on 18 Feb. (61 counties)

Warbler sp.

Individuals that either were not or could not be identified to species were reported from **Athens**, **Franklin**, and **Muskingum**.

Northern Cardinal

Shari Jackson and Ronnie Macko counted 70 along Reeder Avenue in Alliance, **Stark**, on 27 Dec. (all 88 counties)



*Debbie Parker snapped this image of a female Northern Cardinal grabbing a winter snack on 24 Jan in **Medina**.*

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

A single was noted on the Western Hamilton County CBC on 18 Dec (*vide* Ned Keller).

Indigo Bunting

Eight Mountwood Bird Club birders found one at Forked Run SP, **Meigs**, on 01 Dec.

Dickcissel

Gregory Hartman photographed one along Ponderosa Avenue in Ontario, **Richland**, on 15 Dec. That bird continued until at least 20 Dec.

Erratum

Volume 46, No. 1, Fall 2022 – p. 36

The following data was missing from the table on the Northern Saw-whet Owl. A total of 134 Northern Saw-whet Owls were banded on Kelleys Island (Bander in charge, Tom Bartlett) and the state total was 326 for the season. Somehow, the Kelleys Island row of data disappeared during layout. Below is a revised table.

Banding Station	County	Bander-in-Charge	Nights	NSWO Banded	EASO Banded	Other Banded	Foreign Recaps	In-season Recaps
Kelleys Island	Erie	Tom Bartlett	41	134	7	6	4	34
Fernald Preserve	Hamilton	Ron Canterbury	4	2	0	0	0	0
Lake Erie Bluffs	Lake	Ann Bugecda/Dan Donaldson	16	36	0	0	3	
Catawba Island	Ottawa	Bruce Buckingham	8	5	2	0	1	0
Lake Erie Island Nature & Wildlife Center	Ottawa	Tom Bartlett	2	0	1	0	0	0
Russell Drive, Bolivar	Tuscarawas	Dan Kramer	10	12	0	0	0	0
Mathys Farm	Union	Blake Mathys	29	34	0	0	1	0
Palatial Estates	Vinton	Bob Scott Placier	33	45	0	0	3	2
Caesar Creek	Warren	Rebecca Palmer/Steve Lee	29	58	1	0	3	7
Totals			172	326	11	6	15	43

WINTER 2022-23 OCCURRENCE MAPS FOR SELECTED SPECIES

Long-eared Owl



Short-eared Owl



Northern Saw-whet Owl



Peregrine Falcon



Merlin



Northern Shrike



Common Raven



Tree Swallow



Gray Catbird



American Pipit



Savannah Sparrow



CONTRIBUTORS

Here we list all the birders who sent reports directly to the *Cardinal* or the *Bobolink*, and those whose posts to eBird we specifically cited. We also list everyone who contributed photographs, even if we weren't able to publish them. We regret that the available space doesn't allow us to list everyone who contributed to one of the e-venues, though those sightings provide the bulk of the county counts. The editors thank all of you.

Scott Albaugh	Roger Beuck	Toby Carlstrom
William Albrecht	Brian Bielfelt	Denyse Carone
Aaron Ambos	George Billman	David Carr
Bela Anand-Apte	Robert Bockenek	Linda Carstensen
Blake Anderson	Theo Bockhorst	Leigh Casal
Joe Anderson	Steve Borgis	Eric Paul Castro-Dean
Matt Anderson	Susan Brauning	Jon Cefus
Nancy Anderson	John Brikmanis	Lenore Charnigo
Maria Antoniw	Terry Bronson	Allen Chartier
Gautam Apte	Andy Brown	Dwight Chasar
Sameer Apte	Laura Brown	Karen Cline
Bruce Arnold	Lori Brumbaugh	Tim Colborn
Rick Asamoto	Jen Brumfield	Greg Cornett
Heather Aubke	Doug Bryant	Jon Costanzo
Andy Avram	Brandon Brywczynski	Fannie Courtier
Erin Avram	Evan Brywczynski	Gary Cowell
Will Babb	Alex Burke	Isaiah Craft
Mollie Bading	Molly Burke	Jamie Cunningham
Michael Barath	Mike Busam	Jasmine Cupp
Jeremy Barkley	Ron Bystrom	Alex Damiano
Tom Bartlett	Neill Cade	Colin Danch
Daniel Beechy	Dawn Caines	Brad Davidson
Jon Benedetti	Fred Caines	Josh Davidson
Linda Benner	Ron Canterbury	Sara Davis
Dan Best	Phil Cantino	Marc Dearmey

Ned DeLamatre	Traci Gentry	Barb Hohman
Daniel DeLapp	Dan Gesualdo	Neal Hohman
Jackie Delk	Meg Glines	Sean Hollowell
Vicki Derr	Jeff Goff	James Holsinger
Jarrett Dickey	Cathy Gordon	Craig Holt
Jeremy Dominguez	Michael Gordon	Corinna Honscheid
Pat Dooley	Marianne Gorman	Susannah Hopkins
Jessica Duez	Alecia Gorski	Nancy Howell
John Durback	Cory Gratz	Jason Hull
Mark Dwenger	Howard Gratz	Tara Hutson
Larry Early	Sarah Gratz	Kathi Hutton
Todd Eiben	Alan Griffiths	Bobby Irwin
Brian Ellyson	Marcella Grottoli	Robert Irwin
Larry Ellyson	Molly Gurien	Sally Isacco
Judith Ellyson	Darrell Hance	Phoebe Jackson
Eric Elvert	Marc Hanneman	Shari Jackson
Janice Emrick	Debra Hannen	Ryan Jacob
David English	Josh Hargrave	Paul Jacyk
Carl Engstrom	Gregory Hartman	Wilma Jarrell
James Estep	Jeff Harvey	Tim Jasinski
Jason Estep	David Helm	Kiah Jasper
Sue Evanoff	Linda Helm	Rosemarie Jeffery
Janice Farral	Anthony Hershberger	Julie Karlson
Joe Faulkner	Robert Hershberger	Kaden Katanic
Cassidy Ficker	Tyler Hershberger	Emily Keeler
Tyler Ficker	Edward Hicks	Don Keffer
Tom Frankel	Tom Hissong	Emily Keffer
Roger Friedman	David Hochadel	Ned Keller
Kurt Garver	Michael Hochstetler	Tom Kemp
Richelle Gatto	MiMi Hoffmaster	James Kerner

The Ohio Cardinal, Winter 2022–23

Nolan Keyes	Andrew Lodge	Dennis Mersky
George Kinney	Amy Longley	Alvin Miller
Alessandra Kite	Fred Losi	Benjamin Miller
John Kolar	Paula Lozano	Brian Miller
Jamie Koller	Ronnie Macko	David Miller
Deb Koprek-Nauer	Betsy MacMillan	Duane Miller
Paul Korn	Geoff Malosh	Evan Miller
Anna Kozlenko	Karen Mammone	Kent Miller
Dan Kramer	Ron Marek	Nathan Miller
Jennifer Kuehn	Anthony Marino	Adam Mitchell
John Kuenzli	Rick Marra	Kathy Mock
Donna Kuhn	Gabby Martin	Joe Moosbrugger
Lindsey Kunkel	Sebastian Martin	Aaron Morris
Jon Kurtz	Matt Mason	Chance Morris
Justin Labadie	Kari Warner Matsko	Ben Morrison
Jeff Lamson	Ethan Maynard	James Muller
Robert Landon	James McCarty	Eric Mullholand
Gus Lanese	Tyler McClain	Mary Murin
Austin Langdon	Chuck McClaugherty	Shane Myers
Mollie Langdon	Rodney McCollum	Bettyann Nagy
Dale Lautenschleger	David McConnell	Laua Nein
Ken Lebo	Jim McCormac	Rick Nelson
Cam Lee	Dawn McCoy	Rick Nirschl
Beth Lenoble	Dennis McDonnell	Zella Nisley
Kenda Lentz	Kevin McKelvey	Cynthia Norris
Warren Leow	Patty McKelvey	George Novosel
Ryan Lesniewicz	Tii McLane	Isoo O'Brien
Gabriella Lindsey	Therese McNulty	Bill Ohlsen
Greg Links	Ben Meredyk	Tammy Orsborn
Lucas Liu	Steve Meredyk	Karl Overman

Doug Overacker	Sandy Robert	Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr.
Debbie Parker	Luke Robertson	Jim Smallwood
Jordan Parrott	Domenic Rocco	Bird Smith
Christine Parthemore	Sam Rockwell	Bryan Smith
Greg Pasek	Anthony Rodgers	Dave Smith
Christopher Paterson	Natalie Rodgers	Isaac Smith
Chance Patznick	Dave Rodriguez	Su Snyder
Steve Pelikan	Isaac Rogers	Leslie Sours
Kevin Pero	Phillip Rogers	Renee Sparks
Rebecca Pescosolido	Mary Anne Romito	Bridgette Stambaugh
Lisa Phelps	Robert Rosin	Bill Stanley
Chris Pierce	Nicky Rosner	Laura Stanton
Nancy Pitre	Jeremy Ross	Jack Stenger
John Pogacnik	Jeff Sailer	Josiah Stumbo
Michael Pogue	Mike Sandy	Eric Sullenberger
Harrison Ponn	Bennie Saylor	Debra Sweeney
Adam Preston	Ed Schlabach	Mark Sweeney
Sarah Preston	Inga Schmidt	Dakota Swisher
Wes Prichard	Lindsey Scott	George Sydlowski
Jethro Raber	Corey Sees	Alexander Teliak
Jerald Reb	Ron Sempier	Luke Thies
Joli Reising	Mark Shaver	Reanna Thomas
Evelyn Reisinger	Katelyn Shelton	Brian Tinker
Thomas Reiter	Paul Sherwood	Dan Toth
Jana Reser	Mark Shieldcastle	Henry Trimpe
Tessa Rhinehart	Irina Shulgina	Roger Troutman
Matthew Rice	Nyle Simpson	Tim Troutner
Larry Richardson	Tajinder Singh	Wendell Troutner
Jane Riker	Michele Skolmutch	Winston Troutner
Brian Rippon	Quentin Skrabec	Gabe Troyer

The Ohio Cardinal, Winter 2022–23

Leah Trutschel	Wayne Wauligman	Linda Woolard
Brian Tsuru	Lucas Weaver	Ed Wransky
Matt Valencic	George Weigly	Brian Wulker
Spencer Vanderhoof	Madeline Wellman	Atlee Yoder
Joshua Vardous	Kirk Westendorf	Josh Yoder
Douglas Vogus	Emily White	Leroy Yoder
Melissa Wales	Doug Whitman	Marvin Yoder
Ben Wang	David Wilkins	Dawn Zook
Peggy Wang	Sean Williams	Trevor Zook
Katie Ware	Chad Wilson	
Ben Warner	Carl Winstead	

RECENT ACTIONS OF THE OHIO BIRDS RECORDS COMMITTEE

By Jon Cefus

Erratum:

Volume 46 (1), Fall 2022:

On p. 53, the 6th Batch, February 2023 OBRC Report should have been labeled as the 1st Batch of 2023.

2ND BATCH, MAY 2023

The Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC) has continued to vote on records submitted to or otherwise obtained by the committee. Eighteen new and one recirculation record were chosen for review in this 2nd batch of records for 2023. Fourteen of the new records were accepted, one was not-accepted, and three are headed into recirculation. There was one previous recirculation record that was not-accepted.

The committee also voted on and approved the removal of three species from the list of review species in Ohio. Those were Swallow-tailed Kite, Western Kingbird, and Western Tanager.

This batch contained records from 2007 to 2023. The OBRC continues to make good progress addressing older records.

The membership of the OBRC who voted on the above records was Jon Cefus (Secretary), Rob Harlan (Vice Secretary), Gautam Apte, Terry Bronson, Alex Eberts, Matt Kemp, Steve Landes, Su Snyder, and Brian Wulker.

The official Ohio checklist stands at 447 species and a superspecies as of May 2023. The checklist follows the nomenclature and taxonomic sequence of the American Ornithological Society's *Check-List of North and Middle American Birds* through the Sixty-third Supplement (July 2022). The Ohio checklist can be found at the Ohio Ornithological Society's (OOS) website at: <https://ohiobirds.org/resources/official-ohio-ornithological-society-bird-checklist/>.

The current list of review species is found at: <https://ohiobirds.org/rare-birds/rare-bird-review-list/>. Those wishing to submit a record to the OBRC from the list of review species can do so several ways. A link is available at the OOS website to do so online: <https://ohiobirds.org/rare-birds/report-a-rare-bird-sighting/>. Information can also be sent via email to the secretary at birdbrains4u@gmail.com or mailed to 501 Bernower Ave. SW, Massillon, OH 44646.

The following list of records accepted by the

OBRC is presented in taxonomic sequence and chronologically within a given species. They pertain to the sighting of a single bird unless otherwise noted. The sequence and common and scientific names of species follow the American Ornithologists' Union *Check-List of North and Middle American Birds* through the Sixty-third Supplement (July 2022) regardless of the date of the sighting. These documents are produced by the North American Classification Committee of the American Ornithological Society and are available at <http://checklist.americanornithology.org/>. The following 14 records were accepted during their first circulation:

Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*) — **Cuyahoga** (Wendy Park), 24 Feb to 24 Mar 2023. OBRC documentation submitted via the OOS website by Chuck Slusarczyk, as well as email communication to the secretary. This was the 2nd of this species seen in **Cuyahoga** this year.

Glaucous-winged Gull (*Larus glaucescens*) — **Cuyahoga** (Wendy Park), 05 Mar 2023. Internet sources. This record represents the 2nd record of this species in Ohio.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) #1 — **Erie** (Sawmill Creek Golf Course), 10 to 14 Apr 2014. Internet sources.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) #2 — **Cuyahoga** (North Chagrin Reservation), 18 May 2018. Internet sources.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) #3 — **Licking** (Gale Road), 21 to 23 Oct 2022. Internet sources.

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) #1 — **Wayne** (Wilderness Road), 09 Sep 2013. Internet sources.

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) #3 — **Hamilton** (Conrey Rd. Bird & Butterfly Sanctuary), 30 Aug 2020. Internet sources.

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) #4 — **Harrison** (Busby Road), 17 Jun 2021. Internet sources.

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) #5 — **Lake** (Fairport Nursery Road), 17 to 28 Jun 2021. Internet sources.

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) #6 — **Lorain** (Lorain Impoundment), 14 Oct 2022. Internet sources.

Boreal Chickadee (*Poecile hudsonicus*) — **Portage** (Hiram), 11 Mar 2023. OBRC documentation sent directly to the secretary from the home owner/observer.

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*) #1 — **Cuyahoga** (Lakewood Cemetery), 13 Dec 2007. Report taken from the Ohio Cardinal, Winter 2007-2008.

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*) #2 — **Erie** (McBride Arboretum), 01 Jan 2022. Internet sources.

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*) #3 — **Lorain** (Lorain Impoundment), 10 Nov 2022. Internet sources.

Record in Recirculations:

Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) — **Wayne** (Wilderness Road), 13 Feb 2023. OBRC documentation submitted via the OOS website.

Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) #2 — **Franklin** (Groveport), 17 Aug 2023. Internet sources.

Swainson's Warbler (*Limnithlypis swainsonii*) — **Hocking** (Laurel Township), 10 May 2022. OBRC documentation submitted via the OOS website.

Records Not Accepted:

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*) — **Portage** (Mogadore Reservoir), 20 Mar 2023. OBRC documentation submitted via the OOS website. The committee felt that the documentation was not sufficient to rule out other species, particularly Double-crested Cormorant.

Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*) — **Summit** (CVNP Beaver Marsh), 11 Oct 2022. OBRC documentation submitted via OOS website. Decision vote reached on 2nd recirculation. The committee expressed concerns about the late date of the sighting, as well as concerns about ruling out other possible species.

GULLAPALOOZA WINTER – LONG AWAITED RARITIES ARRIVE

By Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr.

This winter, Cleveland seemed to be the epicenter of “All things Gull” with the good eyes of our fearless birders finding three rare gulls within 10 days of each other, including two firsts for the State. Of these first state records, a Common Gull (*Larus canus*) was found by Todd Eiben in late December at Wendy Park. The Common Gull is part of a complex that includes the nominate and several subspecies and they all live in the Eastern Hemisphere from Europe all the way to Siberia and depending on which subspecies, they winter around continental Europe, the Mediterranean or the East Asian coast, but almost typically anywhere but here! (In 2021 the Mew Gull which is native to western North America and once considered conspecific with Common Gull was split and renamed the Short-billed Gull (*Larus brachyrhynchus*)).

Vagrant Common Gulls are regular along the east coast of North America during the winter and most are identified as the European Common Gull, the nominate species. Birders do not know exactly which subspecies showed up here in Cleveland, but some gull experts placed it as either the *L. c. heinei* subspecies, or the *L. c. kamtschatschensis* subspecies; therefore, was likely of western Pacific or Siberian origin. No matter which subspecies it may have been, it was undoubtedly a Common Gull and a huge first state record and exceptional find by Todd Eiben for the Cleveland area.

Then on 01 Jan, a third cycle Glaucous-winged Gull (*Larus glaucescens*), another first state record, was found by Anthony Rodgers at the Nautica Complex on the Cuyahoga River in downtown Cleveland. The Glaucous-winged Gull is a Pacific Rim bird that breeds in the Aleutian Islands through Alaska and south to British Columbia in the west, and they normally winter along the coast as far as Mexico’s Baja Peninsula. The species has a similar range in the Russian East, and the birds there winter on the coast south to Japan. The Cleveland bird delighted many birders who were lucky enough to be there when it decided to show because it would often disappear for long periods, but when it came back it would often stand out among the other gulls. Another truly awesome bird to add to my Cleveland gull list.

The hits kept coming when Kent Miller found a Slaty-backed Gull (*Larus schistisagus*) at the same Nautica Complex in the Flats on 03 Jan, the third

record for the state. Ben Meredyk re-located the bird on 05 Jan. The bird was discovered on the second day of my five-day work trip. Due to the nature of the trip, I was still in Cleveland, but without a car but had a couple hours of time to kill. My birding friend Tyler McClain picked me up from my bus in downtown Cleveland and took me to the Nautica Complex where the bird had been seen, and we searched along with others for the bird but without luck, so he took me back to my bus and I headed to Fort Wayne, Indiana later that evening and was gone for the next three days.

During those days I was keeping up via message boards and the gull was being seen up and down the river at all the spots I frequent and all I could do was tamp my anxiety and hope that it would still be here when I got back. Well, it was, and I got to see it on 09 Jan at the same location it was originally found on 03 Jan.



The Slaty-backed Gull has been on my radar for years now as a potential vagrant that I should keep my eyes out for, and there had only been two previous state records for this bird. Although I technically “saw” both of those previous records, they were at a distance and through friends’ scopes and I could never have really called that seeing them. Today was different and a wham-bam solid visual and I couldn’t have been happier!

But wait, the sightings continued. On 24 Feb, I discovered yet another Slaty-backed Gull at Wendy Park in Cleveland, just downriver from the previous record and that was the fourth state record! Comparison of wingtip patterns confirmed that the bird was a different individual than the one Kent Miller discovered. This large gull is native to the northeast Palearctic and breeds in Siberia and winters along the southeast Asian

coast, including Japan and the two Koreas, but like many gull species, they are sometimes known to wander. While they are seen with some regularity along the Pacific Coast of the U.S., sightings elsewhere within the interior are much rarer.



In a cool twist, a Slaty-backed Gull was seen and photographed in Muskegon, Michigan from 25 Nov to 12 Dec 2022, and with a savvy bit of sleuthing by my friend Gautam Apte who compared the wingtip patterns of that bird with the

03 Jan Wendy Park bird, and it likely was the same bird last seen in Michigan. Yes, that's what us gullers do; they look for needles in haystacks and then compare the needles!

All in all, the gulling in Cleveland was the envy of others across the country this winter and I'm happy to say that I was able to see all those wonderful winter vagrants!

[Editor's note: In addition to these aforementioned extreme rarities, Black-legged Kittiwakes, Little Gulls, and Black-headed Gulls were also sighted this season, each a rarity on its own.]

Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr. attended his first birdwalk 1975 and has been a birder ever since. He uses his photography to document sightings and to share with others online, or through his presentations. He can often be found at The Old Coast Guard Station at Wendy Park in Cleveland during the winter where he joins other hard core birders to enjoy the exceptional gulling to be found on the lake.



THE 123RD CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT REPORT

By **Mike Busam**

Welcome to a review of Ohio's participation in the 123rd National Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count. Audubon has historical data for a total of 74 Ohio Christmas Bird Counts. During the 2022–2023 count period, Ohio observers participated in 69 different CBCs. I would like to welcome a new Ohio Christmas Bird Count: Raccoon Creek. Raccoon Creek entered Ohio CBC history on Dec 31, 2022, with 14 field birders and nine feeder counters. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves and the Raccoon Creek CBC continues to grow and to send in their annual report.

Temperatures in the 2022-2023 CBC season were a little cooler than last year. The average Dec daytime temperature in the contiguous United States was 0.6 degrees Fahrenheit above average, based on the 128-year record kept by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. While parts of the nation experienced higher than normal temperatures, the Midwest region was slightly below normal (NOAA, 2023). But this "slightly below normal" includes a nasty winter blast right before Christmas that delivered white-outs and sub-zero wind-chills. Far fewer Ohio counts reported rain this year, which tracks with the slightly below normal precipitation recorded in the state. Ohio was 1.15 inches below its average Dec precipitation level. A bit of trivia reported by NOAA is that Cleveland had its 11th driest Dec since 1871 (NOAA, 2023).

A total of 2033 counters took to the field in Ohio CBCs this season. The median number of field counters in Ohio was 23. Participation ranged from 127 field counters to two. Leading the way in participation was Cuyahoga Falls with 127 birders. Next highest was Columbus with 94. There was only one count in the 80s: Lakewood, which put 81 birders in the field. Three counts were in the 70s: Wilmot (72), Ragersville (73), and Millersburg (77). Just two counts broke 60: Greene County (61), and Cincinnati (65). Four counts were in the 50s, and four counts reached the 40s. Ten different counts had participants numbering in the 30s. Ohio counters walked 2,474 miles; drove 17,452 miles; and biked 151 miles. Thank you everyone for your efforts!

Ohio counters tallied 827,611 individual birds during the 123rd CBC period. Cumula-

tively, Ohio CBCs recorded 160 different species, down from 167 the previous year. Last year's top five most common species were European Starling (219,110), Ring-billed Gull (93,942), Mallard (81,735), Canada Goose (60,727), and American Robin (45,597). American Crow was in at a close-run sixth place (45,202). Last year, your faithful scribe predicted that one day, the motor-boating efforts of Toledo's indefatigable pelagic birders would push Lesser Scaup into the top five. And it happened this year. The top five most tallied species for the 123rd CBC in Ohio were: European Starling (189,322), Ring-billed Gull (75,023), Canada Goose (64,042) American Crow (49,484), and finally, Lesser Scaup (46,872; 45,180 of which were tallied in Toledo). Sorry, Mallard and American Robin. They'll be back soon enough.

As for birds that aren't coming back soon enough, no Northern Bobwhite were reported this year, though Portsmouth recorded it as a count week species. Rudolph reported the state's only Ruffed Grouse. Gypsum and Wilmot reported single Eurasian Collared-Doves. Ohio CBCs reported 13 last year. If you were an Eurasian Collared-Dove invasion sceptic twenty years ago, you were right, and the rest of us were wrong. No one reported a Northern Saw-whet Owl this CBC season, though countless thousands of potential roost sites and cedars were scoured by field parties.

I'm curious what readers look for when they review the Ohio CBC results. I've been writing this annual recap for a few years, and I try to look at a different aspect of the count each year. If there's something about Ohio CBCs that you think is overlooked or of particular interest to you, I'd be curious to hear from you. You can reach me at mbusam@gmail.com. In the meantime, let's look at some of the rarities, one-offs, and "that's interesting-s" of this year's Christmas Bird Count.

Blue-winged Teal was an interesting find for Cuyahoga Falls. I mentioned Toledo's scaup numbers above, and it makes one wonder how many more waterfowl and waterbirds Ohio counts would get if they could regularly bird the open waters of Lake Erie. But that is rather a challenge in December and January! So, I shouldn't be greedy. Lakewood reported all four of Ohio's Harlequin Ducks, as well as 11 of Ohio's 28 Surf Scoters. Surf Scoter was also recorded on the inland counts of Hoover, Mansfield, Caesar Creek-Spring Valley, and Canton, while Chandlersville had a count week bird. Lakewood also had the count's only White-winged Scoter. Hoover had Ohio's only Black Scoter.

Combining for five Long-tailed Ducks were the Lake Erie Islands (four) and Cleveland (one) counts. Aside from a count week bird at Paint Creek, six Red-necked Grebes were scattered among five northern counts, with Ashtabula, Cuyahoga Falls, Elyria-Lorain (two), Lake Erie Islands, and Lakewood reporting. Single Great Egrets were reported from Tiffin, Hamilton-Fairfield, Firelands, and Buckeye Lake. Brown Family Environmental Center had a count week egret. Twenty-five of the state's 27 Black-crowned Night-Herons were reported at Toledo. Tiffin and Hamilton-Fairfield each reported single herons. Caesar Creek-Spring Valley documented an Osprey; Millersburg a Golden Eagle. Toledo had a Pomarine Jaeger (I imagine sighted by the crew on the boat?). Single Glaucous Gulls were on the Toledo and Ottawa NWR counts. Six Iceland Gulls were found as individuals at Mentor, Lakewood, Grand Rapids-Waterville, and Ashtabula, and a pair at Canton. Our only Rufous Hummingbird was hosted by the Portsmouth CBC. Northern Shrike was a welcome singleton on five counts: Caesar Creek-Spring Valley, Canton, Chandlersville, Ottawa NWR, and Tiffin.

For sake of argument, let's consider the above species birds that tend to stand out in their respective habitats — although Black-crowned Night-Herons can hunker down and hide, they're still rather large birds. Getting literally into the weeds and brush and mud birders may find rails, shorebirds, the odd owl, wrens, sparrows, and the unusual warbler, as examples. Virginia Rails were reported singly on four counts: Wilmot, Tri-Reservoir, Millersburg, and Mansfield. Spotted Sandpiper (Western Hamilton County), Dunlin (Ashtabula), Purple Sandpiper (Ashtabula), were three one-off shorebirds this year. Twelve Barn Owls were distributed among Wilmot (four), Ragersville (four), Millersburg (two), and Fayette County (two). Barn Owl makes this list because it's usually a "wink-wink, nod-nod" species that not everyone can wander in and see. And Long-eared Owl, as owls go, requires some searching. Ohio birders reported individuals at Ragersville and Wilmot. Depending on your local birding scene, Long-eared Owls might also be on the "wink-wink, nod-nod" list. Fish Crow: Cleveland had one. This is a species that is roughly the size of an American Crow, larger than a Common Grackle, but nowhere near as large as a Common Raven (of which Cadiz had 8 of Ohio's 17. Beaver Creek an interesting SW Ohio report). Fish Crow makes this list because it was probably documented by call as well as sight. Fish Crows have also started breeding in the Cleveland area in recent years. It usually takes some walking and

searching to find Marsh Wrens. Wooster had four of Ohio's seven. Adams County had one of four Brown Thrashers in Ohio. Here's the mix of non-Yellow-rumped Warblers for the season: Orange-Crowned (one), Common Yellowthroat (four), Northern Parula (one), Palm Warbler (one), Pine Warbler (eight). Quail Hollow-Hartville reported our only Oregon Junco. Columbus had a Lincoln's Sparrow. A single Rose-breasted Grosbeak was a treat for Western Hamilton County; as was a Dickcissel for Mansfield and a Brewer's Blackbird for Grand Rapids-Waterville. I had one Common Redpoll reported this year, from Cuyahoga Falls. Pine Siskin numbers seemed a little low. Ohio Reported 12, and Hocking Hills a single bird. Birders usually come across more in that area, but you can only count what's there. Hopefully more siskins will be around next year. What Hocking Hills lacked in Pine Siskins they might have made up for in Evening Grosbeaks. Hocking Hills had 31 of Ohio's 50. New Lexington had 12. Mohican State Forest notched a count week grosbeak.

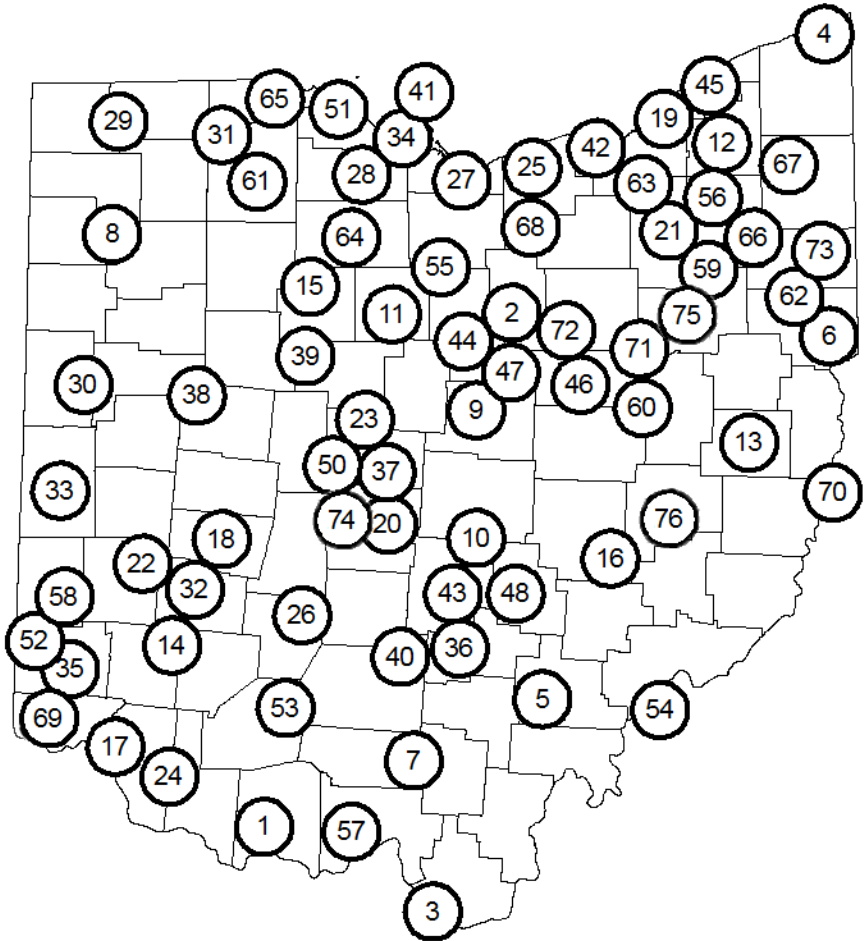
Thank you to everyone who participated in the 123rd National Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count. The CBC season is important to the birding community and is arguably our longest-running community tradition. Let's hope for good health and good birds for everyone in 2023!

I would like to thank the National Audubon Society for making their compilation of CBC data available to us. Visit the Christmas Bird Count web site at <http://www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count>. All the data, including historical data, is available online at <http://netapp.audubon.org/CBCObservation/>.

I would also like to thank Craig Caldwell who is the NAS CBC editor for Ohio and who provided the Ohio CBC compilation data used in this article. The annual CBC recap would take ages to write without Craig's work and assistance, not to mention his helpful annotations! I cannot thank Craig enough for his assistance and organization. The 123rd CBC will be Craig's last as the Ohio CBC editor. Craig is handing off the NAS Ohio CBC editorial duties to Marc Hanneman, the compiler for the Ashtabula count. It's a lot of work to keep track of the 70-odd counts that a typical year brings us, and Craig and Mark have worked together to make the transition as smooth as possible. Thank you for your work, Craig—it's greatly appreciated—and I look forward to working with Marc both as a CBC compiler and perhaps as writer of this yearly review for *The Ohio Cardinal*.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. (NOAA) National Centers for Environmental Information. "National Climate Report, December 2022."

<https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/monthly-report/national/202212> (accessed 25 March 2023).



123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

	Adams County (OHAC)	Ashland (OHAD)	Ashabula (OHAA)	Athens (OHAT)	Beaver Creek (OHBC)	Beaver Valley (OHBV)	Bis and Little Runby Creeks/Clarkdale (OHDC)	The Brown Family Environmental Center (OHBF)	Buckeye Lake (OHBL)	Bucyrus (OHBY)
CIRCLE NUMBER	1	2	4	5	6	7	74	9	10	11
COUNT DATE	17-Dec	16-Dec	31-Dec	1-Jan	16-Dec	30-Dec	26-Dec	18-Dec	16-Dec	2-Jan
SPECIES										
Snow Goose										
Ross's Goose										
Snow/Ross's Goose										
Greater White-fronted Goose					12			4		
Cackling Goose								1		
Canada Goose	496	275	706	749	389	109	319	1846	399	122
Mute Swan		2								
Black Swan										
Trumpeter Swan		1					6			
Tundra Swan										
Trumpeter/Tundra Swan										
Swan species										
Wood Duck	5							1		
Blue-winged Teal										
Northern Shoveler			1				2			
Gadwall	5	7	5	2			6	10		
American Wigeon										
Mallard	88	147	194	86	74	4	562	474	200	1
Mallard (Domestic)							4			
American Black Duck	14	5	9	19	2		2	2		
American Black Duck x Mallard (hybrid)			1							
Northern Pintail										
Green-winged Teal							12			
Canvasback			1							
Redhead			27			1	2			
Ring-necked Duck		10	CW	1			11	4		
Greater Scaup			20							
Lesser Scaup		2	56				2		2	
Greater/Lesser Scaup			94							
Harlequin Duck										
Surf Scoter										
White-winged Scoter										
Black Scoter										
Long-tailed Duck			CW							
Bufflehead	3	2	46		1		1			
Common Goldeneye		1	17				4			
Hooded Merganser	25	146	95	3	22	3		25	5	
Common Merganser		9	164		15			16	12	
Red-breasted Merganser			81					42	2	
Ruddy Duck			84				2	7	1	
Duck species								25		
Waterfowl species										
Northern Bobwhite										
Wild Turkey	31		16			19		20		
Ruffed Grouse										
Ring-necked Pheasant		1								
Pied-billed Grebe	2		3	1		2	1	7	1	
Horned Grebe			17						4	
Red-necked Grebe			1							
Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon)	112	62	500	42	31	71	57	216	8	46
Eurasian Collared-Dove										
Mourning Dove	244	58	70	175	28	128	51	274	70	8
Rufous Hummingbird										
Virginia Rail										
American Coot			16				1		6	
Sandhill Crane							108	CW		
Killdeer	12	104		1		3				
Dunlin			1							
Purple Sandpiper			1							
Wilson's Snipe										
Spotted Sandpiper										
Pomarine Jaeger										

123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Burton (OHBU)	Cediz (OHCA)	Cedar Creek-Spring Valley (OHES)	Canton (OHCT)	Earey (OHCEY)	Chandlersville (OHCH)	Cincinnati (OHCL)	Clark County (OHCC)	Cleveland (OHCL)	Columbus (OHCO)	Cuyahoga Falls (OHCF)	Dayton (OHDA)	Delaware Reservoir (OHDR)
12	13	14	75	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
2-Jan	31-Dec	15-Dec	15-Dec	31-Dec	17-Dec	26-Dec	16-Dec	17-Dec	18-Dec	18-Dec	18-Dec	18-Dec
1							CW	1	116	3		
							CW		5			
4											2	
2733	256	142	1294	1263	538	665	750	1410	1577	2449	895	498
2					2	2			11	6	4	
1					24					2		1
2	4		CW	12		7						5
						3		1	2	1		
										1		
						1	8		2	31	1	
2	1	37				45	24	98	4	70		
		3					9		1			
323	27	33	191	137	44	487	162	333	853	872	619	108
								7				
9	5	10	1		1	6	3	15	14	29	CW	
		4	CW						1			
CW		7	CW			5			2		5	
CW												
2		116				14			CW		34	
2		291	CW		61	24	75		7	32	8	
1									CW			
					1						5	
		6	1		CW							
								1				
		21	3		40	34	3	21	3	4	25	
						9	1	560			3	
7	11	231	68		20	26	107	8	143	42	72	44
29					2	2	5	1	CW	16		2
CW		2						6500				
CW		117	6			18			1		9	
							11					
43	143		22	18	21	30		10	17	1	1	
	CW											
		19	1		3	1	1		7	5		
		4	9				5	8			1	
										1		
207	42	110	195	229	60	401	114	284	773	402	460	135
				CW								
203	267	853	294	150	290	352	89	119	436	579	222	351
CW		251				63	6		1	67	31	
8						206					75	
13	6	24	1		6	17		1	3	10	7	12
						2		4			3	1

123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

	Adams County (OHAC)	Ashland (OHAD)	Ashabula (OHAA)	Athens (OHAT)	Beaver Creek (OHBC)	Beaver Valley (OHBV)	Big and Little Pearly Creek-Larkysdale (OHDC)	The Brown Family Environmental Center (OHBF)	Buckeye Lake (OHLB)	Lucyrie (OHBY)
CIRCLE NUMBER	1	2	4	5	6	7	74	9	10	11
COUNT DATE	17-Dec	16-Dec	31-Dec	1-Jan	16-Dec	30-Dec	26-Dec	18-Dec	16-Dec	2-Jan
SPECIES										
Bonaparte's Gull		300	125						20	
Ring-billed Gull	7	2010	2564		24		56	17	2665	46
Herring Gull		1	286						64	
Iceland Gull			1							8
Lesser Black-backed Gull									1	
Glaucous Gull										
Great Black-backed Gull			7							
Gull species			30			3				
Red-throated Loon			2							
Common Loon			5							
Loon species										
Double-crested Cormorant	2		1							
American White Pelican										
Great Blue Heron	8	101	13	11	2	2	1	8	13	
Great Egret								CW	1	
Black-crowned Night-Heron										
Black Vulture	99	25		129		5		67	1	
Turkey Vulture	13	1		84		7		5	6	
Osprey										
Golden Eagle										
Northern Harrier	3		1	1		2	10	2	1	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	1		1	CW		1	2		
Cooper's Hawk	7	5	3	3	2	1	4	10	5	
Accipiter species										
Bald Eagle	2	7	10	3	2	3	4	23	5	2
Red-shouldered Hawk	8	7	9	17	1	16	1	12	6	2
Red-tailed Hawk	39	11	9	12	12	20	24	41	15	7
Rough-legged Hawk	1							4		
Buteo species		2				2		2		
Hawk species										
Barn Owl										
Eastern Screech-Owl	6				2					
Great Horned Owl	3	2						2	2	
Barred Owl	6	3		1	CW	1		1	1	
Long-eared Owl										
Short-eared Owl	2						CW			
Northern Saw-whet Owl										
Owl species										
Belted Kingfisher	12	6	2	7	7	4	4	5	5	
Red-headed Woodpecker	24	1	1	1				10		7
Red-bellied Woodpecker	69	39	22	74	30	30	50	79	35	21
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	6	4		9	1	1	4	1	2	
Downy Woodpecker	38	38	36	89	34	32	59	72	21	16
Hairy Woodpecker	10	12	14	37	6	5	5	21	2	6
Picoides species						1				
Northern Flicker	20	14	2	23	7	31	26	14	17	9
Pileated Woodpecker	13	7	CW	18	8	19	8	12	4	4
Woodpecker species										
American Kestrel	51	2	7	8	2	15	5	14	10	9
Merlin				1			CW			
Peregrine Falcon										
Eastern Phoebe	1					2		1		
Northern Shrike										
Blue Jay	255	79	112	285	98	84	138	122	99	44
American Crow	633	341	140	531	209	194	43	731	352	60
Fish Crow										
Common Raven					1					
Carolina Chickadee	104	41		306	21	85	26	92	43	13
Black-capped Chickadee			34		48					
Chickadee species		9			45					
Tufted Titmouse	104	48	28	228	58	32	40	94	36	15
Horned Lark			CW				265	252		93

123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

	Adams County (OHAC)	Ashland (OHAD)	Ashabula (OHAA)	Athens (OHAT)	Beaver Creek (OHBC)	Beaver Valley (OHBV)	Bis and Little Runby Creek-Daydale (OHDC)	The Brown Family Environmental Center (OHBF)	Buckeye Lake (OHBL)	Lucyrie (OHBY)
CIRCLE NUMBER	1	2	4	5	6	7	74	9	10	11
COUNT DATE	17-Dec	16-Dec	31-Dec	1-Jan	16-Dec	30-Dec	26-Dec	18-Dec	16-Dec	2-Jan
SPECIES										
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1					1				
Golden-crowned Kinglet	32	17	1	36	30	57	6	8	15	
Cedar Waxwing	39	32	1	1	34	18		10	38	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	7	2	1	15	2	15	3	3		
White-breasted Nuthatch	90	52	18	132	49	51	58	75	38	23
Brown Creeper	6	9	1	7	2	11	3	2	8	3
Carolina Wren	41	19	5	174	26	61	20	28	17	10
Winter Wren	2			3	2			2	2	
Marsh Wren										
Gray Catbird										
Brown Thrasher	1									
Northern Mockingbird	19	2		28	4	14	6	12	6	1
European Starling	1216	277	776	814	381	619	784	1245	1893	718
Eastern Bluebird	68	56	33	89	44	53	21	111	58	13
Hermit Thrush	2		1	5		5	1		1	
American Robin	375	131	4	243	30	111	470	39	248	12
House Sparrow	115	198	133	50	81	20	220	474	120	77
American Pipit										
Evening Grosbeak										
House Finch	10	37	25	82	80	23	29	86	34	25
Purple Finch	26			1	5					
Common Redpoll										
Pine Siskin										
American Goldfinch	140	52	41	48	34	51	60	91	22	38
Lapland Longspur							38	2		
Snow Bunting			18							
Chipping Sparrow								CW		
Field Sparrow	14	3		12	3	9		2		
Fox Sparrow	12			2			4			
American Tree Sparrow	1	48	22	9	49	23	260	107	15	29
Dark-eyed Junco (Slate-colored)	288	135	85	105	104	149	96	366	83	40
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)										
White-crowned Sparrow	27	7	1	1	CW	1	2	60	29	7
White-throated Sparrow	155	62	4	154	5	24	149	81	13	6
Savannah Sparrow	2	1								
Song Sparrow	95	49	4	214	25	63	80	60	34	41
Lincoln's Sparrow										
Swamp Sparrow	47	10		8		3	12		7	1
Eastern Towhee	17			20		3	16	3	1	
Sparrow species								7		
Eastern Meadowlark	52	1								
Red-winged Blackbird	4		1	2		19	3	3	2	
Brown-headed Cowbird			15			4	5	6		
Rusty Blackbird			30			1	2			
Brewer's Blackbird										
Common Grackle	31			2			4			6
Blackbird species										
Orange-crowned Warbler										
Common Yellowthroat										
Northern Parula										
Palm Warbler										
Pine Warbler										
Yellow-rumped Warbler	20	4		4		10		2		1
Northern Cardinal	247	106	85	359	120	111	254	296	100	30
Rose-breasted Grosbeak										
Dickcissel										
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	5,787	5,259	6,995	5,578	2,305	2,466	4,533	7,871	6,926	1,576
TOTAL SPECIES (COUNT DAY)	75	66	72	63	52	59	66	71	62	40

123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Burton (OHBU)	Cedar (OHCA)	Cedar Creek-Spring Valley (OHCS)	Canton (OHCT)	Carey (OHCY)	Chandlersville (OHCH)	Cincinnati (OHCL)	Clark County (OHCC)	Cleveland (OHCL)	Columbus (OHCO)	Cuyahoga Falls (OHCF)	Dayton (OHDA)	Delaware Reservoir (OHDR)
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
2-Jan	31-Dec	15-Dec	15-Dec	31-Dec	17-Dec	26-Dec	16-Dec	17-Dec	18-Dec	18-Dec	18-Dec	18-Dec
			1							2	1	
1	41	43	14	2	32	23	7	1	38	9	13	16
76	19	31	150			13	11	9		35		5
5		7	2	2		4		4	13	12	4	2
167	126	64	57	33	63	131	40	110	179	192	98	117
4	16	4	6	1	5	13	8	2	26	7	17	9
42	73	74	50	9	44	170	40	17	69	79	49	33
2	8	3	3	1	2	2	3		3	3	2	
		1	1									
			1							1		
1	16	25	8	2	8	76	5	4	8		7	6
2096	790	25006	1814	4975	1041	3181	714	1280	13323	4592	7184	2203
142	119	98	52	8	79	105	13	54	113	154	64	40
	16	8	2		4	8	9		1	6	5	1
136	225	2557	114	79	4	1169	755	241	4330	710	1512	1263
761	152	219	610	478	151	638	69	698	927	1342	268	840
		1				10						
161	36	65	94	29	71	122	73	240	573	252	150	193
1	4	13			6	2		4	CW	3	CW	2
									1			
									CW			
115	185	132	155	43	71	208	66	164	179	437	75	68
			CW									16
	16	9	4	1	13	20	3	2	2			2
	3	4		1	2	8	1	2	3	2	1	2
30	194	51	78	121	79	173	77	177	47	215	53	269
338	390	205	400	118	154	523	125	401	808	573	146	514
3	4	27		9		57	3	1	3	5	4	43
7	130	129	116	21	47	509	226	68	439	191	127	229
47	199	94	70	22	73	439	41	35	137	153	47	75
									1			
1	34	18	9	2	3	54	5	2	6	3		5
	16	17	2		2	168	7	1	33		11	4
	1					3						
120	1	41		15	7	65		239	16	42	10	50
CW	CW	759		17	1	14		1	4	40	5	1
5						7		1		2		19
1	CW	84	2	1		4		259	5	10	1	1
												56
			1									
		1								1		
									CW			
	4	26	6	3	1	12	CW		20	9	12	
283	395	348	416	78	261	1214	102	143	687	480	146	335
		CW										
9,791	5,324	34,449	15,507	8,351	4,830	14,500	16,518	15,225	28,204	16,658	13,759	9,615
66	65	84	73	54	70	84	65	69	78	79	81	68

123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

	Elyria-Lorain (OHEL)	Wayne County (OHFC)	Frederick (OHFT)	Fremont (OHFR)	Golf Woods (OHGW)	Grand Lake-St. Marys (OHGL)	Grand Rapids-Waterloo (OHGR)	Greene County (OHGC)	Greenville (OHGV)	Guernsey County (OHGU)
CIRCLE NUMBER	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	76
COUNT DATE	17-Dec	14-Dec	17-Dec	21-Dec	17-Dec	18-Dec	31-Dec	17-Dec	19-Dec	18-Dec
SPECIES										
Snow Goose						CW			CW	
Ross's Goose			1							
Snow/Ross's Goose			17							
Greater White-fronted Goose				42		76	CW			
Cackling Goose						2				
Canada Goose	1964	558	1235	2604	375	1611	4810	267	355	262
Mute Swan			1						1	
Black Swan										
Trumpeter Swan	3		50	76						
Tundra Swan			254	3766						
Trumpeter/Tundra Swan			114							
Swan species										
Wood Duck			19	1						
Blue-winged Teal										
Northern Shoveler		15	64							
Gadwall			56		1		5	8		95
American Wigeon										2
Mallard	353	53	860	190	78	159	562	151	58	214
Mallard (Domestic)										
American Black Duck	8		15	3			8			4
American Black Duck x Mallard (hybrid)										
Northern Pintail	27		10				CW			
Green-winged Teal	5		6					1		58
Canvasback										
Redhead	2	1		2						
Ring-necked Duck						3	11			1
Greater Scaup										
Lesser Scaup	1					21	2			
Greater/Lesser Scaup										
Harlequin Duck										
Surf Scoter										
White-winged Scoter										
Black Scoter										
Long-tailed Duck										
Bufflehead	27	5	4	4		11				
Common Goldeneye	3									
Hooded Merganser	4		23	1		1				37
Common Merganser	21		80	12			4			1
Red-breasted Merganser	2602		820							4
Ruddy Duck	242		2			3	3			5
Duck species						40		4		
Waterfowl species										
Northern Bobwhite										
Wild Turkey	30		8	39			40			16
Ruffed Grouse										
Ring-necked Pheasant										
Pied-billed Grebe	4		7				2			1
Horned Grebe	9		4				1			3
Red-necked Grebe	2									
Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon)	269	12	146	275	120	23	442	95	123	5
Eurasian Collared-Dove										
Mourning Dove	52	42	143	205	100	94	327	20	39	13
Rufous Hummingbird										
Virginia Rail										
American Coot	22	23				1	6			14
Sandhill Crane	2			62	CW	17	470		56	
Killdeer	7		3				1			7
Dunlin										
Purple Sandpiper										
Wilson's Snipe										
Spotted Sandpiper										
Pomarine Jaeger										

123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

	Elyria-Lorain (OHEL)	Wayne County (OHFC)	Frederick (OHFT)	Fremont (OHFR)	Golf Woods (OHGW)	Grand Lake-St. Marys (OHGL)	Grand Rapids-Waterloo (OHGR)	Greene County (OHGC)	Greenville (OHGV)	Guernsey County (OHGU)
CIRCLE NUMBER	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	76
COUNT DATE	17-Dec	14-Dec	17-Dec	21-Dec	17-Dec	18-Dec	31-Dec	17-Dec	19-Dec	18-Dec
SPECIES										
Bonaparte's Gull		45	8	1						5
Ring-billed Gull	14464		6989	2859	75	408	453	1		57
Herring Gull	28		234	16		43	635	2		1
Iceland Gull							1			
Lesser Black-backed Gull			7				24			
Glaucous Gull										
Great Black-backed Gull			23							
Gull species										80
Red-throated Loon	1									
Common Loon	6		5							
Loon species			1							
Double-crested Cormorant	48									
American White Pelican			1							
Great Blue Heron	24	9	146	38	CW	6	29	5	CW	5
Great Egret			1							
Black-crowned Night-Heron										
Black Vulture	5	55						3		2
Turkey Vulture								5		81
Osprey										
Golden Eagle										
Northern Harrier	3	2		10	CW	5	4			1
Sharp-shinned Hawk				1		2	4	2	2	
Cooper's Hawk	7	3	7	5		1	12	7	2	1
Accipiter species										
Bald Eagle	25	3	64	46	4	11	21	7	1	3
Red-shouldered Hawk	13	1	1	4	8		16	12	2	2
Red-tailed Hawk	26	17	21	62		12	64	10	7	4
Rough-legged Hawk							1			
Buteo species										
Hawk species										1
Barn Owl		2								
Eastern Screech-Owl	1		10	1	2	3	15	1	3	
Great Horned Owl			2	2			7	1	1	
Barred Owl	3								1	
Long-eared Owl										
Short-eared Owl							2			
Northern Saw-whet Owl			CW							
Owl species										
Belted Kingfisher	2	4	2	13	CW	3	9	10	4	3
Red-headed Woodpecker	12		9		CW		5	1		4
Red-bellied Woodpecker	66	4	73	58	21	14	159	75	39	20
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				1			1	4		2
Downy Woodpecker	87	4	71	46	17	16	145	73	49	9
Hairy Woodpecker	15	1	12	5		1	30	18	2	7
Picoides species										
Northern Flicker	16	6	19	17	1	5	49	30	12	6
Pileated Woodpecker	6		6	2	CW		13	25	2	1
Woodpecker species						2				
American Kestrel	13	12	10	32	14	25	14	6	6	3
Merlin				1		1	1			
Peregrine Falcon			1	2		1	2			
Eastern Phoebe								1		
Northern Shrike										
Blue Jay	310	17	180	254	27	59	515	65	64	48
American Crow	36	77	51	50	19	7	301	196	40	47
Fish Crow										
Common Raven										
Carolina Chickadee		8				13		158	28	16
Black-capped Chickadee	136		67	15	22		192			
Chickadee species										3
Tufted Titmouse	97		43	12	18	12	145	84	20	16
Horned Lark		26	4	4	80	90	61	9	4	

123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Gypsum (OHG)	Hamilton-Fairfield (OHF)	Hocking Hills (OHFH)	Hoover Reservoir (OHR)	Indian Lake (OHL)	Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area (OHKP)	Lake Erie Islands (OHE)	Lakewood (OHLK)	Lancaster (OHLN)	Marblefield (OHMA)	Mercer (OHMT)	Millersburg (OHML)	North State Forest (OHNF)
34	35	36	37	38	39	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
2-Jan	17-Dec	18-Dec	17-Dec	17-Dec	1-Jan	18-Dec	30-Dec	31-Dec	17-Dec	18-Dec	30-Dec	31-Dec
			400	112		3	2076		1	17		
5474	132	14	317	236	CW	331	5202		851	3202		1
599	2		3	10		543	452		80	256		
							1			1		
4				3		2	1		9			
8						16	11			4		
378				20		48						
							166					
			15			17	38	1	30			
				1								
2			7	CW		7	3		8	2		
36	45	4	14	3		1	8	2	16	10	26	20
	1											
	1											
	19	50	55					82	66		67	93
		26	6			2	7	11	4		55	CW
											1	
5		3		11	11	1			4	1	5	3
						1	1	1			4	1
10	7	3	1	4	1	4	9	5	5	4	35	3
62	5		14	8	14	21	12	1	19	10	29	34
	8	18	7	1	1	1	3	1	17	5	30	3
26	12	20	20	13	10	10	23	19	40	8	218	48
1					CW				1		6	2
						2	1					
											2	
11	1	CW				5			4		2	2
4				1	2	8	2		1		6	
	2	1					4	1	1		12	6
				1	1						2	
							CW					
7	13	7	13	3		CW	7	2	13	2	30	9
1			4		43	1	17	5	5	1	20	1
56	20	75	75	2	22	41	86	52	77	30	478	35
CW	2	3	2	2	CW	2	2	2	2		5	3
88	44	94	83	1	29	96	104	62	119	25	483	37
3	2	29	8	1	8		29	24	26	8	132	7
21	11	24	29	6	16	20	3	18	17	8	97	6
	5	27	7	1	1		15	13	24	5	49	8
								2				
11	10	8	1	5	16		2	11	19	3	70	13
2	2		3	1		1	2		1	1		
	1						3					
	1	1										
215	22	165	106	24	126	24	304	206	178	121	468	143
42	168	882	209	27	49	85	63	278	14601	82	575	461
										4		
	99	264	152	10				181	125		590	39
						164	140		9	68	23	
					8				60			33
37	28	216	69	9	18		88	130	179	48	527	72
8	8			95	24				16		314	21

123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

	Elyria-Lorain (OHEL)	Wayne County (OHFC)	Frederick (OHFT)	Fremont (OHFR)	Golf Woods (OHGW)	Grand Lake-St. Marys (OHGL)	Grand Rapids-Waterloo (OHGR)	Greene County (OHGC)	Greenville (OHGV)	Guernsey County (OHGU)
CIRCLE NUMBER	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	76
COUNT DATE	17-Dec	14-Dec	17-Dec	21-Dec	17-Dec	18-Dec	31-Dec	17-Dec	19-Dec	18-Dec
SPECIES										
Ruby-crowned Kinglet			CW				1			
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3		2	17	2		14	14	1	5
Cedar Waxwing	7		12				66			
Red-breasted Nuthatch			11		CW	2	19		1	
White-breasted Nuthatch	84	2	83	41	17	12	142	89	29	20
Brown Creeper	5		3	9	2	1	22	12	1	
Carolina Wren	24		14	17	2	7	43	67	10	3
Winter Wren	1		1				2	4		1
Marsh Wren										
Gray Catbird								1		
Brown Thrasher										
Northern Mockingbird	3			3			15	4	1	5
European Starling	1168	726	3713	3389	1500	2155	3458	2800	605	78
Eastern Bluebird	59	6	17	13	7	2	183	38	3	16
Hermit Thrush							1	7	1	2
American Robin	71	18	271	285	9	30	687	3034	84	1
House Sparrow	451		180	691	170	494	521	77	91	9
American Pipit										1
Evening Grosbeak										
House Finch	136		39	104	8	14	492	57	34	1
Purple Finch							4	3		
Common Redpoll										
Pine Siskin							2			
American Goldfinch	153	6	56	183	7	24	237	126	48	28
Lapland Longspur						100				
Snow Bunting					CW					
Chipping Sparrow		3					5			1
Field Sparrow	2	7					10	4		
Fox Sparrow	1						1			
American Tree Sparrow	98	2	93	179	7	69	580	35	38	12
Dark-eyed Junco (Slate-colored)	481	7	230	228	159	347	855	99	75	66
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)										
White-crowned Sparrow	1		3	2		1	33		1	6
White-throated Sparrow	55	1	66	27			43	157	CW	15
Savannah Sparrow										
Song Sparrow	27	10	16	42	3	10	136	53	4	17
Lincoln's Sparrow										
Swamp Sparrow	3		1	1	2		5	3	1	3
Eastern Towhee	1	1	1					23		
Sparrow species						7				
Eastern Meadowlark							2			
Red-winged Blackbird	10		14	51			25	2		
Brown-headed Cowbird			1	95			2			
Rusty Blackbird										
Brewer's Blackbird							1			
Common Grackle	225			2635			1001	978		
Blackbird species			50							
Orange-crowned Warbler										
Common Yellowthroat										
Northern Parula										
Palm Warbler										
Pine Warbler										
Yellow-rumped Warbler			6	6		1	8	2		1
Northern Cardinal	171	25	125	148	22	48	392	120	48	64
Rose-breasted Grosbeak										
Dickcissel										
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	24,349	1,819	17,000	19,005	2,899	6,126	18,632	9,166	1,997	1,525
TOTAL SPECIES (COUNT DAY)	74	40	76	63	33	52	81	59	45	64

123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Gypsum (OHG)	Hamilton-Fairfield (OHF)	Hocking Hills (OHFH)	Lower Reservoir (OHR)	Indian Lake (OHL)	Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area (OHKP)	Lake Erie Islands (OHE)	Lakewood (OHLK)	Lancaster (OHLN)	Marblefield (OHMA)	Mentor (OHMT)	Millersburg (OHML)	Michigan State Forest (OHMS)
34	35	36	37	38	39	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
2-Jan	17-Dec	18-Dec	17-Dec	17-Dec	1-Jan	18-Dec	30-Dec	31-Dec	17-Dec	18-Dec	30-Dec	31-Dec
	1	1				1		1	1			
3	31	103	14		2	17	1	4	2		40	1
15		3	11		10	3		2	12		29	26
6	1	33	4	2		7	1	2	6	2	2	3
57	20	126	64	7	40	39	84	72	143	22	609	32
6	6	12	8	2	2	21	2	6	4	1	31	2
26	36	63	26	7	7	23	20	49	48	12	394	35
2	2	10	5	1		5		1	2	1	14	
								1				
											1	
1	11	10	1		CW		1	20	4	2	123	8
1845	6917	242	1765	903	482	4266	1823	1538	1039	1060	3654	1049
7	7	98	87	4		7	24	50	181		661	52
	3	15				18		1	1		1	
946	1460	33	831	15	170	423	433	267	183	257	313	34
579	58	26	123	248	238	616	665	370	351	99	2361	256
1		1							1		3	
		31									2	CW
92	76	28	102	8	2	248	126	140	115	27	617	54
		10	1		CW		1	2	1			1
		1							5			
122	126	249	86	13	19	74	161	125	202		805	69
				1	55						3	
2							1			4		
		1									1	
		8						16			14	1
1		1					3	1	1		2	
261	25	25	8	13	155	18	54	14	92	29	552	87
152	54	1042	177	53	17	190	301	161	381	110	1050	271
											CW	
6	1	2		3			1	3	3		432	8
58	103	123	52	5	3	69	38	33	55	32	412	34
		1									6	
35	60	126	50	12	40	11	14	86	88	35	1114	82
10	4	1		5	3	6			3		34	1
1	1	11					2	4	3	2	30	
				4				25				
				3	13		1				5	CW
277	28	4					34	23	1	10	116	
15							9		1		236	
					18		2					
17		1			3	1	5	38		1	7	1
	1											
			1									
1	3	5	30			5		2			13	
196	54	414	178	20	36	211	142	312	299		1376	192
									1			
14,722	11,213	5,291	7,934	3,963	3,124	19,801	23,088	5,201	22,326	7,241	23,282	4,651
78	67	67	70	66	50	70	90	67	93	59	86	60

123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

	New Lexington (CHNL)	O'Shaughnessy Reservoir (OHS)	Ottawa N.W.R. (OHO)	Oxford (OHDX)	Paint Creek Area (OHPC)	Plymouth (OHPA)	Portage County (OHPT)	Portsmouth (OHPO)	Preble County (OHPB)	Quail Hollow-Hartsville (OHQH)
CIRCLE NUMBER	48	50	51	52	53	54	56	57	58	59
COUNT DATE	1-Jan	31-Dec	1-Jan	17-Dec	17-Dec	31-Dec	31-Dec	16-Dec	4-Jan	17-Dec
SPECIES										
Snow Goose	19		2							5
Ross's Goose										
Snow/Ross's Goose										
Greater White-fronted Goose	1			2						
Cackling Goose										
Canada Goose	44	463	6551	100	82	260	721	235	197	2913
Mute Swan		2	6							
Black Swan										
Trumpeter Swan			227							
Tundra Swan		282	5991							
Trumpeter/Tundra Swan										
Swan species										
Wood Duck					1				1	
Blue-winged Teal										
Northern Shoveler					5					
Gadwall	2		63	6	61			10		52
American Wigeon			1					12		1
Mallard	4	198	420	97	23	84	173	226	70	1204
Mallard (Domestic)										
American Black Duck		2	33		2	1	1	8		10
American Black Duck x Mallard (hybrid)										
Northern Pintail		4	42	2				5		4
Green-winged Teal		5	1		3			4		
Canvasback		3								
Redhead		85			1		30			1
Ring-necked Duck		365	1				50	7		
Greater Scaup		4	2							
Lesser Scaup		33	53					5		
Greater/Lesser Scaup										
Harlequin Duck										
Surf Scoter										
White-winged Scoter										
Black Scoter										
Long-tailed Duck										
Bufflehead	4	13		19	4					3
Common Goldeneye		112	3107							
Hooded Merganser		99	2	2	84	1	6	18		3
Common Merganser	1	5	1643				10	6		5
Red-breasted Merganser			20							
Ruddy Duck		72	22		572					42
Duck species			127							
Waterfowl species										
Northern Bobwhite								CW		
Wild Turkey				25			53	18		24
Ruffed Grouse										
Ring-necked Pheasant		1	2							
Pied-billed Grebe		1			39	1		3		3
Horned Grebe		9			2					2
Red-necked Grebe					CW					
Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon)	107	2	69	8	123	46	40	114	32	660
Eurasian Collared-Dove										
Mourning Dove	71	68	114	72	51	58	11	82	11	455
Rufous Hummingbird								1		
Virginia Rail										
American Coot			2		338		12			37
Sandhill Crane		258	126	95					3	
Killdeer					16					6
Dunlin										
Purple Sandpiper										
Wilson's Snipe										
Spotted Sandpiper										
Pomarine Jaeger										

123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Balcon Creek (OHRC)	Hagersville (OHRA)	Rudolph (OHRU)	Salem (OHSA)	Winn (OHTT)	Foles (OHTD)	Tri-Reservoir (OHTR)	Tumbul County (OHIC)	Wellington (OHWE)	Western Hamilton County (OHWH)	Wimot (OHWT)	Woster (OHWO)	Youngstown (OHYO)	SPECIES TOTALS (COUNT DAY)
762	60	61	62	64	65	66	67	68	69	71	72	73	
31-Dec	27-Dec	17-Dec	31-Dec	17-Dec	18-Dec	29-Dec	18-Dec	30-Dec	18-Dec	16-Dec	2-Jan	17-Dec	
		24							1	7			233
													6
							5		15	4	9		17
		2											176
	3	796	880	559	1471	1989	532	369	413	1155	717	245	14
							3		7	2			73
					75		92	2			12		2
	3				1552	12	168		14	7	76	2	777
													12,413
													114
					3				1	2			60
													41
					196		16		24		10		1
					98	3	142		53		100	48	452
					3	3	26		5		2		1,252
18	38	247	108	49	641	1240	429	3	127	130	195	81	90
													11
4	2	3	21		44	105	36		4		19	9	620
													2
					28		5		5	CW	15	6	214
					1				13		1	40	269
					3								38
					17		17		19				594
2		2							84		3	16	1,177
					3708								3,927
					45180							120	46,872
					1000								5,317
													4
													28
													1
													1
													5
					221	2	42		60			211	1,589
					4	10	32					9	5,285
4		2			105	9	34		28			52	2,555
					1371						7	12	4,161
					110	5						16	20,639
					215		52		3		3		1,996
	23												337
													33
													0
282	183		40	45			8		13	83	3		1,799
													1
		1									1		12
					1				1				175
							5				1		412
													6
72	576	256	173	152	180	172	18	118	692	1702	83	73	14,510
										1			2
142	843	189	112	25	260	56	195	23	160	2095	72	41	13,471
													1
						1				1			4
					2	83	22		1				2,286
	44	CW			12	CW	135		CW		287		2,160
	12			14	6	2	6		77	130	1		605
													1
													1
	3									41			80
									1				1
					1								1

123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

	New Lexington (CHNL)	O'Shaughnessy Reservoir (OHS)	Ottawa N.W.R. (OHO)	Oxford (OHDX)	Paint Creek Area (OHPC)	Plymouth (OHPL)	Portage County (OHPT)	Portsmouth (OHPO)	Preble County (OHPR)	Quail Hollow-Hartsville (OHQH)
CIRCLE NUMBER	48	50	51	52	53	54	56	57	58	59
COUNT DATE	1-Jan	31-Dec	1-Jan	17-Dec	17-Dec	31-Dec	31-Dec	16-Dec	4-Jan	17-Dec
SPECIES										
Bonaparte's Gull			4		40					
Ring-billed Gull	1	43	14166	131	142	6			10	133
Herring Gull			389							14
Iceland Gull										
Lesser Black-backed Gull			2							
Glaucous Gull			1							
Great Black-backed Gull			4							
Gull species										22
Red-throated Loon										
Common Loon				2	11					1
Loon species										
Double-crested Cormorant	14				1					
American White Pelican			4							
Great Blue Heron		12	181	12	48	1	1	5	1	25
Great Egret										
Black-crowned Night-Heron										
Black Vulture	3	62		183	410					
Turkey Vulture	19			4	52			3	1	
Osprey										
Golden Eagle										
Northern Harrier	10		29	6	4		2			1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2		1	1						3
Cooper's Hawk	4	3	8	6	3	1	1	2		9
Accipiter species										
Bald Eagle	1	7	108	8	7	11	4	8	5	5
Red-shouldered Hawk	11	2		10	5		1	3		14
Red-tailed Hawk	17	10	34	10	26	15	11	10	5	29
Rough-legged Hawk			1					1		
Buteo species										
Hawk species										
Barn Owl										
Eastern Screech-Owl			11			2		1	1	1
Great Horned Owl		1	14	4		2				1
Barred Owl		1		6		CW	1			4
Long-eared Owl										
Short-eared Owl			4	2						
Northern Saw-whet Owl										
Owl species										
Belted Kingfisher	2	3	1	5	7	4	2	8	3	1
Red-headed Woodpecker		5	18		7	1		3		7
Red-bellied Woodpecker	22	61	26	66	12	12	21	29	24	94
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1	2		4	2	2		2	1	1
Downy Woodpecker	23	40	52	49	8	13	11	35	11	128
Hairy Woodpecker	7	5	4	4		7	7	8	5	42
Picoides species										
Northern Flicker	12	14	6	14	9	7	5	13	3	14
Pileated Woodpecker	7	3		21	5	1	5	8	6	8
Woodpecker species										
American Kestrel	10	3	40	23	19	10	1	8	12	15
Merlin	2									
Peregrine Falcon			CW							1
Eastern Phoebe										
Northern Shrike			1							
Blue Jay	58	168	151	62	33	48	77	77	21	312
American Crow	334	90	1	117	330	38	55	158	59	967
Fish Crow										
Common Raven										
Carolina Chickadee	50	91		118	11			105	34	
Black-capped Chickadee			20			6	164			291
Chickadee species										
Tufted Titmouse	23	53	6	66	12	7	31	70	26	116
Horned Lark		2	14	130		5			6	12

123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

	New Lexington (CHNL)	O'Shaughnessy Reservoir (OHRS)	Ottawa N.W.R. (OHOT)	Oxford (OHDX)	Paint Creek Area (OHPC)	Plymouth (OHPL)	Portage County (OHPT)	Portsmouth (OHPO)	Frederick County (OHFR)	Quail Hollow-Hartsville (OHQH)
CIRCLE NUMBER	48	50	51	52	53	54	56	57	58	59
COUNT DATE	1-Jan	31-Dec	1-Jan	17-Dec	17-Dec	31-Dec	31-Dec	16-Dec	4-Jan	17-Dec
SPECIES										
Ruby-crowned Kinglet								2		
Golden-crowned Kinglet	10		5	16	6		1	41		9
Cedar Waxwing	1	1	3	5	6		36			7
Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	1		4				2		4
White-breasted Nuthatch	25	29	29	50	12	12	34	51	21	120
Brown Creeper	1	2	7	3				4		8
Carolina Wren	10	28	15	39	4	2	14	36	11	49
Winter Wren			14	4	2			3		3
Marsh Wren			1							
Gray Catbird										
Brown Thrasher			1							
Northern Mockingbird	11	1		12	9			6	5	7
European Starling	582	480	1851	4482	765	498	281	698	803	2444
Eastern Bluebird	49	39	1	60	5	6	10	30	34	61
Hermit Thrush				3				3		3
American Robin	7	335	131	1631	84	2	42	23	27	19
House Sparrow	74	241	580	189	41	26	47	34	112	662
American Pipit										
Evening Grosbeak	12									
House Finch	11	104	77	143	22	7	10	59	26	191
Purple Finch	1			4						
Common Redpoll										
Pine Siskin								1		
American Goldfinch	21	22	93	78	22	25	42	40	5	208
Lapland Longspur			2			30				
Snow Bunting			5							
Chipping Sparrow	1						2			
Field Sparrow				1			2	6		
Fox Sparrow		1	1	1	2			4		
American Tree Sparrow	3	54	477	15	9	18	28		10	97
Dark-eyed Junco (Slate-colored)	115	71	136	189	50	22	42	200	16	445
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)										1
White-crowned Sparrow	1	2		5	16	13				5
White-throated Sparrow	9	32	24	61	50	4	5	41	10	23
Savannah Sparrow										1
Song Sparrow	12	36	90	87	16	15	9	85	7	51
Lincoln's Sparrow										
Swamp Sparrow		1	32	6				1		7
Eastern Towhee		5		2	1			7		
Sparrow species			2							
Eastern Meadowlark	2			9	5					
Red-winged Blackbird			82	20						462
Brown-headed Cowbird		1	2375	4			13	3	10	328
Rusty Blackbird			41							3
Brewer's Blackbird										
Common Grackle			21	2647				5	45	1720
Blackbird species			65							
Orange-crowned Warbler										
Common Yellowthroat										
Northern Parula										
Palm Warbler										
Pine Warbler								7		
Yellow-rumped Warbler	1	3		1	2		1			8
Northern Cardinal	102	113	147	136	116	39	89	120	34	384
Rose-breasted Grosbeak										
Dickcissel										
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	1,926	4,360	40,247	11,399	3,856	1,369	2,215	2,823	1,724	15,026
TOTAL SPECIES (COUNT DAY)	55	69	82	69	63	43	48	64	41	75

123RD AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Baccoon Creek (OHRK)	Beaversville (OHRK)	Budolph (OHRU)	Salem (OHRB)	Fiffin (OHTT)	Foleo (OHTD)	Fri-Reservoir (OHRF)	Tomball County (OHTC)	Wellington (OHWE)	Western Hamilton County (OHWH)	Winnet (OHWT)	Woolser (OHWD)	Youngstown (OHYO)	SPECIES TOTALS (COUNT-DAY)
762	60	61	62	64	65	66	67	68	69	71	72	73	
31-Dec	27-Dec	17-Dec	31-Dec	17-Dec	18-Dec	29-Dec	18-Dec	30-Dec	18-Dec	16-Dec	2-Jan	17-Dec	
2					1				2	1		2	22
46	58	1		7	1	7	2	4	34	111	12		1,089
	135			3	2				2	6	20		945
4	12	3		5	7		1		15	3		2	270
68	613	55	51	49	42	108	13	14	71	647	62	30	6,003
14	35	2		6	3	4	1		11	67	18		514
46	344	8	24	5	14	40	6	1	99	489	81	20	3,468
6					7	1				6	21		162
											4		7
						1							5
	1												4
6	116	3	10		5	2			50	246	16	5	980
378	5013	7497	1278	1598	3747	2009	812	1223	23462	5184	914	226	189,322
50	495	41	16	24	12	84	50	36	37	610	62	16	4,937
	11				1				1	7			154
60	122	29	23	39	274	24		10	2819	119	50	4	30,487
4	1363	333	354	312	628	1303	163	279	636	2422	103	20	27,241
	67									119			204
										5			50
22	562	68	20	66	128	114	173	16	172	862	26	44	7,933
6	2	1					7		5	1			117
													1
	2												12
106	713	78	19	53	141	223	23	16	180	790	49	33	8,374
	81	733			50								1,111
	5	2			51					1			89
2	2				CW	1				5			24
30	45	1							9	28			299
6					4				4	3	5		89
	593	173	9	73	683	109	46	19	71	882	235	8	8,185
112	2363	322	59	183	432	470	45	22	187	1386	80	98	19,697
					CW								1
18	416		7		6				11	1069	30		2,399
62	626		10	3	106	21	5		186	510	80	2	6,143
	4									2			17
86	1686	24	53	2	75	44	11	1	152	2222	746	12	9,690
													1
6	18		1		13	5	12		29	78	35		560
15	34			1		4	1		16	16	9		511
											5		50
10	11	9							1	3			131
	88	1			164	995	1		95	1281	8		4,432
	6	68		30	3800	112	22		51	12708	4		20,766
	15									31			177
													1
	3338	5502	1		9	562	160	2		210	35		19,581
	2024					1000				1461	6		4,662
					1				CW	2			1
													4
													1
													1
48	1		1	7	1	6			3	15	1		316
154	1859	71	166	89	203	326	88	58	477	1836	170	72	18,038
									1				1
													1
2,435	31,088	17,579	4,242	4,085	73,393	12,966	4,491	2,489	33,794	46,151	5,149	8,165	827,354
51	85	61	43	52	90	63	63	36	82	89	73	53	160

FIELD NOTES

[Lightly edited to correct obvious misspellings and to conform to the Cardinal's style sheet.]

From Phil Cantino:

[Regarding singing Pine Warbler on 26 Feb in Athens] Early return to a known breeding locality. It sang at least eight times, and the song was consistently confirmed by Merlin. It was also seen and recorded here three days ago by Zella Nisley and Nancy Pitre (<https://ebird.org/checklist/S129446370>).

From Jon Cefus and Kent Miller:

[Regarding high count of 30 for Purple Finch in Muskingum on 13 Jan] Likely more. Past large puddles where road makes hard left going southeast. Flock working trees along road. Mix of female/immature types and several striking males.

From Carl Engstrom:

[Regarding two Barn Swallows in Madison on 25 Feb] Absolutely astonished to have two Barn Swallows in Ohio on this date. Totally random encounter of two birds moving through the area pretty rapidly. Was scanning the pond through my scope when I thought I heard a swallow call behind me. Expecting to see a Tree Swallow, I turned around, and was shocked to see a Barn Swallow flying towards me only about 20 feet away. The two birds slowed for a moment to make a few passes across the front of the MedLine warehouse and made a few swoops up to grab insects of the front of the building before continuing on north. The whole encounter was maybe two total minutes. Extremely familiar species, one that is virtually unmistakable in alternate plumage and one that I have seen thousands of times. Long/slim swallow, blue above, orangish below, with a long/forked tail. Pretty astounding record, one of very few eBird records in Feb north of the Gulf Coast and my first record in Ohio during the month! Unfortunately, I was unable to digibin any usable photos, by the time I was able to get myself collected, they were a bit distant from my vantage point.

From Matt Mason:

[Regarding Yellow-headed Blackbird in Licking on 02 Feb] Male, large blackbird yellow head

and chest. Mixed in with 8000 plus blackbirds. Multiple large blackbird flocks move through heading west towards Hebron, daily. Typically, between Route 40 and Beaver Run Road. Best chance is Evans Park to intercept the constant moving flocks.

From Benjamin Miller:

[Regarding second most Lapland Longspurs, 30, in Knox on 28 Dec] Multiple, massive flocks of longspurs flying back and forth over road. Only a few larks detected. Estimated by 100s and 10s. Got lots of photos.

From Patty McKelvey:

[Regarding the Ross's Goose photo included with the Species Accounts] On 02 Dec, I was home sick and sleeping when my husband, Kevin, came into the bedroom exclaiming that there was a white goose on our pond, which immediately got me out of bed. Finding my bins and scope I got to the window to see two white geese on our pond, amongst the Canada Geese, and those white geese had stubby pinkish bills—Ross's Geese! To say I was giddy is an understatement since I'm always scrutinizing the Canada Geese on our pond and secretly wishing for other goose species. Those two geese spent the day on our pond and a handful of other birders also got to see them. I watched the two geese fly off together late that afternoon. Then, to my surprise, the next morning, 03 Dec, I saw them fly in to our pond again! Both had returned on one of my Project FeederWatch count days and I now had the added bonus of including them on that list. So, all in all, being home sick turned into a blessing after Kevin's sharp eyes spotted those white geese! Oh, and Ross's Goose became sweet #138 on my yard bird list.

From Shane Myers:

[Regarding the 60 Lesser Black-backed Gulls Findlay Reservoirs on 01 Dec] Low estimate, only counting third and fourth cycle. Also, Pacific Loon.

From Anthony Rodgers:

[Regarding the first state record of a Glaucous-winged Gull] 01 Jan Original comment be-

fore bird was confirmed by experts: Solid looks as it was seen well for about 10 minutes from Shooters foraging by the lift bridge in the feeding frenzies of gulls hammering the shad in the river. Train came by and all birds lifted and moved up river by Jacob's Pavilion, but this bird was not seen again. Overall, very large gull, generally gray, low contrast appearance particularly when in flight. Adult colored gray scaps and mantle, muted gray/brown wingtips and tail, white rump, very "dirty" streaky head, dark eyes, mostly black bill. Jen Brumfield passed photos along to Amar Ayyash and word came that this was not a pure Glaucous-winged Gull.

From Dakota Swisher:

[Regarding the Black-headed Gulls at the Cleveland Coast Guard Station] Two birds mixed

in with Bonaparte's Gulls and were originally seen on the water at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River from the Coast Guard Station. Clear field marks—originally identified by red bills, while on the water and subsequently the dark underwing was seen as each bird foraged and when flushed by sailboat/ship traffic. These birds often returned to roughly the same location several times. One bird seems to be the continuing bird I found in Nov and the second bird seems to be the bird found in Lake two days previous.

From Trevor Zook:

[Regarding the 250 American White Pelicans at CPNWR on 14 Dec] Counted as best as I could, probably closer to 275 or even 300 since they're so packed together.

YEARS AGO

By Craig Caldwell

10 years ago, the Winter 2012–13 *Ohio Cardinal*, Vol. 36 No. 2 (Craig Caldwell, Editor) contained these items:

Seventy-four Christmas Bird Counts were run, nine more than a year ago.

Four of the six documented Rufous Hummingbirds lingered into January.

A Calliope Hummingbird was in **Belmont** and an Allen's in **Hamilton**.

Five Ospreys were documented.

A Prairie Falcon visited **Clark** and **Greene**.

Two Hoary Redpoll sightings in **Erie** were several days and several miles apart.

25 years ago, the Winter 1997–98 *Ohio Cardinal*, Vol. 21 No. 2 (Victor Fazio III, Editor) contained these items:

This was a combined issue with those of Spring and Summer 1998, published as catch-ups for a hiatus.

Seven birders achieved a January Century by tallying at least 100 species in the month.

The state's third Mew Gull was in **Lake**.

The state's second Say's Phoebe was in **Knox**.

No hummingbirds were reported.

50 years ago, *The Cleveland Bird Calendar* for Winter 1972–73, Vol. 69 No. 1 (Wayne A. Hammond, editor) included these items. (A reminder — the Calendar area is a circle of radius 30 miles centered at Cleveland's Public Square)

A Northern Goshawk visited a Waite Hill, **Lake**, yard.

A Boreal Chickadee was mist-netted in Waite Hill.

One each Double-crested Cormorant, Iceland Gull, Northern Mockingbird, Gray Catbird, and Brown Thrasher rated special notice.

100 years ago, *The Cleveland Bird Calendar* did not publish a conventional issue but distributed a newspaper notice covering the season. The records included a Northern Bobwhite and “a few” Northern Cardinals. Slow arrivals from the south were attributed to a blizzard on the night of 13–14 Feb.

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Welcoming backyard birdwatchers and researchers in the field alike, the Ohio Ornithological Society is the largest statewide organization specifically devoted to fostering a deeper appreciation of wild birds, fellowship and collaboration in advancing our collective knowledge about them, and our ability to speak with one voice to preserve Ohio's bird habitats.

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The Counties of Ohio



*Initially found by Dennis McDonnell, Gus Lanese photographed this Eared Grebe the next day, 07 Dec, at the Wildwood Marina of Euclid Creek Reservation in **Cuyahoga**.*

Instructions for Contributors

The Ohio Cardinal would not exist without contributions from Ohio birders. We solicit sightings, notes on unusual observations, in-depth scientific articles, historical accounts, essays, artwork, and photographs related to Ohio and its birdlife.

Reports of bird sightings for each season are requested and should be submitted directly, by email or postal mail to:

Ron Canterbury, 1585 Summit Hills Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45255

Cardinal@ohiobirds.org

Send digital photo files or links to Tom Fishburn:

tom561tom@live.com

Deadlines are as follows:

Winter (Dec, Jan, Feb) – 21 March

Spring (Mar, Apr, May) – 21 June

Summer (Jun, Jul) - 21 August

Fall (Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov) – 21 December

Back cover:

When the Short-eared Owls made a winter home at Howard Marsh, Rick Nirschl visited often photographing this one on 14 Feb.

THE OHIO CARDINAL



The Ohio Ornithological Society
PO Box 2432
Westerville, OH 43086

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