



FRIENDS OF
OTTAWA
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

14000 W. State Route 2
Oak Harbor, OH 43449
419-898-0014 x13
friendsofottawanwr@gmail.com

MARCH 03, 2019

OTTAWA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE MONTHLY CENSUS

ROUTES: East and West sides in the morning; Auto Tour area in the afternoon.

TIME: 8:00am - 12:00pm; 1:20pm - 5:30pm

TEMP.: 28 ~ 27

COND.: Cloudy and calm early with light east winds; no snow cover; flurries in the afternoon amounting to a light dusting; impoundments frozen to about 85%; open pockets of water filled with geese, swans, ducks, and gulls; Lake Erie completely frozen except for mouth of Crane Creek.

OBS.EAST: Jim Reyda, Al & Betty Schlecht.

OBS.WEST: Jenny Bowman, Katie Clink, Jim Koppin, Donna Kuhn, Ed Lux, Dave & Kim Myles, Tony Szilagy, Douglas W. Vogus.

OBS.AFTERNOON: Bob Bartolotta, Jenny Bowman, Claire Johnson, Jim Koppin, Donna Kuhn, Jim Reyda, Douglas W. Vogus.

I. MAMMALS: 7 SPECIES.

1. Eastern Cottontail - 3
2. Woodchuck - 1
3. Eastern Fox Squirrel - 9
4. White-footed Mouse - 1
5. Common Muskrat - 3
6. Mink - 1
7. White-tailed Deer - 9

II. BIRDS: 62 SPECIES, 11,173 TOTAL BIRDS.

1. Canada Goose - 2,769
2. Mute Swan - 1
3. Trumpeter Swan - 148 (neckbands: "74M - green", "0A8 - yellow", "1A2 - yellow"; wingtag: "P47 - yellow")
4. Tundra Swan - 1,731
5. Gadwall - 203
6. American Wigeon - 1
7. American Black Duck - 12



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8. Mallard - 49
9. Northern Pintail - 12
10. Canvasback - 693
11. Redhead - 1,240
12. Ring-necked Duck - 7
13. Greater Scaup - 4
14. Lesser Scaup - 117
15. Bufflehead - 3
16. Common Goldeneye - 44
17. Hooded Merganser - 22
18. Common Merganser - 628
19. Ruddy Duck - 5
20. Mourning Dove - 52
21. American Coot - 4
22. Sandhill Crane - 54
23. Killdeer - 1
24. Ring-billed Gull - 1,101
25. Herring Gull - 37
26. Great Blue Heron - 54
27. Bald Eagle - 16 (5 adult, 11 immature)
28. Northern Harrier - 2
29. Cooper's Hawk - 2
30. Red-tailed Hawk - 6
31. Great Horned Owl - 3
32. Barred Owl - 1 (photographed in a cavity in the South Woods - second record on the refuge - Tied Census High from 01/2009)
33. Long-eared Owl - 2
34. Belted Kingfisher - 1
35. Red-headed Woodpecker - 7
36. Red-bellied Woodpecker - 9
37. Downy Woodpecker - 24
38. Hairy Woodpecker - 1
39. Northern Flicker - 2
40. American Kestrel - 2
41. Northern Shrike - 1
42. Blue Jay - 41
43. American Crow - 34
44. Horned Lark - 53
45. Black-capped Chickadee - 6
46. Tufted Titmouse - 5
47. Red-breasted Nuthatch - 1
48. White-breasted Nuthatch - 22



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- 49. Brown Creeper - 1
- 50. Carolina Wren - 1
- 51. European Starling - 263
- 52. House Sparrow - 61
- 53. House Finch - 2
- 54. American Goldfinch - 9
- 55. American Tree Sparrow - 212
- 56. Song Sparrow - 8
- 57. White-throated Sparrow - 3
- 58. Dark-eyed Junco - 20
- 59. Northern Cardinal - 61
- 60. Red-winged Blackbird - 881
- 61. Rusty Blackbird - 54
- 62. Common Grackle - 44

NOTES: Ed Pierce was unable to attend census due to bronchitis and a fever.

During the morning survey Katie Clink and Jim Koppin had what they believed to be a "Bewick's Swan", the Eurasian race of the Tundra Swan. The afternoon group was unable to relocate this bird, as many flocks of swans were heading out to the local corn stubble fields, mostly west.

The Trumpeter Swan with the yellow wing tag "P47" was the first time we've come across this type of band. I'll look into where this swan may have originated from, just for the sake of curiosity regarding Ohio's migratory Trumpeter Swans.

We had an estimated 320 unidentified ducks, some flying, but most in an open pocket too far away to get any field marks due to low visibility.

Dave & Kim Myles happened upon a photographer in the South Woods who showed them the photo of the Barred Owl he'd found. They were able to relocate the tree with the cavity, but the owl was either too hunkered down to see or possibly left the cavity. The photographer said he would send Dave the photo for our records.

Thank you to Douglas W. Vogus of Akron, Ohio for compiling this list.