

CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK FALL CENSUS

By Dwight Chasar

Thirty-six observers in 15 teams braved the chilly (67 degree) and rainy morning of 21 Sep to conduct the 31st Fall Census in the CVNP. We tallied 78 species, the lowest count (vs. 82) since I started coordinating the census in 1992. Since 1998, the count date has varied from 12 to 23 Sep.

The fall census started in 1983 but we counted only species then. In 1998 we started counting individuals too. This fall's count of 3395 individual birds is the lowest since counting started; the previous low of 3970 was in 1999.

The table includes 15 species whose counts were the lowest on record and three others which weren't seen for the first time in 10 or more years. Though we did get some sun in the afternoon, I blame the morning's steady rain for those lows and misses.

TABLE 1

Species	Number	Notes
Canada Goose	129	1
Wood Duck	20	1
Mallard	45	
Wild Turkey	13	
Great Blue Heron	26	
Green Heron	6	
Turkey Vulture		2
Cooper's Hawk	3	
Bald Eagle	5	3
Red-shouldered Hawk	2	
Red-tailed Hawk	2	
Sora	1	
American Coot	1	
Killdeer	1	
Solitary Sandpiper	4	
Rock Pigeon	22	
Mourning Dove	86	
Chimney Swift	162	
Belted Kingfisher	21	
Red-headed Woodpecker	10	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	33	1
Downy Woodpecker	28	1
Hairy Woodpecker	6	1
Northern Flicker	41	
Pileated Woodpecker	10	1
Peregrine Falcon	1	
Eastern Wood Pewee	2	

TABLE 1 (continued)

Species	Number	Notes
Least Flycatcher	1	
Eastern Phoebe	26	
White-eyed Vireo	1	
Yellow-throated Vireo	4	
Blue-headed Vireo	1	
Warbling Vireo	1	4
Philadelphia Vireo	2	
Red-eyed Vireo	1	5
Blue Jay	246	1
American Crow	101	6
Black-capped Chickadee	141	1
Tufted Titmouse	43	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	22	
House Wren	8	
Carolina Wren	22	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	2	
Eastern Bluebird	50	
Swainson's Thrush	3	
Hermit Thrush	1	
Wood Thrush	4	
American Robin	707	7
Gray Catbird	137	
Northern Mockingbird	1	
Brown Thrasher	2	
European Starling	251	
Cedar Waxwing	203	
Blue-winged Warbler	1	

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TABLE 1 (continued)

Species	Number	Notes	Species	Number	Notes
Black-and-white-Warbler	2		Eastern Towhee	15	
Tennessee Warbler	2		Field Sparrow	6	
Nashville Warbler	1	1	Song Sparrow	62	
Common Yellowthroat	38		Swamp Sparrow	2	
Hooded Warbler	3		Northern Cardinal	175	
American Redstart	2		Rose-breasted Grosbeak	8	
Northern Parula	1		Indigo Bunting	2	
Magnolia Warbler	4		Red-winged Blackbird	168	
Yellow Warbler	1		Eastern Meadowlark	8	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1		Common Grackle	1	9
Blackpoll Warbler	3		House Finch		10
Black-throated Green Warbler	2		American Goldfinch	152	
Wilson's Warbler	2		House Sparrow	77	1
Scarlet Tanager	3		Totals	3395	1

Notes:

- (1) Lowest since 1998, when counting began
- (2) First time missed since 1983
- (3) Highest count ever
- (4) Lowest count since 2001
- (5) Lowest count since 2006
- (6) Lowest count since 2009
- (7) Second highest number (vs. 717) since 2008
- (8) First miss since 1994
- (9) Lowest count since 1999
- (10) First miss since 1988