

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

By Craig Caldwell

Greater White-fronted Goose

Andrew Cannizzaro saw the last of the season, on the Great Miami River, **Butler**, on 24 Feb, though March produced additional sightings. Rick Asamoto made the high count of 38, at the Ferguson-Metzger Reservoirs, **Allen**, on 30 Dec. Killdeer hosted up to 30 in late Dec. (25 counties)



Leslie Sours shot this stellar image of a Greater White-fronted Goose on 29 Jan at Eastwood MP, **Montgomery**.

Snow Goose

The high count was a flock of 102 at Fernald on 12 Feb, and Brian Wulker wrote, “large fly-over flock counted individually and then by 10s. Nearly 50/50 blue and white. They flew east to west, and were not relocated at other locations later in the day.” The second-highest count of 70 was shared by Irina Shulgina at Deer Creek SP on 01 Dec and Brian Menker at Buck Creek on 03 Dec. (43 counties)

Ross's Goose

Leslie Sours counted 10 mixed in among Snow Geese along Horseshoe Road, **Clinton**, on 09 Feb. The second-highest count was four, by multiple birders at Lost Bridge on 05 and 06 Dec. (16 counties)



A series of photos taken by Leslie Sours provided a tally of 49 Snow Geese and 10 Ross's Geese near Port William, **Clinton**, on 09 Feb.

[Snow x Ross's Goose]

Shane Myers and Robert Sams picked out one at the Findlay Reservoirs on 04 Dec.

Brant

Many birders saw one unusually far inland at Friendship Park, **Jefferson**, between 21 and 25 Dec. Jonathan Oliveras reported four flying past Wendy Park on 02 Jan.

Cackling Goose

Brad Cullen and family saw 16 on the Stoneridge golf course in Bowling Green, **Wood**, on 23 Dec. The Kmart retention pond near Fremont, **Sandusky**, hosted 10 on 04 Jan (Victor Fazio III). (34 counties)

Canada Goose

Tyler Ficker and Bill Stanley estimated 5000 at the Old Highland Stone on 24 and 28 Jan. Joe Kappa saw about 3500 fly over the Kilby Road gravel pits, **Hamilton**, on 14 Jan. Only **Fulton**, **Jackson**, **Lawrence**, **Meigs**, and **Van Wert** did not have sightings.

Mute Swan

Stefan Minnig's 21 at Indian Lake SP, **Logan**, on 21 Feb was the high count. The second-highest count, 12, came from Huffman MP, **Greene**, on 18 and 21 Jan (Jeremy Dominguez and Eric Elvert, respectively). (46 counties)

Trumpeter Swan

Dylan and Kim Leedom noted about 40 along Arguette Road, **Lucas**, on 26 Jan. (32 counties)

Tundra Swan

Ed Pierce's ONWR census teams counted 1772 on 07 Dec and 1953 on 04 Jan (*vide* Douglas Vogus). The most elsewhere were Ron Sempier's 301 at Killdeer on 02 Jan, which he noted was a “firm count”. (43 counties)

Wood Duck

Gabriel Amrhein saw 15 in Glen Helen Preserve, **Greene**, on 14 Jan. Mary Anne Romito saw nine at the Cleveland Zoo on 28 Dec and took pains to determine that they were not part of the zoo's collection. (29 counties)



Su Snyder found this picturesque Wood Duck at Manchester Trail Head, **Summit**, on 17 Feb.

Gadwall

Victor Fazio III counted 815 at Castalia Pond, *Erie*, on 11 Dec and wrote, “remarkable... double my previous high count here...possible source [of] the concentration at Medusa Marsh days earlier.” He was referring to Paul Sherwood’s 439 at Medusa on 03 Dec, which number Paul beat with 444 there on 17 Dec. The highest inland count was 175 at Fernald on 19 Dec (Brian Wulker). (52 counties)

American Wigeon

Castalia Pond, *Erie*, hosted up to 63 on several dates (m. obs.). The most elsewhere were Paul Sherwood’s 32 at Medusa on 10 Dec, and the most well inland were 30 which Ronnie Clark found at Darby Creek on 19 Dec. (36 counties)

American Black Duck

Robert Foppe and Jennifer Smolenski noted about 450 at Old Highland Stone on 02 Jan. The pond at Blendon Woods held up to 300 on various dates (m. obs.). (60 counties)



Kevin McKelvey captured this great action shot of an American Black Duck preying on a frog at Sandy Ridge on 26 Dec.

Mallard

Old Highland Stone also hosted about 4200 Mallards on 02 Jan for Robert and Jennifer. The most elsewhere were 1852 at ONWR on 07 Dec (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus). (80 counties)

[Gadwall x Mallard]

Tom Bartlett found one at Kelleys Island on 14 Dec.

[American Black Duck x Mallard]

Lake Cascades, *Hancock*, held 12 on 08 Jan (Edward Ingold), as did Castalia Pond, *Erie*, on 06 Feb (Ed Wransky). (20 counties)

Blue-winged Teal

The reports are:

One at Englewood MP, *Montgomery*, on 01 Dec (R. Lee Reed)

Two at Lorain on 18 Dec (Chris Pierce)

One at Sharon Woods MP, *Franklin*, on 20 Dec (Jerry Strosnider)

One at Old Highland Stone on 17 Jan (William Hutchinson and Bill Stanley)

Two at Blendon Woods on 23 Jan (*vide* Bruce Simpson)

One along the Great Miami River Trail, *Montgomery*, on 25 Feb (Carrie and Mark Ruane)

Northern Shoveler

Jeff Harvey provided the high count of 110, from Pine Lake, *Mahoning*, on 07 Dec. Bill Stanley found the second-highest number, 75, at Rocky Fork on 13 Dec. (36 counties)

Northern Pintail

The waterfowl concentration at Old Highland Stone on 02 Jan included 145 pintails (Robert Foppe and Jennifer Smolenski). The most elsewhere were 75 off Avon Lake, *Lorain*, on 28 Dec (Chris Pierce *et al.*). (43 counties)

Green-winged Teal

Ned Keller counted 45 at Cleves Community Park, *Hamilton*, on 01 Jan. (30 counties)

Canvasback

Bayshore hosted 600 on 28 Jan for Kim Warner, and the second-highest count was Paul Sherwood’s 342 at Avon Power on 24 Feb. The inland high number was 100, shared by Alum Creek on 25 to 28 Feb (m. obs.) and two sites along the Ohio River shore in *Hamilton* on 26 and 27 Feb (m. obs.). (51 counties)

Redhead

Alex Eberts counted 315 at the Island Road Quarry, *Pickaway*, on 26 Feb. Robert Royse found at least 300 at Deer Creek on 10 Feb. (59 counties)

Ring-necked Duck

A small bay on Long Lake, *Summit*, held 217 on 18 Feb (Dennis Mersky) and other sites had up to 175 (Fernald, 19 Dec, Brian Wulker). (51 counties)

Greater Scaup

Tom Bartlett and Paul Sherwood agreed that more than 1300 were at East Harbor on 02 Jan. Robert Foppe and Jennifer Smolenski found about 750 at Bayshore on 08 Jan. William Hull saw about 40 fly past the Four Seasons Marina, *Hamilton*, on 23 Feb, for the inland high count. (34 counties)

Lesser Scaup

Victor Fazio III estimated 6000 were off the East Harbor shore on 11 Dec. The second-highest number reported was 500; Mark Rozmarynowycz saw that many at Maumee Bay on 05 Dec, as did Robert Foppe and Jennifer Smolenski at Bayshore on 08 Jan. The largest inland flock (though it wasn’t far from Lake Erie) was of 71 at Wellington Reservoir, *Lorain*, on 03 Jan (Paul Sherwood). (47 counties)

Scaup sp.

Tom Kemp estimated that the mixed flock he saw off CPNWR on 14 Dec contained at least 22,000 scaup.

Harlequin Duck

Tom Bartlett saw a female at Kelleys Island on 13 Dec. Eastlake Power hosted a female between 11 Jan and 01 Feb and again from 22 to 26 Feb (m. obs.). Did we have one, two, or three visit us this season?



On 13 Dec Tom Bartlett found and photographed this female Harlequin Duck at Kelleys Island.

Surf Scoter

Scott Myers saw the first of the season, at the Paulding Reservoirs on 04 Dec. Chris Pierce saw the season's last, at Avon Power on 22 Feb. Chris and his CBC team also contributed the high count of 12, off Bay Village, **Cuyahoga**, on 28 Dec. A BRAS field trip found the next highest count, three, at the Wellington Reservoir, **Lorain**, on 05 Dec. One spent from 21 Jan to 08 Feb in a **Pickaway** quarry (m. obs.). **Ashtabula**, **Auglaize**, **Hamilton**, and **Washington** round out the list of eight counties with sightings.

White-winged Scoter

Robert Edelin and Ginny Fantetti saw the first of the season all the way south at East Fork on 12 Dec. Mark Rozmarynowycz found 20 at Avon Power on 22 Feb, while the most away from Lake Erie were three at Hunt Farm in CVNP on 16 Feb (George Novosel). (14 counties)

Black Scoter

Tom Kemp noted that the bird at Grand Rapids, **Wood**, on 12 Dec was only the second recorded in that county. The shared high count was four. Chris Pierce *et al.* saw them off Bay Village, **Cuyahoga**, on 28 Dec, and Bill Deininger found his at Avon Power on 22 Feb. **Clermont**, **Delaware**, **Franklin**, **Lake**, and **Lucas** also contributed sightings.

Long-tailed Duck

The number of birds (at least 19), and the number of counties represented (14) were both unusually high this season. George Novosel saw four in Cleveland's East 55th Street Marina on 31 Dec and there were many reports of two birds. The furthest south penetration was to Eastwood

MP, **Montgomery**, where one spent from 04 to 11 Jan (m. obs.)



Kevin McKelvey snapped this image of a handsome Long-tailed Duck at Avon Power on 22 Feb.

Bufflehead

Tom Bartlett *et al.* counted 333 at Kelleys Island during the 14 Dec. CBC. Ethan Kistler provided the second-highest count, 64, from Mosquito Lake on 08 Dec. (48 counties)

Common Goldeneye

Paul Sherwood estimated 2000 off East Harbor on 02 Jan. Chris Pierce's CBC team provided the second-highest number, 732, off Bay Village, **Cuyahoga**, on 28 Dec. The inland high number was William Hull's 140 at the Four Seasons Marina, **Hamilton**, on 26 Feb. (52 counties)



Su Snyder found a cooperative pair of female Common Goldeneye at Avon Power for this shot on 22 Feb.

Hooded Merganser

Ron Sempier found three rafts totaling 240 birds at Hoover on 13 Dec. The Great Miami River in Dayton held about 125 on 10 Jan (Daniel DeLapp). (53 counties)



Dane Adams caught a perfect reflection of this Hooded Merganser on 17 Jan near Mt. Hope, **Holmes**.

Common Merganser

Victor Fazio III saw about 8600 in the *Erie* section of Sandusky Bay on 02 Jan and said they were an “absolutely massive flock occupying the breadth of a 1 mile long ice lead x 200 yards at widest; densely packed throughout.” A Kent State Bird Club field trip contributed the inland high count of 144 from Lake Rockwell, *Portage*, on 05 Dec. (55 counties)

Red-breasted Merganser

Tom Bartlett *et al.* estimated at least 56,000 were around Kelleys Island during the 14 Dec CBC. The second-highest count was 9000 by Bill Deininger at Avon Power on 22 Feb. Sarah Lawrence found the inland high of 80 at Alum Creek on 27 Feb. (48 counties)

Ruddy Duck

Helen and Ken Ostermiller noted about 300 at the Wellington Reservoir, *Lorain*, on 06 Dec. (52 counties)

Northern Bobwhite

The Cincinnati CBC found 15 in *Clermont* and *Hamilton*, and several observers noted up to 15 at Springfield Bog, *Summit*, in Jan. The latter site is a known release point. Hallie Mason saw one presumably wild bird near West Union, *Adams*, on 04 Jan; Rebecca Reinke saw two near Piqua, *Miami*, on 14 Feb. One in Maumee Bay, also a release point, on 14 Dec (Greg Links and Tim Thompson) completes the sightings.

Ring-necked Pheasant

Alex Eberts counted 19 along Kuhlwein Road in Darby Creek on 19 Jan and there were smaller double-digit counts there and at Killdeer. (25 counties)

Ruffed Grouse

The reports are:

One along West Carlisle Road, *Muskingum*, on 03 Dec (James Gore)

Two in Harrison SF on each of 08 and 27 Dec (Scott Pendleton)

One in *Scioto* on 20 Dec during the Portsmouth CBC (*vide* Audubon)

One near Tappan Lake, *Harrison*, on 27 Dec (Margaret Bowman)

One during the week surrounding the 01 Jan Kingston CBC, *Pickaway/Ross* (*vide* Audubon)

One on 03 Jan during the Hocking Hills CBC, *Hocking/Fairfield* (*vide* Audubon)

One in Jockey Hollow WA, *Harrison*, on each of 07 Jan, 14 Jan, and 11 Feb (Scott Pendleton)

Wild Turkey

The high count was 63, an unusual number to be shared. Nonetheless, Gary Cowell saw that many at a roost along the Rocky Fork River, *Richland*, on 08 Jan, and Sean Artman matched him along State Road, Trumbull Township, *Ashtabula*, on 06 Feb. (61 counties)

Red-throated Loon

The reports, which curiously are only from Dec and Feb, are:

Two off Huntington Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 13 Dec (Jen Brumfield) and one there the next day (Mike Sandy)

One at Fairport Harbor, *Lake*, on 21 Dec (Irene Krise *et al.*)

One at the Barrett Paving gravel pits, *Clark/Greene*, on 15 and 16 Feb (Eric Elvert, m. obs.)

One at Avon Power on 22 Feb (Patricia McKelvey)

Up to four at Eastlake Power on 22 and 23 Feb (m. obs.)

Common Loon

Gabriel Amrhein found the last of the season in Eastwood MP, *Montgomery*, on 08 Jan. John Herman's 11 at Clear Fork on 04 Dec was the high count, and up to nine were at other locations. They ranged as far south as *Clermont* and *Hamilton* (26 counties)

Pied-billed Grebe

James Wheat found 70 at East Fork on 22 Feb. The most elsewhere were Bill Stanley's 20 at Old Highland Stone on 13 Dec (47 counties)

Horned Grebe

The Cleveland waterfront hosted up to 172 during the first week of Dec (Karen and Rich Kassouf, m. obs.) James Wheat provided the highest inland count, 85 at East Fork on 07 Dec. (38 counties)



Darlene Friedman perfectly captured this image of a Horned Grebe at Metzger on 07 Dec.

Red-necked Grebe

Last year's massive invasion wasn't repeated, but

there were still quite a few sightings:

One at several Cleveland locations on both 06 and 10 Dec (m. obs.)

Two at Lorain on 13 Dec (Patricia McKelvey)

One or two at Eastwood MP, **Montgomery**, between 31 Dec and 05 Jan (m. obs.), and again on 12 Feb (John Habig, Eric Elvert)

One flyby at CLNP (Victor Fazio III) and then nearby East 72nd Street (*vide* Jen Brumfield) on 01 Jan

One or two at Eastlake Power from 17 to 19 Jan (m. obs.)

One on a pond in Akron, **Summit**, on 13 Feb (Karen Zeleznik)

One at Caesar Creek on 15 Feb (Rick Asamoto)

One at the Ohio and Erie Canal Manchester Trailhead, **Summit**, from 16 to 22 Feb (m. obs.)

One at Nesmith Lake, **Summit**, on 23 Feb (Gregory Bennett)

Eared Grebe

Lots of birders saw one which spent from 02 to 11 Dec at Eastwood MP, **Montgomery**, and (presumably another) at Lake Rupert, **Vinton**, from 21 to 26 Dec.

Double-crested Cormorant

Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr., saw about 200 on the Cuyahoga River at Cleveland's Jefferson Avenue on 02 Feb. The inland high count was Doug Overacker's 100 at Buck Creek on 02 Dec. (33 counties)

American White Pelican

One spent 01 Dec on the Great Miami River at the Dayton Viet Nam Veterans Memorial (m. obs.). Ethan Kistler found one at Mosquito Lake on 05 Dec.

Great Blue Heron

Victor Fazio III counted 168 at the intersection of Routes 2 and 269, **Erie**, on 02 Jan, and wrote, "REMARKABLE gathering on ice immediately north of interchange; long historical wintering presence but exceptional to record triple digits in January." The second-highest count was 58, at the same location the day before (Paul Sherwood). The most away from Lake Erie were the 30 which Gary Cowell found at Charles Mill Lake, **Ashland**, on 13 Feb. (73 counties)

Great Egret

A few remained into Dec:

Three near the 5 Bells Inn near Cedar Point, **Ottawa**, on 02 Dec (Javier Hernandez)

One on Buck Creek itself (not in the SP), **Clark**, on 08 Dec (Brian Menker)

Two on the Cuyahoga River at Cleveland's 49th

Street on both 10 and 11 Dec (Lynn and Nic Shayko)

One at the Senecaville fish hatchery, **Guernsey**, on 15 Dec (Carlton Schooley)

One near Walnut Creek, **Holmes**, on 24 Dec (Hallie Mason)

Black-crowned Night-Heron

The mouth of Cold Creek, **Erie**, has open water even in the coldest winters, so herons congregate there. Paul Sherwood counted 28 there on 15 Jan. The next highest count was a shared 11, at Cold Creek on 11 Jan (Dan Gesualdo) and along the lowest mile of the Cuyahoga River on 06 Dec (Andy Jones *et al.*). Irina Shulgina found two at Scioto Audubon MP, **Franklin**, on 10 Dec, the most away from Lake Erie. **Ashtabula**, **Butler**, **Clermont**, **Lucas**, **Montgomery**, and **Trumbull** also provided sightings.

Black Vulture

James Wheat *et al.* found two roosts on 03 Jan in **Brown** which together held more than 300. Judy Strong saw "approximately 200 vultures on mulch piles, in surrounding trees, at dumpster eating carrion, on top of buildings" on the Denison University campus, **Licking**, on 28 Dec, for the only other triple-digit count. (34 counties as far north as **Lorain**)



Dane Adams beautifully photographed this unusual sighting for northern Ohio, one of four Black Vultures seen feasting on a deer carcass at Findlay SP, **Lorain**, on 02 Dec.

Turkey Vulture

Stefan Gleissberg saw at least 350 on the east side of Athens (city) on 10 Dec. James Wheat's two **Brown** roosts held 144 Turkey Vultures in addition to the Blacks on 03 Jan. (52 counties)

Golden Eagle

The reports are:

One or two at The Wilds and surrounding for-

mer strip mines on multiple dates (m. obs.)

One over U.S. 24 in **Henry** on 03 Dec (Scott Myers)

One soaring past Noah Brand's **Hancock** home on 06 Dec

One at Paulding Reservoir on 19 Dec (Doug and Micki Dunakin)

Northern Harrier

Carl Winstead found 20 at Darby Creek on 16 Dec and wrote, "My high count in binoculars was 16, but I count at least 20 in the video...P. Dunne's Field Guide Companion notes that they roost in groups of 5 to 30 in winter, but this is the first time I've seen such a gathering." Others saw up to 12 in that general area on other dates. The most elsewhere were eight. Richard Counts saw them at the Hardin Wetlands on 27 Dec, and participants in the OOS's trip to The Wilds on 17 Jan shared that number. (68 counties)



Allan Clayton snapped this Northern Harrier as it patrolled the fields of Fernald in search of prey on 27 Jan.

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Robert Bates saw two in Dublin, **Franklin**, on 24 Dec. Cynthia Norris also saw two; hers were at Tappan Lake, **Harrison**, on 26 Dec. The other sightings, from 68 counties in all, were of single birds.

Cooper's Hawk

Tom Kemp noted five in CPNWR on 14 Dec and there were many counts of three elsewhere. (74 counties)

Northern Goshawk

The OBRC has a formal report from **Lucas** and has gleaned some information about reported sightings in **Paulding** and **Wood**.

Bald Eagle

Bayshore hosted 22 on 28 Jan (Jon Cefus). Chris Pierce found 18 at ONWR on 04 Jan, as did Carrie and Scott Myers at Defiance Reservoir on 19 Feb. (73 counties)

Red-shouldered Hawk

James Wheat *et al.* counted seven along their 03

Jan CBC route in **Brown**. The highest number from other than a CBC was four, which was achieved at several locations. An interesting sidelight comes from Carol Bretz's large platform feeder at her **Columbiana** home. On 15 Jan she saw an immature Red-shouldered eating the popcorn she had put there; she hypothesized that it was still an inexperienced hunter and couldn't catch any of its usual prey in the snow-covered landscape. (66 counties)

Red-tailed Hawk

Gary Cowell's 53 mile CBC route in **Knox** yielded 25 on 21 Dec. The second-highest number was 15, achieved on a CBC route in **Crawford** and locations in **Franklin** and **Muskingum** (m. dates and obs.). Every county except **Putnam** and **Van Wert** produced at least one sighting.

Rough-legged Hawk

Participants in the OOS field trip to The Wilds on 17 Jan found up to 12. Killdeer hosted at least 10; Thomas Slemmer saw that many on 13 Feb as did Leslie Sours and Irina Shulgina three days later. (52 counties)

Virginia Rail

The five locations with the sightings, all of single birds, are:

The CVNP Ira Road marsh on 01 and 08 Dec (Mary Anne Romito *et al.*) and 07 Feb (Douglas Vogus *et al.*)

Lake Abram, **Cuyahoga**, on 28 Dec (Tim Krynak and Teri Martincic)

Spring Valley WA, **Greene** and **Warren**, on 12 Jan (Jason Cade), 31 Jan (Jay Lehman), and 11 Feb (Kent Miller)

Funk on 14 Jan (Michele Skolmutch)

The "usual spot" near Holmesville, **Holmes**, on 15 Jan (Kent Miller) and 17 Jan (Jon Cefus)

American Coot

Marsha Gilger estimated 770 were in several groups scattered throughout Portage Lakes SP, **Summit**, on 04 Jan. (48 counties)



This **Hancock** Bald Eagle was successfully captured mid-meal by Leslie Sours on 18 Jan.

Sandhill Crane

Reports were fairly steady to late Jan, but only **Clark** and **Greene** produced single Feb sightings. The high count was 300, by David Novitski at Fernald on 12 Dec. Lost Bridge hosted up to 160 in early Dec (m. obs.). (26 counties)



A hike at Sandy Ridge rewarded Kevin McKelvey with this image of a pair of Sandhill Cranes on 26 Dec.

Killdeer

The highest of several double-digit counts was Melanie Shuter's 29 at Deer Creek SP on 01 Dec. (32 counties)

Dunlin

Melanie Shuter found one at Deer Creek SP on 01 Dec. Ron Sempier discovered another at Killdeer's Pond 27 on 24 Dec.

Purple Sandpiper

John Pogacnik saw two at Conneaut on 07 Dec. One at Eastlake Power attracted several viewers on 12 Dec; it stayed one more day (*vide* Jen Brumfield).

Least Sandpiper

Daniel DeLapp found a straggler at Caesar Creek on 12 Dec.

Pectoral Sandpiper

The reports are:

One at Englewood MP, **Montgomery**, on 01 Dec (R. Lee Reed)

Two along Cemetery Road, **Wayne**, on 27 Dec (Eli Miller)

One at Killbuck's Butler Spring, **Holmes**, between 10 and 18 Jan (m. obs.) The spring has open water year-round.

Wilson's Snipe

The season's first sightings weren't until 19 Dec, when Kent Miller found one during the Wilmot

CBC, which includes parts of **Holmes**, **Stark**, **Tuscarawas**, and **Wayne**. The same day, another pleased multiple observers along the Great Miami River Recreation Trail, **Montgomery**. Margaret Bowman *et al.* found 10 in the **Holmes** section of Killbuck on 01 Jan. (13 counties)

American Woodcock

The seven reports are:

One displaying along Olentangy River Road, **Franklin**, in "late Jan" (*vide* Dave Horn)

One by Bill Stanley at his **Clermont** home on 05 Feb

One at Chilo Lock 34 Park, **Clermont**, on 09 Feb (Chris and Suzanne Clingman)

Five at Possum Creek MP, **Montgomery**, on 10 Feb (Jason Sullivan and Chris Zacharias) and one there on 13 Feb (Jeremy Dominguez)

One at Alum Creek on 25 Feb (Charles Bombaci)

One at Beaver Creek WA, **Greene**, on 28 Feb (Gabriel Amrhein)

Pomarine Jaeger

The first of the season were an adult and an immature at Wendy Park on 10 Dec (*vide* Jen Brumfield). One or both of that duo were reported at other Cleveland locations from then until the last sighting, of the immature at Wendy Park on 11 Jan (Kelly Kozlowski and Matthew Valencic).

Jaeger sp.

John Pogacnik saw a distant one from Lake Erie Bluffs MP, **Lake**, on 29 Dec.

Black-legged Kittiwake

John Pogacnik watched one fly past Lakeshore Park, **Ashtabula**, on 21 Dec.

Bonaparte's Gull

The last of the season graced the Camp Denison gravel pits, **Hamilton**, on 09 Feb (J.W. Rettig). Sites in **Cuyahoga**, **Lake**, and **Wood** had up to six on the second-last date of 24 Jan. Sameer Apte estimated 2000 off Wendy Park on 31 Dec and the inland high count was Melanie



On 17 Jan Dane Adams nicely documented this Pectoral Sandpiper which had survived a week of subzero temperatures at Killbuck.

Shuter's 1000 at Deer Creek on 01 Dec. (29 counties)

Little Gull

The reports were all of single birds; indeed they may all be of the same single bird:

- At Headlands on 07 Dec (Irene Krise)
- At North Perry, **Lake**, also on 07 Dec (John Pogacnik)
- At Wendy Park on 10 Dec (*vide* Jen Brumfield)
- At Edgewater on 28 Dec (Matt and Rachele Kappler)
- At Fairport Harbor, **Lake**, on 02 and 04 Jan (m. obs.)
- At Edgewater on 11 Jan (*vide* Jen Brumfield)

Iceland Gull

One off North Perry, **Lake**, on 07 Dec was the season's first (John Pogacnik), and there were only three other reports that month. Eleven birds were on the ice of Huron harbor, **Erie**, on 25 Jan (m. obs.), while the second-most were six on a ball field in Canton, **Stark** (Kent Miller). One or two birds were far inland on the Ohio River straddling the **Belmont-Jefferson** border for several days in Feb (Kyle Carlsen, Scott Pendleton). (17 counties; see the map)



Ring-billed Gull

Victor Fazio III provided the two highest numbers: 13,800 at Wendy Park on 01 Jan and 20,500 in Sandusky Bay, **Erie**, on 02 Jan. A BRAS field trip tallied the inland high of 3500 at the Oberlin Reservoir, **Lorain**, also on 02 Jan. Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr., wrote from Cleveland on 21 Mar, "Thanks to Aaron Coleman who alerted me to a banded Ring-billed Gull at East 72nd Street in Cleveland...it was the same bird I last saw this past December at E.55th Street. Banded

as "X2M" in May 2007, this bird comes from Ile Deslauriers on the St. Lawrence Seaway near Montreal, Quebec." (70 counties)

Herring Gull

Paul Sherwood estimated that 85%, or more than 17,000, of the 20,000 gulls at East Harbor on 02 Jan were Herrings. The second-most, 9500, were in Huron harbor, **Erie**, on 25 Jan (m. obs.) Kent Miller noted about 5000 congregating on industrial roofs near I-77 and US. 30 in **Stark** on 26 Feb. (57 counties)

Thayer's Gull

The only Dec sightings were on 03 Dec along the Ottawa River, **Lucas** (Matt Kemp) and on 21 Dec at the Findlay Reservoirs (m. obs.). All reports were of singles except Matt Kemp's two at the Shorewood Avenue boat ramp, **Lucas**, on 02 Jan. **Cuyahoga, Franklin, Lake, Montgomery, Stark, Tuscarawas**, and **Wood** also hosted the species.

Lesser Black-backed Gull

Matt Kemp saw 14 along the Ottawa River Interpretive Trail, **Lucas**, on 03 Dec and commented they were, "Becoming a typical count for this area." The most elsewhere were 10 at each of single sites in **Defiance, Erie, Hancock**, and **Lake**. (23 counties as far south as **Clermont**; see the map)



Glaucous Gull

Sites in **Cuyahoga, Lake**, and **Lorain** hosted the season's first on 06 Dec; several observers were at each location. The high count was 13, in Huron harbor, **Erie**, on 25 Jan (m. obs.). The inland high was seven, mixed among the Herring Gulls at a **Stark** industrial park on 26 Feb (Kent Miller and Ben Morrison). One or two were with

the Iceland in **Belmont** and **Jefferson** in late Feb (Kyle Carlsen, Scott Pendleton). (19 counties; see the map)



[Herring x Glaucous (“Nelson’s”) Gull

Alex Lamoreaux and David Weaver saw what was could have been the same bird on the lower Cuyahoga River on 12 Jan and 26 Feb, respectively.

Great Black-backed Gull

Tom Frankel counted 205 on the ice at Eastlake Power on 21 Feb. Lynne and Nic Shayko saw about 200 on the Cuyahoga River from Cleveland’s Jefferson Avenue on 28 Feb. The inland high count was 136, at the Schroyer ball fields in Canton, **Stark**, on 26 Feb (Kent Miller and Ben Morrison), while the Ohio River flock on the **Belmont-Jefferson** line in Feb included at least eight (Scott Pendleton). (28 counties; see the map)



[Herring x Great Black-backed Gull]

Four were reported:
At Kelleys Island on 14 Dec (Victor Fazio III)
At Scranton Flats in Cleveland between 24 and 26 Feb (m. obs.)
At Avon Power on 25 Feb (Craig Caldwell)
At the Schroyer ball fields, **Stark**, on 27 Feb (Jon Cefus and Kent Miller)

Rock Pigeon

John Habig took the trouble to estimate 700 were by the Great Miami River at Washington Street, Dayton, on 03 Jan. (81 counties)

Eurasian Collared-Dove

Internet reports from **Ashland**, **Auglaize**, **Clark**, and **Clinton** may have enough information for OBRC review. Two CBCs also reported them.

Mourning Dove

Jack Stenger’s CBC route took him along 65 miles of **Butler** roads, where he found 325 on 20 Dec. Cory Gratz counted 176 in Blue Rock SP, **Muskingum**, on 20 Dec. Only **Meigs**, **Morgan**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** did not have sightings.

Barn Owl

The reports are below; those on CBCs (*vide* Audubon) might be some of the same birds which were reported individually.

One at the Pickerington Ponds maintenance building, **Fairfield**, between 06 Dec and 13 Jan (m. obs.)

One during the Wilmot CBC, **Holmes/Stark/Tuscarawas/Wayne**, on 19 Dec

One during the Buckeye Lake CBC, **Fairfield/Licking/Perry**, on 20 Dec

One during the Ragersville CBC, **Coshocton/Holmes/Tuscarawas**, on 30 Dec

One during the Millersburg CBC, **Coshocton/Holmes**, on 01 Jan

One southeast of Columbus on 03 Jan (Jeremy Dominguez and Sarah Lucas)

One in a Kidron, **Wayne**, silo on 15 Jan (Kent Miller)

Two at a private residence in **Wayne** on 17 Jan (Jon Cefus)

Eastern Screech-Owl

Tom Bartlett *et al.* found five on Kelleys Island on 14 Dec, as did Tom Kemp along his **Lucas** CBC route on 03 Jan. The most, however, were the seven which Ed Pierce *et al.* tallied in ONWR on 04 Jan (*vide* Douglas Vogus). (44 counties)

Great Horned Owl

Ed Pierce’s ONWR census team counted eight on 04 Jan (*vide* Douglas Vogus). CBC routes in a different part of **Lucas** and in **Hamilton** each yielded four and there were many doubles not during CBCs. (54 counties)

Snowy Owl

Though this season's invasion wasn't nearly on the scale of last winter's, these grand birds were still found in the 23 counties on the accompanying map, and a couple hung around the Cleveland area into Mar. Michelle Leighty and Tim Jasinski saw four at Burke Lakefront Airport, *Cuyahoga*, on 11 Dec, and Irene Krise *et al.* matched their count along Fairport Nursery Road, *Lake*, on 03 Jan.



Always a pleasing find for birders and photographers, this Snowy Owl posed for Dane Adams on 18 Dec in Homerville, Medina.

Barred Owl

Jon Cefus found three in Quail Hollow SP, *Stark*, on 06 Feb and there were several reports of two birds. (50 counties)

Long-eared Owl

Birders found two on several dates in both Walnut Woods MP, *Franklin*, and at Maumee Bay. (14 counties)

Short-eared Owl

Big Island, Darby Creek, and Killdeer each produced counts of six on two or more dates (all by m. obs.). (27 counties)

Northern Saw-whet Owl

Tom Bartlett banded one on Kelleys Island on 13 Dec; it was the first of the season for the state. The high count was two, at Maumee Bay on 20 Dec (Chris Byers and Kim Warner). One of the duo was seen until mid-Feb. (11 counties)

Belted Kingfisher

Kyle Brooks and Stefan Gleissberg traveled five miles of the Hockhocking Adena Bikeway, *Athens*, on 14 Dec and counted five kingfishers along the way. (62 counties)



A pair of Belted Kingfishers remained at the open water of Eastwood MP, Montgomery, on 02 Jan for Allan Claybon.

Red-headed Woodpecker

Eight miles of wandering OOPMP yielded 25 for Brandon Brywczyński on 21 Jan. Ron Semper found 13 at Killdeer on 11 Jan as did Louis Hoying in Lake Laramie SP, *Shelby*, on 27 Feb. (55 counties)

Red-bellied Woodpecker

The high count was the 24 which Gustino Lanese found at Mentor Lagoons NP, *Lake*, on 27 Dec during a CBC. Only *Henry*, *Putnam*, and *Van Wert* did not produce reports.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Joe Bens, James Wheat, *et al.* counted six in *Clermont* and *Hamilton* on 28 Dec during the Cincinnati CBC. The highest non-CBC number was three, which was achieved at many locations. (49 counties)



This Yellow-bellied Sapsucker found fortification at photographer Allan Claybon's feeder 14 Jan in Hamilton.

Downy Woodpecker

The high count honors were a tie at 39. Tom Bartlett *et al.* saw them on Kelleys Island on 14 Dec during the regular monthly census, while Joe Bens, James Wheat, *et al.* found theirs in **Clermont** and **Hamilton** during the 28 Dec Cincinnati CBC. Some non-CBC counts were also in the 30s. Reports came from every county except **Morgan**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert**.

Hairy Woodpecker

Doug Overacker spent almost four hours in John Bryan SP, **Greene**, on 14 Dec and tallied 11 in that time. (77 counties)

Northern Flicker

Tom Bartlett's census team counted 28 throughout Kelleys Island on 14 Dec. Joe Bens, James Wheat, *et al.* came in second with 19 during the 28 Dec Cincinnati CBC on their **Clermont** and **Hamilton** route. (80 counties)

Pileated Woodpecker

The high count of six was shared by the Navarre Towpath, **Stark** (Cynthia Norris on 19 Dec), Highbanks MP, **Delaware** (m. obs. on 26 Dec), and a **Clermont/Hamilton** CBC route (Joe Bens, James Wheat, *et al.* on 28 Dec). (69 counties)

American Kestrel

Hallie Mason found 10 on 30 Dec around New Philadelphia, **Tuscarawas**, during the Ragersville CBC. She just edged Diane Steele and Donna Kuhn, who (respectively) counted nine along Greenwich Road, Homerville, **Medina**, on 22 Dec and at The Wilds on 25 Dec. (84 counties)



This American Kestrel successfully captured a fine meal, an event well photographed by Allan Clayton at Fernald on 13 Jan.

Merlin

Union Cemetery, **Franklin**, hosted three on 26 Feb (Joseph Parrish). So did Water Works Park, **Summit**, on 28 Feb (Joseph Ford). There were many reports of two birds. (39 counties)

Peregrine Falcon

Scott Myers counted four along the Cleveland harbor breakwall on 06 Dec, and many reports from that area and elsewhere had two birds. (28 counties)

Eastern Phoebe

Single sightings of this rather hardy flycatcher were scattered throughout the season. Gina Sheridan found two at Turkey Creek Lake in Shawnee SP on 15 Dec as did Robert Sams in Springville Marsh NP, **Seneca**, on 28 Dec. (16 counties)

Myiarchus sp. Flycatcher

One was photographed at Fairport Harbor, **Lake**, on 08 Dec. It was facing away from the viewer, and so the photo was not definitive, but tentative identifications call it an Ash-throated Flycatcher. The OBRC has the photo and some descriptive material. Though Ash-throated is a bird of the American southwest, the species has a pattern of early winter vagrancy. (see Cardiff, Steven W. and Donna L. Dittmann. 2002. Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens*), The Birds of North America Online (A. Poole, Ed.), Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America Online: <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/664doi:10.2173/bna.664>). In personal testimony to their wandering, I saw my lifer in a Boston suburb on 29 Dec 1982.

Loggerhead Shrike

One spent at least 14 Dec to 05 Jan at an **Adams** site. Kathi Hutton, Rich McCarty, and Mark Zloba documented it for the OBRC.

Northern Shrike

Jeffrey Spaulding found three at The Wilds on 20 Dec. Rich Pendlebury saw two in Tri-Valley WA, **Muskingum**, on both 14 and 16 Feb. The rest of the sightings were of singles. (17 counties as far south as **Greene** and **Montgomery**)

White-eyed Vireo

James Muller saw one in Kiwanis Riverway Park, **Franklin**, on 11 and 30 Dec, and Leslie Sours found it again on 05 Jan. Gary Cowell saw another in the Home Road Marsh, **Richland**, on 20 Dec.

Blue Jay

Thomas Czubek counted 86 in the Bethel area, **Clermont**, on 03 Jan during the East Fork Lake CBC. Every county but **Putnam** and **Van Wert** had sightings.

American Crow

Herb and Sarah Myers estimated that 20,000 were in a night roost near Martins Ferry, **Belmont**, on 24 Feb. The next highest number was Tresor Birdsall's 3000 in his **Summit** neighborhood on 11 Dec. Only **Auglaize**, **Henry**, **Lawrence**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** did not produce reports.

Common Raven

The OBRC has some formal reports from *Harrison* and has gleaned others from there and *Jefferson*.

Horned Lark

Fields along Conservancy Road, *Montgomery*, held about 1000 on 23 Feb (Jason Sullivan and Chris Zacharias). Tom Kemp found about 400 during 20 miles of driving in *Wood* on 17 Feb. (67 counties)

Tree Swallow

Up to 13 lingered into Dec at Maumee Bay (Carl Winstead, 30 Dec) and two remained until 09 Jan (Ryan Jacob). The last, however, were two in *Champaign* on 19 Jan (Dillon Nott). Another Lucas site and one in each of *Hamilton* and *Montgomery* complete the sightings.

Carolina Chickadee

David Carr *et al.* found 74 along their Newtown Bottoms, *Hamilton*, CBC route on 28 Dec. (59 counties)

Black-capped Chickadee

The top three counts were all from Kelleys Island on 14 Dec: 108 in the eastern side and 168 on the western (Victor Fazio III) and 123 along Tom Bartlett's regular census route. The most elsewhere were 61 at Maumee Bay, also on 14 Dec (Greg Links and Tim Thompson). (33 counties)

Chickadee sp.

Most of these reports came from the overlap zone between the two species, which roughly follows U.S. 30 across the state, but some were far south of it. In the overlap area, we sometimes get reports of birds which visually appear to be one species but which are singing the other's tune, so just hearing fee-bee, fee-bay might not mean that a Carolina is hiding in that bush. No hybrids were identified (usually that's possible only in hand) but they were surely present. (22 counties)

Tufted Titmouse

Susie Short wandered three miles of trails in Blacklick MP, *Franklin*, and came up with 45 titmice. Reports came from every county except *Henry*, *Jackson*, *Lawrence*, *Mercer*, *Putnam*, and *Van Wert*.

Red-breasted Nuthatch

The high count was four. It was shared by the Little family in Walnut Woods MP, *Franklin*, on 02 Jan and Don Jaenke at his Mansfield, *Richland*, home on 14 Feb. (44 counties)

White-breasted Nuthatch

Two miles of the Navarre Towpath, *Stark*,

during a CBC produced 31 for Cynthia Norris on 19 Dec. (81 counties)

Brown Creeper

Tom Bartlett *et al.* counted 13 on Kelleys Island during the 14 Dec monthly census. Brian Walker found nine in the Rentschler Preserve, *Butler*, on 02 Dec. (68 counties)

House Wren

One was reported without documentation on each of the Portage County and Caesar Creek-Spring Valley CBCs (*vide* Audubon).

Winter Wren

Alex Eberts saw four in wetlands along State Route 93, *Vinton*, on 07 Feb. Keith Michalski tied him along Dodd Road, *Lake*, on 16 Feb. (41 counties)

Marsh Wren

The reports are:

At Darby Creek, one on 02 Dec (Carl Winstead), four on 03 Dec (Alex Eberts), and two on 07 Dec (Jeremy Dominguez)

One at Spring Valley WA, *Warren*, on 07 Dec (Daniel DeLapp)

Two in CPNWR on 14 Dec (Tom Kemp)



Alex Eberts obtained this image of a hardy Marsh Wren on 03 Dec at Darby Creek.

Carolina Wren

Elliot Tramer wrote, "This species is supposed to die off during hard winters, but in our yard [Whitehouse, *Lucas*] a pair has survived two brutal winters in a row...At dusk every evening they fly into a wreath hanging on the outside wall of the house, where they apparently spend the night." Joe Bens, James Wheat, *et al.* counted 51 along their *Hamilton* CBC route on 28 Dec, and Steve Pelikan found 24 in Glenwood Gardens, *Hamilton*, on 13 Dec. (76 counties)

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Victor Fazio III counted 20 on the east side of

Kelleys Island on 14 Dec and there were other counts in the teens on the island as well. The most on the mainland were Benjamin Miller's 13 in Mohican SP on 07 Feb. (59 counties)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

The last of the season was a solo bird which was seen in Crains Run Nature Park, **Montgomery**, between 31 Jan and 03 Feb (m. obs.). Ronnie Clark saw five at Darby Creek on 12 Dec and there were several reports of two elsewhere. (16 counties)

Eastern Bluebird

Scott Pendleton counted 75 in Jockey Hollow WA, **Harrison**, on 07 Jan. Gary Cowell came up with 45 along his **Knox** CBC route on 21 Dec. (78 counties)

Hermit Thrush

Tom Bartlett *et al.* found at least 32 on Kelleys Island on 14 Dec and noted that this conservative number was above average for the time and place. The island produced other double-digit counts as well. The most elsewhere were Ethan Kistler's five at Maumee Bay on 28 Dec. (34 counties)



While some Hermit Thrushes quietly spend their winters undetected in Ohio, few are as beautifully captured as in this image by Chris Collins, taken on 30 Jan at Spring Lake Park, **Greene**.

American Robin

Harris Abramson was at Glenwood Gardens, **Hamilton**, on 07 Dec and saw "Wave after wave perhaps a 1/4 mile wide moving northeast over my position for the better part of an hour" which he estimated at about 4500 robins. Jack Stenger wandered **Butler** for seven hours on 20 Dec and tallied about 1200. (73 counties)

Varied Thrush

One was reported in **Holmes** during the Millersburg CBC. The OBRC has the documentation.

Gray Catbird

The latest sighting was a single in Cascade Valley MP, **Summit**, on 25 Jan (Gregory Bennett). One bird was also reported in each of **Clermont**, **Franklin**, **Greene**, **Hocking**, **Lake**,

Montgomery, **Muskingum**, **Portage**, **Tuscarawas**, and **Wayne**.

Brown Thrasher

Robert Roysse reported "several found along Odell Creek in Shawnee SF (Scioto) Jan 18, a regular wintering spot for them." Brian Wulker found two at Fernald on 04 Dec and the remaining sightings were of singles. (10 counties as far north as **Trumbull**)



Donald Morse snapped this Brown Thrasher feeding in a snowy setting on 22 Feb in **Clermont**.

Northern Mockingbird

The shared high count was 11. Gary Cowell found them along his CBC route in **Knox** on 21 Dec; Thomas Czubek's were also during a CBC, in the Bethel area, **Clermont**, on 03 Jan. (64 counties)

European Starling

Paul Hurtado estimated 30,000 were infesting (my word) the area around the I-670/I-71 interchange, **Franklin**, on 11 Dec. David A. Brinkman noted about 15,000 streaming over I-75 in West Carrollton, **Montgomery**, on 10 Dec. Only **Champaign**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** did not produce a sighting.

American Pipit

The last, and the most as well, were 24 in Riverside Natural Area, **Butler**, on 10 Jan (Charlie Saunders). Ronnie Clark found 20 in a field at Darby Creek on both 11 and 29 Dec; they were the second-most and second-last. (14 counties)

Cedar Waxwing

Inga Schmidt saw about 90 along Chagrin River Road, **Geauga**, on 16 Jan. (45 counties)

Lapland Longspur

Leslie Sours checked a home on Maloney Road, **Delaware**, where the family spreads seed, and found about 500 longspurs there on 10 Jan. There were several more triple-digit counts as well in other locations. (43 counties)

Snow Bunting

Deb Tefft *et al.* saw about 300 along Howard Road, **Lucas**, on 26 Dec. Fields along Soltis

Road, **Geauga**, hosted about 150 in mid-Jan (m. obs.) as did fields along Irwin-Shoots Road, **Marion**, on 09 Feb (Steve Jones). (37 counties)

Orange-crowned Warbler

Gary Cowell found one just over the **Richland** line during the Ashland County CBC on 19 Dec. Aaron Miller found another at The Wilderness Center, **Stark**, during the Wilmot CBC, also on 19 Dec. One spent “all week” ending 15 Jan at a Granville, **Licking**, home (Tammy Nickerson)

Nashville Warbler

Alex Champagne and Alex Eberts well described the one they found in the OSU wetlands, **Franklin**, on 14 Dec. That same day, the Toledo CBC also tallied one (*fide* Matt Anderson).

Common Yellowthroat

The reports, all of single birds, are:

In Highbanks MP, **Delaware**, on 07 Dec (Jennifer Kuehn)

In the Hardin Wetlands on 14 and 27 Dec (Richard Counts)

At Lake Rupert, **Vinton**, on 21 Dec (Alex Eberts)
During the Wooster, **Wayne**, CBC on 27 Dec (Gary Cowell and Don Plant)

In the Short Creek marshes, **Jefferson**, on 03 Jan (Scott Pendleton)

Pine Warbler

Castalia Pond, **Erie**, on 15 Dec (Paul Sherwood) and the Ragersville CBC, **Coshocton/Holmes/Tuscarawas** on 20 Dec (*fide* Audubon) each produced one.

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Charles Bombaci counted 43 feasting in berry-laden poison ivy plants in Char-Mar, **Delaware** on 16 Jan. David Carr *et al.* found 32 in Newtown Bottoms, **Hamilton**, during a CBC on 28 Dec. (49 counties)

“Audubon’s” Yellow-rumped Warbler

Jon Cefus discovered and photographed one in Crystal Springs Park, **Stark**, on 27 Dec, and many other birders saw it through 31 Dec.



Jon Cefus provided this photograph of the “Audubon’s” Yellow-rumped Warbler which he found on 27 Dec.

Eastern Towhee

Woodland Mound Park, **Hamilton**, produced 19 for Bill and René McGill on 13 Dec. Not much farther east, Cincinnati Nature Center’s Long Branch Farm, **Clermont**, hosted 15 for Neil Gilbert on 07 Feb. (46 counties)

[Spotted x Eastern Towhee]

Mike Horn discovered this bird on 17 Feb at Scioto Audubon MP, **Franklin**. Its plumage was intermediate between those of the two “parent” species but appeared to be weighted to the Spotted end of the spectrum. Perhaps it is a second or third generation back-cross. It stayed at least until 21 Feb.



Mike Horn photographed his hybrid towhee discovery on 19 Feb.

American Tree Sparrow

Robert Royse found “500++” in and around Deer Creek WA on several Jan dates. Steve Jones noted 420 at Killdeer on 10 Jan. (80 counties)

Chipping Sparrow

One spent most of the winter at Ben Morrison’s **Stark** feeder; he last saw it on 23 Feb. The high count was 10, at OSU Waterman Farm, **Franklin**, on 14 Feb (m. obs.). (23 counties)

Field Sparrow

James Wheat’s CBC route in **Brown** produced 45 on 03 Jan. Most sightings were in the southern 2/3 of the state, but several birds were in **Lucas** throughout the season. (49 counties)



Kathy Mock photographed this Field Sparrow on 09 Feb, an excellent winter find in her back yard in **Summit**.

Vesper Sparrow

Edward Ingold and Robert Sams noted one in

a flock of Horned Larks by County Road 205, **Hancock**, on 22 Feb, and Shane Myers saw it there two days later. This very early bird was a good three to four weeks ahead of the species' usual arrival date.

Savannah Sparrow

A sprinkling of these was here all season. Most were in the southern counties, but singles were at Lorain on 02 Dec (Carlton Schooley) and along the Wake Robin Trail, **Lake**, on 20 Dec (Tom Frankel). The high count was six, by Kevin King at Campbell Lakes Preserve, **Hamilton**, on 08 Dec. (22 counties)

Fox Sparrow

Eric Elvert found eight at the Germantown MP Nature Center, **Montgomery**, on 10 Jan, and Christopher Collins saw them (or another eight) there on 23 Feb. David Carr *et al.* saw the most elsewhere in Newtown Bottoms, **Hamilton**, on 28 Dec. (30 counties)

Song Sparrow

Joe Bens and James Wheat *et al.* tallied 82 along their **Hamilton** CBC route on 28 Dec. (81 counties)

Lincoln's Sparrow

One was reported during the 14 Dec Toledo CBC, which covers a circle that is mostly in **Lucas** and **Wood** but also includes bits of **Huron** and Michigan, on 14 Dec.

Swamp Sparrow

Robert Roysse wrote, "Exceptional numbers present this winter in middle and southern wetland tracts at Deer Creek WA (Pickaway Co.) due to dense smartweed growth last fall. Tallies of 100+ possible throughout season." Richard Counts found the most elsewhere, 29 in the Hardin Wetlands on 14 Dec. (55 counties)

White-throated Sparrow

Joe Bens, James Wheat, *et al.* found 99 along their CBC route in **Hamilton** on 28 Dec. (73 counties)

White-crowned Sparrow

Gary Cowell's CBC route is in **Knox**; he found 58 there on 21 Dec. J.W. Rettig counted 52 in Armleder Park on 09 Jan, not during a CBC. (59 counties)

"Gambel's" White-crowned Sparrow

Individuals of this western *gambelii* subspecies were described or photographed at Lorain on 13 Jan (Kent Miller), in Armleder Park on 17 Jan (Ethan Rising), and at Magna Carta, **Franklin**, on 20 Feb (Carl Winstead).

Golden-crowned Sparrow

This winter regular, which was banded during his

first visit to **Hancock** in early 2009, was again reported between 02 Dec and 08 Feb, but without formal documentation (m. obs.). This intrepid traveler is now nearly seven years old.

Dark-eyed Junco (Slate-colored)

Leslie Sours found about 100 in the OSU West Campus woodlots, **Franklin**, on 23 Jan. Only **Jackson**, **Meigs**, **Pike**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** did not produce sightings.

Dark-eyed Junco (other forms)

I am hesitant to unequivocally accept reports, even those with photographs, of forms other than our familiar slate-colored. That subspecies, *Junco hyemalis hyemalis*, has a range of coloration which at one extreme is quite similar to that of many western subspecies. In addition, hybridization among the subspecies is known. Nevertheless, some reports are compelling enough to include here, though with qualifiers. Inga Schmidt photographed an apparent "Cassiar" type at her **Geauga** home; it was there for most of Jan. Other "Cassiar" were reported in **Ashland**, **Lake**, and **Richland**. ("Cassiar" birds, *J. h. cismontanus*, are part of the slate-colored group with *J. h. hyemalis*.) Mark and Sherry Plessner photographed one apparently of the *oreganus* "Oregon" group of subspecies at their **Lucas** feeders several times during Jan and Feb. Jon Cefus photographed an apparent "Oregon" in Senecaville, **Noble**, on 31 Jan. Others were reported in **Ashtabula**, **Delaware**, **Franklin**, and **Montgomery**.

Northern Cardinal

A **Hamilton** CBC route produced 181 for Joe Bens, James Wheat, *et al.* on 28 Dec. James also provided the second-highest number, 118, in **Brown** during another CBC on 03 Jan. Every county but **Jackson**, **Pike**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** had sightings.

Indigo Bunting

Dillon Nott photographed one singing from the top of a tree in **Champaign** on 19 Jan.



Dillon Nott photographed this rare winter Indigo Bunting at his grandparents' house in **Champaign** on 19 Jan.

Red-winged Blackbird

Jason Sullivan and Chris Zacharias saw about

400 in Possum Creek MP, **Montgomery**, on 15 Jan. About the same number were along Upper River Road, West Carrollton, **Montgomery**, on 25 and 26 Feb (m. obs.). (49 counties)

Eastern Meadowlark

Bill Stanley counted 30 at Old Highland Stone on 01 Jan. (26 counties)

Yellow-headed Blackbird

The Upper River Road, **Montgomery**, Red-winged flock included one Yellow-Headed on 25 and 26 Feb (m. obs.)



Leslie Sours centered this Yellow-headed Blackbird in her image, taken at dusk on a snowy 26 Feb in Montgomery.

Rusty Blackbird

Most of the reports were in Jan and Feb. The high count of 60 was achieved twice, on 30 Jan in Jackson Bog SNP, **Stark** (Ryan Gniewiecki) and on 22 Feb in Bradford, **Darke** (Regina Schieltz). (24 counties)

Common Grackle

Possum Creek MP, **Montgomery**, hosted about 1000 on 13 Feb (m. obs.). Robert Foppe and Jennifer Smolenski found about 450 near Maineville, **Warren**, on 23 Jan. (50 counties)

Brown-headed Cowbird

James Wheat noted 500 during his **Brown** CBC efforts on 03 Jan. Rick Asamoto and John Habig found the same number along Dayton's Lutheran Church Road on 31 Jan. (49 counties)

Blackbird sp.

Eric Elvert reported a mixed flock of about 10,000 from the Great Miami River Trail, **Montgomery**, on 15 Jan.

Baltimore Oriole

One was reported without documentation on the Chandlersville CBC (*vide* Audubon).

House Finch

Armeder Park hosted 100 on 04 Jan (Lauren Boerger and Michael Gertz). David Carr *et al.* counted 100 during their Newtown Bottoms

CBC on 28 Dec, and noted that most of them were at Armeder. (78 counties)

Purple Finch

John Habig carefully described an unusually large flock of 25 in Germantown MP, **Montgomery**, on 20 Dec. David Helm and Bill Stanley counted 16 along their **Adams** CBC route on 14 Dec. (51 counties)

Red Crossbill

Jeff Loughman heard one as he was parking at a horse camp in **Hancock** on 27 Jan; he couldn't locate it but noted that the voice resembled recordings of Type 2.

White-winged Crossbill

The three sightings are:

One at his **Lorain** home on 07 Jan (Ed Wransky)

One at the Becky and Jim Ferguson home in **Stark** between 11 and 13 Jan (the Fergusons and m. obs.)

One at Wendy Park on 13 Jan (Kent Miller)



On 12 Jan, Kent Miller photographed this female White-winged Crossbill which was hosted by the Ferguson family in Canton, Stark.

Crossbill sp.

Dan Ombalski too-briefly saw two in Marietta's Ohio Riverfront Park, **Washington**, on 22 Jan.

Common Redpoll

Kent Miller saw about 40 on several visits to Lorain between 13 Jan and 25 Feb. Ian Lynch found the most elsewhere, 21 at Lake Erie Bluffs MP, **Lake**, on 30 Jan. (17 counties as far south at **Butler** and **Warren**)

Hoary Redpoll

Kim Warner documented and Dylan Leedom photographed one which spent from 20 to 31 Jan

along the Ottawa River Interpretive Trail, **Lucas**. Many others posted photos of the bird. OBCR has also gleaned internet reports from **Cuyahoga**.

Pine Siskin

Brandon Brywczyński found about 60 at OOP-MP on 21 Dec. (52 counties)

American Goldfinch

James Wheat found 130 during his 03 Jan CBC efforts in **Brown**. Cory Gratz counted 71 in Blue Rock SP, **Muskingum**, on 20 Dec. **Auglaize**, **Jackson**, **Morgan**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** did not provide reports.

Evening Grosbeak

One female visited the feeder on the edge of Mohican SF, **Ashland**, which had hosted so many two years ago; it was seen between 13 Dec and 28 Jan. One was reported on each of four CBCs: Adams County, Lancaster (**Fairfield**), Portsmouth (**Scioto** and a bit of Kentucky), and Toledo (mostly **Lucas** and **Wood**, plus bits of **Huron** and Michigan).



Su Snyder nabbed this image of the Mohican Evening Grosbeak on 07 Feb.

House Sparrow

Victor Fazio III counted 1185 in the six miles between Maple and McCartney Roads, **Erie**, on 02 Jan. Paula Lozano *et al.* found 457 in their section of the Lakewood CBC, **Cuyahoga**, on 28 Dec. (81 counties)

Errata

The Fall issue contained several errors.

1. The Ruffed Grouse reported at The Swiss Hills Career Center was misplaced. The Center is in **Monroe**, not **Montgomery**.
 2. I neglected to include the map below with Dwight and Ann Chasar's article on Broad-winged Hawks. And we misspelled the Chasar's last name in the Table of Contents, to boot.
- The three errors above were corrected in the on-line version of the Fall issue.
3. Also in the Fall issue, the list of counties which recorded Little Gulls was cross-contaminated by the Laughing Gull list. The correct Little Gull county list is **Ashtabula**, **Clark**, **Cuyahoga**, **Delaware**, **Erie**, **Hancock**, **Lake**, **Logan**, and **Lorain**.
 4. And I belatedly found a Nov report of a Rock Wren sighting in **Lucas**. The OBRC has the documentation.

Google Earth® map of Broad-winged Hawk habitat, Brecksville Reservation



41°18'31.19"N and 81°36'38.28"W. Google Earth. 14 Jun 2014, accessed 15 Jan 2015.

CONTRIBUTORS

The Species Accounts could not be written without the data provided by these contributors either directly to the Editor or by posting to an on-line venue. We thank you.

Harris Abramson	Alex Champagne	Darlene Friedman	Steve Jones
Dane Adams	Allen Chartier	Michael Gertz	Joe Kappa
Gabriel Amrhein	Alexander Clark	Dan Gesualdo	Matt Kappler
Andrea Anderson	Ronnie Clark	Neil Gilbert	Rachele Kappler
Sameer Apte	Allan Claybon	Marsha Gilger	Karen Kassouf
Sean Artman	Chris Clingman	Stefan Gleissberg	Rich Kassouf
Rick Asamoto	Suzanne Clingman	Ryan Gniewecki	Ned Keller
Carole Babyak	Christopher Collins	James Gore	Matt Kemp
Tom Bartlett	Richard Counts	Cory Gratz	Tom Kemp
Robert Bates	Gary Cowell	John Habig	Kent State Bird Club
Gregory Bennett	Brad Cullen	Jeff Harvey	Kevin King
Joe Bens	Thomas Czubek	David Helm	Ethan Kistler
Tresor Birdsall	Bill Deininger	John Herman	Kelly Kozlowski
Black River Audubon Society (BRAS)	Daniel DeLapp	Javier Hernandez	Bob Krajewski
Lauren Boerger	Jeremy Dominguez	Roger Hickey	Irene Krise
Charles Bombaci	Doug Dunakin	Rebecca Hinkle	Tim Krynak
Margaret Bowman	Micki Dunakin	Dick Hoffman	Jennifer Kuehn
Carol Bretz	Alex Eberts	Jean Hoffman	Donna Kuhn
David A. Brinkman	Robert Edelin	Dave Horn	Alex Lamoreaux
Kyle Brooks	Eric Elvert	Mike Horn	Gustino Lanese
Jen Brumfield	Ginny Fantetti	Louis Hoying	Jason Larson
Brandon Brywczynski	Victor Fazio III	William Hull	Sarah Lawrence
Chris Byers	Becky Ferguson	Paul Hurtado	Dylan Leedom
Jason Cade	Jim Ferguson	William Hutchinson	Kim Leedom
Craig Caldwell	Tyler Ficker	Kathi Hutton	Jay Lehman
Andrew Cannizzaro	Bob Finkelstein	Edward Ingold	Michelle Leighty
Kyle Carlsen	Tom Fishburn	Tim Jasinski	Greg Links
David Carr	Robert Foppe	Ryan Jacob	Scot Long
Jon Cefus	Joseph Ford	Don Jaenke	Jeff Loughman
	Tom Frankel	Andy Jones	Paula Lozano

CONTRIBUTORS

Sarah Lucas	Georg Novosel	Ed Schlabach	Kim Warner
Ian Lynch	Jonathan Oliveras	Inga Schmidt	David Weaver
Teri Martincic	Dan Ombalski	Carlton Schooley	James Wheat
Hallie Mason	Helen Ostermiller	Ron Sempier	Carl Winstead
Christine McAnlis	Ken Ostermiller	Rachel Shamy	Ed Wransky
Rich McCarty	Doug Overacker	Lynn Shayko	Brian Wulker
Bill McGill	Charles Owens	Nic Shayko	Chris Zacharias
René McGill	Debby Parker	Gina Sheridan	Karen Zeleznik
Kevin McKelvey	Joseph Parrish	Paul Sherwood	Mark Zloba
Patricia McKelvey	Steve Pelikan	Susie Short	
Brian Menker	Rich Pendlebury	Irina Shulgina	
Dennis Mersky	Scott Pendleton	Melanie Shuter	
Keith Michalski	Chris Pierce	Bruce Simpson	
Aaron Miller	Ed Pierce	Michele Skolmutch	
Benjamin Miller	Don Plant	Thomas Slemmer	
Eli Miller	Mark Plessner	Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr.	
Kent Miller	Sherry Plessner	Jennifer Smolenski	
Stefan Minnig	John Pogacnik	Su Snyder	
Kathy Mock	R. Lee Reed	Leslie Sours	
Ben Morrison	Rebecca Reinke	Jeffrey Spaulding	
James Muller	J.W. Rettig	Bill Stanley	
Carrie Myers	Ethan Rising	Diane Steele	
Herb Myers	Mary Anne Romito	Jack Stenger	
Sarah Myers	Robert Royse	Jeff Stone	
Scott Myers	Mark	Judy Strong	
Shane Myers	Rozmarynowycz	Jerry Strosnider	
Bev Neubauer	Carrie Ruane	Jason Sullivan	
Ed Neubauer	Mark Ruane	Deb Tefft	
Tammy Nickerson	Robert Sams	Tim Thompson	
Cynthia Norris	Mike Sandy	Elliot Tramer	
Dillon Nott	Charlie Saunders	Matthew Valencic	
Dave Novitski	Regina Schieltz	Douglas Vogus	