

2019 Early CBC summary

The Manhattan CBC was held on Saturday, December 14. A total of 40 field participants and 7 feeder watching participants took part in the 71st annual count. A total of 89 species and 34431 individuals were observed on count day with an additional 7 species recorded during count week. In general, bird numbers and diversity were pretty normal despite rumors to the contrary. The species total was just below the 10 year median of 95 species, but was accomplished with a comparatively small group of people (10 yr median 63 individuals). Among the species recorded, perhaps the most unusual was the White-winged Scoter, which has been hanging on the north side of the Tuttle Dam since early December (at least). A group of 9 White Pelicans remained on the river pond for an unusual Christmas count record as well. Other unusual, but not unexpected birds, included: 2 Great-tailed Grackle and a Brown Thrasher. Our most unexpected misses on count day included Bobwhite (cw=count week), Rough-legged Hawk, Prairie Falcon (cw), Screech Owl, Horned Lark and Purple Finch (cw). The last year a Bobwhite was not seen on a count was 1961 and it is only the 5th year it has not been seen on count day. Horned Larks are normally present and have been reported in the area over the last month (where were they?).

Thanks to all who participated for making this count a successful one, and especially for the excellent chili supper provided by Northern Flint Hills Audubon members and others who brought side dishes and desserts. I look forward to next year when we can do this again!

Greater White-fronted Goose	20
Snow Goose (Total)	10105
Ross's Goose	3
Cackling Goose	107
Canada Goose	4437
Cackling/Canada	2
Trumpeter Swan	cw
Gadwall	12
Mallard	237
Northern Shoveler	4
Northern Pintail	4
Green-winged Teal	51
Redhead	2
Ring-necked Duck	2
Lesser Scaup	1
White-winged Scoter	1
Bufflehead	2
Common Goldeneye	71
Hooded Merganser	5
Common Merganser	1
Wild Turkey	155

Northern Bobwhite	cw
Pied-billed Grebe	5
American White Pelican	9
Double-crested Cormorant	141
Great Blue Heron	33
Bald Eagle (Total)	87
Northern Harrier	10
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3
Cooper's Hawk	10
Red-shouldered Hawk	4
Red-tailed Hawk (TOTAL)	101
American Kestrel	19
Merlin	4
Prairie Falcon	cw
American Coot	1
Killdeer	3
Wilson's Snipe	cw
Ring-billed Gull	29
Herring Gull	3
Rock Pigeon	316
Eurasian Collared-Dove	48
Mourning Dove	163
Great Horned Owl	2
Barred Owl	5
Belted Kingfisher	12
Red-headed Woodpecker	25
Red-bellied Woodpecker	90
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2
Downy Woodpecker	61
Hairy Woodpecker	10
Northern Flicker (total)	144
Pileated Woodpecker	7
Blue Jay	182
American Crow	2190
Black-capped Chickadee	136
Tufted Titmouse	57
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	29
Brown Creeper	4
Winter Wren	3
Carolina Wren	45
Bewick's Wren	cw
Golden-crowned Kinglet	8
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	7

Eastern Bluebird	182
Hermit Thrush	1
American Robin	2552
Brown Thrasher	1
Northern Mockingbird	2
Eurasian Starling	8311
Cedar Waxwing	207
Yellow-rumped (Myrtle)	152
Spotted Towhee	10
American Tree Sparrow	312
Fox Sparrow	3
Song Sparrow	69
Lincoln's Sparrow	8
Swamp Sparrow	5
White-throated Sparrow	46
Harris' Sparrow	305
White-crowned Sparrow	23
Dark-eyed Junco (total)	1378
Northern Cardinal	244
Dickcissel	cw
Red-winged Blackbird	115
Eastern Meadowlark	3
Western Meadowlark	2
Rusty Blackbird	50
Great-tailed Grackle	2
Brown-headed Cowbird	200
Purple Finch	cw
House Finch	62
Pine Siskin	7
American Goldfinch	226
House Sparrow	236