

The Manhattan CBC took place on the 15th of December on a pleasant bluebird day. This weather can mean many things for birding but in my experience, birds are harder to see in the bright sun, and not as visible throughout the day. It may also keep birds less active through the middle part of the day. So, here are the numbers and these are unofficial!

There were 43 individuals in 22 parties that birded 62 hours (468 miles) by car and 42 hours (43 miles) on foot. We had 5 feeder counts (13.7 hours) and a total of 2:18 hrs and 10 miles owling.

The total of species was 88, with a total individual count of 23,465.

So, numbers were low but that can mostly be accounted for by low number of Snow Geese (3790, vs. median 32,117 since 2010). Many report that sparrows seem to be low, that wasn't my experience where I birded even though Tree Sparrow numbers were overall lower than normal (376 vs. median of 949 over 70yrs).

There were no real rarities, but it was nice to get 4 Pied-Bill Grebes, a Bewick's Wren, Field Sparrow, and 60 Rusty Blackbirds. We did miss some regulars, including Golden Crowned Kinglet, Winter Wren, Screech Owl, L. Scaup, Common Grackle, and Mockingbird. Near misses included totals of 1 Shoveler, Ruddy Duck, Merlin, Killdeer, and Fox sparrow; 2 individuals of Pheasant, Red-headed WP, Cowbird, P. Siskin, P. Finch, Spotted Towhee, Ring-necked Duck, Pintail and Snipe.

Pileated WP and Red Shouldered Hawk also continue to be present in good numbers.

Preliminary list appended at the end.

Mark H. Mayfield

Manhattan Kansas

Greater White-fronted Goose 35

Snow Goose (Total) 4244

--Snow Goose (white phase) 3790

--Snow Goose (blue phase) 454

Cackling Goose 59

Canada Goose 2181

Gadwall 31

Mallard 4957
Northern Shoveler 1
Northern Pintail 2
Green-winged Teal 159
Redhead 4
Ring-necked Duck 2
Bufflehead 7
Common Goldeneye 19
Hooded Merganser 48
Common Merganser 265
Ruddy Duck 1
Ring-necked Pheasant 2
Greater Prairie-Chicken 8
Wild Turkey 24
Northern Bobwhite 13
Pied-billed Grebe 4
Double-crested Cormorant 8
Great Blue Heron 29
--Bald Eagle (not aged) 11
--Bald Eagle (adult) 18
--Bald Eagle (immature) 14
Northern Harrier 8
Sharp-shinned Hawk 3
Cooper's Hawk 6
Red-shouldered Hawk 6

Red-tailed Hawk (TOTAL) 156

--Red-tailed Hawk (other ssp) 146

--Red-tailed (Harlan's) 10

Rough-legged Hawk 4

--Buteosp. 6

American Kestrel 14

Merlin 1

Killdeer 1

Wilson's Snipe 2

Bonaparte's Gull 6

Ring-billed Gull 750

Herring Gull 72

Rock Pigeon 386

Eurasian Collared-Dove 85

Mourning Dove 87

Great Horned Owl 4

Barred Owl 3

Belted Kingfisher 11

Red-headed Woodpecker 2

Red-bellied Woodpecker 114

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 16

Downy Woodpecker 73

Hairy Woodpecker 15

Northern Flicker (total) 90

--Northern Flicker 15

--(Yellow-shafted) Flicker 72

--(Intergrade) Flicker 1
--(Red-shafted) Flicker 2
Pileated Woodpecker 13
Blue Jay 110
American Crow 1122
Horned Lark 53
Black-capped Chickadee 149
Tufted Titmouse 117
Red-breasted Nuthatch 24
White-breasted Nuthatch 83
Brown Creeper 5
Carolina Wren 56
Bewick's Wren 1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet 7
Eastern Bluebird 307
Hermit Thrush 3
American Robin 111
Eurasian Starling 2959
Cedar Waxwing 296
Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) 41
Spotted Towhee 2
American Tree Sparrow 361
Field Sparrow 1
Fox Sparrow 1
Song Sparrow 86

Lincoln's Sparrow 3
White-throated Sparrow 67
Harris' Sparrow 315
White-crowned Sparrow 22
Dark-eyed Junco (total) 986
--(ssp. unidentified) DE Junco 597
--(Slate-colored) Junco 386
--(Oregon) Junco 3
Northern Cardinal 293
Red-winged Blackbird 311
Eastern Meadowlark 77
Western Meadowlark 161
--Sturnella sp. 187
Rusty Blackbird 60
Brown-headed Cowbird 2
Purple Finch 2
House Finch 23
Pine Siskin 2
American Goldfinch 228
House Sparrow 318