

MOUNTAINEER AUDUBON CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Draft Report 12/15/2007

WVMO

Morgantown, WV

The Mountaineer Audubon Chapter of National Audubon held their annual Christmas Bird Count on December 15. Thirty bird watchers covered an area that is a 15 mile diameter circle with the airport as the center point. The birders tallied 2529 individuals and 58 species of avian fauna. Team leaders surveyed six different areas during the twenty-four hour period. Coordinator LeJay Graffious considers the 59 species a little short of our target goal. He contributes this to weather conditions. The high waters at the beginning of count week dispersed many waterfowl to outside the count area. The mild weather has not forced northern species south into the Morgantown area. A notable increase in the number of Bald Eagles was observed on the count. Five adult eagles and one sub-adult were spotted. Also, this was only the second time in the past twenty-three years that American Kestrels were not seen.

Interest in bird watching in Morgantown is growing. Thirty birders participating this year is an increase in interest. All birders from beginner to advance are welcome to assist with the count. In addition to traveling to birding spots, two bird watchers maintained a count at their home feeders that was included in the tally.

Coordinator Graffious thanks all of the group leaders, Alan Clark, Emily Grafton, Hillar Klandorf, Bob Burrell and Sue Olcott for their assistance with a successful count. Also, kudos to Gary Felton and John Jacobs for checking out the little covered areas in the count circle.

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Species	Yrs. Ob. '86 to '07	Team 1 Bob /Sue	Team 2 Alan	Team 3 LeJay	Team 4 Hillar Norma	Emily Ella	Gary /John	Feeder Count	Total Ind.	Sp. Count
Goose, Canada	21	74	32	61	58	0	33	0	258	1
Swan, Mute**	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Swan, Tundra	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Duck, Wood	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Galdwall	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wigeon, American	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Duck, American Black	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mallard	21	60	36	12	47	0	13	0	168	1
Pintail, Northern	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Teal, Green-winged	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canvasback	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Redhead	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Duck, Ring-necked	5	35	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	1
Scaup, Greater	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scaup, Lesser	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scaup Species	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scooter, White-winged	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Duck, Long-tailed	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bufflehead	18	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	1
Goldeneye, Common	16	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Merganser, Hooded	21	3	14	0	9	0	0	0	26	1
Merganser, Common	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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Merganser, Red-breasted	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Duck, Ruddy	9	101	0	0	0	0	0	0	101	1
Grouse, Ruffed	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Turkey, Wild	19	1	12	0	0	8	0	0	21	1
Loon, Common	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Grebe, Pied-billed	18	4	7	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Grebe, Horned	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	1
Cormorant, Dbled-crested	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heron, Great Blue	20	0	8	1	0	0	0	0	9	1
Vulture, Black	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vulture, Turkey	14	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Osprey	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eagle, Bald*	6	0	2	2	1	0	0	0	5	1
Harrier, Northern	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hawk, Sharp-shinned	16	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Hawk, Cooper's	19	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	1
Accipiter species	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hawk, Red-shouldered	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hawk, Broad-winged*	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hawk, Red-tailed	23	3	5	3	4	1	1	0	17	1
Hawk, Rough-legged	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Buteo species	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Kestrel, American	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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Coot, American	14	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	10	1
Killdeer	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gull, Ring-billed	13	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	7	1
Gull Species		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pigeon, Rock	23	67	24	31	65	0	0	0	187	1
Dove, Mourning	23	42	4	0	21	3	0	5	72	1
Owl, Eastern Screech	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Owl, Great Horned	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Owl, Barred	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kingfisher, Belted	22	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	4	1
Woodpecker, Red-bellied	23	1	10	0	12	0	3	2	28	1
Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied	Tba	1	2	0	4	1	0	0	8	1
Woodpecker, Downy	23	2	11	1	15	3	1	2	35	1
Woodpecker, Hairy	23	4	7	1	0	1	0	0	13	1
Flicker, Northern	23	2	2	1	5	0	0	0	10	1
Woodpecker, Pileated	23	0	6	1	4	0	3	0	14	1
Phoebe, Eastern	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jay, Blue	23	0	8	1	33	1	6	3	52	1
Crow, American	23	42	39	12	29	26	14	0	162	1
Raven, Common	9	7	0	0	0	1	0	0	8	1
Chickadee, Carolina	19	2	0	9	0	0	0	2	13	1
Chickadee, Black-capped	21	19	0	5	0	0	0	1	25	1
Chickadee Species	22	0	24	0	41	45	7	3	120	0

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Titmouse, Tufted	23	3	10	1	19	3	1	3	40	1
Nuthatch, Red-breasted	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Nuthatch, White-breasted	23	4	7	3	6	6	3	1	30	1
Creeper, Brown	21	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	4	1
Wren, Carolina	23	0	16	12	23	1	0	2	54	1
Wren, House	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wren, Winter	12	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Kinglet, Golden-Crowned	18	1	0	0	5	5	3	0	14	1
Kinglet, Ruby-crowned	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bluebird, Eastern	23	6	2	1	27	0	4	3	43	1
Thrush, Hermit	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Robin, American	21	0	0	2	1	8	0	0	11	1
Catbird, Gray	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mockingbird, Northern	23	0	0	1	4	1	0	0	6	1
Thrasher, Brown	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Starling, European	22	23	0	47	52	0	20	0	142	1
Pipit, American	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Waxwing, Cedar	17	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	11	1
Warbler, Yellow-rumped	21	0	0	5	1	0	0	0	6	1
Warbler, Black-and-white	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Towhee,	12	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1

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Eastern Sparrow, American-tree	14	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Sparrow, Field	17	0	14	0	16	0	1	0	31	1
Sparrow, Fox	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sparrow, Song	23	2	28	3	19	3	2	2	59	1
Sparrow, Swamp	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Sparrow, White-throated	23	4	1	28	3	0	0	0	36	1
Junco, Dark-eyed	23	23	16	19	121	4	5	2	190	1
Cardinal, Northern	23	4	21	8	19	5	0	7	64	1
Blackbird, Red-winged	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meadowlark, Eastern	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blackbird, Rusty	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grackle, Common	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cowbird, Brown-headed	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Finch, Purple	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Finch, House	23	0	0	21	9	0	0	6	36	1
Redpoll, Common	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Siskin, Pine	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Goldfinch, American	22	1	39	7	14	0	19	8	89	1
Sparrow, House	23	4	0	29	148	0	2	22	205	1
TOTAL INCLUDES COUNT WEEK BIRDS		585	417	358	839	128	143	76	2530 Individ.	59 Species

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*Bald Eagles- 4 Adults, 1 sub-adult with a few white feathers.

Participants	Address	Email
Becker, Ros		
Burrell, Bob		
Burrell, Elaine (Feeder count)		
Clark, Alan		
Clark, Bennet		
Clark, Christian		
Clark, Jane		
Crowell, Ed		
Crowell, Susan		
Felton, Gary		
Fulton, Dee		
Graffious, LeJay		
Hall, John (Feeder count)		
Hildreth, Joseph		
Hoehn, Doug		
Jacobs, John		
Johnson, Bill		
Klandorf, Hillar		
Luelkel, Bob		
Luelkel, Tommy		
Merceruo, Charlie		
Murray, Phillip		
Olcott, Sue		
Payne, Katherine		
Peters, Mike		
Peters, Mike		
Schwab, Larry		
Sexlor, Davee (correct spelling?)		
Thompson, Bob		
Venable, Norma		
Venable, Wally		

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TEAM COUNT DAY DATA

Team 1 BOB/SUE/MIKE

Start Time	Ending Time	Total Time
0730	1900	11.5 HOURS
Party Hours and Distance		
	Hours	Miles
-Car	8	76
-Foot	8.5	7
-Other		
-Owling		
-Feeder Count		
TOTAL	16.5 Hours	83 Miles

TEAM 2 ALAN

Start Time	Ending Time	Total Time
0720	1650	9.5 HOURS
Party Hours and Distance		
	Hours	Miles
-Car	1.5	14
-Foot	7	9
-Other		
-Owling		
-Feeder Count		
TOTAL	8.5 Hours	230 Miles

TEAM 3 LeJay

Start Time	Ending Time	Total Time
0815	1245	4.5 HOURS
Party Hours and Distance		
	Hours	Miles
-Car	0.5	5
-Foot	4	5
-Other		

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-Owling		
-Feeder Count		
TOTAL	4.5 Hours	10 Miles

TEAM 4 Hillar

Start Time	Ending Time	Total Time
0700	1616	7.5 HOURS
Party Hours and Distance	Hours	Miles
-Car	3.5	40
-Foot	4	4
-Other		
-Owling		
-Feeder Count		
TOTAL	Hours	44 Miles

TEAM 4 Emily and Ella

Start Time	Ending Time	Total Time
0830	1400	5.5 HOURS
Party Hours and Distance	Hours	Miles
-Car	5.5	8
-Foot		
-Other		
-Owling		
-Feeder Count		
TOTAL	5.5 Hours	8 Miles

TEAM 5 Gary and John

Start Time	Ending Time	Total Time
0745	1500	6:15 HOURS
Party Hours and Distance	Hours	Miles
-Car	3:15	46
-Foot	3:00	4
-Other		
-Owling		
-Feeder Count		

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TOTAL	3:15 Hours	50 Miles
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Weather

Temperature	Minimum: 31 F	Maximum: 38 F
Wind Direction	Minimum: East 6	Maximum: East 9
Wind Velocity	Minimum: 6 mph	Maximum: 9 mph
Snow Depth	Minimum: 0	Maximum: 0
Still Water	Minimum: Open	Maximum: Open
Moving Water	Minimum: Open	Maximum: Open
Cloud Cover	AM: Fair	PM: Mostly Cloudy
Rain	AM: None	PM: None
Snow	AM: None	PM: None

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Rare Bird Documentation

Submitted as documentation of (check all that apply):

Unusual species Unusual date Unusual breeding record Unusual Habitat

1. Species _____ Age _____ Sex _____ # _____

2. Date(s) of Observation _____ Time _____ to _____

Earlier/Late dates by other, if known _____

3. Place _____

Nearest town _____ County _____

4. Observer _____

5. Address _____

Telephone/fax/email _____

5. Observation Details:

Other _____

Observers: _____

Optics: _____

Distance from bird _____ Conditions Viewing _____

Weather, sky cover _____

Photo taken? _____ Video? _____ Sound Recording? _____ Specimen? _____

Are these available to the CBC Regional Editor? _____ Where are they? _____

6. Past Experience: With this or similar species?

7. References or advice consulted:

8. Was this report done from notes made during the or after observation, or from memory?

9. On the back of this page give details of this observation. Use additional sheets as needed. Include information on the bird's plumage, shape, size, vocalizations, habitat, behavior, etc. Describe exactly what you saw; include photocopies of your original notes and sketches. Name the species that you considered ID contenders; explain how you eliminated them. PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND PHOTOS IF THEY WERE TAKEN... THANKS!

Signature _____ Date _____

Submit to LeJay Graffious, P. O. Box 69, Bruceton Mills, WV 26525

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